



**Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC)
Board Meeting
December 18, 2024**

Public Comments

Board Member Comments

Consent Calendar

Consent Calendar

1. Approve CoC Board Meeting Minutes from September 25, 2024
2. Approve CoC Board Special Meeting Minutes from October 9, 2024
3. Approve CoC Board Special Meeting Minutes from November 5, 2024
4. Agencies and Jurisdictions Approved for Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Access
 - a. Receive and file list of agencies and jurisdictions approved for HMIS access from July 20, 2024, through December 13, 2024.
5. Approve the 2025 CoC Board Meeting Calendar, as recommended by the Office of Care Coordination.

Business Calendar

CoC Strategic Plan

Aubrey Sitler, Consultant, AC Strategies;
Tim Shaw, Chair; and
CoC Vision Ad Hoc Membership



Orange County CoC Strategic Plan: Overview

Sections

- Strategic Plan Status, Process, & Next Steps
- Current Strategic Plan Framework
 - Structure, Process, & Timeline
 - Overview: Strategic Aims & Objectives
 - Details: Strategies & Tasks





Strategic Plan Status, Process, & Next Steps

Strategic Plan Process: July-Nov 2024

Where did these Strategic Aims, Objectives, Strategies, and Actions come from?

- The **nine-person Vision Ad Hoc** was convened in the summer of 2024 to review, structure, and propose this Plan to the CoC Board for adoption.
 - Includes people with and without CoC experience, each of whom brings a unique experience, background, and identity. The group reflects many of the people and groups who experience homelessness in Orange County.
- The Vision Ad Hoc strove to capture the ethos of all ideas in **two pre-existing sources**:
 - **C4's Racial Equity Analysis Report & Roadmap**, including their recommendations for how to increase racial equity in Orange County's homelessness response system
 - The **former Vision Ad Hoc's Leadership Vision strategic aims, goals, and objectives**. Note that these have been reorganized into new Strategic Aims and Objectives, but the ideas should all be captured.

- 11 • The Vision Ad Hoc also accounted for [public feedback offered in writing and verbally in July 2024](#).

Feedback Requested in Oct-Nov 2024

CoC Committee members were asked to provide feedback on the following questions:

- **Which Strategies & Actions should the CoC Board prioritize accomplishing first?** What should the CoC Board prioritize accomplishing in Year 1, Year 2, and Year 3 of this plan?
- **Where do you see yourself / your committee or working group / other entities fitting into this Plan?** Which Strategies / Actions could you commit to leading or supporting?
- **When should the Plan's implementation timeline begin?** Should the Strategic Plan's 3-year implementation period include or start after a 6-month ramp-up to finalize lead/role assignments, SMARTIE goals, timelines, metrics for success, and progress reporting methods?

Feedback Provided in Oct-Nov 2024

- **9 responses** to the Vision Ad Hoc's survey requesting feedback.
- Overall, feedback indicated that **people thought this framework was on the right track**, with some ideas for who should hold which pieces and some variation in when to prioritize different parts.
 - The Ad Hoc did not make any decisions about the feedback offered. The Strategic Plan Framework presented today is identical to the one offered before.
- **One person offered a piece of criticism:** "I understand this work has been led by vision ad hoc and it would have been beneficial to bring the wider Board together to feedback and respond to these questions in person. Regular feedback mechanisms should be embedded in strategic planning processes. There is a lot of work to do and some of the items raised require additional thought, collaboration and input to fully understand context, drivers and opportunities. Thanks for the work done so far!"
 - **We agree that this needs more Board collaboration and feedback!** That's what the next 6 months will be, if the framework is approved today. None of the items on which the Ad Hoc requested feedback have been integrated into the framework yet.

Strategic Plan Process: Dec 2024 – June 2028

- **December Board Meeting:** Review & vote whether to affirm the current Strategic Plan framework.
- **January-June 2025: The March to Specificity.** Convene Board members and committees to flesh out details of how to carry this work out, including determining:
 - Concrete SMARTIE Goals
 - Responsible entities / roles
 - Timeline for carrying out activities
 - Metrics and methods for monitoring and reporting out on success and progress
 - Methods for decision-making: when to push on vs. strategically abandon something
 - **Note:** This framework is not intended to be set in stone, but the Ad Hoc wants the Board to be intentional and strategic about what it chooses to pursue, put off, and leave behind.

Strategic Plan Structure: Feedback & Implementation Timeline



Anticipated Question about the Strategic Plan

What's the timeline for getting any of these pieces done? Who will lead and implement each of these items?

- We want to determine the timeline and leadership with the CoC Board and Committees in the coming months.
- The Vision Ad Hoc has some notes and ideas about key collaborators who need to be part of most pieces of this work (e.g., people with lived expertise, specific organizations to pull in, etc.).
- We are not sharing that level of detail today to focus instead on the bigger picture of what the work should ideally look like. We'll sort out the details of who will carry it and when in the coming months. We also welcome your feedback on these pieces.



Current Strategic Plan Framework

Strategic Plan Framework Structure

Vision: The end-state we're working toward.

Goals: Big-picture SMARTIE goal(s) to be achieved during the implementation of this plan, which support moving closer to the **Vision**.

- ↳ **Strategic Aim:** A story and vision of the future that's aspirational and bold. "Aim" means something we're going for even if it's far off. We're intentionally shooting high. **Strategic Aims** help achieve **Goals**.
- ↳ **Objectives:** Areas of work to focus on to achieve each **Strategic Aim**.
- ↳ **Strategies:** Buckets of work to address to achieve **Objectives**.
- ↳ **Actions:** Concrete action steps to complete by set people/groups and within set timeframes, to add up to achieving **Strategies, Objectives, Strategic Aims, and Goals**.

Strategic Plan Framework Structure: Parts to be Voted on Today

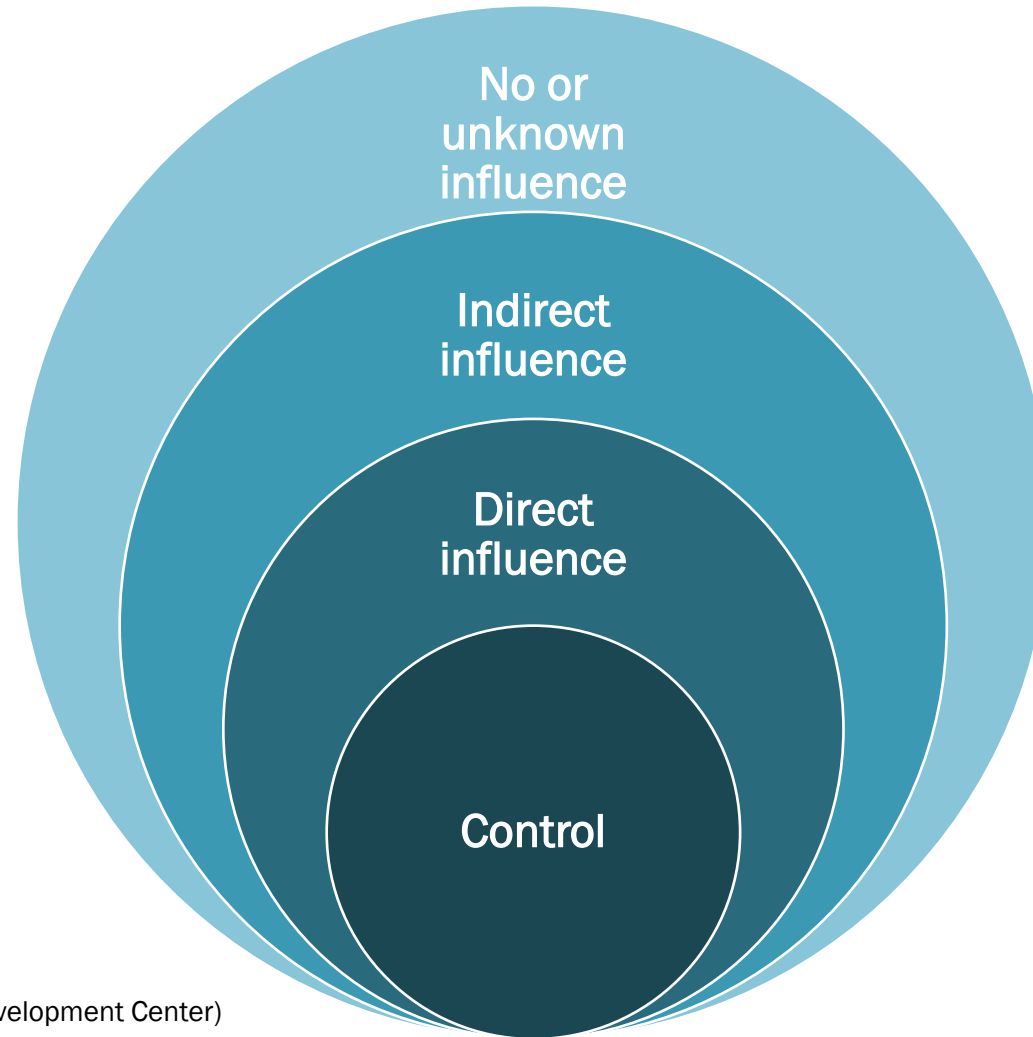
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Strategic Plan Structure: Spheres of Influence

