

I. Purpose

The Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness (hereinafter "OCPEH") serves as the Chapel Hill/Orange County Continuum of Care (hereinafter "CoC"), designated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (hereinafter "HUD") as NC-513. The Partnership is a collaborative program created and supported by four local governments: Orange County, Chapel Hill, Carrboro, and Hillsborough, North Carolina. The OCPEH Governance Charter sets out the composition, roles, responsibilities, and structure for the CoC. The CoC is the collaborative planning body responsible for developing and overseeing a comprehensive and well-coordinated system of effective services designed to quickly resolve occurrences of homelessness across Orange County, North Carolina.

II. Continuum of Care (CoC) Governance Overview

OCPEH has been established by representatives of relevant organizations within Orange County, NC to carry out the responsibilities set forth in the HUD CoC Program interim rule (24 CFR Part 578), specifically to administer:

- CoC Governance and Structure
- CoC System Operations and Planning
- Preparing an Annual Application to HUD for Funds, the CoC and ESG annual funding local competitions and community application preparation/submission
- Designating and Operating the Homeless Management Information System (hereinafter "HMIS"), the HUD-required database for all non-domestic violence agencies that receive HUD homeless funding
- Coordinated Entry, systemizing how people access homeless services and are assessed, prioritized and referred for program referrals

III. Shared Values and Guiding Principles

We believe ending homelessness is possible.

We know that Representation matters.

We know that ending homelessness is only possible with a focus on equitable access and equitable outcomes.

We know that Housing First is the most effective, efficient, and decent approach to ending homelessness.

We know that when resources are scarce, we prioritize people with the highest needs first.

HUD encourages CoC's to consider the experiences and Identities present in CoC governance, voting and decision-making, and participating in coordinated entry.

Affordable Housing Developers	CDBG/HOME/ESG Entitlement Jurisdictions	Disability Advocates / Service Providers
EMS/Crisis Response	People with Current/Lived Experience of Homelessness	Hospitals
Tribal Organizations	Law Enforcement	LGBTQ+ Advocates / Service Orgs
Local Government Staff/Officials	Local Jail	Mental Health Advocates / Service Orgs
Orgs led by and serving BIPOC	Orgs led by and serving LGBTQ+	Orgs led by and serving People w/ disabilities
Other homeless subpopulation advocates	Public Housing Authorities	School Administrators / Homeless Liaisons
Street Outreach teams	Substance Use Advocates / Service Orgs	Victim Service Orgs / Advocates / Coalitions
Youth Service Orgs / Advocates		

IV. Proposed Revisions

Current

Body	Member- type	Empowered by:	Scope	Mtg frequency
Leadership Team	At-large (8- 16), Elected Officials (4), Ex Officio (4), Staff (non- voting)	Leadership Team (nominated by Board Dev Comm)	System governance, planning, and operations	Monthly
Executive Team	Elected Officials (4), Staff (non- voting)	Elected Chairs/Mayors	Review Staff work plan; develop funding recommendation for four elected boards, MOU	Quarterly
Management Team	Staff, Chair, Vice-Chair	Leadership Team	Develop agenda	Monthly
CoC Membership	Open	No formal mechanism		No formal mechanism

Option A

Body	Member-type	Empowered by:	Scope	Mtg frequency
Steering Team	At-large members; (non-electeds)	CoC Membership	System governance, planning, and operation	Monthly
Advisory Team	Elected Officials	Elected Chairs/Mayors	Review Staff work plan; develop funding recommendation for four elected boards, MOU, propose policy recommendations to respective boards	Quarterly
Management Team	Chair, Vice-Chair (or Co-Chairs), OCEPH Staff	Chair/Vice-Chairs elected by Steering Team	Develop agenda	Monthly
CoC Membership	Open	Self-appointed	System gaps, system goals, funding priorities, CE Policies and Procedures, Written Standards	Meeting times / agenda set by Steering Committee

Values: Nimble and responsive decision making (6-10 members), informed by more explicit and intentional input from CoC membership

Advantages: Action/implementation oriented, reduce harms to PWLE for shared space and burden of teaching others not as close to the issues

Disadvantages: Potential reduction in representative identities / experiences with reduced # of ppl on Leadership Team (current Charter is 16-25 members), loss of contact for PWLE to directly impact elected officials and those with positional power

Option B

Body	Member-type	Empowered by:	Scope	Mtg frequency
Leadership Team	At-large, same or reduced number of Ex Officio seats	Nominated by Board Dev Comm; Elected by Leadership Team	System governance, planning, and operation	Monthly
Advisory Team	Elected Officials	Elected Chairs/Mayors	Review Staff work plan; develop funding recommendation for four elected boards, MOU, propose policy recommendations to respective boards	Quarterly
Management Team	Chair, Vice-Chair (or Co-Chairs), OCEPH Staff	Chair/Vice-Chairs elected by Leadership Team	Develop agenda	Monthly
CoC Membership	Open	Self-appointed	System gaps, system goals, funding priorities, CE Policies and Procedures, Written Standards	Meeting times / agenda set by Steering Committee

Values: Broader representation, informed by more explicit and intentional input from CoC membership

Advantages: Could add a values pledge or similar check for Ex Officio seats and Advisory Team members

Disadvantages: loss of contact for PWLE to directly impact elected officials and those with positional power

Resources

[Current OCEPH Governance Charter](#)