

INTEREST FORM: PART ONE

CoC General Member Information

Name: **Judson Brown**
If you represent a specific organization in Orange County,
please list your organization & role: **Housing Division Manager, Santa Ana Housing Authority**
Pronouns (for example: she/her, he/him, they/them, xe/hir): **he/him**

What qualities, skills, and experience do you bring that would help the CoC Board to further its work in ending homelessness and furthering equity and inclusion?

Over the last nine years, I have served as the Housing Manager for the City of Santa Ana. Under my leadership and management, our City has completed many high-profile projects and initiatives including:

- Reduced homelessness in Santa Ana by 19% between 2019 to 2024, more than every other city in Orange County.
- Recognized as one of only 18 jurisdictions statewide to meet all of our RHNA housing production goals for all income levels during the last Housing Element planning period.
- Financed the development of 14 affordable housing projects. Six (6) out of the 14 projects have been completed and now provide 450 units of affordable and permanent supportive housing. The remaining eight (8) projects under construction or in pre-development will provide an additional 428 units. Combined, these 878 units will make up nearly half the entire affordable housing stock for the City of Santa Ana created during my tenure.
- Managed over \$63.7 million in emergency response funding during the COVID-19 pandemic including \$33.1 million in emergency rental assistance funds to assist over 2,700 households.
- Awarded 416 new housing vouchers for homeless veterans, foster youth, and people experiencing homelessness.
- Certified as a High Performing Housing Authority for six years in a row.
- Provided leadership across Orange County to reduce homelessness, serving as the Chair of the Continuum of Care Board and currently the Chair of the CoC's Housing Committee.

I have served on the CoC Board since February 2018 was served as the Chair from February 2018 to August 2019. I currently serve as the Chair of the CoC Housing Opportunities Committee. It would be a privilege to continue to serve on the CoC Board and continue our work to end homelessness in Orange County while furthering equity and inclusion.

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What qualities or characteristics do you bring to a collaborative environment?

Here are some qualities I bring to a collaborative environment:

Leadership and Team Empowerment: I have extensive experience leading and managing teams, often in high-pressure environments addressing the greatest need in our community for affordable housing. In my role with the City of Santa Ana, I manage 25 employees, and in past positions with the Dallas Housing Authority and Brazos Valley Council of Governments, I've directed, coached, and supervised large teams effectively.

Goal-Oriented and Results-Driven: I have a clear track record of achieving ambitious goals. My success in reducing homelessness by 19% in Santa Ana, financing 14 affordable housing projects, and securing housing vouchers for vulnerable populations reflects my commitment to impactful results.

Collaborative Leadership in Community Initiatives: I've served on various boards and committees, including the Orange County Continuum of Care Board and the United to End Homelessness Leadership Council, which has allowed me to work effectively with diverse stakeholders, align community efforts, and lead county-wide initiatives to address complex issues.

Adaptability and Crisis Management: My experience managing over \$63 million in emergency funds during the COVID-19 crisis and leading projects in Bolivia with Save the Children highlights my adaptability, resilience, and sensitivity to different community needs.

Overall, I bring a combination of strategic leadership, results-oriented project management, and collaborative initiative to any team environment, making me a strong contributor to the CoC Board.

While having a conflict of interest does not make you ineligible to serve on the CoC Board, it helps CoC staff for record keeping purposes. Do you have any current conflicts of interest or previous ties to any agency that is a recipient or sub-recipient of CoC funding in the Orange County CoC? Examples of conflicts might include: Current or former staff, Board member, volunteer or client/participant at a CoC-funded agency, etc. For further information on what constitutes a conflict of interest, please click [here](#). For a current list of CoC-funded agencies, please click [here](#).