Focus on what the CoC has
control and influence over



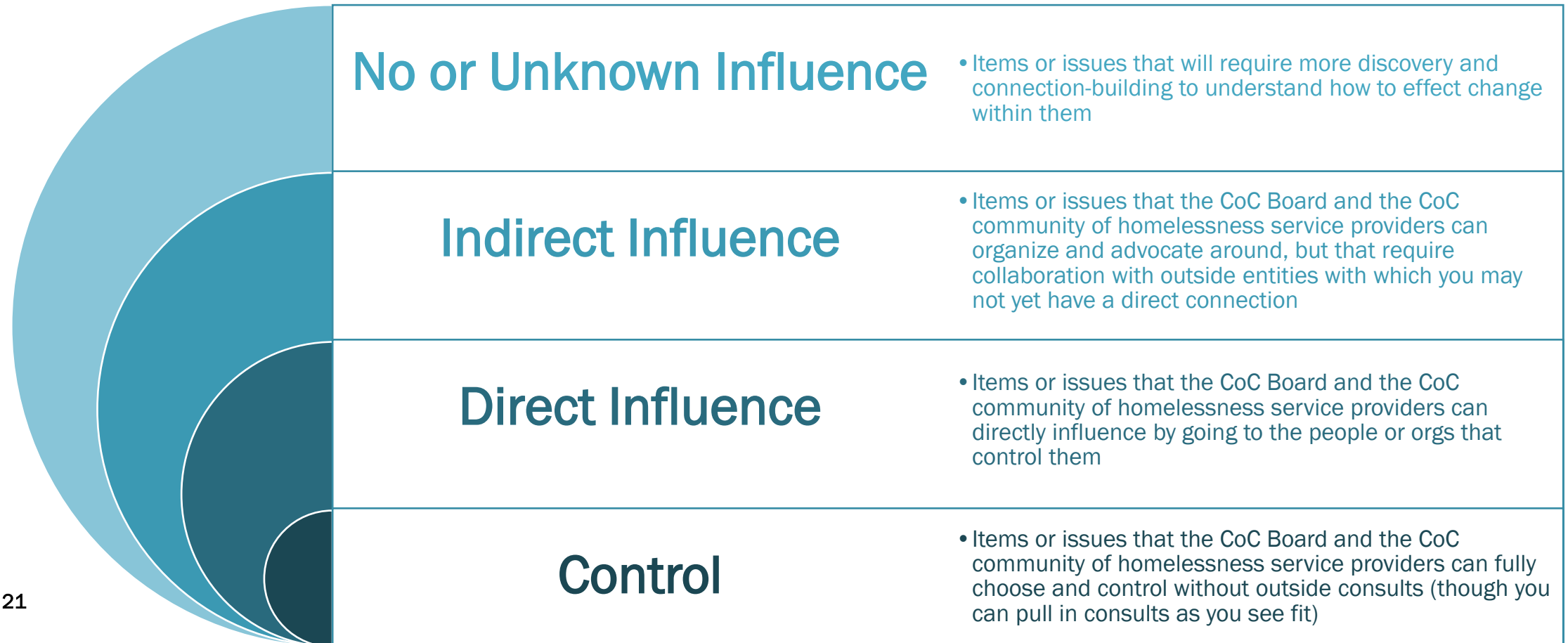
Sphere of Concern
(e.g., ending
homelessness)

Sources & Resources:

[Sphere of Influence Worksheet](#) (National MCH Workforce Development Center)

[Spheres of Influence Explained](#) (The Leadership Sphere)

Strategic Plan Structure: Spheres of Influence





CoC's Vision Statement

All people in Orange County experiencing homelessness and those at-risk will have equitable access to navigation, housing, and supportive services in ways that ensure equitable outcomes including overall well-being and long-term housing stability.

5 Strategic Aims

Strategic Aim 1: Improve and expand the homelessness response system to permanently house people experiencing homelessness equitably, efficiently, and with dignity.

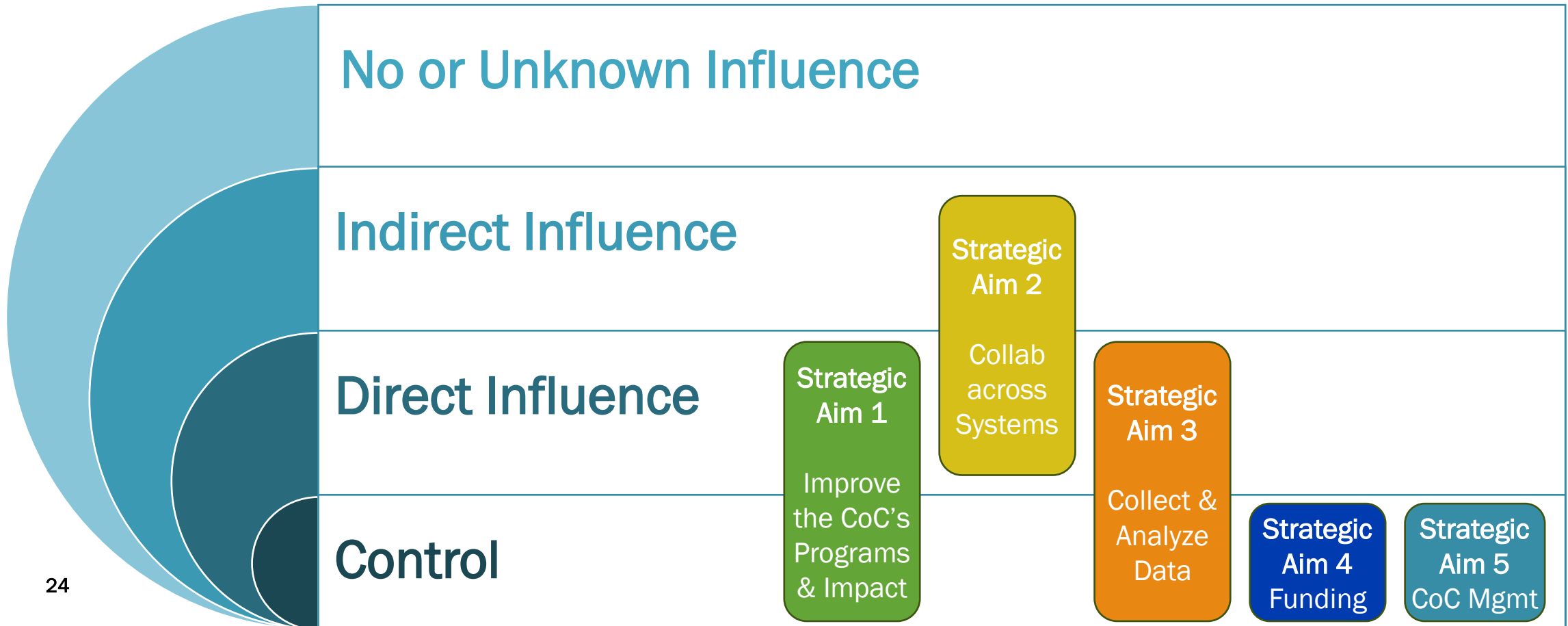
Strategic Aim 2: Collaborate with leaders, providers, and community members across service systems to align practices, coordinate resources, and better support people experiencing homelessness.

