



AGENDA

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Thursday, June 4, 2026

1:00 PM

Hybrid: 1025 Escobar St., Martinez or

Register for Zoom:

https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_uUokWYJLT9qdDIKT4Q2F

7w

Regular Meeting

Agenda and Slides for 6.4.26 COH Meeting

[26-2336](#)

Attachments: [COH Agenda w Time 6.4.26](#)
[COH Slides 6.4.26](#)

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

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Nicole Green, Chair and Reentry Services Representative

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 6.4.26 Staff Report and 5.7.26 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

[26-2337](#)

Attachments: [COH Minutes 5.7.26](#)
[COH Staff Report 6.4.26](#)
[Q1- 2026 Report](#)

Nicole Green, Chair and Reentry Services Representative

4. Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity Update: CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

Mark Mora, Homebase and Jamie Schecter, H3

5. Funding Committee Update: (ACTION ITEM) APPROVE revisions to the 2026 Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity Application Process as recommended by the Funding Committee [26-2339](#)

Attachments: [Application Process - 5.19.26 Proposed Revisions](#)

Mark Mora, Homebase

6. **Funding Committee: (ACTION ITEM) APPROVE Council on Homelessness members to serve on 2026 CoC NOFO Review and Rank Panel**

Mark Mora, Homebase

7. **Nominating Committee: (ACTION ITEM) APPROVE Council on Homelessness members to serve on Ad Hoc Nominating Panel**

Jaime Jenett, H3

8. **Youth Action Board (YAB) Update**

Juno Hedrick, Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor and Anastasia Lockwood, Youth Representative

9. **Old Business: Sector Report Outs from Council Members**

Nicole Green, Chair and Reentry Services Representative

10. **Old Business: Funding Updates**

Jamie Schecter and Christy Saxton, H3

22. **New Business: Community Health Assessment Survey**

Dr. Sefanit Mekuria, Director of Public Health, STI Controller, Deputy Health Officer

12. **New Business: Participant Satisfaction Survey Results**

Yessenia Aguilar, H3

13. **Council Membership: Recognition of Outgoing Council Member Belinda Jackson-Thomas**

Nicole Green, Chair and Reentry Services Representative

14. **Announcements**

All

The next meeting is currently scheduled for July 9, 2026.

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. 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: Council on Homelessness: contracostacoc@cchealth.org



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 26-2336

Agenda Date: 6/4/2026

Agenda #:

Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Subject: Agenda and Slides for 6.4.26 COH Meeting

Presenter:

Contact:

Information:

Referral History and Update:

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

AGENDA

THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2026, 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/webinar/register/WN_uUokWYJLT9qdDIKT4Q2F7w

How to Join the Meeting Via Call-In: 1-669-444-9171 / Meeting ID: 891 5428 6292

TIME	AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER
1:00	1. Call to Order - Chair starts the meeting	Nicole Green, <i>Chair and Reentry Services Representative</i>
1:00 15 min	2. Introductions a. Hybrid Meeting Norms (2 min) b. Roll call of Councilmembers and introduction of guests (11 min) c. Poll – Who’s in the room? (3 min)	Nicole Green, <i>Chair and Reentry Services Representative</i>
1:15 5 min	3. Public Comment - Open period for members of the public to comment on items not listed on the agenda.	Members of the public
1:20 5 min	4. Consent Calendar (ACTION ITEM) – 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 May 7, 2026 Council meeting b. APPROVE staff report for the June 4, 2026 Council meeting	Nicole Green, <i>Chair and Reentry Services Representative</i>
1:25 5 min	5. Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity Update a. CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) (5 min)	a. Mark Mora, <i>Homebase and Jamie Schecter, H3</i>
1:30 30 min	6. Committee Report Outs - Report outs from each of the committees below. a. Funding Committee Update (ACTION ITEMS) (15 min)	a. Mark Mora, <i>Homebase</i> b. Jaime Jenett, <i>H3</i> c. Juno Hedrick, <i>Vice Chair and Lived Experience</i>



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. (ACTION ITEM) APPROVE revisions to the 2026 Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity Application Process as recommended by the Funding Committee ii. (ACTION ITEM) APPROVE Council on Homelessness members to serve on 2026 CoC NOFO Review and Rank Panel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Nominating Committee Update (5 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. (ACTION ITEM) APPROVE Council on Homelessness members to serve on Ad Hoc Nominating Panel c. Youth Action Board (YAB) Update (10 min) 	<i>Advisor and Anastasia Lockwood, Youth Representative</i>
2:00 <i>20 min</i>	7. Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Sector Report Outs from Council Members (10 min) b. Funding Updates (10 min) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Nicole Green, <i>Chair and Reentry Services Representative</i> b. Jamie Schecter and Christy Saxton, <i>H3</i>
2:20 <i>25 min</i>	8. New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Community Health Assessment Survey (10 min) b. Participant Satisfaction Survey Results (15 min) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Dr. Sefanit Mekuria, <i>Director of Public Health, STI Controller, Deputy Health Officer</i> b. Yessenia Aguilar, <i>H3</i>
2:45 <i>2 min</i>	9. Council Membership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Recognition of Outgoing Council Member Belinda Jackson-Thomas (2 min) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Nicole Green, <i>Chair and Reentry Services Representative</i>
2:47 <i>10 min</i>	10. Announcements – Open for all to share announcements about upcoming events and to give brief reports about recent events/trainings relevant to the Council.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All
2:57	11. Pin It	<i>Nicole Green, Chair and Reentry Services Representative</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 or call 925-608-6700. Public comments may also be submitted before the meeting by email at 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
Individual Racism	A person's beliefs and actions that serve to perpetuate racial oppression. This can be conscious and unconscious. This may be externalized or internalized
Institutional Racism	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.
Interpersonal Racism	The interactions between people - both within and across racial groups.
Microaggressions	Brief, everyday exchanges that send denigrating messages to certain individuals because of their group membership.
Race	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.
Race Equity Lens	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.
Racial Bias	Implicit and/or explicit bias that reinforces discriminatory attitudes and behaviors when interacting with people or situations.
Racial Equity	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.
Racism	A system of institutional, systemic oppression, and practices of individuals and society that shape cultural beliefs and values that support racist policies and practices.
Structural Racism	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.
Systemic Racism	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.
White Fragility	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

June 4, 2026 from 1:00-3:00

WELCOME

Nicole Green, Chair and Reentry Services Representative

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.

BROWN ACT ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

If not attending in person

	Traditional Teleconferencing	Alternative Teleconferencing (1/1/26-1/1/2030)
Basis for Remote Attendance	When unable to attend in person	May appear remotely for Just Cause: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2x/year • Notify COH by state of meeting with specific just cause reason
Agenda and Public Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide address to be listed on agenda to COH staff 1 week before meeting (name not listed on address) • Post agenda at your location • Public may attend at your location 	N/A
Quorum	Counts towards quorum	Quorum must be met by in person members & traditional teleconferencing
Voting	May vote if meet address/posting requirement	A majority of membership body participates in person

HYBRID MEETING NORMS

Nicole Green, Chair and Reentry Services
Representative

HYBRID MEETING NORM LIST

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.
8. 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

Nicole Green, Chair and Reentry Services
Representative

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

Nicole Green, Chair and Reentry Services
Representative

CONSENT CALENDAR

Nicole Green, Chair and Reentry Services
Representative

CONSENT CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

- 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 May 7, 2026 Council Meeting
- Approve staff report for the June 4, 2026 Council Meeting



CONTINUUM OF
CARE (COC)
NOTICE OF
FUNDING
OPPORTUNITY
(NOFO) UPDATE

CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity Update –
Mark Mora, Homebase and Jamie Schechter, H3

COC NOFO UPDATE

Mark Mora, Homebase
Jamie Schechter, H3

HUD COC NOFO

- Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funds the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program, releases an annual Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) competition
- What we know about the FY 2026 CoC NOFO :
 - The lowest HUD can set Tier 1 at is 60% of Annual Renewal Demand – it was 30% in the rescinded FY 2025 CoC NOFO which was unprecedented
 - HUD is required to publish the FY 2026 CoC NOFO by June 1, 2026 with awards made by December 1, 2026
 - HUD estimates post date (5/29/26) and application due date (8/26/26)
 - Contact contracosta@homebaseccc.org with questions

PLACEHOLDER: FY 2026 COC NOFO

- This slide may be updated if the FY 2026 CoC NOFO is released on 5/29/26, which is the date HUD has estimated

COMMITTEE REPORT OUTS

Funding Committee Update (ACTION ITEM) –
Mark Mora, Homebase

Nominating Committee Update (ACTION ITEM) –
Jaime Jenett, H3

Youth Action Board (YAB) Update – Juno Hedrick,
Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor and
Anastasia Lockwood, Youth Representative and YAB
Member

