



AGENDA

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Thursday, February 19, 2026

11:30 AM

In person: 2400 Bisso Lane, Concord
(Venti Conference Room) or virtually:
Link to register:
<https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/j/83184620638>
How to Join the Meeting Via Call-In: 1-669-900-6833 / Meeting ID: 831 8462 0638

Oversight Committee

Agenda and Slides for 2.19.26 Oversight Committee meeting

[TMP-15562](#)

Attachments: [2.19.26 Oversight Cmte. Agenda \(1\)](#)
[Oversight Slides Feb 2026 FINAL](#)

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. Review December 18, 2025 Mtg. Key Takeaways & Approve 12.18.25 Meeting Minutes (ACTION ITEM) [TMP-15563](#)
Attachments: [12.18.25 Oversight Committee Meeting MINUTES \(1\)](#)
4. Oversight Committee Overview & Approve 2026 Workplan (ACTION ITEM) [TMP-15564](#)
Jamie Schecter, H3
5. **Oversight Committee Chair/Co-Chair Selection (ACTION ITEM)**
Jamie Schecter, H3
6. **Continuum of Care & Coordinated Entry 101 Presentation: a. Overview of the Continuum of Care System, Program Models, and Coordinated Entry**
Jamie Schecter, H3 and Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, H3

7. Coordinated Entry Updates: Approve new CC CE Housing Needs Assessment [TMP-15583](#)
(ACTION ITEM)

Attachments: [CC-HNA Tool - Attachment](#)
[CC-HNA Tool - Slides](#)

Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, H3; Allison Mabb, Focus Strategies; Claire Burris, Focus Strategies

8. **Program Models & Performance Standards Updates: Participant feedback survey updates**

Jamie Schecter, H3; Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, H3; Janel Fletcher, H3

9. **YAB Update**

Juno Hedrick, CoH

10. **2026 Compliance Monitoring Update**

Michele Byrnes, HB and Alex Michel, HB

11. **Adjourn: a. Review next steps b. Overview of upcoming meetings**

Jamie Schecter, H3

The next meeting is currently scheduled for Thursday, April 16th, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

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 #: TMP-15562

Agenda Date: 2/19/2026

Agenda #:

Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Subject: Agenda and Slides for 2.19.26 Oversight Committee meeting

Presenter:

Contact:

Information:

Referral History and Update:

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON
HOMELESSNESS
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

IN-PERSON COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Thursday February 19, 2025, 11:30AM – 1:30PM

[2400 Bisso Lane, Concord \(Venti Conference Room\)](#)

COMMITTEE PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Oversight Committee is to review and assess the development, implementation, and improvement of the CoC, Coordinated Entry System, HMIS Database, and system outcomes.

HOW TO JOIN THE MEETING VIA ZOOM:

Link to register: <https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/meeting/register/ZPCubvY7RNihEWuJOeusFg>

How to Join the Meeting Via Call-In: 1- 669-900-6833 / Meeting ID: 831 8462 0638

TIME	AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTERS
11:30am (10 min)	Welcome, CoH Roll Call & a. Welcome b. Review agenda c. Introductions & CoH Roll Call d. Mentimeter - Who's in the Room? e. Meeting Logistics	- Alex Michel, <i>HB</i> - Jamie Schecter, <i>H3</i>
11:40am (5min)	Public Comment a. Open period for public comment on items not listed on the agenda.	- Alex Michel, <i>HB</i> - Members of the public
11:45am (5 min)	Review December 18, 2025 Mtg. Key Takeaways & Approve Meeting Minutes a. Key takeaways from the December 18,2025 meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General CE Updates • Annual Report Updates • Yab Update • Reviewed Accountability Corner • Discussion of 2026 Oversight Committee Workplan ACTION ITEM: Approve the meeting minutes from December 18, 2025	- Alex Michel, <i>HB</i>
11:50am (15min)	Oversight Committee Overview & 2026 Workplan a. Review committee purpose, goals, and membership b. Review and approve 2026 Workplan ACTION ITEM: Vote on the 2026 Oversight Workplan	- Jamie Schecter, <i>H3</i>
12:05pm (5min)	Oversight Committee Chair/Co-Chair Selection ACTION ITEM: select char/co-chairs	- Jamie Schecter, <i>H3</i>



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

12:10am (15min)	Continuum of Care & Coordinated Entry 101 Presentation a. Overview of the Continuum of Care System, Program Models, and Coordinated Entry	- Jamie Schecter, <i>H3</i> - Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, <i>H3</i>
12:25pm (35min)	Coordinated Entry Updates a. General CE updates b. Update on the Assessment Tool Redesign ACTION ITEM: Approve new CC CE Housing Needs Assessment	- Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, <i>H3</i> - Allison Mabb, <i>Focus Strategies</i> - Claire Burris, <i>Focus Strategies</i>
1:00pm (5min)	Participant Feedback Survey Updates	- Janel Fletcher, <i>H3</i>
1:05pm (10min)	YAB Update	- Juno Hedrick, <i>CoH</i>
1:15pm (10min)	2026 Compliance Monitoring Update	- Michele Byrnes, <i>HB</i> - Alex Michel, <i>HB</i>
1:25pm (5 min)	Adjourn a. Review next steps b. Overview of upcoming meetings	- Jamie Schecter, <i>H3</i>

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.
CES	Coordinated Entry System
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)



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON
HOMELESSNESS
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

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

EQUITY DEFINITIONS

(adapted from C4 Innovations and approved by COH 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.



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON
HOMELESSNESS
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

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.



OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

February 19, 2026 from 11:30 – 1:30 p.m.

WELCOME

Alex Michel, Homebase

Agenda

1. Welcome, Introductions, & CoH Roll Call
2. 2026 Meeting Logistics
3. Public Comment
4. Review & Approve December 2025 Meeting Minutes – ACTION ITEM
5. Oversight Committee Overview & 2026 Oversight Cmte. Workplan – ACTION ITEM
6. Identify Oversight Committee Chair/Co-Chairs – ACTION ITEM
7. CoC / Coordinated Entry 101
8. Presentation on New Coordinated Entry Housing Needs Assessment
9. Review & Approve New Coordinated Entry Housing Needs Assessment – ACTION ITEM
10. Program Models & Performance Standards Updates
11. 2026 Monitoring Process Update
12. Yab Updates
13. Adjourn – 1:30 PM

INTRODUCTIONS AND ROLL CALL

Presenter:

Alex Michel, Homepage

Role of Oversight Committee Members:

introduce yourself during Roll Call

(name, pronouns, what part of the County do you represent)

Role of Community Members:

introduce yourself in the chat

(name, pronouns, what part of the County do you represent)

INTRODUCTIONS



Jamie Schecter, Homeless Services Chief

Janel Fletcher, Research and Evaluation Manager

Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, Coordinate Entry Manager

Email: contracostacoc@cchealth.org



Alex Michel, Senior Policy Analyst II

Email: contracosta@homebaseccc.org

COH & COMMUNITY MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS

CoH Members Roll Call

Name, pronouns, seat, organization

1. Alejandra Chamberlain
2. Courtney Pal
3. Donnie Diego
4. Juno Hedrick
5. Ralph Payton
6. Shawn Ray
7. Wayne Earl

Community Members (in chat)

Name, pronouns, organization

MENTIMETER: WHO'S IN THE ROOM?

2026 MEETING LOGISTICS

Jamie Schechter, H3

MEETING LOGISTICS

In-Person/Hybrid Meetings

- 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

Virtual Attendance Exemption

- Just Cause
- Emergency Circumstances

HYBRID MEETING NORMS

1. Masking is recommended but not required (masks are available)
2. Social distancing – red pen = please keep safe distance, black = ask first
3. Raise your hand (actual or virtual) before speaking
4. Say your name before speaking and try to speak as clearly as you can
5. Make and take space – consider your privilege and the other voices who are in and not in the room
6. Sign-in if you are in-person so we can track attendance
7. Maintain a safe and respectful environment, even when disagreeing
8. This meeting is being recorded
9. If in-person meeting is interrupted for an emergency, the meeting will be suspended or cancelled, case-by-case basis.

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.

COMMITTEE vs WORKGROUP

There will be two types of meetings held throughout the year, each with a different structure.

Committee Meeting

- Every other meeting, starting in Feb
- In-person attendance required (with exemptions)
- Activities include voting to approve/adopt minutes and other items as needed

Workgroup Meetings

- Every other month, starting in April
- Fully virtual
- Activities include hearing presentations, hearing from stakeholders and partners, and developing updates and other content

Date	Time	Location
February 19	11:30am – 1:30pm	In-person 2400 Bisso Lane, D2, Concord (Zoom link)
April 16	11:30am – 1:30pm	Virtual only (Zoom link)
June 18	11:30am – 1:30pm	In-person Location TBD (Zoom link)
August 20	11:30am – 1:30pm	Virtual only (Zoom link)
October 15	11:30am – 1:30pm	In-person Location TBD (Zoom link)
December 17	11:30am -1:30pm	Virtual only (Zoom link)

2026 MEETING SCHEDULE

PUBLIC COMMENT

Presenter:

Alex Michel, Homebase

Role of Oversight Committee Members:

listen

Role of Community Members:

provide a public comment

HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT

- In-person: stand where you are sitting when called upon.
- Via Zoom: indicate they wish to speak by using the “raise your hand” feature in the Zoom app.
- Calling in: indicate you 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.

ACTION ITEM-
APPROVE
12/18/2025
MEETING
MINUTES

Presenter:

Alex Michel, Homebase

Role of Oversight Committee Members:

vote on the action item

Role of Community Members:

listen & ask questions

12/18/2025 OVERSIGHT CMTE. MEETING TAKEAWAYS

The following items were covered during the 2025 December Oversight Committee meeting:

- Coordinated Entry Updates
- Annual Report Updates
- Yab Update
- Reviewed Accountability Corner
- Discussion of 2026 Oversight Committee Workplan

ACTION ITEM

- Approve the December 18, 2025 Meeting Minutes



OVERSIGHT
COMMITTEE
OVERVIEW & 2026
WORKPLAN

Presenter:

Jamie Schechter, H3

Role of Oversight Committee Members:

listen & ask questions

Role of Community Members:

listen & ask questions

WHAT IS THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE?

