



**Meeting Agenda
Continuum of Care (CoC) Board
Wednesday, May 11, 2022
3:30pm-5pm**

Zoom Meeting ID: 895 1247 6256
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89512476256>

1. Call to Order
2. Board Comments
3. CoC Staff Comments
4. Public Comments: Public Comment is an opportunity for the public to participate in public meetings by addressing the Ventura County Continuum of Care Board in connection with one or more agenda or non-agenda items. This meeting is subject to the Brown Act and public comments may be submitted by using one of the following options:

Email in advance of the meeting: If you wish to make public comment on an agenda item via email, please submit your comment via email by 4:30pm on the day prior to the Board meeting. Send emails to: venturacoc@ventura.org Please indicate the agenda item you would like to speak on if relevant and whether you would like your message read by staff or you will be participating and would like to provide your comments during the live meeting.

During the meeting: Participants may use the chat function in zoom to indicate they would like to make a comment. Staff will call on participants during the public comment section of the meeting or during specific item following staff presentation of the item.

Continuum of Care Governance Board Business

5. Approval of Board Minutes from April 13, 2022.
6. Review and approve the State of California Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program Round 3 funding priorities and authorization to release a Request for Proposals.
7. Authorize Collaborative Applicant staff to work with the VC CoC Youth Collaborative to complete and apply for the upcoming U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) grant.
8. Receive and file the 2022 State of Homelessness in Ventura County report.



Meeting Minutes

Continuum of Care (CoC) Board

Wednesday, April 13, 2022

3:30pm – 5 pm

Zoom Meeting ID: **895 1247 6256**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89512476256>

IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953(e)(1)(A) AND IN RESPONSE TO THE DECLARED STATE AND LOCAL EMERGENCIES DUE TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS AND LOCAL HEALTH OFFICER RECOMMENDATION REGARDING SOCIAL DISTANCING, THE VENTURA COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE IS HOLDING ALL BOARD, ALLIANCE AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS ELECTRONICALLY WHICH ARE ACCESSIBLE ONLINE VIA ZOOM WITH LINKS POSTED ON www.venturacoc.org TO FIND OUT HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT, SEE INFORMATION CONTAINED BELOW ON THIS AGENDA.

1. **Call to Order** - Dawn Dyer, CoC Board Chair, called the meeting to order at **3:34 pm**

Board Members: Dawn Dyer, Susan Englund, Kevin Clerici, Emilio Ramirez, Mara Malch, Michael Nigh, Ingrid Hardy, Manuel Minjares, Supervisor Carmen Ramirez

Absent: *Carolyn Briggs, Pam Marshall, Nancy Wharfield*

New Board Member: *Dr. Sevet Johnson*

Staff: Felipe Flores, Alicia Morales-McKinney, Jennifer Harkey, Christy Madden

Public Attendees: Elizabeth Stone, Ashley Bautista, Cathi Nye, Dean Cook, Jeremy Paris, Judy Alexandre, Karl Lawson, Laura Hernandez, Meaghan Salas, Michael Darden, Michal Dunn

2. **Board Comments:** Dawn was pleased to announce that Gustavo Velazquez, Director of the California Department of Housing and Community Development, will be the keynote speaker at the Housing Trust Fund Ventura County's Compassion Campaign 2022. The immersive experience will be held May 12, 2022, from 5 – 9 pm at Maravilla Gardens and Dawn invited the CoC Board and the general public to attend. Registration and additional information can be found at:
<https://www.housingtrustfundvc.org/compassioncampaign2022.html>
3. **CoC Staff Comments:** Jenn Harkey introduced herself as the new CoC Lead as well as Staff from the Ventura County Executive Office (CEO). Jenn also announced that Felipe Flores stepped into her previous position as Management Analyst overseeing Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding including the California Emergency Solutions Housing (CESH) Grant. With the noted movement, it was announced that a Program Assistant position has now opened up within the Community Development Team. Recruitment announcement to follow shortly.
4. **Public Comments:** Elizabeth R. Stone, Outreach Specialist with Downtown Ventura Partners, commented on adding Persons with Lived Experience as VC CoC board members and to please keep in mind the wide spectrum of needs in the community to best address these.

Continuum of Care Governance Board Business

5. Approval of Board Minutes from February 9, 2022.

Michael Nigh moved to approve Meeting Minutes; Kevin Clerici was second; All in favor.

6. Receive and file the submittal of FY21 (October 1, 2020 - September 30, 2021) System Performance Measures Report as submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development.

Jenn reported that this report is submitted on an annual basis. She briefly described the 7 measures that are contained in the report and indicated that there is a greater number of providers serving the community. Jenn further shared that there was some concern regarding length of time homeless and return to homelessness measures. These items will be discussed with the VC CoC Data and Evaluation Committee to identify gaps and provide additional supportive services. The report was submitted in March 2022, before the HUD deadline.

7. Review and approve the adoption and implementation of the Ventura County Continuum of Care Vulnerability Assessment Tool.

