



AGENDA

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Thursday, June 5, 2025

1:00 PM

Location: In person: 1025 Escobar St.,

Martinez Virtual:

<https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/j/91512345678>
Meeting ID: 915 123 4567
Join by phone: 1-800-368-6979
Dial in: 915 123 4567

General Meeting

Agenda and Slides for 6.5.25 COH Meeting

[25-2088](#)

Attachments: [COH Agenda w Time 6.5.25](#)
[COH Slides 6.5.25](#)

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

1. Roll Call and Introductions
2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes).
3. Consent Calendar: APPROVE 6.5.25 Staff Report, 5.1.25 Minutes, Nominating Committee Members and Homelessness Awareness Month Committee Members [25-2089](#)

Attachments: [COH Staff Report 6.5.25](#)
[COH Minutes 5.1.25 draft](#)
[Q1-2025 Report](#)

Nicole Green, Chair and Reentry Services Representative

4. Nominating Panel: (ACTION ITEM) APPROVE Bessie Marie Scott for City Government Representative as recommended by the Nominating Panel to be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for official approval for Council on Homelessness membership [25-2090](#)

Attachments: [Roster of City Government Representative Candidates](#)
[City Government Representative Candidate Applications 2025](#)
[Nominating Scoring Rubric](#)

Juno Hedrick, Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor

5. Committee Report Outs: Youth Advisory Board (YAB)

Juno Hedrick, Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor; Leon Saelee, YAB Lead and Member; Anastasia Lockwood, YAB Facilitator and Member

6. Old Business: Sector Report Outs from Council Members

Nicole Green, Chair and Reentry Services Representative

7. Old Business: Funding Updates

Jamie Schechter and Christy Saxton, H3

8. New Business: Feedback on Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 6 Grant Funding

Jamie Schechter, H3

9. Announcements – Open for all to share announcements about upcoming events and to give brief reports about recent events/trainings relevant to the Council.

All

The next meeting is currently scheduled for 7/10/25.

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. If the Zoom connection malfunctions for any reason, the meeting may be paused while a fix is attempted. If the connection is not reestablished, the committee will continue the meeting in person without remote access. Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time..

For Additional Information Contact: contracostacoc@cchealth.org



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-2088

Agenda Date: 6/5/2025

Agenda #:

Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Subject: Agenda and Slides for 6.5.25 COH Meeting

Presenter:

Contact:

Information:

Referral History and Update:

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

AGENDA

THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2025, 1 PM – 3 PM

1025 ESCOBAR STREET, MARTINEZ, CA

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

MEETING PURPOSE:

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

PUBLIC ACCESS AND PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS:

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

HOW TO JOIN THE MEETING VIA ZOOM:

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

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

| TIME | AGENDA ITEM | PRESENTER |
|----------------|---|--|
| 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Hybrid Meeting Norms (1 min) b. Roll call of Councilmembers and introduction of guests (11 min) c. Poll – Who’s in the room? (3 min) | 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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. APPROVE minutes from the May 1, 2025 Council meeting b. APPROVE staff report for the June 5, 2025 Council meeting c. APPROVE members for the 2025 Nominating Committee d. APPROVE members for the 2025 Homelessness Awareness Month Committee | Nicole Green, <i>Chair and Reentry Services Representative</i> |
| 1:25 20 min | 5. Committee Report Outs - Report outs from each of the committees below. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Nominating Panel (10 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. (ACTION ITEM) APPROVE candidate for City Government Representative as recommended by | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Juno Hedrick, <i>Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor</i> b. Juno Hedrick, <i>Vice Chair and Lived Experience</i> |



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| | the Nominating Panel to be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for official approval for Council on Homelessness membership b. Youth Advisory Board (YAB) Update (10 min) | <i>Advisor and Leon Saelee, YAB Lead</i> |
| 1:45 <i>20 min</i> | 6. <u>Old Business</u> a. Sector Report Outs from Council Members (10 min) b. Funding Updates (10 min) | a. Nicole Green, <i>Chair and Reentry Services Representative</i> b. Jamie Schecter and Christy Saxton, <i>H3</i> |
| 2:05 <i>50 min</i> | 7. <u>New Business</u> a. Stakeholder Feedback (50 min) i. Contra Costa County Strategic Plan to Address Homelessness ii. Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 6 iii. Behavioral Health Services Act | a. Allison Mabbs, <i>Focus Strategies</i> , b. Jamie Schecter, <i>H3</i> , c. Adam Down, <i>CCH - Behavioral Health and Kennisha Johnson CCH- Behavioral Health</i> |
| 2:55 <i>5 min</i> | 8. <u>Announcements</u> – Open for all to share announcements about upcoming events and to give brief reports about recent events/trainings relevant to the Council. | All |
| 3:00 | 9. <u>Pin It</u> | Nicole Green, <i>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 5, 2025 from 1:00-3:00

WELCOME

Nicole Green, *Chair & 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.

WEBINAR VS. MEETING FORMAT

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

What's Different?

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

What's the Same?

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

IN-PERSON / HYBRID MEETING

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

Just Cause

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

Emergency Circumstances

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

VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE EXEMPTION

HYBRID MEETING NORMS

Nicole Green, *Chair & Reentry Services
Representative*

HYBRID MEETING NORMS

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

HYBRID MEETING NORMS

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

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Nicole Green, *Chair & 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 & Reentry Services
Representative*

CONSENT CALENDAR

Nicole Green, *Chair & Reentry Services
Representative*

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

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

ACTION ITEM

Approve the **consent calendar** items as listed:

- Approve minutes from the May 1, 2025 Council Meeting
- Approve staff report for the June 5, 2025 Council Meeting
- Approve members for the 2025 Nominating Committee: **Carolyn Foudy, Hope Dixon, Nicole Green, Tony Ucciferri**
- Approve members for the 2025 Homelessness Awareness Month Committee: **Nicole Green, Rina Criswell, Wayne Earl**



COMMITTEE REPORT OUTS

Nominating Panel (ACTION ITEM) – Juno Hedrick,
Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor

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

NOMINATING PANEL (ACTION ITEM)

Juno Hedrick, *Lived Experience Advisor and Vice
Chair*

NOMINATING PANEL

Dani Jimenez

Juno Hedrick

LeAnn Matthews

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS (4)

Stefanie Brynen

- Housing Manager, City of Walnut Creek

Jesus Morales

- Housing Manager, City of Richmond

Jared Murti

- Housing Policy Fellow, City of Pinole

Bessie Marie Scott

- City Manager, City of Antioch

RECOMMENDED CANDIDATE

- Bessie Marie Scott, City Manager, City of Antioch

ACTION ITEM

- Approve Bessie Marie Scott for City Government Representative as recommended by the Nominating Panel to be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for official approval for Council on Homelessness membership



YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD (YAB)

Juno Hedrick, *Lived Experience Advisor and Vice Chair*

Leon Saelee, *YAB Lead & Member*

YAB MAY MEETINGS

YAB Subcommittees
Meetings:
Communications and
Outreach &
Retention.

YYA Community
Strategic Planning:
Core and
Implementation
Meetings

CES Homeless
Needs Assessment
Committee.

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

YAB MAY ACTIVITIES

Homelessness 101:
Community Awareness
Session

Contra Costa Health
Youth and Young
Adult Transitional
Housing RFP

YAB-only spaces,
restorative work,
budgeting / funding,
CoH Subcommittees
and Workgroups

NEXT STEPS

Prepare and present key findings from the County's YYA Needs Assessment to support Measure X funding recommendations at the BoS June 10th meeting.

Participation in Contra Costa Health Youth and Young Adult Transitional Housing RFP.

Continued participation in the Housing Needs Assessment Committee, and Strategic Planning Core and Action Step Workgroups.

Continued collaboration with CoH Oversight Committee with YAB report out at each meeting.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Sector Report Outs – Nicole Green, *Chair & Reentry Services Representative*

Funding Updates - Jamie Schechter and Christy Saxton, *H3*

SECTOR REPORT OUTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Nicole Green, *Chair and Reentry Services
Representative*

WAYNE: REIMAGINING SACRED LAND WORKSHOP

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

REIMAGINING SACRED LAND:

How Faith, Lived Experience, & Cross-Sector Collaboration Can Lead to Affordable, Permanent Cottage Communities

Join this interactive workshop to explore how faith-owned land can be transformed into permanent, affordable cottage communities with supportive services through innovative, cross-sector collaboration

Tuesday, May 20 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Coffee & Breakfast served at 9:00 AM

Christ the King Church: 199 Brandon Rd, Pleasant Hill, CA

Hosted by: East Bay Housing Organizations • Hope Solutions & the Resident Empowerment Program • Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County • LISC • Multi-faith ACTION Coalition

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:
We'll dive into two powerful case studies:

- Hope Village at Grace Presbyterian Church
- Village of Hope at Church of the Nazarene

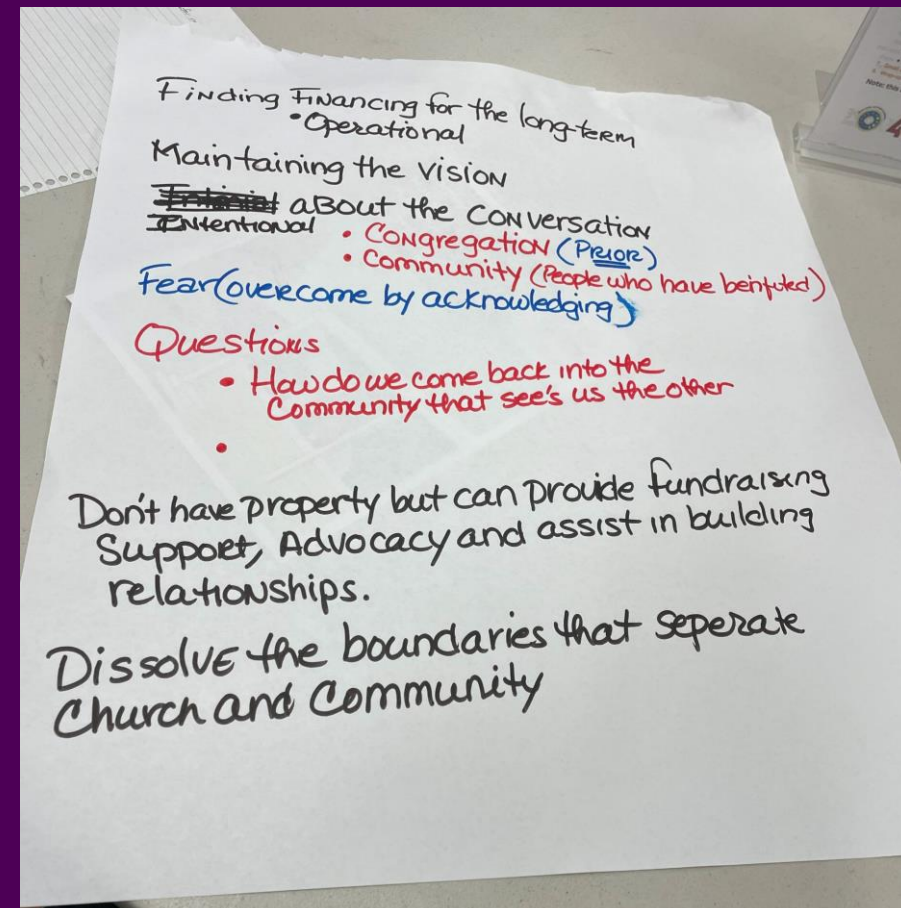


SCAN ME

RSVP by May 9th: bit.ly/ReimaginingSacredLand

For any questions, contact
Jasmine Tarkoff, 925-765-0832
jtarkoff@hopesolutions.org

Hosted by:    



OTHER REPORTS

Nicole

- **See Staff Report for details**

Others?

FUNDING UPDATES

Jamie Schechter and Christy Saxton, *H3*

FUNDING UPDATES – COC BUILDS



- In May 2025, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) re-released the CoC Builds Notice of Funding Opportunity
- Each CoC is able to submit up to one (1) project for capital development of permanent supportive housing
- In Fall 2024, the CoC selected **Hope Solutions' Village of Hope** project for this application and will proceed with re-submitting this project under the new NOFO
- **Applications are due to HUD by June 26, 2025**

FUNDING UPDATES – MISCELLANEOUS



- Transitional Housing for Transition Aged Youth RFP – coming soon!
- HUD CoC Collaborative Application debrief – CoC scored very well overall
- Other funding updates

NEW BUSINESS

Stakeholder Feedback

Contra Costa County Strategic Plan

- Allison Mabbs, *Focus Strategies*

Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 6 Grant Funding

- Jamie Schechter, *H3*

Behavioral Health Services Stakeholder feedback

- Adam Down, *CCH – Behavioral Health*,
Kennisha Johnson, *CCH – Behavioral Health*

**FEEDBACK ON
HOMELESS
HOUSING,
ASSISTANCE AND
PREVENTION
(HHAP) ROUND 6
GRANT FUNDING**

Jamie Schecter, *H3*




F O C U S
strategies

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

FEEDBACK & ENGAGEMENT

 (916) 436-1836

 FocusStrategies.net

 440 N Barranca Ave #1815, Covina, CA 91723

Agenda

Welcome & Introductions

Project Purpose & Background

Project Timeline

Engagement Opportunities

Feedback Activity

WHO WE ARE



Focus Strategies is a nationally recognized consulting and technical assistance firm based in California. Our mission and sole area of practice is helping communities develop and improve strategies to reduce homelessness.

The Focus Team



Marc Jolin

Project Lead/Lead
Senior Consultant



Allison Mabbs

Systems Consultant



Matt Lemon

Senior Analytics
Consultant



Brendi Velasquez

Lived Expertise
Consultant



Kat Jacobs-Crotta

Project Manager
Consultant

Project Background

In 2021, the County Board of Supervisors adopted the goals in All Home's Regional Action Plan (RAP) to address homelessness

County leadership recognized that the adopted goals are ambitious and require collaborative effort and support throughout the County and with other governmental partners

After initial discussions, County leaders decided that an inter-departmental and inter-governmental plan is needed to align efforts and make measurable progress toward the RAP goals

Project Objective

To develop an actionable strategic plan that aligns the work of various County departments, divisions, and the Housing Authority of Contra Costa County around the Board of Supervisors adopted goals related to reducing homelessness.



