



## AGENDA

### CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

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Thursday, September 4, 2025

1:00 PM

1025 Escobar St., Martinez |  
www.zoom.us | Call-In: 1-669-444-9171 /  
Meeting ID: 838 8249 1530

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Agenda and Slides for 9.4.25 COH Meeting

[25-3454](#)

**Attachments:** [COH Agenda w Time 9.4.25](#)  
[COH Slides 9.4.25](#)

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
2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes).
3. Consent Calendar: APPROVE 9.4.25 Staff Report and 8.7.25 Minutes [25-3451](#)

**Attachments:** [COH Minutes 8.7.25](#)  
[COH Staff Report 9.4.25](#)  
[Council on Homelessness Q2-2025 Report](#)

4. Nominating Committee: (ACTION ITEM) REVIEW and APPROVE revisions to Council member recruitment process and application materials as recommended by Nominating Committee and APPROVE Council Members to serve on the Nominating Panel. [25-3452](#)

**Attachments:** [CoH Supplemental Questions 2025 With Track Changes](#)  
[Nominating Scoring Rubric as of 8.18.25](#)

Jaime Jenett, H3

5. Funding Committee: CoC NOFO Work Group

Mark Mora, Homebase

6. Youth Advisory Board (YAB) Update

Juno Hedrick, Vice Chair  
and Lived Experience  
Advisor and

7. Old Business: Sector Report Outs from Council Members

Juno Hedrick, Vice Chair

8. Old Business: Funding Updates

Shelby Ferguson, H3

9. Learning Corner: SPIRIT Program (Behavioral Health  
Service Provider Individualized Recovery Intensive  
Training)

[25-3453](#)

**Attachments:** [SPIRIT Application 2026](#)

Victoria Fairchild and  
Bianca Berrios, Contra  
Costa Behavioral Health  
Services, Office for  
Consumer Empowerment

10. Announcements

All

The next meeting is currently scheduled for October 2nd at the McMorrow Training Room, 2120 Diamond Blvd, Concord

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 2400 Bisso Lane, D2, Concord 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)



# CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET  
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-3454

**Agenda Date:** 9/4/2025

**Agenda #:**

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Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Subject: Agenda and Slides for 9.4.25 COH Meeting

Presenter:

Contact:

Information:

Referral History and Update:

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):



# CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

## AGENDA

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2025, 1 PM – 3 PM**

**1025 ESCOBAR STREET, MARTINEZ, CA**

For more information about parking and access, go to <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/8368/County-Administration-Building-Access>. While the use of masking is not required, it is recommended. Masks will be available at the meeting.

### MEETING PURPOSE:

The Contra Costa Council on Homelessness, appointed by the Board of Supervisors, provides advice & input on the operations of homeless services, program operations, and program development efforts in Contra Costa County.

### PUBLIC ACCESS AND PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS:

The public may attend this meeting in person at the above location. The public also may attend this meeting remotely via Zoom or call-in. Log-in information and call-in information is provided below.

### HOW TO JOIN THE MEETING VIA ZOOM:

Link to register: <https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZclf-uspzovGdR7op72t5-X4nsGdqdpvL-X>

How to Join the Meeting Via Call-In: 1-669-444-9171 / Meeting ID: 838 8249 1530

TIME	AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER
<b>1:00</b>	<b>1. <u>Call to Order</u></b> - Chair starts the meeting	Juno Hedrick, <i>Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor</i>
<b>1:00</b> 15 min	<b>2. <u>Introductions</u></b> a. Hybrid Meeting Norms (1 min) b. Roll call of Councilmembers and introduction of guests (11 min) c. Poll – Who’s in the room? (3 min)	Juno Hedrick, <i>Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor</i>
<b>1:15</b> 5 min	<b>3. <u>Public Comment</u></b> - Open period for members of the public to comment on items not listed on the agenda.	Members of the public
<b>1:20</b> 5 min	<b>4. <u>Consent Calendar (ACTION ITEM)</u></b> – Items on the consent calendar are generally non-controversial and may not require discussion. Approving the Consent Calendar means approving the items below in one vote. Council members and the public can remove an item from the consent calendar for discussion by informing the Chair. a. APPROVE minutes from the August 7, 2025 Council meeting b. APPROVE staff report for the September 4, 2025 Council meeting	Juno Hedrick, <i>Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor</i>
<b>1:25</b> 30 min	<b>5. <u>Committee Report Outs</u></b> - Report outs from each of the committees below. a. Nominating Committee (15 min) i. <b>(ACTION ITEM)</b> REVIEW and APPROVE revisions to Council member recruitment process and application materials as recommended by the	a. Jaime Jenett, H3 b. Mark Mora, <i>Homebase</i> c. Juno Hedrick, <i>Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor</i>



## CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

	<p>Nominating Committee and APPROVE Council Members to serve on the Nominating Panel</p> <p>b. Funding Committee: CoC NOFO Work Group (5 min)</p> <p>c. Youth Advisory Board (YAB) Update (10 min)</p>	
<p><b>1:55</b> 20 min</p>	<p><b>6. <u>Old Business</u></b></p> <p>a. Sector Report Outs from Council Members (10 min)</p> <p>b. Funding Updates (10 min)</p>	<p>a. Juno Hedrick, <i>Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor</i></p> <p>b. Shelby Ferguson, <i>H3</i></p>
<p><b>2:15</b> 15 min</p>	<p><b>7. <u>New Business</u></b></p> <p>a. Learning Corner: SPIRIT Program (Behavioral Health Service Provider Individualized Recovery Intensive Training) (15 min)</p>	<p>a. Victoria Fairchild and Bianca Berrios, <i>Contra Costa Behavioral Health Services, Office for Consumer Empowerment</i></p>
<p><b>2:30</b> 5 min</p>	<p><b>8. <u>Announcements</u></b> – Open for all to share announcements about upcoming events and to give brief reports about recent events/trainings relevant to the Council.</p>	All
<p><b>2:35</b></p>	<p><b>9. <u>Pin It</u></b></p>	Juno Hedrick, <i>Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor</i>

### HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:

Persons who wish to address the Council on Homelessness during public comment on matters within the jurisdiction of the Council on Homelessness that are not on the agenda, or who wish to comment with respect to an item on the agenda, may comment in person, via Zoom, or via call-in. Those participating in person should stand where they are sitting when called upon. Those participating via Zoom should indicate they wish to speak by using the “raise your hand” feature in the Zoom app. Those calling in should indicate they wish to speak by pushing “9” on the phone. All public comments will be limited to 2 minutes per speaker. For assistance with remote access contact: [contracostacoc@cchealth.org](mailto:contracostacoc@cchealth.org) or call 925-608-6700. Public comments may also be submitted before the meeting by email at [contracostacoc@cchealth.org](mailto:contracostacoc@cchealth.org) or by voicemail at 925-608-6700. Comments submitted by email or voicemail will be included in the record of the meeting but will not be read or played aloud during the meeting.



# CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

## COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
APR	Annual Performance Report (for HUD homeless programs)
CARE	Coordinated Assessment and Resource
CCYCS	Contra Costa Youth Continuum of Services
CDBG, CDBG-CV	Community Development Block Grant (federal and state programs) and the federal Community Development Block Grant CARES Act coronavirus allocation.
CESH	California Emergency Solutions and Housing program (state funding)
Continuum of Care (CoC)	Continuum of Care approach to assistance to the homeless. Federal grant program promoting and funding permanent solutions to homelessness.
Con Plan	Consolidated Plan, a locally developed plan for housing assistance and urban development under CDBG.
CORE	Coordinated Outreach Referral, Engagement program
COVID-19	Coronavirus
DOC	Department Operations Center
EHSD	(Contra Costa County) Employment and Human Services Division
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
ESG and ESG-CV	Emergency Solutions Grant (federal and state program) and the federal Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act coronavirus allocation.
ESG-CV	Emergency Solutions Grant CARES
FMR	Fair Market Rent (maximum rent for Section 8 rental assistance/CoC grants)
HCD	Housing and Community Development (State office)
HEAP	Homeless Emergency Aid Program (State funding)
HEARTH	Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009
HHAP	Homeless Housing and Assistance Program
HMIS	Homeless Management Information System
HOME	Home Investment Partnerships (CPD program)
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (federal)
MHSA	Mental Health Services Act
NOFA	Notice of Funding Availability
PHA	Public Housing Authority
PUI	Persons Under Investigation
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration
SRO	Single-Room Occupancy housing units
SSDI	Social Security Disability Income
SSI	Supplemental Security Income
TA	Technical Assistance
TAY	Transition Age Youth (usually ages 16-24)
VA	Veterans Affairs (U.S. Department of)
VASH	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing
VI-SPDAT	Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool



# CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

## EQUITY DEFINITIONS

*(adapted from C4 Innovations and approved by Council on Homelessness on 8/3/23)*

Term	Definition
<b>Individual Racism</b>	A person's beliefs and actions that serve to perpetuate racial oppression. This can be conscious and unconscious. This may be externalized or internalized
<b>Institutional Racism</b>	Policies and practices at the organization (or "sector") level that perpetuate oppression. It involves unjust policies, practices, procedures, and outcomes that work better for white people than people of color, whether intentional or not.
<b>Interpersonal Racism</b>	The interactions between people - both within and across racial groups.
<b>Microaggressions</b>	Brief, everyday exchanges that send denigrating messages to certain individuals because of their group membership.
<b>Race</b>	A social construct created in the 17th century by white Europeans to justify the enslavement of Africans and the spread of colonialism. Understanding of race as a concept has changed over time, but the outcomes of discrimination based on race remain entrenched in our systems.
<b>Race Equity Lens</b>	A way of viewing the world in an integrated and holistic manner, taking into account past and present racial injustices and seeking to address them through more equitable practices and structures.
<b>Racial Bias</b>	Implicit and/or explicit bias that reinforces discriminatory attitudes and behaviors when interacting with people or situations.
<b>Racial Equity</b>	The condition where one's racial identity does not predict their social, health, or economic outcomes. Racial equity is a process of eliminating racial disparities and improving outcomes for everyone. It is the intentional and continual practice of changing practices, systems, and structures by prioritizing the measurable change in the lives of people of color.
<b>Racism</b>	A system of institutional, systemic oppression, and practices of individuals and society that shape cultural beliefs and values that support racist policies and practices.
<b>Structural Racism</b>	How these effects interact and accumulate across institutions and across history. Structural racism highlights how racism operates as a system of power with multiple interconnected, reinforcing, and self-perpetuating components which result in racial inequities across all indicators for success.
<b>Systemic Racism</b>	infrastructure of rulings, ordinances or statutes adopted by a sovereign government or authoritative entity, whereas such ordinances and statutes entitles one racial group in a society certain rights and privileges, while denying other groups in that society these same rights and privileges because of long-established cultural prejudices, religious prejudices, fears, myths, and Xenophobia's held by the entitled group.
<b>White Fragility</b>	White fragility refers to feelings of discomfort a white person experiences when they witness or engage in discussions around racial inequality and injustice. Their engagement in conversations about racism may trigger a range of defensive actions, feelings, and behaviors, such as anger, fear, and silence. These reactive behaviors reinforce continued white dominant culture.



## COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

September 4, 2025 from 1:00-3:00



# WELCOME

Juno Hedrick, Vice Chair & Lived Experience Advisor

Purpose of the Meeting: These are monthly meetings for the Council on Homelessness (COH) to conduct the business of the Council. The Council is the planning body that coordinates the community's policies, strategies, and activities toward preventing and ending homelessness in Contra Costa County.

# WEBINAR VS. MEETING FORMAT

- Due to Zoom Bombing, the virtual component of COH meetings have moved from Meeting to Webinar format.

## What's Different?

- Participants will join WITHOUT the ability to unmute or be seen on camera
- Host can give participants ability to unmute or be seen on camera as needed

## What's the Same?

- Participants can raise hand
- Participants can share in the chat

# IN-PERSON / HYBRID MEETING

- As of March 1, 2023, all Council on Homelessness Meetings and CoH Committee meetings are required to convene in person or in a hybrid format
- All CoH members must attend in person unless using a “just cause” exemption

### Just Cause

- A need to care for a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner
- A contagious illness that prevents a member from attending in person;
- A need related to a physical or mental disability that is not otherwise accommodated for; or
- Travel while on official business of the body or another state or local agency.

### Emergency Circumstances

- A physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person.

## VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE EXEMPTION

# HYBRID MEETING NORMS

Juno Hedrick, Vice Chair & Lived Experience Advisor

# HYBRID MEETING NORMS

1. Raise your hand (actual or virtual) before speaking
2. Say your name before speaking and try to speak as clearly as you can
3. 2-minute timer for public comments
4. Make and take space – consider your privilege and the other voices who are in and not in the room
5. Minimize distractions like side conversations and cell phone use
6. Maintain a safe and respectful environment, even when disagreeing
7. If in-person meeting is interrupted for an emergency, the meeting will be suspended or cancelled, case-by-case basis.

# HYBRID MEETING NORMS

An individual may be asked to leave should they behave in a manner that threatens the safety of the group or does not honor these meeting norms.

## ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Juno Hedrick, Vice Chair & Lived Experience Advisor



# INTRODUCTIONS

Council Members: Please unmute and share your name, pronouns, seat, and agency (if applicable)

Community Members: Please introduce yourself in the chat.

Purpose of the Meeting: These are monthly meetings for the Council on Homelessness (COH) to conduct the business of the Council. The Council is the planning body that coordinates the community's policies, strategies, and activities toward preventing and ending homelessness in Contra Costa County.

## POLL – WHO'S IN THE ROOM?

- 1) How many Council on Homelessness meetings have you attended?
- 2) Do you have lived experience of homelessness?
- 3) What best describes your racial identity?

# PUBLIC COMMENT

Juno Hedrick, Vice Chair & Lived Experience  
Advisor

# CONSENT CALENDAR

Juno Hedrick, Vice Chair & Lived Experience  
Advisor

# CONSENT CALENDAR

- Items on the consent calendar are generally non-controversial and do not require much, if any, discussion
- Enables grouping such items together and deciding on them at one time
- Council members and the public can remove an item from the consent calendar if they desire to discuss the item by informing the Chair

Source: <https://www.ca-ilg.org/resource/concept-consent-calendar>

# ACTION ITEM

Approve the consent calendar items as listed:

- Approve minutes from the August 7, 2025 Council Meeting
- Approve staff report for the September 4, 2025 Council Meeting



## COMMITTEE REPORT OUTS

Nominating Committee (ACTION ITEM) – Jaime Jenett, H3

Funding Committee: CoC NOFO Work Group – Mark Mora, Homebase

Youth Advisory Board – Juno Hedrick, Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor; Anastasia Lockwood, YAB Facilitator and Member

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE (ACTION ITEM)

Jaime Jenett, H3



# PURPOSE OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- The purpose of the Nominating Committee is to review and recommend improvements to the nominating process for CoH seat appointments that will expire at the end of the 2025 calendar year
  - The nominating process includes recruitment and application materials
- Once recommended changes are approved by the Council and applications are received, the Nominating Panel will review and recommend applicants for seats (in October)

# COH APPLICATION MATERIALS

County Advisory Board Application

Council on Homelessness Supplemental Questions

Scoring Rubric

# RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

## Recommendations:

1

- Make supplemental questions 2 (experience), 4 (understanding of service barriers), 5 (ideas to improve system), and 7 (housing first) more readable and accessible

2

- Improve scoring guidance for supplemental question 4 (understanding of service barriers)

3

- Convert supplemental question 8 (availability for meetings) into a threshold question (not scored)

4

- No longer score 3 county application questions (interest, qualification, and volunteer) but add an “interest” question in supplemental application

# COH RECRUITMENT PROCESS

- August 2025: Refine Application Materials
- September 2025: Recruitment
- October 2025: Nominating Panel Selects Applicants
- November 2025: CoH/FHS Approval
- December 2025: Board of Supervisors Approval
- January 2026: New Council Members Start Term!

# COH OPEN SEATS FOR 2026

Behavioral Health

City Government

CoC/ESG Grantee

Community  
Member

Federal Homeless  
and Housing  
Funding Admin

Employment and  
Human Services  
(EHSD)

Faith Community

Public Housing  
Authority

Public Safety

Reentry Services

Youth

## RECRUITING FOR NOMINATING PANEL

- Purpose: review applications for the Council on Homelessness and make recommendations for vacant seats
- Time Commitment:
  - 12 hours of meetings spread across 3 meetings in October
    - Orientation: 10/1 (9:30-11 AM)
    - Meeting 1: 10/14 (1-3 PM)
    - Meeting 2: 10/22 (9:30-11:30 AM)
  - ~6-10 hours of reviewing and pre-scoring applications
  - TOTAL: 18-22 hours

# ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

- Any Council on Homelessness members not planning to re-apply for their seat
- Members with terms that are not expiring at the end of the year:

## Seat Expiring 12/31/25

- Carolyn Foudy
- Dani Jimenez
- Gabriel Lemus
- Hope Dixon
- Jazmin Ridley
- Nicole Green
- Shawn Ray
- Tony Ucciferri
- Wayne Earl
- Yahel Moreno

## Seat NOT expiring 12/31/24

- Alejandra Chamberlain
- Courtney Pal
- Heather Worobey
- Juno Hedrick
- LeAnn Matthews
- Mia Fairbanks
- Sherina Criswell
- Verneda Clapp

## ACTION ITEM

- Review and approve revisions to the Council on Homelessness member application materials as recommended by the Nominating Committee AND approve COH members for Nominating Panel.





## HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Signal boost the upcoming Constant Contact email re: openings
- Do direct outreach to people who you think may be a good fit
- Connect people to Jaime Jenett if they have questions

## FUNDING COMMITTEE

Mark Mora, Homebase

## BACKGROUND: HUD COC NOFO

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funds the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program
- HUD releases a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), competition for approximately 450 Continuums of Care
- FY 2024-25 and FY 2025-26 CoC NOFO:
  - First time two-year NOFO cycle (was annual competition)
  - Released on July 31, 2024, and made approximately \$3.5 billion available nationally
  - Contra Costa was awarded \$22.3 million in FY 2024

# UPDATE: HUD COC NOFO & WORK GROUP

- HUD is indicating that there will be a 2025 CoC NOFO competition which is unexpected
- CoC NOFO Work Group (of the Funding Committee) - tasked with improving the CoC NOFO competition process
  - First meeting on 8/19: possible revisions to Renewal Project Scoring Tool
  - Next meeting on 9/16 (12:30-2:30pm) via Zoom: a) revisit possible revisions to Renewal Project Scoring Tool, and b) discuss policy prioritizing high performing renewal projects over new projects
  - Meeting on 9/30: possible revisions to New Project Scoring Tool

## YOUTH ACTION BOARD (YAB)

Juno Hedrick, CoH Lived Experience Advisor and  
Vice Chair, YAB Coordinator

# YAB AUGUST MEETINGS

Bimonthly hybrid YAB Meetings at H3 Offices in Concord and RYSE Center in Richmond

YAB Subcommittees Meetings: Communications, Data & Research, and Outreach & Retention

Youth & Young Adult (YYA) Community Strategic Planning: Core and Workgroup Meetings

CoH and Oversight Committee

CES Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) Committee

Peer Support Check-In Meetings

# YAB AUGUST ACTIVITIES

YAB Welcome Week at  
Contra Costa College,  
Diablo Valley College,  
and Los Medanos College

Adultism and YYA  
Partnership train-the-  
trainer with Matthew  
Aronson Consulting

RFP Panel for  
Transitional Housing for  
TAY

# YAB AUGUST ACTIVITIES





# YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS (YYA) STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKGROUPS



Resources (Action 1.2): Get a handle on the resources we have and provide a toolkit that helps different stakeholders access resources

- Facilitator: Matthew Aronson, Matthew Aronson Consulting
- YAB Member: Ramon



Outreach (Action 1.5): Create and implement an outreach plan

- Facilitator: Jamie Schechter, H3
- YAB Member: Leon



Safety & Liberation (Action 4.3): Understand how well current partners are welcoming and supporting LGBTQIA+ and BIPOC YYA

- Facilitators: Juno Hedrick, YAB & Caroline Miller, H3
- YAB Member: Anastasia L.

- Learn more at this link: [Youth and Young Adult Strategic Plan](#)

# NEXT STEPS



Data & Research subcommittee to begin planning for Youth Point-in-Time Count.

Homeless Awareness Month planning, including YAB-lead YYA & Adultism training on November 10th

YAB community outreach for 2026 members.

Prepare for HUD Youth Homeless Demonstration Program FY 2024 NOFO to be re-released soon!

# CONNECT WITH YAB!

Are you—or do you know—a young person with lived experience of homelessness or housing instability who wants to create change?

RSVP to join a meeting as a guest to learn more!