Purpose: To guide and support the development, implementation, and continuous improvement of the homelessness response system by reviewing data, monitoring system performance, and providing input on policies, programs, and strategic initiatives.

Annual Priorities

1. Monitor system performance
2. Support system learning
3. Provide input on policy and planning
4. Review and advise on tools and processes
5. Track progress on strategic initiatives
6. Contribute to annual planning

Membership: Council on Homelessness members and community members (open to the public)

Q1 GOALS + ACTIVITIES

Goals

1. Establish committee structure and direction
2. Build foundational knowledge of the homelessness response system
3. Initiate 2026 system monitoring process
4. Review and receive update on major projects

Key Activities

1. Review committee purpose, annual priorities, and membership
2. Approve 2026 Workplan
3. Elect Chair and Co-Chair
4. Presentations on Coordinated Entry, Program Models, and CoC structure
5. Coordinated Entry Updates
6. YAB Updates
7. Initiate 2026 Monitoring Process

Q2 GOALS + ACTIVITIES

Goals

1. Deepen understanding of system performance through review of Coordinated Entry, program models, and PIT/HIC data.
2. Provide input on mid-year planning and policy updates, including the Annual Report and governance revisions.
3. Engage with community partners and monitor implementation of prevention tools, housing strategies, and system innovations.

Key Activities

1. Coordinated Entry Updates
2. CoC Program Models and Performance Standards Updates
3. System Performance Updates
4. YAB Updates
5. Review PIT/HIC Count insights
6. Input on Youth Count Survey
7. Review updates based on system-level changes/transitions due to HUD changing priorities, as needed

Q3 GOALS + ACTIVITIES

Goals

1. Assess system performance and progress through review of annual reports, dashboards, and performance measures.
2. Support planning and recruitment by providing input on committee nominations and upcoming priorities.
3. Engage with stakeholders and monitor innovations including encampment resolution efforts and prevention strategies.

Key Activities

1. Coordinated Entry Updates
2. CoC Program Models and Performance Standards Updates
3. System Performance Updates
4. YAB Updates
5. Review PIT/HIC Count insights
6. Review updates on population specific housing programs
7. Update on 2026 monitoring process
8. Review updates based on system-level changes/transitions due to HUD changing priorities, as needed

Q4 GOALS + ACTIVITIES

Goals

1. Review system progress and finalize year-end reporting through dashboards, performance data, and stakeholder feedback.
2. 2. Develop and adopt the 2027 Work Plan based on insights from the year and emerging system needs.
3. 3. Reflect on committee process and impact to inform improvements for the next year.

Key Activities

1. Coordinated Entry Updates
2. CoC Program Models and Performance Standards Updates
3. System Performance Updates
4. YAB Updates
5. Launch nomination recruitment process and materials
6. Annual Report Updates
7. Input 2027 PIT methodology
8. Approve 2027 Oversight Committee Workplan
9. Review updates based on system-level changes/transitions due to HUD changing priorities, as needed

ACTION ITEMS

- Approve 2026 Oversight Cmte. Work Plan



ACTION ITEM -
IDENTIFYING
CHAIR / CO-CHAIR

Presenter:

Jamie Schechter, H3

Role of Oversight Committee Members:

consider volunteering to be the Chair/Co-Chair
or nominate another member

vote on the action item

Role of Community Members:

listen & ask questions

ROLE OF THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE CHAIR/CO-CHAIR

- Must be a current member of the Oversight Committee (preferably a CoH member)
- Participate in a 1-hour planning call before each meeting (6 total/year)
 - Provide feedback on proposed materials and approaches
 - Suggest agenda items
- Lead agenda items during Oversight Committee meetings (for example: Welcome & Roll Call, voting on action items)
- Occasionally, make time-sensitive decisions on behalf of the Oversight Committee (at the discretion of the Committee)

Homebase and H3 staff will be available to answer any questions and provide support!

ACTION ITEM #3

- Approve the Chair/Co-Chairs of the Oversight Committee



CONTINUUM OF
CARE &
COORDINATED
ENTRY 101

Presenter:

Jamie Schechter, H3

Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, H3

Role of Oversight Committee Members:

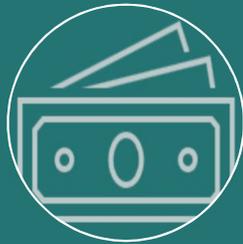
listen & ask questions

Role of Community Members:

listen & ask questions

COC SYSTEM OVERVIEW

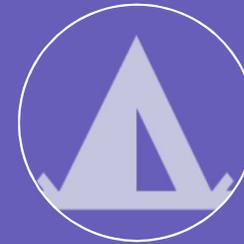
CONTEXT



Workers need to earn \$43.63/hour to afford a 2-bedroom apartment in Contra Costa.



Cost of housing is the biggest factor in a community's rate of homelessness



2,118 people experiencing homelessness were counted in the 2025 Contra Costa PIT Count



SYSTEM OVERVIEW – HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

(2024 ANNUAL REPORT DATA)

9,995
Households
Served
(14,245
Individuals)
A 40%
increase
from 2020

1,845 households with children served in 2024, a 79% increase since 2020.

Transition Age Youth (TAY), ages 18-24 made up 7% of the CoC served, a increase by 55% since 2020.

Black/African American/African households and people with Multiple Races were 3 & 4 times overrepresented across the CoC

68% of households served in had a member with at least one disabling condition.

85% of households accessing Crisis Response had at least one household member who had experienced domestic violence.

3% of adults served in Crisis Response identified as LGBTQIA+ & 22% of the LGBTQIA+ population served in Crisis Response were between the ages of 18 and 24.

912 veterans were served in 2024 (8%) of all adults. Veterans made up 34% of all households in PH programs

CONTEXT: BRINGING SERVICES TOGETHER

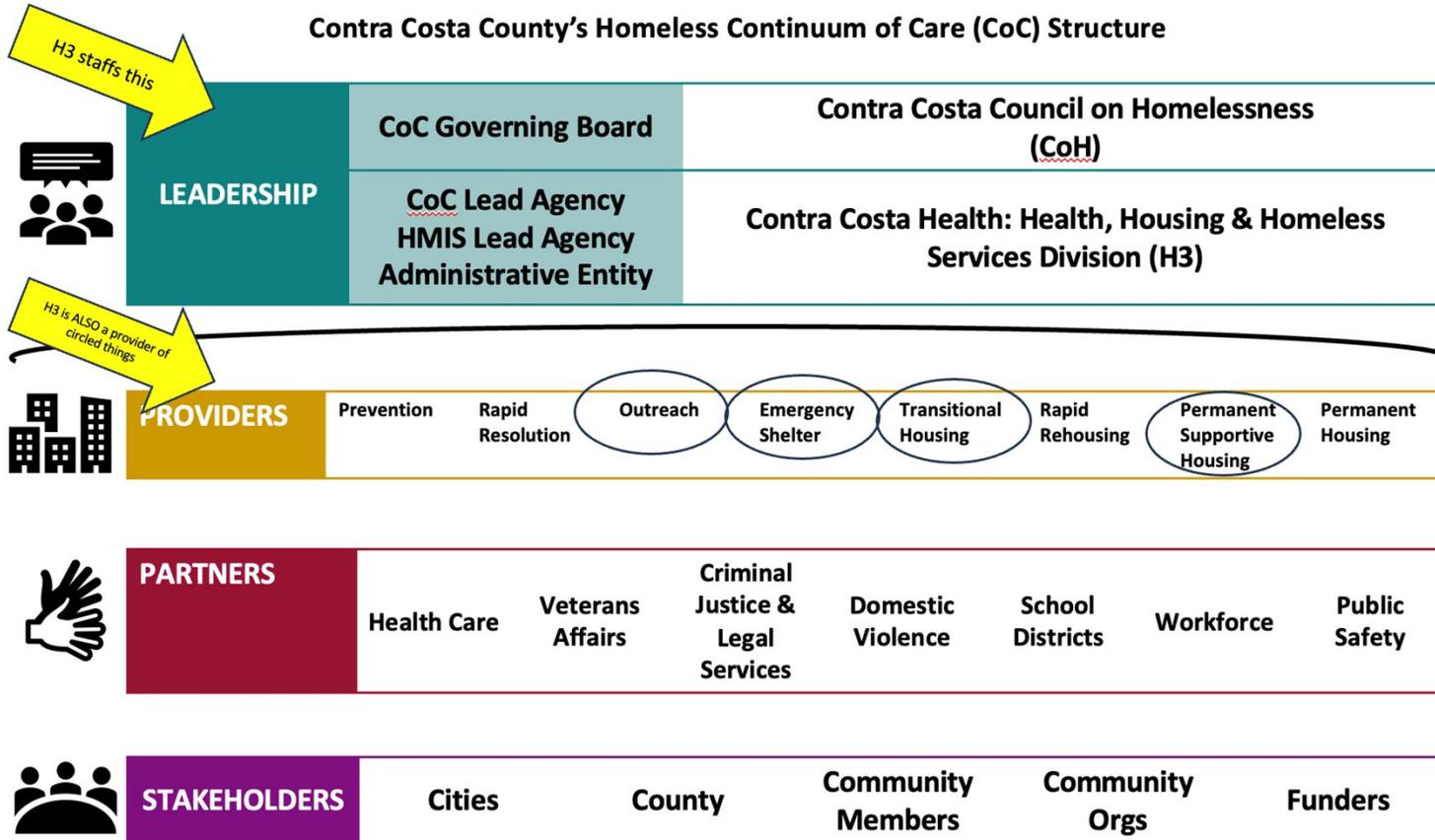
What is a “Continuum of Care?”

- Designed to assist individuals and families experiencing a housing crisis by providing the housing and/or services needed to help households retain housing or move into permanent housing, with the goal of long term stability.
- CoCs are comprised of multiple partners and service providers, with a single lead-agency that provides administrative and coordination support CCH’s Health, Housing & Homeless Services is Contra Costa’s LEAD CoC Agency
- CCH’s Health, Housing & Homeless Services is Contra Costa’s LEAD CoC Agency
- We also operate & oversee the Coordinated Entry System!

