CITY OF LONG BEACH

Department of Health and Human Services
Homeless Services Bureau
1500 Hughes Way, Ste. C-300, Long Beach, CA 90810 | (562) 570-4500

2025-2026 Long Beach Continuum of Care Board

Candidate Summary

Candidate Information

Name: Valerie Williams

Affiliation (if any): Los Angeles County-Department Mental Health/ServiceArea 8 Administration

Position/Title (if any): Mental Health Services Coordinator I (MHSCI), Housing and Health Neighborhood Liaison

Representative Categories: Disability Advocates, Disability Service Organizations, Domestic Violence Advocates, Homeless or Formerly Homeless Persons, Law Enforcement, "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ+) Advocates", Mental Health Service Organizations, Mental Illness Advocates, "Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous, and other People of Color", Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons, Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities, Other homeless subpopulation advocates, Public Housing Authorities, School Administration/Homeless Liaisons, Street Outreach Team(s), Substance Abuse Advocates, Substance Abuse Service Organizations, Youth Advocates, Youth Homeless Organizations, Youth Service Providers.

Note: The representative categories listed above are self-identified by candidates as part of the application process. The City of Long Beach Homeless Services Bureau (HSB) reviews submissions and verifies qualifications for dedicated seat categories where applicable, while broader categories may reflect a candidate's self-described experience or affiliation.

Board Candidate Questions

As part of the application process, candidates are asked to provide responses to questions on their qualifications, experience and commitment to the board's mission. These responses are reproduced below as submitted.

1. **If selected, describe three areas where you could contribute to the success of the CoC.**

   My strong engagement and outreach skills, my keen attention to detail, and

my collaboration, team-oriented approach. I have experience building relationships across agencies and communities. My attention to detail helps ensure accountability, consistency, and accuracy while my teamwork and collaborative spirit help foster a supportive environment.

2. **Members stay connected to the CoC through meeting attendance, committee work, events, e-mail and other CoC communications. Please describe the time, energy, and resources you can provide to support the work of the CoC.**

   Current position at DMH as Housing and Health Neighborhoods liaison allows me flexibility and opportunity to actively participate in meetings and support community events. The roles closely align with the mission of LAC DMH and goals of the CoC. I can dedicate time to strengthen collaboration and enhance communication.

3. **What qualities do you possess that make you a potentially effective CoC Board Member? Explain your answer in detail.**

   A deep understanding and belief in goals of housing stability, mental health, and community wellness. Demonstrate honesty, confidentiality, accountability, advocacy, and reliability. Ability to look at both short and long-term impacts. Knowledge of the DMH system and policies.

4. **What do you believe are the two most significant challenges when it comes to addressing homelessness? What could the CoC Board do to address these challenges?**

   The lack of adequate resources and the absence of consistent empathy and equity within the systems of care. Sustainable progress requires more than temporary fixes. It demands genuine, practical problem solving, and accountability.