All Home Regional Action Plan (2024)



Targeted Homelessness Prevention to keep people at high risk of becoming unhoused in their homes, reducing the number of people in need to at least what our system can serve. **We'll never get homelessness under control if we don't slow it down.**



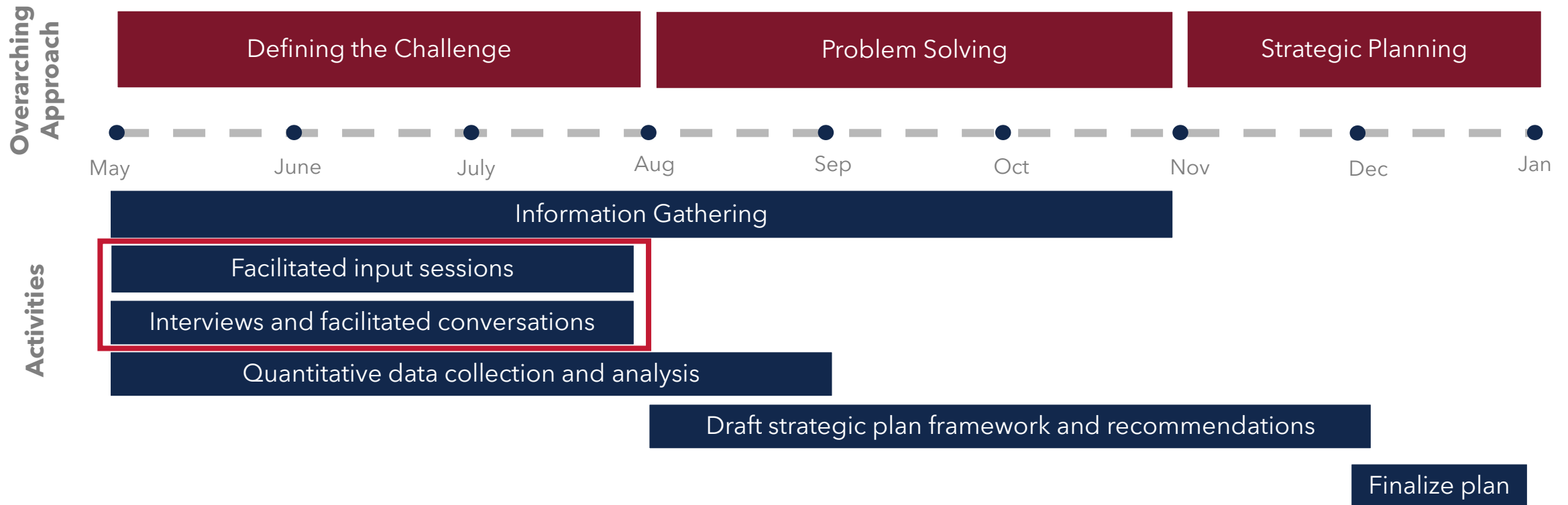
Permanent Housing includes a variety of options, including but not limited to Permanent Supportive Housing, that are affordable and accessible to people with very low incomes who are recovering from homelessness. **Ultimately, homes solve homelessness, and sometimes supportive services are necessary too.**



Interim Housing that features a basic level of individual privacy, supportive services, security, and space to keep belongings, can help people stabilize and heal from being unhoused, while they get connected to a permanent home. **The sidewalk should not be the waiting room for a proper place to live.**

*"To [drastically reduce homelessness], our region needs more than just an influx of funding. **We also have to transform our systems to improve coordination within and across counties** while bringing more urgency and flexibility to housing production and homelessness response. **No single department can possibly address such a complex problem that touches nearly every aspect of public life.**" --RAP page 5 [Regional Action Plan 2024.pdf](#)*

Project Timeline



Purpose of Input Sessions & Interviews

- Explore how the County can work better across departments and divisions and with the cities to reduce homelessness
- Explore how the County and cities can better support the work of providers that are assisting people experiencing or at risk of homelessness
- Identify specific challenges and opportunities for better inter-departmental and inter-governmental collaboration on:
 - Shelter & Interim Housing strategies
 - Permanent Housing strategies
 - Homelessness Prevention strategies



Engagement Opportunities



- Provider Input Session: **June 26 from 8:30-9:30 AM**
- Key Informant Interviews: **Use the survey link to suggest individuals, coalitions, organizations, or advisory bodies to interview**
- Written feedback & input: **Collected today through a brief survey (link will remain open after today's meeting)**
- Contact us at any point at: Allison Mabbs, **allison@focusstrategies.net**

Input on Strategic Plan

- Who should we connect with (e.g., specific person, group, organizations, advisory body, agency) for input on the strategic plan?
- How can the County better work across departments and divisions and with cities to reduce homelessness?
- How can the County and cities better support providers that are assisting people who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness?
- How can local governments better support...
 - Shelter & Interim Housing strategies?
 - Permanent Housing strategies?
 - Homelessness Prevention strategies?



www.surveymonkey.com/r/53TLTXL



FOCUS
strategies

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION



FOCUS
strategies

THANK YOU!

For questions, contact allison@focusstrategies.net or
kat@focusstrategies.net



(916) 436-1836



FocusStrategies.net



440 N Barranca Ave #1815, Covina, CA 91723



cchealth.org

HHAP 6 Behavioral Health Services Act

Community Feedback Session

June 5, 2025

HOMELESS HOUSING, ASSISTANCE AND PREVENTION (HHAP) GRANT PROGRAM

The HHAP Grant Program provides local jurisdictions in California with funds to support regional coordination and expand or develop local capacity to address immediate homelessness challenges.

There have been 5 previous rounds of HHAP funding.

In the 6th round of HHAP funding, there are \$1 billion available. California funding priorities for HHAP 6 are to:

- Sustain existing federal, state, and local investments towards long-term sustainability of housing and supportive services; *and*
- Prioritize permanent housing solutions.

WHY ARE WE HERE?

**A Regional Action Plan is required by the State for jurisdictions to receive
Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Grant funds**

- Iterations of an action plan from Contra Costa County have been [documented in previous rounds of HHAP](#) applications
- An updated plan is required for the HHAP 6 application

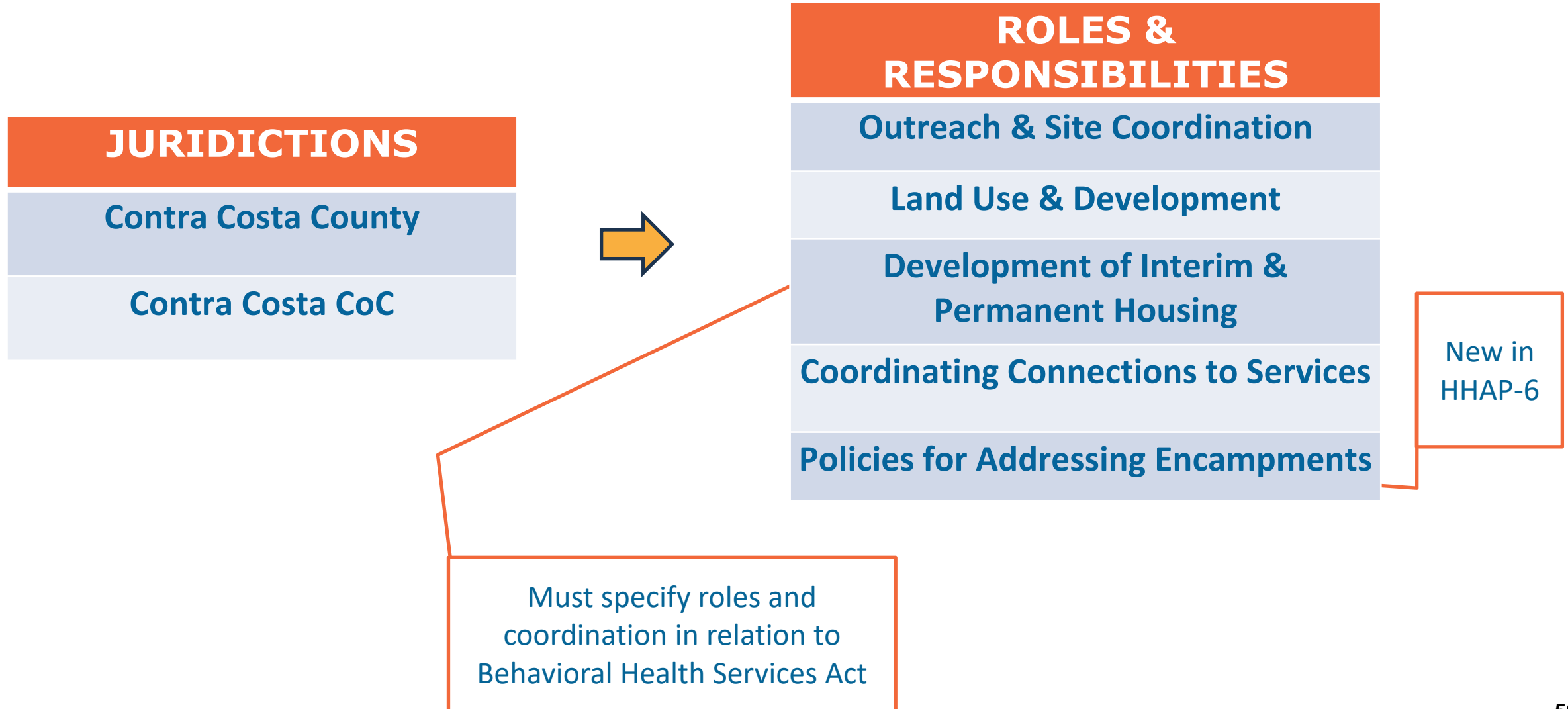
**The State requires no-less than three public meetings be conducted with stakeholders
for input and feedback when drafting the Regional Action Plan in HHAP 6**

The application for HHAP Round 6 funding is due August 29, 2025

REQUIRED COMPONENTS OF HHAP 6 APPLICATION

- Regional Partners Roles and Responsibilities
- System Performance Measures Improvement Plan
 - Key actions leveraging local, state, and federal funds
 - Each action must describe how it will address disparities and ensure racial and gender equity
- Funding Plans
 - Sustainability of interim housing portfolio
 - Sustainability of permanent housing portfolio
- Memorandum of Understanding

REGIONAL PARTNERS ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES



KEY ACTIONS TO IMPROVE SYSTEM PERFORMANCE MEASURES

People accessing services



- ☐ Increase access to Coordinated Entry
- ☐ Improve communications and marketing to increase knowledge of resources

Unsheltered Homelessness



- ☐ Sustain supply of interim housing
- ☐ Expand HMIS coverage

People new to homelessness



- ☐ Sustain Rapid Exit and prevention
- ☐ Increase access to CalAIM community supports

People exiting to permanent housing



- ☐ Expand supply of permanent housing units

Length of time homeless



- ☐ Increase coordination through case conferencing
- ☐ Improve data integration across County systems

Returns to homelessness



- ☐ Increase access to CalAIM community supports
- ☐ Target prevention resources to households with history of homelessness

Successful placements from street outreach



- ☐ Sustain and increase CORE services
- ☐ Coordinate with City and County partners to implement encampment resolution grant projects



COORDINATION WITH COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INTEGRATED PLAN



Behavioral Health Transformation Goals

- **IMPROVE** access to care
- **INCREASE** accountability and transparency for publicly funded, county administered behavioral health services
- **EXPAND** capacity of behavioral health facilities across California

Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) – Prop 1 (2024)

BH-CONNECT

(Behavioral Health Community Organized Network of Equitable Care and Treatment)

Integrated Plan

- To account for all BH programs and all funding sources
- Integrate new obligations under BHSA

Behavioral Health Services Act Funding Breakdown

90%

County Allocations

30%

Housing Interventions

Interventions include rental subsidies, operating subsidies, shared housing, family housing for eligible children and youth, and the non-federal share of certain transitional rent.

35%

Full-Service Partnership Services

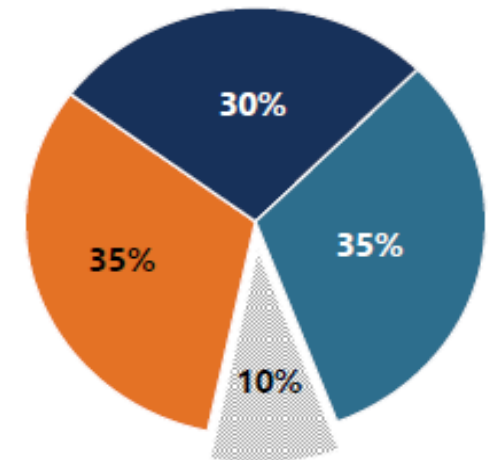
Comprehensive and intensive care for people at any age with the most complex needs (also known as the “whatever it takes” model).

35%

Behavioral Health Services and Supports

Includes early intervention, outreach and engagement, workforce, education and training, capital facilities and technological needs, and innovative pilots and projects.