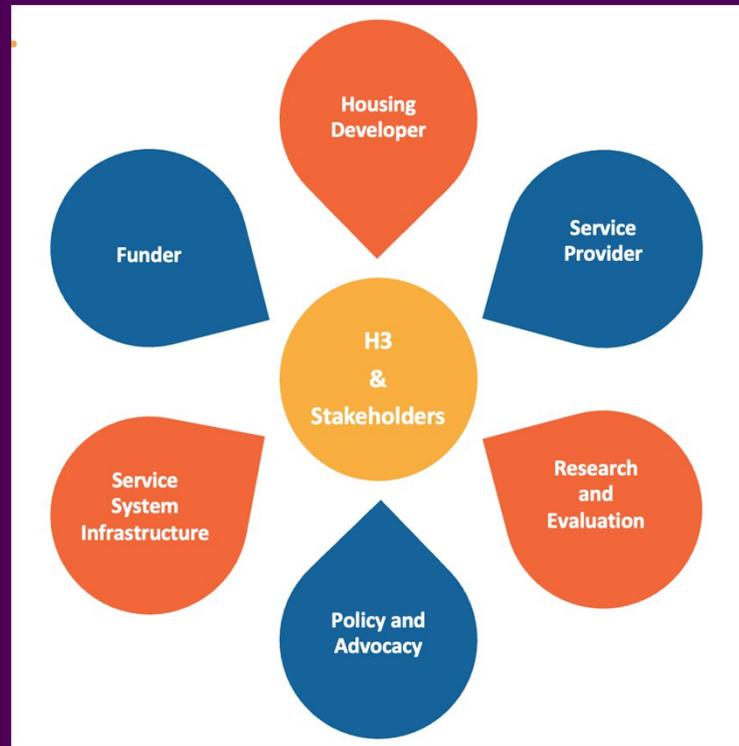
ABOUT HEALTH, HOUSING & HOMELESS SERVICES (H3)

- Is the CoC, HMIS & Coordinated Entry Lead Agency
- Integrates housing and homeless services across the health system, county government, and in the community.
- Provide the following to a network of community-based agencies to respond to homelessness:
 - Provide Technical Assistance
 - Strategic Guidance
 - Funding

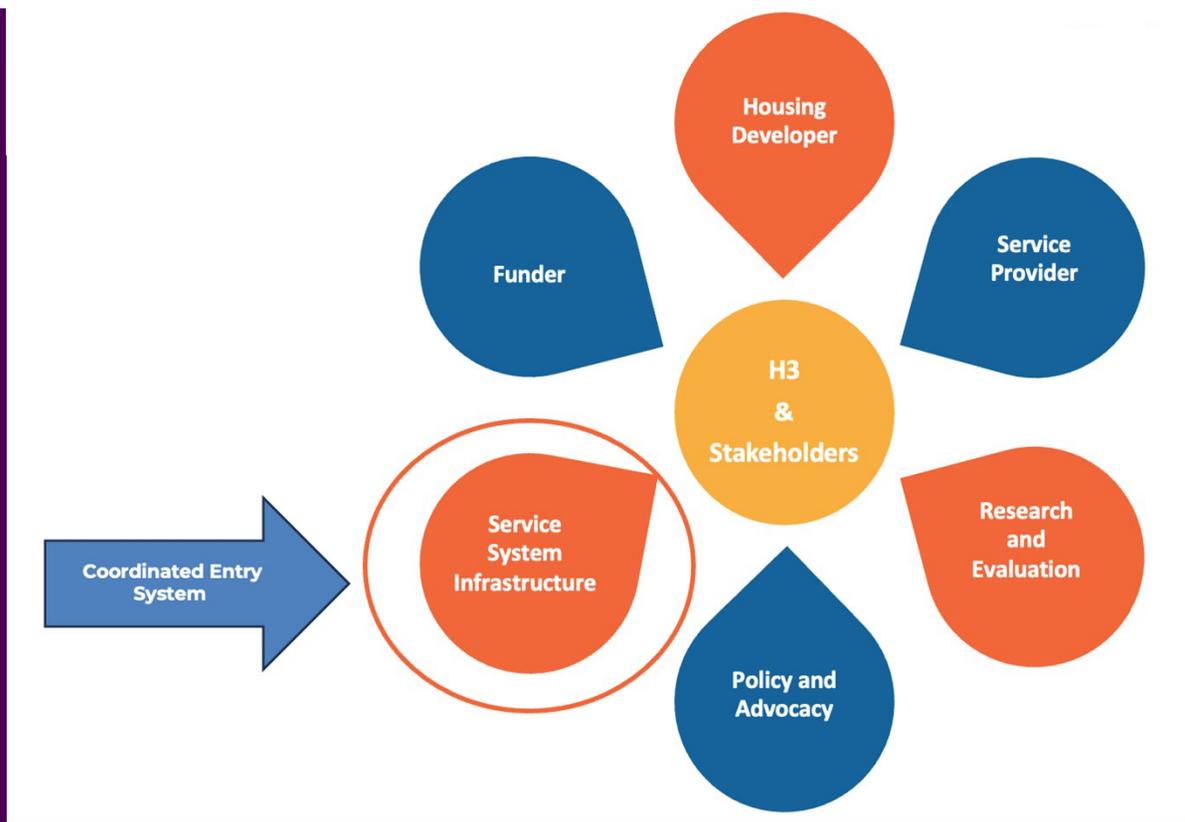
Contra Costa County's Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC) Structure



Context: Roles of H3



CONTEXT: THE ROLES OF H3



PROGRAM MODELS

CoC Program Models

Prevention

Rapid Exit

Outreach

CARE Centers & CARE Center Case Management

Emergency Shelter

Rapid Rehousing

Permanent Supportive Housing

COORDINATED ENTRY OVERVIEW

WHAT IS COORDINATED ENTRY?

Coordinated Entry:
A system-wide process to quickly & equitably identify, assess, & connect people experiencing a housing crisis to available housing resources & services within the CoC.



Provides infrastructure to system of care by acting as a centralized entity to connect and prioritize the most vulnerable people for the limited resources & services that are available



Serves as the "Front Door" for Connecting people experiencing a housing crisis to Homeless Services

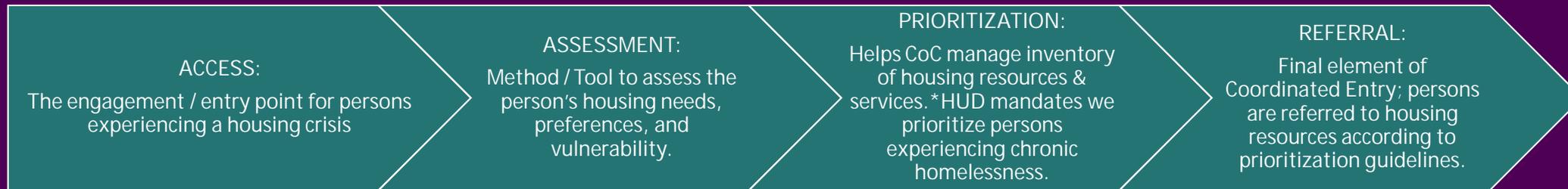


Promotes equity & efficiency of the local Homelessness Response System

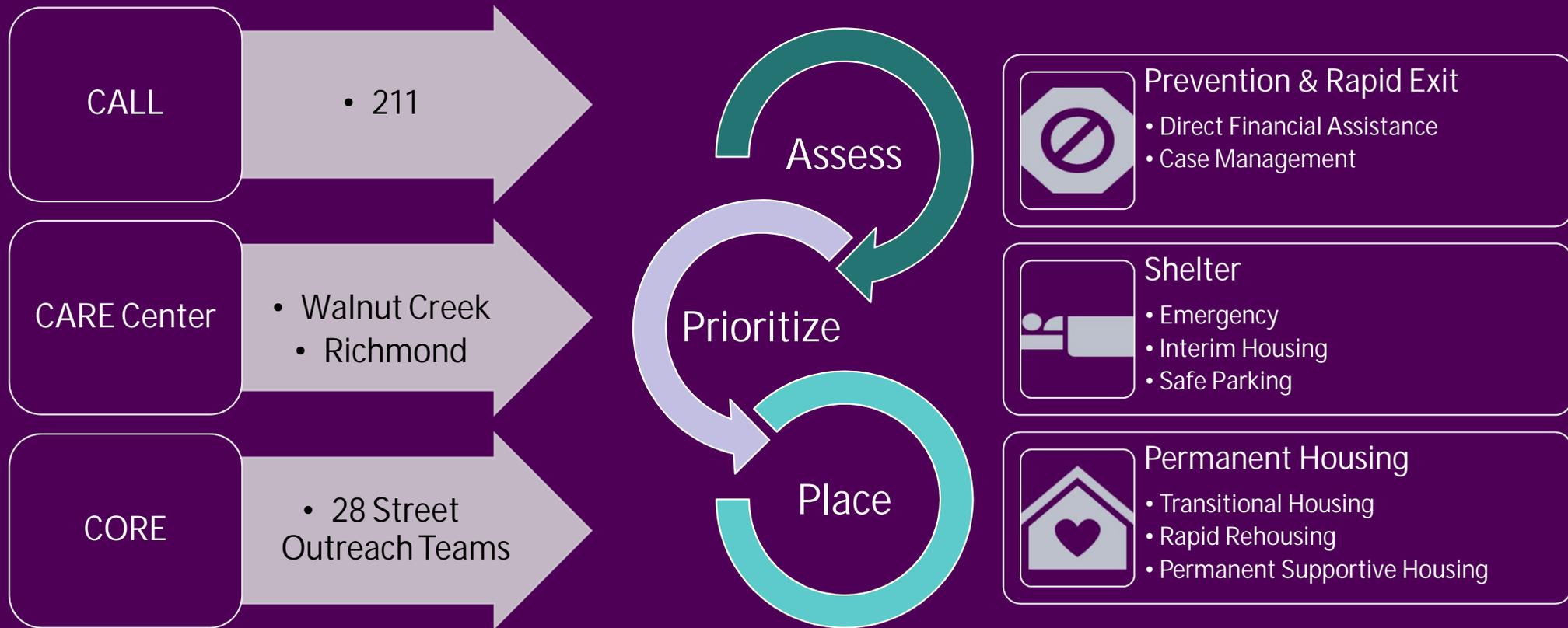


Ensures fairness in how housing & services are allocated

CORE ELEMENTS OF COORDINATED ENTRY



COORDINATED ENTRY IN CONTRA COSTA





QUESTIONS?