For more information, email:

[ContraCostaYAB@cchealth.org](mailto:ContraCostaYAB@cchealth.org)



# OLD BUSINESS

Sector Report Outs – Juno Hedrick, Vice  
Chair & Lived Experience Advisor

Funding Updates – Shelby Ferguson, H3

## SECTOR REPORT OUTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Juno Hedrick, Vice Chair and Lived Experience  
Advisor

# FUNDING UPDATES

Shelby Ferguson, H3

# FUNDING UPDATES – HOMELESS HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND PREVENTION PROGRAM



- Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP) Round 6 application submitted!
- Posted application materials available online - <https://www.cchealth.org/services-and-programs/homeless-services/continuum-of-care/funding>
- HHAP Round 7 intended for appropriation in FY26-27 budget at 50% of round 6 allocation.

# FUNDING UPDATES - HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS SERVICES RFP



- Coming soon – Consolidated Housing and Homelessness Services Request for Proposals
- Includes renewal funding for Measure X Housing programs, HHAP, and other funding sources
- Prioritizing sustaining services given shifting federal and state funding landscape
- Sign up for Funding Opportunity updates through the [CoC Newsletter](#)



# FUNDING UPDATES – FEDERAL BUDGET



- Federal Budget – No update since August meeting
  - Both the [House](#) and [Senate](#) passed appropriations bills for Transportation and Housing and Urban Development (THUD) that increases CoC funding
  - Neither bill contained additional funding for the Emergency Housing Voucher program
  - Congress has until October 1 to pass final FY2026 spending bills or enact a continuing resolution

# NEW BUSINESS

Learning Corner: Spirit Program  
(Behavioral Health Service Provider  
Individualized Recovery Intensive) –  
Victoria Fairchild and Bianca Berrios, Contra  
Costa Behavioral Health Services, Office for  
Consumer Empowerment

## LEARNING CORNER: SPIRIT PROGRAM

Victoria Fairchild and Bianca Berrios, Contra  
Costa Behavioral Health Services, Office for  
Consumer Empowerment

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Open for all to share announcements about upcoming events and to give brief reports about recent events/trainings relevant to the Council on Homelessness

PIN IT

Juno Hedrick, Vice Chair & Lived Experience  
Advisor

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Next COH Meeting: Thursday, October 2, 1 – 3 PM (IN PERSON- McMorrow Training Room, 2120 Diamond Blvd, Concord)
- CoC Training (Serving Immigrants Experiencing a Housing Crisis): Monday, September 8, 10 AM – 12 PM (Zoom)
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Policy Committee WG: Tuesday, September 9, 12 pm – 1:30 PM (Zoom)
- Equity Committee Work Group: Tuesday, September 9, 2 pm – 4 pm (Zoom)
- Contra Costa CoC Homelessness Memorial Event Planning Meeting: Wednesday, September 10, 2 – 3 PM (Zoom)
- Homeless Service Provider Meeting: Thursday, September 11, 8:30 – 9:30 AM (Zoom)
- Homelessness 101 (Antioch Library): Saturday, September 13, 11 AM – 12:30 PM (IN-PERSON)
- Funding Committee Work Group: Tuesday, September 16, 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM (Zoom)
- COH Application Support Session #1: Wednesday, September 17, 9 – 10 AM (HYBRID)
- Point in Time (PIT) Count Committee WG #1: Friday, September 19, 1-3 (Zoom)
- COH Application Support Session #2: Monday, September 22, 12 – 1 PM (HYBRID)
- Homelessness Awareness Month Committee: Wednesday, September 24, 2 – 4 PM (HYBRID)
- Funding Committee Work Group: Tuesday, September 30, 12 PM – 2 PM (Zoom)



# CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET  
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-3451

**Agenda Date:** 9/4/2025

**Agenda #:** 3.

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Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Subject: Consent Calendar: APPROVE 9.4.25 Staff Report and 8.7.25 Minutes

Presenter:

Contact:

Information:

Every Council on Homelessness meeting has a staff report generated for it and the Council is asked to approve minutes from the previous meeting.

Referral History and Update:

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

APPROVE 9.4.25 Staff Report and 8.7.25 Minutes



# CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

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## COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MINUTES

**Date:** Thursday, August 7, 2025, 1 pm – 3 pm

**Recording link:** Available by email request to [CChomelesscouncil@cchealth.org](mailto:CChomelesscouncil@cchealth.org)

### Council Member Attendance:

- **In-Person (11):** Alejandra Chamberlain; Bessie Scott; Courtney Pal; Gabriel Lemus; Hope Dixon; Leslie Gleason; Mia Fairbanks; Nicole Green; Shawn Ray; Sherina Criswell; Tony Ucciferri
- **Remote (5):** Carolyn Foudy; Dani Jimenez; Juno Hedrick; LeAnn Matthews; Tony Ucciferri
- **Absent (4):** Heather Worobey; Verneda Clapp; Wayne Earl; Yahel Moreno

**Staff Attendance:** Jamie Schecter, H3; Mark Mora, Homebase

### Community Member Attendance:

- **In-person:** Thomas Fischer, HCEB
- **Remote:** Christine Wetzal, Caminar; Ishani Rasanayagam, City of Pittsburg; Manav Chimakurthi, community member; Ms. Evon Ufland, community member; Lisa Malul, Contra Costa Crisis Center; Jennifer Quallick, Contra Costa BOS; Jaclyn Tummings, Contra Costa County Department of Conservation and Development; Melanie Erickson, Contra Costa County Department of Conservation and Development; Ashley, CCCOE; Elizabeth Winstead, DOR; Khougen, EHSD; C.Williams, HCEB; Brittany Ferguson, H3; Carina Rodriguez-Pena, H3; Caroline Miller, H3; Cheryl Leonor, H3; E. Jacobs, H3; Janel Fletcher, H3; Jacqueline Franco, H3; Jenny Robbins, H3; Latoya Foskey, H3; Maria Dominguez, H3; Shelby Ferguson, H3; Stephanie Bodisco, H3; Yessenia Aguilar, H3; Chaeana Williams, HCEB; Thomas Fischer, HCEB; Emily Bero, Hope Solutions; Angela Corona, LFCD; Carmen Cano, LFCD; Julie Clemens, LSS of Northern California; Andrea Foti, SHELTER, Inc.; Anastasia Lockwood, YAB; John Eckstrom, SHELTER, Inc.; Rebecca Gomez-Pellecer, SHELTER, Inc.; Cynthia-Bella Chavez, SHELTER, Inc.; James.Worley, SHELTER, Inc.; Kathryn Ross, SHELTER, Inc.; Mary Hill, SHELTER Inc.; Jai De Lotto, VA CES; Amanda Aschow, Zócalo Health

## AGENDA ITEM

### 1) Call to Order

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#### A. Chair starts the meeting:

Presenter: Nicole Green, *Chair and Reentry Services Representative*

Nicole Green called the meeting to order.





# CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

## 2) Introductions

---

### A. Meeting Norms:

Presenter: Nicole Green, *Chair and Reentry Services Representative*

Nicole Green went over the hybrid meeting norms and guidelines to help ensure that meetings are conducted in a safe and respectful environment that encourages participation and inclusivity. Due to a Zoom bombing incident at the April meeting, the virtual meeting format has been changed from “meeting” to “webinar” format and the difference of features was explained.

### B. Roll call of Council members and introduction of guests:

Presenter: Nicole Green, *Chair and Reentry Services Representative*

Nicole Green conducted a roll call of Council members and invited guests to introduce themselves in the chat.

### C. Poll – Who’s in the room?

Presenter: Nicole Green, *Chair and Reentry Services Representative*

Nicole Green conducted the poll activity called “Who is in the room?” with the purpose of getting a sense of who is attending the meeting. The poll was conducted via Zoom poll. All answers are anonymous, and the results are provided below:

- **Question 1: How many Council on Homelessness meetings have you attended?**

This is my first meeting:	5 (17%)
I’ve attended some meetings:	4 (14%)
I’ve attended a lot of meetings:	20 (69%)
I prefer not to answer:	0 (0%)

- **Question 2: Do you have lived experience of homelessness?**

Yes, currently	2 (7%)
Yes, within the past 7 years	1 (3%)
Yes, more than 7 years ago	7 (23%)
No	20 (67%)
I prefer not to answer	0 (0%)



## CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

- **Question 3: What best describes your racial identify?**

African American/Black	11 (28%)
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1 (3%)
Asian/Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian	3 (8%)
Hispanic/Latinx	5 (13%)
White	14 (36%)
Multi-racial	4 (10%)
I describe myself in another way	0 (0%)
I prefer not to answer	1 (3%)

### 3) Public Comments

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**A. Open period for members of the public to comment on items not listed on the agenda**

Members of the public:

- None.

### 4) Consent Calendar (ACTION ITEM)

---

**A. APPROVE minutes from the July 10, 2025 Council meeting**

**B. APPROVE staff report for the August 7, 2025 Council meeting**

Presenter: Nicole Green, *Chair and Reentry Services Representative*

Members made a motion to approve the items per the changes listed above as a whole group:

Motion

- State of Motion:
  - To approve the consent calendar items as listed above.
- Discussion:
  - None.
- Procedural Record:
  - Motion made by: Sherina Criswell
  - Seconded by: Shawn Ray
  - AYES: Alejandra Chamberlain; Carolyn Foudy; Courtney Pal; Dani Jimenez; Gabriel Lemus; Hope Dixon; Juno Hedrick; LeAnn Matthews; Leslie Gleason; Mia Fairbanks; Nicole Green; Shawn Ray; Sherina Criswell; Tony Ucciferri
  - NOES: None
  - ABSTAINS: None
  - ABSENT: Heather Worobey; Verneda Clapp; Wayne Earl; Yahel Moreno



# CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

## 5) Committee Report Outs

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### A. Funding Committee

Presenter: Mark Mora, *Homebase*

The Funding Committee has formed a Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity (CoC NOFO) Work Group that is tasked with improving the NOFO competition process. The work group will meet roughly every three weeks starting in August and will focus on revising scoring tools and competition policies in preparation of a possible 2025 CoC NOFO competition. This is an unexpected competition because HUD had announced in 2024 that the competition would take place every two years. The committee expects significant changes on the funding requirements per new HUD priorities and renewal projects are advised on reviewing the APRs from the last completed program year. Homebase will send an email to renewal projects with more information.

### B. Youth Advisory Board (YAB) Update

Presenter: Juno Hedrick, *Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor and YAB Coordinator*, and Anastasia Lockwood, *YAB Member and Outreach and Retention Subcommittee Facilitator*

The Youth Advisory Board provided an overview of YAB's July activities, including subcommittee meetings, new data and research projects, participation in Youth and Young Adult (YYA) strategic planning, and CES Housing Needs Assessment Committee. Upcoming tasks include completing the review of Transitional Housing RFP applicants, planning for a youth Point-in-Time count, and preparing for Homelessness Awareness Month activities. Additionally, YAB is working on three action steps derived from their strategic plan, with Anastasia Lockwood and Juno Hedrick coordinating these efforts. The team also discussed the development of a web presence, the continuation of training sessions, and awaits the release of the HUD Youth Homeless Demonstration Program. Anyone interested in connecting with YAB may send an email at [ContraCostaYAB@cchealth.org](mailto:ContraCostaYAB@cchealth.org).

