



AGENDA

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Equity Committee

Supervisor Ken Carlson, Chair
Supervisor Shanelle Scales-Preston, Vice Chair

Friday, May 2, 2025 **10:00 AM** **1026 Escobar Street, Rooms 238 and 239,
Martinez, CA 94553 | Zoom:
<https://cccouny-us.zoom.us/j/82659107572> | Call in: 1-888-278-0254, Meeting ID:
826 5910 7572, Access code: 544753**

SPECIAL MEETING

1. **The public may attend this meeting in person at either above location. The public may also attend this meeting remotely via Zoom or call-in.**
2. Agenda Items: Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee.
3. Introductions
4. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two (2) minutes).
5. RECEIVE and APPROVE the Record of Action for the March 17, 2025 meeting [25-1650](#)
of the Equity Committee, with any necessary corrections.
Attachments: [Equity Committee Record of Action 3.17.25\(draft\)](#)
6. RECEIVE updates and PROVIDE direction on Implementation Planning Process [25-1651](#)
for the African American Holistic Wellness and Resource Hub.
Attachments: [AfAm Hub Update EquityCommittee 5.2.25](#)
 [Project Awards Jan2025](#)
7. The next meeting is currently scheduled for May 19, 2025 at 10:30 AM.
8. Adjourn

General Information

This meeting provides reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend a the 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 1025 Escobar St., 4th floor, Martinez, during normal business hours. Staff reports related to items on the agenda are also accessible on line at www.co.contra-costa.ca.us.

HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:

Persons who wish to address the Committee during public comment on matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee 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 offer comments when invited by the Committee Chair. 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 their phones.

Public comments generally will be limited to two (2) minutes per speaker. In the interest of facilitating the business of the Board Committee, the total amount of time that a member of the public may use in addressing the Board Committee on all agenda items is 10 minutes. Your patience is appreciated.

Public comments may also be submitted to Committee staff before the meeting by email or by voicemail. 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.

For Additional Information Contact: Peter Kim (ORESJ) at peter.kim@oresj.cccounty.us



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-1650

Agenda Date: 5/2/2025

Agenda #: 5.

Choose an item.

Meeting Date: May 2, 2025

Subject: RECEIVE and APPROVE the Record of Action for the March 17, 2025 meeting of the Equity Committee, with any necessary corrections.

Submitted For: Equity Committee

Department: Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice

Referral No:

Referral Name: Meeting Minutes

Presenter: Peter Kim

Contact: peter.kim@oresj.cccounty.us

Referral History:

County Ordinance requires that each County body keep a record of its meetings. Though the record need not be verbatim, it must accurately reflect the agenda and the decisions made in the meetings.

Referral Update:

Attached for the Committee's consideration is the draft Record of Action (Meeting Minutes) for the Committee's March 17, 2025 meeting.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

Staff recommends approving the Record of Action for the March 17, 2025 meeting of the Equity Committee, with any necessary corrections.

Fiscal Impact (if any):

None.

Equity Committee

Record of Action for March 17, 2025

Committee Members Present:

Supervisor Ken Carlson, BOS District 4, Committee Chair; Supervisor Shanelle Scales-Preston, BOS District 5, Committee Vice Chair

Staff Present:

Kendra Carr and Peter Kim, Co-Directors, Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice (Staff to Committee); Jessica Travenia, Equity Analyst, Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice; Emaan Ahmed, Equity Analyst, Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice; Monica Nino, County Administrator, County Administrator's Office; Ann Elliot, Director, Human Resources Department; Nicole Bilich, Manager, Human Resources Department; Ellen McDonnell, Public Defender, Public Defender's Office; Gilbert Salinas, Chief Equity Officer, Health Department; Lavonna Martin, Deputy Director, Health Department; Rhonda Smith, Assistant to Chief Executive Officer, Health Department; Shannon Ladner-Beasley, Equity Manager, Health Department; Jamie Schechter, H3 Manager, Health Department; Anissa Basoco-Villareal, Deputy Director, Employment and Human Services Department; Cynthia Mallory, Project Manager, Employment and Human Services Department; Lisa Chow, Chief of Staff, BOS District 4; Alejandra Sanchez, Field Representative, District 4; David Frasier, Chief of Staff, District 5; Jill Ray, Field Representative, District 2.