COORDINATED ENTRY HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Presenter:

Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, H3
Claire Burrus, Focus Strategies
Allison Mabb, Focus Strategies

Role for Oversight Committee Members:

listen & ask questions
Vote on Action Item

Role for Community Members:

listen & ask questions



FOCUS
strategies

COORDINATED ENTRY HOUSING NEEDS
ASSESSMENT (HNA)
REDESIGN PROJECT

PROPOSAL TO THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE:
APPROVE NEW CONTRA COSTA HOUSING NEEDS
ASSESSMENT

FEBRUARY 19, 2026

Agenda

Assessment Redesign Process

New Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) Tool

Next Steps for Launch





FOCUS
strategies

Needs Assessment Redesign Process

Assessment Redesign Purpose



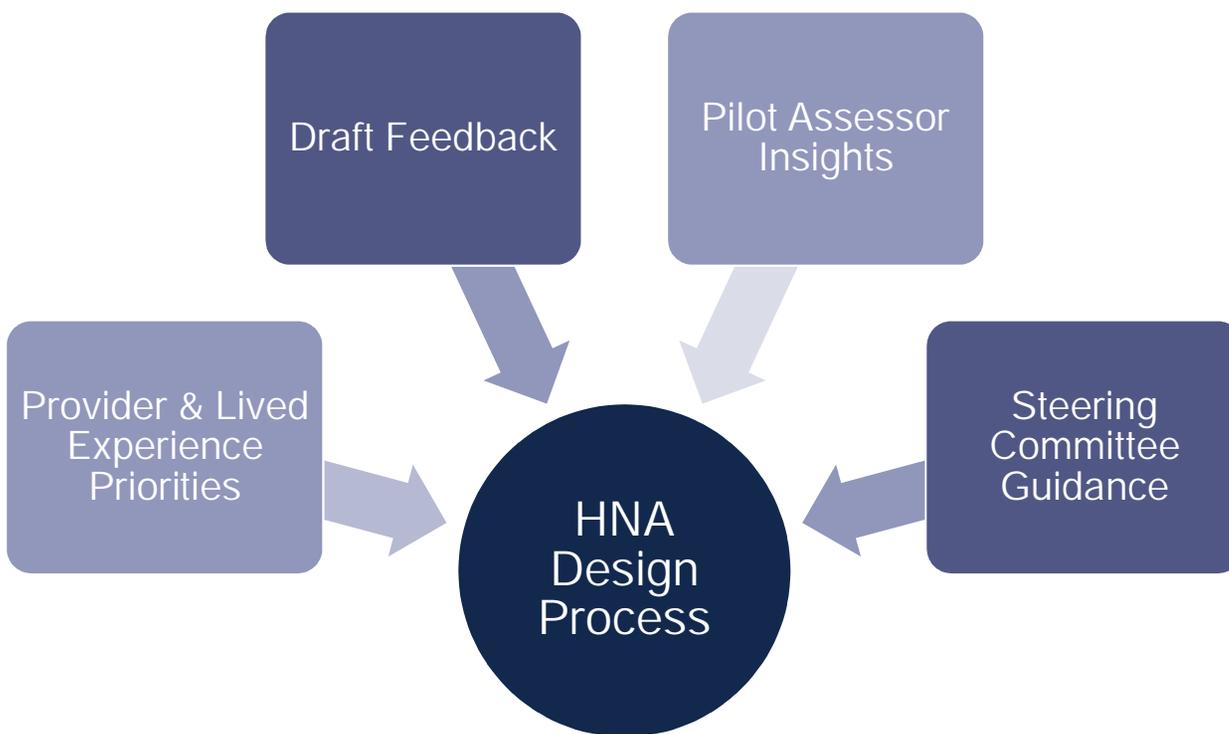
- In 2022, Contra Costa County conducted a Coordinated Entry Evaluation and replacing the VI-SPDAT was a key recommendation.

- Nationally, the VI-SPDAT as an assessment tool has been found to perpetuate inequitable outcomes.

In response, the County launched a redesign effort to develop a **customized assessment** that is:

- trauma-informed,
- leveraging empirical data,
- grounded in local experience,
- prioritizing households at-risk of prolonged homelessness, *and*
- furthering fairness in the CES.

Tool Redesign Process Grounded in Stakeholder Feedback



Key Insights:

- Priorities for HNA design
- Practical implementation and interpretation considerations

Key Insights from Stakeholders Informing New HNA



Priorities for HNA Design

- Base the tool on predictors of prolonged homelessness
- Capture the severity of conditions and experiences



Practical Implementation & Interpretation Considerations

- Minimize the number of questions asked
- Ensure questions are understandable and minimally invasive

Leveraging HMIS & CCHS Data in HNA Design



Focus Strategies used Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Contra Costa Health System (CCHS) data to identify predictors of prolonged homelessness for people accessing the CES.

These factors were used to design the HNA to prioritize households with the greatest likelihood of prolonged homelessness without housing support.



- Local data surfaced the key characteristics linked to prolonged homelessness
- These insights guided which topics the HNA covers and how much weight each receives in the final score

Piloting the Draft CC-HNA



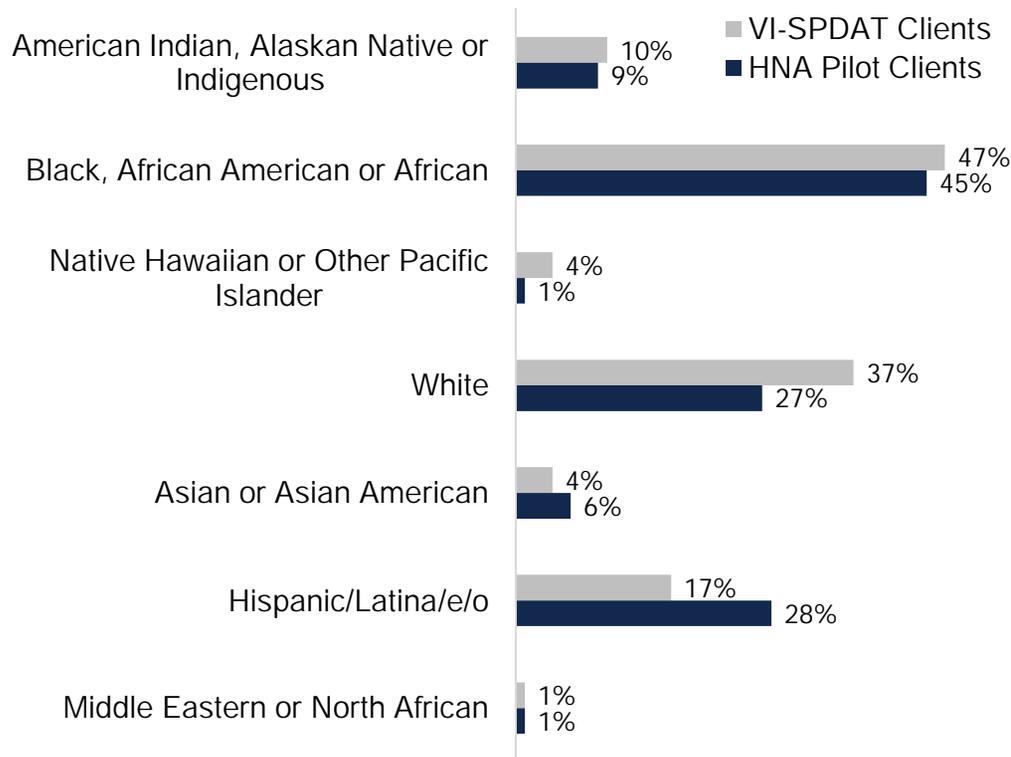
In December 2025 & January 2026, H3 piloted a draft CC-HNA in the community.

- 15 current Coordinated Entry assessment staff participated
- **109 pilot assessments** were completed
- Pilot participants were compensated with \$25 gift cards

Key Insights:

- Pilot participants were overall **demographically representative** of the population served by the CES
- Participant feedback reflected high rates of **understanding** and **comfort** with the assessment questions
- Staff indicated that the pilot tool was **clear** and **trauma-informed**

Pilot HNA Respondents by Race and Ethnicity



Key Insights:

- Pilot participants were overall **demographically representative** of the population served by the CES
- Participant feedback reflected high rates of understanding and comfort with the assessment questions
- Staff indicated that the pilot tool was clear and trauma-informed

Pilot HNA Participant Feedback Survey Results



- 94%** understood what the questions were asking
- 94%** understood why the questions were being asked
- 89%** felt comfortable answering the questions honestly

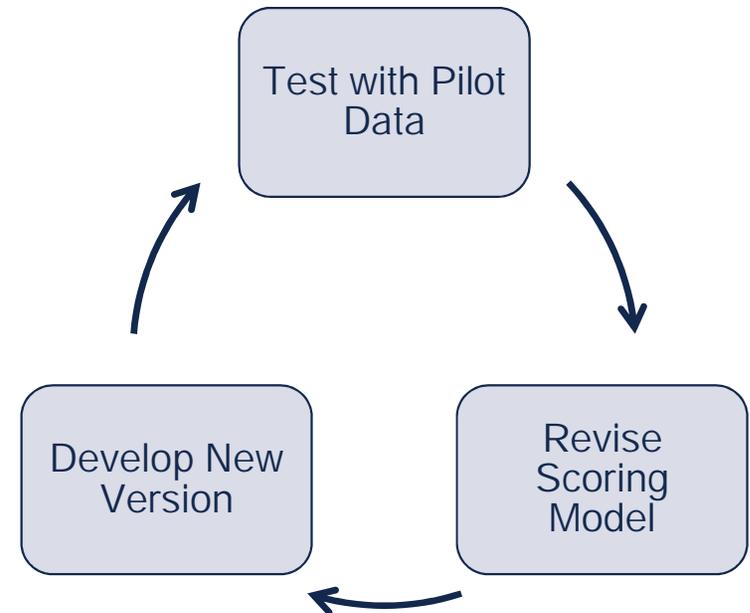
Key Insights:

- Pilot participants were overall demographically representative of the population served by the CES
- Participant feedback reflected high rates of **understanding** and **comfort** with the assessment questions
- Staff indicated that the pilot tool was **clear** and **trauma-informed**

Developing a Fair and Locally-Driven Scoring Model

Developed through 5 rounds of testing and iteration, the final CC-HNA scoring model:

- Prioritizes households at highest risk of prolonged homelessness
- Does not show bias toward or against any racial or ethnic group
- Reflects input from people experiencing homelessness and the providers working directly with them





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The NEW Contra Costa Housing Needs Assessment (CC-HNA)

Overview of the CC-HNA

-  The CC-HNA contains **19 questions** and requires **~15-30 minutes**
 - Responses to 7 of the 19 questions are **pre-populated** for most households completing the assessment based on prior information collected in HMIS intake, and are **confirmed by assessors** rather than being asked again
-  Questions in the CC-HNA are grouped into five key areas, each of which contribute to a household's **risk of prolonged homelessness** without the support of a housing resource through the CES

CC-HNA Collects and Weighs Information in 5 Key Areas

1



History of Housing and Homelessness

2



Income and Employment

3



Disabilities and Health

4



Experiences with Services and Other Systems of Care

5



Experiences Impacting Wellbeing

History of Housing and Homelessness



Item	Weight
1 - Episodes of Homelessness	Medium
2 - Total Time Homeless	Medium
3 - Lack of Rental History	Medium
3b - Negative Rental History	Medium
4 - Housing Loss Due to Gender, Cultural, Religious or Sexual Identity	Medium

Income and Employment



Item	Weight
5 - Zero or Fixed Income	High
5b - Inability to Increase Income	Medium

Disabilities and Health Conditions



Item	Weight
6 - Number of Disabling Conditions in the Household	High
6b - Severity of Disabling Conditions in the Household	High

Experiences with Services and Other Systems of Care



Item	Weight
7 - Inability to Access / Avoidance of Care	Low
8-11 - Utilization of Emergency Services	High (overall)
12 - Law Enforcement Encounters	High
13 - History of Incarceration	Low
14-15 - History with Child Welfare or Juvenile Justice Systems	Low
16 - Level of Education	Low

Experiences Impacting Well-Being



Item	Weight
17 - Fleeing Domestic Violence	High
18 - History of Abuse	Medium
19 - Homelessness and Abuse	Medium

Questions?



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Adoption & Next Steps

Action Item:

Approve adoption of the CC-HNA for use in the CES

Next Steps

Over the coming months, H3 will implement the CC-HNA.

Key steps include:

- Communicate CC-HNA launch to stakeholders
- Train assessors on the CC-HNA
- Update CES policies and workflows
- Officially launch the CC-HNA & retire the VI-SPDAT
- Monitor CC-HNA data over time





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THANK YOU!

For Questions:

H3

Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald at Mary.Fitzgerald@cchealth.org

Focus Strategies

Claire Burrus at Claire@focusstrategies.net

Allison Mabbs at Allison@focusstrategies.net

ACTION ITEM #4

- Approve the new Contra Costa Coordinated Entry Housing Needs Assessment



PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK SURVEY UPDATE

Presenter:

Janel Fletcher, H3

Role for Oversight Committee Members:

listen & ask questions

Role for Community Members:

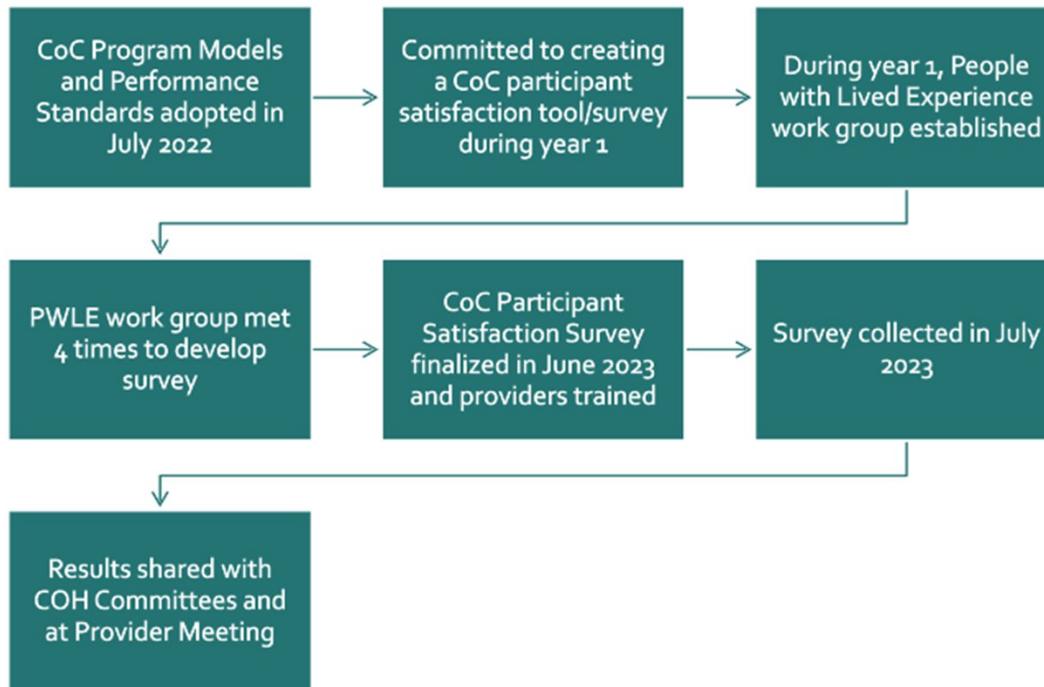
listen & ask questions

UPDATE

The purpose of the Participant Satisfaction Survey is to gather feedback about the experience of people accessing services across our system of care

- CoC wide survey across all 7 program models
- Completed on an annual basis
- Required by our CoC Program Models

BACKGROUND



NEXT STEPS

- Review of the Participant Satisfaction Survey by the Oversight Committee.
- Approval of the Participant Satisfaction Survey by the Council on Homelessness.
- Provider Training starts week of March 16th. Dates TBD.
- Survey Collection Period April 1, 2026- April 30, 2026.



QUESTIONS??

Email: janel.fletcher@cchealth.org

2026 COMPLIANCE MONITORING PROCESS

Presenter:

Michele Byrnes, Homebase

Alex Michel, Homebase

Role for Oversight Committee Members:

listen & ask questions

Role for Community Members:

listen & ask questions

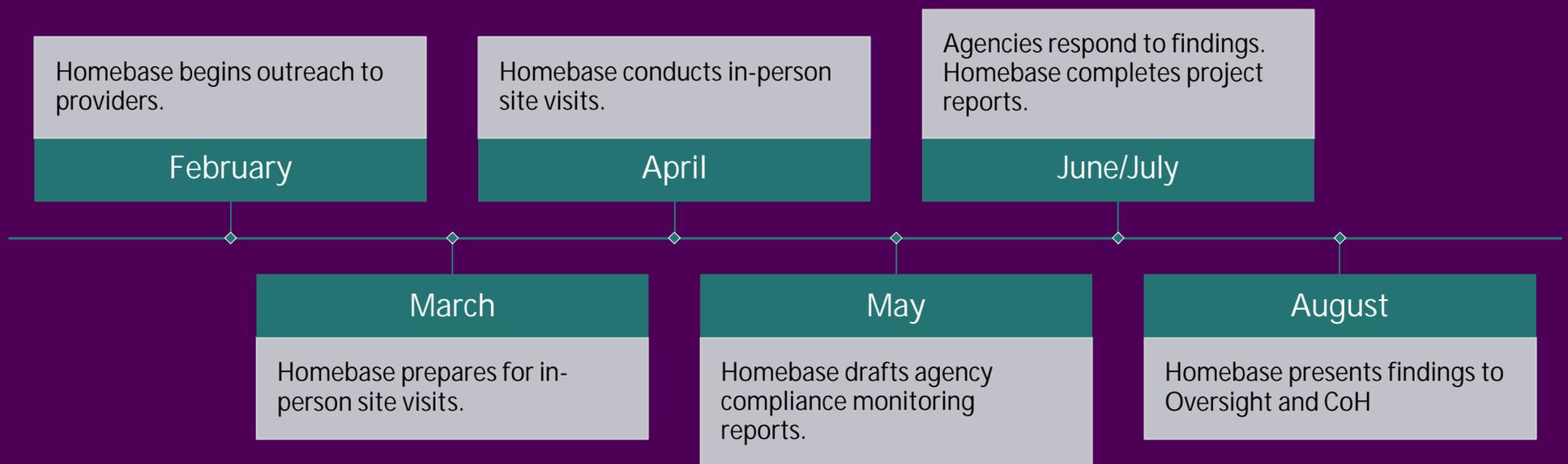
PURPOSE OF COMPLIANCE MONITORING

- Improve system performance by identifying barriers to effective program performance;
- Increase knowledge among CoC-funded agencies regarding CoC compliance and financial management;
- Help agencies prepare for audits or monitoring from HUD; and
- Identify opportunities and gaps for additional technical assistance, trainings, or one-on-one meetings regarding areas of compliance impacting multiple agencies.

APPROACH – PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

- Performance categories
 - Verification of participant eligibility
 - Low-barrier, person-centered services
 - Documentation of case management
 - Grievance Procedures
 - VAWA Compliance
- Review three participant files per project (2 current, 1 exited/post- subsidy client)
- 22 projects, including:
 - PSH, DV RRH, Care Centers, Homeless Prevention/Rapid Exit, 211

COMPLIANCE MONITORING TIMELINE





QUESTIONS?!

YAB UPDATES

Presenter:

Juno Hedrick, CoH

Role for Oversight Committee Members:

listen & ask questions

Role for Community Members:

listen & ask questions

WRAP UP

Presenter:

Alex Michel, Homebase

Role for Oversight Committee Members:

listen & share announcements

Role for Community Members:

listen & share announcements



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: TMP-15563

Agenda Date: 2/19/2026

Agenda #: 3.

Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Subject: Review December 18, 2025 Mtg. Key Takeaways & Approve 12.18.25 Meeting Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Presenter: Alex Michel, Homebase

Contact: contracostacoc@cchealth.org

Information:

- General CE Updates
- Annual Report Updates
- Yab Update
- Reviewed Accountability Corner
- Discussion of 2026 Oversight Committee Workplan

Referral History and Update:

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

Approve the meeting minutes from December 18, 2025



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON
HOMELESSNESS
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

IN-PERSON COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday December 18, 2025, 11:30AM – 1:30PM

[2400 Bisso Lane, Concord \(suite #D2\)](#)

COMMITTEE PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Oversight Committee is to review and assess the development, implementation, and improvement of the CoC, Coordinated Entry System, HMIS Database, and system outcomes.

