



## Governance Charter & Policy Review Committee August 10, 2021 Addendum

**Item:** Agenda Item 6 CoC Membership Feedback

**Date:** 8/10/2021

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Below is a summary of information collected via the CoC Peersharing group from the Sonoma County Continuum of Care Coordinator Karissa White. The CoC Peersharing group is a group of CoC's that collaborate across the United States and hold regular meetings together to share information and learn from one another.

### CoC Peersharing Group Request:

We are in the process of evaluating our CoC's Membership Requirements in Sonoma County. Currently, we grant membership based on the attendance of the CoC's Board, committees, and quarterly membership meetings. In order to become a voting member in our CoC, one must attend 50% of all CoC Board and committee meetings and at least 50% of our quarterly membership meetings. This is purely attendance based (for individuals, not just organizations), and is quite the challenge to keep up with as our CoC expands. Once membership is granted, that individual has voting rights for the CoC Board elections. This also poses a challenge for potential members who may not be able to attend a majority of our meetings due to their employment schedule.

Can you please provide information as to how your CoC operates in terms of membership?

1. Is there an application process?
2. Is there coc meeting attendance/education requirements?
3. Is membership based on an individual member or an organization? If it is based on an organizational vote, how do those with lived experience participate to become CoC members?

Finally, we are also in the planning stages of setting up a lived experience advisory group for our CoC. If any of you have an advisory body set up with lived experience individuals, are you providing a stipend or gift card for participation? If the answer is yes, what source of funding is used (private/govt etc.).

### CoC Peersharing Group Membership Summary of Responses:

- Membership application process
- Members must attend a certain number of meetings to be members annually and keep "active status"
- Organizations are eligible for Active membership (voting rights) and individuals are eligible for Associate memberships (non-voting)
- Training requirements (e.g. general CoC/CES trainings for membership)
- Code of conduct for folks to sign that are attending CoC meetings, not pertaining to Membership

- Annual open membership application, anyone can enroll by providing the request and their info
- Annual dues for organizations and individual members
- Voting CoC members only for governance related changes, Board of Directors does all other decisions.  
Not as controversial in this area.
- Pay lived experience reps to be on the CoC Board, use of planning grants
- Online applications for CoC membership & stipend application requests for lived experience participation