FUNDING
COMMITTEE
UPDATE
(ACTION ITEMS)

Mark Mora, Homebase

FUNDING COMMITTEE UPDATE

- The Funding Committee has met monthly for several months to prepare for the FY 2026 Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity (CoC NOFO) competition
- The general approach has been to plan for similar program changes that were introduced in the rescinded FY 2025 NOFO from November 2025
- The Funding Committee last met on May 29 to finalize recommended revisions to the CoC NOFO Application Process (competition policies) for the Council to consider today

RECOMMENDED 2026 REVISIONS (1 OF 2)

- 1) Adopt policies if the CoC NOFO includes a funding cap on permanent housing (PH) projects:
 - a. Remove policy prioritizing renewal projects over new projects
 - b. Aligned with the CoC's overall strategy of prioritizing permanent supportive housing projects, CoC Lead Agency will meet with renewal PSH providers to develop a PH cap shortlist (prioritized for Tier 1)
 - c. Renewal projects cannot appeal: 1) reallocation amounts for projects included in the PH cap shortlist, and 2) renewal projects excluded from the PH cap shortlist
 - d. Prioritization of renewal PH projects applying for a transition grant to convert to a Transitional Housing project over new projects
 - e. Reallocated funding will be prioritized for PH to the fullest extent allowed in the NOFO

RECOMMENDED 2026 REVISIONS (2 OF 2)

2) Revise policy on late applications:

- a. Late applications will be considered under extenuating circumstances and will be reviewed and determined on a case-by case basis by the Review & Rank Panel
- b. 5-point deduction - applications submitted up to 24 hours after deadline
- c. 5-point deduction - applications submitted between 24-48 hours after deadline
- d. No accepted – application submitted more than 48 hours after deadline

3) Adopt policies if CoC NOFO has a competition period of 75 days or less:

- a. Funding Committee can approve revisions to scoring tools and competition policies (however, if there are more than 75 days for the competition, but the Council is unable to achieve quorum in sufficient time, the Funding Committee may approve documents)
- b. Priority Listing will be approved by the Council – an emergency Council meeting may be convened as needed meet HUD-required timelines.

ACTION ITEM

Approve revisions to the Application Process for the FY 2026 CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity competition as recommended by the Funding Committee.



LOCAL REVIEW & RANK PROCESS

- As part of the annual CoC competition, a Review and Rank Panel of non-conflicted Council on Homelessness members will review and score submitted projects
- Panelists use Council-approved scoring tools:
 - Renewal Housing Project Scoring Tool
 - New Housing Project Scoring Tool(s)

RECRUITING FOR 2026 REVIEW AND RANK PANEL

- Eligibility: CoH member, non-conflicted
- Role: review and score applications, participate in review and rank meetings, produce Priority Listing
- Important dates and activities:
 - Panel orientation (1.5 hours, tentatively 7/14)
 - Score applications on your own (8-16 hours, tentatively 7/14-7/23)
 - Panel meetings (2 meetings, each 3-5 hours, tentatively 7/23 and 7/27)
- Benefits: learn about projects that provide housing and/or services; build relationships; professional development

ACTION ITEM

Approve proposed Council on Homelessness members to serve on 2026 CoC NOFO Review and Rank Panel



FUNDING COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

- *6/9 – Funding Committee Meeting (virtual)
- *6/11 – Funding Committee Meeting (virtual)
- 6/16 – Funding Committee Meeting (in-person for Council members with virtual component)

*If the 2026 CoC NOFO is released on the estimated date of 5/29, the Funding Committee will likely need to be quickly convened on 6/9 and 6/11

NOMINATING
COMMITTEE
UPDATE
(ACTION ITEM)

Jaime Jenett, H3

EHSD REPRESENTATIVE SEAT

- Belinda Jackson-Thomas stepping down
- Soliciting for EHSD candidates until June 12th
- Propose using 2025 Nominating Panel
 - Juno
 - Leann
 - Sherina
- Will bring candidate for COH vote to July 9th meeting

ACTION ITEM

Approve proposed Council on Homelessness members to serve on an Ad Hoc Nominating Panel



YOUTH ACTION BOARD (YAB)



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

Anastasia Lockwood, CoH Youth Representative
and YAB Member

YAB MAY MEETINGS

Bimonthly hybrid meetings at H3 in and RYSE

Subcommittees:
Communications,
Data & Research,
Outreach & Retention

CoH: CoH Meeting,
Oversight Committee,
Homeless Workforce
Integration Network

Peer Support Check-In
Meetings

YAB MAY ACTIVITIES

- Richmond Tiny House Village Celebration
- Webinar: Ending Youth Homelessness: New Initiatives
- SOS Screening & Panel: The Right to Exist
- Measure B Community Forum
- National YAB Connection Space



COMING UP!

Reconvene
Youth & Young
Adult Strategic
Planning

Social Media

Updates to
2024
Community
Needs
Assessment

Apply for HUDs
YHDP NOFO

Concord
Library
Summer
Unhoused
Resource Fair

Youth Survey
planning (fall
2026)

YYA Homelessness Community Collaborative

The YAB and H3 invite partners and young people to reconnect and work together to improve outcomes for Youth & Young Adults (YYA) experiencing homelessness. Join us as we launch the newly revamped YYA Homelessness Community Collaborative—a shared space where YYA with lived experience and community partners can:

- Review and shape plans like the [YYA Strategic Plan](#)
- Workshop ideas for events such as Youth Homelessness Awareness Month
- Explore ways to advance action, improve services, and uplift funding opportunities
- Build community with others committed to supporting YYA in Contra Costa

Meeting Details

? Monday, June 15 (3rd Mondays) | ? 3:00–4:00 PM

□ <https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/j/893336324642>

CONNECT WITH YAB

Young people with lived experience of homelessness and community partners are invited to join a meeting to learn more!

For more information:

✉ ContraCostaYAB@cchealth.org

? 925-500-3237

2026 Contra Costa County YAB
Meeting RSVP



OLD BUSINESS

Sector Report Outs from Council Members –
Nicole Green, Chair and Reentry Services
Representative

Funding Updates – Jamie Schechter and Christy
Saxon, H3

SECTOR
REPORT OUTS
FROM COUNCIL
MEMBERS

Nicole Green, Chair and Reentry Services
Representative

FUNDING UPDATES

Jamie Schechter and Christy Saxton, H3

FUNDING COMMITTEE

- March 17, 2026 - first Funding Committee meeting provided overview of the 2025 CoC NOFO release and expected changes to the upcoming 2026 CoC NOFO
- Join the next meeting on April 28th at 2:30 pm on Zoom
 - Register - <https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/meeting/register/dZ3KHOTHY-pAFqHaGwFFA>
- We will be discussing scoring tool revisions and policies that effect renewal projects. Current CoC Grantees highly encouraged to join!

PROPOSED CHANGE TO EQUAL ACCESS RULE – PUBLIC COMMENT OPEN

- HUD's Equal Access Rule requires that individuals be treated based on their gender identity and ensures that eligibility for services is not restricted because of someone's sexual orientation.
- HUD's proposed changes include:
 - Removing references to "gender," "gender identity," and "actual or perceived sexual orientation" across all HUD programs.
 - Requires placement and accommodation in emergency shelters and other facilities with shared sleeping quarters or bathing facilities be made in accordance with an individual's biological sex
 - Removes prohibitions on inquiries into gender identity so providers may "require reasonable assurances or evidence to establish a person's sex.
 - Could tie compliance with the new standards to federal funding eligibility.

Public comment open through June 29, 2026

<https://www.regulations.gov/document/HUD-2026-0529-0001>

FORECASTED FEDERAL GRANTS - HUD

Estimated Posting Dates on Grants.gov as of 5/26/2026

May 15, 2026 (past due)

- [Youth Homelessness NOFO for FY2024 and FY2025](#) - HUD will provide funding to communities to implement housing and services projects to reduce youth homelessness

May 29, 2026

- [FY 2026 Continuum of Care Competition](#)

June 17, 2026

- [Continuum of Care Builds \(CoC Builds\)](#) - CoC Builds provides funding for construction, acquisition, or rehabilitation of new units of PSH

August 12, 2026

- [Family Unification Program \(FUP\) Multi-Year NOFO](#) - public housing authorities (PHAs) to partner with public child welfare agencies (PCWAs) to provide Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) assistance to families and transition aged youth

FORECASTED FEDERAL GRANTS - HHS

Estimated Posting Dates on Grants.gov as of 5/26/2026

June 22, 2026

- [FY 2026 Basic Center Program](#) - provides temporary, emergency shelter; and counseling services to youth who have left home
- [The Primary Prevention Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program](#) - identify and implement strategies and services for youth and young adults between ages 12 and 26 in order to prevent homelessness

July 7, 2026

- [Street Outreach Program \(SOP\)](#) - provides street-based services to runaway, homeless, and street youth