HOW TO JOIN THE MEETING VIA ZOOM:

Link to register: <https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcsf-2urDssGdzVjZhCYrYEYtBPv6TuzAce>

How to Join the Meeting Via Call-In: 1- 669-900-6833 / Meeting ID: 831 8462 0638

CoH Attendance (in-person): Alejandra Chamberlain, Courtney Pal, Mia Fairbanks, and Wayne Earl

TIME	AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTERS
11:30am (10 min)	Welcome, Introductions, & CoH Roll Call a. Welcome b. Review agenda c. Introductions & CoH Roll Call d. Mentimeter - Who's in the Room?	- Wayne Earl, <i>CoH</i> - Juno Hedrick, <i>CoH</i> - Alex Michel, <i>HB</i> - Jamie Schecter, <i>H3</i>
Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted CoH Roll Call • Present (in-person): Alejandra Chamberlain, Courtney Pal, Mia Fairbanks, Wayne Earl 		
11:40am (5 min)	2025 Meeting Logistics	- Wayne Earl, <i>CoH</i>
Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n/a 		
11:45am (5min)	Public Comment a. Open period for public comment on items not listed on the agenda.	- Courtney Pal, <i>CoH</i> - Members of the public
Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n/a 		
11:50am (5 min)	Review June 26, 2025 Mtg. Key Takeaways & Approve Meeting Minutes a. Key takeaways from the June 26,2025 meeting:	- Courtney Pal, <i>CoH</i>



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON
HOMELESSNESS
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Update on CES Assessment Tool Redesign ● Yab Update ● Reviewed Accountability Corner ● Update on Contra Costa Health, Change Agent Fellowship <p><u>ACTION ITEM:</u> Approve the meeting minutes from June 26, 2025</p>	
<p>Minutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mia motion, Wayne second - CoH Roll call: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alejandra Chamberlain – yes - Courtney Pal - yes - Mia Fairbanks - yes - Wayne Earl - yes - Motion passed 		
<p>11:55am (15min)</p>	<p>General Coordinated Entry Updates</p>	<p>- Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, H3</p>
<p>Minutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CES Assessment Redesign is in pilot phase; hoping to launch in February/March 2026 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Question: implementation is across all CoC-providers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ MJF: yes! ● Temporary pause on new PSH referrals, in response to recent NOFO and potential changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Question: how does this pause help? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ JS: It's not that we are not accepting any referrals, just not new referrals. If an a unit opens up, the plan is to transfer those currently in PSH who will be impacted by the potential changes due to NOFO. ■ MJF: no new participants, but looking at referrals that are already in PSH and we anticipate being impacted by potential changes due to NOFO ○ Comment: appreciate the intentionality behind this and planning ahead ● Annual report data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Question: persons served went down but inventory went up - what does this imply? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ MJF: there's been a lot of work around diversion, we saw PIT numbers go down, we increased family PSH and RRH; regarding veterans, we've increased our connections to veteran providers and so it may not be that veteran populations has increased but we are more accurately capturing ○ Question: is there any data on referral to outcome? Do we have data from referral to next step (housing)? ○ MJF: can follow-up with that information but for now, acceptance of referrals was high at about 90%; this includes denied referrals and successful referrals. ● Prevention Tirage highlights 		



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON
HOMELESSNESS
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Question: out of the 285 households, are all matched to resources? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ MJF: they were all referred to a program and within that there is potential that some of them were denied assistance due to eligibility requirements of the participant may have denied assistance themselves ○ JS: County just approved funding and were working on allocation plan! ● Voucher At-risk coordination: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Comment: this voucher preservation is amazing! ● Legacy Court: Move-in Spotlight <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ n/a 		
12:10pm (10min)	Annual Report	- Jamie Schecter, <i>H3</i>
Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Question: What do you think is causing increase in seniors? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ JS: We are seeing folks age as they are experiencing homelessness and many seniors are having severe challenges with making rent ○ Comment: seeing many first time homeless of 75+ years of age experiencing homelessness for the first time 		
12:20pm (10min)	YAB Update	- Juno Hedrick, <i>CoH</i>
Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Presented was unable to attend meeting ● JS provided quick update re YAB, specifically that the YAB is in recruitment process and they have notified participants that were selected 		
12:30pm (5min)	Accountability Corner a. Review 2025 Q4	- Jamie Schecter, <i>H3</i>
Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Q4: heard updates on program models (prevention), we heard CE updates, and heard update on Annual report (during this call) 		
12:35pm (30min)	2026 Oversight Committee Update & Workplan	- Jamie Schecter, <i>H3</i>
Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Comment: do we need to meet more than every other month? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ JS: we could utilize work groups as an option ● Question: how often were PATH/Equity Committees meeting before: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ JS: PATH, same cadence as Oversight; Equity met every month expect the third ● Comment: this consolidation will help with collaboration/engagement across the system ● Q1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Requested updates to Q1 goals/activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ #1 – add a point about discussing need for workgroups 		



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

- #2 – add bullet point about including regular updates on work that is being continued from the PATH and Equity Committees

- Q2

- Comment: system outcomes is an Oversight responsibility – I think it’s important that every quarter we have Oversight Committee reviewing outcomes/updates based on system-level changes/transitions based on HUD priorities
 - Add language to workplan
- Question: How do we incorporate the date we’ve used in PATH/Equity into this work?
 - JS: good question – this is something that we is great for discussion/planning with the next chair/co-chairs to make sure we are doing so throughout next year
 - Question: how was the data used in the PATH/Equity?
 - JS: Looking at trends, how did things shift, etc. We can think about how to incorporate it in Oversight

- Q3:

- Question: When does Funding meetings start to meet each year?
 - JS: normally meets in Q1
 - Comment: It is important to provide space for check-ins/ updates on changes that come about due to HUD changing priorities, etc. Can we add quarterly check wherever it is appropriate?
 - JS: at the very least that will come up in CoH, and we can bring them here too
- Question: will Oversight continue to look at NOFO report card from HUD?
 - JS: yes, we can bring this back to Oversight next year
 - Add language to workplan
- Question: is this workplan is flexible to adjust as things change, depending on HUD priority changes, etc.
 - JS: yes!
- Question: what would H3 like Oversight to include based on your internal purview, especially amongst the transitions that are in the pipeline due to NOFO/HUD changing priorities?
 - MJF: flexibility around, assuming good intent if/when something is missed; w/ tumultuous/uncertain times ahead; we also hope everyone leans in and participates in these conversations, bringing in your expertise to these conversations is so important
 - JS: agree with MJF, accountability and flexibility; also, regional action plan in PATH was great, but this will likely not be our target anymore because of the transitions in the pipeline due to federal changes in priorities
 - JF: would like to see Oversight incorporate data dashboards
- Question: do we know the structure of the Oversight meetings for next year?
 - JS: it will be similar to this year, every 3rd Thursday, 11:30am - 1:30pm

1:05pm

Adjourn

- Courtney Pal, CoH



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

(5 min)	a. Review next steps b. Overview of upcoming meetings	
Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● JS: reminder of 2026 PIT count, accepting volunteers; shared Homeless Persons Memorial Day event ● Announcement: Bay Area Rescue mission holiday meal distribution event; shared holiday meal events at Bay Areas Rescue Mission, Sunday - Thursday 4:30 - 6:30pm 		

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.
CES	Coordinated Entry System
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



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON
HOMELESSNESS
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

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

EQUITY DEFINITIONS

(adapted from C4 Innovations and approved by COH 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.



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON
HOMELESSNESS
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

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.



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: TMP-15564

Agenda Date: 2/19/2026

Agenda #: 4.

Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Subject: Oversight Committee Overview & Approve 2026 Workplan (ACTION ITEM)

Presenter: Jamie Schecter, H3

Contact: contracostacoc@cchealth.org

Information:

- a. Review committee purpose, goals, and membership
- b. Review and approve 2026 Workplan

Referral History and Update:

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

Approve the 2026 Oversight Workplan



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: TMP-15583

Agenda Date: 2/19/2026

Agenda #: 7.

Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Subject: Coordinated Entry Updates: Approve new CC CE Housing Needs Assessment (ACTION ITEM)

Presenter: Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, H3; Allison Mabb, Focus Strategies; Claire Burris, Focus Strategies

Contact: contracostacoc@cchealth.org

Information:

In 2022, Contra Costa County conducted a Coordinated Entry Evaluation and replacing the VI-SPDAT was a key recommendation. Nationally, the VI-SPDAT as an assessment tool has been found to perpetuate inequitable outcomes. In response, the County launched a redesign effort to develop a **customized assessment** that is:

- trauma-informed,
- leveraging empirical data,
- grounded in local experience,
- prioritizing households at-risk of prolonged homelessness, *and*
- furthering fairness in the CES.

