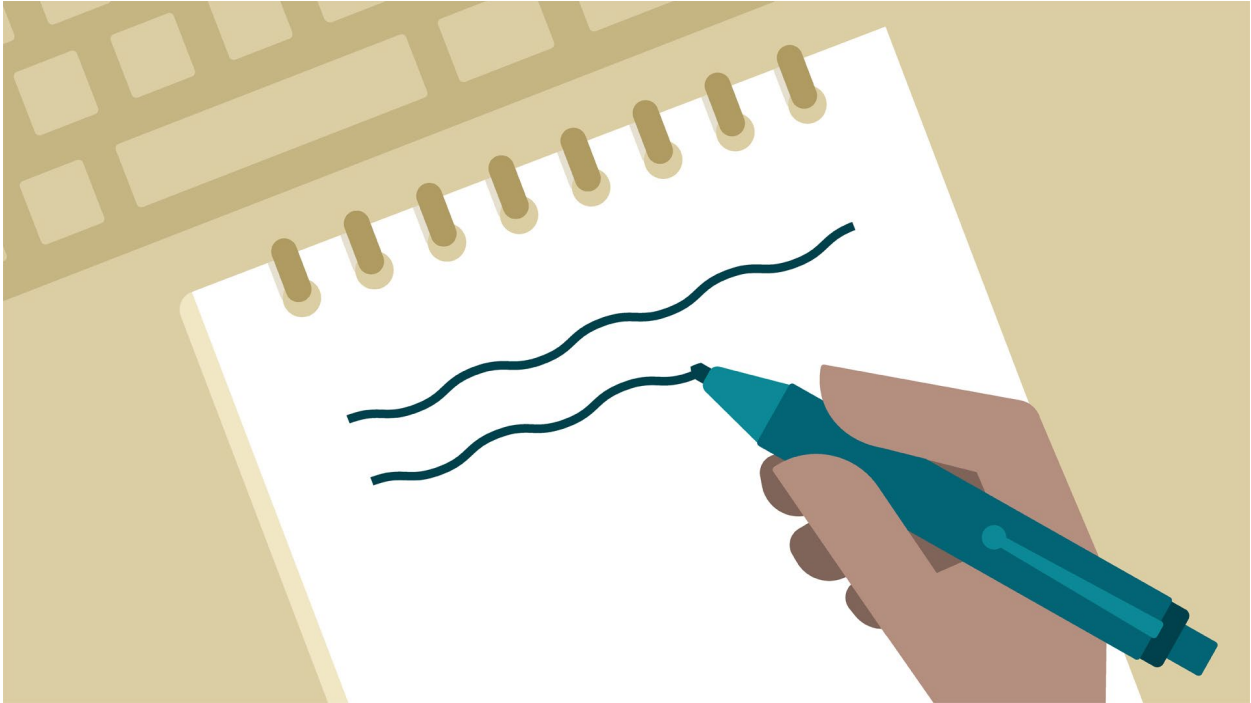# Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC)Board Meeting

January 22, 2021
2:30 PM – 5:00 PM

For questions, written public comment, or technical difficulties during the meeting, please email Karissa.White@sonoma-county.org

1/22/21 CoC Board Agenda
1. Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions
2. Approve Agenda (ACTION ITEM)
3. Approve minutes from 1/15 meeting (ACTION ITEM)
4. Approval of Draft CoC Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Policies & Procedures and Interim CoC Governance Charter (ACTION ITEM)
5. Coordinated Entry System (CES) prioritization: Interim Changes to Coordinated Entry Prioritization & Coordinated Entry Vulnerability Assessment (ACTION ITEM)
6. Coordinated Entry System Transition Plan (INFORMATIONAL ITEM)
7. Review Agenda for 2/24/21 CoC Board Meeting & 3/18/21 Quarterly Membership Meeting Schedule and Content Overview
8. CDC Website Review (Tentative) (REMOVE)
9. Staff Report
10. Board Member Questions & Comments
11. Public Comment

Approval of Minutes from 1/15 CoC Board Meeting

Sonoma County CoC Governance Charter and HMIS Policies & Procedures

HUD HMIS Capacity Building Grant Program Deliverables

Karissa White, Continuum of Care Coordinator

HMIS Capacity Building Project Grant Agreement

Grant Start Date: September 30, 2019

- Extensions granted for deliverables due to COVID
- Sonoma County Assigned Technical Assistance (TA) Provider Abt Associates
- HUD grant agreement requires monthly meetings with TA, Sonoma County meets bimonthly, ensuring Sonoma County is on track with grant milestones and deliverables.

