

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
THE ORANGE COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE,  
THE COUNTY OF ORANGE,  
THE CITY OF ANAHEIM,  
THE CITY OF IRVINE,  
AND THE CITY OF SANTA ANA  
FOR ROUND 5 OF THE HOMELESS HOUSING, ASSISTANCE AND PREVENTION PROGRAM  
COMMITMENT TO PARTNERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION IN A REGIONALLY COORDINATED HOMELESSNESS  
ACTION PLAN**

This Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) is entered into, by and between the County of Orange (County), acting as the Eligible Applicant for the County of Orange and the Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC); the City of Anaheim; the City of Irvine; and the City of Santa Ana. The Orange County Continuum of Care, County of Orange, City of Anaheim, City of Irvine, and City of Santa Ana may be referred to individually as “Party” and collectively as “Parties.”

**RECITALS**

**WHEREAS**, on September 29, 2023, the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) announced the availability of the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 5 (HHAP-5) grant funding.

**WHEREAS**, the general purpose of the Program is to create and implement a Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan that organizes and deploys the full array of homelessness programs and resources comprehensively and effectively.

**WHEREAS**, the Cal ICH Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) identifies the Orange County CoC, the County of Orange, the City of Anaheim, the City of Irvine, and the City of Santa Ana as eligible applicants for the HHAP-5 grant funding. Cal ICH requires eligible applicants to apply jointly as part of a “region”. “Region” is further defined in the NOFA as the geographic area served by the county including all cities and CoCs within it.

**WHEREAS**, the HHAP-5 grant funding requires the submission of a Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan, amongst other documents, including this MOU.

**WHEREAS**, by entering into this MOU, the Parties intend to participate in and comply with the Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan and commit to uphold, participate in, and comply with the actions, roles, and responsibilities of each Party as described in the HHAP-5 Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan and summarized below.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Parties mutually agree as follows:

**ARTICLE I**

The Parties acknowledge and hereby commit to participate and comply with the actions, roles and responsibilities of the Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan, which is incorporated by reference herein and made as part of this MOU as **Attachment I**. The Parties agreement and commitments

to the Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan are summarized below and shall constitute the entire MOU between the Parties.

1. The roles and responsibilities of each Party within the Orange County region, as specified in section 2.1 in **Attachment I**, for outreach and site coordination, siting and use of available public land, the development and of interim and permanent housing options, and coordinating, connecting, and delivering services to individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of experiencing homelessness within the Orange County are summarized below:
  - a. Outreach and Site Coordination
    - i. The Orange County CoC will invest and expand outreach and coordination services for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness with the goal of connecting them to emergency shelter, housing, and/or other supportive services.
    - ii. The County will continue to fund regional care coordination services, which provides targeted street outreach and engagement strategies for individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness and will continue to facilitate discussions on how to best improve coordination amongst the County, cities and community-based organizations to strengthen regional capacity and collaboration in the delivery of services.
    - iii. The City of Anaheim will fund a new collaborative court outreach partner to bring relevant outreach services to the community.
    - iv. The City of Irvine will provide street outreach and connection to services for individuals experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness within their jurisdiction.
    - v. The City of Santa Ana will provide outreach and engagement services to individuals experiencing homelessness and will exit homeless individuals from the streets by linking persons to shelter and housing within their jurisdiction.
  - b. Land Use and Development
    - i. The Orange County CoC has no direct role or responsibility as it relates to land use and development; however, the Orange County CoC will continue to work collaboratively to support the Parties in fulfilling their land use and development roles and responsibilities.
    - ii. The County will continue to identify available land and support development opportunities with the County jurisdiction and support the County's Housing Funding Strategy, which prioritizes the development of permanent supportive housing and affordable housing for people experiencing homelessness.
    - iii. The City of Anaheim will identify available areas and projects for development opportunities and build partnerships with third party developers that streamline or improve development projects and timelines.
    - iv. The City of Irvine will acquire land within the city limits for development of a 50-bed bridge housing facility.
    - v. The City of Santa Ana will assess available land in the city to determine how this land can be used to provide transitional and/or permanent housing to those who are housing insecure or literally homeless.
  - c. Development of Interim and Permanent Housing Options

- i. The Orange County CoC will continue to work collaboratively with the Parties to support them in the development of interim and permanent housing options and invest in services for people experiencing an at-risk of experiencing homelessness that provide interim and permanent housing options.
- ii. The County will continue to invest in services for people experiencing or at-risk of experiencing homelessness that provide interim and permanent housing options.
- iii. The City of Anaheim will continue to work collaboratively with the Anaheim Housing Authority to maximize opportunities to increase the stock of affordable housing opportunities for persons exiting homeless, as appropriate; and increase focus on securing available grant funding for interim and permanent housing options.
- iv. The City of Irvine will acquire land within the city limits for development of a 50-bed bridge housing facility.
- v. The City of Santa Ana will continue to work closely with agencies that currently provide interim and permanent housing options to the homeless. These agencies include, but are not limited to, the Santa Ana Housing Authority and Housing Division, which offer vouchers for both tenant-based and project-based opportunities.