Public Attendees:

Kerby Lynch; Ryan Drake-Lee; Randi Dean; Roxanne Carillo Garza; Odessa Lefrancois; Devin Murphy; Dennisha Marsh; Devin Murphy; Delon Craft; Carletta Robinson; Anna Cleese; Jessica Shephard; Juanvunik Norwood; Gigi Crowder; Lakiesha Kelly-Redmond; Rachel Rosekind; Rohana Moore; Lesia Johnson; Lisa Moore; Maria Dominguez; Kinshasa Hunter; MyKeisha Lewis; Patanisha Davis Pierson; Federal Glover; Sherae Frost; Simone Delk; Shantell Owens; Desirae Herron; Napoleon Dargan; Aisha Williams; Anabel Kasembe; Anna Cleese; Darrell Foote; Debta Vinson; Dennis McGee; Devin Murphy; Salvador Morales; Stephanie Taddeo; Susan Hildreth; Tamara Shiloh; Tiffany; Traci Fuqua; Traci Henderson; Kirsten Johnson-Bell; Vanessa Blum; Willie Robinson; Yvonne Woods; YWFC; Sandra Naughton; Phyllis Howard; Kiara Clark; Melody Saint-Saens; Kiara Clark; Desiree Rushing; Wanda Johnson; Vonda Nolan; Bryan Canty; Alicia Lacey-Oha; Benisa Berry; Zelon Harrison; Adrienne Sofranko; Barbara Howard; Jeralynn Blueford; Krystle Law; Mariana Moore; Michael Pitts; Yvonne Woods; Ashley Green; Cornelius Johnson; Tomeko Crabtree.

Introductions

Supervisor Carlson convened meeting at 10:30 AM.

Supervisor Carlson, Committee Chair, and Supervisor Scales-Preston, Committee Vice Chair, introduced themselves.

Public Comment

No comment.

RECEIVE and APPROVE the Record of Action from the December 16, 2024 meeting of the Equity Committee, with any necessary corrections.

Public Comment

No comment.

Committee received and approved the Record of Action with no corrections.

Vote was taken – two (2) ayes. This item was passed.

1. RECEIVE updates and PROVIDE direction on the African American Holistic Wellness and Resource Hub Feasibility Study

Dr Kerby Lynch and Ryan Drake-Lee of Ceres Policy Research presented on final report of feasibility study with recommendations. See attached PowerPoint slide deck and Executive Summary document in agenda packet.

AAHWRH Feasibility Study Steering Committee comments:

Patt Young: submitted email with prepared comments, shared by staff. Encouraged the Equity Committee to accept and move the recommended model and plan to the full Board of Supervisors.

Phil Arnold: reminded group of the impetus of this effort being the Antioch Police scandal; brought attention to the needs of elders and veterans; agrees that City of Antioch should invest in these efforts.

Desirae Herron: remarked on the good job Ceres did to reflect the community's insights and encouraged the Board to not delay any longer but to move this work forward; the Steering Committee work and Ceres' research has all been done with excellence.

Vanessa Blum: appreciated how thoughtful the process has been and lifted up Dr Lynch's efforts to collect and incorporate the immense amount of data, community feedback, and stakeholder input.

Jacqueline Smith: appreciated the commitment and time of all steering committee members, ORESJ Co-Directors, Dr Lynch and Ceres; remarked how insightful the community cafes were, and impressed with the way all the information has been reflected in the recommendations.

Zelon Harrison: looking forward to the County continuing to identify and raise funds for this work, as the needs of Black communities are not a one-time issue, but require a sustained investment over time as an annual line item.

Sup. Scales-Preston: expressed appreciation for the Ceres research team, Steering Committee, and all the community members for their work and energy; reiterated the need for a safe space for Black community members are comfortable to access and engage services.