Focus Strategies used Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Contra Costa Health System (CCHS) data to identify **predictors of prolonged homelessness** for people accessing the CES. These factors were used to design the HNA to prioritize households with the greatest likelihood of prolonged homelessness without housing support

Referral History and Update:

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s): Approve new CC CE Housing Needs Assessment (ACTION ITEM)

Contra Costa Coordinated Entry Housing Needs Assessment (CC-HNA)

HISTORY OF HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS (Medium Weight)

Episodes of Homelessness	1. How many times has your household been homeless on the streets, in a shelter, in a car, or in any other place not meant for habitation in the past three years, including today? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> 1 time <input type="radio"/> 2 times <input type="radio"/> 3 times <input type="radio"/> 4 or more times
Total Time Homeless	2. Total number of months your household has been homeless in the past three years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> One month (this time is the first month) <input type="radio"/> Two months <input type="radio"/> Three months <input type="radio"/> Four months <input type="radio"/> Five months <input type="radio"/> Six months <input type="radio"/> Seven months <input type="radio"/> Eight months <input type="radio"/> Nine months <input type="radio"/> Ten months <input type="radio"/> Eleven months <input type="radio"/> Twelve months <input type="radio"/> More than 12 months
Lack of Rental History	3. Has any adult in your household ever been on a lease for housing?
Negative Rental History	3b. <i>(If yes – have been on a lease,)</i> Do any of the following describe your household’s rental history? (select all that apply) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Have outstanding rental debt or utility debt <input type="radio"/> Have been formally evicted <input type="radio"/> Have broken lease agreements <input type="radio"/> None of these apply
Housing Loss Due to Gender, Cultural, Religious, or Sexual Identity	4. Have you or anyone in your household ever been forced to leave housing because of differences in religious or cultural beliefs, or because of gender identity or sexual orientation?
INCOME & EMPLOYMENT (Medium Weight)	
Income Sources/Zero Income	5. Which option best describes your household’s current income status? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Household has no current income <input type="radio"/> Household has a fixed income (ex., SSI, SSDI, Pension, Survivor Benefits, etc.) <input type="radio"/> Household has earned income <input type="radio"/> Household has both fixed and earned income
	5b. <i>(If no income or fixed income only)</i> Is any adult household member able to increase their income? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> No adult household member is able to increase their income <input type="radio"/> At least one adult household member is able to increase their income

DISABILITIES & HEALTH CONDITIONS (Medium Weight)

<p>Number of Disabling Conditions in the Household</p>	<p>6. For each household member:</p> <p><u>Self</u> – Do you have a (select all that apply)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Physical Disability– Long Term & Impairs Independence – Y/N <input type="radio"/> Developmental Disability (Born with or developed early conditions like autism, down syndrome, or other learning disabilities) – Y/N <input type="radio"/> Chronic Health Condition – Long Term & Impairs Independence – Y/N <input type="radio"/> HIV+ - Y/N <input type="radio"/> Mental Health Condition- Long Term & Impairs Independence – Y/N <input type="radio"/> Alcohol Use - Long Term & Impairs Independence – Y/N <input type="radio"/> Drug Use- Long Term & Impairs Independence – Y/N <input type="radio"/> Both Alcohol and Drug Use - Long Term & Impairs Independence – Y/N <p><u>Other Adult 1</u> – Do they have a... (select all that apply)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Physical Disability– Long Term & Impairs Independence – Y/N <input type="radio"/> Developmental Disability (Born with or developed early conditions like autism, down syndrome, or other learning disabilities) – Y/N <input type="radio"/> Chronic Health Condition – Long Term & Impairs Independence – Y/N <input type="radio"/> HIV+ - Y/N <input type="radio"/> Mental Health Condition- Long Term & Impairs Independence – Y/N <input type="radio"/> Alcohol Use - Long Term & Impairs Independence – Y/N <input type="radio"/> Drug Use- Long Term & Impairs Independence – Y/N <input type="radio"/> Both Alcohol and Drug Use - Long Term & Impairs Independence – Y/N <input type="radio"/> Client doesn't know <input type="radio"/> Client prefers not to answer <p><u>Child 1</u> – Do they have a... (select all that apply)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Physical Disability– Long Term & Impairs Independence – Y/N <input type="radio"/> Developmental Disability (Born with or developed early conditions like autism, down syndrome, or other learning disabilities) – Y/N <input type="radio"/> Chronic Health Condition – Long Term & Impairs Independence – Y/N <input type="radio"/> HIV+ - Y/N <input type="radio"/> Mental Health Condition- Long Term & Impairs Independence – Y/N <input type="radio"/> Alcohol Use - Long Term & Impairs Independence – Y/N <input type="radio"/> Drug Use- Long Term & Impairs Independence – Y/N <input type="radio"/> Both Alcohol and Drug Use - Long Term & Impairs Independence – Y/N
<p>Severity of Disabling Conditions in the Household</p>	<p>6b. (If yes to a Physical Disability, Chronic Health Condition, HIV, Mental Health Disorder, Alcohol or Drug Use Disorder in the HH), Do any of the disabilities or health conditions in your household cause you/your household to.... (select all that apply)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Be unable to work or work enough hours to support the household <input type="radio"/> Lose your housing in the past <input type="radio"/> Require assistance with daily activities (ADLs) <input type="radio"/> Need a special unit accommodation in housing (for ex. an ADA accessible unit) <input type="radio"/> Not Applicable

EXPERIENCES WITH SERVICES & OTHER SYSTEMS OF CARE (High Weight)

Access to/Avoidance of Care	<p>7. Have you or anyone in your household avoided or been unable to access medical, mental health, or other care due to (select all that apply):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Being concerned about being treated poorly or unfairly <input type="radio"/> Not feeling safe or comfortable <input type="radio"/> Being unable to afford it <input type="radio"/> Being uninsured <input type="radio"/> Not having transportation <input type="radio"/> Not knowing how to access care <input type="radio"/> No, my household accesses care when needed
Utilization of Emergency Services	<p>8. In the past six months, how many times have you or anyone in your household gone to an emergency room for medical treatment?</p> <p>9. In the past six months, how many times have you or anyone in your household taken an ambulance to the hospital?</p> <p>10. In the past six months, how many times have you or anyone in your household been hospitalized as an inpatient? For example, being admitted to a hospital overnight for medical care, mental health treatment, or substance use treatment.</p> <p>11. In the past six months, how many times have you or anyone in your household used a crisis service? For example, crisis services for sexual assault, mental health or suicide prevention, family or intimate violence, and distress centers.</p>
Criminalization of Homelessness	<p>12. Have you or anyone in your household ever been stopped or harassed by police due to being homeless?</p>
Outcomes of Law Enforcement Encounters	<p>12b. <i>If yes</i>, what were the results of the police interaction(s)? (select all that apply)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> No negative repercussions or follow-up <input type="radio"/> Told to move or leave the area <input type="radio"/> Belongings were taken or thrown away <input type="radio"/> Received a ticket or fine <input type="radio"/> Arrested or jailed
History of Incarceration	<p>13. Have you or any adult in the household ever been incarcerated in State/County/Federal Prison?</p>
History with Child Welfare	<p>14. Were any adults in the household formerly a ward of child welfare/foster care?</p>
History with Juvenile Justice	<p>15. Were any adults in the household formerly a ward of the juvenile justice system?</p>
Level of Education	<p>16. Did any adult in the household graduate high school or receive their GED?</p>
EXPERIENCES IMPACTING WELL- BEING (Low Weight)	
Fleeing DV	<p>17. Are you/ your household currently fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence?</p>
History of Abuse	<p>18. Before becoming homeless, did anyone in your household experience: physical or sexual violence, threats, exploitation, or other abuse?</p>
Homelessness & Abuse	<p>19. Since becoming homeless, have you or anyone in your household experienced: physical or sexual violence, threats, exploitation, or other abuse?</p>



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COORDINATED ENTRY HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT (HNA)
REDESIGN PROJECT

PROPOSAL TO THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE:
APPROVE NEW CONTRA COSTA HOUSING NEEDS
ASSESSMENT

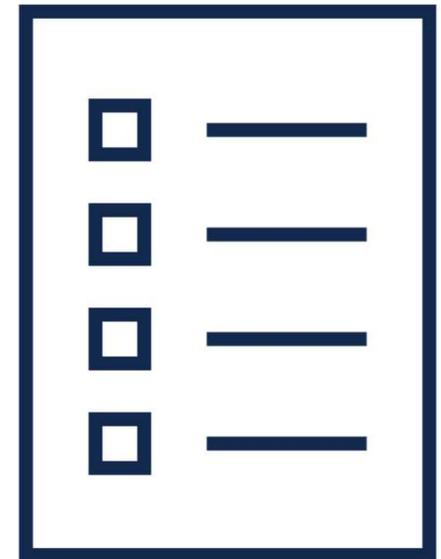
FEBRUARY 19, 2026

Agenda

Assessment Redesign Process

New Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) Tool

Next Steps for Launch





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Needs Assessment Redesign Process

Assessment Redesign Purpose

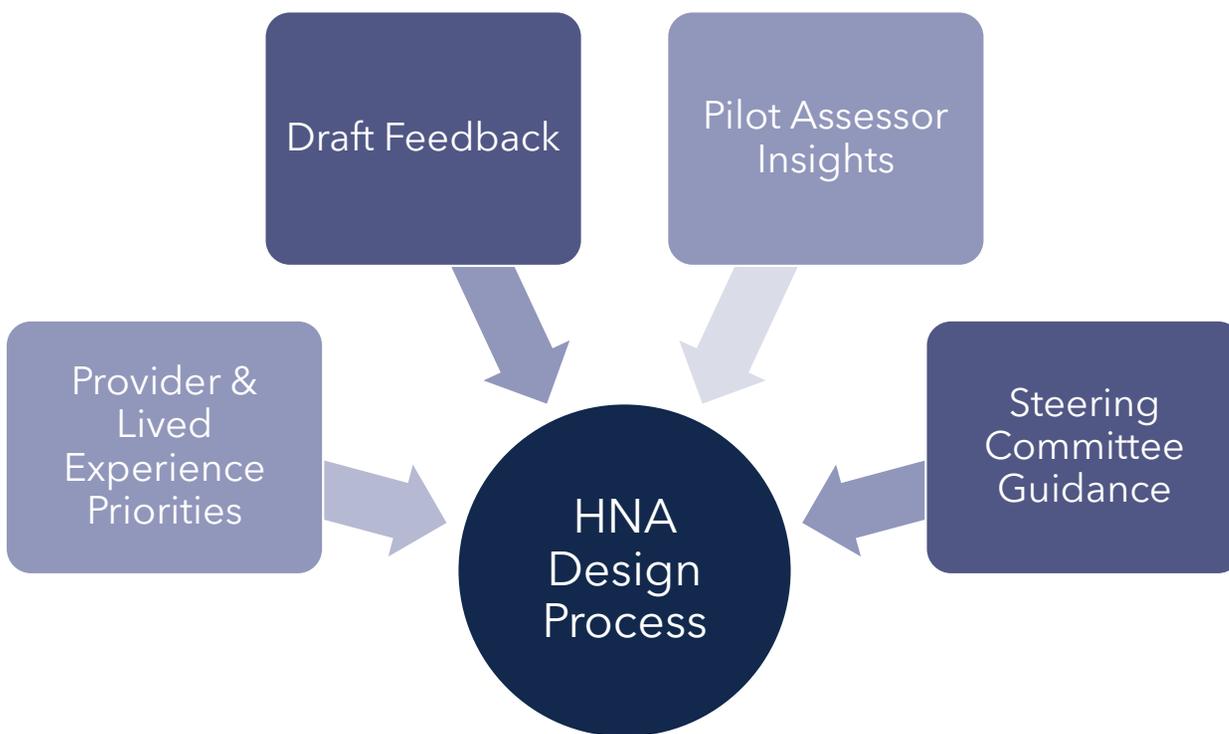
- In 2022, Contra Costa County conducted a Coordinated Entry Evaluation and replacing the VI-SPDAT was a key recommendation.