### C. (ACTION ITEM) Homelessness Awareness Month

Presenter: Nicole Green, *Chair and Reentry Services Representative*

Nicole Green discussed the purpose and the planning activities for Homeless Awareness Month in November. The list of tools and the number of events was presented and it involves in looking at two resolutions for approval: a) Homelessness Awareness month and Homeless Person's Memorial Day. The group discussed the recognition categories as volunteers, housing providers, partnership, and Phoenix Raising. The recognition timeline was shown with plans to open nominations on August 8<sup>th</sup> through September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The presentation and reception with the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for November 4<sup>th</sup>.



## CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

### Motion

- State of Motion:
  - To approve: a) Homelessness Awareness Month and Homeless Persons' Memorial Day resolutions, and 2) Recognition categories, descriptions and criteria.
- Discussion:
  - None.
- Procedural Record:
  - Motion made by: Sherina Criswell
  - Seconded by: Bessie Scott
  - AYES: Alejandra Chamberlain; Bessie Scott; Carolyn Foudy; Courtney Pal; Dani Jimenez; Gabriel Lemus; Hope Dixon; LeAnn Matthews; Leslie Gleason; Mia Fairbanks; Nicole Green; Shawn Ray; Sherina Criswell; Tony Ucciferri
  - NOES: None
  - ABSTAINS: None
  - ABSENT: Heather Worobey; Verneda Clapp; Wayne Earl; Yahel Moreno

## 6) Old Business

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### A. Sector Report Outs from Council Members

Presenter: Nicole Green, *Chair and Reentry Services Representative*

No report out updates.

### B. Funding Updates

Presenter: Jamie Schechter, *H3*

The meeting covered several funding updates, including applications that were due on July 25, 2025 for Transitional Housing Request For Proposals (RFP) with notifications to providers expected in August, the Community Care Expansion Preservation Program with a deadline to submit Statements of Interest on August 11, 2025 – which can support operating subsidies or capital projects for existing licensed facilities — and the Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP) application for Round 6 due August 29. Lastly, the meeting also covered updates on the Federal budget on the Transportation and Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Bill, which included slight increases for the Continuum of Care program but no additional funding for the emergency housing voucher program. Congress has until October 1 to pass a reconciled version or enact a continuing resolution, which would maintain current funding levels.



## CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

### 7) New Business

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#### **A. (ACTION ITEM) Point in Time Count Committee Selection**

Presenter: Janel Fletcher, *H3*

Janel Fletcher went over the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count planning for 2026, outlining the timeline and requesting volunteers from the Council. Three council members were appointed to the PIT Count Committee: Bessie Scott, Juno Hedrick, and Sherina Criswell. The dates for the committee meetings will be announced in the newsletter.

#### Motion

- State of Motion:
  - To approve the above COH members to the PIT Committee.
- Discussion:
  - None.
- Procedural Record:
  - Motion made by: Leslie Gleason
  - Seconded by: Sherina Criswell
  - AYES: Alejandra Chamberlain; Bessie Scott; Carolyn Foudy; Courtney Pal; Dani Jimenez; Gabriel Lemus; Hope Dixon; LeAnn Matthews; Leslie Gleason; Mia Fairbanks; Nicole Green; Shawn Ray; Sherina Criswell
  - NOES: None
  - ABSTAINS: None
  - ABSENT: Heather Worobey; Verneda Clapp; Wayne Earl; Yahel Moreno

#### **B. Update: Changes to Brown Act Re: Remote Meeting Attendance and Training Requirements**

Presenter: Jamie Schechter, *H3*

Jamie Schechter presented updates to the Brown Act requirements, explaining that as of March 1, 2023, all council meetings must be in-person or hybrid, with all council members attending in person unless they use just cause or emergency circumstances exceptions. Starting in January this year, a new policy has been introduced where a person using just cause and who has a need related to a disability for which is not otherwise accommodated, allowing for flexible accommodations for members with qualifying disabilities. Qualified members are allowed to attend virtually with specific requirements such as two-way audio and video, camera on, and disclosure of roommates who are present in the room and over 18 years of age. There is also no limit in the number of meetings with this format once the disability accommodation is approved. The procedure on how to request this



## CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

accommodation was explained. Council members must now complete all required trainings every two years, including Brown Act, ethics, and implicit bias training.

### C. Learning Corner: California Advancing Innovations in Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Enhanced Care Management

Presenter: Pasia Gadson, *Contra Costa Health Plan (CCHP)*

Pasia Gadson, a nurse practitioner and Director of CalAIM programs and transitional care services at CCHP, presented an overview of the California Advancing Innovations in Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Enhanced Care Management (ECM) program. She explained that ECM is a statewide Medi-Cal benefit focusing on clinical and non-clinical needs of members, particularly people experiencing homelessness, people with serious mental illness, with substance use disorders, or transitioning from incarceration — these individuals are defined as Populations of Focus. Pasia highlighted the program's core services, including outreach and engagement, comprehensive assessments, care coordination, and referrals to community and social support services. She also discussed how providers and community organizations can refer eligible individuals to the ECM program and emphasized the importance of a holistic approach when managing complex cases.

The discussion covered the process for obtaining CalAIM benefits, which are limited to Medi-Cal managed care plan members, and they must meet the criteria of ECM population of focus. Eligible individuals must first have Medi-Cal and be assigned to CCHP, with Kaiser being an alternative only if the member had Kaiser coverage in the previous 12 months. The healthcare options listed on the [California Department of Health Care Services \(DHCS\)'s website](#) helps members find the best plan for their needs, and while CCHP cannot directly assist with switching plans, they can help prevent coverage loss by providing redetermination dates to providers. To learn more about enrolling in MediCal in Contra Costa County, prospective members may visit the [Contra Costa County Health's website](#). To apply for Medi-Cal, you may call at 1-866-663-3225 or visit [www.BenefitsCal.com](http://www.BenefitsCal.com).

## 8) Council Membership

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### A. Recognize Outgoing Council Member: Leslie Gleason

Nicole Green, *Chair and Reentry Services Representative*

Leslie Gleason's seat membership as the ESG Program Grantee Representative will expire at the end of August 2025. COH members thanked Leslie for her service and recognized all the work she has done over the years. Leslie gave a short speech about the work and



## CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

collaboration over the course of 10 years and encouraged the rest of COH members to keep working in searching solutions for those who are most in need.

### 9) General Announcements

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#### A. General Announcements:

Presenter: Nicole Green, *Chair and Reentry Services Representative*

- Jamie Schecter shared the flyer of the Elevate East County program, a guaranteed income pilot program in East County which targets young parents with minor children and who are engaged in education at any level. Participants must be enrolled in at least one class at any Contra Costa Community college, must reside in Big Point, Pittsburgh, Antioch, or another district, must be between 18 and 30, must have at least one child ages 0 through 6, and must earn at or below 50% area Median income. The application period is open until August 29, 2025 and link to the Google Form to apply can be found [here](#).
- Alejandra Chamberlain reminded COH members and the public that If anyone come across any children and youth who are not enrolled in a school district, to please reach out to her and she will connect people with the right person.
- Members of the public were invited to the grand opening of the Executive Inn project, funded through the Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) program in Antioch, on August 14th at noon. H3 is working closely with CORE as well as with Hope Solutions to provide services for the ERF grants in Antioch, San Pablo as well as in Richmond. The partnership also includes Housing Consortium of East Bay, which will be supporting the Antioch projects.
- Courtney Pal shared that she is part of a group of the Permanent Supportive Housing providers who for the past few years have been looking for ways to improve the permanent supportive housing system. Based on this need, they have formed the Nonprofit Housing Association of Northern California (NPH). The main focus is looking at best practices and how to implement it across five different Bay area counties plus Los Angeles. Based on a presentation that H3 gave to NPH, they have developed a memo with best practices. A webinar with their findings will take place on September 18th at 11 am and it will be targeted to people working in the CoCs, with a section for feedback.

### 10) Pin It

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Presenter: Nicole Green, *Chair and Reentry Services Representative*



## CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

- The next COH meeting will be on September 4<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 – 3:00pm at 1025 Escobar Street in Martinez.
- A list of upcoming meetings was shared and will also be sent via email. Calendar meeting invites to all committee meetings will be sent out to COH Council members based on the committees for which they signed up.





# CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

## Commonly Used Acronyms

Acronym	Definition
APR	Annual Performance Report (for HUD homeless programs)
BIPOC	Black and Indigenous People of Color
CARE	Coordinated Assessment and Resource
CCYCS	Contra Costa Youth Continuum of Services
CDBG, CDBG-CV	Community Development Block Grant (federal and state programs) and the federal Community Development Block Grant CARES Act coronavirus allocation.
CESH	California Emergency Solutions and Housing program (state funding)
Continuum of Care (CoC)	Continuum of Care approach to assistance to the homeless. Federal grant program promoting and funding permanent solutions to homelessness.
Con Plan	Consolidated Plan, a locally developed plan for housing assistance and urban development under CDBG.
CORE	Coordinated Outreach Referral, Engagement program
COVID-19	Coronavirus
DCD	(Contra Costa County) Department of Conservation and Development
DOC	Department Operations Center
EHSD	(Contra Costa County) Employment and Human Services Division
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
ESG and ESG-CV	Emergency Solutions Grant (federal and state program) and the federal Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act coronavirus allocation.
ESG-CV	Emergency Solutions Grant CARES
FMR	Fair Market Rent (maximum rent for Section 8 rental assistance/CoC grants)
HCD	Housing and Community Development (State office)
HEAP	Homeless Emergency Aid Program (State funding)
HEARTH	Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009
HHAP	Homeless Housing and Assistance Program
HMIS	Homeless Management Information System
HOME	Home Investment Partnerships (CPD program)
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (federal)
MHSA	Mental Health Services Act
NOFA/NOFO	Notice of Funding Availability/ Notice of Funding Opportunity
PHA	Public Housing Authority
PUI	Persons Under Investigation
PWLE	People With Lived Experience of Homelessness
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration
SRO	Single-Room Occupancy housing units
SSDI	Social Security Disability Income



## CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

SSI	Supplemental Security Income
TA	Technical Assistance
TAY	Transition Age Youth (usually ages 18-24)
VA	Veterans Affairs (U.S. Department of)
VASH	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing
VI-SPDAT	Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool



# CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS STAFF REPORT

*Report for the August 11, 2025 Council on Homelessness Meeting*

## INTRODUCTION

The Council on Homelessness staff report is to inform the Contra Costa Council on Homelessness of the status of projects happening within the Continuum of Care. The report was created to create space on Council on Homelessness meeting agendas for discussion on important issues, to share more information in a digestible format, to make it easier for Council on Homelessness members to review and track ongoing content, and to increase transparency about the work happening within the Continuum of Care. The Council on Homelessness guides the content included in the staff report.

