

Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC) Board Meeting February 26, 2025

Public Comments

Board Member Comments

Consent Calendar

Consent Calendar

- 1. Approve CoC Board Meeting Minutes from December 18, 2024.
- 2. Approve Commission to End Homelessness and CoC Board Joint Special Meeting Minutes from January 16, 2025.
- 3. Approve CoC Board Meeting Minutes from January 22, 2025.
- 4. Receive and file list of agencies and jurisdictions approved for Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) access from December 14, 2024, through February 21, 2025.

Business Calendar

the Orange County CoC Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Chair; Nichole Gideon, Secretary; and the Office of Care Coordination

Understanding Key Entities Involved



Executive Branch

President and Administration
Issues executive orders



HUD

Federal Agency; HUD Secretary
Funds state and local governments
and nonprofits for housing and
homeless services



CoC Board

17 – 21 members; Officers

Decision-making body for CoC

Program funding and policies



Collaborative Applicant

County of Orange
Facilitates application processes for
CoC Program funding; Recipient of
CoC Program funding through HUD



CoC-Program Funded Agencies

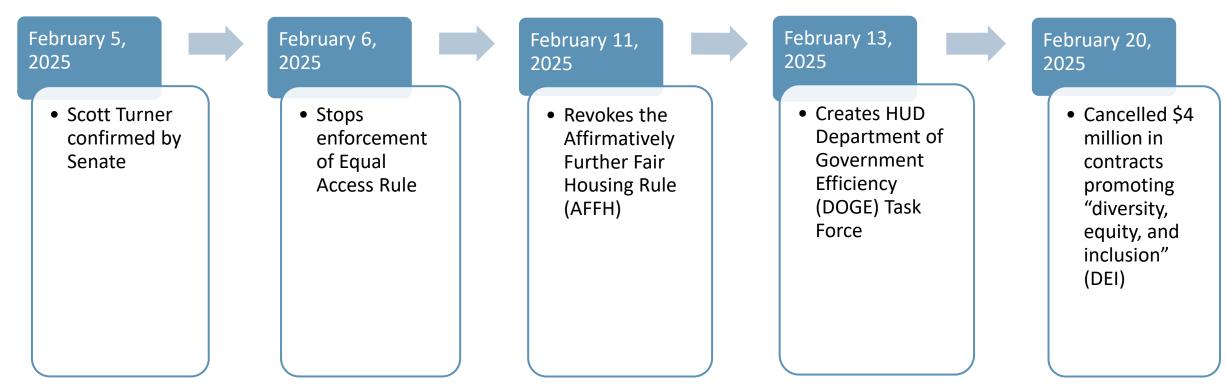
13 agencies
Recipients of CoC Program funding with direct grant agreements with HUD

Timeline

- January 20, 2025: Executive Orders regarding federal employee hiring freeze; an end to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) related programs; using biological sex versus gender as a classifier; and further execution of immigration laws
- January 27, 2025: Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued a Memorandum for the Temporary Pause of Agency Grant, Loan and Other Financial Assistance Programs.
- January 28, 2025:
 - OMB released a "follow-up" memo detailing how the pause would be applied
 - Federal judge issued a temporary pause on the freeze of federal funds
- January 29, 2025: OMB issued a Memorandum for the Rescission of Memorandum M-25-13, that placed a Temporary Pause of Agency Grant, Loan and Other Financial Assistance Programs.
- **January 31, 2025**: Federal judge issued a second temporary restraining order (TRO) prohibiting the freeze on federal spending from taking effect; motion filed by 22 Attorneys General

HUD Secretary Actions

Scott Turner Confirmed as U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary



Staying Updated

- Since updates are ever-changing, the Office of Care Coordination encourages CoC General Members and organization to stay updates by subscribing to distribution lists.
 - Subscribe to the National Alliance to End Homelessness newsletters and email updates
 - Sign Up for Orange County CoC email updates
- Advocate for HUD funding. We are still awaiting award letters for FY2024 CoC Program funding.
 - 1. Call your lawmaker's DC offices: The Capitol Hill switchboard is (202) 224-3121. A switchboard operator will connect you directly with the House or Senate office you request. Remember to provide your name and address so that staff know you are a constituent, take you seriously, and send you a written response.
 - 2. Send personalized email to your lawmaker's office: If you already have a staff contact or email address for your Member of Congress' office, you can email them directly. Lawmakers are more likely to pay attention to emails directly from their constituents that include personal details. Your email should include specific details on potential impact for your organization and community and email it directly to your Member of Congress' offices.
 - 3. Encourage your donors and supporters to do the same!

Additional Resources

Reminder: focusing on reliable sources of information from trusted media outlets and advocacy organizations is key.

- White House Website: https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/
- Homebase Webinar: Responsible Financial Management in Uncertain Times
 - Recording and materials: https://www.homebaseccc.org/responsible-financial-management
- OC Legislative Affairs: https://ceo.ocgov.com/government-community-relations/legislative-affairs
 - Subscribe to email updates here: https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAORANGE/subscriber/new?topic_id=CAORANGE_332
 - For more information regarding County of Orange Legislative Affairs, email <u>LegAffairs@ocgov.com</u>
- National Alliance to End Homelessness Newsletter and Email updates:
 - Subscribe on their website: https://endhomelessness.org/
- National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials
 - Subscribe on their website: https://www.nahro.org/news-publications/
- National Low Income Housing Coalition
 - Subscribe to email updates here: https://nlihc.us4.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=e702259618becdc3f0451bd5d&id=e090383b5e
- National Homelessness Law Center: https://homelesslaw.org/
 - X: @homeless_law
- National Council of Nonprofits: https://www.councilofnonprofits.org/
 - o Subscribe to email updates here: https://www.councilofnonprofits.org/civicrm/profile/create?gid=18&reset=1

Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program

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

Emergency Shelter and Supportive Services Contract Renewals

- On October 25, 2023, the Orange County CoC Board approved recommendations to fund service providers for a new contract term of July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, to provide **Emergency Shelter Operations and Services** with HHAP Round 1 and/or Round 3 funding.
- The primary goal of Emergency Shelter Operations and Services project is to provide funding for the operations of emergency shelters and the delivery of supportive services at these shelter programs that help persons experiencing homelessness in Orange County, including individuals, families, Transitional Age Youth (TAY), and survivors of domestic violence (DV).
- The Orange County CoC Board is being asked to approve the Emergency Shelter Operations and Services funding recommendations to renew contracts for a two-year term from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2027, to continue the operations of emergency shelter programs providing shelter stabilization and robust support services.
- In addition to HHAP-CoC Rounds 3, 4 and/or 5, the Office of Care Coordination will utilize State Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) to fund the Emergency Shelter Operations and Services with the goal of maximizing funding sources. Other federal, state and/or local funds will also be leveraged to support the projects.

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Emergency Shelter and Supportive Services Contract Renewals

• Total funding recommendations to be approved by the CoC Board for Emergency Shelter Operations and Services projects for the contract term of July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2027, are detailed below.

Agency	Population Focus	Funding Amount
Covenant House California	TAY	\$539,539.56
Family Assistance Ministries	Families	\$400,000
Friendship Shelter, Inc.	Individuals	\$302,063.51
The Illumination Foundation	Families	304,600
Interval House	Survivors of DV	\$151,600
Mercy House Living Centers	Individuals	\$191,600
Pathways of Hope	Families	\$305,423.08
Shelter Providers of Orange County, Inc. dba HomeAid Orange County	Families	\$344,600

Emergency Shelter and Supportive Services Contract Renewals

• The following is a summary of the HHAP-CoC Rounds and funding amounts that will be utilized to support Recommended Action 2.a.1)

