Continuum of Care (CoC) Defined

As authorized by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), each Continuum of Care (CoC) is established by representatives of relevant organizations within a geographic area to carry out the responsibilities set forth in the CoC Program Interim Rule.

The CoC Program is designed to promote a community wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness, promoting access to homeless services, and optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness. **(24 CFR part 578)**

CoC Organizational Structure

CoC Governance Board

- Regional and Sector Representation
- Includes at least one person with lived experience
- Planning Responsibilities
- Grant Funding Accountability
- Data Driven Decision Making
- Accountable for following Governance Charter

Collaborative Applicant

- Administer Grant Funding and Subrecipient Contracts
- Services Coordination and Strategic Planning
- Oversee Program Efficiency and Effectiveness
- Ensure HMIS and CES Meet HUD Standards
- Manage Advisory Committees

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Coordinated Entry System (CES)

- Connect with housing and supportive services
- Data Collection and Reporting
- Comply with HUD Standards
- Coordinate, Navigate, Assess
- Ensure access points
- Prioritize for housing and services

CoC Governance Board Responsibilities

CoC Planning

- Coordinating the implementation of the housing and services system
- Planning for the annual Point In Time Homeless Count
- Take action on the annual gaps analysis
- Provide information for the Countywide Consolidated Plan
- Consult with local government for allocating CoC grant funding and evaluate performance

CoC Oversight

- Hold community meetings at least semiannually (VC CoC Alliance)
- Invite new membership
- Maintain CoC Governance Charter
- Establish performance targets and evaluate outcomes
- Maintain written standards for programs (policies and procedures)
- Convene committees and advisory groups to align with goals

HMIS and CES Compliance

- Designate Lead Agency
- Review and approve polices and procedures, including data quality
- Ensure consistent participation of recipients and subrecipients in HMIS
- Follow state and federal rules for HMIS projects and reporting
- Oversee HMIS and CES compliance with HUD regulations

Current Ventura County CoC Board Members

Dawn Dyer
Dyer Sheehan Group
Chair of the Board

Manuel Minjares
City of Fillmore
Vice Chair of the Board

Paul Drevenstedt
Ventura County Public
Defender's Office

Jack Edelstein
Community Advocate

Juliana Gallardo
People's Self-Help Housing

Stefany Gonzalez
Veteran Affairs
Lived Expertise

Ingrid Hardy
City of Thousand Oaks

Dr. Sevet Johnson
County Executive Officer
County of Ventura

Jeffrey Lambert
Ventura Housing Authority

Mara Malch
VC Community College District

Pauline Preciado
Gold Coast Health Plan

Carrie Sabatini
Area Housing Authority of
Ventura County

Michael Skinner
Oxnard Housing Department

As of January 2026, adding:
3 elected official seats
3 law enforcement representatives

Welcome New VC CoC Board Members

Elected Official Seats

Ventura County Supervisor Seat
Supervisor Vianey Lopez
Proxy Supervisor Matt LaVere

City of Thousand Oaks Elected Seat
City Councilmember Tie Gutierrez
Proxy Pending

City of Oxnard Elected Seat
Council Item on 2/17/2026
Proxy Pending

Law Enforcement Agency Seats

Ventura County Sheriff's Office Seat
Captain John Hajducko
Proxy Undersheriff John Reilly

City of Ventura LEA Seat
Commander Edward Caliento
Proxy Sergeant Eric Vazquez

City of Simi Valley LEA Seat
Commander Daniel Frates
Proxy Commander Bryan Samples

CoC Alliance

Community membership with representation from the entire geographic area served by the CoC. Our Ventura County CoC Alliance has 320 members from business, education, public housing, healthcare, nonprofit organizations, government, affordable housing, criminal justice, behavioral health, victim service providers, law enforcement, veterans, youth, and people with lived experience in homelessness.

Ventura County CoC Grants

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)	- Federal grant passed through the State Department of Housing & Community Development (HCD) - City of Oxnard receives a direct ESG allocation based on population size and documented need. - Minimum of 40% for Rapid Rehousing (RRH) for homeless households to move into permanent housing. - Other eligible activities include emergency shelters, street outreach, homelessness prevention, & HMIS. - HMIS data reported quarterly to the State and annually to HUD.
Homeless Housing, Assistance & Prevention (HHAP) Grant Program	- State grant funded through real estate taxes that prioritizes housing solutions to end homelessness. - Eligible activities include permanent housing (PH/RRH), homelessness prevention, interim housing, street outreach, services coordination, systems support, and a minimum of 10% youth set-aside. - State System Performance Measures (SPMs) are tracked in the Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS) with metrics to help regions assess progress towards preventing, reducing, and ending homelessness.
HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Grant Program	- Federal grant promotes the goal of ending homelessness under the direction of the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11381-11389) with data reported to HUD annually. - Program components include permanent housing (PSH/RRH), transitional housing, supportive service only, coordinated entry, safe havens, HMIS, and CoC planning costs. - CFR 578 includes requirements and responsibilities, including HMIS/CES, committees, policies & procedures, governance oversight, system coordination, VAWA compliance, and grants management.