#### Coordination of and Connection to Service Delivery

- vi. The Orange County CoC will continue to strengthen collaboration with Service Providers and stakeholders, including those with lived experience, transitional aged youth, and veterans and emphasize the utilization of the Homeless Management Information System and the expansion of the Coordinated Entry System to support coordination practices that improve the delivery of services.
  - vii. The County will continue to invest in services for people experiencing or at-risk of experiencing homelessness, including regional street outreach and engagement coordination, homelessness diversion and prevention strategies and programming, interim and permanent housing solutions.
  - viii. The City of Anaheim will improve and expand on network of homeless services in the city and foster partnerships with other mainstream systems to increase availability of services available to people experiencing homelessness.
  - ix. The City of Irvine will provide street outreach and connection to services that will include housing navigation, housing deposits, housing sustainability and tenancy services.
  - x. The City of Santa Ana will continue to work with service providers that deliver housing navigation services and resources to those who are housing insecure. Furthermore, we will assess service gaps and barriers within existing programs to improve assistance for those experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.
2. The Parties' roles and responsibilities for Key Actions, as specified in Section 2.2 in **Attachment I**, to improve the system performance measures are described below:
- a. Number of people accessing services who are experiencing homelessness.
    - i. Parties will work to increase permanent housing solutions that assist people transitioning from homelessness into permanent housing.

- ii. Parties will work to invest in homelessness diversion and prevention strategies.
    - iii. Parties will work to emphasize utilization of Homeless Management information System across homelessness interventions, where applicable.
  - b. Racial and ethnic disparities among those accessing services who are experiencing homelessness.
    - i. Parties will work to ensure that outreach materials and diversion strategies are inclusive, culturally sensitive and tailored to the unique needs and challenges faced by the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities.
    - ii. Parties will work to build staff capacity and provide additional training on anti-racism, implicit bias, LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questions and more) allyship, and cultural humility to work to prevent discrimination and bias.
    - iii. Parties will work towards developing a homelessness response system that reduces the growing number of individuals and families, who identify as BIPOC, and are experiencing homelessness.
    - iv. Parties will work to develop a plan for integrating diverse partners with lived experience into decision-making processes and ensure authentic engagement including compensation and support as needed.
  - c. Number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness on a single night.
    - i. Parties will work to continue to invest in street outreach and engagement strategies, including regional care coordination services and partnership with specialized outreach teams.
    - ii. Parties will work to continue to invest in the critical infrastructure of emergency shelters and their operations.
  - d. Racial and ethnic disparities among those experiencing unsheltered homelessness on a single night.
    - i. Parties will work to hire frontline staff who are representative of the community.
    - ii. Parties will work to develop a community-wide system that is responsive to the unique circumstances and needs of those facing homelessness, rooted in racial and social justice, and free of bias and discrimination throughout outreach, assessment, prioritization, matching, and placement process.
  - e. Number of people accessing services who are experiencing homelessness for the first time.
    - i. Parties will work to invest in homelessness diversion and prevention strategies and programming.
  - f. Racial and ethnic disparities in the number of people accessing services who are experiencing homelessness for the first time.
    - i. Parties will work to ensure that outreach materials and diversion strategies are inclusive, culturally sensitive, and tailored to the unique needs and challenges faced by the BIPOC community.
    - ii. Parties will work towards developing a homelessness response system that reduces the growing number of individuals & families, who identify as BIPOC, and are experiencing homelessness.
  - g. Number of people exiting homelessness into permanent housing.