Sup. Carlson: lifted up two priorities – 1) building and honoring community trust through community-led efforts, and transparent community accountability, that ensures that community has clear voice, and 2) creating educational pathways for young people, formerly incarcerated, people most harmed, which can include mentoring, mental health supports, SUD counseling, as well as putting community members on paths of developing skills to be the ones who provide the services over time. Question: in regard to mobile services and hubs, can we go right into hubs as a first phase, or take a hybrid approach, that speeds up the establishment of intermediate community-dispersed hubs, in an effort to speed up the process?

Sup. Scales-Preston: disparities in our health care systems, in our justice system, in regard to mental health, substance use, IPV/DV, LGBTQ support – all of these can be addressed in a hub provided we have the space (or spaces) and the service partnerships needed.

Ryan Drake-Lee: must leverage existing services rather than be redundant, and the JPA governance model can help address this shared investment, coordination; will also need to

Sup. Scales-Preston: I appreciate the JPA idea, it allows for community participation by CBOs, steering committee members, and ensures a level of transparency in regard to the allocation of funds. How long will it take for a JPA to be established?

Public comment:

Napolean Dargan: expressed appreciation for Dr Lynch and Ceres, report was one of best he has seen, and appreciated the outreach and engagement; reiterated the need for an Executive Director that reflects the Black community and Black excellence; addressed how the church can be traumatic for many Black community members which is why they often do not go there; suggests that elected officials are given a time limit just like public speakers.

Gigi Crowder: named the instrumental efforts of 40 Voices Campaign in spearheading this advocacy, born out of local deaths of Black men, Miles Hall and Tyrell Wilson, by law enforcement, and then the Antioch police scandal; reiterated the need for Black male voices; opposed the idea of a JPA approach; supports the idea of a church for the hub.

Patanisha Davis-Pierson: on behalf of Assemblymember Faria, offers full support for the findings and study and encourages that this moves forward; expressed appreciation for all involved, and emphasized the need for a Hub that is community-embedded, and appreciated Dr Lynch for presenting a model informed by community research and data.

Dennis McGee: as an RN who has started non-profits supporting vulnerable communities, has seen the mistrust that communities have for government, seen the suffering of the unhoused and of those in jails, and urges that we place a human face to the data; expressed the need to move fast and not delay as people are suffering now; when people are supported they become productive members that contribute to society.

Willie Robinson: expressed cautious optimism, this plan is not the “silver bullet” but a step forward; want to reemphasize need to support the most harmed, the most vulnerable; is in support and would like to see this process move forward.

Rachel Rosekind: truly imperative that County supports targeted interventions for the most vulnerable, and to address the ways harm to Black communities have been and are infused throughout our institutional systems; must adopt a holistic lens that community supports; the Hub is a necessary first step and looks to the leadership of 40 Voices, Steering Committee, ORESJ and other community members to lead this effort

Cornelius Johnson: former City Manager of Antioch, this project aligns with efforts of Antioch to establish community embedded spaces and services; a JPA is a good idea, and has been explored in the past that involved Antioch and the County; encourages an aligned and collaborative approach; Cavello is good site but also identified another location on 10th Street that may involve a \$4M+ investment, and would like to resume conversations that braid City and County investments.

Roxanne Carillo Garza: as MXCAB chair, wants to lift up 40 Voices and Steering Committee efforts; wants to reiterate the need for long term sustained funding

Jeralynn Blueford: expressed the need for a safe place for the Hub; the church is often a space of safety and trust for Black community; need spaces that will not increase anxiety and stress, and County spaces are often triggering as reminders of the system violence from law enforcement.

Traci Henderson: as someone who worked for Alameda County welfare services for 30 years, has experienced that all the spaces were at least accessible, if not what everyone felt was safe, but accessibility must be considered still; we are tired of hearing about what might be done, we must be focused on what is being done, and this report is an example of that.

Shantell Owens: 40 Voices had courage to say out loud what so many felt for years; and the feasibility study was needed to amplify the 40 voices and turn that into 4000 voices, which is an amazing step forward; location is less important than the services going out to where the people need them; excited to see this work move forward.

