

ORANGE COUNTY
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
Wednesday, October 9, 2024
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location:

**County Administration South (CAS) Building
Conference Center
425 West Santa Ana Blvd. Room 104/106
Santa Ana, CA 92701-4599
[Click Here](#) for parking information.**

Virtual Meeting Option*:

**Zoom Meeting Link: [Click here for meeting link](#)
Join by phone: +1 669 900 9128
Webinar ID: 963 2370 2539**

****Listen-in option only***

MINUTES

Board Members

Judson Brown, City of Santa Ana
LaVal Brewer, South County Outreach
Dr. Kelly Bruno-Nelson, CalOptima Health
Andrew Crowe, Scholarship Prep
Nichole Gideon, Individual [Secretary]
Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, OC United Way
Sandra Lozeau, City of Anaheim
Melanie McQueen, PATH
Nishtha Mohendra, Families Forward
Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Individual

Talesha Payne, Individual
Jason Phillips, Individual
Dawn Price, Friendship Shelter
Maricela Rios-Faust, Human Options
Ami Rowland, Covenant House California
George Searcy, Individual
Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Individual [Vice Chair]
Tim Shaw, Individual [Chair]
Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Health Care Agency

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and County Language Access Policy, those requiring accommodation and/or interpreter services for this meeting should notify the Office of Care Coordination 72 hours prior to the meeting at (714) 834-5000 or email CareCoordination@ocgov.com. Requests received less than 72 hours prior to the meeting will still receive every effort to reasonably fulfill within the time provided.

Supporting documentation is available for review by the public at least 72 hours prior to regular meetings and at least 24 hours prior to special meetings of the CoC Board. Those wishing to review supporting documentation can visit the Continuum of Care (CoC) Webpage [here](#) or the lobby of the CAS Building, located 601 N. Ross Street., Santa Ana, CA 92701-4599, and request a copy of the meeting materials from the Office of Care

Coordination during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday (excluding holidays).

Call to Order – Tim Shaw, Chair

Chair Tim Shaw called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Board Member Roll Call – Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Vice Chair

Present: Judson Brown, LaVal Brewer, Dr. Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Andrew Crowe, Nichole Gideon, Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, Sandra Lozeau, Melanie McQueen, Nishtha Mohendra, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Talesha Payne, Jason Phillips, Dawn Price, Maricela Rios-Faust, Ami Rowland, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly Ramirez.

Absent Excused: George Searcy

Nishtha Mohendra arrived during Business Calendar 1. Talesha Payne left during Business Calendar Item 2 and did not vote on Business Calendar Item 2. Nichole Gideon left during Business Calendar Item 2 and did not vote on Business Calendar Item 2. Becks Heyhoe-Khalil left during Business Calendar Item 2 and did not vote on Business Calendar Item 2. Judson Brown left during Business Calendar Item 3. Dr. Kelly Bruno-Nelson left during Business Calendar Item 3. Nishtha Mohendra left during Business Calendar Item 3. Ami Rowland left during Business Calendar Item 3.

Public Comments: Members of the public may address the CoC Board on items listed within this agenda or matters not appearing on the agenda so long as the subject matter is within the jurisdiction of the CoC Board. Members of the public may address the CoC Board with public comments on agenda items in the business calendar after the agenda item presentation. Comments will be limited to three minutes. If there are more than five public speakers, this time will be reduced to two minutes.

To address the CoC Board, members of the public who are attending in person are to complete a Request to Address the CoC Board form prior to the beginning of each agenda item and submit it to CoC Board staff. Staff will call your name in the order received.

Members of the public, including those listening in via the virtual meeting option, may also submit public comment by emailing CareCoordination@ocgov.com. All comments submitted via email at least 24 hours before the start of the CoC Board meeting will be distributed to the CoC Board members for their consideration and all comments submitted prior to the meeting will be added to the administrative records of the meeting. Please include “CoC Board Meeting Comment” in the email subject line.