- i. Parties will work to continue to fund programming and solutions that assist individuals and families experiencing homelessness with becoming permanently and stably housed, including rapid rehousing programs for individuals and transitional aged youth.
  - h. Racial and ethnic disparities in the number of people exiting homelessness into permanent housing.
    - i. Parties will work to develop a community-wide system that is responsive to the unique circumstances and needs of those facing homelessness, rooted in racial and social justice, and free of bias and discrimination throughout outreach, assessment, prioritization, matching, and placement process.
    - ii. Parties will work to support landlord engagement to mitigate gender, specifically those who identify as LGBTQ+ and racial bias and develop more affordable housing opportunities.
  - i. Average length of time that people experienced homelessness while accessing services.
    - i. Parties will work to continue and expand Rapid Rehousing programs for individuals and transitional aged youth.
    - ii. Parties will work to improve upon current strategies to decrease average length of time that persons are enrolled in street outreach, emergency shelter, transitional housing and time prior to move-in for persons enrolled in RRH and permanent housing programs by ensuring the approach follows housing first and is client-centered.
  - j. Racial and ethnic disparities in the average length of time that people experienced homelessness while accessing services.
    - i. Parties will work with the Cal ICH Tribal Technical Assistance Team on strategies.
    - ii. Parties will work to develop a community-wide system that is responsive to the unique circumstances and needs of those facing homelessness, rooted in racial and social justice, and free of bias and discrimination throughout outreach, assessment, prioritization, matching, and placement process.
  - k. Percent of people who return to homelessness within six (6) months of exiting the homelessness response system to permanent housing.
    - i. Parties will work to focus on housing stabilization practices during program enrollment prior to program exit.
    - ii. Parties will work to assist participants in becoming reintegrated into their community so they may access support services as needed.
  - l. Racial and ethnic disparities in the percent of people who return to homelessness within six (6) months of exiting the homelessness response system to permanent housing.
    - i. Parties will work to ensure housing stability practices are inclusive, culturally sensitive, and tailored to the unique needs and challenges faced by the BIPOC community.
    - ii. Parties will work to build staff capacity and provide additional training on anti-racism, implicit bias, LGBTQ+ allyship, and cultural humility to work to prevent discrimination and bias.
  - m. Number of people with successful placements from street outreach projects.



to jails, prisons, hospitals, and any other institutions such as foster care, behavioral health facilities, etc. as applicable in Orange County region and are summarized below:

- a. Reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness upon exiting a jail.
  - i. The Orange County CoC will work to engage key partners as part of the Coordinated Entry System to ensure that people experiencing homelessness have access to available permanent housing resources prior to exiting jail.
  - ii. The County will work to continue to invest in OC CARES, a countywide initiative that links behavioral health, community corrections, healthcare, housing, and benefits and support services to provide full care coordination and services for justice-involved individuals to successfully reenter society and work towards self-sufficiency.
  - iii. The County will work to provide system-wide care coordination and services for justice-involved individuals and transitional aged youth to successfully reenter society through a focus on prevention and intervention.
  - iv. The County will work to continue to support individuals exiting jail who are connected to the Care Plus Program which offers enhanced care coordination for individuals experiencing homeless in Orange County who are the most vulnerable and “high utilizers” touching multiple programs across the System of Care.
  - v. The City of Anaheim will work to invest in building out Anaheim Collaborative Court – Evaluating Strategies & Solutions (ACCESS) program to ensure individuals experiencing homelessness in City and County jail system are given opportunity to engage in wellness and housing plans in lieu of incarceration.
  - vi. The City of Irvine and the County will work to provide a system that offers a range of services under the CalAIM program including Housing Navigation; Housing Deposits and offering financial aid for securing housing; Housing Sustainability and Tenancy Services, focusing on long-term support for individuals already housed; and Day Habilitation Services for life skills development and Enhanced Care Management for a comprehensive approach to the care of complex members.
  - vii. The City of Santa Ana will work to continue the Jail Release Program that provides outreach and resources to individuals both upon entrance and exiting from the Santa Ana Jail.
- b. Reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness upon exiting a prison.
  - i. The Orange County CoC will work to engage key partners as part of the Coordinated Entry System to ensure that people experiencing homelessness have access to available permanent housing resources prior to exiting prison.
  - ii. The County will work to continue to invest in OC CARES, a countywide initiative that links behavioral health, community corrections, healthcare, housing, and benefits and support services to provide full care coordination and services for justice-involved individuals to successfully reenter society and work towards self-sufficiency.
  - iii. The County will work to provide a system that offers a range of services under the CalAIM program including Housing Navigation; Housing Deposits and offering