Strategic Aim 3: Engage in ongoing data collection, analysis, and evaluation to promote transparency and hold the CoC accountable for its role in ending homelessness.

Strategic Aim 4: Pursue and allocate funding to strategically address racial and social inequities and fill system gaps.

Strategic Aim 5: Manage and ensure effectiveness of the CoC's operations and structure.

5 Strategic Aims & the CoC's Spheres of Influence



Strategic Aim 1 & its Objectives

Strategic Aim 1: Improve and expand the homelessness response system to permanently house people experiencing homelessness equitably, efficiently, and with dignity.

- **Objective 1A:** Collaborate with Orange County homelessness service providers to embed evidence-based and best practices to improve clients' experiences in and outcomes from interacting with the system.
- **Objective 1B:** Improve CoC policies and processes.
- **Objective 1C:** Collaborate with partners throughout Orange County that provide non-CoC housing resources and services.
- **Objective 1D:** Ensure support and funding for people with lived expertise to continue participating equitably in CoC- and provider-level work.

Strategic Aim 2 & its Objectives

Strategic Aim 2: Collaborate with leaders, providers, and community members across service systems to align practices, coordinate resources, and better support people experiencing homelessness.

- Objective 2A: Strengthen partnerships with adjacent systems & providers in Orange County.
- Objective 2B: Strengthen partnerships with the public & community members in Orange County.
- Objective 2C: Strengthen partnerships with philanthropic partners.
- Objective 2D: Engage in policy and funding advocacy to improve equity and housing outcomes for people experiencing homelessness in Orange County.

Strategic Aim 3 & its Objectives

Strategic Aim 3: Engage in ongoing data collection, analysis, and evaluation to promote transparency and hold the CoC accountable for its role in ending homelessness.

- **Objective 3A**: Improve data collection and analysis processes to collect more accurate data on system inequities, embed expertise from people with lived experience, and ensure data collection is trauma-informed and equitable.
- **Objective 3B**: Develop a method to analyze and publicly share project and system performance data to understand barriers to and promote progress toward implementing an equitable system in alignment with this plan.

Strategic Aim 4 & its Objectives

Strategic Aim 4: Pursue and allocate funding to strategically address racial and social inequities and fill system gaps.

- Objective 4A: Allocate existing funding in alignment with this strategic plan.
- Objective 4B: Identify funding gaps and develop funding strategies to fill those gaps in alignment with this plan's priorities.

Strategic Aim 5 & its Objectives

Strategic Aim 5: Manage and ensure effectiveness of the CoC's operations and structure.

- **Objective 5A**: Manage and implement this strategic plan.
- **Objective 5B**: Evaluate the CoC Board, Collaborative Applicant, HMIS lead, and CES lead effectiveness and performance.

Details: Strategies & Actions

See attached PDF.

[DRAFT for Review] Orange County CoC Strategic Plan

Land Acknowledgement

A Land Acknowledgement is a formal statement that recognizes and respects Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of this land and the enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional territories. A Land Acknowledgement is also the first step in educating oneself on building a deeper and more meaningful decolonized relationship with Native peoples and the land itself. Truth and acknowledgment are critical to building mutual respect and a connection across all barriers of heritage and difference. Because of this, it is critical that institutions such as the CoC have land acknowledgments that address the full history of the lands they reside on.

The Orange County CoC occupies land located in the ancestral and unceded territories of the sovereign Acjachemen and Tongva Indigenous Peoples, whose traditions of caretaking and protecting this land continue today. We are grateful to these original stewards of the land where we live, work, and study, who despite the history of violence and racism, forced displacement, land theft, and colonialism still hold strong cultural, spiritual, and physical ties to this region and continue to assert their sovereignty by acting as caretakers of their ancestral lands as they have since time immemorial.

This Land Acknowledgement is informed and inspired by the statements from the University of California Irvine Land Acknowledgement Task Force, Department of Earth System Science, UCI Libraries, and Tongva and Acjachemen tribal community members.

Thank you

Please reach out to the Office of Care
Coordination with any questions:

CareCoordination@ocgov.com



Appendix: **SMARTIE Goals**

SMARTIE Goals

What is a **SMARTIE** goal? A goal that supports achieving the **vision statement** and meets each of the following criteria:

- **Strategic**
- **Measurable**
- **Ambitious**
- **Realistic**
- **Time-bound**
- **Inclusive**
- **Equitable**

SMARTIE Goals

The CoC Board will finalize this plan's SMARTIE goals in the first 6 months of 2025 to include person-centered goals and system-centered goals.

Example person-centered SMARTIE goals: By [end date of strategic plan], 90% of people across historically marginalized identities (including but not limited to Black, Indigenous and people of color; people with a disability; transition-aged youth and young adults; people over 55; LGBTQ+ people; undocumented people) will report that:

- They felt understood and respected by staff they interacted with at CES access points, in shelter, and in housing projects.
- They felt safe accessing services and working with staff.
- They were able to receive accessible materials, including materials in their language.
- They were aware of resources available.
- They were informed about policies regarding discrimination and equity.

Example system-centered SMARTIE goals:

- By December 31, 2026, the Orange County CoC will conduct a comprehensive analysis of the homelessness response system, identifying systemic inequities and injustices in housing and services for marginalized and underrepresented groups. This will include an analysis of whether and, if applicable, why certain groups tend to be more or less likely to be enrolled in shelter/TH, RRH, and PSH program types.
- Based on these findings, by [plan end date], the CoC will collaborate with people with lived experience and agency staff to design and implement at least three new policies, procedures, or practices that address these inequities, with the goal of improving equitable outcomes for at least 80% of individuals from historically marginalized communities who interact with the system. The CoC will also ensure that at least 95% of staff and partners working for CoC-funded agencies receive training on the history of systemic injustices and their impacts on homelessness.

Business Calendar – Item #1

Recommended Action

- a. Approve the CoC Strategic Plan as a living framework to be continually refined in preparation for implementation in July 2025.

CoC Board Recommendations

**Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care
Coordination and CoC Nominating Ad Hoc**

Business Calendar – Item #2

CoC Nominating Ad Hoc

- As part of the 2023 CoC Board nomination and election process, the Office of Care Coordination as the CoC Collaborative Applicant (Collaborative Applicant) and CoC Board Officers partnered with a technical assistance provider through the California Interagency Council on Homelessness Racial Equity Action Lab (CA REAL) with a goal to align with recommendations from the C4 Innovations racial equity assessment of the Orange County CoC and increase diversity and representation within the CoC Board.
- Additionally, the 2023 CoC Board nomination and election process, removed designated seats for the CoC Board and replaced with a minimum number of people who have specified identities, experiences, and backgrounds.
- The 2024 CoC Nominating Ad Hoc (Ad Hoc) convened in August 2024 and included three (3) current CoC Board Members that are not up for re-election as well as four (4) additional CoC General Members, representing different entities of the homeless service system.
- The Ad Hoc supported the annual review of the Orange County CoC Governance Charter (Charter) and facilitate the CoC Board nomination and election process and carrying forward the work of ensuring the CoC Board membership is diverse, representative and meets requirements outlined in the Charter.