HHAP-CoC Rounds	Eligible Activity	Funding Amount	
Round 3	Operating Subsidies Interim Housing	\$1,043,463.51	
Round 3	Operating Subsidies Interim Housing Youth Set-Aside	\$259,269.78	
Round 4	Operating Subsidies Interim Housing	\$838,210.44	
Round 4	Operating Subsidies Interim Housing Youth Set-Aside	\$280.269.78	
Round 5	Operating Subsidies Interim Housing	\$118,212.64	

 Approval of this recommended action will allow for the renewals of contracts currently serving a variety of special populations, including TAY and families, and help ensure that the Orange County CoC meets established HHAP Program funding obligation and expenditure deadlines. Reference Item 2, Attachment B of the agenda packet for further information.

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Recommended Actions

- a. Approve the following recommendations for the programming of HHAP funding allocated to the Orange County CoC:
 - 1) Authorize the Office of Care Coordination to renew the current HHAP-CoC funded contracts for Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for a two-year term, from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2027, utilizing HHAP-CoC Rounds 3, 4 and/or 5, funds under the Operating Subsidies Interim Housing and Operating Subsidies Interim Housing Youth Set-Aside eligible use categories.
 - (1) Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for TAY with Covenant House California for \$539,539.56.
 - (2) Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for Families with Family Assistance Ministries for \$400,000.00.
 - (3) Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for Individuals in the South Service Planning Area with Friendship Shelter, Inc. for \$302,063.51.
 - (4) Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for Families with The Illumination Foundation for \$304,600.00.
 - (5) Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for Survivors of Domestic Violence with Interval House for \$151,600.00
 - (6) Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for Individuals in the North Service Planning Area with Mercy House Living Centers for \$191,600.00.
 - (7) Emergency Shelter Operations and Services for Families with Pathways of Hope for \$305,423.08.
 - (8) Family Care Center Operations and Services with Shelter Providers of Orange County, Inc. dba HomeAid Orange County for \$344,600.00.

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HHAP Program Ad Hoc

- At the March 27, 2024, meeting, the CoC Board approved the establishment of a HHAP Program Ad
 Hoc to support the Office of Care Coordination with the planning and programming of HHAP Rounds 1
 through 4 remaining funds allocated to the Orange County CoC.
- The HHAP Program Ad Hoc met from April 17, 2024, through May 13, 2024, resulting in recommendations for the programming of HHAP Round 1 through 4 remaining funds being approved by the CoC Board at the May 22, 2024, meeting.
- Presently, there is a need to support the Office of Care Coordination with the planning and
 programming of additional HHAP Round 5 funds allocated to the Orange County CoC, with the
 recommendation to appoint a new HHAP Program Ad Hoc composed of non-conflicted CoC Board
 members and local partners.
- The CoC Board Officers will work with the Office of Care Coordination to confirm the HHAP Program Ad Hoc membership, should the CoC Board approve the establishment of the ad hoc.

Recommended Action

b. Establish a HHAP Program ad hoc to be appointed by the CoC Board Officers to support the Office of Care Coordination with the planning and programming of HHAP Program Round 5 funds allocated to the Orange County CoC.

HHAP Program Updates: Request for Proposals

- At the May 22, 2024, CoC Board meeting, the CoC Board authorized the Office of Care Coordination to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to program remaining HHAP Rounds 3 and 4 funds allocated to the Orange County CoC in the following Eligible Use Categories:
 - Services Coordination
 - Services Coordination Youth Set-Aside
 - Permanent Housing Delivery
 - Permanent Housing Delivery Youth Set-Aside
 - Prevention and Shelter Diversion

The RFP will include the following preferences:

- Proposals that demonstrate how the program will leverage CalAIM funding will be scored higher.
- Proposals that prioritize any of the following special population will be scored higher for each population served:
 - Transitional Aged Youth (ages 18-24) Required if applying for Youth Set-Aside funding
 - Black or African American households
 - Native American or Indigenous households
 - Survivors of domestic violence
 - Older adults
- The Office of Care Coordination is working to finalize the RFP and expects for it to be released shortly.