HOMELESS HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND PREVENTION PROGRAM

- Still awaiting final HHAP-7 budget. Governor's May Revise budget included program at \$500 million, a 50% reduction from prior rounds
- More HHAP information available online - [Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention \(HHAP\) Grant Program | California Department of Housing and Community Development](#)

CONSOLIDATED HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS RFP

- On May 11, 2026 funding recommendations approved by the Family and Human Services Committee for consideration by the Board of Supervisors
 - [Meeting materials available online](#)
- Board of Supervisors approval of recommendations scheduled for June 9, 2026 meeting

NEW BUSINESS

Community Healthy Assessment Survey – Dr. Sefanit Mekuria, Director of Public Health, STI Controller, Deputy Health Officer

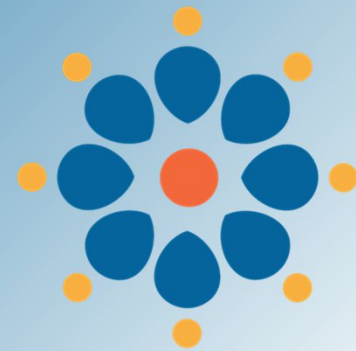
COMMUNITY
HEALTH
ASSESSMENT
SURVEY

Dr. Sefanit Mekuria, Director of Public Health, STI
Controller, Deputy Health Officer

Community Health Assessment

6/4/2026

CoH Meeting



CONTRA COSTA
HEALTH



Why A Public Health CHA

- Identify community health needs and strengths
- Use data to set priorities and guide decision-making
- Support development of a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and strategic plan
- Strengthen collaboration with community partners and residents
- Improve transparency and build community trust
- Target resources where they're most needed
- Track progress and measure impact over time
- Meet regulatory requirements

Background

- First step: partnered with the Contra Costa Together team for guidance and support & help form the steering committee
- Steering committee - Provides overall direction and coordination, to ensure the CHA is community-driven and aligned with shared priorities
- Steering committee spent time sharing experiences, reviewing frameworks, and reflecting on past assessments
- Group development took time, allowing the committee to align and establish a shared “north star”
- Partnerships: Contra Costa Together, Contra Costa Regional Foundation, Contra Costa Health Equity Team, Contra Costa Business Intelligence Team, IP3, Community Initiatives

Steering Committee	
Organization	Representative
First Five	Liliana Gonzalez
Ryse	Kanwarpal Dhaliwal
Rainbow Community Center	JC Chamorro
Healthy Contra Costa	Roxanne Garza
Hijas Del Campo	Marivel Mendoza Matheu
Contra Costa Health Plan (Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan)	Jersey Nielson/Dr. Sara Levin
Kaiser (Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan)	Camille Cooley
CCH	Sofe Mekuria, Ashley Kokotaylo, Shannon Ladner-Beasley, Lisa Diemoz
IP3	Erin Barbaro



Vital Conditions

- What are the Vital Conditions?
 - Seven interdependent community conditions essential for well-being—like housing, meaningful work, civic belonging, education, transportation, environmental health, and basic needs.
- Why it matters for CHAs
 - Offers a holistic lens beyond traditional health data, emphasizing root causes of health and wellness.
 - Promotes multi-solving solutions that achieve measurable changes in health, equity, and civic benefits simultaneously
 - Aligns closely with community-driven approaches, empowering cross-sector partnerships.
- Our Steering Committee's Decision
 - Selected the Vital Conditions framework—it resonates with Contra Costa Together's mission and helps unify diverse priorities under a shared vision.
- Proven in Practice
 - Loma Linda University Health adopted this model in their 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment—embedding the seven conditions into their strategic plan. Other regions (e.g., Augusta County, Virginia, Frederick County, Maryland) have likewise integrated Vital Conditions into assessment tools and planning efforts

VITAL CONDITIONS FOR WELL-BEING



THRIVING NATURAL WORLD

Sustainable resources, contact with nature, freedom from hazards

Clean air, water, soil; healthy ecosystems able to sustainably provide necessary resources; accessible natural spaces; freedom from the extreme heat, flooding, wind, radiation, earthquakes, pathogens



BASIC NEEDS FOR HEALTH + SAFETY

Basic requirements for health and safety

Nutritious food, safe drinking water; fresh air; sufficient sleep; routine physical activity; safe, satisfying sexuality and reproduction; freedom from trauma, violence, addiction and crime; routine care for physical and behavioral health



HUMANE HOUSING

Humane, consistent housing

Adequate space per person; safe structures; affordable costs; diverse neighborhoods (without gentrification, segregation, concentrated poverty); close to work, school, food, recreation, and nature



MEANINGFUL WORK + WEALTH

Rewarding work, careers, and standards of living

Job training/retraining; good-paying and fulfilling jobs; family and community wealth; savings and limited debt



LIFELONG LEARNING

Continuous learning, education, and literacy

Continuous development of cognitive, social, emotional abilities; early childhood experiences; elementary, high school, and higher education; career and adult education



RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION

Reliable, safe, and accessible transportation

Close to work, school, food, leisure; safe transport; active transport; efficient energy use; few environmental hazards



BELONGING + CIVIC MUSCLE

Sense of belonging and power to shape a common world

Social support; civic association; freedom from stigma, discrimination, oppression; support for civil rights, human rights; civic agency; collective efficacy; vibrant arts, culture, and spiritual life; equitable access to information; many opportunities for civic engagement (voting, volunteering, public work)

All human beings rely on seven vital conditions in order to Thrive (reach their full potential)



Belonging and Civic Muscle

Benefits of the VC's framework go beyond classifying social drivers...

- Bridging framework
- Helps non-health stakeholders see their role and potential for contribution
- Centers the role of belonging and civic muscle for success in every other area

When vital conditions are denied or disrupted, people struggle and suffer, driving demand for urgent services.

“In times of crisis, urgent services are lifesaving and life-altering. Anyone experiencing adversity may need urgent services to regain their health and well-being.”

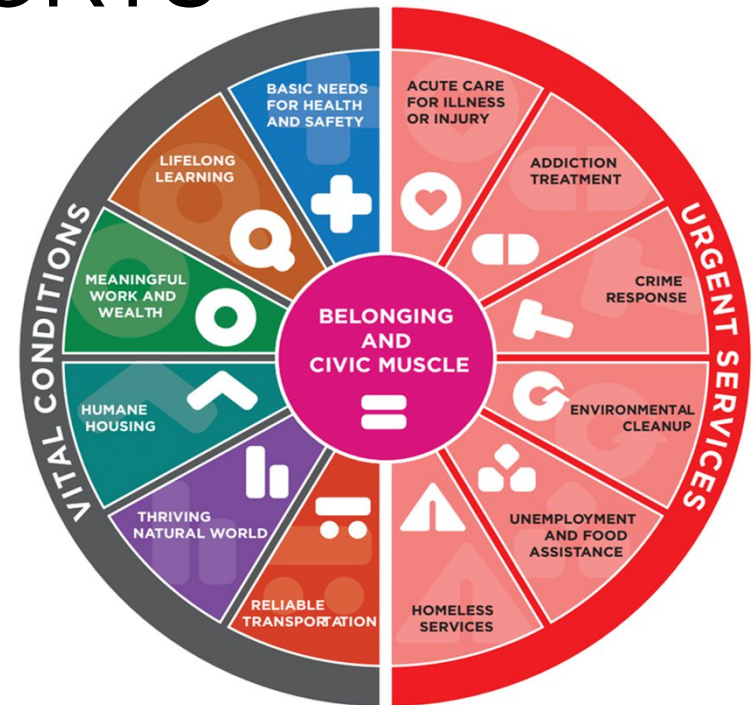
— [Health Affairs](#)



(RE) BALANCING OUR EFFORTS

“We must reject the implicit idea that the best we can do is to deliver urgent services to people who are perpetually struggling and suffering, often over generations.”

– [Health Affairs](#)



We can't urgent service our way to Thriving

Current State

- Secondary Data Work
 - First iteration of key health indicators is complete & data analysis is currently underway
- Primary Data Collection
 - Steering Committee prioritized a community survey focused on belonging and civic muscle
 - Available in 16 languages
 - Anonymous & raffle gift card
 - Community-facilitated listening sessions are being planned and launched
 - Strong emphasis on reaching voices “not in the room” to ensure equitable representation

Upcoming Milestones



Ready, Set, Action!

1. Stay Informed & Be Ready

- Follow updates on the CHA webpage: [Community Health Assessment 2026 | Contra Costa Health](#)
- If you live in Contra Costa, please complete the survey on the website ([CHA](#)) or scan the QR code

**Take the
Survey**



Ready, Set, Action!

