

Orange County Continuum of Care Veterans Committee Meeting March 20, 2025

Welcome and Introductions Beck Heyhoe-Khalil, Chair

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1. Approve the Veterans Committee Special Meeting Minutes from November 13, 2024.
- 2. Approve the 2025 Veterans Committee Meeting Calendar.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

- Continuum of Care (CoC) Strategic Plan Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, Chair and Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination
- 2. Veterans Affairs (VA) Update Melanie Martins, LCSW, Supervisory Social Worker, Coordinated Entry System and Homeless Outreach, Tibor Rubin Medical Center, Long Beach VA Health Care System; and Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, Chair
 - a. HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Tenant-Based Vouchers
 - i. Welcome Home OC Program Update
 - b. One Team Approach
 - c. VA Encampment Response Strategy
- HUD-VASH Project-Based Voucher Update Daniel Garcia, Coordinated Entry System (CES) Administrator, Office of Care Coordination; Melanie Martins, LCSW, Supervisory Social Worker, Coordinated Entry System and Homeless Outreach, Tibor Rubin Medical Center, Long Beach VA Health Care System
 - a. CES Coordinated Vouchers
 - b. Public Housing Authorities (PHA) Updates
 - c. VA Vouchers
- 4. CES Veteran Registry Data Update Daniel Garcia, CES Administrator, Office of Care Coordination
- 5. CoC Update Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

Public Comments

Consent Calendar

- 1. Approve the Veterans Committee Special Meeting Minutes from November 13, 2024.
- 2. Approve the 2025 Veterans Committee Meeting Calendar.

Business Calendar

Continuum of Care (CoC) Strategic Plan Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, Chair and Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

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.
- 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?

Strategic Plan Structure: Feedback & Implementation Timeline

	Ν	love	emb	ber	20)24
--	---	------	-----	-----	----	-----

December 2024

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

2025

January – June

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

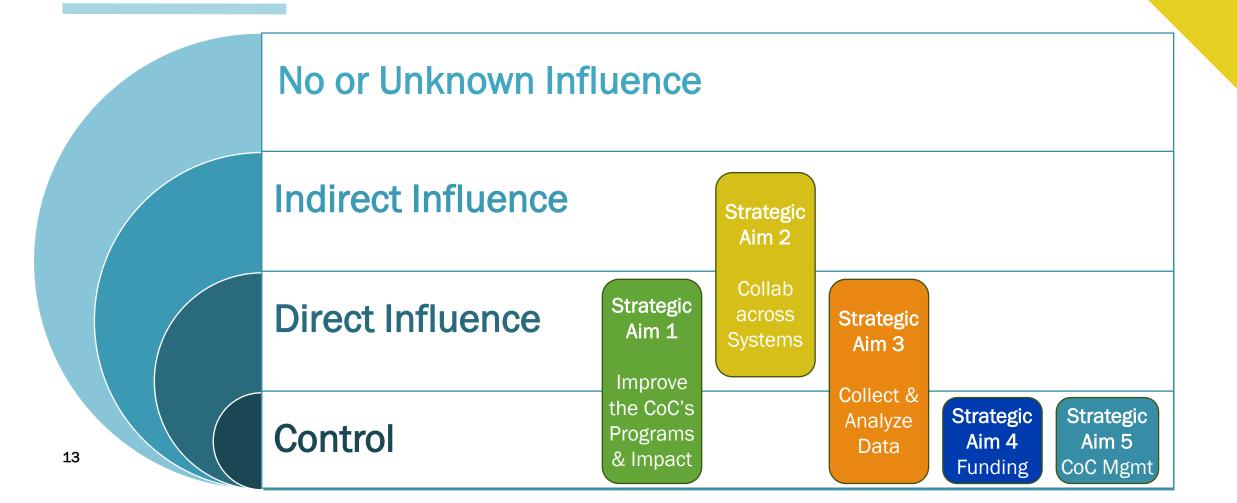
July 2025-End of Strategic Plan

Implement Strategic Plan

Strategic Plan Structure: Spheres of Influence

	No or Unknown Influence	 Items or issues that will require more discovery and connection-building to understand how to effect change within them
	Indirect Influence	 Items or issues that the CoC Board and the CoC community of homelessness service providers can organize and advocate around, but that require collaboration with outside entities with which you may not yet have a direct connection
	Direct Influence	 Items or issues that the CoC Board and the CoC community of homelessness service providers can directly influence by going to the people or orgs that control them
12	Control	 Items or issues that the CoC Board and the CoC community of homelessness service providers can fully choose and control without outside consults (though you can pull in consults as you see fit)

5 Strategic Aims & the CoC's Spheres of Influence



5 Strategic Aims

Reference Item 1. Attachment A for the CoC Strategic Plan.