90% County Allocations

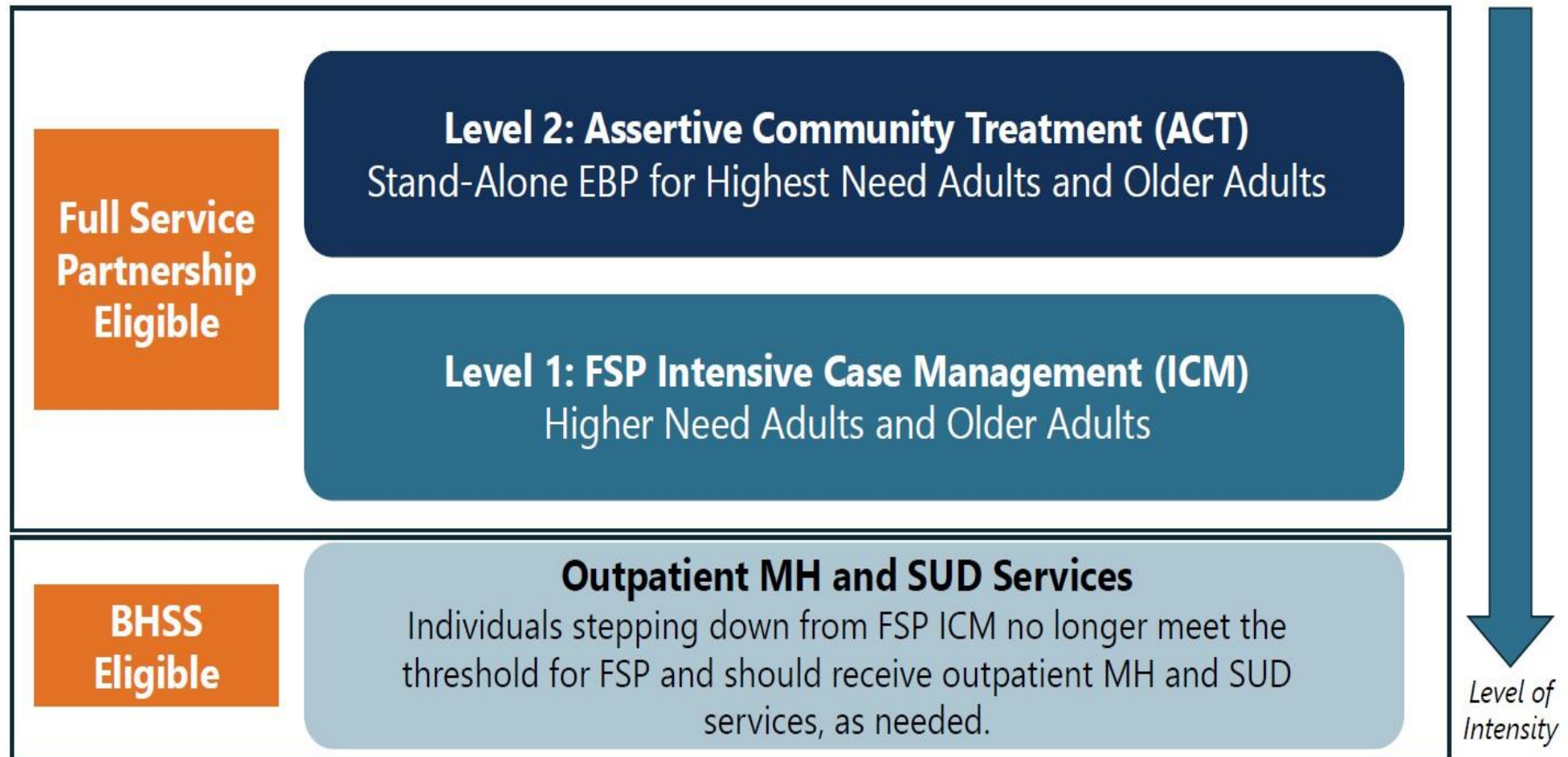


Adult FSP Levels of Care Framework

The framework includes two levels of coordinated care for adults and older adults with ACT/FACT as the highest level and a step-down level from ACT/FACT, called FSP Intensive Case Management (ICM).

ACT: Assertive Community Treatment

FACT: Forensic Assertive Community Treatment, ACT-level services for justice involved





Priority Populations for BHSA

» Eligible adults and older adults who are:

- Chronically homeless or experiencing homelessness or are at risk of homelessness.
- In, or are at risk of being in, the justice system.
- Reentering the community from prison or jail.
- At risk of conservatorship.
- At risk of institutionalization.

» Eligible children and youth who are:

- Chronically homeless or experiencing homelessness or are at risk of homelessness.
- In, or at risk of being in, the juvenile justice system.
- Reentering the community from a youth correctional facility.
- In the child welfare system.
- At risk of institutionalization.

Housing Interventions

Housing supports eligible for funding under the Behavioral Health Services Act are broad to help support the range of needs and help provide stable housing – in coordination with care – to improve health outcomes for target populations.

- Housing interventions may include:
 - Rental subsidies (helping someone pay their rent)
 - Operating subsidies (supports operating shortfalls in affordable housing developments)
 - Shared housing (including recovery housing)
 - Family housing
 - Non-federal share for Medi-Cal transitional rent
 - Other housing supports as defined by DHCS, including, but not limited to, the Community Supports policy guide
 - Capital development projects (Up to 25%)
 - Project-based housing assistance, including master leasing



INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION

- What barriers have participants encountered accessing housing?
- What specific housing resources would you like to see for participants with co-occurring mental health and substance use challenges?
- In your opinion, how could current housing supports and resources in Contra Costa County better serve the community?
- If you had a magic wand, what types of interventions and/or housing resources would you enhance or develop for people experiencing homelessness in Contra Costa County?

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 Services
Representative*

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- **Next COH Meeting:** Thursday, July 10 (*adjusted date), 1 – 3 PM (IN PERSON)
- **CoC Training (Fair Housing: Detecting & Preventing Discrimination):** Monday, June 9, 10 AM – 12 PM (Zoom)
- **HMIS Policy Committee Work Group Meeting:** Tuesday, June 10, 12 – 1:30 PM (Zoom)
- **Equity Committee Meeting Work Group Meeting:** Tuesday, June 10, 2 – 4 PM (Zoom)
- **Homeless Service Provider Meeting:** Thursday, June 12, 8:30 – 9:30 AM (Zoom)
- **PATH Committee Work Group Meeting:** Thursday, June 26, 9:30 – 11 AM (Zoom)
- **Oversight Committee:** Thursday, June 26, 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM (IN-PERSON)



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-2089

Agenda Date: 6/5/2025

Agenda #: 3.

Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Subject: Consent Calendar: APPROVE 6.5.25 Staff Report, 5.1.25 Minutes, Nominating Committee Members and Homelessness Awareness Month Committee Members

Presenter: Nicole Green, Chair

Contact: Jaime Jenett contracostacoc@cchealth.org <<mailto:contracostacoc@cchealth.org>>

Information: Every meeting the Council receives a staff report and minutes from the previous meeting to approve. The Council also need to approve members for the Nominating and Homelessness Awareness Month Committee. Nominations/volunteers were solicited in advance of the meeting.

Referral History and Update:

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

APPROVE 6.5.25 Staff Report, 5.1.25 Minutes, Nominating Committee Members and Homelessness Awareness Month Committee Members



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS STAFF REPORT

Report for the June 5, 2025 Council on Homelessness Meeting

INTRODUCTION

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

PROJECTS

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

There are no updates at this time.

Technical Assistance (TA) Updates:

There are no updates at this time.

COMMITTEES

Equity Committee

- The Equity Committee met on Wednesday, May 13, 2025. They got a report about the Client Satisfaction Survey, got a high level overview of the Nomination process for new COH members, discussed the Equity Dashboard in more depth and discussed types of training and information they would like in the future.



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS STAFF REPORT

Funding Committee

- The purpose of the Funding Committee is to direct the community input process for several time-sensitive federal and state funding streams, including updating materials and preparing for the bi-annual Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity (CoC NOFO) competition.
- The committee may convene later in 2025.

Governance Committee

- The purpose of the Governance Committee is to review and revise the [Governance Charter and Bylaws](#) to increase efficiency and impact in the Council on Homelessness. The Governance Committee Work Group met in March to discuss recommended revisions to the council bylaws.
- The committee met on March 25 to finalize proposed revisions to the Council Governance Charter and Bylaws. County Counsel will then review the proposed revisions before it goes to the Council on Homelessness for consideration and approval at a future meeting.

Homelessness Awareness Month Committee

- The purpose of the Homelessness Awareness Month Committee is to plan the activities and events in November (and December)
- Committee members to be confirmed include Nicole Green, Rina Criswell and Wayne Earl
- The committee will start meeting in June 2025

Nominating Committee

- The purpose of the Nominating Committee is to review and revise the process to recruit and select new Council members.
- Committee members to be confirmed include Carolyn Foudy, Hope Dixon, Nicole Green and Tony Ucciferri
- The committee will convene tentatively in August 2025.

Oversight Committee

- The purpose of the Oversight Committee is to review and assess the development, implementation, and improvement of: CoC, Coordinated Entry System, HMIS database, and System Outcomes.



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS STAFF REPORT

- The next meeting will be on June 26th, 11:30am - 1pm. CoH members are asked to attend in-person. Community members are welcome to attend in person or via Zoom. Use this link to register: <https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcsf-2urDssGdzVjZhCYrYEYtBPv6TuzAce>

Plan to Accelerate Transformative Housing Innovations Committee

In May 2025, the PATH Innovations Committee held a Committee Meeting. The Committee reviewed the unsheltered data dashboard, including an overview of HUD System Performance Measures and prevention, Rapid Exit, and eviction data from January to March 2025. The Committee received a presentation on the results of the CoC Participant Satisfaction Survey. The Committee also heard a presentation on using funding from the Behavioral Health Services Act for housing supports and provided feedback to staff from Contra Costa Behavioral Health.

OTHER

Quarterly Report

On May 12th, staff presented the Q1:2025 Council on Homelessness report to the Family and Human Services Committee. The Supervisors on the committee request that, at future meetings, staff provide an estimate of how much money the CoC may lose due to changes at the Federal level and a presentation of PIT data at a full Board of Supervisors meeting when the data is available. Supervisor Anderson requested that staff consider holding Homelessness 101 sessions in Walnut Creek and San Ramon. The Q1 2025 report is attached in this packet

COH Member Report Backs

Wayne Earl attended "Reimagining Sacred Land: How Faith, Lived Experience & Cross-Sector Collaboration Can Lead to Affordable, Permanent Cottage Communities" Workshop, sponsored by the Multi-Faith ACTION Coalition, Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County, East Bay Housing Organizations, Local Initiative Support Corporation, and Hope Solutions.

- Materials presented at the event: <https://www.multifaithactioncoalition.org/housing/2025/05/resources-for-reimagining-sacred-land/> [multifaithactioncoalition.org]



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS STAFF REPORT

- Grand opening of Hope Village: <https://www.hopesolutions.org/a-new-beginning-celebrating-the-grand-opening-of-hope-village-in-walnut-creek/> [hopesolutions.org]
- White paper, prepared by Hope Solutions, that discusses housing partnerships and policy with faith-based organizations: <https://baysfuture.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Faith-Owned-Land-Housing-Policy-White-Paper.pdf> [baysfuture.org]

Nicole Green reports out about:

- **AB109 Summit:** June 4th
- **CCC AB109 CAB:** Organizing the next 2026/2027 summit. For more information folks can join the CAB meeting or follow up with Nicole Green, Chair of CAB.
- **Behavioral Health Commission:** New BH Commission has been created and the first meeting was held 05/21/2025. BH Commission meeting will be held the 1st Wednesday of each month in Martinez from 4:30-6:30.



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MINUTES

Date: Thursday, May 1, 2025, 1 pm – 3 pm

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

Council Member Attendance:

- In-Person (15): Alejandra Chamberlain; Carolyn Foudy; Courtney Pal; Dani Jimenez; Gabriel Lemus; Juno Hedrick; LeAnn Matthews; Mia Fairbanks; Nicole Green; Shawn Ray; Sherina Criswell; Tony Ucciferri; Verneda Clapp; Wayne Earl; Yahel Moreno
- Remote (2): Hope Dixon; Leslie Gleason
- Absent (1): Heather Worobey
- Vacant (1): City Government Representative

Staff Attendance: Jaime Jenett, H3; Jamie Schechter, H3; Mark Mora, Homebase; Tania Morales, Homebase

Community Member Attendance:

- In-person: Jaclyn Tummings, DCD; Melanie Erickson, DCD; Caoline Miller, H3; Darius Aikens, Pittsburg Police department; Dillon Baler, Upward health; Jasmine Lologo, Upward Health; Nance Rowemanns, Upward Health; Leon Salee, YAB
- Remote: Athena, Bay Area Community Services; Angela Mullen, Brentwood Unified School District; Christine Wetzal, Caminar; Ishani Rasanayagam, City of Pittsburg; Catherine Casimere, City of Richmond; Gerry, Community member; Jessika Erin, Community member; Peter Myers, Contra Costa County District 3; Kirsten Hougen, CCC EHSD CSB; Janna Evans, CCCOE; Denise Clarke, Contra Costa County Office of Education; Gina O., Contra Costa Crisis Center; Lisa Malul, Contra Costa Crisis Center; Elizabeth Winstead, DOR; Cheryl Leonor, H3; Christy Saxton, H3; Elissa Kim, H3; Jorge Flores, H3; Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, H3; Yessenia Aguilar, H3; Jacqueline Franco, H3; Deanne Pearn, Hope Solutions; Emily Bero, Hope Solutions; Khayla DiGiorgio, Hope Solutions; Rena Moore, Safe Return Project; Hang Mosier, SAHA Homes; Christi Rossi, SHELTER Inc.; Rebecca Gomez-Pellecer, SHELTER Inc.; Barb Hunt, St. Vincent de Paul of CCC; Jai De Lotto, VA CES; Anastasia Lockwood, YAB



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

AGENDA ITEM

1) Call to Order

A. Chair starts the meeting:

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

Nicole Green called the meeting to order.

2) Introductions

A. Meeting Norms:

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

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

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

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

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

C. Poll – Who’s in the room?

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

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

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

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| This is my first meeting: | 4 (7%) |
| I’ve attended some meetings: | 7 (32%) |
| I’ve attended a lot of meetings: | 21 (61%) |
| I prefer not to answer: | 0 (0%) |

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

| | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Yes, currently | 1 (3%) |
| Yes, within the past 7 years | 6 (18%) |
| Yes, more than 7 years ago | 4 (12%) |



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| No | 22 (67%) |
| I prefer not to answer | 0 (0%) |

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

| | |
|--|----------|
| African American/Black | 8 (18%) |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native | 5 (11%) |
| Asian/Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian | 5 (11%) |
| Hispanic/Latinx | 8 (18%) |
| White | 16 (36%) |
| Multi-racial | 2 (4%) |
| 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:

- Leslie Gleason, COH member, announced that Trinity Center has launched a search for a new executive director. Anyone who is interested in applying should visit [Trinity Center's website](#).
- Angela Mullen, the foster and homeless youth liaison for Brentwood Unified School District and also a member of the McKinney-Vento Education Council, discussed the significant challenges faced by homeless families and youth in East Contra Costa County. During the 2023-24 school year, 1,300 students were identified as homeless students, with the majority living in doubled up situations or in vehicles. Due to the lack of family shelters, many families are told to go out of the County to find resources. Housing instability leads to chronic absenteeism, emotional distress, and causes a decline in their academic performance. Angela emphasized the urgent need of expanding shelter options and increase housing resources for vulnerable students and families in East Contra Costa County.
- Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, H3, shared the news that Valerie Slovin, a H3 staff member, has officially retired and thanked her for her dedication and continuous work of over 10 years helping people experiencing homelessness in Contra Costa County. Other members joined Mary to thank Valerie for her devotion.

