

8. Announcements

All

9. Next Steps

Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies

The next meeting is currently scheduled for 3/20/25 Working Group Meeting

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, Concord (D2), during normal business hours. Staff reports related to items on the agenda are also accessible online at www.contracosta.ca.gov. If the Zoom connection malfunctions for any reason, the meeting may be paused while a fix is attempted. If the connection is not reestablished, the committee will continue the meeting in person without remote access. Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

For Additional Information Contact: contracostacoc@cchealth.org



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-494

Agenda Date: 2/20/2025

Agenda #:

Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Subject: 2.20.25 PATH Innovations Committee agenda and slide deck

Presenter:

Contact:

Information:

Referral History and Update:

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):



PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

DATE: Thursday, February 20th, 2025, 9:30 am – 11:00 am

LOCATION:

2400 Bisso Lane, Suite D2, Concord – Venti Conference Room ([map](#))

While the use of masking is not required, it is recommended. Masks will be available at the meeting.

PUBLIC ACCESS:

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

HOW TO JOIN THE MEETING VIA ZOOM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZErdemqgTsoE90m6dcFxsS5rdtyuo4x2Dj9>

HOW TO JOIN THE MEETING VIA CALL-IN:

1-669-900-6833

Meeting ID: 856 2027 0299

Passcode: 377720

Time	Agenda Item	Presenter/Facilitator
9:30	Welcome and Introductions	- Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies
	Hybrid Meeting Norms	- Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies
	Review and Approval of Minutes	- Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies
	Public Comment – Open Period for public comment on items discussed or not listed on the agenda.	- Members of the public
9:55	Point in Time Count Update – Update on count completed in January 2025	- Jamie Schecter, H3
10:00	Unsheltered Data Dashboard – Quarterly review of unsheltered metrics	- Jamie Schecter, H3
10:15	Coordinated Entry Highlight: Program Referrals From Unsheltered Status – Update on recent referrals to new PSH Projects from Unsheltered Status	- Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, H3
10:30	Stakeholder Spotlight: Housing Consortium of the East Bay (HCEB) – Next Step Interim Housing Program	- Darin Lounds, HCEB - Chaeanna Williams, HCEB - Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, H3
10:50	Announcements	- All
10:55	Next Steps	- Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies



PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:

Persons who wish to address the Council on Homelessness during public comment on matters within the jurisdiction of the Council on Homelessness that are not on the agenda, or who wish to comment with respect to an item on the agenda, may comment in person, via Zoom, or via call-in. Those participating in person should stand where they are sitting when called upon. Those participating via Zoom should indicate they wish to speak by using the “raise your hand” feature in the Zoom app. Those calling in should indicate they wish to speak by dialing *9 on their 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.

Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the Contra Costa Council on Homelessness to a majority of members less than 72 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 2400 Bisso Lane, Building D, 2nd Floor, Concord, CA 94520 during normal business hours. Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full workday prior to the published meeting time. The Contra Costa Council on Homelessness will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend meetings. Contact the H3 office at least 72 hours before the meeting: Phone: (925) 608-6700; Email: cchomelesscouncil@cchealth.org



PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Commonly Used Acronyms and Terms

Acronym	Definition
APR	Annual Performance Report (for HUD homeless programs)
BOS	Board of Supervisors (Contra Costa County)
BCSH	California Business Consumer, Services and Housing Agency
CARE	Coordinated Assessment and Resource
CCACS/CCYCS	Contra Costa Adult Continuum of Service/ Contra Costa Youth Continuum of Services (H3 programs)
CDBG, CDBG-CV	Community Development Block Grant (federal and state programs) and the federal Community Development Block Grant CARES Act coronavirus allocation.
CESH	California Emergency Solutions and Housing program (state funding)
COH	Council on Homelessness
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.
CES/CE	Coordinated Entry
CNWS	Concord Naval Weapons Station
CORE	Coordinated Outreach Referral, Engagement program
COVID-19	Coronavirus
DCD	Contra Costa Department of Conservation and Development
DOC	Department Operations Center
CDSS	California Department of Social Services
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.
FMR	Fair Market Rent (maximum rent for Section 8 rental assistance/CoC grants)
HCD	Housing and Community Development (State office)
HCFC	Housing Coordinating and Financing Council (state governing board under BCSH)
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 (state funding);
HMIS	Homeless Management Information System
HOME	Home Investment Partnerships (CPD program)
Homekey	California funding to support development of interim and permanent housing
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (federal)
MHSA	Mental Health Services Act



PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Acronym	Definition
NOFO	Notice of Funding Opportunity
PHA	Public Housing Authority
Project Roomkey	COVID-related State funding program to support de-congregating homeless shelters using hotels/motels.
PSH	Permanent Supportive Housing
PUI	Persons Under Investigation
RFP/RFQ/LOI	Request for Proposal/Request for Qualifications/Letter of Intent related to funding opportunities
RRH	Rapid Rehousing
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
<p><i>Contra Costa County COVID-19 Resources:</i> Please see below for additional resources on COVID-19. Health Services COVID Data Dashboard- https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/dashboard Health Services Homeless Specific Data Dashboard- https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/homeless-dashboard Health Services COVID Updates- https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/health-services-updates Health Services Homeless-Specific COVID Resources -https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/for-the-homeless</p>	



PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE

February 20, 2025, 9:30 – 11:00 am

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies

PATH Innovations Committee is comprised of a diverse group of community stakeholders and CoC partners who commit to leading, monitoring, implementing, and assigning priorities to reduce unsheltered homelessness by 75% in alignment with the Regional Action Plan.

ROLL CALL

PATH Innovations Committee Members

Just Cause

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

Emergency Circumstances

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

VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE EXEMPTION

Juno Hedrick

LeAnn Matthews

Shawn Ray

Tony Ucciferri

Wayne Earl

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

INTRODUCTIONS

H3 Staff
Focus Strategies
Stakeholders

HYBRID MEETING NORMS

Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies

HYBRID MEETING NORMS

1. Masking is recommended but not required (masks are available)
2. Social distancing – red = please keep safe distance, green = ask first
3. Raise your hand (actual or virtual) before speaking
4. Say your name and if you're a Committee member before speaking
5. 2-minute timer for public comments
6. Maintain a safe and respectful environment, even when disagreeing
7. Make and take space – consider your privilege and other voices who are in and not in the room
8. Minimize distractions like side conversations and cell phone use
9. Food and drink – please clean up and be mindful of smells and allergens

