



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Committee Meeting Minutes - Draft

Economic Opportunity Council

Thursday, May 8, 2025

6:00 PM

1470 Civic Court, Suite 200, Room 207,

Concord | Zoom:

<https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/84112970168> |

Call in: 888 278 0254 | code: 7038773

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

1. Call to Order and Welcome

Chair Medlen Called the meeting to order at 6:09 pm - Quorum Established

Staff Present: Christina Castle-Barber, Melissa Molina, Michael Morris and Roshunda Ward, Rebecca Darnell, Aisha Teal, Lynne McGraw

Guest: Christian Dean

Present

Karanbir Bal, Jessica Cisneros, Karen Coleman, Ajit Kaushal, Buffie Lafayette, Janelle Lafrades, Nicola Lopez, Desire Medlen, Monisha Merchant, LaTonia Peoples-Stokes, Devlyn Sewell, Kanwar Singh, Victor Tiglao, and Renee Zeimer

Absent

Patricia Campbell

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

No public present.

3. RECEIVE Presentation on Guaranteed Income.

[25-1701](#)

Attachments:

[CCC EHSD GBI Program Design Presentation - WFS](#)

Aisha Teal and colleagues presented the Guaranteed Basic Income Program of the county Tiglao asked if there was cross collaboration between this county pilot program and other Guaranteed Income program in the county, such as the Monument Impact one, and if someone previously enrolled into a Guaranteed Income program is eligible for this one, to which Teal answered that it is independent from other programs and previous enrollment to other Guaranteed Income program does not preclude participation Singh asked if it was one time, to which Teal asked yes it's a pilot program Lafayette and Kaushal asked if it was for seniors as well, to which Teal answered yes it's open to seniors who are housing insecure, in addition to 4 different categories of lottery that were suggested by the Board of Supervisors, all of which are receiving EHSD case management Ward asked about how this program will affect other benefits received by participants, to which Teal answered that there will be effects to other eligibility of other benefits, though there is an effort to secure private funding to fill in the gaps if participants are rendered ineligible for their

existing benefits

Zeimer asked if there would be counseling for the payment plan options, to which Teal answered yes there will be assistance in figuring out the best option for each selected participant

Zeimer asked about the security of the funds, to which Teal's team answered that this funding is already secured by the county

Tiglao asked what success looked like for this program, to which Teal and her colleagues answered that there will be a long term study on the participants well after the program ends, and will look at things like wellbeing, financial literacy, among other factors

This Discussion Item was received.

4. CONSIDER new EOC Candidate for approval. [25-1693](#)

Attachments: [Dean Christian \(EOC\) 04-21-25 D4 Redacted](#)

The EOC interviewed Dean.

A motion was made by Zeimer, seconded by Cisneros, to approve Christian Dean to the Private/Non-Profit Alternate Seat 1 and refer her for approval by the Board of Supervisors. The motion carried by the following vote: unanimous.

Motion: Zeimer

Second: Cisneros

Aye: Bal, Cisneros, Coleman, Kaushal, Lafayette, Lafrades, Lopez, Medlen, Merchant, Peoples-Stokes, Sewell, Singh, Tiglao, and Zeimer

Absent: Campbell

Result: Passed

5. APPROVE the EOC Business Meeting Minutes of 4-10-25. [25-1694](#)

Attachments: [EOC Business Meeting Minutes of April 10 2025 - DRAFT](#)

A motion was made by Lopez, seconded by Kaushal, to approve the EOC Business Meeting Minutes of 4-10-2025.. The motion carried by the following vote: 13 ayes, 1 abstention.

Motion: Lopez

Second: Kaushal

Aye: Bal, Cisneros, Coleman, Kaushal, Lafayette, Lafrades, Lopez, Medlen, Peoples-Stokes, Sewell, Singh, Tiglao, and Zeimer

Absent: Campbell

Abstain: Merchant

Result: Passed

6. RECEIVE the March 2025 Fiscal Reports for Grant #24F-3007 including amendments. [25-1695](#)

Attachments: [2024 CSBG Monthly Expense March 25](#)
[2024 CSBG Monthly Expense Disc March 25](#)

Morris presented the 2025 fiscal reports for the Grant #24F-3007 including Amendments

This Discussion Item was received.

