

INTEREST FORM: PART ONE

CoC General Member Information

Name: **Melanie McQueen**

If you represent a specific organization in Orange County,
please list your organization & role: **PATH Regional Director**

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?

I bring 25 years of experience in the homelessness and nonprofit sector; current leadership and operations of homeless programming across Orange County; and, two year service as a CoC Board Member. I bring strong strategic, organizational and communication skills, as evidenced by active participation in Board and PPS Committee meetings, and effective planning and Chairing of the Service Provider Forum. I bring integrity and transparency, seeking to further develop and support the collaborative impact of the homeless system of care, directly for the people we serve.

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

I bring integrity and accountability to collaborations, supporting wider goals in the interests of people we serve. I bring strong understanding and appreciation of best practices and how to measure outcomes effectively. I hold a nonprofit leadership position here in Orange County, and I bring cross program experience and empathy to the table, ensuring my representation is in the wider interest, not just for mine or one agency. I have good analytical skills and support the Board in making evidence based decisions. I bring inquisitiveness, helping to foster a collaborative understanding of CoC Board issues and support effective decision making.

2024 Continuum of Care Board Candidate Interest Form

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](#).

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

The nonprofit I work for, PATH, is a recipient of CoC funds.
My husband works for VOALA, a nonprofit recipient of CoC funds.

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?

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?

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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?

Efficiency and smart allocation of funds resonate most with me currently. I feel there is more work to do to better understand and measure the effectiveness of homelessness programs and interventions. The CoC Board is responsible for significant investments, and having a longer term plan that increases efficacy and sustainability of services to better meet the needs of people we serve, is critical. We have a collective opportunity to improve and influence systems of care. Having only served one term, I appreciate the opportunity to serve again, as I feel there is so much learning as a new CoC Board member, I'm just getting started!

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 limitation of funding eligibility and short funding cycles/terms, poses a significant challenge to innovation, evolution and sustainability of homeless services. I am keen to explore opportunities for braided funding, joint commissioning and fiscal mapping across systems of care to maximize positive outcomes for individuals, families and communities.

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? **Yes**

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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. **Prefer not to answer**

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? **Someone in my immediate family has served in the military or armed forces**

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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

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Public Housing Agency (PHA),

Domestic violence agency or programming,

Behavioral health field,

Faith-based organization or community,

Health care field,

Affordable housing development background,

Homeless system programs: Diversion,

Homeless system programs: Street Outreach,

Homeless system programs: Prevention,

Homeless system programs: Emergency Shelter,

Homeless system programs: Rapid Rehousing,

Homeless system programs: Permanent Supportive Housing

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Homeless system programs: Transition-Age Youth (TAY) Agency

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Homeless system programs: Family Agency