3. Partner to Reach the Community

- The community survey closes June 30th. Please help us reach a wide range of Contra Costa residents by sharing it with your partners, coalitions, networks, events and clients in the field over the next month.
- Need help coordinating outreach material for a large event, including printed surveys: Email CHAWorkgroup@cchealth.org
- Toolkit with sample email, flyer with QR code available on the website: [Community Health Assessment 2026 | Contra Costa Health](#)



Thanks!!!

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

Nicole Green, Chair & Reentry Representative

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Next COH Meeting: Thursday, July 9, 1 – 3 PM (1025 Escobar St., Martinez)
- Homelessness Awareness Month Committee: Tuesday, June 2, 2 PM – 4 PM (Zoom)
- CoC Training (CoC NOFO New Project Types and Transition Grants): Monday, June 8, 10 AM – 12 PM (Zoom)
- HMIS Policy Committee: Tuesday, June 9, 12-1:30 PM (Zoom)
- Funding Committee (Tentative): Tuesday, June 9, 2:30-4:30 PM (Zoom)
- Homeless Service Provider Meeting: Thursday, June 11, 8:30 – 9:30 AM (Zoom)
- Funding Committee (Tentative): Thursday, June 11, 2:30-4:30 PM (Zoom)
- Funding Committee: Tuesday, June 16, 2:30-4:30 PM (IN PERSON)
- Homelessness 101: Thursday, June 16, 6 – 7:30 PM (IN PERSON- Danville)
- Oversight Committee: Thursday, June 18, 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM (Zoom)



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 26-2337

Agenda Date: 6/4/2026

Agenda #: 3.

Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Subject: Consent Calendar: APPROVE 6.4.26 Staff Report and 5.7.26 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Presenter:

Contact:

Information:

Referral History and Update:

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s): APPROVE 6.4.26 Staff Report and 5.7.26 Minutes



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MINUTES

Date: Thursday, May 7, 2026, 1 – 3 p.m.

Recording link: Available by email request to CChomelesscouncil@cchealth.org

Council Member Attendance:

- In-Person (13): Belinda Jackson-Thomas, Courtney Pal, Dani Jimenez, Donnie Diego, Gabriel Lemus, Jared Murti, LeAnn Matthews, Mia Fairbanks, Ralph Payton, Shawn Ray, Sherina Criswell, Verneda Clapp, Wayne Earl.
- Remote (3): Anastasia Lockwood; Juno Hedrick. Nicole Green.
- Absent (3): Alejandra Chamberlain, Heather Worobey, Tony Ucciferri.

Staff Attendance: Jaime Jenett, H3; Jamie Schecter, H3.

Community Member Attendance:

- In-person: None.
- Remote: Ginger Latu, BACS; Lynna Magnuson, Caminar; Kim Cullom, CCH ; Maria Dominguez, CCH; Lashaunta Flores, CCEB; Lorena Hernandez, CCEB; Nikki Brighthouse, CCEB; Silvia Flores, CCEB; Catherine Casimere, City of Richmond; Koland Mattie, Community Housing Development Corporation; Amanda Russell, Community Member; Amy Maggiore, Community Member; Miranda Murphree, Community member; Pixie Johansson, Community Member; Anastasia Lockwood, Council member; Juno Hedrick, Council Member; Nicole Green, Council Member; Melanie Erickson, Department of Conservation and Development; Elizabeth Winstead, Department of Rehabilitation; Jai De Lotto, Department of Veterans Affairs; Brittany Ferguson, CCH: H3; Carina Rodriguez-Pena, CCH: H3; Caroline Miller, H3; Cheryl Leonor, H3, CCH: H3; Christy Saxton, CCH: H3; Jacqueline Franco, CCH: H3; Kayla Buscemi, CCH: H3; Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, CCH: H3; Nicholas Carter, CCH: H3; Shelby Ferguson, CCH: H3; Yessenia Aguilar, CCH: H3; Deanne Pearn, Hope Solutions; Khayla DiGiorgio, Hope Solutions; Shannon Martin, Hope Solutions; Kirsten Hougen, EHSD; Dean Webber, East Bay Men’s recovery Center; Anh Tran, LFCD; Greg Colley, MFAC; Jill Ray, Office of Supervisor Anderson; Hang Mosier, SAHA; Alicia Alferez, SHELTER, Inc.; Andrea Foti, SHELTER, Inc.; Cynthia Chavez, SHELTER, Inc.; Daniel Barth, SoS Richmond; Rebecca Gomez-Pellecer, SHELTER< Inc.; Shayne Kaleo, SHELTER, Inc.; Lenita Wheeler, Winter Nights.



AGENDA ITEM

1) Call to Order

A. Chair starts the meeting:

Speaker: Nicole Green, Chair and Reentry Services Representative

Nicole Green called the meeting to order.

2) Introductions

A. Meeting Norms:

Speaker: Nicole Green, Chair and Reentry Services Representative

Nicole Green introduced the Brown Act attendance requirements and provided an overview of the hybrid meeting norms and guidelines to help ensure that meetings are conducted in a safe and respectful environment that encourages participation and inclusivity.

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

Speaker: 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?

Speaker: Nicole Green, Chair and Reentry Services Representative

Nicole Green conducted the poll activity. 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:	8 (24%)
I’ve attended some meetings:	7 (21%)
I’ve attended a lot of meetings:	19 (56%)
I prefer not to answer:	0 (0%)

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

Yes, currently	2 (6%)
Yes, within the past 7 years	2 (6%)
Yes, more than 7 years ago	9 (27%)
No	19 (58%)
I prefer not to answer	1 (3%)



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

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

African American/Black	10 (21%)
American Indian/Alaskan Native	5 (11%)
Asian/Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian	6 (13%)
Hispanic/Latinx	6 (13%)
White	14 (30%)
Multi-racial	5 (11%)
I describe myself in another way	0 (0%)
I prefer not to answer	1 (2%)

3) Public Comments

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

Members of the public:

- Dean Webber spoke about the closure of the encampment at the Contra Costa County Fairgrounds affecting approximately 29 people who will be on the streets. Jaime Jennett mentioned that H3 CORE team is working with those affected and the ultimate goal is to refer them to other housing opportunities or shelters.

4) Consent Calendar (ACTION ITEM)

A. APPROVE minutes from the April 2, 2026 Council meeting

B. APPROVE staff report for the May 7, 2026 Council meeting

Speaker: Nicole Green, Chair and Reentry Services Representative

Members made a motion to approve the items in the consent calendar as listed above.

Motion

- State of Motion:
 - To approve the consent calendar items as listed.
- Discussion:
 - None.
- Procedural Record:
 - Motion made by: LeAnn Matthews.
 - Seconded by: Shawn Ray.
 - AYES: Anastasia Lockwood, Belinda Jackson-Thomas, Courtney Pal, Donnie Diego, Gabriel Lemus, Jared Murti, Juno Hedrick, LeAnn Matthews, Mia Fairbanks, Ralph Payton, Shawn Ray, Sherina Criswell, Verneda Clapp, Wayne Earl.
 - NOES: None.
 - ABSTAINS: Nicole Green.
 - UNABLE TO VOTE: None.
 - ABSENT: Alejandra Chamberlain, Dani Jimenez, Heather Worobey, Tony Ucciferri.



5) Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity Update

A. CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

Presenter: Jamie Schechter, H3

Per the recent Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development (THUD) Appropriations bill, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is required to set Tier 1 at 60% minimum for the FY 2026 Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity (CoC NOFO). While this is a significant drop from historical years (previous years had Tier 1 at 90% or higher), it is higher than the rescinded FY 2025 CoC NOFO from November 2025 which attempted to lower it to 30%. Tier 1 funds are non-competitive funds guaranteed to communities to maintain local funding stability. HUD is expected to publish the FY 2026 NOFO competition by June 1, 2026, and Congressional mandate requires HUD to finalize and make awards by December 1, 2026. The application deadline is expected to be the end of August. HUD will post forecasted grant opportunities at the United States government's [grants.gov website](https://www.grants.gov). Local agencies should prepare for NOFO and other grant deadlines—such as Youth Homeless Demonstration Project (YHDP) and CoC Builds competition funding competition—and will need to learn and adapt to new programmatic changes. H3 will continue to support agencies with dedicated office hours for Technical Assistance provided by Homebase. The Homebase team may be reached at contracosta@homebaseccc.org for questions or support.

6) Committee Report Outs

A. Funding Committee Update

Presenter: Jamie Schechter, H3

The Funding Committee met on April 28, 2026, to review the CoC NOFO competition policies in preparation of the FY 2026 CoC NOFO. The Funding Committee is considering some competition policy changes pending the release of the NOFO such as limiting the number of appeals and giving the Funding Committee the authority to approve changes to the scoring tool due to potential time constraints. The next meeting is scheduled on May 19th, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Current and prospective CoC grantees are highly encouraged to attend.