4) Consent Calendar (ACTION ITEM)

A. APPROVE minutes from the April 3, 2025 Council meeting

B. APPROVE staff report for the May 1, 2025 Council meeting

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

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



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

Motion

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

5) Committee Report Outs

A. Youth Advisory Board (YAB) Update

Presenter: Juno Hedrick, *Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor*, Leon Saelee, *YAB Lead & Member*, and Anastasia Lockwood, *YAB Facilitator & Member*

The Youth Advisory Board (YAB) provided a report on their activities in April and plans for May. In terms of next steps, they plan to continue their partnership with Rainbow, meet with the Contra Costa Health, Community, Education, and Information team to improve their social media presence, participate in the Housing Needs Assessment Committee, and improve collaboration with the Oversight Committee. They await the HUD's Youth Homeless Demonstration HDP FY 2024 NOFO award results. The members expressed their excitement and pride in the work they are doing, emphasizing the importance of advocacy and public speaking.

B. Nominating Committee

Presenter: Jaime Jenett, *H3*

Jaime Jenett discussed the need to seek a new representative for the City Government Representative seat, as the previous representative, Jazmin Ridley, stepped down and resigned from the seat. The committee now is seeking volunteers for a Nominating Panel to review applications and recommend a new candidate for the open seat. The following COH members agreed to join: Leanne Matthews, Juno Hedrick, Dani Jimenez, and Hope Dixon.



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

6) Old Business

A. Funding Updates

Presenter: Jamie Schechter, H3

The Board of Supervisors approved the recommendations for the Housing and Homeless Services per the RFP on April 15th, 2025, with nearly \$6.6 million in federal, state and local funds. All contracts will become effective July 1st, 2025 or later. For the 2024 Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity federal funding update, CoC grantees have begun receiving grant agreements. Due to significant changes on the agreement language to enforce compliance with executive orders, such as prohibition to promote gender ideology and denying of services per immigration status, The National Alliance to End Homelessness recommends seeking legal counsel to review the grant documents. Per the language changes about immigration status for CoC assisted households, some agencies are questioning whether they need to go back and request proof of immigration status to people receiving services or whether that applies to new people who will receive services, as many agencies that provide services do not request proof. Jamie answered that nonprofits have had a different standard under local and state government in terms of verifying immigration details and that they utilize HMIS data to make sure eligibility is in place but clarified that the HMIS does not track citizenship status. H3 recommends continuing working with legal counsel and being informed about the process. There are also concerns about HUD's Housing First language changes, with H3 acknowledging the importance of keep enforcing this program model at the state and local level. Additionally, H3 also highlighted the new funding from Assembly Bill (AB) 109, a public safety realignment funding that all counties get from the state for housing programs. For the Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP) Round 6 update, there will be three stakeholder engagement meetings to obtain input on the community's needs and help create a budget for the HHAP 6 application to the State—the application is due at the end of August. Lastly, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH), the entity that coordinates across the entire Federal government on homelessness, published the Federal Strategic plan and has reduced to a minimum presence and function required by law based on an executive order on March 14, 2025. Anyone interested in receiving email notifications from Contra Costa County's CoC Funding Opportunities page can sign up for the newsletter [here](#).

B. (ACTION ITEM) Discuss And Approve 2025 Quarter 1 Council On Homelessness Recommendations For Report To County Board Of Supervisors



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

Presenter: Jaime Jenett, *H3*

Jaime Jenett discussed the 2025 quarter 1 recommendations for reports to the County Board of Supervisors. The Council would like to promote more of the Homelessness 101, a community forum on homelessness where members of the public can come and learn real basic information about homelessness. The next one will be scheduled in Pittsburgh. Other recommendations to send to the Board of Supervisors are to include youth's work, address the need for a cheat sheet of what the different committees are doing, and the current challenges of funding due to federal cuts and the need to raise awareness of these challenges.

Motion

- State of Motion:
 - To approve the 2025 Quarter 1 Council on Homelessness Recommendations for the report to the County Board of Supervisors.
- Discussion:
 - None.
- Procedural Record
 - Motion made by: Dani Jimenez
 - Seconded by: Mia Fairbanks
 - AYES: Alejandra Chamberlain; Carolyn Foudy; Courtney Pal; Dani Jimenez; Gabriel Lemus; Hope Dixon; Juno Hedrick; LeAnn Matthews; Leslie Gleason; Mia Fairbanks; Nicole Green; Shawn Ray; Sherina Criswell; Tony Ucciferri; Verneda Clapp; Wayne Earl; Yahel Moreno
 - NOES: None
 - ABSTAINS: None
 - ABSENT: Heather Worobey

C. Conference Reports

Presenter: Jamie Schechter, *H3*

Jamie Schechter shared the recent presentation that H3 did at the Corporation for Supportive Housing Annual Conference in Chicago, in collaboration with Alameda County, where they shared the training sessions and resources that Contra Costa County uses to support providers in their community. H3, in partnership with Hope Solutions, also had a strong representation at the Housing California conference, where they presented on their El Portal Place project and discussed the use of AB 109 funding. The team expressed excitement about their innovative projects and the recognition they have received from attendees for their work.



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

7) New Business

A. Update: System Performance Measures

Presenter: Jamie Schechter and Kimberly Thai, H3

Kimberly Thai went over the HUD System Performance Measures (SPM), which were established in 2015. The SPM is an annual report used at the federal level to determine funding for the CoC at a local level, identify trends, understand impacts for program or policy changes, and guide decision-making. The SPM is guided by seven key measures with Measure 6 focusing on prevention outcomes and is only applicable to high-performing communities. The meeting also covered how to use the findings to understand changes over time, set goals for the CoC, and the importance of considering changes in funding sources and priorities. The conversation ended with a discussion on the data presented, including the number of returns to homelessness, the number of homeless persons, employment and income growth, and exit destination data.

B. Sector Report Outs from Council Members

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

H3 reminded COH members to use this space to share any updates. A question was raised to find out if they were part of any other council, board, or advisory group that speaks to the work around homelessness. A council member answered [1:26:09] that she belongs to the Alameda County CoC Outreach Access and Coordination Committee so it could be an opportunity to share what they are doing and how it relates to this work. Alejandra Chamberlain, COH member, mentioned that there is a group that will be formed soon to discuss AB 2083, which involves probation, child welfare, behavioral health as well as The County Office of Education and Regional Center. Mia Fairbanks is also on the Healthcare for the Homeless Board and they will be undergoing a site visit and evaluation by their funder. Mia will have some flyers with more information about who can access those services at the next meeting. Hope Dixon shared that she could bring in information about the Reimagine Richmond project where they work on reimagining community safety with police oversight, and the Rock project, a mental health crisis line for low level emergency calls. Hope Dixon also mentioned that the City of Richmond is recruiting for a community intervention specialist and details about the job opportunity may be found at the [City of Richmond's website](#). For AB 109, Nicole Green shared that there will be an online summit on June 4th and it will be open to all county programs (H3, CoC, behavioral health, etc.). COH members will be asked to confirm if they have a report out they would like to share when the email about quorum goes out.



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

C. Learning Corner: Presentation about the Opioid Response

Services and Program

Presenter: Elissa Kim, *Behavioral Health Services, Opioid Response Services and Program*

Elissa Kim, the Opioid Response Coordinator, presented data on drug overdose deaths and emergency department visits, with data showing that drug overdose emerged as the leading cause of death among residents aged 25-54, highlighting the impact on different regions and communities. She emphasized the need for a comprehensive response to address the issue, which affects people of all backgrounds and socioeconomic statuses. News articles about recent incidents in neighboring counties were shared, emphasizing the importance of prevention within their own community. The Access Line provides outpatient services, medication-assisted treatment, detox facilities, and recovery support services. She highlighted the importance of treatment, particularly for those struggling with substance use disorders, and mentioned the availability of bilingual services. Elissa also introduced the Opioid Response Team, which engages with vulnerable populations to provide support and connect them with treatment and recovery services. She emphasized the need to break the stigma surrounding harm reduction and substance use, and mentioned the availability for the public to obtain naloxone and fentanyl test strips in vending machines. The Syringe Service Program provides sterile supplies, prevention supplies as well as education and testing for STIs and HIV. Elissa encouraged collaboration with other organizations to support the community and the need to improve outreach. Anyone needing support or information may email the team directly at AODOPIOIDResponse@cchealth.org or call at 925-335-3330.

8) General Announcements

A. General Announcements:

Presenter: All members and members of the public.

- None

9) Pin It

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

- The next COH meeting will be on June 5th, from 1:00 – 3:00pm at 1025 Escobar Street in Martinez.
- A list of upcoming meetings was shared and will also be sent via email. Calendar meeting invites to all committee meetings will be sent out to COH Council members based on the committees for which they signed up.



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

Commonly Used Acronyms

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



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

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



STAFF REPORT FROM THE CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

Contra Costa County Homeless System of Care Quarterly Report for Quarter 1, 2025 (January - March)

INTRODUCTION

The Contra Costa Council on Homelessness (CoH) is the governing and oversight body for the County homeless Continuum of Care (CoC) and is appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The Council provides advice and input to the Board of Supervisors on the operations of homeless services, program operations, and program development efforts in Contra Costa County. The Contra Costa Council on Homelessness is the governing body for the Contra Costa County Continuum of Care (CoC).

The Contra Costa CoC is comprised of multiple partners, including service providers, members of faith communities, local businesses, private and public funders, community members, education systems and law enforcement, and others who are working collaboratively to end homelessness. The COH and COC are supported by Contra Costa Health - Health, Housing & Homeless Services (H3) Division. H3 functions as the CoC administrative entity and collaborative applicant, CoC Lead Agency and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS database) Lead Agency.

The purpose of this report is to share information about the CoC and COH activities with the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and to provide recommendations from the COH to the County Board of Supervisors on long range planning and policy formulation that would support the county homeless CoC. This report includes information on system data, funding and policy activities, and CoC initiatives. All information will reflect activities and data for the prior quarter.

This report was produced on behalf of the CoH by H3 in collaboration with the CoH and CoC partners.

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

HUD NOFO: [HUD released the first round of award decisions in early 2025.](#) Contra Costa CoC was awarded over \$22 million dollars for all renewal projects and one new rapid rehousing project to serve survivors of domestic violence. In March 2025, HUD began issuing grant agreements for projects with new requirements such as compliance with Executive Orders. In alignment with guidance from the National Alliance to End Homelessness, the CoC recommends



grantees consult with legal counsel to understand the impact of these changes. The Council received updates on federal funding during monthly meetings.

SYSTEM INITIATIVES

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

CoC Participant Satisfaction Survey: These annual surveys were conducted in the month of March across the 7 CoC Program Models (read about the CoC Program Models and Performance Standards here: 638258163191470000). Results analyzed and shared in quarter 2.

Communications:

- Published Frequently Asked Questions page on H3 website ([Frequently Asked Questions About Homelessness | Contra Costa Health](#))
- Hosted first “Homelessness 101” community forum at San Pablo Library in partnership with Contra Costa Library Adult Education program (3/18). Next event planned for 5/19 from 6 pm – 7:30 pm at Pittsburg Library ([Homelessness 101: Community Awareness Session | Events | Contra Costa County Library](#))

Equity: Progress towards the 2025 Work Plan included:

1. Monitor metrics related to equity in the CoC: Dashboard still being developed
2. Provide input to CoC policies and procedures: March: received an update on recommendations from the Governance Committee
3. Learn about topics and programs impacting equity in homelessness response program: Received the following presentations-“Equity Committee 101” presentation to recap the committee's history; “Funding 101” to provide an overview of funding within the Continuum of Care; CoC/CES 101 and Data Basics/HMIS 101.
4. Develop equity dashboard: Outlined dashboard framework as a tool to track and visualize data for a clearer understanding of equity in service delivery, discussing its goals, audience, and potential data. Further discussions refined its purpose for Equity Committee members while considering partners like Behavioral Health, identifying key disparities such as income, language, location, and positive outcomes.
5. Leverage partnerships to increase participation in Equity Committee, particularly PWLE: In progress
6. Develop projects and recommend priorities within CoC to address root causes of racial disparities in homeless system of care: In progress

Engagement of People with Lived Experience of Homelessness (PWLE):



- Housing Needs Assessment Process: hosted input session with Youth Action Board and group of system utilizers, HNA reDesign Steering Committee includes 3 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.

Point in Time Count (PIT):

- More than 150 volunteers and staff were trained and participated in the community observational count portion of the PIT held on the morning of Thursday, January 30, 2025.
- Completed survey gathering process.

Youth and Young Adult Homelessness

H3 and the Youth Action Board (YAB), a group of transitional aged youth with a lived experience of homelessness, remained actively engaged in advancing our youth and young adult (YYA) homelessness response. Q1 activities include:

- **YYA Community Strategic Planning:** In February, H3 launched a year-long effort to implement the [YYA Homelessness Strategic Plan](#). This plan outlines 14 first-tier and 10 second-tier actions across eight objectives, directly addressing the findings from our recent [needs assessment](#) and the voices of YYA and providers. This work will set us on a path to developing a longer-term and comprehensive coordinated community plan.
- **CoC Initiatives:** Throughout Q4, YAB members participated in key CoC initiatives including the Housing Needs Assessment Redesign Steering Committee, the Housing and Homelessness Funding RFP Panel, and the YYA Community Strategic Planning.
- **Youth Empowerment Summit:** On March 2-4, H3 staff, YAB members, and RYSE Center partners attended the Youth Empowerment Summit in Sacramento. The event brought together young people, community leaders, and service providers from across California to collaborate on preventing and ending youth homelessness.
- **YAB Meetings and Leadership Development:** The YAB held nine hybrid meetings at H3 offices in Concord and the RYSE Center in Richmond. Meetings focused on finalizing YAB bylaws, electing core leadership, creating restorative space, and the formation of three subcommittees: Communications, Outreach & Retention, and Data & Research
- **YHDP Application:** The HUD NOFO for the FY 2024 Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) was published on January 14, 2025, but later removed on January 28. H3, YAB, and partners remained committed to reapplying once YHDP is re-published.
- **Community Partnerships:** The YAB continued collaboration with key partners, including Rainbow Community Center and the Alameda County YAB.