HHAP Program Updates: Request for Proposals

Examples of programs that may be proposed in the RFP include but are not limited to:

- Services Coordination programs may include:
 - Supportive Services Only (SSO) programs that may provide outreach services or case management
 - Drop-in centers and access points that provide services coordination
 - Housing navigation programs that connect individuals and families to permanent housing
 - Employment services programs.
- Prevention and Shelter Diversion Services programs may include:
 - Rental assistance, rental arrears and utility assistance combined with robust case management to provide linkage to stabilizing resources and support in housing retention

- Permanent Housing Delivery programs may include:
 - Permanent Supportive Housing in which housing assistance and supportive services are provided to assist households with at least one member with a disability in achieving housing stability
 - Rental subsidies including but not limited to longer-term subsidies, master leasing, and shallow subsidies.
 - Acquisition of land, building, etc.
 - Improvement or renovation of land or building being used as permanent housing
 - Services for people in permanent housing programs (services must be trauma-informed and practice harm reduction) including intensive case management services, assertive community treatment services, critical time intervention services, other tenancy support services, evidence-based employment services, coordinating mental health substance

HHAP Program Updates: Expenditure Report

- The expenditure deadline for HHAP Program Round 1 funding is June 30, 2025.
- An update on the spend down of HHAP Program Round 1 funding allocated to the Orange County CoC, as of December 31, 2024, is detailed below.
- It is anticipated that all HHAP Round 1 funds allocated to the CoC will be expended by the deadline.

Awarded O	bligated			V 11 C 1 A 1 1	
	Amount	Unexpended Amount	Unexpended Percentage	Youth Set-Aside Required Expenditure (8%)	Youth Set-Aside Remaining to Expend
\$8,081,115.98 \$8,0	,054,312.29	\$846,872.93	10%	\$646,489.28	\$0.00

 The CoC is currently on track to meet obligation and expenditure deadlines for HHAP Rounds 2, 3, and 4 as well

HHAP Program Updates: Round 5 Award Announcement

On Monday, February 24, 2025, Governor Gavin Newson formally announced the California
Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) award of nearly \$42 million through
HHAP Round 5 for permanent housing and local solutions to the Orange County Region.

Entity	Allocation/Award Amount	
Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC)	\$8,699,841.23	
County of Orange (County)	\$8,346,726.98	
Anaheim (City)	\$5,878,393.38	
Irvine (City)	\$5,878,393.38	
Santa Ana (City)	\$5,878,393.38	
Regional Total:	\$41,951,193.96	

HHAP Program Updates: Round 6 Announcement

- On Monday, February 24, 2025, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) announced the release of the HHAP Round 6 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA), making available \$760 million to strengthen regional housing solutions.
- HHAP Round 6 Allocations for the Orange County Region are included below:
 - County of Orange \$8,355,062.07
- Orange County CoC \$8,923,349.94
- City of Anaheim \$5,947,854.53
- ❖ City of Irvine \$5,947,854.53
- City of Santa Ana \$5,947,854.53
- The Office of Care Coordination, as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC, will begin the application process for HHAP Round 6.
- Application Deadline: August 29, 2025

CoC Strategic Plan Updates Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Chair

Strategic Plan Structure: Feedback & Implementation Timeline

November 2024

- Shared current Vision Ad Hoc vision for the Strategic Plan
- CoC Board & Committee Feedback

December 2024

- CoC Board voted to adopt Strategic Aims & Objectives as overarching framework.
- This includes adopting the Strategies & Actions as drafts that may evolve in the first part of 2025.

January – June 2025

- Finalize **SMARTIE** Goals
- Finalize Strategies & Actions
- Assign Strategy / Action Leads & Roles
- Determine implementation Timelines, and Metrics for success, and Progress Reporting process

July 2025-End of Strategic Plan

 Implement Strategic Plan

CoC Strategic Plan CoC Committee Discussion Updates



2025 Homeless Survey Update

Doug Becht, Director and Zulima Lundy, Director of Operations, Office of Care Coordination

2025 Homeless Survey

The aim of the 2025 Homeless Survey is to explore the complex issues facing people who are experiencing homelessness for the first time in the past 12 months. The survey will focus on this subpopulation to help better understand the causations of homelessness and identify areas for improvement.