- John H. provided public comment via email in advance of the CoC Board meeting. John H. shared concern with the people experiencing homelessness in Orange County. John H. shared gratefulness for the Office of Care Coordination and other resources to help end homelessness. John H. shared concern with the money provided to shelters and outreach organizations that do not or unable to deal with the ‘real cause (addiction estimated at 75%) for so many that live on the streets’. John H. estimated 90% of the addicts on the street do not seek help from what the county offers so, they avoid confrontation from anyone such as police, outreach workers, etc. and then an estimated 75% of the people that do access shelter, have either an addiction problem and or a mental illness. John H. stated there is no substance testing required at any of the shelters, which means there is no way to really help the “addict/alcoholics” and are enabling these people who really need consequences to hopefully change their behavior, their path. John H. shared that Orange County spends over 1 billion dollars a year on the homeless crisis and half of the money is spent enabling the people suffering from addiction. John

H. shared personal experiences of witnessing substance use concerns in public locations. John H. shared hope for the discussion about drug testing at shelters and on the streets where there is reasonable suspicion to swab a person who looks intoxicated. John H. stated the problem is not being helped by waiting for the person on drugs or alcohol to ask for help or prolong their 'bottom' by allowing those with an addiction to not have consequences. John H. explained that the current method of helping the addicts on the streets, or in shelters, is like giving an adult child that lives at home money and the freedom to come and go as they please, when deep down, they are using, and a blind eye is turned to what is really going on. John H. suggested to help the “addicts” by testing, implementing consequences, such as 3-6 months on a 'Work Farm' along with detoxification and a 12-step program, mandatory with a second offense possibly a 6 month to a year 'Work Farm Program'. John H. asked that this be a topic to discuss and hopefully educate people about how to help an “addict/alcoholic”.

Board Member Comments: Members of the CoC Board may provide comments on matters not appearing on the agenda so long as the subject matter is within the jurisdiction of the CoC Board.

- Maricela Rios-Faust thanked the CoC Board for having Human Options present on Domestic Violence (DV) awareness month.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approve CoC Board Meeting Minutes from August 28, 2024

Robert “Santa Bob” Morse motioned to approve item 1 on the Consent Calendar. Melanie McQueen seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

1. Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 and FY2025 CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced the release of the FY 2024 and FY 2025 CoC Program Competition NOFO on July 31, 2024. For the first time, HUD is issuing a two-year CoC Program NOFO as authorized by the consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024. The Orange County CoC is eligible to apply for an estimated amount of \$3,936,136 in CoC Bonus Funding and an estimated \$3,623,391 in DV Bonus funding. Renewal project applications for the CoC NOFO were due on August 19, 2024, and proposals in response to the Request for Proposals (RFP) for CoC Bonus, DV Bonus and Reallocation Funding were due on September 12, 2024. Renewal projects were reviewed by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc, while the CoC Bonus and DV Bonus project proposals were reviewed by the Review Panel comprised of non-conflicted members.

The CoC NOFO Ad Hoc and the Office of Care Coordination, as the CoC Collaborative Applicant, developed an updated CoC Project Ranking and Tiering Policy (Policy) for FY2024. By utilizing The Policy, all renewal, consolidated, expansion and new projects were able to be scored and ranked, as noted in the agenda attachments.

Recommended Actions:

- a. Approve the selection of proposals submitted in response to the FY2024 CoC Bonus, DV Bonus and Reallocation RFP as recommended by the RFP Review Panel for inclusion in the FY2024 and FY2025 Orange County CoC Program NOFO Application.

- i. Mercy House Living Centers’ permanent supportive housing project proposal called OC PSH Collaboration Project II – Expansion 2 for an amount not to exceed \$3,775,254 as part of the CoC Bonus funding.
- ii. Human Options Inc.’s rapid rehousing project proposal called DV Bonus RRH Project for an amount not to exceed \$3,623,391 as part of the DV Bonus funding.
- b. Approve Pathways of Hope’s permanent supportive housing project proposal called FY24 Reallocation – PSH for Seniors in the amount of \$242,702 as part of the reallocation funding.
- c. Approve the CoC Project Ranking and Tiering Policy as recommended by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc.
- d. Approve the CoC Project Priority Listing, including all renewal, consolidated, expansion and new projects, to be included in the Orange County CoC’s FY2024 and FY2025 CoC Program NOFO Application as recommended by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc.

Robert “Santa Bob” Morse motioned to approve recommended actions a and b. Dr. Shauntina Sorrells seconded the motion. Judson Brown, LaVal Brewer, Dr. Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Andrew Crowe, Nichole Gideon, Sandra Lozeau, Melanie McQueen, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Talesha Payne, Jason Phillips, Ami Rowland, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly Ramirez voted yes. Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, Nishtha Mohendra, Dawn Price, and Maricela Rios-Faust recused themselves during discussion and abstained from voting. The motion passed.