## PROJECTS

### **Project: Concord Naval Weapons Station (CNWS) and Homeless Collaborative**

There are no updates at this time.

### **Technical Assistance (TA) Updates:**

There are no updates at this time.

## COMMITTEES

### **Equity Committee**

The Equity Committee Work Group met on 8/12. Janel presented PIT data through an equity lens. In preparation for an upcoming Nominating Committee meeting, Homebase asked the Equity Committee for feedback on 1) proposed changes to a supplemental application question about equity and barriers to accessing services and 2) possibly providing incumbent council candidates with extra points in the scoring system. Jamie S. notified the group that HUD previously committed to a two-year cycle for the Notice of



## CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS STAFF REPORT

Funding Opportunity (NOFO) but are now expected to return to annual NOFOs, which may result in new priorities and requirements. The Work Group spent the remainder of the meeting analyzing data on the Equity dashboard

### **Funding Committee**

- The purpose of the Funding Committee is to direct the community input process for several time-sensitive federal and state funding streams, including updating materials and preparing for the bi-annual Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity (CoC NOFO) competition.
- A CoC NOFO (Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity) work group was established to begin preparing improvements for a possible 2025 funding competition. Because a 2025 competition was not expected, the work group is quickly preparing in advance of a NOFO release. The first virtual work group meeting was held on 8/19/25 where the group discussed staff recommended revisions to scoring factors in Renewal Housing Project Scoring Tool. Future meetings will be held on 9/16/25 (virtual) and 9/30/25 (virtual). More meetings may be scheduled as needed.

### **Nominating Committee**

- The purpose of the Nominating Committee is to review and revise the process to recruit and select new Council members.
- The Committee met on Monday August 4<sup>th</sup> and Monday August 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **Oversight Committee**

- The purpose of the Oversight Committee is to review and assess the development, implementation, and improvement of: CoC, Coordinated Entry System, HMIS database, and System Outcomes.
- The next meeting will be in person and is scheduled for October 16th, 11:30am - 1pm. CoH members are asked to attend in-person. Community members are welcome to attend in person or via Zoom. Use this link to register:  
<https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcsf-2urDssGdzVjZhCYrYEYtBPv6TuzAce>

### **Plan to Accelerate Transformative Housing Innovations Committee**

- In August 2025, the PATH Innovations Committee held a working group meeting. The group received an overview of the 2025 Point in Time (PIT) Count results. The group reviewed anticipated capacity for Coordinated Entry and Rapid Exit programs and received an update on the pilot of a new prevention screening tool for use in the Coordinated Entry system. The group



## CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS STAFF REPORT

also received a presentation on three projects across the County funded by the state's Encampment Resolution Fund (ERF), including projects in Antioch, Richmond, and San Pablo.

### OTHER

#### **Quarterly Report**

The Q2 report will be presented to the Family and Human Services Committee of the Board of Supervisors at their September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, not the August 11<sup>th</sup> meeting as previously reported.



## STAFF REPORT FROM THE CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

### *Contra Costa County Homeless System of Care Quarterly Report for Quarter 2, 2025 (April - June)*

#### INTRODUCTION

The Contra Costa Council on Homelessness (CoH), appointed by the Board of Supervisors, serves as the governing and oversight body for the County's Continuum of Care (CoC). Supported by Contra Costa Health's Health, Housing & Homeless Services (H3) Division, the CoC is a collaborative network of service providers, community members, and public and private partners working to end homelessness. This quarterly report provides updates on CoC activities, system data, funding, and policy developments, along with CoH recommendations to support long-range planning and policy for the County's homeless response system. This report was produced on behalf of the CoH by H3 in collaboration with the CoH and CoC partners.

#### SUCCESS STORY

##### **Pathways to Housing: The Impact of Rick Judd Commons**

Maria, a resident at Concord Shelter, had endured years of homelessness as her disability severely limited her housing options. Fortunately for Maria, [Rick Judd Commons](#) opened this spring. This new affordable housing project with 62-unit affordable housing units, including 13 units set aside for formerly homeless households with disabilities, was made possible through a network of dedicated partners, including [Contra Costa Health's Health, Housing, and Homeless Services \(H3\)](#), [Contra Costa Behavioral Health Division](#), [Resources for Community Development \(RCD\)](#), the [John Stewart Company](#), and the [Contra Costa Housing Authority](#).

Maria and 12 other formerly homeless households with disabilities were referred to the homeless set aside units through Contra Costa's Coordinated Entry System, with the support of [H3's CORE Homeless Outreach and staff at Concord and Brookside Shelter](#), the [Bay Area Community Services Delta Landing Team](#), and the [Contra Costa Health Enhanced Case Management Team](#).

With access to ongoing supportive services through Contra Costa Behavioral Health, on-site supportive services, transit, and community amenities, these 13 households will now have a foundation to rebuild their lives. Maria's story is a testament to what is possible when housing providers, outreach teams, case managers, and community organizations unite to create pathways to housing. Together, we are making a difference—one home at a time.

#### SYSTEM FUNDING

This quarter the CoC continued to monitor the impact of the new federal administration on Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) funding.

#### **FEDERAL**



- **2024 CoC NOFO Funding:** \$22.3M awarded for renewal and one new project. Grant agreements are being issued, with new federal compliance language tied to executive orders (e.g., restrictions on gender identity language and immigration status). Agencies are advised to consult legal counsel regarding these changes. H3 clarified that HMIS does not track citizenship status and recommends continued legal review.
- **HUD CoC Application Debrief:** The local CoC scored highly overall in this national funding competition.
- **USICH Update:** As of March 14, 2025, the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness has scaled back to minimum operations per executive order.
- **CoC Builds NOFO (June):** HUD re-released the capital development NOFO for permanent supportive housing. Hope Solutions' Village of Hope project was re-submitted.

### STATE

- **Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) FY 2025–26:** DCD approved \$399,140 in ESG funding recommendations. Six applications were approved; 7.5% allocated to administration, with the remainder supporting homeless prevention, rapid rehousing, street outreach, and emergency shelter projects.
- **AB 109 Funding:** H3 informed the Council on Homelessness about new, one-time state funding recommended by the Community Advisory Board on AB 109 Public Safety Realignment to support local housing programs.
- **HHAP Round 6:** Planning underway for the next Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) application. Three stakeholder engagement meetings scheduled to inform budget and priorities, including one co-facilitated with Behavioral Health at June COH meeting. Application due to the State by end of August 2025.

### LOCAL

- **Housing & Homeless Services RFP:** Board of Supervisors approved on April 15, with contracts starting July 1 or later.

## DATA

### System Performance Measures

In May, the COH received an overview of the HUD System Performance Measures (SPM), a federally mandated report used to assess Continuum of Care (CoC) performance and guide funding decisions. The data—covering metrics such as returns to homelessness, total homeless population, income and employment outcomes, and housing exits—helps track trends, evaluate policy impacts, and inform CoC goal-setting amid shifting funding priorities.

### Point in Time Count

The 2025 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count report was released at the end of Q2 and showed a **26% decrease in homelessness** across Contra Costa County compared to last year. On a single night



in January, 2,118 people were identified as experiencing homelessness, 725 fewer people than in 2024.

Additional highlights from the 2025 PIT Count include:

- Homelessness decreased by more than 30% in Central, East and West County.
- Temporary and permanent housing beds increased by 34% since 2023.
- Similar to previous years, 72% of people reported being Contra Costa residents for 10 or more years.

You can view the full 2025 PIT Count report on [our website](#).

Contra Costa County Communications and Media team made a short video about the Point in Time Count process: [2025 Annual Homelessness Point in Time Count - YouTube](#).

### SYSTEM INITIATIVES

The CoC regularly engages in multiple activities, partnerships, evaluations, and improvement that are designed to improve services to clients and achieve various system goals.

#### **CoC Participant Satisfaction Survey**

The CoC received 897 participant satisfaction surveys in the month of March across the seven (7) different program models. Read more about the program models here:

This is a 44% increase from 2024. 61% of those surveyed had been accessing CoC services one year or longer with 40% hearing about CoC services from 211 call line or online database. 96% reported they would recommend CoC services to others.

#### **Collaboration**

- Contra Costa Health: Behavioral Health conducted a stakeholder feedback session during the 6/4 COH meeting.
- H3 and the Contra Costa Library system co-hosted a “Homelessness 101” community forum on 5/19 at Pittsburg Library, with additional events planned for next quarter. Food and basic survival supplies provided by White Pony Express.

#### **Communications**

- CCH: H3 staff presented at the Corporation for Supportive Housing and Housing California conferences, where they showcased Contra Costa’s provider training resources and the El Portal Place project.
- CORE mobile outreach was showcased on page 10 in the March/April edition of the City of [Pleasant Hill’s newsletter “The Outlook”](#).

#### **Engagement of People with Lived Experience of Homelessness (PWLE)**

- Staff hosted monthly support meetings for Council members with lived experience of homelessness





- Engaged multiple people with lived experience in Point in Time count planning and execution.

### **Equity**

- Equity Committee continued to refine the Equity dashboard and received demographic data from the Client Satisfaction survey.

### **Youth and Young Adult Homelessness**

This quarter, the Youth Action Board (YAB) key activities included:

- Participated in Innovative Approaches to Youth Engagement in Policy, Democracy, and Participatory Research with UC Berkeley.
- Continued participation in the H3 Housing Needs Assessment Committee, Youth & Young Adults (YYA) Strategic Planning Implementation and Core Meetings, and the Council on Homelessness.
- Took part in the Pride Proclamation at the Board of Supervisors (BOS) June 10th meeting, where YAB members shared key findings from [The Opportunity to Change: Community Needs Assessment for YYA Homelessness in Contra Costa County \(2024\)](#).

Future YAB work includes:

- Participate in the H3 Youth and Young Adult Transitional Housing RFP panel.
- Join the YYA Homelessness & Adulthood Train-the-Trainer sessions with the Matthew Aronson Consulting (MAC) team and present during November's National Youth Homelessness Outreach, Prevention, and Education (HOPE) Month.
- Finalize and submit recommendations to the Implementation Committee for the three identified priorities from the [Youth and Young Adult Strategic Plan](#):
  - Resources (Action 1.2): Get a handle on the resources we have and provide a toolkit that helps different stakeholders access resources.
  - Outreach (Action 1.5): Create and implement an outreach plan.
  - Safety & Liberation (Action 4.3): Understand how well current partners are welcoming and supporting LGBTQIA+ and BIPOC YYA.