B. Youth Action Board (YAB) Update

Presenter: Juno Hedrick, *Vice Chair & Lived Experience Representative* and Anastasia Lockwood, *Youth Representative*

Juno Hedrick shared the different meetings that YAB members accomplished in the month of April, which included bimonthly hybrid meetings with H3 and RYSE, subcommittee meetings, Communications, Data & Research, Outreach and Retention, and peer support meetings. The activities for the month of April included strategic planning for youth and



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young adults, Contra Costa Budget Justice Coalition Youth Academy, RYSE Listening Campaign 2.0, National YAB Connection Space, etc. The highlights from the CCY Youth Empowerment Summit and Legislative Day were shared. The activities for the future months include reconvening the Youth & Young Adult Strategic Planning, work on social media, apply for HUDs YHDP NOFO, among others. Anyone interested in connecting with YAB can send an email at ContraCostaYAB@cchealth.org or call at (925) 500-3237.

7) Old Business

A. Point-in-Time Count (PIT) and Client Satisfaction

Presenter: Janel Fletcher, H3

Janel Fletcher provided a summary of the 2026 Homelessness Point-in-Time Count Report. The Contra Costa Continuum of Care (CoC) conducts an annual Point-in-Time (PIT) count to estimate how many individuals are experiencing both sheltered (emergency shelters, transitional housing) and unsheltered (cars, tents, RVs, outdoor spaces) homelessness on a single night. While HUD only mandates this count every other year, Contra Costa CoC chooses to perform it annually. This year the count took place on January 28, 2026. The initial data was submitted to HUD at the end of April, and a complete infographic and comprehensive dataset will be released later in the summer as local analysis conclude. The findings show that while the total number of individuals experiencing homelessness rose by 7% from the previous year to 2,260 people, the report highlights a significant downward trend compared to 2024. Most of this recent increase is attributed to a higher sheltered population, as the county successfully expanded its bed capacity and improved data tracking. Demographically, the data reveals that Black and African American individuals are disproportionately represented, and a vast majority of the unhoused population are long-term residents who have lived in the area for over a decade. The report also notes a decrease in people being offered services during displacement events, despite the county's efforts to improve coordination between outreach teams and local law enforcement. Janel thanked all of the volunteers for their support. Everyone who is interested in signing up for the 2027 PIT Count may sign up at the Contra Costa Health's [CoC mailing list](#).

B. Sector Report Outs from Council Members

Speaker: All members

- Verneda Clapp shared that due to the release of the H.R.1 bill (also known as the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act"), as of June 1st, all CalFresh members with no dependents now have a work requirement in order to receive benefits. The law institutes significant changes to Medicaid, requiring states to evaluate recipient eligibility every six months rather than annually and mandates an 80-hour-a-month work, training, or community service requirement. As a result of this change, America's Job Center of California (AJCC) will be offering job training or job search for members who need it. Additionally, Medi-



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Cal's requirement changes will be effective in January 2027. It was noted that college students are also being affected by this law as their food stamps have been cut off.

Jamie Schechter mentioned that Employment and Human Services Department might be invited to give a presentation about this topic at a future meeting.

- The tattoo removal project kicked off and had its first clients at the beginning of May. A flyer with criteria and eligibility was shared. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)'s definition of homeless is broader compared to HUD. Part of the process is to make a phone call, get an appointment, and get an intake done by a nurse. Anyone requesting more information may contact Mia Fairbanks at mfairban@cchealth.org.

C. Funding Updates

Speaker: Jamie Schechter and Christy Saxton, H3

The grants renewals for Quarter 2 were announced on April 27, 2026. H3 has been in contact with HUD's head officials to make sure that timelines and dollar amounts are correct. For the Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP-6), H3 has finally received the grant agreement by the State. Contra Costa County and the COC applied jointly and will receive \$6.7 million to help administer a variety of programs across the County such as emergency shelter, some targeted CORE teams, homelessness prevention, etc. For HHAP-7, the State Senate Budget is recommending \$1 billion. More information about HHAP may be found at The California Department of Housing and Community Development's [website](#). Lastly, the funding recommendations for the Consolidated Housing and Homelessness Request for Proposal have been delayed. Agency providers have been notified in advance of the Board of Supervisors approval and will soon receive their application scorecard. The awards include funding from Measure X, HHAP-5, HHAP-6, Coordinated Entry, County General Funds, and Employment and Human Services Department's housing programs.

8) New Business

A. (ACTION ITEM) APPROVE members for the 2026 Homelessness Awareness Month (HAM) Committee

Presenter: Jaime Jenett, H3

H3 is recruiting COH committee members to help organize the different activities and events for HAM Committee, which happens in November each year. Part of the tasks is to develop a toolkit, video, recognition categories, etc. as well as help prepare the Board of Supervisor presentation and plan the Homeless Person's Memorial event that takes place in December. The primary responsibilities and timeline were shared. The following members showed interest in being part of the event planning: LeAnn Matthews, Sherina Criswell, Wayne Earl, Donnie Diego, Belinda Jackson-Thomas, Nicole Green, and Juno Hedrick.



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

Motion

- State of Motion:
 - To approve the above proposed Council on Homelessness members to serve on the 2026 Homelessness Awareness Month Committee.
- Discussion:
 - None.
- Procedural Record:
 - Motion made by: Verneda Clapp.
 - Seconded by: **Ralph Payton.**
 - AYES: Anastasia Lockwood, Belinda Jackson-Thomas, Courtney Pal, Dani Jimenez, Donnie Diego, Gabriel Lemus, Jared Murti, LeAnn Matthews, Mia Fairbanks, Nicole Green, Ralph Payton, Shawn Ray, Sherina Criswell, Verneda Clapp, Wayne Earl.
 - NOES: None.
 - ABSTAINS: None.
 - UNABLE TO VOTE: Juno Hedrick.
 - ABSENT: Alejandra Chamberlain, Heather Worobey, Tony Ucciferri.

B. Presentation: Bay Area Rescue Mission Renovation Update

Speaker: Wayne Earl, Faith Community and Manager of Special Projects at Bay Area Rescue

Wayne Earl provided project highlights for Bay Area Rescue Mission (BARM). Since 1965, Bay Area Rescue Mission's Christ-Centered Life Transformation Program — the emergency shelter— have supported thousands of men, women, and children in their journey to overcome homelessness, drug addiction, and mental health challenges. Major milestones of the program with positive impact include 3,000 nights of shelter and residential program, and those night stay, 2,000 represented services for over unique guests, for which 48% of those received services for the first time, on-site clinical therapy support services for the residential programs, and a food pantry program that delivered 2.9 million meals to those in need. In order to continue to provide these types of services to the community, the 200 McDonald facility is undergoing renovation. This project is made possible thanks to partnership with Overaa Construction, HKIT Architects, the Bay Compassion, and the City of Richmond. Some of the programs and services have had no impact at all during construction (e.g., emergency whelter or residential programs for women and women with children, food pantry, etc.) while other programs have seen a capacity reduction or moved to other facilities (men's emergency shelter, community meals, etc.). The program continues to accept clothing and food donations but only during daytime. Additionally, BARM is also developing a commissioned art for the building's exterior walls that goes through the City of Richmond's Culture and Arts process. Rendering samples were shown. To learn more about the Bay Area Rescue Mission, you may access their [website](#).

C. Highlight: Success Stories Page



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

Speaker: Jaime Jenett, *H3*

Jaime Jenett has been interviewing participants of agencies over the last six months who have accessed services to share their stories. In addition to being published on the newsletter, the Contra Costa Health's website is now featuring a new [Success Stories' page](#). The purpose is to dispel myths and to amplify the voices of people who are really having these experiences. Jaime will be presenting the new page to the Board of Supervisors at the beginning of May. Any person who is interested in sharing their stories can email Jaime directly at Jaime.Jenett@cchealth.org. A \$20 gift card is given to participants for their time.

D. Policy Updates: CoC Convening, Caroline CalCub Advocacy Day

Speaker: Jaime Jenett, *H3*, and Caroline Miller, *H3*

Convened in late 2024 by the National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH), the California COC United for Better Policy (CAL CUB) brings together all 44 Continuums of Care (COCs) across California. Composed of public and nonprofit agencies, the coalition's primary goal is to educate state legislators on the critical role COCs play in local homelessness response. H3 has actively participated in CALCUB's monthly meetings and its recent "Legislator Education Days." During these legislative meetings, advocates use local data—specifically highlighting how local HHAP investments led to a decrease in the community's Point-in-Time (PIT) homeless count—to urge legislators to adopt the Council on Homelessness's recommendations to fully restore HHAP funding for fiscal year 2025–26 and beyond. Part of the monthly meeting's discussions is related to significant concerns regarding proposed federal regulatory changes, including the potential implementation of work requirements and stricter eligibility verifications for public assistance. Additionally, the source warns of a new proposal that could redefine gender identity protections, potentially allowing providers to request more documentation from participants. Non-compliance may result in penalties, including loss of HUD funding. Speakers emphasized that public comments on proposed HUD regulations can meaningfully influence or delay policy changes because HUD is legally required to review and respond to them. Caroline encouraged community members and local government bodies to submit feedback through the [regulations.gov website](#). The due date to submit comments is June 26, 2026.