Business Calendar – Item #2

CoC Board Nomination and Election

- The Ad Hoc and Collaborative Applicant, on behalf of the Orange County CoC, facilitated the annual CoC Board nomination and election process.
- The Charter states the CoC Board can have a minimum of 17 and a maximum of 21 Board members, requiring an odd number in total members.
- There are 10 Board members whose term will expire on December 31, 2024, and 9 continuing Board members

Available seats for this year’s CoC Board nomination and election included:

- Candidates selected by CoC General Membership: 7 – 11 (but must be odd number)
- Lived Experience Advisory Committee (LEAC)-Appointed Board member: 1

Board Members Whose Terms End December 31, 2024
Judson Brown
Kelly Bruno-Nelson
Nichole Gideon
Sandra Lozeau
Melanie McQueen
Robert “Santa Bob” Morse
Jason Phillips
Maricela Rios-Faust
Ami Rowland
Christina Weckerly Ramirez

Business Calendar – Item #2

CoC Board Nomination and Election Process and Results

- The Collaborative Applicant provided email communication with a link to the online voting survey, as well as a link to the voting survey on the CoC Board Nomination and Election webpage.
- The Ad Hoc in partnership with the Collaborative Applicant, utilized the voting tool introduced in 2023 by CA REAL technical assistance provider, Aubrey Sitler and identified the ability to meet all minimum requirements outlined in the Charter.
- Utilizing the voting tool, the Ad Hoc recommends **11 candidates** to be presented to the CoC Board for ratification to serve as CoC Board members.
- The 11 candidates are inclusive of those with the highest number of votes and candidates who, in order of number of votes received, were the next selected to meet the minimum representation of desired CoC Board composition.
- The Collaborative Applicant communicated with all candidates via email after the Ad Hoc finalized the results.

Business Calendar – Item #2

Lived Experience Advisory Committee (LEAC) Recommendation

- The Charter notes that the LEAC will select one person to represent them on the CoC Board and the CoC General Membership will not vote on the person's participation on the CoC Board.
- This process was implemented for this first time in this election cycle.
- The Collaborative Applicant partnered with the LEAC to build out the process for selecting a member that they wished to appoint to the CoC Board.
- During the December 4, 2024, LEAC meeting, the LEAC approved the recommendation to appoint Nichole Gideon to the CoC Board seat for an individual with lived experience of homelessness for the term of January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2026.

Business Calendar – Item #2

CoC Board Nomination and Election Process and Results

- Having a more representative Board is a step in the right direction to integrating more voices into the Orange County CoC decision-making process.
- It is important to note that while all of the CoC Board's goals for diverse representation were met through the nomination and election process, equipping new Board members with training and ongoing support is key to meaningful engagement.
- The Ad Hoc and Collaborative Applicant discussed how the goals for representation and use of the voting tool are successful, if coupled with a commitment from the CoC Board and Collaborative Applicant to ensure a culture of belonging and provide proper orientation.
- The Collaborative Applicant will be scheduling CoC Board orientation in January 2025 for all new CoC Board Members.
- Additionally, returning or continuing CoC Board members will be asked if there is a desire to volunteer to connect and mentor new Board members – a process that was piloted in early 2024 for new CoC Board members.

Business Calendar – Item #2

Recommended Action

- a. Ratify the results from the CoC Board election to appoint the following candidates to the CoC Board for the term of January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2026.
 - (1) Judson Brown
 - (2) Dr. Kelly Bruno-Nelson
 - (3) Shakoya Green Long
 - (4) Marisol Johnson
 - (5) Sandra Lozeau
 - (6) Sammie MarTínez
 - (7) Melanie McQueen
 - (8) Dr. Tiffany Mitchell
 - (9) Robert “Santa Bob” Morse
 - (10) Jason Phillips
 - (11) Maricela Rios Faust

Business Calendar – Item #2

Recommended Action

- b. Accept the appointment of Nichole Gideon to the CoC Board seat for an individual with lived experience of homelessness for the term of January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2026, as recommended by the Lived Experience Advisory Committee.

Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS)

Committee Recommendations

Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care
Coordination and Nishtha Mohendra,
PPS Committee Chair

Business Calendar – Item #3

PPS Committee Membership

- **January 17, 2024, CoC Board Meeting:** Request was made during CoC Board member comments to revise the PPS Committee Charter (Charter) to remove the requirement of the CoC Board Vice Chair to serve as PPS Committee Chair and expand the membership of the PPS Committee so that it is not exclusive to CoC Committee chairs, allowing for opportunities for other CoC Board and/or CoC General Members to participate.
- **February 13, 2024, PPS Committee Meeting:** Approved recommended changes to the Charter, specifically relating to the appointment procedures for the Chair and Vice Chair and discussed Section 6 of the Charter detailing membership.
 - ❖ Also discussed potential changes to designated membership, noting importance of intentionality in appointing representatives from each CoC Committee as well as keeping PPS Committee membership closely connected to the work of the CoC Board. Stated changes to membership would be forthcoming.
- **February 28, 2024, CoC Board Meeting:** Approved revised Charter to allow PPS Committee Chair to be appointed

Business Calendar – Item #3

PPS Committee Membership

- The CoC Board and PPS Committee previously discussed a Calendar Year 2024 goal of reviewing the Orange County CoC Governance Charter to make needed updates, then subsequently reviewing all CoC Committee Charters to ensure alignment.
- To center the continued work of the CoC Vision ad hoc and strategic plan build out, the review and updating of the Orange County CoC Governance Charter was necessarily delayed.
- **November 12, 2024, PPS Committee Meeting:** Re-entered discussion about membership, including desired membership composition as well as the scope and purpose of the PPS Committee.
 - ❖ Approved recommendation to direct Collaborative Applicant to integrate the committee's discussion and prepare recommended changes to the PPS Committee membership for the December 10, 2024, meeting.

Business Calendar – Item #3

PPS Committee Membership

- **December 10, 2024, PPS Committee Meeting:** The PPS Committee approved the proposed recommended revisions to the Charter
 - ❖ Specifically Section 6 detailing membership, with direction to the Collaborative Applicant to make additional revisions based on the PPS Committee member discussion.
- Discussion on revisions and clarifying items:
 - ❖ Removal of outdated references to the CoC Board Vice Chair serving as Chair of the PPS Committee.
 - ❖ Discussed recommending that CoC Board members serving on the committee be approached first as alternates before opening the opportunity to other committee members.
 - ❖ Terms of any appointed CoC Committee representatives to the PPS Committee should align with the Chair's tenure in their position rather than a fixed term length, ensuring that each Committee Chair can implement the alternate selection process as needed.

Business Calendar – Item #3

PPS Committee Membership: Proposed Revisions

- Proposed revisions to the Charter, inclusive of the PPS Committees' recommended revisions, are detailed in **Attachment A** and summarized below.
 - ❖ Prioritize CoC Committee Chairs for membership, however, allow for a Committee representative to be appointed if a Chair is unable to participate on the PPS Committee
 - ❖ Appointed CoC Committee representatives must be CoC General members
 - ❖ Continue having at least one and no more than two at large Board members
 - ❖ Clarifying term length for each member type: PPS Committee Chair and Vice Chair, CoC Committee Chairs, appointed CoC Committee representatives, and at large members
 - ❖ Remove outdated language from previous versions of the Charter
- Approval of the recommended Charter revisions will support being mindful of CoC Committee Chairs' capacity while having the opportunity to include new voices from CoC Committees.

Business Calendar – Item #3

CoC Committee Representative Appointment Process

- Additionally, at the December 10, 2024, PPS Committee meeting, the committee discussed and approved a process for appointing CoC Committee representatives to the PPS Committee, should the revised PPS Committee Charter be approved by the CoC Board.
- CoC Committee representatives will be selected by the respective CoC Committee Chair and/or in partnership with the CoC Committee membership.
- Examples in practice if a CoC Committee Chair is unable to participate as a PPS Committee member:
 - ❖ **Example #1: CoC Committee has a set membership** and at the next committee meeting, the CoC Committee Chair asks for nominations for a representative. Committee votes and collectively selects a representative to participate on the PPS Committee.
 - ❖ **Example #2: CoC Committee does not have a set membership.** CoC Committee Chair reaches out to active participants and/or regular presenters to ask about interest in participating on the PPS Committee.
- The Collaborative Applicant will work with CoC Committee Chairs, as desired, to further build out and implement this process if a CoC Committee representative is appointed to the PPS Committee.