- **YAB One-Year Anniversary:** In March, the YAB celebrated its official one-year anniversary with a community building and recognition of all the progress made.

GOVERNANCE/REPORTING

- The Brown Act requirement for in person attendance continues to create barriers to participation for a number of members in seats that require lived experience.
- Hosted COH Orientation on 1/9.
- At the February Council on Homelessness meeting, the Council elected Nicole Green as Chair and Juno Hedrick as Vice Chair.
- The Governance Committee met in February and March to review bylaws and consider updates and improvements.
- 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 Q4 averages.)

MEETINGS, TRAININGS AND EVENTS

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

| Committee | Purpose |
|---------------------------|--|
| Equity Committee | Create accessible information, outreach, and educational materials to engage hard to reach or previously unreached communities in Contra Costa County. |
| Governance Committee | Review and revise the Governance Charter and Bylaws to increase CoH efficiency and impact. |
| HMIS Policy Committee | Develops and shares updates on Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) policies & practices, compliance, & troubleshooting. Plans technical assistance & training. |
| Nominating Committee | Reviews application tools and process for potential new CoH members. |
| Oversight Committee | Reviewing and assessing the development, implementation, and improvement of the CoC, Coordinated Entry System, HMIS database, and system outcomes |
| PATH Innovation Committee | Work towards the goal of reducing unsheltered homeless in Contra Costa County by 75% . |

Trainings



- Meeting the Housing Needs of People With Criminal Records (1.13.25)
- Housing First (2.10.25)
- Supporting Families with Minor Children and Unaccompanied Minors (3.10.25)

Events

- CoC Provider Meetings (3)
- Homeless-Workforce Integration Network field trip to Lao Community Family Development location in San Pablo (2/26)

The recordings, minutes and materials for trainings and meetings can be found on the H3 website¹ and on the County agenda center², and a calendar of upcoming meetings and events can be found on the H3 website.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Publicize CCH/Contra Costa Library "Homelessness 101" events in district newsletters when quarterly event falls in their district.

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

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



APPENDIX A

Commonly Used Acronyms and Terms

| Acronym | Definition |
|-------------------------|--|
| APR | Annual Performance Report (for HUD homeless programs) |
| BIPOC | Black and Indigenous People of Color |
| CARE | Coordinated Assessment and Resource |
| CCYCS | Contra Costa Youth Continuum of Services |
| 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 |
| TA | Technical Assistance |



COH QUARTERLY REPORT

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

APPENDIX B

Poll Question Answers Q1

How many Council on Homelessness meetings have you attended? Q4 avg

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| This is my first meeting | 16% |
| I've attended some meetings | 24% |
| I've attended a lot of meetings | 45% |
| I prefer not to answer | 0% |

Do you have lived experience of homelessness?

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Yes, currently | 6% |
| Yes, within the past 7 years | 4% |
| Yes, more than 7 years ago | 19% |
| No | 73% |
| I prefer not to answer | 0% |

What best describes your racial identity?*

| | |
|--|-----|
| African American/Black | 12% |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native | 10% |
| Asian/Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian | 7% |
| Hispanic/Latinx | 21% |
| White | 40% |
| Multi-racial | 7% |
| I prefer not to answer | 1% |
| I describe myself in another way | 2% |

*This category allows people to select multiple options



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-2090

Agenda Date: 6/5/2025

Agenda #: 4.

Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Subject: Nominating Panel: (ACTION ITEM) APPROVE Bessie Marie Scott for City Government

Representative as recommended by the Nominating Panel to be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for official approval for Council on Homelessness membership

Presenter: Juno Hedrick, Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor

Contact: Contracostacoc@cchealth.org

Information:

The Council on Homelessness is recommending Bessie Marie Scott, City Manager for the City of Antioch for the City Government seat. The seat was vacated early when the seated representative left their qualifying employment.

Referral History and Update:

There was an extensive recruitment process to solicit applicants for the open seat and a total of 4 applications were completed. A nominating panel, created of non-conflicted Council on Homelessness members (Dani Jimenez, Juno Hedrick, and LeAnn Matthews) reviewed the County and Supplemental applications for each applicant, and following a strict rubric, made recommendations to the Council.

The attached "COH City Government Seat Applicant Roster 2025" document provides information about the applicants for each category, including seat applied for and applicant's district. The "Applications of Recommended Applicants 2025" document includes the County and Supplemental applications for each of the recommended applicants. The term of the newly appointed representative will expire on 12/31/25, as originally scheduled. Should this recommendation be accepted by the Council on Homelessness, it will go before the Board of Supervisors on the Consent Calendar.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

APPROVE Bessie Marie Scott as the recommended candidate for the vacant City Government seat.

City Government Representative Candidates
June 2025

| Name | City Representing | Home City |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Brynen, Stefanie | City of Walnut Creek | Walnut Creek |
| Morales, Jesus M. | City of Richmond | Out of County |
| Murti, Jared | City of Pinole | Out of County |
| Scott, Bessie Marie | City of Antioch | Antioch |

Application Form

Profile

Stefanie

First Name

J

Middle
Initial

Brynen

Last Name

Home Address

Suite or Apt

Walnut Creek

City

CA

State

Postal Code

Primary Phone

Email Address

[District Locator Tool](#)

Resident of Supervisorial District:

☒ District 4

City of Walnut Creek

Employer

Housing Manager

Job Title

Length of Employment

2.5 years

Do you work in Contra Costa County?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, in which District do you work?

District 4

How long have you lived or worked in Contra Costa County?

2.5 years

Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Board and Interest

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Contra Costa Council on Homelessness: Submitted

Seat Name

City Government Representative

Have you ever attended a meeting of the advisory board for which you are applying?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, how many meetings have you attended?

2

Education

Select the option that applies to your high school education *

☒ High School Diploma

College/ University A

Name of College Attended

UC, Santa Cruz

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

BA/Sociology

Degree Awarded?

☒ Yes ☐ No

College/ University B

Name of College Attended

Brandeis University

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

MBA/Public Administration/Human Services

Degree Awarded?

☒ Yes ☐ No

College/ University C

Name of College Attended

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Degree Awarded?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Other Trainings & Occupational Licenses

Other Training A

Diversity Trainer

Certificate Awarded for Training?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Other Training B

Public Sector Management

Certificate Awarded for Training?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Occupational Licenses Completed:

Qualifications and Volunteer Experience

Please explain why you would like to serve on this particular board, committee, or commission.

I have a deep commitment to addressing homelessness and have dedicated much of my career to advancing housing solutions at the regional level. While I currently work at the local level, I miss the broader collaboration, strategic impact, and policy development that regional work offers. Serving on the Council would allow me to contribute my expertise while re-engaging in the kind of cross-jurisdictional efforts that are essential to effectively addressing homelessness in Contra Costa County.

Describe your qualifications for this appointment. (NOTE: you may also include a copy of your resume with this application)

See attached resume

Upload a Resume

Would you like to be considered for appointment to other advisory bodies for which you may be qualified?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Do you have any obligations that might affect your attendance at scheduled meetings?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please explain:

Are you currently or have you ever been appointed to a Contra Costa County advisory board?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you are currently serving:

If Yes, please also list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you have previously served:

List any volunteer or community experience, including any advisory boards on which you have served.

Conflict of Interest and Certification

Do you have a familial or financial relationship with a member of the Board of Supervisors? (Please refer to the relationships listed under the "Important Information" section below or Resolution No. 2021/234)

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Do you have any financial relationships with the County such as grants, contracts, or other economic relationships?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Please Agree with the Following Statement

I CERTIFY that the statements made by me in this application are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith. I acknowledge and undersand that all information in this application is publicly accessible. I understand that misstatements and/or omissions of material fact may cause forfeiture of my rights to serve on a board, committee, or commission in Contra Costa County.

☒ I Agree

Important Information

1. This application and any attachments you provide to it is a public document and is subject to the California Public Records Act (CA Government Code §6250-6270).
2. All members of appointed bodies are required to take the advisory body training provided by Contra Costa County.
3. Members of certain boards, commissions, and committees may be required to: (1) file a Statement of Economic Interest Form also known as a Form 700, and (2) complete the State Ethics Training Course as required by AB 1234.
4. Meetings may be held in various locations and some locations may not be accessible by public transportation.
5. Meeting dates and times are subject to change and may occur up to two (2) days per month.
6. Some boards, committees, or commissions may assign members to subcommittees or work groups which may require an additional commitment of time.
7. As indicated in Board Resolution 2021/234, a person will not be eligible for appointment if he/she is related to a Board of Supervisors' member in any of the following relationships:
 - (1) Mother, father, son, and daughter;
 - (2) Brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather, grandson, and granddaughter;
 - (3) Husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepson, and stepdaughter;
 - (4) Registered domestic partner, pursuant to California Family Code section 297;
 - (5) The relatives, as defined in 1 and 2 above, for a registered domestic partner;
 - (6) Any person with whom a Board Member shares a financial interest as defined in the Political Reform Act (Gov't Code §87103, Financial Interest), such as a business partner or business associate.

[View results](#)

Respondent

3

Anonymous

27:32

Time to complete

About the Supplemental Questions for the Council on Homelessness Membership Application

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

Please note, there are two required elements of the Council on Homelessness application, these "Supplemental Questions" and the County Application. You **must complete both** components of the application by Friday, May 22, 2025. Instructions for completing the County Application will be sent to you after completing the "Supplemental Questions" below.

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

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

Supplemental Questions

1. Which vacant Council on Homelessness seat are you applying for? *



City Government Representative: Must be an employee of a city or town located in Contra Costa County. The candidate's work must be related to homelessness, housing, and/or community grants/services, and the candidate's employer must engage with unhoused populations in some manner. This seat is not open to representatives elected to positions in Contra Costa County.

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

With over 25 years of experience in housing, public policy, and community development, I bring a comprehensive understanding of the impact homelessness has on individuals and communities. I also have a deep understanding of affordable housing systems, cross-sector collaboration, and program administration that aligns with the mission of the Council on Homelessness. As the Housing Manager for the City of Walnut Creek, I lead the city's housing program, overseeing our homelessness prevention strategies, affordable housing policies, compliance with state and federal regulations, and administration of critical housing and human services funding. I foster partnerships with nonprofits, cities, counties, and regional stakeholders to advance housing goals and ensure equitable service delivery. Previously, at the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development, I managed over \$100 million annually in capital funding for public housing across diverse communities, ensuring compliance, strategic investments, and effective vendor management. My experience spans project oversight, policy development, regulatory enforcement, and technical assistance to local housing authorities. Earlier in my career, I worked for the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families, where I managed statewide programs and contracts focused on child welfare, family engagement, and community-based services. In that role, I developed policies, led program evaluations, facilitated cross-agency collaborations, and supported community coalitions serving the state's most vulnerable families. This experience deepened my understanding of how housing instability intersects with family wellbeing and the importance of coordinated service delivery. Throughout my career, I've built partnerships across government, nonprofit, and community sectors to advance housing access and stability. My experience in grant administration, program evaluation, contract management, and community engagement equips me to contribute meaningfully to the Contra Costa Council on Homelessness and its mission to prevent and end homelessness through coordinated, strategic efforts.

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

- ☐ I am a person currently experiencing homelessness and living in a shelter or location not meant for human habitation (e.g., in a tent).
- ☐ I am a person who experienced homelessness within the past 7 years but is currently housed.
- ☐ I am a person who experienced homelessness more than 7 years ago but is currently housed.
- ☐ I am a family member of someone who has experienced homelessness
- ☒ I am none of the above but still invested in addressing homelessness in Contra Costa County.
- ☐ I would prefer not to respond

4. **Unhoused people in Contra Costa County come from many different backgrounds in terms of race, ethnicity, culture, ability, age, sexual and gender identity, and immigration status. From your personal experience, why do you think it's important for all people have equal (or equitable) access to the service and help that they need?** (*

From both my professional experience and personal values, I believe equitable access to services is essential because housing insecurity does not affect all communities equally. In my work at the City of Walnut Creek and previously with the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development and Department of Children and Families, I have seen firsthand how systemic inequities can create significant barriers to stable housing and services.

Unhoused individuals often carry the compounded weight of trauma, discrimination, and generational disadvantage. Equitable access means more than simply making services available, it means intentionally designing and delivering them in ways that recognize and address the specific barriers people face based on their identity, lived experience, and systemic context. Without that context well-meaning programs can inadvertently exclude those who need them most.

Equity is also critical for building trust. Many unhoused people have experienced institutions that have historically failed or harmed them. Ensuring equitable access helps rebuild that trust and ensures services are not only available but actually usable and effective.

Ultimately, I believe a community is only as strong as its commitment to the dignity, safety, and wellbeing of all its members. Addressing homelessness in a meaningful way requires us to lead with equity, both in principle and in practice.

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

1. Expand Flexible, Low-Barrier Prevention and Stabilization Funding

One of the most effective ways to reduce homelessness is to prevent it from happening in the first place. In my experience managing housing and human services programs, I've seen how flexible financial assistance (such as emergency rent, utility payments, or move-in costs) can stabilize households at risk of losing housing. Contra Costa County could expand low-barrier prevention funding administered through trusted community-based organizations, with streamlined applications and quicker turnaround times. Many residents facing eviction or financial crisis fall just outside the eligibility thresholds for traditional aid but still urgently need support. Making prevention dollars more accessible, particularly for undocumented residents, gig workers, or people with informal housing arrangements, can keep people housed and reduce demand on the shelter system.

2. Increase Permanent Supportive Housing Paired with Robust Services

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) remains one of the most effective interventions for people experiencing chronic homelessness, particularly those with disabling conditions. From my work with affordable housing development and capital program management, I've seen how PSH can create long-term stability, predominantly when paired with services that are adequately funded and designed to meet residents' complex needs. Contra Costa County can better support this by prioritizing funding for deeply affordable PSH units and ensuring service providers have the capacity to offer mental health care, case management, and tenancy support. This includes leveraging state and federal funding streams (e.g., No Place Like Home, CalAIM) to sustain service delivery and staffing.