9) General Announcements

A. General Announcements:

Speaker: All

- The City of Pinole is hosting two housing input session in the month of May at the Youth Center. The purpose is to receive community's input and to make recommendations on how to use the housing funds to support the residents of Pinole.



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

10) Pin It

Speaker: Jaime Jenett, *H3*

- The next COH meeting will be on June 4, from 1 – 3 p.m.
- 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
SSI	Supplemental Security Income



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

Acronym	Definition
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 June 4, 2026 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

Committee Membership Updates

Committee membership is now as follows

Funding: Courtney, Dani, Jared, Juno, Nicole, Sherina, Wayne

Governance: Anastasia, Dani, Jared, Juno, LeAnn, Sherina

HMIS Policy: Belinda, Gabriel, Heather, Juno, LeAnn, Mia, Nicole, Tony

Oversight: Alejandra, Courtney, Daniel, Juno, Ralph, Shawn, Wayne



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS STAFF REPORT

Oversight Committee

The Oversight Committee Work Group met on April 16, 2026 and discussed the following:

- Updates regarding the Coordinated Entry System, including the Housing Needs Assessment Project
- Update regarding the Governance Committee and proposed revisions to the Council on Homelessness Governance Charter and Bylaws
- Update regarding Systemwide Performance Standards (SPMs)
- Updates on CoC Builds, FY 2025 CoC NOFO, and FY 2026 CoC NOFO

The next Oversight Committee Meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, June 18, 11:30am - 1:30pm** and will be hybrid but in-person for Council members.

There are no updates at this time.

GOVERNANCE

Family and Human Services Committee

- At the May FHS meeting, staff presented the Council on Homelessness (COH) 2026 Quarter 1 report and requested term extensions for the Lived Experience Advisor #2, LeAnn Matthews from 12/31/26 to 12/31/27 and Public Housing Authority Representative Tony Ucciferri, from 12/31/27 to 12/31/28. Both items were forwarded to the Board of Supervisors. Q1 report is attached in the packet.



Contra Costa County Homeless System of Care Quarterly Report for Quarter 1, 2026 (Jan-March)

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

Ashley moved to the Bay Area at eight, left for Kansas City at sixteen, and returned to Contra Costa County in 2011 to escape domestic violence. Since then, she has called this community home, though for more than a decade, “home” meant motels, staying with friends, and even living in a tent for a few months.

The challenges were compounded by unemployment and mental health struggles, including a dual diagnosis of mental illness and substance use disorder. As a single mother, the barriers were even greater: “I’ve had places say that I can stay, but my son can’t. And of course, I’m not going to stay somewhere that my child’s not allowed.” Ashley explains, “Not having a job, not having a stable place to stay, it all coincided together.” Reflecting on that time, she adds, “I was just tired of it all. I was dancing myself around in circles and not getting anywhere.”

Ashley tried several recovery programs over the years, but without housing, lasting progress was hard. Eventually, she entered an inpatient program and then decided to try the [Bay Area Rescue Mission](#). The shelter provided a bed, but the daily requirement to leave at 7 a.m. and return at 5 p.m. was exhausting. “You’re really left walking the streets of Richmond until they let you back in,” Ashley recalls. After nine days, she transitioned into their longer-term residential program, which gave her the stability she needed to focus on her next steps. “My kids were my motivation. I wanted to be able to drug test clean and get a good job.”

While in that program, Ashley connected with [CORE Mobile Outreach](#), which completed a housing assessment and entered her into the [Coordinated Entry System](#). Through that process, she was referred to [Hope Solutions’ Rapid Rehousing program](#). “Housing was my most urgent need,” Ashley says. While Hope Solutions was ready to help her search, Ashley proudly found her own apartment—a milestone that underscored her determination to rebuild her life. Hope

Solutions helped with rent for a year, furniture, and household items. CORE also helped her obtain vital documents like her birth certificate, and Hope Solutions provided ongoing support through regular check-ins.

Employment was another milestone. After completing her recovery program, Ashley began working as a waitress, bartender, and cook at a local hotel. “I just started stacking checks and saving,” she says. Her main goal was simple: “Just to get into some sort of housing, to get stable somewhere.”

Today, Ashley lives in Richmond with her fiancé and her 16-year-old son. Although she recently lost her job, her fiancé works full-time, and Ashley is actively looking for new employment. “Everything’s basically working out for the best,” she says.

Ashley acknowledges that the system still has gaps—especially for survivors of domestic violence and single parents, but her story is rooted in resilience and hope. After years of uncertainty, she reflects on her progress with quiet determination: “Slowly but surely, everything’s coming together.”

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

2025 CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Funding

- Due to a court order issued on December 23, 2025, HUD could not take action on the NOFO issued in 2025 and was required to take steps to process renewals for FY2025 CoC funding. To meet this requirement, HUD re-issued the FY2024-2025 NOFO on January 8, 2026 and required CoCs to submit renewal projects and new projects created through reallocation by February 9, 2026.
- The Contra Costa CoC submitted a package of renewal projects and one new project created through funds reallocated by Satellite Affordable Housing Associates (SAHA). SAHA voluntarily reallocated funding from Tabora Gardens permanent supportive housing due to finding new funding and no longer needing CoC funding. The CoC requested to use these funds to expand Coordinated Entry services.

STATE

HHAP Round 6

- In this quarter, California’s Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) requested final corrections to the HHAP Round 6 application submitted in August 2025. H3 submitted requested corrections within the required timeframe on behalf of the

County and CoC's joint application. The County received a standard agreement in April 2026.

LOCAL

Consolidated Housing and Homeless Services RFP:

- In September 2026, The Department of Conservation and Development (DCD) and Health Housing, and Homeless Services (H3) released the annual Consolidated Housing and Homelessness Funding Request for Proposals for the Measure X Housing Fund and multiple other funding sources, including funding dedicated to emergency shelter, prevention and diversion services, coordinated entry CARE Center services, and rapid rehousing services for specific populations. Review panelists, including members of the Youth Action Board, County staff, homeless services staff, and a community member, finalized recommendations and H3 and DCD notified applicants of recommended funding in March 2026.

DATA

Point in Time Count

- The observational component of the homeless Point in Time Count was completed 1/29/26, thanks to partners including the County GIS team and 200+ volunteers who supported observational and survey counts.
- After the observational count, the CoC collects community surveys to learn about the demographics, needs, and causes of unsheltered homelessness from people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in our community. Surveys were gathered during the month of February.
- Data is expected to be submitted to HUD by April 30, 2026.

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.

Expanded/Improved System Capacity

Housing Needs Assessment

- The Coordinated Entry System (CES) continued work to redesign and pilot a new Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) to replace the previous assessment tool used to determine housing needs and prioritization. The Oversight Committee reviewed and recommended approval of the HNA to the full Council on Homelessness. The Council

is expected to review and approve in April. Implementation of the new assessment will begin in Q2.

Collaboration

City of Richmond Homekey Project

- CES collaborated with the city of Richmond to develop a prioritization strategy for upcoming state funded Homekey project which will bring 48 studio units of permanent supportive housing projects to the community.

Coordinated Entry Voucher At-Risk Initiative

- CES continued its collaboration with the Contra Costa Housing Authority to support households at risk of losing their housing vouchers due to lease compliance or administrative related barriers. Through targeted outreach, coordination, and problem-solving with participating households and partners, the initiative helped stabilize housing and prevent voucher termination. As of the end of the reporting period, this effort successfully preserved approximately 120 housing vouchers, preventing displacement and protecting a critical housing resource for vulnerable households.

Coordinated Entry Case Conferencing Initiatives

- The H3 Coordinated Entry Team continues to facilitate housing-focused case conferencing across the system, including targeted efforts for Transition-Age Youth (TAY) and Veterans, as well as program-specific case conferencing for families experiencing homelessness, participants fleeing domestic violence, and those in emergency shelter. These forums are driving stronger coordination and shared accountability across providers, helping move households more efficiently toward housing. Evaluation findings indicate improved housing stability for participants, while also strengthening provider capacity and empowering staff to navigate complex cases, remove barriers, and advance housing placements.

Homelessness 101

- The Homelessness 101 series collaboration with the Contra Costa Library continued, with a session at the Brentwood library. Approximately 20 people attended including staff from the City of Antioch, interested community members and partner agencies.

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.