Business Calendar – Item #3

Recommended Action

- a. Approve recommended changes to the PPS Committee Charter, specifically Section 6 detailing Membership, to allow for a CoC Committee representative to be appointed as a PPS Committee member should a CoC Committee Chair be unable to participate, as recommended by the PPS Committee.

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Data Requests

Elizabeth Andrade, Executive Director, 2-1-1 Orange County (211OC), Orange County United Way; Erin DeRycke, Director of Data Analytics, 211OC, Orange County United Way; Bruce D. Meyer, McCormick Foundation Professor, University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy; and Angela J. Wyse, Assistant Professor of Economics, Dartmouth College

Background

- Data requests from organizations not participating in HMIS are required to be approved by the CoC Board prior to any data being released
- University of Chicago is requesting data from HMIS for research purposes to increase understanding of homelessness in Orange County by considering questions related to income, employment, safety net programs, housing transitions, and demographics

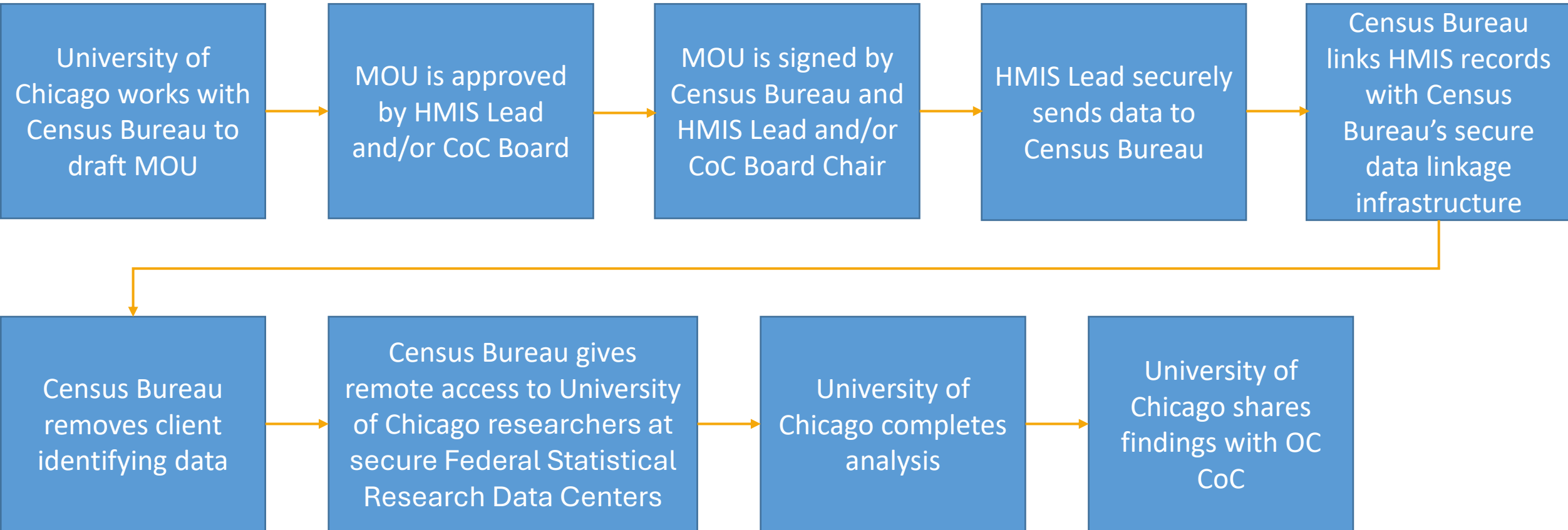
Request Process

- Request was submitted to the HMIS Help Desk on October 30, 2024
- HMIS Lead met with University of Chicago to discuss the request on November 8, 2024
- HMIS Lead recommended data elements to be included in request
- HMIS Lead managed presentation materials and provided feedback to University of Chicago
- Estimated total time to be spent on request: 10 hours

Data Request Specifications

- Reporting Period: 1/1/18 – 12/31/24
- All clients active during reporting period with an active Release of Information record as of the end of the reporting period
 - Approximately 76,500 clients and 232,500 enrollments
- Request includes names, Dates of Birth (DOBs), and Social Security Numbers (SSNs) in order to link clients with Census Bureau data; these fields are critical to ensure accurate record linkages to complete the analysis
 - Linkage is completed by a computer program
 - Once the linkage is completed identifying data is removed and is not available to researchers

Workflow



Data Elements

- 2.01 Organization Information
- 2.02 Project Information
- 3.01 Name
- 3.02 Social Security Number
- 3.03 Date of Birth
- 3.04 Race and Ethnicity
- 3.06 Gender
- 3.07 Veteran Status
- 3.08 Disabling Condition
- 3.10 Project Start Date
- 3.11 Project Exit Date
- 3.12 Destination
- 3.15 Relationship to Head of Household
- 3.20 Housing Move In Date
- 3.917 Prior Living Situation
- 4.02 Income And Sources
- 4.03 Non-Cash Benefits
- 4.04 Health Insurance
- 4.05 Physical Disability
- 4.06 Developmental Disability
- 4.07 Chronic Health Condition
- 4.08 HIV/AIDS
- 4.09 Mental Health Disorder
- 4.10 Substance Use Disorder
- 4.11 Domestic Violence
- 4.12 Current Living Situation
- 4.20 Coordinated Entry Event
- V1 Veteran's Information
- 5.06 Enrollment Identifier
- 5.07 User Identifier (added and last updated)
- 5.08 Personal Identifier
- 5.09 Household Identifier
- Custom field – Have you or someone in your family ever been legally evicted?
- Custom field – How many legal evictions?
- Custom field – Employment Status

Request Considerations

- This request will allow the Orange County CoC to gain cross-sector insights that we have not had access to in the past
- U.S. Census Bureau is experienced in managing sensitive data, including SSNs
- U.S. Census Bureau will not use data for any reason other than what is outlined in the MOU

Advancing Research on Homelessness by Incorporating the OC CoC's HMIS Records into the Census Bureau's Data Linkage Infrastructure

Description of HMIS Data Request

University of Chicago's Comprehensive Income Dataset (CID) Project:

<https://cid.harris.uchicago.edu>

Bruce D. Meyer (bdmeyer@uchicago.edu) - McCormick Foundation Professor
at the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy

Angela J. Wyse (angela.j.wyse@Dartmouth.edu) - Assistant Professor of
Economics at Dartmouth College

Douglas M. S. Williams (douglasmsw@uchicago.edu) - Pre-Doctoral Research
Fellow at the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy

Project Overview

- This project aims to improve the lives of those experiencing or at risk of homelessness through a quantitatively rigorous examination of questions related to:
 - Formal income, employment, and connections to mainstream safety net programs;
 - Migration histories and transitions between homelessness, housing, and institutions;
 - Completeness and accuracy of the 2010 and 2020 Census homeless enumerations;
 - Differences in key outcomes by gender, race, age, and other characteristics.
- We propose to incorporate HMIS records into the Census Bureau's secure data linkage infrastructure, permitting researchers to link HMIS clients to administrative data on taxes, safety net programs, and decennial Censuses.
 - Administrative data contain information on individual histories (for up to 40 years) of earnings and the receipt of a dozen government programs (e.g., SNAP, HUD housing assistance, SSI, VA service-connected disability assistance), as well as mortality.
- Our team has in the past conducted similar analyses using HMIS data from Los Angeles, Houston, and Chicago, and we are in the process of expanding agreements to other localities.



Description of Request and Compliance with OC CoC Policies and Procedures

- We are requesting client-level data for all available years and all available data fields, including PII.
- Census Bureau will use PII to assign anonymized individual linkage keys to HMIS clients; researchers will only see anonymized identifiers, not PII.
- With the CoC Board's approval, we will draft a proposed research agreement that complies with the OC CoC's Policies and Procedures.
 - The Census Bureau follows rigorous, legally mandated protocols to protect privacy and control the disclosure of information.
 - Agreement will provide for the safe handling and disposal of PII and restrict its additional use or disclosure, as outlined in section (h) of the Policies and Procedures.