Additionally, co-locating PSH within or near transit, health centers, and community resources makes housing more accessible and integrated. Coordination between housing developers, service providers, and behavioral health systems is key to making this work.

Together, these two approaches, upstream prevention and permanent housing with wraparound support, address both immediate risk and long-term need. They reflect the principle that housing is a basic human right, and that with the right resources and support, we can create a system where everyone has a safe place to live.

6. **Please state how many Continuum of Care (CoC), Council on Homelessness (CoH), or Youth Advisory Council (YAC) meetings you have previously attended. ***

☐ 3 or more meetings

☒ 1-2 meetings

☐ 0 meetings

7. The Council is committed to the Housing First approach (meaning no barriers or requirements as a prerequisite to housing, including sobriety, religious affiliation, or other structure not required for housing) and has established this Guiding Principle: *Homelessness is first a housing issue, and necessary supports and services are critical to help people remain housed. Our system must be nimble and flexible enough to respond through the shared responsibility, accountability, and transparency of the community.* **Are you in support of the Housing First approach and Guiding Principle described above? ***

☒ Yes

☐ No

8. **Council on Homelessness meetings take place on the first Thursday of the month from 1 pm – 3pm in Martinez. Members of the Council are also expected to participate in at least one committee or workgroup, which typically meet on a monthly basis. All Councilmembers are expected to attend meetings in person and can only attend virtually twice per calendar year under very narrow circumstances. Additionally, Councilmembers may miss up to two Council meetings per calendar year. Based on this information, please identify the level of commitment you can provide to the Council on Homelessness by selecting one of the options below: ***

☒ I can be available for **2 or more IN PERSON meetings per month**, including the standing monthly COH meeting the first Thursday of every month from 1pm to 3pm.

☐ I can be available **only for the standing IN PERSON monthly COH meeting** the first Thursday of every month from 1pm to 3pm.

☐ I am **not available** for the standing monthly COH meeting, **but can make other meetings 2 or more times** per month.

☐ I am **not available** for the standing monthly COH meeting and **may not be able to make other meetings** more than once per month.

Demographic Information (Optional)

The Council aims to engage as broad a representation as possible of abilities, ages, sexual and gender identities, immigration statuses, and racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds, and geographical representation within the County. Responses to the following questions are optional and will be considered in aggregate to ensure that we have recruited a diverse pool of applicants. The Nominating Panel will not review applicants' responses to the following questions.

9. What are your pronouns (*for example: she/him/they/ze, etc.*)?

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

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

12. What best describes your age? (Check one)

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

13. What best describes your race/ethnicity? (Pick as many as apply)

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

☐ Other

14. Which of the following geographic areas do you spend the most time in? *

- ☐ Far East Contra Costa County (for example: Discovery Bay, Bethel Island)
- ☐ East Contra Costa County (for example: Bay Point, Pittsburg, Antioch, Brentwood)
- ☒ Central Contra Costa County (for example: Martinez, Pleasant Hill, Concord, Walnut Creek)
- ☐ South Contra Costa County (for example: Alamo, Danville, San Ramon)
- ☐ West Contra Costa County (for example: El Cerrito, San Pablo, Richmond, Pinole, Hercules, Rodeo)
- ☐ I spend an equal amount of time in all five geographic areas listed above.

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

Contact Information

16. Name *

Stefanie Brynen

17. Email *

18. Phone Number *

Application Form

Profile

Jesus

First Name

M.

Middle
Initial

Morales

Last Name

Home Address

Suite or Apt

Richmond

City

CA

State

Postal Code

Mobile:

Primary Phone

j

Email Address

[District Locator Tool](#)

Resident of Supervisorial District:

☒ N/A - Out of County

City of Richmond

Employer

Housing Manager

Job Title

Length of Employment

3 years

Do you work in Contra Costa County?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, in which District do you work?

District 1

How long have you lived or worked in Contra Costa County?

3 years

Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Board and Interest

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Contra Costa Council on Homelessness: Not Submitted

Seat Name

Have you ever attended a meeting of the advisory board for which you are applying?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, how many meetings have you attended?

Education

Select the option that applies to your high school education *

☒ High School Diploma

College/ University A

Name of College Attended

USC

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Bachelor of Science/Bus.Admin/RE

Degree Awarded?

☒ Yes ☐ No

College/ University B

Name of College Attended

St Mary's College - Moraga, CA

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

None/Liberal Arts

Degree Awarded?

☐ Yes ☒ No

College/ University C

Name of College Attended

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Degree Awarded?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Other Trainings & Occupational Licenses

Other Training A

Certificate Awarded for Training?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Other Training B

Certificate Awarded for Training?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Occupational Licenses Completed:

Qualifications and Volunteer Experience

Please explain why you would like to serve on this particular board, committee, or commission.

In my position as a Housing Manager for the city of Richmond the majority of my work with the past three years has been dedicated to the administration of grants, ERF-1, ERF-2R, ERF-3R, and Homekey, the city has received to address homelessness in Richmond. Part of this work requires collaboration with local community organizations, nonprofit service providers, and staff from neighboring cities, and Contra Costa County to share resources and ideas and enhance the delivery of services to the unhoused population. Richmond is taking a very active role in addressing homelessness and is willing to work with our partners in the County to see how we can coordinate the delivery of services to the unhoused population not only in Richmond but in the county.

Describe your qualifications for this appointment. (NOTE: you may also include a copy of your resume with this application)

I have over 20 years of experience working with a number of cities, Los Angeles, Santa Monica, Corona, Huntington Beach, Fairfield, Richmond, in the area of affordable housing development and loan programs to assist homeless, extremely low-, very low-, low-, and moderate income households. This background is provided a wide breadth of experience in dealing with individuals, the community, local and nonprofit organizations, private developers, and staff are different levels of government. This experience has been invaluable in my current work which is focused primarily on the administration of the grants the city has received to provide services to the unhoused population Richmond. Getting appointed to the Contra Costa Council on Homelessness is a continuation of the work I have done for the past 20 years and provides a great opportunity to develop professional relationships but also a learning opportunity in the work I am currently doing. I look forward to being a member of the Contra Costa Council on Homelessness.

Upload a Resume

Would you like to be considered for appointment to other advisory bodies for which you may be qualified?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Do you have any obligations that might affect your attendance at scheduled meetings?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please explain:

Are you currently or have you ever been appointed to a Contra Costa County advisory board?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you are currently serving:

If Yes, please also list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you have previously served:

List any volunteer or community experience, including any advisory boards on which you have served.

Conflict of Interest and Certification

Do you have a familial or financial relationship with a member of the Board of Supervisors? (Please refer to the relationships listed under the "Important Information" section below or Resolution No. 2021/234)

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Do you have any financial relationships with the County such as grants, contracts, or other economic relationships?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Please Agree with the Following Statement

I CERTIFY that the statements made by me in this application are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith. I acknowledge and understand that all information in this application is publicly accessible. I understand that misstatements and/or omissions of material fact may cause forfeiture of my rights to serve on a board, committee, or commission in Contra Costa County.

☒ I Agree

Important Information

1. This application and any attachments you provide to it is a public document and is subject to the California Public Records Act (CA Government Code §6250-6270).
2. All members of appointed bodies are required to take the advisory body training provided by Contra Costa County.
3. Members of certain boards, commissions, and committees may be required to: (1) file a Statement of Economic Interest Form also known as a Form 700, and (2) complete the State Ethics Training Course as required by AB 1234.
4. Meetings may be held in various locations and some locations may not be accessible by public transportation.
5. Meeting dates and times are subject to change and may occur up to two (2) days per month.
6. Some boards, committees, or commissions may assign members to subcommittees or work groups which may require an additional commitment of time.
7. As indicated in Board Resolution 2021/234, a person will not be eligible for appointment if he/she is related to a Board of Supervisors' member in any of the following relationships:
 - (1) Mother, father, son, and daughter;
 - (2) Brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather, grandson, and granddaughter;
 - (3) Husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepson, and stepdaughter;
 - (4) Registered domestic partner, pursuant to California Family Code section 297;
 - (5) The relatives, as defined in 1 and 2 above, for a registered domestic partner;
 - (6) Any person with whom a Board Member shares a financial interest as defined in the Political Reform Act (Gov't Code §87103, Financial Interest), such as a business partner or business associate.

[View results](#)

Respondent

4

Anonymous

37:46

Time to complete

About the Supplemental Questions for the Council on Homelessness Membership Application

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

Please note, there are two required elements of the Council on Homelessness application, these "Supplemental Questions" and the County Application. You **must complete both** components of the application by Friday, May 22, 2025. Instructions for completing the County Application will be sent to you after completing the "Supplemental Questions" below.

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

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

Supplemental Questions

1. Which vacant Council on Homelessness seat are you applying for? *



City Government Representative: Must be an employee of a city or town located in Contra Costa County. The candidate's work must be related to homelessness, housing, and/or community grants/services, and the candidate's employer must engage with unhoused populations in some manner. This seat is not open to representatives elected to positions in Contra Costa County.

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

In my position as the Housing Manager for the city of Richmond have been working on the administration of several grants, ERF-, ERF-2R, and ERF-3 that the city has received to provide services to the unhoused population in the city. This has provided me insight into the many challenges of providing services and housing opportunities to the unhoused population. Through this work I have had the opportunity to develop a lot of relationships with community organizations, nonprofit organizations, and staff from neighboring cities, the county, and homeless individuals. My background has been in working in affordable housing development and other federal, state, or local funded programs targeting homeless, extremely low -, very low -, and low-income populations in the communities I've worked. This has given me a unique perspective and using a variety of resources and programs to provide services and housing opportunities to these clients

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

- ☐ I am a person currently experiencing homelessness and living in a shelter or location not meant for human habitation (e.g., in a tent).
- ☐ I am a person who experienced homelessness within the past 7 years but is currently housed.
- ☐ I am a person who experienced homelessness more than 7 years ago but is currently housed.
- ☐ I am a family member of someone who has experienced homelessness
- ☒ I am none of the above but still invested in addressing homelessness in Contra Costa County.
- ☐ I would prefer not to respond

4. Unhoused people in Contra Costa County come from many different backgrounds in terms of race, ethnicity, culture, ability, age, sexual and gender identity, and immigration status. From your personal experience, why do you think it's important for all people have equal (or equitable) access to the service and help that they need? (*

Everyone, respective of their background, should have the same opportunity as any other person to have equal access to housing opportunities and services to address their specific needs.

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

1. There should be work programs that help people that have been unemployed for extended periods of time renew and update their employment skills. Part of these work programs would help clients obtain their GED and or direct them to apprenticeships and or community college job training programs. Provide job training and develop relationships with businesses in the community to provide entry-level work opportunities. This would include continued job enhancement training so these clients can move on to better paying jobs. They need to get past minimum wage jobs so they can become self-sustainable.
2. Cities need to adjust zoning restrictions that will facilitate the development of tiny home villages that can provide affordable housing opportunities for clients that they started their path toward developing their income. These villages can be temporary. 3-5 years, so the sites can be developed at a later point in time. This would address the short-term goal of providing affordable housing while the client receives services to address their needs including developing income and a long-term goal of making the site available for full development.

6. Please state how many Continuum of Care (CoC), Council on Homelessness (CoH), or Youth Advisory Council (YAC) meetings you have previously attended. *

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

7. The Council is committed to the Housing First approach (meaning no barriers or requirements as a prerequisite to housing, including sobriety, religious affiliation, or other structure not required for housing) and has established this Guiding Principle: *Homelessness is first a housing issue, and necessary supports and services are critical to help people remain housed. Our system must be nimble and flexible enough to respond through the shared responsibility, accountability, and transparency of the community.* Are you in support of the Housing First approach and Guiding Principle described above? *

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

8. Council on Homelessness meetings take place on the first Thursday of the month from 1 pm – 3pm in Martinez. Members of the Council are also expected to participate in at least one committee or workgroup, which typically meet on a monthly basis. All Councilmembers are expected to attend meetings in person and can only attend virtually twice per calendar year under very narrow circumstances. Additionally, Councilmembers may miss up to two Council meetings per calendar year. Based on this information, please identify the level of commitment you can provide to the Council on Homelessness by selecting one of the options below: *

- ☒ I can be available for **2 or more IN PERSON meetings per month**, including the standing monthly COH meeting the first Thursday of every month from 1pm to 3pm.
- ☐ I can be available **only for the standing IN PERSON monthly COH meeting** the first Thursday of every month from 1pm to 3pm.
- ☐ I am **not available** for the standing monthly COH meeting, **but can make other meetings 2 or more times** per month.
- ☐ I am **not available** for the standing monthly COH meeting and **may not be able to make other meetings** more than once per month.

Demographic Information (Optional)

The Council aims to engage as broad a representation as possible of abilities, ages, sexual and gender identities, immigration statuses, and racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds, and geographical representation within the County. Responses to the following questions are optional and will be considered in aggregate to ensure that we have recruited a diverse pool of applicants. The Nominating Panel will not review applicants' responses to the following questions.

9. What are your pronouns (*for example: she/him/they/ze, etc.*)?

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

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

12. What best describes your age? (Check one)

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

13. What best describes your race/ethnicity? (Pick as many as apply)

☐ White

☐ Hispanic/Latino(a)(o)(e)(x)

☐ Black/African American/African

☐ Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

☐ American Indian/Alaskan Native/Indigenous

☐ Asian American/Asian

☐ Multiple Races

☐ Other

14. Which of the following geographic areas do you spend the most time in? *

- ☐ Far East Contra Costa County (for example: Discovery Bay, Bethel Island)
- ☐ East Contra Costa County (for example: Bay Point, Pittsburg, Antioch, Brentwood)
- ☐ Central Contra Costa County (for example: Martinez, Pleasant Hill, Concord, Walnut Creek)
- ☐ South Contra Costa County (for example: Alamo, Danville, San Ramon)
- ☒ West Contra Costa County (for example: El Cerrito, San Pablo, Richmond, Pinole, Hercules, Rodeo)
- ☐ I spend an equal amount of time in all five geographic areas listed above.

