



## Meeting Minutes - Final

### CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

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Thursday, August 7, 2025

1:00 PM

Hybrid: 1025 Escobar St., Martinez or  
<https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZclf-uspzovGdR7op72t5-X4nsGdqdpvL-X#/registration>

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#### General Meeting

**Attachments:**      [COH Agenda w Time 8.7.25](#)  
[COH Slides 8.7.25](#)

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

1. Roll Call and Introductions

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

**This was read into the record.**

<b>Present</b>	Alejandra Chamberlain, Sherina Criswell, Hope Dixon, Maria E Fairbanks, Carolyn Foudy, Nicole Green, Juno Hedrick, Danielle Jimenez, Gabriel Lemus, LeAnn Matthews, Courtney Pal, Shawn Ray, Bessie Marie Scott, and Tony Ucciferri
<b>Absent</b>	Verneda Clapp, Wayne Earl, Yahel Moreno, and Heather Worobey
<b>Non-voting</b>	Susan Leslie Gleason

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

**Attachments:**            [COH Minutes 7.10.25](#)  
                                      [COH Staff Report 8.7.25](#)

**This Discussion Item was approved.**

**Motion:**                    **Criswell**

**Second:**                   **Ray**

#### Committee Report Out: Funding Committee

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

#### Committee Report Out: Youth Advisory Board (YAB) Update

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

**Attachments:**      [2025 Recognition Categories and Descriptions for COH approval](#)  
[HAM resolution for approval 8.7.25](#)  
[Memorial resolution for approval 8.7.25](#)

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

**To approve: a) Homelessness Awareness Month and Homeless Persons' Memorial Day resolutions, and 2) Recognition categories, descriptions and criteria.**

**Motion:**                      **Criswell**

**Second:**                      **Marie Scott**

Old Business: Sector Report Outs from Council Members

No report out updates.

Old Business: Funding Updates

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

## New Business: (ACTION ITEM) Point in Time Count Committee Selection

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

**To approve Bessie Scott, Juno Hedrick, and Sherina Criswell to the PIT Committee.****Motion:** Leslie Gleason**Second:** Criswell

**Attachments:** [Memo Re Remote Meeting Attendance as a Reasonable Accommodation April 2025](#)  
[Memo Re Revised Limits for Meeting Participation - Alternate Remote Teleconferencing Option April 2025](#)

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

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

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

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

**Council Membership: Recognize Outgoing Council Member: Leslie Gleason**

Leslie Gleason's seat membership as the ESG Program Grantee Representative will expire at the end of August 2025. COH members thanked Leslie for her service and recognized all the work she has done over the years. Leslie gave a short speech about the work and collaboration over the course of 10 years and encouraged the rest of COH members to keep working in searching solutions for those who are most in need

## Announcements

- Jamie Schechter shared the flyer of the Elevate East County program, a guaranteed income pilot program in East County which targets young parents with minor children and who are engaged in education at any level. Participants must be enrolled in at least one class at any Contra Costa Community college, must reside in Big Point, Pittsburgh, Antioch, or another district, must be between 18 and 30, must have at least one child ages 0 through 6, and must earn at or below 50% area Median income. The application period is open until August 29, 2025 and link to the Google Form to apply can be found [here](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfK2VL0fb_LoO77zEKU-rFyVpRXB8rhtW8IJbjN4106_QFDqA/viewform) [<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfK2VL0fb\\_LoO77zEKU-rFyVpRXB8rhtW8IJbjN4106\\_QFDqA/viewform>](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfK2VL0fb_LoO77zEKU-rFyVpRXB8rhtW8IJbjN4106_QFDqA/viewform).
- Alejandra Chamberlain reminded COH members and the public that If anyone come across any children and youth who are not enrolled in a school district, to please reach out to her and she will connect people with the right person.
- Members of the public were invited to the grand opening of the Executive Inn project, funded through the Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) program in Antioch, on August 14th at noon. H3 is working closely with CORE as well as with Hope Solutions to provide services for the ERF grants in Antioch, San Pablo as well as in Richmond. The partnership also includes Housing Consortium of East Bay, which will be supporting the Antioch projects.
- Courtney Pal shared that she is part of a group of the Permanent Supportive Housing providers who for the past few years have been looking for ways to improve the permanent supportive housing system. Based on this need, they have formed the Nonprofit Housing Association of Northern California (NPH). The main focus is looking at best practices and how to implement it across five different Bay area counties plus Los Angeles. Based on a presentation that H3 gave to NPH, they have developed a memo with best practices. A webinar with their findings will take place on September 18th at 11 am and it will be targeted to people working in the CoCs, with a section for feedback.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for 9/4/25

## Adjourn

The Committee will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend the Committee meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting. Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Committee less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 2400 Bisso Lane, D2, Concord during normal business hours. Staff reports related to items on the agenda are also accessible online at [www.contracosta.ca.gov](http://www.contracosta.ca.gov). If the Zoom connection malfunctions for any reason, the meeting may be paused while a fix is attempted. If the connection is not reestablished, the committee will continue the meeting in person without remote access. Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

Council on Homelessness: [contracostacoc@cchealth.org](mailto:contracostacoc@cchealth.org)