

# Resolution Declaring November Homelessness Awareness Month

**WHEREAS**, November is recognized nationally as *Homelessness Awareness Month*, a time to acknowledge the challenges faced by individuals and families experiencing homelessness and to mobilize community-wide efforts toward lasting solutions; and

**WHEREAS**, 14,245 individuals accessed homeless services in Contra Costa County in 2024—an increase of 40% from 2020<sup>1</sup>, underscoring systemic housing challenges;

**WHEREAS**, homelessness in Contra Costa County is driven primarily by the lack of affordable housing, with 30,812 low-income renter households in Contra Costa County not having access to an affordable home in 2024<sup>2</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, renters needing to earn \$43.63 per hour—more than 2.5 times the City of Richmond’s minimum wage—to afford the average monthly rent of \$2,269<sup>3</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2025 in Contra Costa County, there were only 3,787 temporary and permanent housing beds for persons experiencing homelessness, a stark shortfall compared to the scale of need across our communities<sup>4</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, Contra Costa County’s 34% increase in temporary and permanent housing beds<sup>5</sup> over the past two years reflects a sustained commitment to expanding shelter and housing solutions; and

**WHEREAS**, racial disparities persist, with Black/African American/African households and people with Multiple Races were over-represented in the CoC relative to the county population (4x and 3x, respectively) <sup>6</sup>; and

**WHEREAS** 63% of unsheltered people surveyed as part of Contra Costa’s 2025 Point in Time Count experienced being made to move by city workers or law enforcement within the past year<sup>7</sup>; and

**WHEREAS** research shows that criminalizing homelessness worsens the crisis and deepens existing racial inequities<sup>8</sup> and

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<sup>1</sup> 2024 Annual report [do full citation with page #]

<sup>2</sup> **California Housing Partnership**. (2024, May). *Contra Costa County 2024 Affordable Housing Needs Report*. [https://chpc.net/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Contra-Costa\\_Housing\\_Report.pdf](https://chpc.net/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Contra-Costa_Housing_Report.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Contra Costa Health. (2025). *[Contra Costa County 2025 HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME COUNT]* <https://www.cchealth.org/home/showpublisheddocument/32051/638868762849870000>

<sup>5</sup> 2024 Annual report [do full citation with page #]

<sup>6</sup> Ibid, page #

<sup>7</sup> Contra Costa Health. (2025). *[Contra Costa County 2025 HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME COUNT]* <https://www.cchealth.org/home/showpublisheddocument/32051/638868762849870000>

<sup>8</sup> DuBois, N., Herbert, C., & Sowards, E. M. (2025, February). *Criminalizing homelessness worsens the crisis: Research shows*. National Alliance to End Homelessness. [https://endhomelessness.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/CriminalizingWorsensTheCrisis\\_NAEH\\_2-4-25.pdf](https://endhomelessness.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/CriminalizingWorsensTheCrisis_NAEH_2-4-25.pdf)

**WHEREAS**, since 2020, Contra Costa has seen an 79% increase in households with minor children, a 69% increase in seniors aged 65+, and a 53% increase in Transition Aged Youth (ages 18–24) accessing homeless services<sup>9</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, the *Contra Costa Continuum of Care* unites over 50 organizations, jurisdictions, and individuals committed to preventing and ending homelessness through coordinated housing, health, and support services; and

**WHEREAS**, the *Council on Homelessness*, staffed by Contra Costa Health, serves as both an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors and the planning entity for the Continuum of Care, welcoming public engagement and collaboration; and

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED* that the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims November 2025 as *Homelessness Awareness Month* in Contra Costa County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board affirms its commitment to building and sustaining a well-resourced, coordinated, and equity-driven Continuum of Care that meets the complex needs of people experiencing homelessness.

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<sup>9</sup> Ibid, page #