



## Meeting Minutes - Final

### CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

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Tuesday, June 2, 2026

2:00 PM

Virtual Only:

<https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/meeting/register/F4>

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#### Homelessness Awareness Month Committee Work Group

[26-2317](#)

**Attachments:**      [HAM WG 6.2.26](#)

Agenda Items: Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Committee Members: Juno Hedrick ;LeAnn Matthews; Nicole Green; Sherina Criswell; Wayne Earl  
Community: Caroline Mixon, House of Refuge; Eric Cortes, Assemblymember Lori Wilson; Karen Hernandez, Interfaith Coalition of CC; Loren Kadar, City of Antioch; Myisha Steward, City of Antioch  
Staff: Jaime Jenett, Staff

2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes).

None

3.

[26-2318](#)**Attachments:**

[2025\\_10\\_16-HAM-Flyer-Toolkit](#)  
[2025\\_10\\_16-HAM-Flyer-Toolkit-COBID2L001](#)  
[Recognition Categories for 2025](#)  
[Outstanding Partnership Nominees](#)  
[Outstanding Housing Provider Nominees](#)  
[Outstanding Volunteer Nominees](#)  
[Phoenix Rising Nominees](#)  
[HAM Videos](#)  
[2025 HAM resolution FINAL](#)  
[2025 Memorial resolution of support FINAL](#)  
[2025 HAM Posters](#)

Jaime provided an overview of Homelessness Awareness Month, explaining its purpose and historical evolution from a week-long event to a month-long initiative in November. She reviewed past activities from Contra Costa including creating toolkits, conducting recognitions, crafting videos, developing resolutions for elected bodies, organizing panels and forums, hosting receptions, and providing youth-focused training.

**4. Analysis of Effort**

Jaime reviewed past efforts

## 5. Proposed Ideas For 2026

### Video

- Group wants to do video
- Wayne shared that individual success stories videos had been impactful in previous years (like this one: <https://youtu.be/ry8qfXN8HcY>)
- A few members encouraged focusing not just on people who were housed, but also people who may still be unhoused but making progress
- Jaime Notified the group that she has been collecting success stories and we may be able to start with those for both videos and posters. Potentially have committee review those identify a theme and then see if there are gaps and gather more success stories based on the gaps
- Jamie proposed possibly using Powerpoint as the tool to create the video. Can do it as sort of a slide show and add music and potentially even voice over and then export it to Youtube. The group will not have access to CCH communications team this year for this piece.

### Toolkit

- Group agreed that they would like to pursue the toolkit this year.

### Posters

- Group agreed that they would like to pursue posters this year.
- One COH member said the posters were their favorite thing we did last year!
- Jaime proposed using the same people featured in the videos and also pulling all of this from existing success stories
- Next meeting will need to figure out overall theme or message for posters and video

### Recognitions/Awards

- Group agreed that they would like to pursue recognitions again
- Making recognitions more meaningful
  - Extensive discussion about how to make recognitions more meaningful. Last year, particularly for the partnership group, there were so many nominees and so many partners within each nomination that it became very hard to manage the recognition at the event and also the feeling was that it diluted the importance of the recognition.
  - Ideas
    - noting all nominees in all of the printed and published materials but only doing certificates and actual recognitions for the Phoenix Rising category.
    - limiting the categories only to people experiencing homelessness instead of people working/volunteering to support people experiencing homelessness
    - Creating an actual award for one to five nominees instead of recognizing everyone. Group decided this might not be feasible because it would require developing a rubric for how to pick the winners and didn't feel in the spirit of the event to be exclusive.
    - Staff could do campaign with electeds to notify them of their constituents being recognized so they could do their own special recognitions of them to add significance
    - Gget photos of nominees in advance and just have a slide deck with

their photos instead of having the people in person to be recognized.