Alicia Morales-McKinney, CoC Staff presented the on the transition from the Vulnerability Index-Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) to the Ventura County Continuum of Care Vulnerability Assessment Tool (VAT). Alicia provided a general description of the original tool and its purpose. She further explained the need to develop into a newer form and shared how this work was completed with a dedicated team working on the transition. The new tool is currently being tested while in transition and there is no firm completion date to make sure the original vendor is not released without the tool being ready yet. Alicia also indicated that one of the advantages of the new tool is that updates can be made to it at any time. Michael Nigh questioned if it was better to adopt the tool rather than approving it. He asked if approval of the tool's development was a better question. Dawn also asked how the tool was received in the community after 4 trainings. Alicia shared that many good questions resulted with the beta testing conducted. Dawn also asked Alicia if she could answer Michael Nigh's question. Alicia deferred to Jenn and she recommended switching to an adopting the tool rather than approving it. Michael Nigh moved to adopt; Kevin Clerici was second; All in favor.

8. Receive a copy of the Ventura County 2022 Homeless Count Executive Summary; Provide input on the 2022 recommendations and authorize staff to submit the final Point-in-Time Count and Housing Inventory County Reports to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development No Later than April 29, 2022.

Jenn informed the CoC Board that a great number of volunteers were needed and recruited to conduct this year's Count. Approximately 400 volunteers participated and this was slightly challenging to coordinate since the initial date of the Count was set for January. Thanks were given to City and County Staff, Law Enforcement partners and especially to all volunteers.

CoC Board – Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2022

Page 3

Jenn provided a general description of how the Count was conducted, making sure that all cities, known sites and encampments were surveyed. Jenn further informed that the Count included sheltered and unsheltered persons. She also shared with the CoC Board that, compared to 2020, there had been an overall increase of 25%. However, of this amount, 7% were sheltered through Project RoomKey and other motel programs from partners and service providers. Jenn also called attention to the 3 cities operating where PRK is operating, Oxnard, Ventura and Thousand Oaks. The overall Count was higher in these cities but she further explained that a number of persons from other cities were also included. She also noted that there was also an increase in chronic homelessness and this further highlighted the need for more Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). With that, Jenn reminded the group that Project HomeKey projects providing PSH, are in the works. In a different data point, Jenn noted there was a sharp increase in persons fleeing Domestic Violence (DV). And on a positive note, the Coalition for Family Harmony was awarded DV funding from the CoC to provide a variety of services for individuals and families that need them. In closing, Jenn shared that a full presentation addressing subpopulations, system gaps and needs will be made in May to the CoC Board. The purpose of this current report was to share and present to the CoC Board before its submittal to HUD. Input was Folks from other communities placed in those motels. Elizabeth R. Stone shared her experiences in the field and felt there may be a greater increase in numbers than those reported. She also shared that there appears to be an increase in second generation persons experiencing homelessness. Through the meeting chat, Elizabeth was asked to tell the CoC more about herself. She shared more about herself and how she identifies as a Person with Lived Experience. Supervisor Carmen Ramirez moved to receive the report and submit to HUD; Emilio Ramirez was second; All in favor.

9. Receive a notice of an unscheduled Board member vacancy for Michael Powers and receive a nomination for Interim County Executive Officer Dr. Sevet Johnson to fill this board seat.

Jenn shared with the group that Dr. Sevet Johnson was in this online meeting and had filled the resulting vacancy. Jenn further informed that her term runs through December 2023 and by filling this vacancy, the mental health sector would also be filled. It was also brought up that there are 3 CoC Board seats that will be vacated and persons with Lived Experience will be recruited, including better geographical representation. Supervisor Carmen Ramirez welcomed Dr. Sevet and hoped she can stay beyond the interim. Supervisor Carmen Ramirez moved approval; Kevin Clerici was second; All in favor. In closing Dawn, asked for volunteers to serve on the Nomination committee. Manuel Minjares volunteered as did Kevin Clerici. Jenn provided more detail on the recruitment process and calls for nominations, which will be brought up at CoC Alliance meeting on 4/21/22.

10. Receive and file the Ventura County Continuum of Care Staff and Committee Reports

Jenn gave an overall description of the different programs that have been running for the past few months. Project RoomKey (PRK) is ongoing, the Housing and Services Committee will be revamped to include data driven responses to address system gaps and HMIS training (provided by Jenn) is always available. She also touched on committees being renewed and/or revitalized to reach out deeper into the community, including the Latino population. A Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) NOFA was recently released and a Youth Action Board will be developed.

CoC Board – Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2022

Page 3

Ashley Bautista said she can help with recruitment for the Public Info/Outreach committee and asked to please be included on any correspondence for the committee's next meeting.

Closing comments

Michael Nigh congratulated Jenn for a good meeting and Dawn thanked Dr. Sevet Johnson for joining the CoC Board.

Dawn adjourned the meeting at **4:37 pm.**

May 11, 2022

CoC Governance Board

SUBJECT: Approve State of California Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program Round 3 funding priorities and authorization to release a Request for Proposals.