HYBRID MEETING NORMS

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

REVIEW & APPROVE MINUTES

Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies

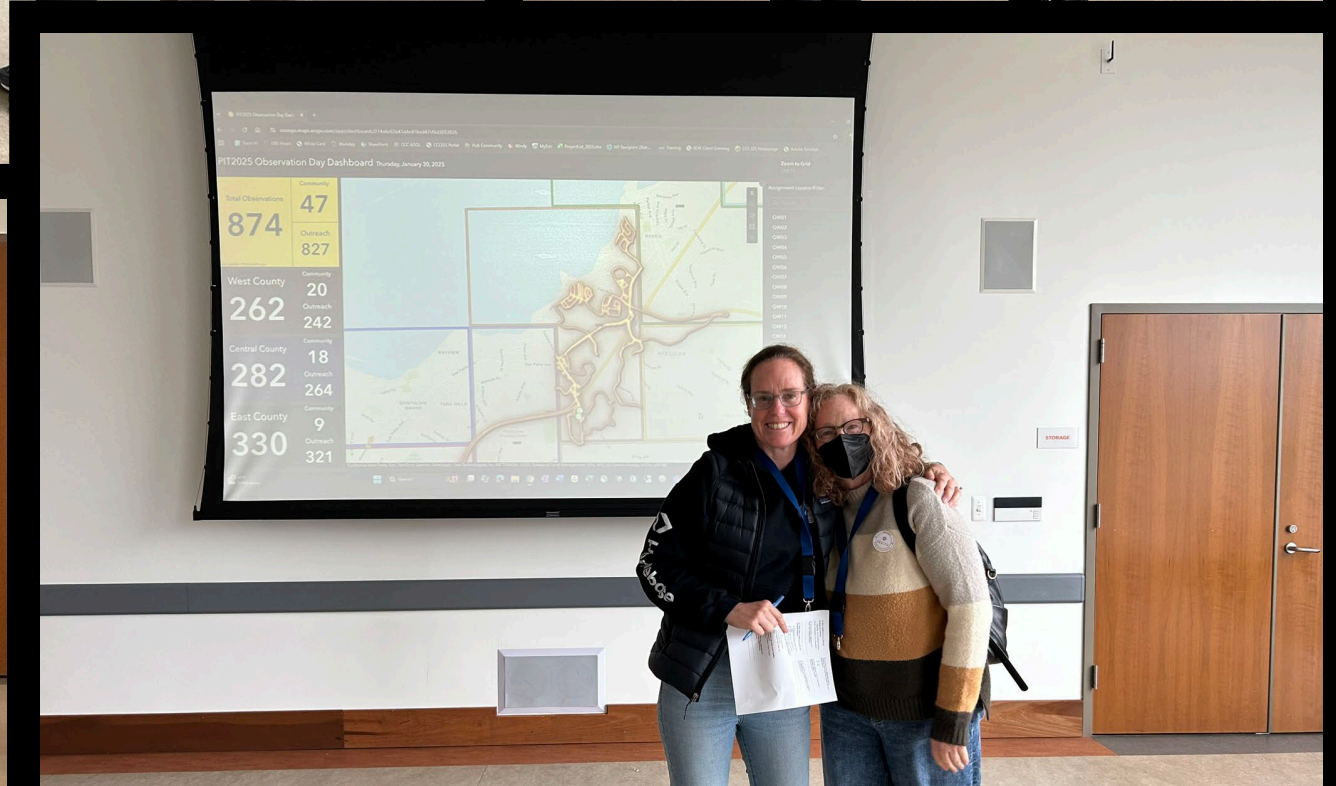
ACTION ITEM

- Approve minutes from the December 19, 2024, PATH Innovations Committee meeting.



POINT IN TIME COUNT UPDATE

Jamie Schechter, H3





THANK YOU!!!

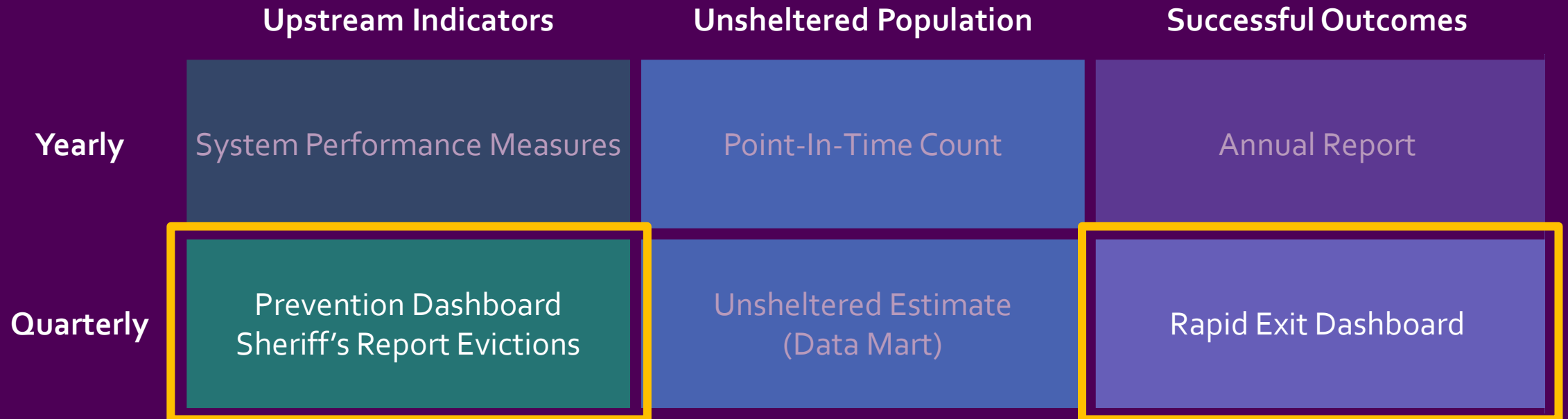
- SAN PABLO POLICE DEPARTMENT
 - CONTRA COSTA HEALTH
- BRENTWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT
- CONTRA COSTA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
 - OVER 150 VOLUNTEERS

Data coming Spring 2025 😊

UNSHELTERED DATA DASHBOARD

Jamie Schechter, H3

UNSHELTERED METRICS FRAMEWORK



Successful Exits from Prevention

Context:

- Prevention is a key strategy for reducing inflow into the homelessness response system
- Successful exits include temporary and permanent housing
- BACS is piloting a new model of Targeted Homelessness Prevention