## **GOVERNANCE/REPORTING**

- Approved revisions to Council bylaws, pending County Counsel approval.
- Recommended a new candidate for the City Government Representative seat.
- Following Zoom-bombing incident during the April meeting, transitioned Zoom component of COH meetings "Meetings" to "Webinar" format to reduce the ability of bad actors to disrupt meetings.
- Polls conducted at the beginning of each Council on Homelessness regular meetings capture data on # of Council meetings previously attended, lived experience of homelessness and race/ethnicity of attendees. (See Appendix B for Q2 averages.)



### MEETINGS, TRAININGS AND EVENTS

**Council on Homelessness (COH) Meetings:** The Council on Homelessness held three (3) regular business meetings this quarter. In addition to the regular Council on Homelessness meetings, the following committees met:

Committee	Purpose
Equity Committee	Create accessible information, outreach, and educational materials to engage hard to reach or previously unreached communities in Contra Costa County.
HMIS Policy Committee	Develops and shares updates on <a href="#">Homeless Management Information System</a> (HMIS) policies & practices, compliance, & troubleshooting. Plans technical assistance & training.
Oversight Committee	Reviewing and assessing the development, implementation, and improvement of the CoC, Coordinated Entry System, HMIS database, and system outcomes
PATH Innovation Committee	Work towards the goal of reducing unsheltered homeless in Contra Costa County by 75%.

#### Trainings

- VAWA Compliance & Strategies for Serving Survivors of Domestic Violence (4.14.25)
- Trauma Informed Care (5.15.25)
- Fair Housing (6.9.25)

#### Events

- CoC Provider Meetings (3)

The minutes and materials for trainings and meetings can be found on the H3 website<sup>1</sup> and on the County agenda center<sup>2</sup>, and a calendar of upcoming meetings and events can be found on the H3 website.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Continue to advocate for ongoing support for people who lose eligibility for services and other resources due to federal and state policy decisions
- Share Annual Report and Point-In-Time Count reports and open seats on the Council on Homelessness with your constituents

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<sup>1</sup> [Trainings | Contra Costa Health \(cchealth.org\)](https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/agendacenter)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/agendacenter>

**APPENDIX A**

**Commonly Used Acronyms and Terms**

Acronym	Definition
APR	Annual Performance Report (for HUD homeless programs)
BIPOC	Black and Indigenous People of Color
CARE	Coordinated Assessment and Resource
CCYCS	Contra Costa Youth Continuum of Services
Continuum of Care (CoC)	Continuum of Care approach to assistance to the homeless. Federal grant program promoting and funding permanent solutions to homelessness.
Con Plan	Consolidated Plan, a locally developed plan for housing assistance and urban development under CDBG.
CORE	Coordinated Outreach Referral, Engagement program
DCD	(Contra Costa County) Department of Conservation and Development
DOC	Department Operations Center
EHSD	(Contra Costa County) Employment and Human Services Division
ESG and ESG-CV	Emergency Solutions Grant (federal and state program) and the federal Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act coronavirus allocation.
ESG-CV	Emergency Solutions Grant CARES
FMR	Fair Market Rent (maximum rent for Section 8 rental assistance/CoC grants)
HCD	Housing and Community Development (State office)
HEAP	Homeless Emergency Aid Program (State funding)
HEARTH	Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009
HHAP	Homeless Housing and Assistance Program
HMIS	Homeless Management Information System
HOME	Home Investment Partnerships (CPD program)
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (federal)
MHSA	Mental Health Services Act
NOFA/NOFO	Notice of Funding Availability/ Notice of Funding Opportunity
PHA	Public Housing Authority
PWLE	People With Lived Experience of Homelessness
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration
SRO	Single-Room Occupancy housing units
SSDI	Social Security Disability Income
SSI	Supplemental Security Income
TA	Technical Assistance
TAY	Transition Age Youth (usually ages 18-24)
VA	Veterans Affairs (U.S. Department of)
VASH	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing
VI-SPDAT	Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool

## APPENDIX B

### Poll Question Answers Q2

How many Council on Homelessness meetings have you attended?		Q2 avg
This is my first meeting		9%
I've attended some meetings		33%
I've attended a lot of meetings		58%
I prefer not to answer		0%
	Yes, currently	
	Yes, within the past 7 years	2%
	Yes, more than 7 years ago	10%
	No	14%
	I prefer not to answer	84%
		0%
What best describes your racial identity?*		
	African American/Black	
	American Indian/Alaskan Native	
	Asian/Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian	16%
	Hispanic/Latinx	10%
	White	7%
	Multi-racial	16%
	I prefer not to answer	42%
	I describe myself in another way	8%

\*This category allows people to select multiple options



# CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET  
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-3452

**Agenda Date:** 9/4/2025

**Agenda #:** 4.

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Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Subject: Nominating Committee: (ACTION ITEM) REVIEW and APPROVE revisions to Council member recruitment process and application materials as recommended by Nominating Committee and APPROVE Council Members to serve on the Nominating Panel.

Presenter: Jaime Jenett, H3

Contact:

Information:

Referral History and Update:

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

REVIEW and APPROVE revisions to Council member recruitment process and application materials as recommended by Nominating Committee and APPROVE Council Members to serve on the Nominating Panel.



## **Council on Homelessness 20254 Supplemental Application**

**Due: 9/256/24**

The Council on Homelessness (CoH) works to improve the local response to homelessness in Contra Costa County.

The Council on Homelessness encourages all members of the community to apply for a seat. The Council aims to include members with a broad representation of abilities, ages, sexual and gender identities, immigration statuses, and racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds, as well as geographical representation within the County. Individuals with lived experience of homelessness and/or the justice system are encouraged to apply.

For more information about the Council on Homelessness and its work supporting and governing the Continuum of Care (CoC), including information about the programs, funding, and performance, go to <https://cchealth.org/h3/#Council>.

### **About this Supplemental Application**

The following questions will be used by the Council on Homelessness' Nominating Panel to identify diverse applicants that can contribute unique expertise and perspectives to the Council. Answers to these questions will be evaluated in relation to the experience and qualifications desired for available member seats. Please carefully consider how your personal experiences, professional experiences, and values will contribute meaningfully to the Contra Costa County Continuum of Care efforts to make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring.

Please note, there are two required elements of the Council on Homelessness application, these "Supplemental Questions" and the County Application. You **must complete both** components of the application by **September 256, 2024 at 5PM**. Instructions for completing the County Application will be sent to you after completing the "Supplemental Questions" below.

For more information, about applying to the Council on Homelessness, please review the Council on Homelessness Board Recruitment FAQ document.

If you need accommodations to complete the application, please contact Jaime Jenett, Staff to the Council, by emailing [cchomelessscouncil@cchealth.org](mailto:cchomelessscouncil@cchealth.org) or calling or texting (925) 464-0152.

### **Submitting Supplemental Questions**

*Please note, this form can be filled out as a Word document and emailed to [cchomelessscouncil@gmail.com](mailto:cchomelessscouncil@gmail.com) along with your contact information OR submitted via Microsoft Forms here.* If you are unable to complete this application online, ask for accommodations.



### Supplemental Questions

1. Which vacant Council on Homelessness seat are you applying for? Please select one seat below. Please review the Council on Homelessness Board Recruitment FAQ document for descriptions of each seat and seat terms

- ☐ Affordable Housing Developer Representative
- ☐ Educational and Vocational Services Representative
- ☐ Health Care Representative
- ☐ Homeless Service Provider Representative
- ☐ Lived Experience Advisor
- ☐ Veteran Services Representative
- ☐ Workforce Development Representative ☐ Behavioral Health Representative
- ☐ City Government Representative
- ☐ CoC/ESG Program Grantee Representative
- ☐ Community Member Representative
- ☐ Federal Homeless and Housing Funding Administration Representative
- ☐ Employment and Human Services (EHSD) Representative
- ☐ Faith Community Representative
- ☐ Public Housing Authority Representative
- ☐ Public Safety Representative
- ☐ Reentry Services Representative
- ☐ Youth Representative



2. Please explain why you would like to serve on the Council on Homelessness and in the specific Council seat(s) you are applying for. (400 word maximum)

2-3. Please briefly describe any personal or professional skills, experiences, volunteer work, or connections (such as affiliations with organizations addressing homelessness) that you would bring to the Council on Homelessness and/or the specific seat you are applying for. For example, you can talk about things like having insight because you received services in the county, your experience getting services in the county, comfort with public speaking, experience working with unhoused youth, community activism, relationships with organizations, etc. (400 word maximum)

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

3-4. Please identify your personal connections with homelessness by selecting one of the options below:

I am a person currently experiencing homelessness and living in a shelter or location not meant for human habitation (e.g., in a tent).

☐ I am a person who experienced homelessness within the past 7 years but is currently housed.

☐ I am a person who experienced homelessness more than 7 years ago but is currently housed.

☐ I am a family member of someone who has experienced homelessness.

☐ I am none of the above but still invested in addressing homelessness in Contra Costa County.

☐ I would prefer not to respond.

4-5. Unhoused people in Contra Costa County come from many different backgrounds in terms of race, ethnicity, culture, ability, age, sexual and gender identity, and immigration status. From your personal experience, why do you think it's important for all people have equal (or equitable) access to the service and help that they need Please list and explain 3 reasons why certain groups might have a harder time accessing services than others. (400 words maximum)

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)





5.6. Please share and explain two (2) ideas to help Contra Costa County better support people who are unhoused people and people at risk of being unhoused. Your ideas can come from your own experience receiving services, your work, and/or what you've seen in the news. (400 word maximum)

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

6.7. How many Continuum of Care (CoC), Council on Homelessness (CoH), or Youth Advisory Council (YAC) meetings have you attended in the past?

- ☐ 3 or more meetings
- ☐ 1-2 meetings
- ☐ 0 meetings

7.8. The Council is committed to the Housing First approach, which means people can get into housing without needing to meet certain requirements like being sober, participating in a religious program, or having a job. In response, the Council has ~~(meaning no barriers or requirements as a prerequisite to housing, including sobriety, religious affiliation, or other structure not required for housing)~~ and has established this Guiding Principle: *Homelessness is first a housing issue, and necessary supports and services are critical to help people remain housed. Our system must be nimble and flexible enough to respond through the shared responsibility, accountability, and transparency of the community.*

~~Are you in support of~~ Do you agree with the Housing First approach and Guiding Principle described above?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ If no, please explain (400 word maximum):

9. Members of the Council are expected to attend standing monthly Council on Homelessness meetings which take place on the first Thursday of the month from 1 pm – 3pm in Martinez. Members ~~of the Council~~ are also expected to participate in at least one committee ~~or~~ workgroup, which typically meet on a monthly basis.