Research Questions (and Relationship to CoC Strategic Aims)

- What are the long-term patterns of formal income, employment, and connections to the safety net surrounding a period of HMIS enrollment?
 - **Potential Impact:** Reduce barriers in access to services by providing accurate data on population needs and gaps well before and after HMIS engagement.
 - **Strategic Aims:** Supports efforts to permanently house those experiencing homelessness (Aim 1) and ensure an efficient, dignified system (Aim 2).
- How do government programs like Medicaid, HUD housing benefits, and disability assistance affect the housing, health, and well-being of people experiencing or at risk of homelessness?
 - **Potential Impact:** Identify opportunities to improve well-being by expanding eligibility for and supporting connections to mainstream safety net programs. Strengthen funding justifications for programs through robust evidence.
 - **Strategic Aims:** Supports efforts to permanently house those experiencing homelessness (Aim 1) and smartly allocate funds (Aim 6).

Research Questions (and and Relationship to CoC Strategic Aims)

- What are the long-term patterns of migration and transitions between housing, homelessness, and institutions like group homes and criminal justice facilities?
 - **Potential Impact:** Identifying opportunities to improve coordination across sectors and localities. Enhance long-term wellbeing through greater understanding of clients' housing conditions during periods when not experiencing literal homelessness.
 - **Strategic Aims:** Supports system-wide engagement and collaboration (Aim 4).
- What do disparities in the above-described outcomes tell us about pathways to and the experience of homelessness for marginalized communities?
 - **Potential Impact:** Understanding and addressing the causes of disproportionate homelessness among marginalized communities and reducing these disparities.
 - **Strategic Aims:** Promotes an equitable, just system (Aim 3).

Collaboration with the OC CoC Board and Communication of Findings

The CID team proposes three main channels for collaboration with the OC CoC board and communicating results:

1. **Planning** – Meet with OC CoC representatives to discuss planned analyses and ensure alignment with CoC priorities.
2. **Process Updates** – Conduct regular meetings to update the OC CoC team on our progress and solicit feedback.
 - Note that Census Bureau privacy protection protocols restrict the sharing of intermediate results, and the process to obtain permission to publicly discuss findings can be time-consuming.
 - Given this lengthy process, in past collaborations with the Chicago CoC, we have found semi-annual process update meeting to be sufficient.
3. **Results Sharing** – Upon disclosure of results, the CID team will:
 1. Provide a report of findings and share relevant academic publications
 2. Present results to OC CoC board and staff
 3. Organize presentations to broader CoC community as requested by the OC CoC (for example, see our May 2024 [webinar](#) hosted by AllChicago.)

Other Project Benefits

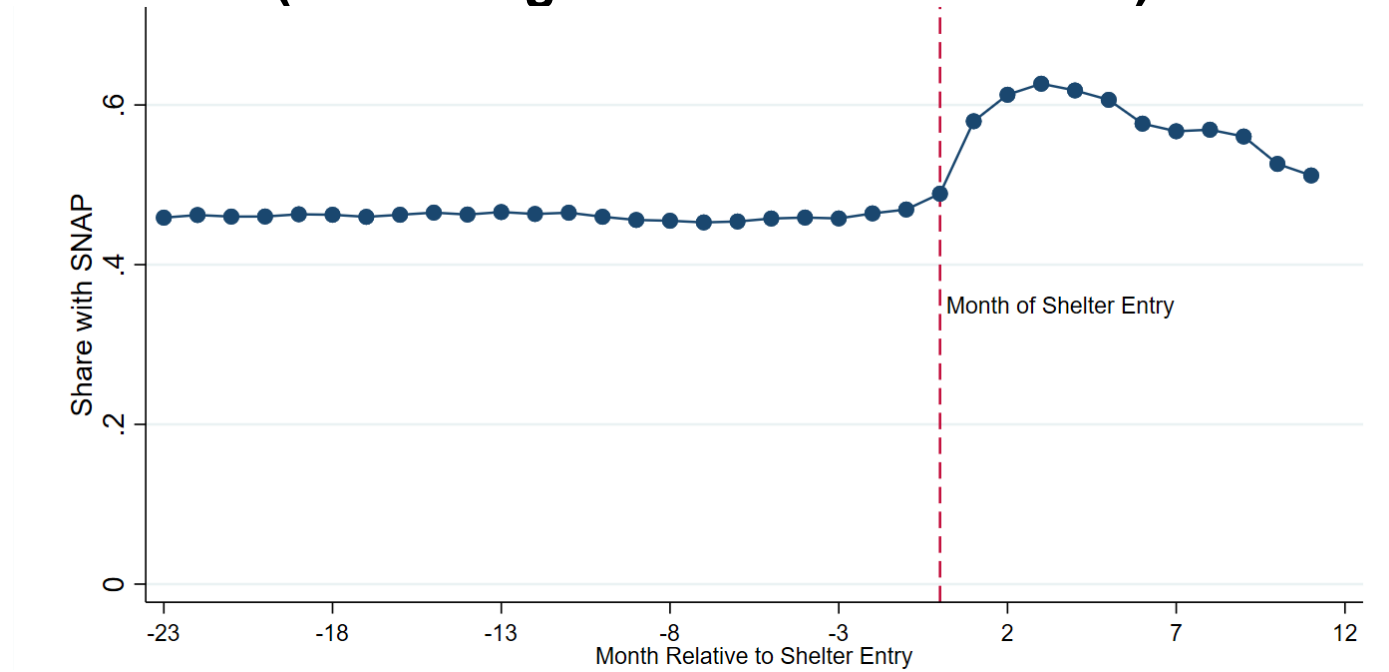
In addition to advancing research on understanding homelessness, this project provides the following benefits:

- 1. Providing important new insights while minimizing administrative and resource costs to the CoC.** This project permits extensive analyses using a single HMIS data pull, producing a wealth of new information with no added data collection burdens to the CoC or community.
- 2. Maintaining the highest standards of data protection.** This project leverages the Census Bureau's robust data security infrastructure and stringent, legally mandated protocols to protect HMIS clients' privacy.
- 3. Producing broad, cross-sector impact.** Our team has a strong record of soliciting feedback and sharing results with stakeholders across the service, advocacy, government, media, and academic sectors.
 - Examples include webinar to [AllChicago](#) research community; citations in [advocacy talking points](#) and [congressional testimony](#); presentations to homeless research and advocacy networks; local and national media coverage (e.g., [Wall Street Journal](#), [San Francisco Chronicle](#)); [academic publications](#); many dozens of presentations to academic and government audiences, including HUD, USDA, IRS, and the Census Bureau.



An Example of Past Analyses Using HMIS Data :

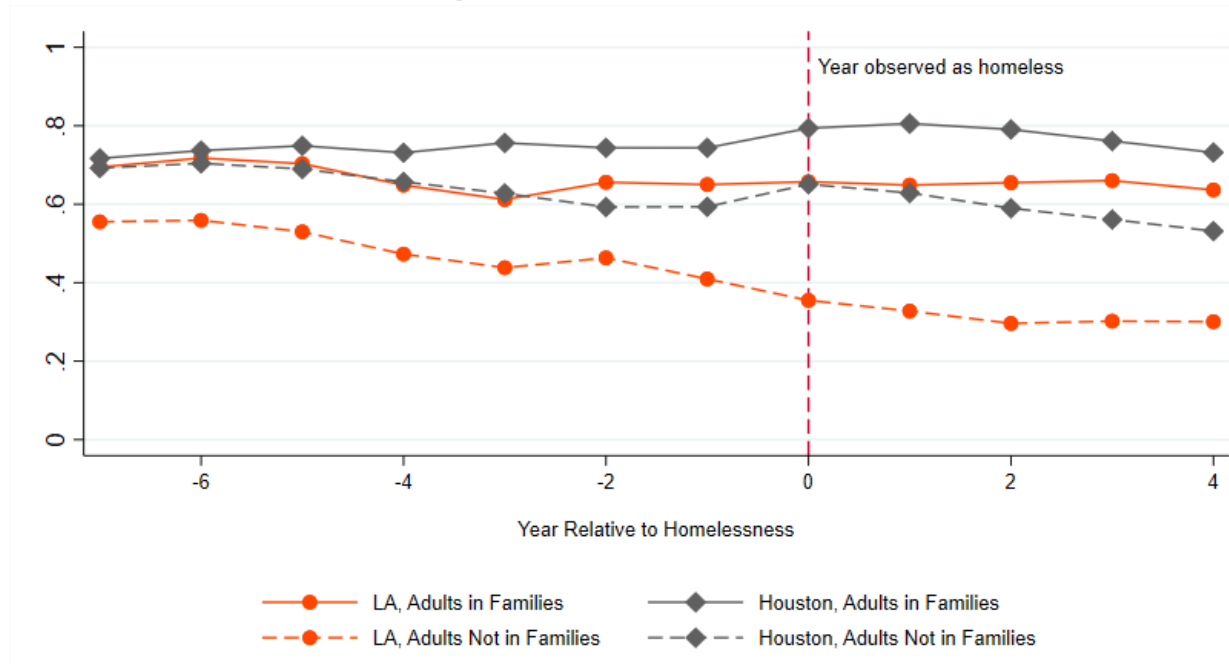
Share with SNAP in Months Surrounding First Shelter Enrollment (According to Administrative Data)