Krystle Law: as an Antioch resident since 2004, with a blended family, and have experienced racism in our community, at our hospitals and with police, believes that this Hub is needed; glad that community members like 40 Voices led the effort, but also do not want us to get caught up on the issue of location and risk delaying the work

Darrell Foote: on behalf of Delon Craft, expressing appreciation of Dr Lynch, of Equity Committee, and is in support of this recommendation to move ahead.

Sup. Carlson: acknowledged the work of Sup. Glover and Sup. Gioia, and their roles in getting this work to this point.

Sup. Scales-Preston: expressed gratitude for all non-profits, CBO's, advocates, faith partners, Steering Committee, community at-large, ORESJ, Sup. Glover and Sup. Gioia. Made a motion to move this recommendation and report to the full Board of Supervisors.

Sup. Carlson: Would like this to be a discussion item that approves action to begin the establishment of a governance structure for the Hub, and outline the next steps to establish a JPA. Would need a detailed presentation on what that process entails, looking at LAFCO as a precursor.

Dr Lynch: Yes, we can add to the report models of possible governance structure. Does this include approval for the continued service of the steering committee as an oversight advisory body for this next phase of establishing a governance structure?

Carlson: Steering Committee role, models of governance, LAFCO input, all a part of the discussion item with a recommended action for BOS vote (creation of oversight and formation of JPA) at next BOS.

Staff: identify a date, CERES present final report at BOS, ask BOS to vote for creation of JPA and creation of oversight body.

Carlson and Scales-Preston: agreed that the funds allocated for the Hub should remain committed to this effort.

Vote was taken – two (2) ayes. Report and recommendations were accepted with additional direction: include more detail on governing structure with examples/models of JPA-type structures to learn from. This item was passed.

2. RECEIVE and DISCUSS memo from Measure X Community Advisory Board (MXCAB) outlining Recommended Best Practices for Engaging and Building Capacity for Measure X Service Providers.

Roxanna Carillo Garza, Chair for MX Community Advisory Body presented their memo and walked through the recommendations (see attachment in Agenda Packet). Vice-Chair Rachel Rosekind shared observations and lessons learned as a reviewer on Contra Costa County Behavioral Health review panel for a recent RFP process. Lifted up the need for technical assistance and capacity building for community organizations in responding to and applying for funding opportunities, as well as on how to navigate complex public systems.

Requested guidance and direction from Equity Committee on how to move this discussion to the full Board.

Sup. Scales-Preston: reiterated need for CBOs to receive TA and support around data collection; grant proposal writing; articulating visions, goals, outcomes, metrics; and supported idea of providing CBOs with supports to help them be more effective, and of having people with lived experience involved more fully in informing these processes.

Sup. Carlson: agrees of need to involve voices of those most impacted in decision making; more concerned with process, and understands the mission of ORESJ is to apply an equity lens to County policies, and they can present a policy recommendation to the BOS to center the conversation around; the BOS will need a direct recommendation to consider and respond to.

Are there ways to create pathways to close gaps and help CBOs be more effective in accessing funding and providing services?

Roxanna Carillo Garza: our interest is to institutionalize this throughout County departments that make it easier for CBOs to apply for and access County funds.

Carlson: competitive nature of limited funding results in organizations not receiving funds, but clearly can improve how we provide a transparent process and response on how decisions are made.

Rachel Rosekind: County departments are often disconnected and have uneven effectiveness in outreaching, engaging, and processing these funding opportunities. Speaks to the need of aligning these best practices across all departments.

Carlson: is there a consortium of CBOs that meet regularly to help share and distribute information to help share updates and announcements that the County releases? Especially for smaller orgs that may not be plugged in to the County's communication channels?

Roxanna Carillo Garza; yes, some exist, like ECCCA. The bigger challenge is how smaller orgs navigate and engage the County after opportunities are learned of, and track how the County moves funds, makes award decisions, etc.

Scales-Preston: Agrees that there are many gaps, esp for smaller grassroots orgs, faith centers, and independent community providers.

