Information from Orange County homeless care coordinator Susan Price on Monday, April 3, 2017:

Background

- California’s total population accounts for 12% of the nations.
- 2015 PIT revealed California accounts for a disproportionate 21% of nation’s homeless population.
- Orange County had 5th highest Homeless population in 2015 PIT; homeless population only accounts for 0.14% of total population in Orange County

Continuum of Care

- FY2015 Awards - Lost 274 Transitional Housing beds and gained 207 permanent housing beds for chronically homeless. The County of Orange Continuum of Care was awarded $22,025,895 in total. This represents a difference of $1,027,174 from the application amount, but an increase of $2,499,883 from the 2014 awards.
- FY2016 Award - The Orange County Continuum of Care was awarded $22,354,847 in total funding to renew critical housing resources for existing homeless housing and services countywide for individuals and families who are homeless. All projects in Tier 1 and Tier 2 were funded. The Continuum of Care award funds 38 renewal projects, new expansion of the HMIS grant, and a planning grant in Orange County supporting the work of 13 agencies in our community. The Orange County CoC gains the HMIS expansion grant and a larger planning grant than received in 2015 competition.

Point In Time Counts - [link](http://www.211oc.org/reports/point-in-time.html)

- 2013 – 1,678 unsheltered, 1,678 sheltered – 4,251 total
- 2015 – 2,201 unsheltered, 2,251 sheltered – 2,252 total
- 2017 – count was completed on Saturday, January 28, 2017. Expect to have results by May

Shelters

- Opened in 2016
  - Theriault House - [link](http://www.homeaidoc.org/development/theriault-house)
  - FAMily Shelter - [link](http://www.homeaidoc.org/development/family-assistance-ministries)
  - The Courtyard – 400 beds
  - The Salvation Army Hospitality House (increased capacity)
- To be open in 2017
  - HomeAid Orange County Family Care Center - [link](http://www.homeaidoc.org/development/carecenter)
    - First new facility in OC developed under the provision’s of California landmark Senate Bill 2 (2008), which requires cities to modify their General Plan Housing Element to encourage “housing with minimal supportive services” for people in need. [link](http://www.homeaidoc.org/ assets/pdf/FamilyCareCenter.pdf)
  - Kraemer Center

Santa Ana Civic Center – Homeless Survey Conducted by OC Health Care Agency

- August 2015 – 406 individuals
- August 2016 – 461 individuals
October 5, 2016 – The Courtyard Opened
November 2016 – 192 individuals
January 2017 – 138 individuals

Best Practices

Public Defender - Collaborative Courts

• In 2015, saved 5,501 jail and prison bed days prior to application of custody credits à Resulting in a cost savings of $751,327
• Since inception, saved more than $8759,000 in jail and prison bed costs.
• Case load at the end of the year numbered 430 participants
• 254 people completed the program with more than 2,000 hours of community service

Social Services Agency – Mobile Resource Vehicle

• Linkages to mainstream benefits facilitated by same day services at The Courtyard.
• Presented three times at CalNew Conference

SOAR (working towards implementing)

• November 2016 – submitted Letter of Intent to SAMSHA opportunity for SOAR Technical Assistance Project
• December 7, 2016 – Submitted application
• December 21, 2016 – received notice of selection
• January 2017 – planning for next Steps
• County departments that will be implementing OCCR (lead), SSA, CSS, HCA, and OCPD.
• Expected benefits:
  ○ 88% of participants who apply using SOAR are approved on the initial application, as opposed to 37%.
  ○ Average for approvals is 62 days, as opposed to 9 to 12 months or longer.
  ○ Receiving the SOAR Technical Assistance will enhance service integration and coordination across County departments thus enhancing resource capacity across the system for the eligible adults who are experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness and have a mental illness, medical impairment, and/or co-occurring substance use disorder.

- Board of Supervisors Actions

Veteran Housing Project

• 4/26/2016 - Board of Supervisors approved the Option Agreement that will allow Mercy Housing to obtain project financing and entitlements to execute a lease with the OC Flood Control District to develop housing and services for 49 homeless and/or disabled United States Veterans.

• 1/24/2017 - Adopt resolution making certain findings related to leasing of Orange County Flood Control District property; approve lease agreement with Mercy Housing for lease of Orange County Flood Control District owned property, Placentia ($3,000,000), 57-year term with option to extend term for up to 18 additional years; and authorize Chief Real Estate Officer or designee to execute agreement, all related documents and minor modifications under certain conditions
The Courtyard

- 9/6/2016 - Board of Supervisors to discuss future uses of the Santa Ana Transit Terminal and provide direction to Staff. Santa Ana Transit Terminal to be used as a Transitional Homeless Shelter for Homeless and to be set up and running within 30 days.
- 9/27/2016 - Board of Supervisors to approve sole source agreement with Kingdom Causes dba City Net and The Midnight Mission for implementation of shelter services at the Santa Ana Transit Terminal
- 10/5/2016 - Opened at 11:00am for Lunch.
- 83 stayed the first night of safe sleep
- 469 stayed on 1/21/2017 – highest safe sleep number