- The Continuum of Care Board and the Commission to End Homelessness provided their feedback on the draft 2025 Homeless Survey during the Joint Special Meeting in January 2025.
- The Lived Experience Advisory Committee gave their thoughts on the narrative and survey questions during the meeting in January 2025.
- The Office of Care Coordination has been working closely with City Net to consolidate the feedback and incorporate the suggestions provided by all groups into the survey.

2025 Homeless Survey

Timeline

The 2025 Homeless Survey is on track for the timeline below:

- February
 - CoC Board and Commission Update
 - Communication with Cities
- March
 - Conduct Survey
- April/May
 - Survey Review & Analysis

Survey Components

- Opening Script
- Homelessness Status
- Demographic Information
- Household Composition
- Prior Housing Situation
- Past Personal Experiences
- Income
- Community Supports and Services/Navigating the System of Care
- Newly Homeless Experience
- Disabling Conditions

2025 Homeless Survey

Identified potential areas for donations/survey support.

- Gift Cards
 - \$5 gift cards will be provided as incentives for those experiencing unsheltered homelessness who participate in the survey.
- Pairs of Socks
 - In past experiences, those experiencing unsheltered homelessness have been willing to accept a pair of socks.
- Snack Packs
 - An assortment of different snacks pieced together will be supplied as a "Snack Pack" for each unsheltered individual encountered during the survey even those who choose not to participate in the survey. Donations can include assembly items such as Ziploc bags, as well as snack items like granola bars, applesauce, etc.

^{*}If interested in providing donations, please connect with Matt Bates matt@citynet.org.

Orange County Homelessness Updates

Doug Becht, Director, and Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

System of Care Update

Doug Becht, Director,

Office of Care Coordination

OC Same Day Solutions Fair

- The Office of Care Coordination has been engaging County departments, local jurisdictions and nonprofits to coordinate the **OC Same Day Solutions Fair** which will provide support and assistance in a convenient, accessible manner by bringing multiple resources together in one location.
- This collaborative effort is aimed at providing immediate on-site support to individuals experiencing homelessness by offering a range of services such as legal and document assistance, healthcare, housing resources, and workforce development. Furthermore, this event bridges connections to long-term solutions such as case management, rehabilitation services, and legal avenues for resolving outstanding issues.

Date: Thursday, March 27, 2025

• Time: 9 am to 2 pm

Location: Second Baptist Church (4300 Westminster Ave., Santa Ana)

Continuum of Care Update Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

University of Chicago HMIS Data Request Update

- At the December 18, 2024, meeting, the CoC Board reviewed an HMIS data request from the University
 of Chicago for a one-time export of data for research that would be conducted in partnership with U.S.
 Census Bureau
- The CoC approved an amended recommended action to have a data request and draft **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** that includes all three parties involved the Orange County CoC, U.S Census Bureau and the University of Chicago with the inclusion of workflow and client data elements to be removed, and inclusion of checks and balances that will be verified before data is sent to the University of Chicago. The approved amended recommended action also stated that after the completion of data analysis and a final report, the final report would be shared with Orange County and a certification of data disposal and verification provided.

University of Chicago HMIS Data Request Update

- Following the December Board meeting, Orange County United Way's 2-1-1 Orange County (2110C) as the HMIS Lead followed up with the University of Chicago to prepare for the data request to return.
- 2110C received a draft MOU from the U.S. Census Bureau, which includes a list of projects that the data will be used for.
- 2110C and the Office of Care Coordination have been reviewing the MOU and posing questions and revisions for consideration.
- The University of Chicago is working on addressing questions from the CoC Board, including preparing a timeline to return with the final data and report.
- In reviewing the MOU, some of the projects being proposed by the University of Chicago appear more to the benefit of the Census Bureau than to the CoC.
- 211OC and the Office of Care Coordination are proposing to review the project list, and potentially other components of the draft MOU, at the upcoming Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) meeting to receive feedback before bringing the request back to the CoC Board.

State Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Notice of Funding Availability

- The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) recently released the 2024 State ESG Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA).
- The State ESG NOFA will now be issued every three years by HCD.
- The application portal opened on February 11, 2025, and all applications will be due on March 28, 2025.
- The Standard Agreements will have three annual funding cycles. For the second and third funding cycles, HCD will request additional documents (new annual budget, resolutions, etc.) to confirm the subsequent annual allocation, and execute an amendment to the Standard Agreement.
- Each CoC can recommend up to two eligible applicants per NOFA. CoCs must submit the "HCD Recommendation Form" to identify the recommended applicants, activities, and funding amounts.
- As the Administrative Entity for the Orange County CoC, the County of Orange's Office of Care Coordination will be submitting an application for the 2024 State ESG NOFA prior to the application deadline.

Vocational Services Request for Proposals (RFP)

- The County of Orange's Probation Department seeks proposals from qualified firms for providing vocational services to youth housed at:
 - Orange County Juvenile Hall
 - Youth Guidance Center
 - Youth Leadership Academy
 - Multipurpose Rehabilitation Center
- Goal: Assist youth in obtaining vocational certificates or degrees.
- Courses may include (but are not limited to): Automotive, HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning), Plumbing, Electrical, Culinary, Truck Driving, Welding, Computer Coding, Medical Coding, Medical Billing, Barber/Cosmetology, Carpentry, Graphic Design, Web Design
- Proposals must be submitted via OpenGov by March 31, 2025, at 3:00 PM PT.
- Bid Information: https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/ocgov/projects/138977

Educational Services Request for Proposals (RFP)

- The County of Orange's Probation Department seeks proposals from qualified firms for provide educational course & services to youth housed at:
 - Orange County Juvenile Hall
 - Youth Guidance Center
 - Youth Leadership Academy
 - Multipurpose Rehabilitation Center
- Goal: Assist youth in obtaining an associate's or bachelor's degree, or training certificate/license.
- Services may include (but are not limited to): Accredited college/university courses, certificate/license training programs, dual enrollment programs for high school and college courses, educational counseling and guidance to support academic success and career preparedness
- Proposals must be submitted via OpenGov by March 31, 2025, at 3:00 PM PT.
- Bid Information: https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/ocgov/projects/145273

2025 Annual Calendar of CoC Activities

- The Office of Care
 Coordination will provide
 CoC Board members with
 updates regarding
 upcoming CoC activities.
- Calendar Year 2025
 Quarter 1 and early
 Quarter 2 activities are
 highlighted in this chart
 for reference.

March

- Youth Action Board (YAB)
 planning and development
- Appoint HHAP Program Ad Hoc
- Appoint 2025 CoC NOFO Ad Hoc
- CoC Strategic Plan implementation planning
- CoC NOFO: Intent to Renew Survey
- CoC Fiscal and Resource
 Mapping technical assistance
 planning
- Procurement process:

 Compensation for people with lived experience; YAB development technical assistance; CoC Vision technical assistance

April

- YAB planning and development
- HHAP Program Ad Hoc
- CoC NOFO: Ad Hoc convenes; meet with CoC Funded agencies to review proposed performance measures
- CoC Strategic Plan implementation planning
- CoC Fiscal and Resource Mapping technical assistance planning
- Procurement process:
 Compensation for people with lived experience; YAB development technical assistance; CoC Vision technical assistance

May

- YAB planning and development
- CoC NOFO Ad Hoc
- CoC Strategic Plan implementation planning
- YAB development technical assistance
- Procurement process:
 Compensation for people with lived experience; CoC
 Vision technical assistance

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, March 26, 2025, from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