Public comment:

Mariana Moore: encourages caution and temperance in tasking the ORESJ as a small team of four staff, and wants to remind that the entire County has a responsibility and role in ensuring these processes are more equitable, transparent. This is about making CBOs stronger and more effective in accessing funds, while also decreasing barriers within the County.

Jessica Travenia: encourages that in addition to technical assistance and support prior to application, to also include feedback and critique for applicants after proposal.

Vote was taken – two (2) ayes. Report was accepted and received, and will work with ORESJ on adding this as a policy discussion for the future. This item was passed.

3. RECEIVE updates from the Co-Directors of the Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice.

Staff presented on progress updates, see Powerpoint slide deck attached to agenda.

Public comment:

Maria Dominguez: expressed appreciation that the work continues, that funding is in place, and is curious to know what updates on services and responses to immigrant and undocumented community member concerns and asked if ORESJ works with Stand Together CCC.

Staff: responded to comment, yes ORESJ coordinates with Stand Together CCC on issues impacting immigrant communities, particularly now during the recent events concerning federal administration actions.

Vote was taken – two (2) ayes. Update was accepted and received. This item was passed.

4. CONSIDER approving the proposed 2025 Committee meeting schedule and work plan, or PROVIDE direction to staff regarding any changes thereto.

Staff presented the 2025 work plan, see attached memo.

Public comment:

Phil Arnold: Suggest that County provides updates and clarification to CBOs and community members on how the federal administration's actions are and will impact CCC businesses, CBO's and communities.

Vote was taken – two (2) ayes. Update was accepted and received. This item was passed.

5. Next Committee meeting is a special meeting scheduled for May 2, 2025 at 10:00AM.

6. Adjourn

Meeting was convened at 12:55 PM.



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-1651

Agenda Date: 5/2/2025

Agenda #: 6.

Choose an item.

Meeting Date: May 2, 2025

Subject: RECEIVE updates and PROVIDE direction on Implementation Planning Process for the African American Holistic Wellness and Resource Hub.

Submitted For: Equity Committee

Department: Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice

Referral No:

Referral Name: African American Wellness Hub Update

Presenter: Kendra Carr and Peter Kim

Contact: kendra.carr@oresj.cccounty.us <<mailto:kendra.carr@oresj.cccounty.us>> or
peter.kim@oresj.cccounty.us <<mailto:peter.kim@oresj.cccounty.us>>

Referral History:

Equity Committee regularly receives reports on the planning and progress of the establishment of an African American Holistic Wellness and Resource Hub in Contra Costa County and provides direction and/or input to staff, as necessary.

On March 17, 2025, Equity Committee received a report from Ceres Policy Research on their feasibility study findings and recommendations and the Committee moved to have the final report presented to the full Board of Supervisors for discussion.

On April 15, 2025, Ceres Policy Research presented their final feasibility study report for an African American Holistic Wellness and Resource Hub to the full Board of Supervisors. Their report included a comprehensive community needs assessment of African Americans in Contra Costa County and recommendations toward a three-phase implementation plan that establishes an initial physical site in Antioch, CA by 2028.

The Board of Supervisors directed the Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice (ORESJ) to return to Equity Committee for further direction and guidance, with a goal of returning to the full Board by June or July 2025 with a fully developed and actionable implementation plan that builds off the Ceres Policy Research report and recommendation, while also addressing key questions from the Board regarding governance, sustainability, staffing, and leveraging existing County-led services, programs and resources.

Referral Update:

The Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice will present an update on its efforts since receiving direction from the Board on April 15, 2025.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

Receive the update and provide input to staff, as needed. Direct staff to return to next Equity Committee meeting with another update and a more fully developed implementation plan.

Fiscal Impact (if any):

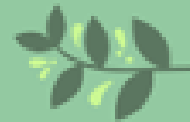
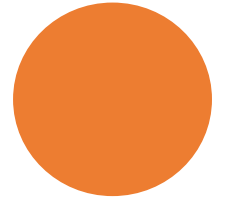
None

Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice

Dr. Kendra Carr, Co-Director
Peter Kim, Co-Director

Contra Costa County

May 2, 2025



Office of Racial
Equity & Social
Justice

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

African American Holistic Wellness and Resource Hub Implementation Plan Update

On April 15, 2025, Ceres Policy Research presented their final feasibility study report to the Board of Supervisors.