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

This would be a great opportunity to be able to share experiences and how the city of Richmond in collaboration with its partners is addressing homelessness in the community. It also provides an opportunity to hear what other communities in Contra Costa County are doing and learn and share how we can better improve the delivery of services we provide to unhoused clients.

Contact Information

16. Name *

Jesus M. Morales

17. Email *

[REDACTED]

18. Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

Application Form

Profile

Jared K Murti
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

[Redacted] Suite or Apt
Home Address
San Mateo CA
City State Postal Code

[Redacted]
Primary Phone

[Redacted]
Email Address

District Locator Tool

Resident of Supervisorial District:

☒ N/A - Out of County

City of Pinole - Partnership for the Bay's Future Housing Policy
Employer Job Title

Length of Employment

5 mo

Do you work in Contra Costa County?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, in which District do you work?

1

How long have you lived or worked in Contra Costa County?

5 mo

Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Board and Interest

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Contra Costa Council on Homelessness: Submitted

Seat Name

City Government Representative

Have you ever attended a meeting of the advisory board for which you are applying?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, how many meetings have you attended?

2

Education

Select the option that applies to your high school education *

☒ High School Diploma

College/ University A

Name of College Attended

College of San Mateo

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Associate Degree in Political Science; Associate Degree in Sociology

Degree Awarded?

☒ Yes ☐ No

College/ University B

Name of College Attended

University of San Francisco

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

BA in Sociology, minor in Politics

Degree Awarded?

☒ Yes ☐ No

College/ University C

Name of College Attended

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Degree Awarded?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Other Trainings & Occupational Licenses**Other Training A**

Certificate Awarded for Training?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Other Training B

Certificate Awarded for Training?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Occupational Licenses Completed:

Qualifications and Volunteer Experience

Please explain why you would like to serve on this particular board, committee, or commission.

My career has been dedicated to addressing homelessness and housing insecurity within the Bay Area, with a specialization on historically marginalized communities. This is a passion of mine that I have been fortunate enough to be able to shape a career around and would be honored to continue my service efforts within context of the Council on Homelessness. My current role as a housing policy fellow is aimed specifically at supporting the city of the Pinole, but the scope of my program extends to Contra Costa and the rest of the Bay Area. Fellows in my cohort have been placed in municipalities across the Bay. The aim is homelessness prevention and increasing housing access in the Bay Area through innovative programmatic solutions. This network has served to expand my understandings of homelessness prevention in the County and will be a useful tool in supporting the Council's endeavors.

Describe your qualifications for this appointment. (NOTE: you may also include a copy of your resume with this application)

Current Housing Policy Fellow for City of Pinole through Partnership for the Bay's Future focusing on homelessness prevention and support, tenant protections and affordable development 5 years of experience in property management of market-rate, affordable, and permanent supportive housing. Published research on homelessness in Bay Area HCD Tribal Homekey+ Program Representative Equity Policy Research Fellow for California Housing Partnership,

Upload a Resume

Would you like to be considered for appointment to other advisory bodies for which you may be qualified?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Do you have any obligations that might affect your attendance at scheduled meetings?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please explain:

Are you currently or have you ever been appointed to a Contra Costa County advisory board?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you are currently serving:

If Yes, please also list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you have previously served:

List any volunteer or community experience, including any advisory boards on which you have served.

Conflict of Interest and Certification

Do you have a familial or financial relationship with a member of the Board of Supervisors? (Please refer to the relationships listed under the "Important Information" section below or Resolution No. 2021/234)

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Do you have any financial relationships with the County such as grants, contracts, or other economic relationships?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

No personal contracts or economic relationships, but in my capacity working for the city of Pinole I have worked on contracts with the county's CORE program.

Please Agree with the Following Statement

I CERTIFY that the statements made by me in this application are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith. I acknowledge and understand that all information in this application is publicly accessible. I understand that misstatements and/or omissions of material fact may cause forfeiture of my rights to serve on a board, committee, or commission in Contra Costa County.

☒ I Agree

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 - (2) Brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather, grandson, and granddaughter;
 - (3) Husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepson, and stepdaughter;
 - (4) Registered domestic partner, pursuant to California Family Code section 297;
 - (5) The relatives, as defined in 1 and 2 above, for a registered domestic partner;
 - (6) Any person with whom a Board Member shares a financial interest as defined in the Political Reform Act (Gov't Code §87103, Financial Interest), such as a business partner or business associate.

[View results](#)

Respondent

1

Anonymous

3011:40

Time to complete

About the Supplemental Questions for the Council on Homelessness Membership Application

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

Please note, there are two required elements of the Council on Homelessness application, these "Supplemental Questions" and the County Application. You **must complete both** components of the application by Friday, May 2, 2025. Instructions for completing the County Application will be sent to you after completing the "Supplemental Questions" below.

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

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

Supplemental Questions

1. Which vacant Council on Homelessness seat are you applying for? *



City Government Representative: Must be an employee of a city or town located in Contra Costa County. The candidate's work must be related to homelessness, housing, and/or community grants/services, and the candidate's employer must engage with unhoused populations in some manner. This seat is not open to representatives elected to positions in Contra Costa County.

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

My professional and academic career has centered around developing equitable solutions to homelessness and housing precarity in California and the Bay Area. I currently serve as a housing policy fellow through the Partnership for the Bay's Future (PBF), where I work for the City of Pinole on multiple housing and homelessness initiatives. In this role I have worked diligently with CORE to secure increased services in Pinole, supported the development of permanent supportive housing projects such as SAHA's Valor Village, presented equitable housing and homelessness solutions to city council, and partnered with surrounding cities – including Richmond, El Cerrito, San Pablo, and Hercules – to increase regional access to homeless services. The PBF fellowship has placed fellows with the Bay Area Housing Finance Authority, Contra Costa County, and the cities of Richmond, Concord, and Antioch. The partnership's model is to work jointly with community-based organizations, which has further extended the program's network in Contra Costa to Multi-Faith Action & Hope Solutions, Richmond Our Power Coalition, Community Housing Development Corporation, RichmondLAND, Northern California Land Trust, and the Richmond Community Foundation. Access to this network creates the opportunity to foster nuanced understandings of the complexities around homelessness, housing, and service provision that the Council on Homelessness is intended to operate within. Previously, I have managed market-rate, affordable, and permanent supportive housing and worked as a program representative for Tribal Homekey+ with the California Department of Housing and Community Development. These roles require the close collaboration with service providers, individuals experiencing or recently having experienced homelessness as well landlords, developers, and local agencies to ensure the successful creation of and placement in housing. My education focused on policy in the Bay Area and resulted in research projects published in both my university's research journal and the Barnard-Columbia Urban Review. This led to an equity policy research fellowship for the California Housing Partnership where I supported existing projects around Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing, Housing Needs Assessments, and homelessness policy. I also led a racial equity impact assessment of the State's first three rounds of Homekey, and provided policy recommendations for Homekey+. I hope that both my experience and current rolls will strongly support the Council on Homelessness' goals of supporting Contra Costa's community members navigating the complexities of homelessness and housing precarity.

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

- ☐ I am a person currently experiencing homelessness and living in a shelter or location not meant for human habitation (e.g., in a tent).
- ☐ I am a person who experienced homelessness within the past 7 years but is currently housed.
- ☐ I am a person who experienced homelessness more than 7 years ago but is currently housed.
- ☐ I am a family member of someone who has experienced homelessness
- ☐ I am none of the above but still invested in addressing homelessness in Contra Costa County.
- ☒ I would prefer not to respond

4. Unhoused people in Contra Costa County come from many different backgrounds in terms of race, ethnicity, culture, ability, age, sexual and gender identity, and immigration status. From your personal experience, why do you think it's important for all people have equal (or equitable) access to the service and help that they need? (*

The overarching goal of public and private programs that the county partners with is to end homelessness. That goal means that our approaches need to address the specific contexts that lead to and perpetuate homelessness for the diverse individuals that experience it in our community.

For example, my research projects have examined the specific barriers to exiting homelessness experienced by black and indigenous persons of color in the Bay Area. Historic marginalization and disenfranchisement have led to elevated rates of housing precarity in black and brown communities within the Bay Area, resulting in overrepresentation of black and brown folks in our homeless populations. Further, over-policing and mass incarceration has created barriers to accessing housing, employment, and support. Barriers also result from implicit bias within our support structures, both in their implementation and often times in their design. What this means is that if our approaches to ending homelessness do not consider the impact of these circumstances, they will fail to end homelessness for all folks in Contra Costa.

While working with California Tribal Entities on permanent supportive housing development for HCD through Tribal Homekey+, I also learned the complexities of navigating solutions to homelessness in the context of indigeneity. The impact of the state's history and current relationships with tribal entities shapes the way tribal members interact with homeless services. Addressing homelessness amongst tribal members means that municipalities need to work closely with tribal representatives to ensure services are effective. When designing Tribal Homekey+, it was vital to coordinate with tribal entities to design a development model that worked for their circumstances. This impacted both the development processes and the service provisions.

For context, Homekey+ is a program HCD implemented in 2024 that provided funding for the conversion of existing hotels, motels, and other commercial properties into permanent supportive housing for folks with acute behavioral health conditions. Tribal Homekey+ operated as a fully separate program (rather than a set-aside fund) that worked with tribal entities towards the same goal but catered to their specific contexts and needs. The aim was to reduce barriers, the result was a NOFA nearly a third the size of the original program to ensure tribal entities could successfully navigate the application process. Rather than assessors, we worked as collaborators with tribal representatives to help make their projects feasible. We also worked closely with tribal service providers to ensure that the programs provided worked for the specific contexts their tribal members experiencing homelessness faced. Doing so made the program far more successful than any other endeavors to create supportive housing for tribal members and I would argue that deeply rooting the program's development in community engagement was the key to this success. This is a lesson that I now apply to any and all programs I am involved in.

Ending homelessness means ending homelessness for all. Services need to be accessible to varied backgrounds and contexts of the individuals we aim to help if we truly aim to help all folks. Failing to do so will mean that even the best of intentioned programs' will have lopsided and incomplete successes.

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

One of the programs I really appreciate in Contra Costa's CoC is CORE. I am excited to be helping the City of Pinole secure a joint CORE Outreach Team dedicated to our city, San Pablo, El Cerrito, and Hercules. And while their services and impact have been exceptional since their implementation, I believe it would be worthwhile to figure out ways we can increase the salary provided to the team members. Something that has come up in my interviews with municipalities is issues – not with the program itself – but with its staff retention. Based on the input received, making salaries more competitive would have a great impact on staff retention. At the same time, doing so in a cost-effective way will be important in ensuring municipalities are able to continue to support their teams. Possible strategies could include breaking the CORE outreach program into regional coverages (i.e. North, East, West) where salaries can reflect regional elevated costs of living and localizing service provision can reduce operating expenses by collaborating with regional municipalities. Increasing this program's staff retention capacity will allow team members to better build the individualized trust and relationships that can help community members experiencing homelessness.

While much of my career has focused on creating systems to help folks successfully exit homelessness, support programs that can help folks at risk of homelessness remain housed are equally pivotal in ending homelessness. I am excited that Contra Costa is working with Bay Area Community Services on a regional Keep People Housed Program and look forward to the program's impact. I think it would be great for the county to build off this program towards landlord engagement and eviction prevention programs. My experience working in property management has highlighted the role advocacy and aid can play in minimizing displacement through preventing eviction tactics before proceedings even begin. This includes more 'soft' eviction practices that render a space less and less hospitable such as through deferred maintenance. Developing support programs around eviction that target landlord accountability, engagement, and alternative dispute resolution techniques can help resolve underlying circumstances in a less confrontational manner that maintains positive relationships with tenants and landlords alike and bypasses eviction defense counsel proceedings.

6. Please state how many Continuum of Care (CoC), Council on Homelessness (CoH), or Youth Advisory Council (YAC) meetings you have previously attended. *

☒ 3 or more meetings

☐ 1-2 meetings

☐ 0 meetings

7. The Council is committed to the Housing First approach (meaning no barriers or requirements as a prerequisite to housing, including sobriety, religious affiliation, or other structure not required for housing) and has established this Guiding Principle: *Homelessness is first a housing issue, and necessary supports and services are critical to help people remain housed. Our system must be nimble and flexible enough to respond through the shared responsibility, accountability, and transparency of the community.* **Are you in support of the Housing First approach and Guiding Principle described above?** *

☒ Yes

☐ No

8. **Council on Homelessness meetings take place on the first Thursday of the month from 1 pm – 3pm in Martinez. Members of the Council are also expected to participate in at least one committee or workgroup, which typically meet on a monthly basis. All Councilmembers are expected to attend meetings in person and can only attend virtually twice per calendar year under very narrow circumstances. Additionally, Councilmembers may miss up to two Council meetings per calendar year. Based on this information, please identify the level of commitment you can provide to the Council on Homelessness by selecting one of the options below:** *

☒ I can be available for **2 or more IN PERSON meetings per month**, including the standing monthly COH meeting the first Thursday of every month from 1pm to 3pm.

☐ I can be available **only for the standing IN PERSON monthly COH meeting** the first Thursday of every month from 1pm to 3pm.

☐ I am **not available** for the standing monthly COH meeting, **but can make other meetings 2 or more times** per month.

☐ I am **not available** for the standing monthly COH meeting and **may not be able to make other meetings** more than once per month.

Demographic Information (Optional)

The Council aims to engage as broad a representation as possible of abilities, ages, sexual and gender identities, immigration statuses, and racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds, and geographical representation within the County. Responses to the following questions are optional and will be considered in aggregate to ensure that we have recruited a diverse pool of applicants. The Nominating Panel will not review applicants' responses to the following questions.

9. **What are your pronouns (for example: she/him/they/ze, etc.)?**

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

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

12. **What best describes your age? (Check one)**

☐ Transition aged youth (18-24)

☐ Adult (25-54)

☐ Older Adult (55-61_

☐ Senior (62+)

13. What best describes your race/ethnicity? (Pick as many as apply)

White

Hispanic/Latino(a)(o)(e)(x)

Black/African American/African

Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

American Indian/Alaskan Native/Indigenous

Asian American/Asian

Multiple Races

Other

14. Which of the following geographic areas do you spend the most time in? *

- ☐ Far East Contra Costa County (for example: Discovery Bay, Bethel Island)
- ☐ East Contra Costa County (for example: Bay Point, Pittsburg, Antioch, Brentwood)
- ☐ Central Contra Costa County (for example: Martinez, Pleasant Hill, Concord, Walnut Creek)
- ☐ South Contra Costa County (for example: Alamo, Danville, San Ramon)
- ☒ West Contra Costa County (for example: El Cerrito, San Pablo, Richmond, Pinole, Hercules, Rodeo)
- ☐ I spend an equal amount of time in all five geographic areas listed above.