Robert “Santa Bob” Morse motioned to approve recommended action c. Melanie McQueen seconded the motion. LaVal Brewer, Dr. Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Andrew Crowe, Nichole Gideon, Sandra Lozeau, Melanie McQueen, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Talesha Payne, Jason Phillips, Ami Rowland, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly Ramirez voted yes. Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, Nishtha Mohendra, Dawn Price, and Maricela Rios-Faust recused themselves during discussion and abstained from voting. Judson Brown abstained. The motion passed.

Robert “Santa Bob” motioned to approve recommended action d. Talesha Payne seconded the motion. Upon further discussion, an amended recommended action was introduced by Judson Brown.

Amended Recommended Action: Approve the CoC Project Priority Listing, including all renewal, consolidated, expansion and new projects, to be included in the Orange County CoC’s FY2024 and FY2025 CoC Program NOFO Application, and move Human Options, Inc.’s DV Bonus RRH Project (DV Bonus) to straddle Tier 1 and Tier 2 as rank 23, place Friendship Shelter, Inc.’s, Friendship Shelter Rapid Re-Housing as rank 24, Serving People In Need’s CoC Rapid Rehousing 2024 as rank 25, Mercy House Living Centers’ OC PSH Collaboration Project II - Expansion 2 as rank 26, and Orange County Housing Authority’s (OCHA) #3 Consolidated Continuum of Care TRA 2024 Renewal Project as rank 27.

Robert “Santa Bob” motioned to approve the amended recommended action. Talesha Payne seconded the motion. Judson Brown and LaVal Brewer voted yes. Dr. Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Andrew Crowe, Sandra Lozeau, Melanie McQueen, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Jason Phillips, Ami Rowland, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly Ramirez voted no. Nichole Gideon, Talesha Payne, and Dr. Shauntina Sorrells abstained. Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, Nishtha Mohendra, Dawn Price, and Maricela Rios-Faust recused themselves during discussion and abstained from voting. The motion did not pass.

Recommended Action d: Approve the CoC Project Priority Listing, including all renewal, consolidated, expansion and new projects, to be included in the Orange County CoC’s FY2024 and FY2025 CoC Program NOFO Application as recommended by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc.

Robert “Santa Bob” motioned to approve recommended action d. Talesha Payne seconded the motion. Judson Brown, LaVal Brewer, Dr. Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Andrew Crowe, Nichole Gideon, Sandra Lozeau, Melanie

McQueen, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Talesha Payne, Jason Phillips, Ami Rowland, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly Ramirez voted yes. Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, Nishtha Mohendra, Dawn Price, and Maricela Rios-Faust recused themselves during discussion and abstained from voting. The motion passed.

CoC Board Member Discussion:

- Talesha Payne asked if the DV Bonus project can increase their funding amount, if the agency was the only eligible agency to apply, and if the DV Bonus project can be bumped up in the tiering. Talesha Payne explained that the section of unspent funds scoring criteria is scored by the Office of Care Coordination.
- Judson Brown inquired on OCHA’s utilization and unspent funds. Judson Brown introduced an amended recommended action to propose OCHA as the straddling project due to OCHA not fully spending funds and noted the CoC Bonus and DV Bonus proposed projects have higher scores. Judson Brown shared his experience of being on a CoC Board for 10 years, served as Chair of the CoC Board, served as Chair for a previous board and shared understanding of the authority that can be done as a board. Judson Brown explained that the Collaborative Applicant was notified that the utilization and unspent funds inquiry would be brought forward. Judson Brown shared that the CoC Program NOFO is now a two-year decision and explained the importance of the decision, noting he would never recommend putting families at risk of homelessness and would not put forward the decision if there were concerns about OCHA’s funding. Judson Brown expressed certainty that there are other steams of funding to supplement this project should this funding be lost, which is the foundation of the recommendation.
- Melanie McQueen remarked that the amended recommended action is a significant change and expressed concern with making a large decision without understanding the impact. Melanie McQueen stated that she does not feel that the CoC Board has been presented with enough information on OCHA. Melanie McQueen suggested program analysis be provided before a decision is made on changing the ranking and tiering of OCHA’s project.
- Sandra Lozeau provided insight as a CoC NOFO Ad Hoc member and explained that the Ad Hoc was given information on how to review projects, noting that a project’s previous history was not a scoring criterion. Sandra Lozeau reiterated that OCHA’s project is now straddling Tier 1 and Tier 2, that the information on the CoC and DV Bonus applications was taken into consideration and that the CoC NOFO renewal applications were objectively evaluated based on the information provided by agencies in the applications.
- Christina Weckerly Ramirez explained that is it difficult to make an informed decision when the CoC Board is unaware of how OCHA would be impacted and stated that wishing OCHA was present to provide more insight.
- Chair Tim Shaw shared agreement and support for the decision that was made by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc.
- Jason Phillips provided insight as an CoC NOFO Ad Hoc member and shared that the Ad Hoc reviewed information based on the applications, had conversations regarding funds, and discussed as an ad hoc reasoning why placing projects requesting new funding in Tier 2 is strategic.
- Andrew Crowe asked for further context on the funds for OCHA’s project.