- Standing Committees (meet once a month or every other month)
  - Equity Committee



- HMIS Policy Committee
- Oversight Committee
- PATH (Plan for Accelerating Transformative Housing) Committee
- Ad Hoc Committees (meet on an as-needed basis for a limited time)
  - Funding Committee
  - Governance Committee
  - Homelessness Awareness Month Committee
  - Nominating Committee
  - Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Committee

All Councilmembers are expected to attend meetings in person and can only attend virtually twice per calendar year under very narrow circumstances. Additionally, Councilmembers may miss up to two Council meetings per calendar year. Based on this information, please identify the level of commitment you can provide to the Council on Homelessness by selecting one of the options below:

- ☐ ~~I can be available for 2 or more meetings per month, including~~ am available to attend the standing monthly COH meeting on the first Thursday of every month from 1pm to 3pm, and I am available to participate in at least one committee which would require attending a separate regular meeting.
- ☐ ~~I can be available only for the standing monthly COH meeting the first Thursday of every month from 1pm to 3pm.~~
- ☐ ~~I am not available for the standing monthly COH meeting, I but can make other meetings 2 or more times per month.~~
- ☐ I am not available for the standing monthly COH meeting and/or I am not available to participate in at least one committee.

#### **Optional: Demographic Information**

The Council aims to engage as broad a representation as possible of abilities, ages, sexual and gender identities, immigration statuses, and racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds, and geographical representation within the County. Responses to the following questions are



optional and will be considered in aggregate to ensure that we have recruited a diverse pool of applicants. The Nominating Panel will not review applicants' responses to the following questions.

**~~8-10.~~ What are your pronouns (for example: she/him/they/ze, other)?**

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

**~~9-11.~~ What is your gender identity (for example: female/male/transgender/non-binary/gender non-conforming, other)?**

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

**~~10-12.~~ What is your sexual orientation (for example: bisexual/straight/gay/pansexual, other)?**

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

**~~11-13.~~ What best describes your age? (Check one)**

- ☐ Transition aged youth (18-24)
- ☐ Adult (25-54)
- ☐ Older adult (55-61)
- ☐ Senior (62+)

**~~12-14.~~ What best describes your race/ethnicity? (Pick as many as apply)**

- ☐ White
- ☐ Hispanic/Latino(a)(o)(e)(x)
- ☐ Black/African American/African
- ☐ Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander
- ☐ American Indian/Alaskan Native/Indigenous
- ☐ Asian American/Asian
- ☐ Multiple Races
- ☐ Other:

**~~13-15.~~ Please identify the following geographic areas you represent and/or spend the most time in by selection of one or more of the options below:**

- ☐ Far East Contra Costa County (ex: Discovery Bay, Bethel Island)
- ☐ East Contra Costa County (ex: Bay Point, Pittsburg, Antioch, Brentwood)



- ☐ Central Contra Costa County (ex: Martinez, Pleasant Hill, Concord, Walnut Creek)
- ☐ South Contra Costa County (ex: Alamo, Danville, San Ramon)
- ☐ West Contra Costa County (ex: El Cerrito, San Pablo, Richmond, Pinole, Hercules, Rodeo)
- ☐ I spend an equal amount of time in all five geographic areas listed above

**14.16.** Is there any other information you would like to share, including anything that would help us understand how you would contribute to the diverse representation of people and experiences on the Council (for example: lived experience of homelessness, abilities, immigration status, ethnic background, or cultural background)?

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

## 2025 APPLICANT SCORING RUBRIC COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

### OVERVIEW

SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION QUESTIONS	Points
<u>2) Interest</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>32) Skills, Relationships, Resources, and Experiences</u>	12
<u>43) Personal Connection to Homelessness</u>	12
<u>54) <del>Working With and In Diverse Populations</del>Barriers to Accessing Services</u>	12
<u>65) Ideas to Address Homelessness in Contra Costa</u>	12
7) Participation in System Meetings	3
8) Commitment to Housing First Approach	5
9) Ability to Participate	<u>9Threshold</u>
COUNTY APPLICATION QUESTIONS	
Conflict of Interest Policy	Threshold
<u>Interest</u>	<u>±</u>
<u>Qualifications</u>	<u>±</u>
<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>±</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>6858</u></b>

Revisions Recommended by the Nominating Committee –  
8/18/2025

## 2025 APPLICANT SCORING RUBRIC COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

### SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION QUESTIONS

FACTOR	POINTS
<p><b>2) Interest</b></p> <p><u>Applicant's response lists reasons as to why they would like to service on the Council and in the specific seat(s) they are applying for.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>2 points – applicant's response explains BOTH why they would like to serve on the Council AND in the specific seat(s) they are applying for</u></li> <li><u>1 point – applicant's response explains why they would like to serve on the Council OR in the specific seat they are applying for (but not BOTH)</u></li> <li><u>0 points – no response</u></li> </ul>	<b>2</b>
<p><b>32) Skills, Relationships, Resources, and Experiences</b></p> <p>Applicant's response lists specific skills, experiences, <u>volunteer work</u>, or connections they can bring. Response demonstrates the value they would add to the Council on Homelessness and/or the specific seat they are applying for.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>12 points – applicant's response lists SPECIFIC skills, experiences, <u>volunteer work</u>, or connections related to the Council and the value it would bring</u></li> <li><u>6 points – applicant's response speaks GENERALLY about the value they would bring to the Council</u></li> <li><u>0 points – no response</u></li> </ul>	<b>12</b>
<p><b>34) Personal Connection to Homelessness</b></p> <p>Applicant's response reflects lived experience or connection to someone with lived experience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>12 points – applicant is currently experiencing homelessness (as self-identified)</u></li> <li><u>10 points – applicant has experience of homelessness with the past 7 years (as self-identified)</u></li> <li><u>8 points – applicant has experience of homelessness at some point in their life (as self-identified)</u></li> <li><u>4 points – applicant has connection to someone with lived experience</u></li> <li><u>0 points – no personal lived experience or connection to someone with lived experience</u></li> </ul>	<b>12</b>
<p><b>54) Working With and In Diverse Populations</b> <u>Barriers to Accessing Services</u></p>	<b>12</b>

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## 2025 APPLICANT SCORING RUBRIC COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

FACTOR	POINTS
<p>Applicant's response reflects <u>that they value equity and ensuring that all communities have equal access to services</u> <u>an understanding of barriers certain population groups might face to access services to address homelessness.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>12 points – applicant provides a thoughtful explanation of at least 3 relevant barriers to accessing services (e.g., language, immigration status, disability, etc.)</u></li> <li>• <u>6 points – applicant provides a limited explanation of 1 or 2 barriers to accessing services</u></li> <li>• <u>0 points – no response or no understanding of barriers to accessing services</u></li> </ul>	
<p><b>5) Ideas to Address Homelessness in Contra Costa</b></p> <p>Applicant's response demonstrates knowledge and critical thinking regarding how to address homelessness in Contra Costa. Response also demonstrates unique expertise, opinions, and viewpoints on homelessness issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>12 points</u> – response demonstrates impressive knowledge, critical thinking, and a unique point of view</li> <li>• <u>6 points</u> – response demonstrates some knowledge, critical thinking, and/or a unique point of view</li> <li>• <u>1 point</u> – response demonstrates very little knowledge, critical thinking, and/or a unique point of view</li> <li>• <u>0 points – no response</u></li> </ul> <p><i>NOTE: This factor will be used as a tiebreaker should the leading applicants for a seat fall within 2 points. In that scenario, the applicant with the highest average score in this factor will break the tie.</i></p>	<b>12</b>
<p><b>7) Participation in System Meetings</b></p> <p>Applicant's response shows active participation in system meetings or other types of relevant community participation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>3 points</u> – applicant is a member of YAB or another lived experience board or has attended 3 or more CoC and/or Council meetings</li> <li>• <u>2 points</u> – applicant has attended 1-2 CoC and/or Council meetings</li> <li>• <u>0 points</u> – applicant has not attended any CoC and/or Council meetings</li> </ul>	<b>3</b>
<p><b>8) Commitment to Housing First Approach</b></p>	<b>5</b>

## 2025 APPLICANT SCORING RUBRIC COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

FACTOR	POINTS
<p>Applicant's response shows alignment with and commitment to the Council Guiding Principles and Housing First approach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>5 points</u> – applicant indicates “YES”</li> <li><u>3 points</u> – applicant response expresses views that conflict with Housing First but demonstrates a commitment to Council Guiding Principle</li> <li><u>Disqualifying</u> – applicant indicates “NO” without an explanation</li> </ul>	
<p><b><u>98) Ability to Participate</u></b></p> <p>Applicant's response reflects ability to be an active participant of Council on Homelessness meetings.</p> <p><u>9 points</u> – applicant indicates “YES”</p> <p><u>4.5 points</u> – applicant indicates some conflicts</p> <p><u>Disqualifying</u> – applicant is unable to attend Council meeting or other monthly meetings</p>	<u>9Threshold</u>

### COUNTY APPLICATION QUESTIONS

FACTOR	POINTS
<p><b>Conflict of Interest Policy</b></p> <p>Is the applicant able to comply with the Conflict of Interest Policy? (Y/N)</p> <p>If N, the applicant may be disqualified from participation on the Council.</p>	<u>Threshold</u>
<p><b><u>9) Interest</u></b></p> <p><u>Applicant responded to the question “Please explain why you would like to serve on this particular board, committee, or commission.”</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>1 point</u> – applicant response explaining motivations for wanting to join the Council</li> <li><u>0 points</u> – no response or response does not speak to motivations for joining the Council</li> </ul>	<u>1</u>
<p><b><u>10) Qualifications</u></b></p> <p><u>Applicant responded to the question “Describe your qualifications for this appointment.”</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>1 point</u> – applicant response addresses applicant's volunteer, community, and leadership experience</li> </ul>	<u>1</u>

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Revisions Recommended by the Nominating Committee –  
8/18/2025

4



## 2025 APPLICANT SCORING RUBRIC COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

FACTOR	POINTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>0 points – no response</del></li> </ul>	
<p><b><del>11) Volunteer</del></b></p> <p><del>Applicant responses to the question “List any volunteer or community experience, including any advisory board in which you have served.”</del></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>1 point – applicant response that addresses applicant’s volunteer, community, and leadership experience</del></li> <li><del>0 points – no response</del></li> </ul>	<del>1</del>

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# CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET  
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-3453

**Agenda Date:** 9/4/2025

**Agenda #:** 9.

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Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Subject: Learning Corner: SPIRIT Program (Behavioral Health Service Provider Individualized Recovery Intensive Training)

Presenter: Victoria Fairchild and Bianca Berrios, Contra Costa Behavioral Health Services, Office for Consumer Empowerment

Contact:

Information: Receive information about the SPIRIT program

Referral History and Update:

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

None

SPIRIT is a 9-unit college course taught in collaboration with Contra Costa College from January to May on Mondays and Wednesdays and in June and July on Mondays (in person) with 10 hours a week internship equaling 60 hours. The course teaches students how to develop core skills to empower themselves by attaining and maintaining recovery and resiliency through self-awareness and peer/family support, while learning to assist others in doing the same. The completion of this class leads to a Certificate of Achievement from Contra Costa Behavioral Health and Certificate of Accomplishment from Contra Costa College.

