

**ORANGE COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE
TRANSITIONAL AGED YOUTH COLLABORATIVE COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING**

Friday, November 1, 2024
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Location:
Orangewood Foundation
1575 17th St, Santa Ana, CA 92705
[Click here](#) for parking information.

Virtual Meeting Option*:
Zoom Meeting Link: <https://zoom.us/j/99168574593>
Join by phone: +1 669 444 9171, 99168574593#
Webinar ID: 991 6857 4593

**Listen-in option only*

Committee Chair: Ami Rowland, Covenant House California

MINUTES

Welcome and Introductions – Ami Rowland, Chair

- **Meeting Start Time:** - 1:06pm (Call to Order)

Public Comments – Members of the public may address the Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) Collaborative 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 TAY Collaborative 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 TAY Collaborative Committee during the Public Comment period, 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 TAY Collaborative Committee members and all comments will be added to the administrative records of the meeting. Please include “Transitional Aged Youth Collaborative Committee Meeting Comment” in the email subject line.

Public Comments:

- No Public Comment

BUSINESS CALENDAR

1. Youth HOPE Month Presentation – Jevon Wilkes, Executive Director, California Coalition for Youth (CCY)

Jevon Wilkes, Executive Director of the California coalition for Youth (CCY), presented on Youth HOPE Month, a rebranded initiative focused on preventing youth homelessness in California. Jevon Wilkes discussed CCY’s mission to improve on preventing youth homelessness in California and improve the lives of youth through resources, education, and partnerships. CCY operates the California Youth Crisis Line, a 24/7 support service for youth and caregivers. Also highlighted was the Youth Empowerment Summit (YES) and recent advocacy efforts at the Cal Youth Kick-Off in San Jose to expand funding for youth homelessness programs. Individuals and organization are encouraged to participate in Youth HOPE Month through advocacy, proclamations and wearing green.

Comments:

- Chair, Ami Rowland asked Jevon Wilkes to highlight CCY website where members can get involved in the work being done and provided additional context about her involvement with Cal Youth, as a planning committee member for the West Coast convening in partnership with YMCA. Ami Rowland encouraged CCY membership and verified organizations in Orange County as active members.
- Orlando Vera inquired about CCY Youth Crisis Line operations and if collaboration with other organizations, specifically Mental Health Agency, was directed.

2. Peer Voices of Orange County Presentation – Peer Voices of Orange County (PVOC)

Orlando Vera, CEO of Peer Voices of Orange County (Peer Voices), explained that the organization is 100% peer-led, working with individuals, families, and various groups to improve mental health and support the TAY population. Peer Voices focuses on underserved groups, including formerly incarcerated individuals and people on probation, collaborating with nonprofits and clinicians. Orlando Vera discussed the link between hoarding and homelessness, and how Peer Voices offers support groups to prevent this. As a field-based organization, Peer Voices works directly with shelters and partners, using tech and data to advocate for underserved communities. Peer Voices uses apps like Teens 4 Teens to engage with TAY youth and expand outreach efforts.

Comments:

- Dr. Tiffany Mitchell: Inquired about how Orangewood would be able to access data and community needs assessment collected by Peer Voices.
- Chair, Ami Rowland revisited Dr. Tiffany Mitchell question about data and community needs assessment, they are curious about the methodology used to conducted surveys and focus groups, as well as, when the surveys were conducted and in partnership with what organizations.

3. CoC Update – Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, shared key updates:

Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP): On October 30, 2024, HUD announced the YHDP awards, and unfortunately, Orange County was not selected for funding.

Staff Positions: The Office of Care Coordination is hiring two temporary Staff Specialist positions to support CoC and CES projects. She encouraged committee members to share the opportunity with interested individuals.

CoC Board Nominations: The CoC Board is accepting nominations. They seek individuals with diverse backgrounds, including Black or African American, Indigenous/Native American, People of Color (POC), LGBTQIA+, and those with lived experience of homelessness. Members are urged to update their membership for voting eligibility.

Comments:

- Orlando Vera inquired why the County of Orange was not awarded the YHDP.
- Chair, Ami Rowland stated that it was unfortunate but not a surprise that Orange County was not awarded the YHDP funding but hope that the upcoming work in January will help the County be awarded funds next year. Chair, Ami Rowland responded to Orlando Vera's question, explaining the main reason was no established of a Youth Advisory Board (YAB) within the County of Orange. Additionally, despite a detailed plan, exceptional grant writing, and the inclusion of supplementary surveys and data provided there was no appropriate youth partnership.

4. Provider Announcements – Ami Rowland, Chair

- a. Providers and members of the public are invited to share announcements and feedback related to youth homelessness.

Unable to conduct due to time constraints.

Next Meeting: To be determined (pending 2025 CoC Board and Committee Meeting calendar approval)

Comments:

- Chair, Ami Rowland asked if there was a TAY Collaborative Committee attendance list of individual and organizations to be shared externally for cooperative efforts.