No

If yes or not sure, please describe the potential conflict(s) of interest:

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We want to make sure that people who are elected to the Board have the support from their employer, agency, or group they represent (if applicable) to fully participate in the CoC Board. If applicable: is your employer, agency, or the group you represent aware that you plan to run for a CoC Board seat? **Yes**

If applicable: does your employer understand the full commitment that you are making to the CoC Board, including time commitments to meetings, potential time away from work, and responsibilities you'll hold? **Yes**

The CoC Board aims to accomplish the following goals: Permanently House Those Experiencing Homelessness Ensure an Efficient, Dignified System Promote an Equitable, Just System Drive System-Wide Engagement and Collaboration Strengthen Regional Leadership and Accountability Smartly Allocate Funds to Match the Greatest Needs Which of these goals resonate with you most, and where would you like to contribute to accomplishing these goals?

The CoC Board's goal to permanently house those experiencing homelessness resonates with me deeply because throughout my career, I have dedicated myself to creating stable, affordable housing solutions for the most vulnerable populations. From my role as Housing Division Manager in Santa Ana, where I led initiatives that reduced homelessness by 19% and expanded affordable housing options, to my leadership in securing housing vouchers for veterans, foster youth, and those experiencing homelessness, I've seen firsthand the transformative power of permanent housing.

Each role I've held—from co-managing 18,000 housing vouchers at the Dallas Housing Authority to overseeing homeless services on the Orange County Continuum of Care Board—has reinforced my belief that housing ends homelessness. I know that housing ends the cycle of homelessness; I have seen it first-hand in Santa Ana. This mission isn't just a professional duty for me; it's a deeply personal commitment that aligns with my drive to create lasting systems change and fulfill the human right to housing and shelter.

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Please discuss one (1) significant challenge to addressing homelessness in Orange County. If you could wave a magic wand to address this challenge, what would your solution be?

The most significant challenge to ending homelessness in Orange County is prioritizing limited affordable housing opportunities for people experiencing homelessness. Thousands of applicants need affordable housing, and we do everything possible to meet that need as housing providers, but people experiencing homelessness need that housing the most.

From my experience managing housing programs in Santa Ana, I know that when we prioritize permanent housing for those experiencing homelessness, we are able to achieve results. In my role as Housing Division Manager, I helped finance 14 affordable housing projects, creating nearly 450 units of supportive housing with hundreds more underway. These efforts have shown me that permanent housing is the most effective way to address the root causes of homelessness. It reduces strain on emergency resources, offers individuals a dignified place to call home, and provides the necessary stability to achieve long-term recovery. I've seen firsthand how permanent housing is transformative—it breaks the cycle of homelessness and allows people to rebuild their lives in a stable, supportive environment.

If I could wave a magic wand, every affordable housing opportunity that is provided in Orange County would be provided for a person experiencing homelessness first. Those limited permanent housing opportunities for people experiencing homelessness need to be provided equitably, throughout Orange County, building upon the results and work we have done in Santa Ana.

Are you able to commit to attending at least 75% of CoC Board meetings each year? The CoC Board meets monthly, currently every fourth Wednesday from 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., though that time is subject to change. **Yes**

Are you able to commit to serving on at least one CoC committee, working group, or ad-hoc committee, and to attend at least 75% of that committee, working group, or ad-hoc's meetings? This is usually 1-2 hours per month, though, depending on the group you choose to participate in, the time commitment could be higher. **Yes**

Do you currently live or work in Orange County? Please select all that apply. **I live in Orange County,**
I work in Orange County

INTEREST FORM: PART TWO

Have you experienced homelessness? **No**

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If you answered “yes” to the question above, please check all of the following that apply and that you feel comfortable disclosing.

What is your race and/or ethnicity?

White

Are you 2SLGBTQQIA+ (2-spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual/aromantic, +)? Please check all of the following that apply and that you feel comfortable disclosing.

No, I'm not 2SLGBTQQIA+

Do any of the following identities or experiences apply to you?

No, none of these apply to me

Please select all of the entities or areas with which you have a personal or professional background or experience.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program funded agency or recipient agency,
Public Housing Agency (PHA),
Affordable housing development background,
Homeless system programs: Emergency Shelter,
Homeless system programs: Rapid Rehousing,
Homeless system programs: Permanent Supportive Housing,
Homeless system programs: Transition-Age Youth (TAY) Agency