Youth and Young Adult Homelessness

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

Celebration and Reflection

- Marked two years of youth leadership and impact. Since March 2024, the YAB has continued meeting in co-hosted spaces at H3, the Rainbow Community Center, and the RYSE Center.
- Planned and hosted the YAB's first retreat at the RYSE Center in February. Activities included group bonding and grounding, a guided tour of RYSE and its advocacy history, and a gallery walk and fireside chat focused on advocacy reflection.

Leadership Development & Capacity Building

- Participated in Homebase's training for CoC Lived Experience members: Stipends and Impacts on Taxes and Public Benefits.
- Three YAB members received scholarships to attend the 2026 California Coalition for Youth's statewide Youth Empowerment Summit.

Funding & Governance Work:

- In January, completed the RFP Review Panel for the Consolidated Housing & Homelessness Funding and the first annual review and revision of YAB bylaws.

Data & Research Subcommittee:

- Participated in the January PIT Count in Wes and Central County
- Supported the February PIT Survey at Contra Costa College, Los Medanos College, and the RYSE Center.

Future YAB work includes:

- Release updates to the 2024 Community Needs Assessment and reconvene partners for Youth & Young Adult Strategic Planning.
- Prepare for and apply for HUD's FY 2026 CoC Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program Grant NOFO.
- Continued collaboration with H3 Research, Evaluation, and Data (RED) Team to plan a Youth Survey to address gaps in current data.
- Launch YAB social media presence.

GOVERNANCE/REPORTING

- **Governance Committee:** Reviewed and suggested edits to Governance Charter and Bylaws to increase CoH efficiency and impact. Suggestions to go to County Counsel before going to COH for approval, then will come to BOS for final approval.
- 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 Q1, 2026 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:

- **Governance Committee:** Review and revise the Governance Charter and Bylaws to increase CoH efficiency and impact.
- **Funding Committee:** Direct the community input process for several time-sensitive federal and state funding streams, including revising scoring tools for the Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity (CoC NOFO) competition
- **HMIS Policy Committee:** Develops and shares updates on [Homeless Management Information System](#) (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

Trainings

- Supporting Families with Minor Children and Unaccompanied Minors (2.9.26)
- VAWA Compliance and Strategies to Support People Fleeing Domestic Violence (3.9.26)

Events

- CoC Provider Meetings (3)
- Homelessness 101 sessions (3)

RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Advocate to the Governor and Legislature to support full funding of programs that support people exiting homelessness such as HHAP 7 and Multi-Family Housing Programs in Governor's May Revision budget.
2. Share information about Homelessness 101 series with constituents.

Appendix A: Commonly Used Acronyms and Terms

Acronym	Definition
APR	Annual Performance Report (for HUD homeless programs)
BHSA	Behavioral Health Services Act
BIPOC	Black and Indigenous People of Color
CARE	Coordinated Assessment and Resource
CCYCS	Contra Costa Youth Continuum of Services
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant (federal and state programs)
Continuum of Care (CoC)	Continuum of Care approach to assistance to the homeless. Federal grant program promoting and funding solutions to homelessness.
CORE	Coordinated Outreach Referral, Engagement program
DCD	(Contra Costa County) Department of Conservation and Development
DHCS	California Department of Health Care Services
EHSD	(Contra Costa County) Employment and Human Services Department
ESG	Emergency Solutions Grant (federal and state program)
FMR	Fair Market Rent (maximum rent for Section 8 rental assistance/CoC grants)
HCD	California Department of Housing and Community Development
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
PSH	Permanent Supportive Housing
PWLE	People With Lived Experience of Homelessness
RFP	Request for Proposals
RRH	Rapid Rehousing
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration
SRO	Single-Room Occupancy housing units
SSDI	Social Security Disability Income
SSI	Supplemental Security Income
SSO	Support Services Only
TA	Technical Assistance
TAY	Transition Age Youth (usually ages 18-24)
TH	Transitional Housing
VA	Veterans Affairs (U.S. Department of)
VASH	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing
VI-SPDAT	Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool

Appendix B Demographic Poll Question Answers Q1

How many Council on Homelessness meetings have you attended?	Q1 2026 avg
This is my first meeting	5%
I've attended some meetings	20%
I've attended a lot of meetings	75%
I prefer not to answer	0%

Do you have a lived experience of homelessness?	Q1 2026 avg
Yes, currently	12%
Yes, within the past 7 years	3%
Yes, more than 7 years ago	12%
No	74%
I prefer not to answer	0%

What best describes your racial identity?*	Q1 2026 avg
African American/Black	20%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	10%
Asian/Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian	15%
Hispanic/Latinx	15%
White	30%
Multi-racial	5%
I prefer not to answer	1%
I describe myself in another way	3%

*This category allows people to select multiple options



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 26-2339

Agenda Date: 6/4/2026

Agenda #: 5.

Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Subject: Funding Committee Update: (ACTION ITEM) APPROVE revisions to the 2026 Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity Application Process as recommended by the Funding Committee

Presenter: Mark Mora, Homebase

Contact:

Information:

Referral History and Update:

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

APPROVE revisions to the 2026 Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity Application Process as recommended by the Funding Committee



FY 2025 CoC Program CoC Application Process

CONTRA COSTA COC APPLICATION PROCESS

Document Purpose

This document is a tool to support the fair, transparent, and objective administration of the HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Competition process. The following sections outline the Council on Homelessness's policies as related to designing, operating and following a collaborative local process for the development of HUD Continuum of Care Program applications and approval of submission of applications as required by C.F.R. 578.9.

2026 Late Application Policy: Late applications will be considered under extenuating circumstances (i.e., failure to accept the application would result in a significant loss of housing resources or system capacity for the CoC) and will be reviewed and determined on a case-by-case basis by the Review and Rank Panel..

To maintain fairness in the competition process, the following scoring reductions will apply to approved late applications:

- Applications submitted up to 24 hours after the established deadline will receive a 5-point deduction from the final application score.
- Applications submitted more than 24 hours, but no more than 48 hours, after the established deadline will receive a 7-point deduction from the final application score.
- Applications submitted more than 48 hours after the established deadline will not be accepted or reviewed.

Incomplete applications cannot be cured for the CoC Review and Rank Panel scoring process but must be corrected prior to HUD submission.

Section 1. APPLICATION OVERVIEW

The Council on Homelessness (Council) prepares and oversees the applications for funds administered by HUD under the HEARTH Act. The Council on Homelessness is designed to assist individuals—including unaccompanied youth—and families experiencing homelessness and to provide the services needed to help individuals move into transitional and permanent housing, with the goal of long-term stability. The Council's HUD CoC Program funds are granted annually based on a national competition following the release of a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFO). It is a primary responsibility of the Council to oversee the application for those funds.

Section 2. COLLABORATIVE APPLICANT



FY2025 COC PROGRAM- COC APPLICATION PROCESS

The Council designates Contra Costa Health – Health, Housing, and Homeless Services as the annual HUD CoC Program Collaborative Applicant. The Collaborative Applicant (or its designee) is responsible for leading and supporting all aspects of the annual HUD CoC Program application process, including submission of the Consolidated Application consisting of 1) the CoC Application; 2) the CoC’s Priority List of Projects; and 3) all Project Applications.

The Collaborative Applicant may identify and designate a neutral third party to facilitate the CoC Program Competition, including facilitating the development of scoring tools, implementation of technical assistance, support drafting the CoC application, and administration of the project application review and ranking process.

Section 3. OVERVIEW OF PROJECT REVIEW PROCESS AND APPLICATION SUBMISSION TIMELINE

Immediately after HUD’s Continuum of Care Program Notice of Funding Availability (NOFO) is released, the Collaborative Applicant (or its designee) will coordinate and carry out all of activities needed to successfully submit an application on behalf of the CoC. The following is an overview of the local competition process and tasks for CoC Program application submission. The process and timeline are subject to change annually, depending on HUD’s requirements as outlined in the NOFO.

- Funding Committee meets to discuss and approve scoring criteria and competition policies for project applications
- Selection of non-conflicted Review & Rank Panelists
- Project Applications are submitted through a designated portal
- Review & Rank Panel convenes to evaluate and score project applications
- Review & Rank Panel ranks projects on a Priority List and recommends projects for inclusion in the CoC Application for funding from HUD
- Priority Listing is publicized
- Council approves the Priority Listing
- Collaborative Applicant drafts CoC Application, if applicable
- Final Priority Listing, CoC Application, and Project Applications are made available for public comment
- Collaborative Applicant submits final Consolidated Application to HUD

Section 4. SCORING TOOLS

Prior to the NOFO release, the Funding Committee will convene to design and/or revise scoring tools and any corresponding local application materials to assist in the CoC review and ranking of all renewal and new project applications. The Funding Committee reviews data and analytics from the local HMIS and Coordinated Entry System, year-over-year CoC project and funding information, funding and project opportunities and strategies available in the current HUD NOFO release, and local demographic trends. That data and information is then used to develop and update scoring tools and competition policies for



FY2025 COC PROGRAM- COC APPLICATION PROCESS

the purpose of effectively evaluating the current local need for subpopulation focuses and project and bed type, as well as project performance and impact.