- Nationally, the VI-SPDAT as an assessment tool has been found to perpetuate inequitable outcomes.

In response, the County launched a redesign effort to develop a **customized assessment** that is:

- trauma-informed,
- leveraging empirical data,
- grounded in local experience,
- prioritizing households at-risk of prolonged homelessness, *and*
- furthering fairness in the CES.

Tool Redesign Process Grounded in Stakeholder Feedback



Key Insights:

- Priorities for HNA design
- Practical implementation and interpretation considerations

Key Insights from Stakeholders Informing New HNA



Priorities for HNA Design

- Base the tool on predictors of prolonged homelessness
- Capture the severity of conditions and experiences



Practical Implementation & Interpretation Considerations

- Minimize the number of questions asked
- Ensure questions are understandable and minimally invasive

Leveraging HMIS & CCHS Data in HNA Design



Focus Strategies used Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Contra Costa Health System (CCHS) data to identify **predictors of prolonged homelessness** for people accessing the CES.

These factors were used to design the HNA to prioritize households with the greatest likelihood of prolonged homelessness without housing support.



- Local data surfaced the key characteristics linked to prolonged homelessness
- These insights guided which topics the HNA covers and how much weight each receives in the final score

Piloting the Draft CC-HNA



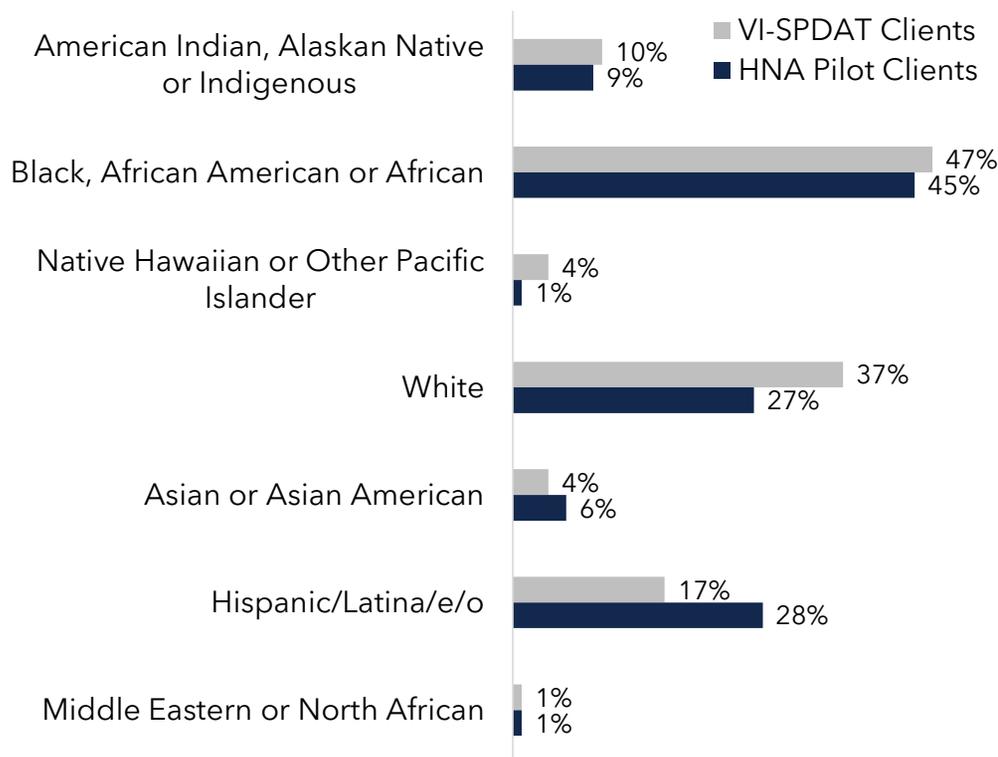
In December 2025 & January 2026, H3 piloted a draft CC-HNA in the community.

- 15 current Coordinated Entry assessment staff participated
- **109 pilot assessments** were completed
- Pilot participants were compensated with \$25 gift cards

Key Insights:

- Pilot participants were overall **demographically representative** of the population served by the CES
- Participant feedback reflected high rates of **understanding** and **comfort** with the assessment questions
- Staff indicated that the pilot tool was **clear** and **trauma-informed**

Pilot HNA Respondents by Race and Ethnicity



Key Insights:

- Pilot participants were overall **demographically representative** of the population served by the CES
- Participant feedback reflected high rates of understanding and comfort with the assessment questions
- Staff indicated that the pilot tool was clear and trauma-informed

Pilot HNA Participant Feedback Survey Results



94%

understood what the questions were asking

94%

understood why the questions were being asked

89%

felt comfortable answering the questions honestly

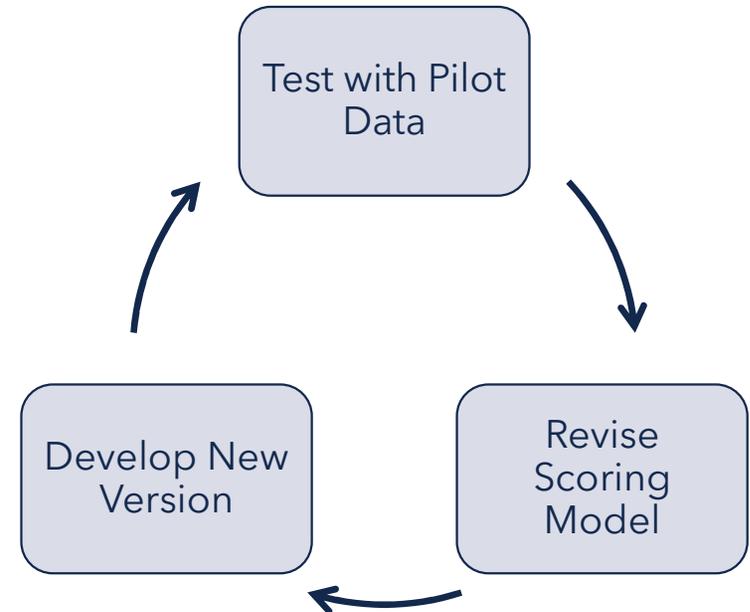
Key Insights:

- Pilot participants were overall demographically representative of the population served by the CES
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Developing a Fair and Locally-Driven Scoring Model

Developed through 5 rounds of testing and iteration, the final CC-HNA scoring model:

- Prioritizes households at highest risk of prolonged homelessness
- Does not show bias toward or against any racial or ethnic group
- Reflects input from people experiencing homelessness and the providers working directly with them





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The NEW Contra Costa Housing Needs Assessment (CC-HNA)

Overview of the CC-HNA

-  The CC-HNA contains **19 questions** and requires ~**15-30 minutes**
 - Responses to 7 of the 19 questions are **pre-populated** for most households completing the assessment based on prior information collected in HMIS intake, and are **confirmed by assessors** rather than being asked again
-  Questions in the CC-HNA are grouped into five key areas, each of which contribute to a household's **risk of prolonged homelessness** without the support of a housing resource through the CES

CC-HNA Collects and Weighs Information in 5 Key Areas

1



History of Housing
and Homelessness

2



Income and
Employment

3



Disabilities and
Health

4



Experiences with Services and
Other Systems of Care

5



Experiences Impacting
Wellbeing

History of Housing and Homelessness



Item	Weight
1 - Episodes of Homelessness	Medium
2 - Total Time Homeless	Medium
3 - Lack of Rental History	Medium
3b - Negative Rental History	Medium
4 - Housing Loss Due to Gender, Cultural, Religious or Sexual Identity	Medium

Income and Employment



Item	Weight
5 - Zero or Fixed Income	High
5b - Inability to Increase Income	Medium

Disabilities and Health Conditions



Item	Weight
6 - Number of Disabling Conditions in the Household	High
6b - Severity of Disabling Conditions in the Household	High

Experiences with Services and Other Systems of Care



Item	Weight
7 - Inability to Access / Avoidance of Care	Low
8-11 - Utilization of Emergency Services	High (overall)
12 - Law Enforcement Encounters	High
13 - History of Incarceration	Low
14-15 - History with Child Welfare or Juvenile Justice Systems	Low
16 - Level of Education	Low

Experiences Impacting Well-Being



Item	Weight
17 - Fleeing Domestic Violence	High
18 - History of Abuse	Medium
19 - Homelessness and Abuse	Medium

Questions?



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Adoption & Next Steps

Action Item:

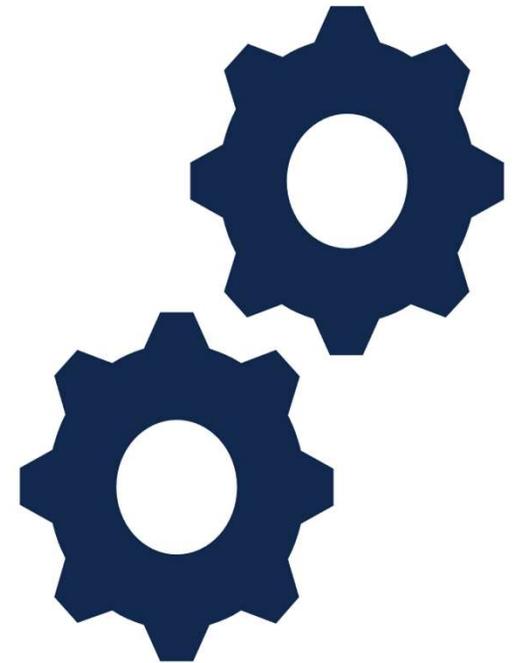
Approve adoption of the CC-HNA for use in the CES

Next Steps

Over the coming months, H3 will implement the CC-HNA.

Key steps include:

- Communicate CC-HNA launch to stakeholders
- Train assessors on the CC-HNA
- Update CES policies and workflows
- Officially launch the CC-HNA & retire the VI-SPDAT
- Monitor CC-HNA data over time





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THANK YOU!

For Questions:

H3

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