- financial aid for securing housing; and Housing Sustainability and Tenancy Services, focusing on long-term support for individuals already housed.
- iv. The County will work to provide system-wide care coordination and services for justice-involved individuals and transitional aged youth to successfully reenter society through a focus on prevention and intervention.
  - v. The City of Anaheim will work to invest in building out Anaheim Collaborative Court – Evaluating Strategies & Solutions (ACCESS) program to ensure individuals experiencing homelessness in City and County jail system are given opportunity to engage in wellness and housing plans to break cyclical returns to homelessness and jail.
  - vi. The City of Irvine will work to provide Short Term Post Hospitalization, Housing Navigation services, Housing Deposits, Housing Sustainability and Tenancy services, and Day Habilitation services.
- c. Reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness upon exiting a hospital.
- i. The Orange County CoC will work to engage hospitals and key partners as part of the Coordinated Entry System to ensure that people experiencing homelessness have access to available permanent housing resources prior to exiting a hospital.
  - ii. The County will work to foster partnerships with hospitals to reduce discharges into unsheltered homelessness and instead coordinating discharges into interim housing options, as well as working to obtain documentation of disabling condition as part of chronically homeless verification to support permanent placements through the Coordinated Entry System.
  - iii. The City of Anaheim will work to foster partnerships with Anaheim Fire Department, homeless outreach teams, and hospitals to reduce discharges into homelessness by increasing presence of outreach and social services team at hospital emergency rooms.
  - iv. The City of Santa Ana Police Department, along with Outreach and Engagement will continue to partner with local hospitals to provide training to address discharges.
- d. Reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness upon exiting other institutional settings.
- i. The County will continue to partner with the Orange County Housing Authority to fund Foster Youth to Independence Housing Choice Vouchers and Case Management/Independent Skills training and receive referrals from the OC Social Services Agency.
  - ii. The County will work to make referrals and linkages to appropriate residential treatment facilities for individuals who have severe and persistent mental illness and were experiencing homelessness.
  - iii. The County will work to provide a system that offers a range of services under the CalAIM program including Housing Deposits and offering financial aid for securing housing; Housing Navigation; and Housing Sustainability and Tenancy Services, focusing on long-term support for individuals already housed.



- iv. The City of Irvine will work to support short term post hospitalization services and enhanced care management intended to provide whole-person approach to care while addressing non-clinical needs of complex members.
  - v. The City of Santa Ana will continue to partner with the Santa Ana Housing Authority to fund Foster Youth to Independence Housing Choice Vouchers and Case Management/Independent Skills training.
- 5. The Parties' roles and responsibilities for Key Actions, as specified in Section 2.5 in Attachment I, in the utilization of local, state, and federal funding programs to end homelessness are summarized below:
  - a. For local, state and federal funding sources, the Parties shall lead the utilization of local, state and federal funding for each of their respective jurisdictions.
- 6. The Parties' roles and responsibilities for Key Actions as specified in Section 2.6 in Attachment I, to connect individuals to wrap-around services from all eligible federal, state, and local benefit programs are summarized below:
  - a. CalWORKs
    - i. The County's Social Services Agency deploys their teams into the field, including shelters and community events, to complete application processes and award the benefit, and coordinates with street outreach teams and homeless service providers to support people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in connecting to CalWORKs.
    - ii. The City of Anaheim Workforce Development Division will work to increase referrals to Anaheim Jobs One-Stop Center which includes a CalWORKs liaison.
  - b. CalFresh
    - i. The County's Social Services Agency deploys their teams into the field, including shelters and community events, to complete application processes and award the benefit, and coordinates with street outreach teams and homeless service providers to support people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in connecting to CalWORKs.
  - c. Supplemental Security Income/State Supplemental Program (SSI/SSP) and disability benefits advocacy
    - i. The County's Regional Care Coordination contracts have been implemented, providing comprehensive case management and disability benefit application assistance and advocacy. Contracts utilize Housing and Disability Advocacy Program funding, and staff are SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) trained.
  - d. In-Home Supportive Services
    - i. The County's Social Services Agency works with contracted homeless service providers to connect program participants to services if eligible.
    - ii. The City of Anaheim will work to increase partnerships with housing stability supportive services providers to promote housing retention and integration.
  - e. Adult Protective Services
    - i. The Santa Ana Family Justice Center (SAFJC) is a partnership between the Santa Ana Police Department and 17 social services organizations to provide a "one stop