2. 2024 CoC Nominating Ad Hoc Recommendation – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination; Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination; and CoC Nominating Ad Hoc Membership

Each year, the Orange County CoC Board establishes a CoC Nominating Ad Hoc to support the annual review of the Orange County CoC Governance Charter (Charter) and facilitate the CoC Board selection process for the CoC Board seats expiring in December. The 2024 CoC Nominating Ad Hoc convened two times from September

to October 2024 to review Sections V.B.1 – V.B.4 of the current Charter, with the support of the Office of Care Coordination, and provided feedback on changes that should be proposed this year, and changes that should be considered the next time the Charter is reviewed. Given the substantive changes made to the Charter in 2023, the CoC Nominating Ad Hoc confirmed it would be best to only propose minor grammatical, formatting, and clarification-related changes at this time to allow for the new CoC Board composition and nominating and selection process to be facilitated for another election cycle.

Recommended Action a: Approve the recommended changes to the CoC Board responsibilities, composition, nominating and selection process, and qualifications detailed in the Orange County CoC Governance Charter, as recommended by the CoC Nominating Ad Hoc.

An amended recommended action was introduced by Melanie McQueen. Andrew Crowe seconded the motion.

Amended Recommended Action:

- a. Approve the recommended changes to the CoC Board responsibilities, composition, nominating and selection process, and qualifications in the Orange County CoC Governance Charter, with the inclusion of HUD recommended serving terms and rotation policy that will be implemented January 2025.
- b. Charge the Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee in early 2025 to take the HUD “Characteristics of a Healthy Board of Directors” language of best practices of term limits and rotation policy and return with a recommendation to amend the Orange County CoC Governance Charter.

Melanie McQueen motioned to approve the amended recommended action. Dawn Price seconded the motion. Judson Brown, LaVal Brewer, Dr. Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Andrew Crowe, Sandra Lozeau, Melanie McQueen, Nishtha Mohendra, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Jason Phillips, Dawn Price, Maricela Rios-Faust, Ami Rowland, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly Ramirez voted yes. The motion passed.

CoC Board Member Discussion:

- Melanie McQueen suggested the inclusion of language on the length of terms and the number of terms to promote rotation for CoC Board Members, as HUD encourages the practice.
- Dawn Price stated that the suggestion would be great addition for next calendar year, to allow for a thoughtful process in recommending changes.
- Secretary Nichole Gideon asked for clarification on HUD’s recommended guidelines for Board term limits.
- Vice Chair Dr. Shauntina Sorrells stated that the suggestion would be more of a substantial change that could impact the recruitment of process for new CoC Board members, which has already started.
- Becks Heyhoe-Khalil shared support for the suggestion as it needs to be addressed, however, noted that HUD’s guidance does not specifically state the exact preferred Board term limit.
- Nishtha Mohendra inquired on best practices for Orange County and asked if there is room to get more creative with how this is implemented.
- Maricela Rios-Faust agreed with the addition of term limits and asked if there was a way to revise the recommended action so that the term limits can be reviewed with adequate time and the addition of term limits be proposed in 2025.
- LaVal Brewer shared from personal experience that the inclusion of term limits can take some time and suggested that another ad hoc review the suggestion of term limits.

3. Domestic Violence Awareness Month – Sara Behmerwohld, Chief Operations Officer, Human Options

Sara Behmerwohld, Chief Operations Officer of Human Options, presented for DV Awareness Month and provided an overview of relationship violence, the impacts of domestic violence and children, and DV Hotline resources in Orange County. Sara Behmerwohld shared information on the impact of the DV Bonus funding from the CoC Program NOFO competition.

4. CoC Vision Ad Hoc Update – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager and Tim Shaw, Chair

Chair Tim Shaw provided an update on the work of the CoC Vision ad hoc and shared that a more robust update regarding the CoC Vision will be provided in the near future.

Maricela Rios-Faust motioned to adjourn the special meeting. Dr. Shauntina Sorrells seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent. Special meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

5. Next Meeting: Special meeting on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.