Key Takeaway: Chicago's service providers are highly effective in connecting clients to SNAP at shelter entry, but declining receipt over time illustrates difficulties in maintaining enrollment over time

An Example of Past Analyses Using HMIS Data :

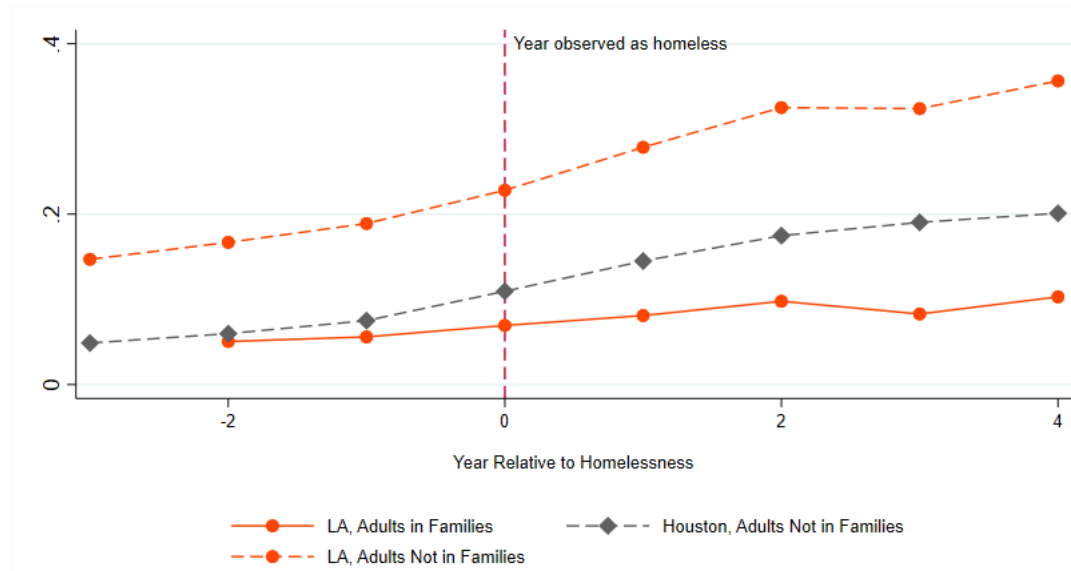
Share Formally Employed in Years Before/After Shelter Enrollment (According to Administrative Data)



Key Takeaway: Relative to adults in families, single adults appear to experience larger and more persistent declines in employment surrounding an observed period of homelessness, suggesting a longer-term deterioration in circumstances or health.

An Example of Past Analyses Using HMIS Data :

Disability Program Receipt (SSI or DI) in Years Before/After Shelter Enrollment (According to Administrative Data)



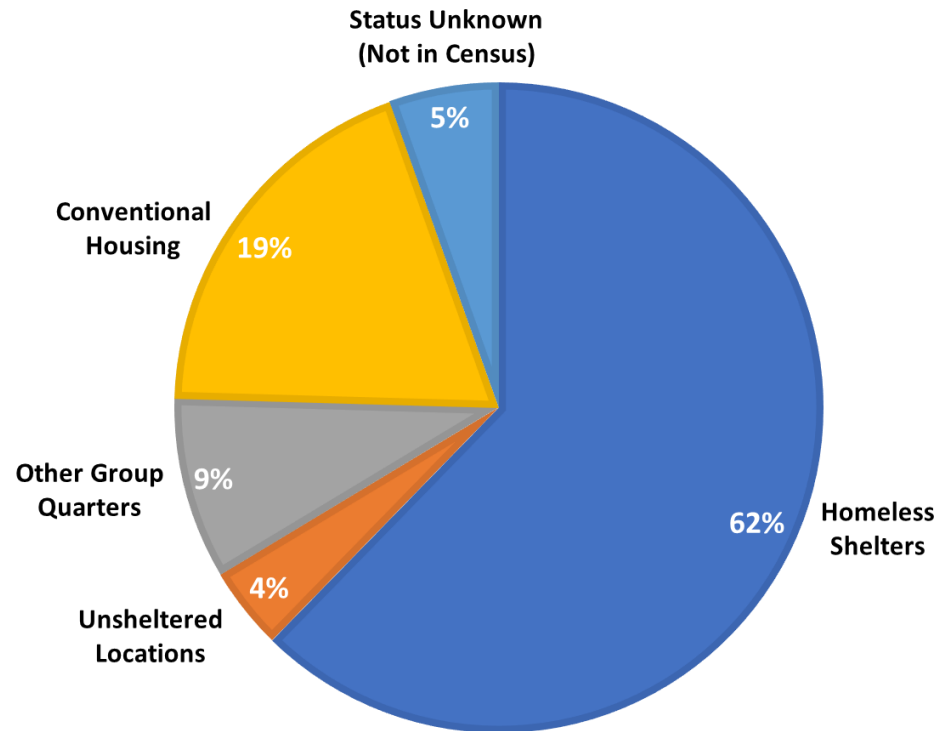
Key Takeaway: Disability programs are a major source of income, especially for single homeless adults, and receipt continues to rise following an observed period of homelessness, suggesting sustained and even increasing connections to these programs after shelter exit.



An Example of Past Analyses:

How well did the Census include people experiencing homelessness?

Coverage of L.A. and Houston HMIS Clients in the 2010 Census (by Housing Status Recorded in the Census)



Key Takeaway:
The 2010 Census included about 95 percent of HMIS clients, although large shares were classified as being housed or in other congregate living facilities.

Thank you for your consideration!



Business Calendar – Item #4

Recommended Action

- a. Approve University of Chicago's HMIS data request for the period of January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2024, for a one-time export of data for a Comprehensive Income Dataset Project to increase understanding of homelessness in Orange County by considering research questions related to income, employment, safety net programs, housing transitions, and demographics.



Get Connected. Get Help.™

211 Day: HMIS Data Request

Background

- The Orange County CoC may release aggregate data about its own continuum at the discretion of the CoC
 - There is not currently a policy in place regarding data that the HMIS Lead may release
- 211OC, a key service of Orange County United Way, is requesting data to analyze whether housing referrals from the 211 Contact Center are resulting in housing enrollments in HMIS
- Aggregate data will be shared during 211 Day, an event hosted by Orange County United Way

Request Process

- HMIS Lead met with 211 leadership to determine how HMIS data and 211 Contact Center data could be linked
- Request was submitted to the Office of Care Coordination on November 21, 2024
- HMIS Lead recommended data elements to be included in request and determined scope of analysis
- HMIS Lead managed presentation materials
- Estimated total time to be spent on request: 15 hours

Proposed Analysis

- Analysis will focus on specific populations and needs represented in the 211 Contact Center data
- For the housing portion of the analysis, the team will link clients from GetHelpOC to their HMIS record to determine if these referrals are resulting in housing enrollments

Research Questions

- What percentage of housing referrals are resulting in housing enrollments in HMIS?
- Are referrals to certain housing types more likely to result in a successful connection to a project participating in HMIS?
- Do the characteristics of the caller impact the rate of successful connections to a housing project in HMIS?