Their report included a comprehensive community needs assessment and recommendations toward a three-phase implementation plan that proposes:

- Phase 1: Immediate activation of mobile services and leveraging of County-led rapid-response services that target high-need groups such as elders, unhoused, geographically isolated, etc. (\$2.87M)
- Phase 2: Engage and fund CBO's to fill service gaps by delivering dispersed "satellite" services through a sub-regional approach that prioritizes high-need Districts 5 and 3. (\$2.74M)
- Phase 3: Establish a physical site in Antioch, CA by 2028 that delivers medical, mental health, social and economic support through co-location of County and community services (\$3.6M)
 - Total implementation budget for initial 3 phases: \$9.21M

Recommended first steps include:

- Hire an implementation lead (e.g. executive director) within 90 days
- Expand and extend Steering Committee role/function to Oversight and Advisory Body
- Activate rapid-response services by Jan 2026

African American Holistic Wellness and Resource Hub

Implementation Plan Update (continued)

Board of Supervisors directed the ORESJ to return to Equity Committee for further direction, with goal of returning to full Board by June or July 2025 with a fully developed and actionable implementation plan that builds off the Ceres Policy Research report, and that also addresses the following:

- Conduct an inventory analysis of existing County-run services and programs that support and/or prioritize the improved health and wellness of African American communities and individuals.
- Explore sub-regional approaches that meet the unique strengths, needs and concerns of the diverse African American communities and their respective needs throughout the County's supervisorial districts.
- Prioritize recommendations for investment of the current approved allocation of \$7.5 million to initiate efforts and services toward establishing a hub, and propose a long-term sustainability plan that includes non-County funding sources.
- Propose a governance structure other than a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) that allows for more flexibility and nimbleness in establishing formal partnerships with stakeholders, encourages shared responsibility, and prioritizes community leadership and partnership.
- Propose an approach to securing an entity and/or staff to carry out the implementation of services and establishment of a hub that does not include hiring new County employees.

African American Holistic Wellness and Resource Hub

Implementation Plan Update (continued)

Since receiving direction from the Board of Supervisors on April 15, 2025, ORESJ has:

- Created and shared a survey with County departments requesting information on services and programs that prioritize and serve vulnerable groups within African American communities, with an eye towards what is immediately available, as well as uncovering gaps and what may be missing.
- Initiated contact and conversation with local/regional organizations with expertise and success in implementing community-embedded, community-led health and wellness centers to learn of concrete implementation steps, lessons learned, and potential funding opportunities.
- Explored models and processes to fast track the establishment of an independent 501c3 non-profit organization that can independently hire an executive director and other staff to carry out the day-to-day implementation and coordination of services.
- Drafted bylaws and structure for a Community Advisory Body to oversee the creation and implementation of a hub.

African American Holistic Wellness and Resource Hub

Update on \$1M Allocation for Existing Services

- All fourteen service MOU's have been finalized and processed with projects/services beginning May 1, 2025.
- East Bay Community Foundation is administering the contracts on behalf of the County and are responsible for program monitoring, reporting, and processing of invoices and payments.
- See attached list of funded organizations with short description of the projects.

Questions or Comments

Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice
1026 Escobar Street, Suite 2B
Martinez, CA 94553

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AWARDS TO INCREASE AFRICAN AMERICAN HOLISTIC WELLNESS AND RESOURCES (2025)