Deliverables Requiring CoC Board Approval:

- Recipient must submit CoC Governance Charter and HMIS Policies & Procedures to a HUD-funded TA provider for review by deadline
- TA provider's comments and recommendations must be reviewed by Recipient
- Recipient must correct all instances of non-compliance prior to HUD submission

CoC Governance Charter and HMIS Policies & Procedures Revisions

HUD's Assigned Technical Assistance Review

- Required by the Grant, CDC staff made revisions and edits to the 2018 CoC Governance Charter and HMIS Policies & Procedures

- Revisions/edits only include those required by regulation

- TA provider's review and recommendations are provided solely to improve the capacity of the Recipient and its CoC to meet applicable HMIS requirements, including Governance Charter requirements and HMIS Data and Technical Standards.

CoC Board Governance Document Approval

- Original Due Date: January 31, 2021

- Confirmed Extended Due Date: March 30, 2021

- Staff request documents are approved as-is with the required changes from HUD

- If approved, staff will submit approved documents to HUD ahead of schedule so the board can work on revising the CoC Governance Charter as planned

- If the board requests more time to review, staff request the board wait to begin charter revisions until the approved document is submitted to HUD

Coordinated Entry System (CES) prioritization: Interim Changes to Coordinated Entry Prioritization & Coordinated Entry Vulnerability Assessment

Karissa White, Continuum of Care Coordinator

Coordinated Entry System Requirements

- CoC Program interim rule at 24 CFR 578.7(a)(8) require CoCs establish a Centralized or Coordinated Assessment System.

- HUD's primary goals for coordinated entry processes:
  - assistance be allocated as effectively as possible
  - easily accessible no matter where or how people present.

- In response to COVID, HUD released guidance for communities to adjust CES prioritization factors in an expedited method (10 days or less)

Sonoma County Coordinated Entry System (CES) Prioritization Review

- Sonoma County CES Current Assessment Tool: VI-SPDAT: Vulnerability Index - Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool, Version 1

- 2019 ACCESS Sonoma's IMDT: Reviewed current weight of the assessment tool.
  - A detailed list of recommended scoring changes to the current tool created for task group review

- December 2019: Home Sonoma County's Housing First and Coordinated Entry Task Group reviewed IMDT's proposed recommendations

- September 2020: HF & CE Task Group, made revisions, and approved recommendations

- Item was scheduled to be approved by Home Sonoma County Leadership Council on 9/24/2020
  - Item was not approved as the board was formally dismantled

Interim CES Prioritization

- CoC plans to adopt/create new prioritization tool for CES in the future

- Changing the prioritization tool requires a complete rebuild of the current CES, requiring thousands of new assessments

- The proposed interim changes can be implemented within one week, and would not require anyone enrolled in the current system to complete a new assessment

Adjusted Scoring Recommendations

Length of Time Homelessness:

- Current Scoring: 2 pts for anyone over 12 mos of homelessness

- Proposed Scoring: cumulative points, 1 pt for every year homeless, max. 10 pts

Risks Section/Emergency Service Utilization:

- Current Scoring: 1 pt total for 4 or more emergency service utilizations within entire section, includes 5 separate questions

- Proposed Scoring: cumulative scale for each question scored separately
  - Each risk section question receive 1 pt with 3 or more utilizations
  - Additional 1 pt added for any additional 3 uses of that service
  - Max. of 10 pts

Adjusted Scoring Recommendations

Substance Use

- Current Scoring: 1 pt possible entire section, 6 questions
- Proposed Scoring: 1 pt to every question answered yes, max 3 pts

Mental Health

- Current Scoring: 1 pt possible entire section, 5 questions
- Proposed Scoring: 1 pt for every question answered yes, additional 1 pt to individuals working with Sonoma County Behavioral Health

Age

- Current Scoring: 1 pt 60 years of age or older
- Proposed Scoring: 1 pt 60 years of age, 1 pt additional for every 5 years of age increased, max 5 pts

Adjusted Scoring Recommendations

Unscored Questions:

- History in the Foster Care system
- Jail
- Prison term

Proposed Scoring: 1pt each if answer is yes

Unscored Questions:

- Reported mobility issues (e.g. unable to climb stairs, wheelchair)

Proposed Scoring: 3 pts if answer is yes

Adopt Interim Prioritization Changes to the CES Assessment

- Staff recommends CoC Board adopt proposed interim changes to adjust the weight the current CES vulnerability assessment

- Changes are intended to be quick fixes to the weight of the current assessment tool

- Future CES committee meetings will focus on a more wholesale revamping of the vulnerability methodology used county wide

Coordinated Entry System Transition Plan

Tina Rivera, Assistant Executive Director

Coordinated Entry System Operator Selection

- In the 2013/14 CoC Competition, the CoC approved an application with the Community Development Commission to receive CES funding

- In 2014, the Community Development Commission posted an RFQ for interested parties as CES Operator

- The CDC selected the only applicant, Catholic Charities, as the CES Operator

- Per HUD TA, as the CDC selected the Operator as part of its grant, the CDC can delegate a new sub-recipient as part of previous practice

Coordinated Entry System (CES) Operator Change

- As the CoC Program CES grant recipient, Sonoma County Community Development Commission (SCCDC), has subcontracted operational support of the CES to Catholic Charities since implementation

- SCCDC is currently working on a transition plan to bring CES operations into the County

- The new operator will be the County's ACCESS Interdepartmental Multi-Disciplinary Team (IMDT)

Decision to Change Operators

- 2019 CES Evaluation: Completed by HUD assigned Technical Assistance (TA)
    - Assigned TA: Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC)
- Evaluation confirmed:
    - Perceived conflict of interest with non-profit provider managing system for referrals
    - Lack of clarity between roles of Sonoma County Community Development Commission (SCCDC) and Catholic Charities
    - Desire for a non-conflicted entity to manage and maintain accountability of the system
- Eliminate Potential Conflicts Between Homeless Services Providers
    - Catholic Charities as the CES operator has had to maintain accountability of system referrals, putting the organization in a position of attempting to hold their peers accountable for referral rejections.

CES Operator as Neutral Body

- SCCDC, as the CoC Program CES grant recipient, will assign the operator function of the CES to the Sonoma County ACCESS Initiative

- The ACCESS IMDT will provide operational support as a neutral body with knowledge of the entire system
  - Including non-housing related services necessary for enabling successful sheltering and housing placements.

- SCCDC, ACCESS IMDT, Catholic Charities and IBM are working on a transition plan to develop enhancements to the system and understand the gaps within the current CES Policies & Procedures.

CoC Board Roles & Responsibilities Training

Wednesday, February 3rd from 12:00-2:00pm

OR

Tuesday, February 9 from 10:00am-12:00pm

Next CoC Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 24th from 1:00-400pm

2021 CoC Membership Meetings

March 18, 2021 from 1:00-4:00pm

Proposed Topics – *Best Practices in Serving Victims of Domestic Violence, Local Strategies to End Racial Inequities in Homelessness*

July 15, 2021 from 1:00-4:00pm

Proposed Topic: *Preparing for Continuum of Care Competition*

October 21, 2021 from 1:00-4:00pm

Proposed Topics: *Annual CoC Board Elections,* and *Preparing for the 2022 Homeless Count*

	DRAFT 2/24/21 CoC Board Agenda
1.	Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions
2.	Approve Agenda (ACTION ITEM)
3.	Approve minutes from 1/22 meeting (ACTION ITEM)
4.	Brown Act Training
5.	Approve FY 21-22 Homeless System of Care Funding Policies (ACTION ITEM)
6.	Approve FY 21-22 Homeless System of Care Funding Priorities and Allocations (ACTION ITEM)
7.	Interdepartmental Multi-Disciplinary Team (IMDT) Overview
8.	Designate initial CoC Board Committees (ACTION ITEM)
9.	Review Agenda for March CoC Board Meeting
10.	Approve Agenda for March CoC Quarterly Membership Meeting (ACTION ITEM)
11.	Staff Report
12.	Board Member Questions & Comments
13.	Public Comment

Staff Report

Board Member Questions & Comments

Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items

- When it's your turn to speak during public comment, staff will unmute you, but you may also need to unmute yourself. If you are calling in, you will need to press *9 to raise your hand to be unmuted.
- If you are having technical difficulties or would like to email your public comment, please email Karissa.White@sonoma-county.org

Next Regular CoC Board Meeting
February 24, 2021 from 1-4pm