BACKGROUND: The VC CoC Data, Performance & Evaluation Committee met on Wednesday, April 27, 2022, to review the eligible use activities for HHAP-3 funding for the 2022 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). The State strongly encourages HHAP funds to be prioritized to assist people experiencing literal homelessness to move into safe, stable housing, with a particular focus on rehousing individuals currently living in Project Roomkey sites. A priority needs survey was previously sent out to the VC CoC Alliance members and stakeholders on April 21, 2022, for community input. Survey data was gathered and compiled using the top three priorities for each eligible use activity, calculated by percentage. Additionally, the committee reviewed current HHAP Round I and II funded activities to address funding gaps with the current State grants. All eligible use activities were reviewed and ranked by highest priority based on local needs, in accordance with HUD guidance. The VC CoC Data Committee reviewed the survey results and determined the following ranking of eligible use activities in order of priority:

1. Delivery of Permanent Housing*
2. Operational Subsidies*
3. Prevention and Diversion*
4. Rapid Re-Housing*
5. Interim Sheltering*
6. Coordinated Entry System Supports
7. Services Coordination
8. Improvements to existing emergency shelter
9. Street Outreach

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1) Approve the funding priorities recommended by the Data Committee for the HHAP-3 NOFA;
- 2) Authorize to release a Requests for Proposals for FY22 HHAP-3 funding with priority ranking for proposals in the top five* eligible use activities.

May 11, 2022

CoC Governance Board

SUBJECT: Authorize Collaborative Applicant staff to work with the VC CoC Youth Collaborative to complete and apply for the upcoming U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) grant.

BACKGROUND: HUD has released a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Continuums of Care to apply for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) to develop and implement a coordinated community approach to preventing and ending youth homelessness. The population to be served are youth experiencing homelessness up to age 24. VC CoC staff are seeking to collect data from multiple youth providers to demonstrate the need to serve youth experiencing homelessness in Ventura County. The HUD YHDP NOFO application is due June 28, 2022.

DISCUSSION: In preparation for the HUD YHDP NOFO, the youth service providers involved in the VC CoC Youth Collaborative have been discussing the increasing number of homeless Transitional Age Youth (TAY) and the need for additional resources to serve this subpopulation. The YHDP application requires our community to have established a Youth Action Board (YAB) as a formal committee with a minimum of three (3) youth age 24 and under. The local youth providers have agreed to recruit youth to participate and engage in innovative discussions for YHDP. One youth focus group was recently held on April 27, 2022 on Zoom, with VC CoC Staff, to determine any interest in joining a Youth Action Board. The youth focus group resulted in one TAY ready to contribute remotely; however, a minimum of three youth is required. The VC CoC Youth Collaborative will be asked to continue their recruitment efforts.

A central requirement of the YHDP is that a CoC will develop a coordinated plan to prevent and end youth homelessness. The coordinated community plan must demonstrate a commitment to the principles of the HUD Youth Framework to End Youth Homelessness and its four core outcomes: 1) Stable Housing, 2) Permanent Connections, 3) Education/Employment, and 4) Social-emotional well-being.

RECOMMENDATION: Authorize CoC staff to develop the YHDP NOFO application in partnership with the Youth Collaborative service providers contingent upon establishing a Youth Action Board with a minimum of three youth ages 16 to 24.

May 11, 2022

VC CoC Governance Board

SUBJECT: Receive a presentation on the 2022 State of Homelessness in Ventura County

BACKGROUND: This presentation includes data from the 2022 Homeless Point-In-Time Count, the 2022 Housing Inventory Count and the Homeless Management Information System. The Homeless Point-In-Time Count is a one day count and survey of both sheltered and unsheltered persons/families which results in a snapshot of one day of homelessness across the region. Ventura County homeless shelters provided data on the night of February 22, 2022 and volunteers assisted with surveys on the morning of February 23, 2022. The 2022 Housing Inventory Count (HIC) includes all emergency shelter, transitional housing, rapid re-housing, supportive housing, and other housing dedicated to homeless persons. These reports are submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as part of the requirements of receiving Continuum of Care grant funding. A copy of the full 2022 Homeless Count Report is attached.

DISCUSSION: The 2022 Homeless Point-In-Time Count shows an overall increase of 25% from 2020. The 2022 Housing Inventory Count (HIC) shows a decreased capacity in congregate shelters during the COVID-19 pandemic; however, there has been an increase in the number of non-congregate shelter beds through temporary motel voucher programs, including FEMA funded Project Roomkey. Shelter programs must follow guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and local public health guidance for safe operations to reduce the spread of COVID-19. The HIC includes the total beds and units for each program type, evaluates the HMIS-participation rate and includes the point-in-time utilization for each program type.

Presentation materials will be provided at the VC CoC Board meeting on May 11, 2022 and posted on the VC CoC website at www.venturacoc.org.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) Receive and file the 2022 State of Homelessness in Ventura County presentation.