- shop” where survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, human trafficking and elder abuse can receive the assistance and support they need.
- ii. The County’s Social Service Agency operates the Home Safe program to prevent or address homelessness to support the safety and housing stability of individuals involved in Adult Protective Services.
  - iii. The City of Irvine and the County will work to support Adult Protective Services, which provide resource connection, and in limited situations, case management and housing support when they receive reports. APS responses vary depending on specific client situation and assistance to the client is voluntary.
- f. Child Welfare
- i. The County’s Social Service Agency services designed to protect children from abuse and neglect and provides services to at risk families. The County’s Social Service Agency works with community partners work to strengthen and stabilize families to create an environment where children are free from abuse in permanent, nurturing homes.
  - ii. The Santa Ana Family Justice Center (SAFJC) is a partnership between the Santa Ana Police Department and 17 social services organizations to provide a “one stop shop” where survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, human trafficking and elder abuse can receive the assistance and support they need. SSA Children and Family Services Division works in conjunction with community partners to provide stabilizing resources for families and provides services that are designed to protect children from abuse and neglect.
- g. Childcare
- i. The County’s Social Service Agency operates the CalWORKs program available to Welfare-to-Work participant or student with Child Care Services. This assistance is paid to a person or organization providing childcare and enables the program participant to accept employment or participate in educational activities.
  - ii. The City of Irvine has a Child Care Coordination Office to support access to childcare and provides scholarships to income-eligible families through the Irvine Child Care Project.
- h. Medi-Cal benefits through Managed Care Plans
- i. The County’s Social Services Agency deploys their teams into the field, including shelters and community events, to complete application processes and award the benefit. Homeless service providers work with program participants to connect them to benefits and connections to CalAIM are made through the Coordinated Entry System to help people get all the community supports that may be helpful in securing housing.
  - ii. The City of Irvine will provide services through CalOptima Health under the CalAIM program and through an MOU and contract with the City of Irvine to connect clients to access and/or enroll in eligible benefit programs including Medi-Cal benefits.
  - iii. The City of Anaheim will utilize the newly formed, Managed Care Plan funded street medicine team to enroll unsheltered individuals for Medi-Cal benefits.

## ARTICLE II

**Term.** This MOU shall become effective June 1, 2024, and shall terminate on June 30, 2028, unless extended in whole or in part by all Parties, as provided in this MOU.

ARTICLE III

**Fiscal.** There shall be no remuneration between the Parties related to the execution and implementation of the terms of this MOU.

ARTICLE IV

**Changes to the MOU.** This MOU may be amended, including amendments that incorporate future HHAP-5 requirements that may be requested by Cal ICH, by mutual written consent of the Parties, hereto. Said amendments shall become effective only when in writing and fully executed by duly authorized officers of the Parties hereto.

ARTICLE V

**Authorized Signatories.** The Parties to this MOU represents that the undersigned individuals executing this MOU on their respective behalf are fully authorized to do so by law or other appropriate instrument and to bind upon said Parties to the obligations set forth herein.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this MOU as of the last date and year written below.

**ORANGE COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE**


By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Shaw  
Chair  
Orange County Continuum of Care

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas Becht  
County of Orange, County Executive Office  
Office of Care Coordination

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved As To Form  
CEO Counsel  
County of Orange, California

By:  \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

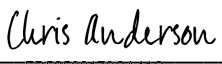
Dated: 5/14/2024

**COUNTY OF ORANGE**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas Becht  
County of Orange, County Executive Office  
Office of Care Coordination

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved As To Form  
CEO Counsel  
County of Orange, California

By:  \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

Dated: 5/14/2024

**CITY OF ANAHEIM**

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
THERESA BASS  
City Clerk

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY OF ANAHEIM**

\_\_\_\_\_  
JAMES VANDERPOOL  
City Manager

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVE AS TO FORM:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
RYAN HODGE  
Deputy City Attorney

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
GRACE RUIZ-STEPTER  
Director  
Dept of Housing and Community Development

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY OF IRVINE**

**CITY OF IRVINE,**  
a California municipal corporation

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Oliver C. Chi, City Manager

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**  
RUTAN & TUCKER, LLP

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffrey T. Melching, City Attorney

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carl Petersen, City Clerk

**CITY OF SANTA ANA**


**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
JENNIFER L. HALL  
City Clerk

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

**SONIA R. CARVALHO**  
City Attorney

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrea Garcia-Miller  
Assistant City Attorney

**CITY OF SANTA ANA**

\_\_\_\_\_  
ALVARO NUNEZ  
Acting City Manager

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
MICHAEL GARCIA  
Executive Director  
Community Development Agency