

**ORANGE COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING**

Tuesday, August 27, 2024
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Location:
The Village at 17th Street
Large Community Room
1505 17th St, Santa Ana, CA 92705

Virtual Meeting Option*:
Zoom Meeting Link: [Click here for meeting link](#)
Join by phone: +16694449171,97975623556#
Webinar ID: 979 7562 3556

**Listen-in option only*

Committee Chair: Maricela Rios-Faust, Human Options

Committee Members:

- Jude Abusham, Student in Orange County
Brateil Aghasi, WISEPlace
Patience Biosah, Individual
Barbara Burke, Individual
Deborah Kraft, Lived Experience Advisory Committee, Orange County Family Violence Council's (OCFVC) Homelessness Domestic Violence (DV)-Sexual Assault (SA) Task Force, Housing is a Human Right OC (HHROC), Stronger Women United, DV Policy Advocate
Mark Lee, Radiant Futures
Nishtha Mohendra, Families Forward
Lydia Nationalesta, City of Lake Forest
Wendy Seiden, OCFVC Homelessness-DV-SA Task Force
Tianna Terry, Friendship Shelter, Individual Coordinated Entry System (CES)
Cynthia Thouvenel, Ohlone Tribe Non-Profit
Katherine Tan, Individual
Sharon Wie, Interval House

MINUTES

Welcome and Introductions – Maricela Rios-Faust, Chair

Present: Chair Maricela Rios-Faust, Brateil Aghasi, Patience Biosah, Deborah Kraft (Virtually), Mark Lee, Nishtha Mohendra, Lydia Nationalesta, Wendy Seiden, Tianna Terry, Katherine Tan, and Sharon Wie

Absent Excused: Jude Abusham and Barbara Burke

Absent: Cynthia Thouvenel

Tianna Terry arrived during Public Comments.

1. Request for Virtual Participation

The Brown Act allows exceptions for members of legislative bodies to participate remotely under two specified circumstances: (1) “just cause” or (2) “emergency circumstances”. At least a quorum of the committee must be participating in-person for the exception(s) to be voted on and enacted. Chair Maricela Rios Faust referenced a request for committee member Deborah Kraft to join virtually due to just cause.

Recommended Action: Allow Deborah Kraft to participate remotely for today’s DV Committee meeting.

Nishtha Mohendra motioned to approve the recommended action. Sharon Wie seconded the motion. Chair Maricela Rios-Faust, Brateil Aghasi, Patience Biosah, Mark Lee, Nishtha Mohendra, Wendy Seiden, Tianna Terry, Katherine Tan, and Sharon Wie voted yes. Motion Passed.

Public Comments – Members of the public may address the DV Committee 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 DV Committee. Public 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 DV Committee, members of the public are to complete a Request to Address the Committee form prior to the beginning of each agenda item and submit it to Continuum of Care (CoC) staff. Staff will call your name in the order received.

Members of the public may also submit public comment by emailing CareCoordination@ocgov.com. All comments submitted via email at least 24 hours before the start of the meeting will be distributed to the DV Committee members and all comments will be added to the administrative records of the meeting. Please include “Domestic Violence Committee Meeting Comment” in the email subject line.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approve the DV Committee Meeting Minutes from February 20, 2024.
2. Approve the DV Committee Meeting Minutes from April 16, 2024.
3. Approve the DV Committee Meeting Minutes from June 18, 2024.

Mark Lee motioned to approve Consent Calendar, Items 1 - 3. Sharon Wie seconded the motion. Deborah Kraft abstained from voting. Chair Maricela Rios-Faust, Brateil Aghasi, Patience Biosah, Mark Lee, Nishtha Mohendra, Lydia Nationalesta, Wendy Seiden, Tianna Terry, Katherine Tan, and Sharon Wie voted yes. Motion Passed.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

1. Domestic Violence Committee Vision Setting – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination and Maricela Rios-Faust, Chair

- i. Discussion related to goals and vision for the Domestic Violence Committee

Felicia Boehringer and Chair Maricela Rios-Faust led a discussion about the DV Committee Vision setting and the responsibilities of the committee, as described in the DV Committee Governance Charter.

Committee Discussion:

- Lydia Nationalesta shared that a need for services such as hotel vouchers or incentives for people opening their homes to unsheltered individuals.
- Tianna Terry emphasized the need for mandatory training and increased education for providers regarding domestic violence. Tianna Terry highlighted the availability of survivor-specific housing resources, which are facilitated through the Coordinated Entry matching process three times a week, and the inclusion of survivors in all CES opportunities.
- Deborah Kraft inquired about funding for potential vouchers for hotel or motel rooms or compensation for individuals opening up their homes. Deborah Kraft mentioned that this presents a valuable training opportunity to explain the different needs of DV survivors.
- Mark Lee advocated for the committee to support DV funding through housing vouchers. Mark Lee stated the committee should inform the CoC to further address DV.
- Wendy Seiden emphasized the importance of the CoC being a conduit for communication among DV providers, non-DV service providers, the DV Committee and the CoC. Wendy Seiden suggested regular trainings to ensure that resources and support are readily available. Wendy Seiden stressed the importance of including the voice of male DV survivors and survivors of DV who have been chronically unhoused.
- Katherine Tan shared that it is crucial to allocate funding to agencies in order to provide assistance to individuals during their transition to Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH).
- Nishtha Mohendra emphasized the importance of a strong curriculum and prioritizing support for DV survivors. Nishtha Mohendra highlighted the challenge of families establishing chronic homelessness. Nishtha Mohendra suggested focusing on the top five (5) priorities to streamline and provide a clear roadmap for future committee members.
- Sharon Wie emphasized the CoC's focus on addressing chronic homelessness and the committee's commitment to safety. Sharon Wie highlighted the need to find ways to accommodate DV survivors on these priority lists due to their unique circumstances.

2. CES for Survivors Update – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

Felicia Boehringer shared an overview and led a discussion on the Survivor CES Dashboard.

Committee Discussion:

- Nishtha Mohendra observed there are more individuals in RRH and speculated whether this could be attributed to providers informing DV survivors that this might be their first or only option available. Nishtha Mohendra recommended not discontinuing the CES match meetings, even if resources are limited.
- Wendy Seiden requested clarification around the CES dashboard.
- Sharon Wie explained that the issue with exiting numbers is due to a shortage of opportunities within CES, and this limitation is causing difficulties in effectively matching survivors to housing.
- Tianna Terry highlighted the significance of regular case management and the importance of ongoing training to support individuals and families in DV situations.
- Deborah Kraft raised concerns about whether individuals are being monitored after exiting programs, as some survivors may be slipping through the cracks and in need of support.
- Lydia Nationalesta emphasized the importance of training and networking among service providers to facilitate resource sharing.

3. Orange County 2024 Point In Time Count – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination and Maricela Rios-Faust, Chair

**Due to time constraints, this item was not presented.*

4. CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Update – Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

Jasmin Miranda presented an update on the CoC Program NOFO, the DV Bonus Funding Recommendations, the DV Bonus Panel, and the FY2024 CoC Bonus, DV Bonus and Reallocation Scoring and Rating Criteria.

5. CoC Updates – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

**Due to time constraints, this item was not presented.*

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 15, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at The Village at 17th Street, Large Community Room located at 1505 17th St, Santa Ana, CA 92705