- Possible edits to categories
  - Remove Housing Provider category
  - Add Youth category
- Outstanding Partner
  - Too many people/agencies were recognized in multiple nominations
- Phoenix Rising
  - Leann raised the issue of people being recognized under Phoenix Rising might have significant challenges getting to an in person recognition event. Suggested incorporating their voice in the event including possibly gathering video clips of them to show at the event in lieu of their physically being there to receive their recognition.
  - Is there a more trauma informed way to recognize People with Lived Experience?
  - Be clear we don't want to only recognize people who have gotten housed. Recognize people at all stages in their journey
- Other
  - Do we consider a broader "Changemaker" category? Could include advocates, agencies, volunteers, PWLE?
  - Question about offering Faith community specific category- noted they get recognized in Partner and Volunteer sections a lot

### **Resolutions of Support**

- Group agreed that they would like to pursue resolutions of support this year

### **Youth Focused Training (11/9)**

- Juno and Jaime to talk with YAB about this

### **Community Forum**

- Group did not reach agreement about whether or not to pursue this. Will discuss more next meeting.
- Last did community forum in 2024: youth focused panel with YAB members
- Jaime to share past agendas with Team Next meeting
- Eric shared experience of forum he experienced in Solano County used to identify needs and policy gaps to inform legislators. Breakout room had a leader, and they collected all the ideas, and when they compared all of them at the end. See common trends between the loopholes or needs that are missing. Heavily attended by electeds.
- Question to answer if we do this: what do we want to accomplish with the forum? Raise awareness? Showcase voices of people with lived experience? Produce something to inform policymakers?

### **Reception (11/17)**

- Group agreed that they would like to pursue this this year. The scheduled date is 11/17
- Ideas for ways to improve reception included:
  - reducing the number of people recognized in the actual meeting because it

- was very crowded
- if we have photo booth again we need to have a more clear instructions for people about how to use it
- noting all nominees in all of the printed and published materials but only doing certificates and actual recognitions for the Phoenix Rising category.
- Shortening the window for submissions
- Improving ways for Phoenix Rising candidates to get there- maybe work with agencies supporting those folks?
- Have a way for Chair/Co-Chair to sign certificates in advance
- Have youth speaker instead of just chair/Vice Chair

### **BOS Presentation (11/17)**

- Group agreed that they would like to pursue this this year. The scheduled date is 11/17

### **Homeless Person's Memorial Event (December)**

- Discussed where to hold event this year
  - 2025 Antioch
  - 2024 Walnut Creek
  - 2023 Martinez

### **6. Partners to Engage**

- Did not identify any specific partners to engage. Group asked to forward invites to people they think will be interested in next meeting when invite comes out.

## 7. Next Steps

### Jaime

- Draft and distribute the work plan for Homelessness Awareness Month planning to all committee members
- Send calendar invite for next meeting on June 30th from 2:00-4:00 to all committee members
- Send success stories to committee members before next meeting for review
- Share past community forum agendas and structures to share at next meeting
- Research possible locations for Homeless Persons Memorial event in Mid County/Concord area
- Reach out to potential anchor agencies for Homeless Persons Memorial event (including SOS Richmond)
- Send out calendar invites to additional partners for planning meetings
- Check with county departments about possible building locations for events

### Attendees

- Review all linked documents and materials from the agenda before next meeting
- Email Jaime with specific comments/feedback on current recognition categories and suggestions for changes
- Consider ideas for making recognition/awards more meaningful and manageable, and be prepared to discuss at next meeting
- Forward next meeting invite to any partners who might want to be involved in planning
- Review work plan when received and come prepared to discuss at next meeting

The next meeting is TBD

### Adjourn

The Committee will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend the Committee meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting. Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Committee less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at \_\_\_\_\_, during normal business hours. Staff reports related to items on the agenda are also accessible online at [www.contracosta.ca.gov](http://www.contracosta.ca.gov). If the Zoom connection malfunctions for any reason, the meeting may be paused while a fix is attempted. If the connection is not reestablished, the committee will continue the meeting in person without remote access. Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

For Additional Information Contact: [contracostacoc@cchealth.org](mailto:contracostacoc@cchealth.org)