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

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

<u>Strategic Aim 3:</u> 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.

Veterans Affairs (VA) Update

Melanie Martins, LCSW, Supervisory Social Worker, Coordinated Entry System and Homeless Outreach, Tibor Rubin Medical Center, Long Beach VA Health Care System; and Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, Chair

HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Tenant-Based Vouchers

HUD-VASH Updates

HUD-VASH TBV Intake Pilot

- Purpose: Process HUD-VASH referrals more quickly
- Update: Have been able to process 400 VASH referrals since January 2025

Project-Based Units Update

- Matched Units: Matching turnover units only
- Units needing matches: Solida Del Sol matching postponed due to construction delays

One Team Approach and VA Encampment Response Strategy

One Team Updates

Review of One Team

- A group of Veteran system leaders & decision makers focused on advancing the goals of the system.
 They actively problem solve & barrier bust issues based on the feedback from the Veteran homelessness system.
- One Team Work Groups
 - HUD-VASH + SSVF Collaboration
 - HUD-VASH Retention
 - CES, BNL Refinement & Outreach

VA Encampment Response Strategy

- 1. Develop a nationwide inventory of current encampments and future closures.
- 2. Activate national and local response teams.
- 3. Disseminate national guidance on strategies to inform local action.

HUD-VASH Project-Based Voucher Update

Daniel Garcia, CES Administrator, Office of Care Coordination; and Melanie Martins, LCSW, Supervisory Social Worker, Coordinated Entry System and Homeless Outreach, Tibor Rubin Medical Center, Long Beach VA Health Care System

CES Coordinated Vouchers

HUD-VASH Project-Based Voucher Lease-Up Update

- At the November 13, 2024, Veterans Committee meeting, an update was provided on Project-Based Voucher lease-ups for Veterans.
- The Office of Care Coordination, as the CES Lead, had one additional project, Estrella Springs, finish lease up since the last meeting.
- Additionally, the lease-up process has begun for Salida Del Sol, but replacement matches are on hold due to construction delays.
- Please reference flyers for further information, including eligibility and referral processes:
 - Estrella Springs (Santa Ana)
 - Salida Del Sol (San Juan Capistrano)

Property	Total VASH Units Available	Moved in		Pending Application	To Be Matched
Estrella Springs	34	34	0	0	0
Salida Del Sol	10	0	6	0	4

HUD-VASH Project-Based Voucher Vacancies Update

- In recent months, the CES Lead has assisted in ongoing efforts to fill vacancies at existing projects with VASH vacancies.
- Since November, one VASH vacancy has been filled at Buena Esperanza, along with seven at Heroes' Landing and three at Placentia Veteran's Village.

Public Housing Authorities (PHA) Updates

HUD-VASH Tenant-Based Voucher Update – Orange County Totals

Voucher Type	Housing Authority	Allocation	In The Pipeline	Vouchers Searching	Leased
Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing Voucher (VASH – Tenant-Based)	Orange County Housing Authority*	863	36	38	689
	Anaheim Housing Authority**	104	2	6	88
	Santa Ana Housing Authority**	171	1	7	138
	Garden Grove Housing Authority	N/A			
TOTALS		1,138	39	51	915 (~80%)

*Data current as of 2/18/25 **Data current as of 2/24/25

VA Vouchers

Interim Housing Updates



VA is currently solicitating for new Healthcare for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) Contracted Emergency Residential Services (CERS) transitional beds.