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

Having grown up in the Bay Area, I have watched development, displacement, and homelessness reshape the communities and relationships I cherish. It has been an honor and privilege to combat homelessness in my communities and an blessing to continue that trajectory within this council.

Contact Information

16. Name *

Jared Murti

17. Email *

[REDACTED]

18. Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

Application Form

Profile

Bessie Marie Scott
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

[Redacted] Suite or Apt
Home Address
Antioch CA
City State Postal Code

[Redacted]
Primary Phone

[Redacted]
Email Address

District Locator Tool

Resident of Supervisorial District:

☒ District 3

City of Antioch City Manager
Employer Job Title

Length of Employment

7 months

Do you work in Contra Costa County?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, in which District do you work?

3

How long have you lived or worked in Contra Costa County?

7 months

Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Board and Interest

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Contra Costa Council on Homelessness: Submitted

Seat Name

City Government Representative

Have you ever attended a meeting of the advisory board for which you are applying?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, how many meetings have you attended?

1

Education

Select the option that applies to your high school education *

☒ High School Diploma

College/ University A

Name of College Attended

UC Santa Barbara

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Law & Philosophy

Degree Awarded?

☒ Yes ☐ No

College/ University B

Name of College Attended

University of Washington

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Master's in Public Administration

Degree Awarded?

☒ Yes ☐ No

College/ University C

Name of College Attended

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Degree Awarded?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Other Trainings & Occupational Licenses**Other Training A**

Certified Inspector General

Certificate Awarded for Training?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Other Training B

Certificate Awarded for Training?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Occupational Licenses Completed:

Qualifications and Volunteer Experience

Please explain why you would like to serve on this particular board, committee, or commission.

I served as the Strategic Advisor to the Rental Assistance and Housing Choice Voucher Program at the Seattle Housing Authority where I worked with a team of Housing Counselors who helped families locate housing units to lease with a Section 8 Voucher, and worked with Seattle Public Schools to assist homeless families access stable housing in the area, in addition to other special programs and strategic initiatives, I have been working throughout my career on criminal justice and policy related issues such as healthcare disparities issues affecting women and minorities, enforcing the Fair Housing Act by conducting secret shopping in the rental market, and writing fair housing assessments and creating education and outreach initiatives for jurisdictions.

Describe your qualifications for this appointment. (NOTE: you may also include a copy of your resume with this application)

See attached Resume.

Upload a Resume

Would you like to be considered for appointment to other advisory bodies for which you may be qualified?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Do you have any obligations that might affect your attendance at scheduled meetings?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please explain:

Are you currently or have you ever been appointed to a Contra Costa County advisory board?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you are currently serving:

If Yes, please also list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you have previously served:

List any volunteer or community experience, including any advisory boards on which you have served.

Conflict of Interest and Certification

Do you have a familial or financial relationship with a member of the Board of Supervisors? (Please refer to the relationships listed under the "Important Information" section below or Resolution No. 2021/234)

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Do you have any financial relationships with the County such as grants, contracts, or other economic relationships?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Please Agree with the Following Statement

I CERTIFY that the statements made by me in this application are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith. I acknowledge and understand that all information in this application is publicly accessible. I understand that misstatements and/or omissions of material fact may cause forfeiture of my rights to serve on a board, committee, or commission in Contra Costa County.

☒ I Agree

Important Information

1. This application and any attachments you provide to it is a public document and is subject to the California Public Records Act (CA Government Code §6250-6270).
2. All members of appointed bodies are required to take the advisory body training provided by Contra Costa County.
3. Members of certain boards, commissions, and committees may be required to: (1) file a Statement of Economic Interest Form also known as a Form 700, and (2) complete the State Ethics Training Course as required by AB 1234.
4. Meetings may be held in various locations and some locations may not be accessible by public transportation.
5. Meeting dates and times are subject to change and may occur up to two (2) days per month.
6. Some boards, committees, or commissions may assign members to subcommittees or work groups which may require an additional commitment of time.
7. As indicated in Board Resolution 2021/234, a person will not be eligible for appointment if he/she is related to a Board of Supervisors' member in any of the following relationships:
 - (1) Mother, father, son, and daughter;
 - (2) Brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather, grandson, and granddaughter;
 - (3) Husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepson, and stepdaughter;
 - (4) Registered domestic partner, pursuant to California Family Code section 297;
 - (5) The relatives, as defined in 1 and 2 above, for a registered domestic partner;
 - (6) Any person with whom a Board Member shares a financial interest as defined in the Political Reform Act (Gov't Code §87103, Financial Interest), such as a business partner or business associate.

[View results](#)

Respondent

5

Anonymous

34:53

Time to complete

About the Supplemental Questions for the Council on Homelessness Membership Application

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

Please note, there are two required elements of the Council on Homelessness application, these "Supplemental Questions" and the County Application. You **must complete both** components of the application by Friday, May 22, 2025. Instructions for completing the County Application will be sent to you after completing the "Supplemental Questions" below.

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

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

Supplemental Questions

1. Which vacant Council on Homelessness seat are you applying for? *



City Government Representative: Must be an employee of a city or town located in Contra Costa County. The candidate's work must be related to homelessness, housing, and/or community grants/services, and the candidate's employer must engage with unhoused populations in some manner. This seat is not open to representatives elected to positions in Contra Costa County.

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

My past experiences include working to enforce the Fair Housing Act for the Department of Justice within the state of Washington across 22 counties. I have also worked for Housing Authority for almost 7 years to include managing Section 8 housing vouchers, Project-based vouchers, Agency vouchers, FUP vouchers, and VASH vouchers. I have worked across different programs for housing placement, shelters, and hotelling based service models under federal ARPA funds. I have done harm reduction and implemented housing first principles for several cities and jurisdictions.

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

- ☐ I am a person currently experiencing homelessness and living in a shelter or location not meant for human habitation (e.g., in a tent).
- ☐ I am a person who experienced homelessness within the past 7 years but is currently housed.
- ☒ I am a person who experienced homelessness more than 7 years ago but is currently housed.
- ☐ I am a family member of someone who has experienced homelessness
- ☐ I am none of the above but still invested in addressing homelessness in Contra Costa County.
- ☐ I would prefer not to respond

4. Unhoused people in Contra Costa County come from many different backgrounds in terms of race, ethnicity, culture, ability, age, sexual and gender identity, and immigration status. From your personal experience, why do you think it's important for all people have equal (or equitable) access to the service and help that they need? (*

No matter what intersectionality's exist for people, it's important for all everyone to have equitable access to the service and help that they need because individual outcomes are jointly felt across society and within communities. The entire county is impacted by the lack of addressing the needs of the most marginalized within our community, and as a collective we should compassionately and intentionally address the root cause issues impacting those who are at risk of being unhoused or are currently/intermittently experiencing homelessness. This is a devastating social problem that reflects broader systemic failures and social inequalities which diminish us all. By extending aid to our unhoused residents, the county commits to the collective values which include upholding the inherent dignity of every person, while affirming the principles of caring for one another across our community. Homelessness often stems from complex systemic issues, including poverty, lack of affordable housing, mental health challenges, and substance use disorders. Everyone needs housing and access to services in order to realize their potential, and help communities thrive.

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

One idea would be to focus more resourced on prevention such as rental assistance programs, the creation of affordable unit through public private partnerships under the housing authority to tie subsidies to units, and the creation of public private partnerships, all for prevention. The second idea is to create regional partnerships to consolidate resources and apply jointly for federal, local, and state dollars to carry out a strategy across the county.

6. Please state how many Continuum of Care (CoC), Council on Homelessness (CoH), or Youth Advisory Council (YAC) meetings you have previously attended. *

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

7. The Council is committed to the Housing First approach (meaning no barriers or requirements as a prerequisite to housing, including sobriety, religious affiliation, or other structure not required for housing) and has established this Guiding Principle: *Homelessness is first a housing issue, and necessary supports and services are critical to help people remain housed. Our system must be nimble and flexible enough to respond through the shared responsibility, accountability, and transparency of the community.* Are you in support of the Housing First approach and Guiding Principle described above? *

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

8. Council on Homelessness meetings take place on the first Thursday of the month from 1 pm – 3pm in Martinez. Members of the Council are also expected to participate in at least one committee or workgroup, which typically meet on a monthly basis. All Councilmembers are expected to attend meetings in person and can only attend virtually twice per calendar year under very narrow circumstances. Additionally, Councilmembers may miss up to two Council meetings per calendar year. Based on this information, please identify the level of commitment you can provide to the Council on Homelessness by selecting one of the options below: *

- ☒ I can be available for **2 or more IN PERSON meetings per month**, including the standing monthly COH meeting the first Thursday of every month from 1pm to 3pm.
- ☐ I can be available **only for the standing IN PERSON monthly COH meeting** the first Thursday of every month from 1pm to 3pm.
- ☐ I am **not available** for the standing monthly COH meeting, **but can make other meetings 2 or more times** per month.
- ☐ I am **not available** for the standing monthly COH meeting and **may not be able to make other meetings** more than once per month.

Demographic Information (Optional)

The Council aims to engage as broad a representation as possible of abilities, ages, sexual and gender identities, immigration statuses, and racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds, and geographical representation within the County. Responses to the following questions are optional and will be considered in aggregate to ensure that we have recruited a diverse pool of applicants. The Nominating Panel will not review applicants' responses to the following questions.

9. What are your pronouns (*for example: she/him/they/ze, etc.*)?

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

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

12. What best describes your age? (Check one)

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

13. What best describes your race/ethnicity? (Pick as many as apply)

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | White |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Hispanic/Latino(a)(o)(e)(x) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Black/African American/African |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | American Indian/Alaskan Native/Indigenous |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Asian American/Asian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Multiple Races |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other |

14. Which of the following geographic areas do you spend the most time in? *

- ☐ Far East Contra Costa County (for example: Discovery Bay, Bethel Island)
- ☒ East Contra Costa County (for example: Bay Point, Pittsburg, Antioch, Brentwood)
- ☐ Central Contra Costa County (for example: Martinez, Pleasant Hill, Concord, Walnut Creek)
- ☐ South Contra Costa County (for example: Alamo, Danville, San Ramon)
- ☐ West Contra Costa County (for example: El Cerrito, San Pablo, Richmond, Pinole, Hercules, Rodeo)
- ☐ I spend an equal amount of time in all five geographic areas listed above.

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

I also have lived experience and was homeless as a child which is why I do this work.

Contact Information

16. Name *

Bessie Marie Scott

17. Email *

[REDACTED]

18. Phone Number *

[REDACTED]

Council on Homelessness Applicant Scoring Rubric 2024

Supplemental Application Questions

(2) Applicant's response lists specific skills, experiences, or connections they can bring. Response demonstrates the value they would add to the Council on Homelessness and/or the specific seat they are applying for. **(12 pts)**

12 pts for a response that lists SPECIFIC skills, experiences, or connections related to the CoH and the value it would bring

6 pts for a response that speaks GENERALLY about the value they would bring to the CoH

(3) Applicant's response reflects lived experience or connection to someone with lived experience. **(12 pts)**

12 pts for applicant currently experiencing homelessness (as self-identified)

10 pts for applicant with experience of homelessness within the past 7 years (as self-identified)

8 pts for applicant with experience of homelessness at some point within their life (as self-identified)

4 pts for connection to someone with lived experience

0 pts for no personal lived experience

(4) Applicant's response reflects that they value equity and ensuring that all communities have equal access to services. **(12 pts)**

(6) Applicant's response demonstrates knowledge and/or critical thinking on how to address homelessness in Contra Costa. Response also demonstrates unique expertise, opinions, and viewpoints on homelessness issues. **(12 pts)**

12 pts for demonstrating impressive knowledge, critical thinking, and a unique point of view

6 pts for demonstrating some knowledge, critical thinking and/or a unique point of view

1 pt for demonstrating very little knowledge, critical thinking, and/or a unique point of view

NOTE: This factor will also be used as a tiebreaker should the leading applicants for a seat fall within 2 points. In that scenario, the highest average score in this factor will break the tie.

(7) Applicant's response shows active participation in system meetings or other types of relevant community participation **(3 pts)**

3 pts for YAC or other lived experience board members or participation at 3 or more CoC and/or CoH meetings

2 pts for participation at 1-2 CoC and/or CoH meetings

0 pts for no participation at CoC and/or CoH meetings

(8) Applicant's response shows alignment with and commitment to the COH Guiding Principle and Housing First approach. **(5 pts)**

5 pts for "YES"

3 pts for any response expressing views contrary or conflicting with Housing First but commitment to COH Guiding Principle

Disqualifying for "no" without an explanation

(9) Applicant's response reflects ability to be an active participant of Council on Homelessness meetings **(9 pts)**

9 pts for "YES"

4.5 pts for some conflicts

Disqualifying if applicant is unable to attend CoH meeting or other monthly meetings

County Application Questions

| | |
|--|--|
| Is the applicant able to comply with the Conflict of Interest Policy? (Y/N) <i>If n, the applicant may be disqualified from participation on the CoH.</i> | |
| Interest: Applicant responded to question "Please explain why you would like to serve on this particular board, committee, or commission." (1pt) 1 pt for response that explains motivations for wanting to join the CoH 0 pt for no response or irrelevant response for motivations for joining the CoH | |
| Qualification: Applicant responded to question "Describe your qualifications for this appointment." (1pt) 1 pt for response that explains qualifications for serving on the CoH, if possible 0 pt for no response to question | |
| Volunteer: Applicant responded to question "List any volunteer or community experience, including any advisory board on which you have served." (1pt) 1 pt for response that addresses applicant's volunteer, community, and leadership experience 0 pt for no response to question | |
| SUB-TOTAL SCORE | |
| | |
| TIE BREAKER SCORE (revisit Question 6) | |