The scoring tools and competition policies will take into consideration both local and HUD priorities, including projects serving populations with severe needs and vulnerabilities, such as persons experiencing chronic homelessness, mental illness, substance use disorders, and survivors of domestic violence.

The scoring tools and competition policies may also establish threshold criteria reflective of local and HUD priorities, which all project applications are expected to meet. This criteria may include factors such as coordinated entry and HMIS participation.

The scoring tools and competition policies will be finalized and approved by the Funding Committee, a subcommittee of the Council.

Section 5. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Upon HUD release of the NOFO, a third-party facilitator will schedule and announce a time and date for a Technical Assistance Workshop, if time permits. These details will be distributed to the entire CoC.

All potential applicants must participate in the HUD CoC Program Technical Assistance Workshop and/or receive technical assistance from the third-party facilitator or the Collaborative Applicant. At the workshop, the third-party facilitator will present an overview of the HUD CoC NOFO, including details about available funding and any major changes in the application from previous years. Applicants will also be oriented to the process for reviewing and ranking applications, which will cover any supplemental local application materials, the scoring tool, and relevant dates and deadlines. Applicants will also have an opportunity to ask any questions about both the local and HUD application processes.

Throughout the CoC Program Competition technical assistance will be available to all project applicants. Technical assistance for new and returning project applicants is designed to:

- explain the application process, including use of the application submissions portal,
- explain the current year's funding opportunities, and
- provide training and support for prospective applicants to ensure eligible and competitive applications.

Section 6. PROJECT APPLICATIONS & SUBMISSION

Project applications are submitted online through a designated application portal.

The project applications mirror the new and renewal project scoring tools and solicit information necessary for the Review & Rank Panel to consistently score applicant responses using the objective criteria outlined in the tools. The application may include requests for quantitative and qualitative data. Typically, the applications require information related to: consistency with HUD and local priorities, agency capacity and readiness, project scope and design, and efficient use of funds.



FY2025 COC PROGRAM- COC APPLICATION PROCESS

Incomplete applications cannot be cured for the CoC Review and Rank Panel scoring process but must be corrected prior to HUD submission.

Note that the CoC will accept and consider proposals that meet requirements from organizations that have not previously received CoC funding (including faith-based).

Section 7. LOCAL REVIEW & RANK PROCESS

The next stage in the competition requires an evaluation of project applications. The Review and Rank Panel is responsible for conducting this evaluation and ranking process.

A. PANEL MEMBERSHIP

The Council designates between three and five of its members to serve as CoC Review and Rank Panelists. CoC Review and Rank Panelists must be:

- Knowledgeable about homelessness and housing in the community and broadly representative of the relevant sectors, subpopulations, and geographic areas;
- “Non-conflicted,” meaning that they are not employees, staff, or otherwise have a business or personal conflict of interest with the applicant organizations;
- Familiar with housing and homeless needs within Contra Costa County; and
- Willing to review projects with the best interest of homeless persons in mind.

To serve on the CoC Review and Rank Panel, members must:

- Sign a statement declaring that they have no conflict of interest and a confidentiality agreement; and
- Be able to dedicate time for application review and CoC Review and Rank Panel meetings as scheduled by the Collaborative Applicant.

Qualified, non-conflicted CoC Review and Rank Panel members are recruited and oriented to the local review and ranking process.

B. REVIEW & RANK METHODOLOGY

The CoC Review and Rank Panel members receive all local application and scoring materials and evaluate and score each program’s application.

Panel members are encouraged to individually review and pre-score applications using the scoring tools prior to the Review and Rank Panel meeting collectively. The CoC Review and Rank Panel meets to collectively evaluate each application and interview applicants.



FY2025 COC PROGRAM- COC APPLICATION PROCESS

The ranked list is created by the following procedures:

- Project applications are evaluated based on the scoring tool. Those applications that do not meet certain threshold requirements (as detailed on the scoring tool) will not be included on the ranked list.
- The Review and Rank Panel evaluates the quantitative and qualitative data consistent with the objective criteria in the scoring tool and assigns a score.
- Projects are ranked in the Priority Listing in order of their assigned score.
- Renewal HMIS and Coordinated Entry projects are automatically ranked at the bottom of Tier 1. Renewal projects with less than 12 months of data are automatically ranked at the bottom of Tier 1.
- Based on community priorities as defined in the scoring tools, the CoC Review and Rank Panel may determine whether any renewal project should be decreased or reallocated. Any funding captured from an existing project will be prioritized for permanent housing projects that meet the requirements in the NOFO application, to the fullest extent allowed in the NOFO.
- **If HUD releases a CoC NOFO that includes a cap on permanent housing (PH) funding:**
 - The CoC Lead Agency will meet with each renewal PSH provider to develop a PH cap shortlist (prioritized for Tier 1) aligned with the CoC's overall strategy of prioritizing permanent supportive housing projects.
 - Prioritization of renewal PH projects applying for a transition grant to convert to a Transitional Housing project over new projects.
 - Reallocated funding will be prioritized for PH to the fullest extent allowed in the NOFO
- **If HUD releases a CoC NOFO that only allows for a competition period of 75 days or less:**
 - The Funding Committee can approve revisions to scoring tools and competition policies.
 - Note that if the competition period is more than 75 days, but the Council is unable to achieve quorum in sufficient time to approve the scoring tools and competition policies, the Funding Committee may approve those documents to ensure timely completion of the competition process.
 - Priority Listing will be approved by the CoH – an emergency CoH meeting may be convened as needed to complete the competition process within HUD-required timelines.

Scoring results are sent to applicants with information about the appeals process, if applicable in a given competition year. Appeals will be considered in compliance with the Appeals Process detailed in Section 9 below.



FY2025 COC PROGRAM- COC APPLICATION PROCESS

A final ranked project list (i.e., the Priority List) is submitted to the Council for review and approval. Upon approval, the Priority List is published.

The Collaborative Applicant collects all final Project Applications and submits them to HUD, along with the CoC Application and Priority List, as part of the CoC's Consolidated Application.

Section 7. REALLOCATION OF FUNDS

HUD allows CoCs to reallocate funds from non- and/or under-performing projects to higher priority community needs that also align with HUD priorities and goals. The CoC Review and Rank Panel facilitates the reallocation discussion and process, in consultation with the CoC, the Council, the Collaborative Applicant, and the CoC Program recipients and subrecipients who may be impacted. The third-party facilitator may be asked to support community discussions and provide technical assistance around the strategic benefits or consequences of reallocation decisions. The Council or the designated Council representative must approve all final decisions about reallocation.

If HUD releases a CoC NOFO that includes a cap on permanent housing funding, any reallocated funding will be prioritized for permanent housing projects to the fullest extent allowed in the NOFO.

Section 8. USING ALL AVAILABLE FUNDS

The Collaborative Applicant and third-party facilitator will do everything possible to ensure that the community applies for all funds available to the CoC. Thus, if all on-time applications have been submitted and it appears that either: 1) the community is not requesting as much money as is available from HUD, 2) no bonus (or other special project as defined by HUD) projects have been submitted, or 3) there are reallocated funds available, then:

- The Collaborative Applicant and third-party facilitator will communicate with the Council, CoC, and other interested parties (all homeless service and housing providers in Contra Costa County) with details about the available funding.
- The Collaborative Applicant and third-party facilitator will provide technical assistance and guidance, as needed, to ensure applicants understand the funding requirements.
- Any additional applications for these funds will be due as soon as possible after this communication is distributed, in compliance with CoC Program submission deadlines.

Section 9. APPEALS PROCESS

If HUD releases a CoC NOFO that includes a cap on permanent housing funding, renewal projects cannot appeal the following decisions:

- 1) Reallocation amounts for projects included in the PH cap shortlist, and
- 2) Renewal projects excluded from the PH cap shortlist.



FY2025 COC PROGRAM- COC APPLICATION PROCESS

Renewal projects who apply for a transition grant and new projects are eligible to appeal given they meet specific criteria.

This policy will be reviewed and reconsidered in future years.

Section 10. FINAL PRIORITIZED LIST OF APPLICATIONS

The Council must approve the final ranked list of all Project Applicant proposals. If the full Council approves the final ranked list, any Council members with a conflict of interest must recuse himself/herself from all related discussions and abstain from the vote approving the priority list. The Collaborative Applicant will then submit this prioritized list to HUD by the CoC Program Competition deadline as part of the Consolidated Application. Conditional award funding is typically based upon the prioritized list of Project Applicants that are submitted; however, HUD determines actual awards and funding amounts.