Overview of Program Types
(federal &/or state grant funded)

Homeless Prevention

- Prevents households from becoming homeless and requires documentation to meet the eligibility requirements.
- Re-evaluation of eligibility must occur at least every three months.

Emergency Shelter / Safe Haven

- Shelter projects are intended to provide short-term assistance. The goal is housing in 30 to 90 days with monthly assessments.
- Safe havens serve those with severe mental illness with the goal of permanent housing placement.

Rapid Re-Housing

- Short-term (up to 3-months) or Medium-term (3 to 24-months) rental assistance provided with required documentation.
- May include security deposit and/or utilities payment assistance.

Transitional Housing

- Reserved for persons with high barriers who require longer-term interventions.
- Movement into permanent housing as soon as a stable option is available.

Overview of Program Types - continued (federal &/or state grant funded)

▶ **Permanent Supportive Housing**

- Provides housing to individuals and families who meet the criteria of homelessness.

- Prioritization is based on the Vulnerability Assessment score identified through the HMIS assessment, length of time homeless and severity of service needs.

- Each participant must have a support plan in place and case management includes an annual needs assessment.

▶ **Street Outreach**

- Staff engage unsheltered homeless individuals and families for the purpose of providing immediate support and intervention. The goal is a positive placement in shelter, treatment, etc.

- The Vulnerability Assessment is used to assess for housing and service needs.

- Special populations include homeless youth, victim services, mentally ill and those living with HIV/AIDS.

Coordinated Entry Program Concept

- A Coordinated Entry System (CES) is a system that allows individuals and families to access services needed to move them away or out of a state of homelessness. The VC CoC CES program is called **Pathways to Home**.

- The Pathways to Home program is built on a strategic agreement by all homeless services, housing providers and stakeholders to coordinate services to those clients most in need in the most expedient fashion.

- HUD requires that each CES uses a comprehensive assessment tool to link clients to the appropriate intervention & referral. The VC CoC uses the VAT (Vulnerability Assessment Tool) designed for Ventura County.

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

- HMIS means the information system designated by the Continuum of Care (CoC) to record client-level information, make referrals to services, and complete grants reporting.

- HUD requires HMIS for the CoC program and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program.

- The State of California requires HMIS for the Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) program, Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF), and other homelessness programs (AB-977 State Requirement)

- HMIS Lead Agency means the entity designated by the CoC in accordance with HUD.

- Privacy and confidentiality agreements are required.

Ventura County HMIS
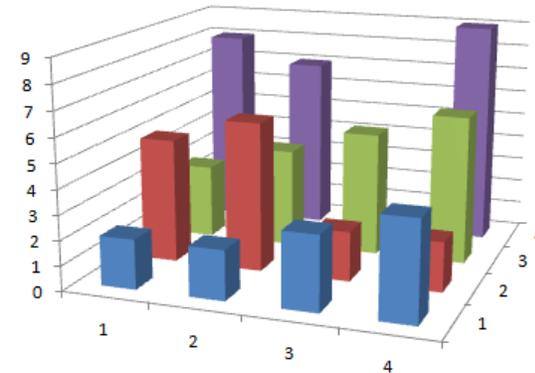
Ventura County Homeless Management Information System

System Performance Measures

- Length of Time Homeless: average and median lengths **(Targets ES/SH 90 days & TH 180 days)**

- Returns to homelessness: after PH placements **(Target less than 5%)**

- Total number of homeless persons: HMIS versus PIT count **(Target to decrease annually)**

- Total number of persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness **(State SPM Target to decrease)**

- Employment and Income Growth for homeless persons: earned and non-earned **(Target to increase)**

- Number of Persons who become homeless for the first time: new HMIS entries **(Target to decrease)**

- Successful Placement in Permanent Housing: includes any successful destination **(Target 85%)**

- Successful Placements from Street Outreach **(State SPM Target to increase)**

Why are the System Performance Measures Important?

▶ Evaluate performance

▶ Identify areas for improvement

▶ Serve clients more effectively

▶ Monitor goals to end homelessness

▶ Focus on collective impact

▶ HUD will use System Performance Data in CoC Program Grant competition

▶ Local determination of funding priorities and recommendations.

Questions?

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