Current interim housing needs in Orange County for Veterans

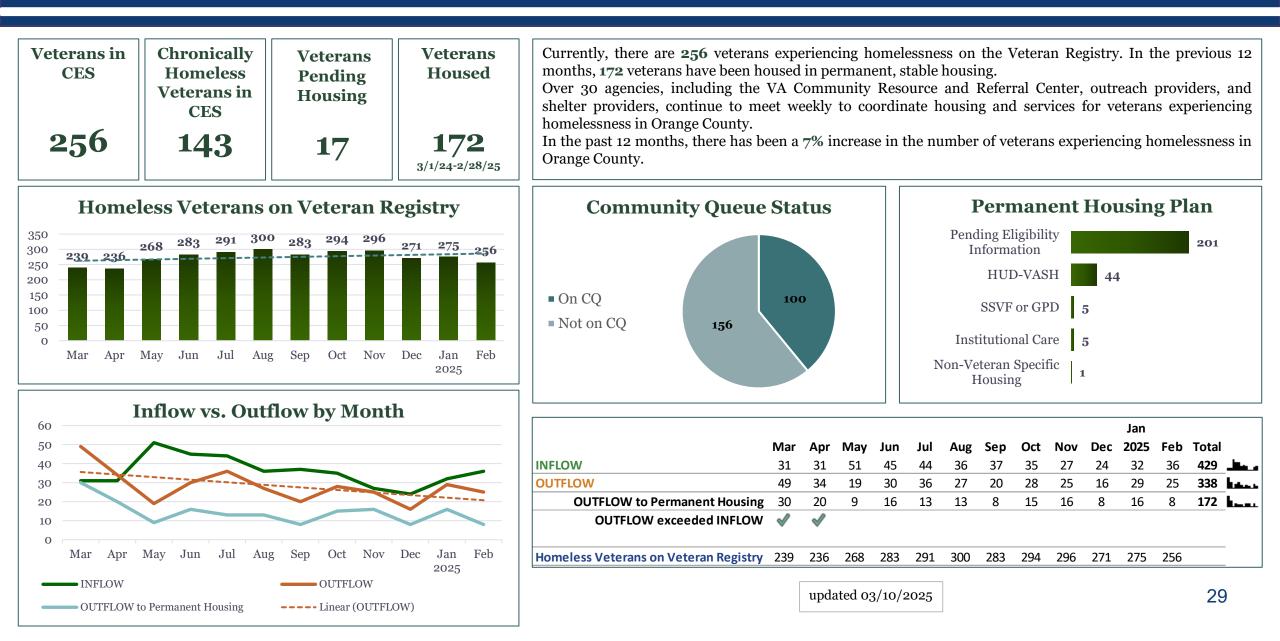


Agencies that are interested in CERS can go to Sam.gov

CES Veteran Registry Data Update

Daniel Garcia, CES Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

Veteran Registry Dashboard



CoC Update

Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

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 Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program 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.
- <u>HHAP Round 6 Allocations</u> 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

OC Same Day Solutions Fair

- The Office of Care Coordination has been engaging County departments. Local jurisdictions and non-profits 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**: 9:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.
 - **Location**: Second Baptist Church (4300 Westminster Ave., Santa Ana)

COUNTY OF ORANGE PRESENTS

Thursday, March 27th, 2025, 9am to 2pm 4300 Westminster Ave., Santa Ana CA 92703

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Cross Streets: Westminster Ave and N Newhope St. Located in Rear Parking Lot.

SERVICES

DMV

COMMUNITY BASED RESOURCES AND

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BENEFITS: CALFRESH MEDICAL, GENERAL RELIEF, CALWORKS, VETERAN BENEFIT SERVICES OC SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS

EMERGENCY SHELTER, HOUSING NAVIGATION OC COMMUNITY RESOURCES OFFICE OF CARE COORDINATION

SERVICES, MEDICAL HOME, & HEALTH ASSESSMENTS OCHEALTH CARE AGENCY SALVATION ARMY

PROGRAMS

OC UNITED WAY

2-1-1 ORANGE COUNTY

POTENTIAL CHILD WARRANTSAND SUPPORT DEBT RELIEF & DMV IDENTIFICATION CARD RENEWAL OC CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

CONNECT WITH HOMELESS COURT ATTORNEYS PRESENT TOHELP OC PUBLIC DEFENDER OC DISTRICT ATTORNEY



Federal Legislation: Staying Updated

- The Office of Care Coordination is continuing to stay up-to-date on the actions of the current administration and is sharing relevant information with CoC-funded agencies.
- 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 <u>National Alliance to End Homelessness</u> 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!

Federal Legislation: Additional Resources

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

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

Upcoming Meetings

- **CoC Board Meeting:** Wednesday, March 26, 2025, from 2:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.
 - Location: County Administration South (CAS) County Conference Center, 425 West Santa Ana Blvd., Room 104/106, Santa Ana, CA 92701
- Lived Experience Advisory Committee: Wednesday, April 2, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.
 - Location: County Administration South (CAS) County Conference Center, 425 West Santa Ana Blvd., Room 104/106, Santa Ana, CA 92701
- Policies, Procedures and Standards Committee: Tuesday, April 8, 2025, from 3:30 p.m. 5:00 p.m.
 - Location: County Administration South (CAS) Multipurpose Rooms 103/105, 601 N Ross St, Santa Ana, CA 92701
- Housing Opportunities Committee: Wednesday, April 9, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
 - Location: Orange County Housing Authority (OCHA) Conference Room A 1501 East Saint Andrew Place, Santa Ana, CA 92705

Next Meeting:

Thursday, May 29, 2025, at Orange County United Way, 18012 Mitchell South, Irvine, CA 92614, from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.