7. APPROVE the 2026-2027 Community Action Plan. [25-1696](#)

Attachments: [2026-2027 Community Action Plan - DRAFT](#)

Castle-Barber presented the 2026-2027 Community Action Plan (CAP)

Zeimer shared that we should meet people where they are, having a one-stop shops to consolidate services

Castle-Barber asked the EOC to add how applicants will serve demographics highlighted in the packet, to which members agreed to include verbiage in the RFP to have applicants describe how they will reach these populations.

Lopez asked where the information was taken, to which Castle-Barber answered that the source is the census

Kaushal asked to be able to compare this information with CalCAPAs, to which Castle-Barber answered yes she will provide a copy after approving this CAP.

A motion was made by Zeimer, seconded by Lafrades, to approve the 2026-2027 Community Needs Assessment and Community Action Plan. The motion carried by the following vote: unanimous.

Motion: Zeimer

Second: Lafrades

Aye: Bal, Cisneros, Coleman, Kaushal, Lafayette, Lafrades, Lopez, Medlen, Merchant, Peoples-Stokes, Sewell, Singh, Tiglao, and Zeimer

Absent: Campbell

Result: Passed

8. APPROVE EOC Attendees to the NCAP Conference in Detroit. [25-1697](#)

Attachments: [2025 Annual Convention _ National CAP](#)

Kaushal and the fiscal committee proposed a new way to select members who will attend, such as tracking which members have already attended and giving members who haven't attended one priority to attend the NCAP Conference

Zeimer shared a concern about the funding and prioritizing the executive committee to attend Molina shared the arduous process of approving budget for travel, so she recommended that the people who raises their hand should prioritize their attendance to the NCAP Conference

A motion was made by Zeimer, seconded by Lafrades, to send Lopez, Peoples-Stokes, and Kaushal to the NCAP conference in Detroit with Janelle Lafrades being an alternate in case someone cannot go. The motion carried by the following vote: unanimous.

Motion: Zeimer

Second: Lafrades

Aye: Bal, Cisneros, Coleman, Kaushal, Lafayette, Lafrades, Lopez, Medlen, Merchant, Peoples-Stokes, Sewell, Singh, Tiglao, and Zeimer

Absent: Campbell
Result: Passed

9. RECEIVE report on Onsite Monitoring Visit by CSD.

Castle-Barber presented the report on the onsite monitoring visit by CSD and highlighted that there appear to be no findings. The report will come to use in the next few weeks.

This was received.

10. Staff Report

Castle-Barber reported that the latest federal budget shows restored funding for Head Start but elimination of LIHEAP and CSBG. Advocacy is important.

11. Chair Report

Medlen met with Assemblymember Wilson, who is a former Head Start participant, about our work and how the Legislature can help our work, and continued to invite members to participate with Our Revolution to phone bank.

12. EOC Members Reports

Tiglao provided an update on bills advocated for in Sacramento:

SB 411 (EBT for students during prolonged school closures)

Put on suspense as of May 5th, appropriations committee, will probably die

Bill analysis found it will cost \$2.7 million per school year for the EBT program, plus \$3.3 million in upfront cost for the eligibility website it wants to build + \$3 million in maintenance costs, resulting in about \$9 million in fiscal impact

AB 249 (youth specific process for youth facing homelessness)

As of April 23, referred to suspense file on Appropriations

Bill analysis found there will be costs to enforcement of this, because state does not fund Coordinate Exit Systems

AB 722 (Reentry Housing and Workforce Development Program)

As of May 1, referred to Appropriations, next hearing is on May 14

Bill analysis hasn't found fiscal impact yet as of April 30, 2025

Lopez shared the Aging Committee had the Senior Day at the Capitol and shared that maybe we can work together, Friday after the next meeting Lopez will hold an event for her nonprofit and invited members to attend

Singh shared his experience at the Head Start Council

Kaushal visited George Miller school and shared his experience

13. Next Steps

Christina will send the poverty demographic table to Nikki Lopez

Christina will fix #6 on page 26 (pg. 54 on cap)

Christina will add public health to #9 on page 27 (pg. 55 on cap)

14. Meeting Evaluation

Covered a lot!

The next meeting is currently scheduled for June 12 2025 at 6 pm.

15. Adjourn

Chair Medlen adjourned the meeting at 8:01 pm.

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 1470 Civic Court, Suite 200, 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: Christina Castle-Barber 925-608-8819