**This program is intended for individuals who fit at least one of the following criteria:**

- **A person who has self-identified as having lived experience and behavioral health recovery.**
- **A transition-age youth or young adult 18 - 26 who has self-identified as having lived experience and behavioral health recovery.**
- **A person with lived experience as a self-identified family member of an adult experiencing a behavioral health condition.**
- **A person who is parenting or has parented a child or adult experiencing a behavioral health condition. This person may be a birth parent, adoptive parent, or family member standing in for an absent parent.**

### Goals

1. To become more empowered, explore potential and help others learn resiliency and empowerment skills.
2. To gain an understanding of the importance of peer and family support as an integral part of the recovery and resiliency journey, as well as to the overall behavioral health system of care.
3. To gain a working understanding of Contra Costa Behavioral Health's system of care which includes, Behavioral Health Services, Housing and Homeless Services, and Health Services broadly, and recovery/resiliency-oriented techniques and principles.
4. To focus on empowering individuals and communities to take proactive steps toward physical, emotional, and mental wellness through workshops, peer-led discussions, and hands-on wellness tools, using the *Taking Action for Whole Health and Wellbeing* approach.
5. To become more aware of community resources which aid peers and their families, including young adults and children, in living successfully within the larger community.
6. To explore career options that will help you develop the skills enabling you to find meaningful activity and to learn skills and participate in internship training in the behavioral health field.

The Behavioral Health Service Provider Individualized Recovery Intensive Training (SPIRIT) includes two components: the comprehensive classroom training and support program, followed by the individualized Work-Study placement. This program is a collaboration between Contra Costa Behavioral Health Services (CCBHS), Office for Peer and Family Empowerment, and Contra Costa College (CCC).

### Application Deadline and Mailing Information

**Application Process: This APPLICATION is due by October 3, 2025**

**Please submit your completed application to:**

**Attention SPIRIT**

Contra Costa Behavioral Health  
Office for Peer and Family Empowerment  
1340 Arnold Drive Suite 200  
Martinez, CA 94553  
Fax (925) 957-5156

For further information about the SPIRIT Training or application, please contact:

Bianca Berrios at: [Bianca.Berrios@cchealth.org](mailto:Bianca.Berrios@cchealth.org) at (925) 957-5141 or (925) 839-0669

Victoria Fairchild at: [Victoria.Fairchild@cchealth.org](mailto:Victoria.Fairchild@cchealth.org) at (925) 957-5143 or (925) 723-2729

### Training Components

- I. **Intensive Training (SPIRIT I and II):** The classroom training takes place during the Spring 2026 college semester (starting in January 2026) in partnership with Contra Costa College. It consists of two separate 3-unit college classes (6 units / 93 hours total), SPIRIT I and SPIRIT II. Students take SPIRIT I for the first half of the semester, and then SPIRIT II during the second half of the semester. Students may not participate in SPIRIT II without successful completion of SPIRIT I.
- II. **Work-Study/Summer Internship (SPIRIT III):** The work study portion of SPIRIT takes place during the summer 2026 college semester (3 units / 18 hours total), and includes a six-week, 60-hour internship at a human service agency with once-a-week classroom instruction. Students must successfully complete both SPIRIT I and II to participate in SPIRIT III. Students receive 3 units of college credits for successfully completing SPIRIT III (a total of 9 units / 111 hours of class time and 60 hours of internship).
- III. **Allowance:** All students will be eligible for an education allowance to assist with transportation and other expenses needed to complete the training.



**Ori Tzvieli, MD, MS**  
Health Services Director (Interim)  
**Suzanne Tavano, Ph.D.**  
Behavioral Health Director

Contra Costa Behavioral Health  
Administrative Offices  
1340 Arnold Dr. Ste. 200  
Martinez CA. 94553  
Phone (925) 957-5160  
Fax (925) 957-5156

Dear SPIRIT Applicant,

SPIRIT is a behavioral health peer and family-driven focused college course. SPIRIT is facilitated by peers and family members for peers and family members. Because SPIRIT is a collaboration with Contra Costa College, some of your personal and identifying information may be shared and exchanged with the college. Additionally, the College may require some administrative information, such as attendance, grades, conduct, or other college-related activities. Being an applicant or participant in SPIRIT may identify you as a peer of behavioral health services or a family member of a person receiving services.

### **SPIRIT Application**

Please print legibly or type. **DO NOT USE CURSIVE HANDWRITING and DO NOT USE AI OR CHATGPT TO COMPLETE THIS FORM**

- Please answer each question carefully. Be as direct and specific as possible.
- **Attach extra paper if necessary and number your answers on each page**
- If you have questions about the application, please contact:

Bianca Berrios, **Certified Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist #MPSS-FLUJSD**, at:  
[Bianca.Berrios@cchealth.org](mailto:Bianca.Berrios@cchealth.org) (925) 957-5141 or (925) 839-0669

Victoria Fairchild, **Certified Medi-Cal Peer Specialist #MPSS-JG4AP9**, at:  
[Victoria.Fairchild@cchealth.org](mailto:Victoria.Fairchild@cchealth.org) (925) 957-5143 or (925) 723-2729

**I have read and understand the above statement.**

**This acknowledgement is advisory only and is not consent to release information.**

---

**Signature**

---

**Date**

---

**Print Name**

---

**Phone Number**

## Behavioral Health Service Provider Individualized Recovery Intensive Training

This program is intended for individuals who fit at least one of the following criteria:

**Please check mark the area below that you identify with.**

- ☐ A person who has self-identified as having lived experience of recovery from a behavioral health condition.
- ☐ A transition-age youth or a young adult, age 18 - 26 who has self-identified as having lived experience of recovery from a behavioral health condition.
- ☐ A person with lived experience as a self-identified family member of an adult experiencing a behavioral health condition.
- ☐ A person who is parenting or has parented a child or adult experiencing a behavioral health condition. This person may be a birth parent, adoptive parent, or family member standing in for an absent parent.

1. Name/Personal Information:

Last: \_\_\_\_\_

First: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Voluntary)

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Please list two references:

A. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

B. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you identify as a behavioral health peer (**a person with a behavioral health condition**) or family member (**parent, caregiver, or family member of someone who receives behavioral health services**)? If so, are you willing to share this with or in your work as a Peer/Family Provider?

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4. **We value personal or lived experience in the behavioral health system.** This may include personal experience that gives insight into behavioral health, dual diagnosis, self-help, recovery/resiliency- based services, or experiences you've had helping peers and/or family members. Please describe what involvement or knowledge you have that will help you or add to your skills as a peer provider or family member in behavioral health.

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5. To do well in this training, people who have experienced difficulties with substance use and/or alcohol use need to be in recovery (**abstaining from use of substances and/or alcohol, especially within a professional/academic setting**). If this applies to you, how long have you been active in the recovery process? We recommend 6 months of recovery.

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6. Why is it important to learn about and practice methods of wellness, recovery, and resiliency in behavioral health?

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7. Based on your experiences in behavioral health or navigating services for a family member, are there particular types of positions that interest you the most?

Please list here:

a) 

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b) 

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c) 

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d) 

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8. Why do you want to participate in the SPIRIT Behavioral Health Service Provider Training?

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This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

11. Please describe an experience you have had working or interacting with someone or a group of people different from yourself. *(Different from you in terms of language, social status, culture, race, religion, sexual orientation, behavioral health diagnosis, ethnic background, or any combination of these)*. (Please use extra paper if needed).

**a) How they were different from you?**

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**b) Describe the experience**

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**c) What did you learn from the experience?**

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12. Behavioral health providers must deal with potential conflict amongst co-workers and/or the peers or family members they serve. **Please describe: (provide an answer for each question and please use extra paper if needed).**

**a) A situation in your personal or professional life where you've experienced conflict.**

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**b) What steps did you take to resolve the situation?**

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**c) What would you do differently were a similar situation to occur again?**

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**d) What did you learn from this experience?**

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13. Computer Proficiency: Do you know how to do the following tasks on a computer?  
(check answer for each)
- a. Send and receive email:                      **Beginner** ☐    **Intermediate** ☐    **Advanced** ☐
- b. Type, and print, documents:                      **Beginner** ☐    **Intermediate** ☐    **Advanced** ☐
- c. Use the internet to do research/register for classes:  
   **Beginner** ☐    **Intermediate** ☐    **Advanced** ☐
- d. Scan and Upload documents:                      **Beginner** ☐    **Intermediate** ☐    **Advanced** ☐
14. If you speak, read, write, or use another language including American Sign Language in addition to English, please specify the language and check your level of ability with speaking, reading, and writing.

Language	Speaking	Reading/Writing
	<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> fair
	<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> good
	<input type="checkbox"/> fluent	<input type="checkbox"/> fluent
	<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> fair
	<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> good
	<input type="checkbox"/> fluent	<input type="checkbox"/> fluent

15. Please list the most recent **volunteer work** you have done:  
(Begin with the most recent. Please use extra paper if needed).

Type of Work	Location/Agency	Dates Worked

16. Please list any **paid employment** experience that you have:  
(Begin with the most recent. Please use extra paper if needed).

Type of Work	Location/Agency	Dates Worked

17. Is there anything else you would like to add?

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**Please submit your completed application to:**

Contra Costa Behavioral Health  
Office for Peer and Family Empowerment  
**Attention: SPIRIT**  
1340 Arnold Drive, Suite 200  
Martinez, CA 94553

**Fax: (925) 957-5156**

**Email:**

[Bianca.Berrios@cchealth.org](mailto:Bianca.Berrios@cchealth.org)  
[Victoria.Fairchild@cchealth.org](mailto:Victoria.Fairchild@cchealth.org)