Safe Food Handling

- 10/25/2016 - Supervisor Do - Waive health permit fee and expand food safety and handing education seminars for non-profit organizations conducting charitable service by preparing food for individuals that are homeless at Courtyard Transitional Homeless Center in accordance with Government Code Section 26227; and make related findings
- Ongoing trainings set up by the HCA

Armories – Cold Weather Shelter

- 11/8/2016 - Approve use of up to $375,000 in previously approved Year-Round Emergency Shelter operation funds to allow the Armory Emergency Shelters to remain open for 51 additional days in FY 2016-17

Kraemer

- 12/13/2016 - Approve operator agreement and lease with Mercy House Living Centers and authorize staff to proceed with multi-phase the construction and complete a Phase I with limited scope including addressing, at minimum, health and safety building code requirements to provide reduced scope and capacity sheltering. Shelter to open 4 to 6 months

Restaurant Means Program

- 12/13/2016 - Approval of Authorization for the Social Services Agency to implement the CalFresh Restaurant Meals Program is the first step in the development and implementation of the program, enabling homeless, disabled and elderly CalFresh recipients to purchase meals at participating restaurants with their CalFresh benefits.
  - RMP increases food access for those who do not have a place to store or cook food, may not be able to prepare food or lack access to a grocery store. RMP eligibility is restricted to CalFresh recipients that are determined to be elderly, homeless or disabled. It is estimated, 19,000 (17%) of Orange County CalFresh recipients may be eligible to participate in RMP.
  - Project timeline for RMP implementation is nine months to one year.

OCHA MOU

- Approve and authorize the Executive Director of Orange County Housing Authority or designee to execute the non-financial Memorandum of Understanding between Orange County Housing Authority and individual, coordinated entry outreach teams effective upon execution to outline the implementation, administration and
operation of the Homeless Admissions Preference as permitted under Orange County Housing Authority’s Administrative Plan in the form of Attachment C.

Crisis Stabilization Beds

On Tuesday, February 24, 2017, the Orange County Board of Supervisors approved the agreement for crisis stabilization services with Exodus Recovery, Inc., for the period of July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2020. The crisis stabilization services are designed to serve as a viable option for persons in psychiatric crisis. Services include: psychiatric assessment, physical screening, medication services, collateral history, therapy, crisis intervention, education, nursing assessment, coordination of referrals to continuing care and emergency housing, discharge planning and facilitation of transfer of clients to inpatient treatment facilities when clinically appropriate and indicated.

The target population is youth ages 13 and above and adults who are experiencing a psychiatric emergency, cannot wait for a regularly scheduled appointment and are at risk for hospitalization or out of home placement. The crisis stabilization unit (CSU) will provide services to all persons meeting criteria who arrive on a walk-in basis, by police-drop off and emergency department referral. The CSU will operate on a 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week basis. As a designated outpatient facility, the CSU may evaluate and treat clients for no longer than 23 hours and 59 minutes.

Services will be provided in a facility in the City of Garden Grove that will have a separate entrance, as well as waiting and treatment areas for youth apart from the adult client population.

- In the Works

Improving Regional System Coordination

- ACC-OC (Association of California Cities – orange County) Homeless Task Force is scheduling three sessions to meet with stakeholders in each of the proposed Service Planning Areas, as proposed in Susan’s report.
- Intention of the meeting is to have comprehensive representation of the various stakeholders – city, county, local organizations, nonprofits, etc. – to expand engagement, coordination of opportunities, and leveraging resources locally.
- Start with asset mapping – recognizing what resources are available and how to access them. Next step will be to identify gaps and solutions on how to bridge them.

Stepping Up Initiative – Sherriff

The objectives of the Stepping Up Initiative for Orange County include:

- Determining a standardized definition of mental Illness
- Completing asset mapping for community based outreach, services and treatment
- Integrating corrections, mental health and community-based resources
- Integrating with the Collaborative Courts model for diversion
- Expanding outpatient services and intensive care treatment services
- Improving data collection and analysis

Whole Person Care Act Initiative – Health Care Agency

- As submitted in application, during calendar year 2015, there were 11,488 individuals who identified as homeless. Of those:
  - 51.5% - 5,918 visited the ER
• 17.7% - 1,049 had two or more ER visits within a rolling three-month period
  • 844 had a substance use diagnosis (SUD)
  • 587 had mental health conditions
  • 1,457 had chronic medical conditions.
• Purpose: to help with discharge planning with hospitals, target resources to improve housing navigation
  • Opportunity to integrate medical records with homeless management information system

March 14, 207 – Board of Supervisors approved second Round Whole Person care Pilot.