



In attendance: Jamezetta Bradford, Rebecca Buzzard, Nancy Coston, Caitlin Fenhagen, Kathleen Ferguson, Barbara Foushee, LaKiera Grimes, Jackie Jenks, Megan Johnson, Will Quick, Corey Root, Blake Rosser, Diiv Sternman, (staff) Rachel Waltz

Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to approve [Minutes from September 20, 2021 meeting of OCPEH Leadership Team](#), [Bedford, Fenhagen]. All in favor, none opposed.

OCPEH Updates

Orange County launched the [Longtime Homeowners Assistance \(LHA\)](#) program providing property tax bill assistance to help people stay in their homes in October. People can submit applications through December 15, 2021.

HUD awarded Orange County \$1.3 million for [HOME-ARP program](#). The U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) and U. S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) are inviting governments and tribes to join efforts to direct this funding and others via the [House America initiative](#).

Board Development work for the Leadership Team continues -- staff are outreaching current Leadership Team members to identify upcoming vacancies. A motion was made to approve the Leadership Team application changing category of person with lived experience to the top of the list, spelling out acronyms, and updating contact information from Corey Root to Rachel Waltz, [Bedford, Jenks]. All in favor, none opposed.

The OCPEH Racial Equity Committee recommends proceeding with [training / implementation](#) in early 2022. A motion was made to request amended proposal with focus on implementation [Foushee, Jenks]. All in favor, none opposed.

Orange County Homeless System Gaps Analysis

Each year, OCPEH staff work with community members, funders, service providers, people with lived experience of homelessness, and other stakeholders to update the Homeless System Gaps Analysis. Due to time constraints, the Manager will circulate the [revised draft](#) with any additional feedback due by November 8. Leadership Team members will have a chance to approve the revised draft at the November Leadership Team meeting.

2021 Continuum of Care (CoC) Grant Competition

Orange County is eligible to apply for \$840,047 in Continuum of Care (CoC) funds in 2021 – eligible uses include coordinated entry, rapid re-housing, permanent supportive housing, and HMIS projects. The OCPEH Project Review Committee met on October 15 and [recommended a Draft Project Priority Listing](#) with Orange County Rapid Re-housing funded at \$161,920, Orange County-Coordinated Entry program funded at \$228,340, Inter-Faith Council for Social Services (IFC) Permanent Supportive Housing funded at \$232,636, and Community Link PSH funded at \$108,629.

Leadership Team members discussed how funding recommendations would impact the current gaps in the Orange County homeless system. Defunding a best practice Permanent Supportive Housing program, like the IFC Permanent Supportive Housing program, would dislocate people who have experienced chronic homelessness and currently receive intensive supportive services in order to maintain stable housing. For the Community Link Permanent Supportive Housing program – these clients are not receiving supportive services and the households on this grant can be referred for Orange County Housing Choice Vouchers to maintain the rental subsidy. The Leadership Team decided to weigh heavily funding decisions on the maintenance and expansion of permanent housing with supportive services, including Rapid Re-housing and best practice Permanent Supportive Housing in order to not exacerbate existing gaps.

A motion was made to approve this [Project Priority Listing](#). Leadership Team members discussed ranking housing over non-housing programs and existing renewal housing projects over expansion and new projects in order to avoid dislocating currently housed residents. Leadership Team members also discussed ranking the DV bonus project first which will expand DV specific rapid re-housing in Orange County and can increase the Annual Renewal Demand available in future years.

A motion was made to fund Compass Center Rapid Re-housing DV Bonus at \$50,000 ranked number 1, the Inter-Faith Council for Social Service Permanent Supportive Housing program at \$323,645 ranked number 2, Orange County Rapid Re-housing at \$161,920 ranked number 3, Compass Center Rapid Re-housing at \$100,196 ranked number 4, and Orange County Coordinated Entry at \$228,340 ranked number 5, straddling the first and second Tier. Tier 1 has \$731,525 available and there is an additional \$86,576 available in Tier 2 for a total of \$818,101 for ranked projects. Leadership Team members decided to defund and reallocate the Community Link Permanent Supportive Housing project.

[Sternman, Johnson]. All in favor, none oppose, Rosser and Jenks abstained.

Proposed Changes to CoC Written Standards & Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures

Due to time constraints, the Manager will circulate a list of proposed changes to the CoC Written Standards and Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures for Leadership Team review. These documents outline how people access homeless program and services in Orange County and include addition of newly added programming in Orange County. Staff will incorporate feedback from Leadership Team members into a revised draft for potential approval at the November Leadership Team meeting. The proposed changes to CoC Written Standards include updates to the Rapid Re-housing prioritization and addition of Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) to referrals. Written Standards for Homelessness Prevention / Housing Stabilization and Street Outreach have also been proposed and incorporated into a draft Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures.

Next Meeting: November 15, 6-7:30pm

Remaining 2021 Meetings: 11/15; 12/20