Data Request Specifications

- Reporting Period: 1/1/22 – 12/31/24
- All clients active during the reporting period with an active Release of Information record as of the end of the reporting period
 - Approximately 48,600 clients and 143,700 enrollments
- Request includes names, DOBs, and last 4 SSNs in order to link HMIS clients with their GetHelpOC records
 - Linkage is completed by a computer program
 - Published analysis will only include aggregate data

Data Elements

- 2.01 Organization Information
- 2.02 Project Information
- 3.01 Name
- 3.02 Social Security Number
- 3.03 Date of Birth
- 3.04 Race and Ethnicity
- 3.06 Gender
- 3.07 Veteran Status
- 3.10 Project Start Date
- 3.11 Project Exit Date
- 3.12 Destination
- 3.20 Housing Move In Date
- 3.917 Prior Living Situation
- 5.06 Enrollment Identifier
- 5.08 Personal Identifier
- 5.09 Household Identifier
- Custom Field – Household Type

Request Considerations

- This request will allow the Orange County CoC to gain insight into the flow of housing needs fulfillment; as well as identify successes and areas of improvement
- Analysis will be completed by HMIS team; client-level data will not be shared with anyone without access to HMIS data

211 Day: Transforming Data Into Impact

- **Date:** February 11th
- **Audience:** 400+ nonprofit leaders, city/county partners, and stakeholders
- **Purpose:** Showcase data trends, foster collaboration, and spotlight innovative care coordination.

Questions

Business Calendar – Item #4

Recommended Action

- b. Approve Orange County United Way, 211OC's HMIS data request for the period January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2024, for a one-time export of data to analyze whether housing referrals from the 211 Contact Center are resulting in housing enrollments in HMIS.

Orange County Homelessness Updates

Zulima Lundy, Director of Operations and
Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care
Coordination

System of Care Update
Doug Becht, Director,
Office of Care Coordination

Commission to End Homelessness Meeting Update

- The agenda for the December 11, 2024, Commission to End Homelessness meeting, included the following highlighted items:
 - ❖ **Revised Bylaws:** Approved recommended revisions to the Commission to End Homelessness Bylaws to make changes to the name, mission, purpose and function, membership, and duties of members, as recommended by the Bylaws Ad Hoc. The revised Bylaws will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for final approval.
 - ❖ **Small Scale Housing Unit Ad Hoc:** Approved recommended action to submit the Small-Scale Housing Unit Report to the Board of Supervisors for policy consideration
 - ❖ **Housing Authorities Overview:** Presentation from representatives of all four Public Housing Authorities in Orange County

Business Calendar – Item #5

OC Path to Progress: Same-Day Solutions Fair



- The Office of Care Coordination attended the Homeless Court Pop-Up Resource Fair in Chula Vista to learn more about how San Diego county is providing resources and assistance to people experiencing homelessness who are criminal justice involved.
- The San Diego County Collaborative Partnership engages various resources from substance use disorder rehabilitation programs, Child Support Services, Homeless Court and its justice partners, and more in a single location to provide those experiencing homelessness with direct access to the Homeless Court Program, State and County services, and Community-Based Organizations.
- The Office of Care Coordination is currently working to align resources in Orange County to host a similar event.

Business Calendar – Item #5

2025 Survey

- The results of the 2024 Point in Time highlighted the number of persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness for the first time in the past 12 months.
- To explore the complex issues facing people who are experiencing homelessness for the first time in the past 12 months, the Office of Care Coordination will be focusing the 2025 Survey on this subpopulation to help better understand the causations of homelessness and identify areas for improvement.
- The Office of Care Coordination has been working closely with City Net to formulate the survey questions and designing the survey implementation methodology.
- The Office of Care Coordination anticipates engaging the Orange County CoC Board, the Commission to End Homelessness, and the Lived Experience Advisory Committee in the beginning of the year for feedback on the survey questions.

Continuum of Care Update
Sarah Jones, CoC Manager
Office of Care Coordination

2025 Sheltered Point In Time Count and Housing Inventory Count

- The Orange County CoC's 2025 Sheltered Point In Time (PIT) Count will be taking place the night of **Monday, January 27, 2025.**
- Orange County United Way's 211OC will be facilitating training for agencies that are required to submit data as part of the Sheltered PIT Count and Housing Inventory Count (HIC).
- If your agency is required to participate in the Sheltered PIT and/or HIC, please note email communication from 211OC and the Office of Care Coordination will be forthcoming.

Business Calendar – Item #5

CoCBuils Notice of Funding Opportunity Application Submitted

- The County of Orange, as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC, facilitated the collaborative application process for the CoC Builds (CoCBuils) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).
- On Wednesday, November 20, 2024, the Orange County CoC submitted the final CoCBuils Application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) via Grants.Gov.
- Thank you to Jamboree Housing Corporation, the CoCBuils NOFO Ad Hoc, CoC Board and local stakeholders who made the completion of this application possible for this funding opportunity.
- The Orange County CoC is confident that the submitted Application will help the Orange County CoC be competitive in the nation-wide application process and hopefully receive funding to address and reduce persons experiencing homelessness by adding new units of permanent supportive housing (PSH).

Business Calendar – Item #5

The Office of Care Coordination is Hiring!

- The Office of Care Coordination is currently recruiting to fill **one (1) Staff Specialist – Extra Help positions** to support with CoC and CES projects and initiatives being led by the Office of Care Coordination.
- Please note, Extra Help or temporary/seasonal positions are estimated to last six months up to one year.
- The Staff Specialist – Extra Help position responsibilities and job duties include, but are not limited to the following:
 - Analyzing, organizing and presenting data through various reporting tools.
 - Knowledge and understanding of the CoC, its structure and policies and procedures.
 - Knowledge and experience using the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).
 - Knowledge and understanding of the CES.
- If you have any questions pertaining to this recruitment or if you are interested in the employment opportunity, please contact or submit your resume to Aida Lomeli at aida.lomeli@ocgov.com.

Please assist us in sharing this employment opportunity with others!

Business Calendar – Item #5

2025 Annual Calendar of CoC Activities

- The Office of Care Coordination will provide CoC Board members a calendar of CoC activities for the year at the January 2024 meeting.
- In the meantime, anticipated, Calendar Year 2025 Quarter 1 highlighted activities and are included in this chart for reference.

January

- CoC Board Orientation
- Sheltered PIT and HIC
- CoC Strategic Plan implementation planning
- 2025 Survey planning and feedback session
- Pending contracted provider negotiations for Coordination of compensation for people with lived experience contract
- CoC Fiscal and Resource Mapping technical assistance planning
- HHAP-CoC update and budget modification recommendation
- Appoint CoC Board Officers and Committee Chairs
- Transition of CES for Survivors to Friendship Shelter, Inc.
- Meetings with CoC-Funded Agencies

February

- Potential release of next round of Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) NOFO and Youth Homelessness Systems Improvement (YHSI) NOFO
- CoC Strategic Plan implementation planning
- CoC Fiscal and Resource Mapping technical assistance planning

March

- Appoint 2025 CoC NOFO Ad Hoc
- CoC Strategic Plan implementation planning
- CoC Fiscal and Resource Mapping technical assistance
- Start of 2025 Program NOFO Planning

Thank you to our CoC Board members who will complete their current term at the end of December 2024.

We appreciate the time and expertise you dedicate to the work of the CoC!

Judson Brown
Kelly Bruno-Nelson
Nichole Gideon
Sandra Lozeau
Melanie McQueen
Robert “Santa Bob” Morse
Jason Phillips
Maricela Rios-Faust
Ami Rowland
Christina Weckerly Ramirez



Happy Holidays!

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, January 22, 2025, from
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