Priority Service Category	Awardee	Award	Cities Served	Project Description
Maternal/Infant Health	Breast Friends Lactation and Support Services	\$100,000	Richmond, San Pablo, Pittsburg, Antioch	This project will bridge the gap in lactation care for African American pregnant and breastfeeding moms and families, prioritizing breastfeeding education, offering peer support, and addressing health disparities that most impact African American families.
	Black Girls Mental Health Collective Foundation	\$76,000	Richmond, San Pablo, Pittsburg, Antioch, Bay Point	A culturally responsive, trauma-informed program providing perinatal mental health support, maternal health provider training, and community engagement for African American mothers in Contra Costa County to improve mental wellness and reduce health disparities.
Behavioral Health	Healing Spot Counseling Center Inc.	\$76,000	Antioch, Brentwood, Oakley, Discovery Bay, Pittsburg, Bay Point	Healing Spot Counseling Center, Inc. provides culturally responsive mental health services for African American residents who face barriers accessing community support services. The comprehensive approach includes crisis stabilization, individual counseling, and group therapy, delivered by licensed clinicians of color who understand community trauma and needs.
	Equity for Black Women and Girls	\$50,000	Richmond, San Pablo, Hercules, Pittsburg, Antioch, Bay Point	Sister Circles create safe spaces for Black women and girls to connect, share their experiences, and network. They address critical issues such as domestic violence and mental wellness, while fostering support, growth and community. These circles empower participants to heal and face challenges with resilience.
	NAMI Contra Costa	\$50,000	Antioch	The "I'm a Winner!" Program is designed to improve outcomes for African American youth, utilizing a holistic, faith-based, affirmative strategy. Through partnerships with schools and faith centers to address disparities and eliminate the school-to-prison pipeline, the program acknowledges the harm experienced by students and their families and offers empowering tools in a safe environment.
Food/Housing Insecurity	Grace Arms of Antioch	\$76,000	Antioch, Brentwood, Oakley, Pittsburg, Concord	Grace Closet, Pantry and Grace House provides essential services to individuals and families facing financial challenges, homelessness or food insecurity. These programs offer free food, clothing, and a supportive environment for those who are unemployed, underemployed or reliant on government assistance. Grace Closet serves the community bi-weekly, ensuring individuals not only receive basic necessities but also experience dignity and encouragement in difficult times.

AWARDS TO INCREASE AFRICAN AMERICAN HOLISTIC WELLNESS AND RESOURCES (2025)

	Genesis Church	\$50,000	Antioch	Genesis Grocery Share Program/Elevate provides fresh produce and groceries the under-resourced residents of Antioch. Groceries are distributed on site every Saturday and are delivered to the elderly on Fridays.
	The Black Neighborhood	\$50,000	Richmond, San Pablo	The Black Neighborhood's Holistic Wellness and Food Security Initiative provides food distribution, trauma-informed healing workshops, and a community conference aimed at enhancing wellness, security, and recovery within African American communities, particularly those impacted by systemic violence and food insecurity in both East and West Contra Costa County.

Community Healing	Healthy Hearts	\$76,000	Pittsburg	The Healthy Hearts Community Healing and Resilience project will provide support for community healing from police trauma and poverty within Pittsburg's El Pueblo housing development, a historically Black underserved community.
	Centered Care Wellness	\$50,000	Antioch	Transforming Chronic Care Management for Veterans through Telehealth Innovation provides veterans with accessible, personalized telehealth services to manage chronic health conditions and improve overall well-being.
	Miles Hall Foundation	\$50,000	Countywide	Miles of Connections, Healing and Belonging Community Outreach Services is a community-building initiative to engage Black residents across Contra Costa County. Leveraging their trusted relationships, the Miles Hall Foundation will foster participation, belonging and healing by promoting all of the African American Wellness Hub's critical services and ensuring the community knows how to access and benefit from them.

Youth Development	1 Hundred Years Project	\$76,000	Richmond, Antioch	1 Hundred Years Enterprise is a credible messenger-led program to support positive youth development among justice-involved African American youth in Contra Costa County. Mentors with lived experience will provide intensive support for 28 youth and their families.
	Genesis Church	\$50,000	Antioch	Peer to Peer Youth Trauma Healing Groups addresses complex trauma inflicted upon African American youth in small healing groups. These facilitated groups provide a safe space of transparency without judgement.
	Improve Your Tomorrow	\$50,000	Brentwood, Pittsburg	Pathways to Success at Liberty and Black Diamond High Schools will deliver culturally responsive mentorship and social emotional learning to empower young Black men. This program fuses academic support, emotional wellness resources, and career guidance to address systemic challenges and build pathways to educational and personal success.