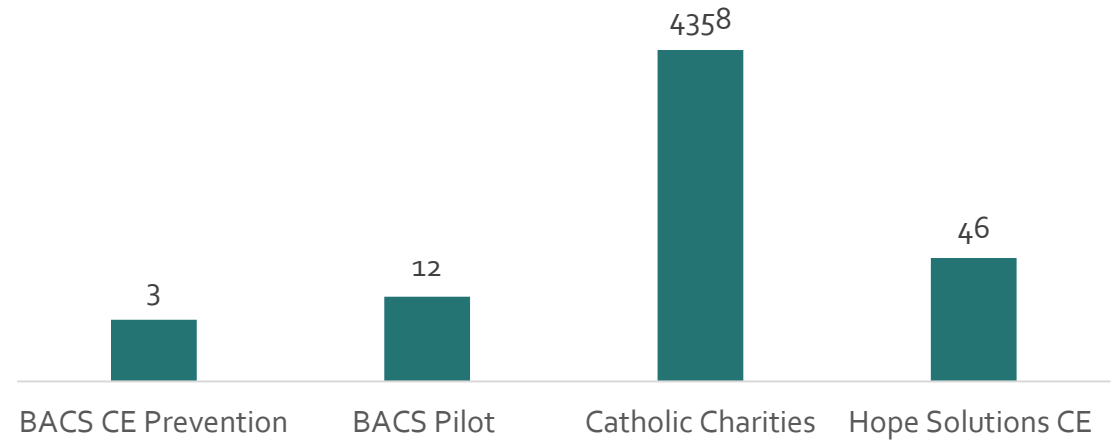
Data Source: Prevention/Rapid Exit Performance Dashboard

Successful Exits from Prevention



Percent of households exiting Prevention services, who exited to **temporary or permanent housing**

Total Prevention Exits by Program



Measure Timeframe: October 2024 – December 2024

Eviction Notices Served

Context:

- Eviction notices are an upstream indicator of inflow into homelessness
- Evictions (especially multiple evictions) put households at greater risk of homelessness

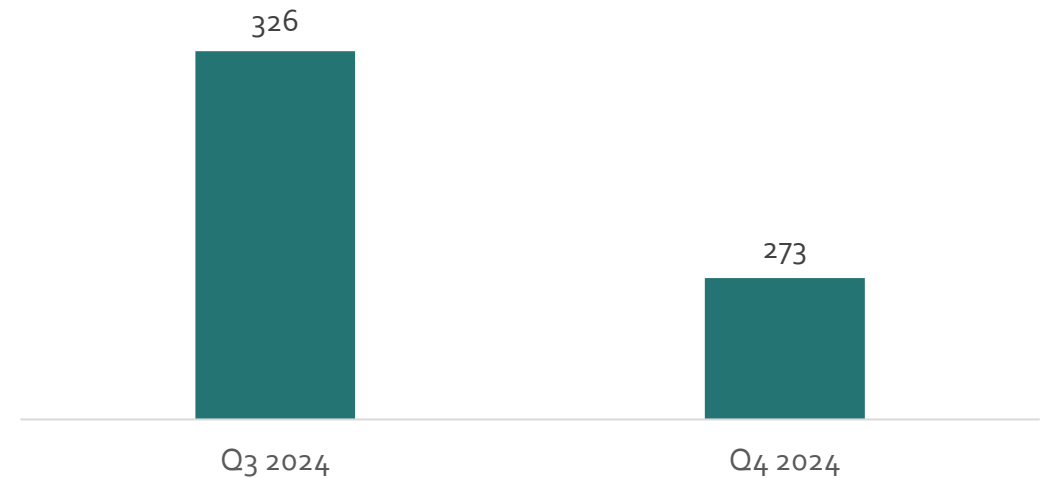
Data Source: [Quarterly Sheriff's Oversight Report](#)

Eviction Notices Served



Number of writs of possession of real property (eviction notices) served by the County Sheriff's Department in Q4 2024

Eviction Notices Served: July-December 2024



Measure Timeframe: October – December 2024

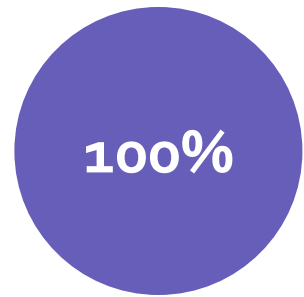
Successful Exits from Rapid Exit

Context:

- Rapid Exit is a key strategy for increasing outflow from the homelessness response system
- Increasing outflow allows more people to be served by system resources
- Hope Solutions is the only provider of Rapid Exit services

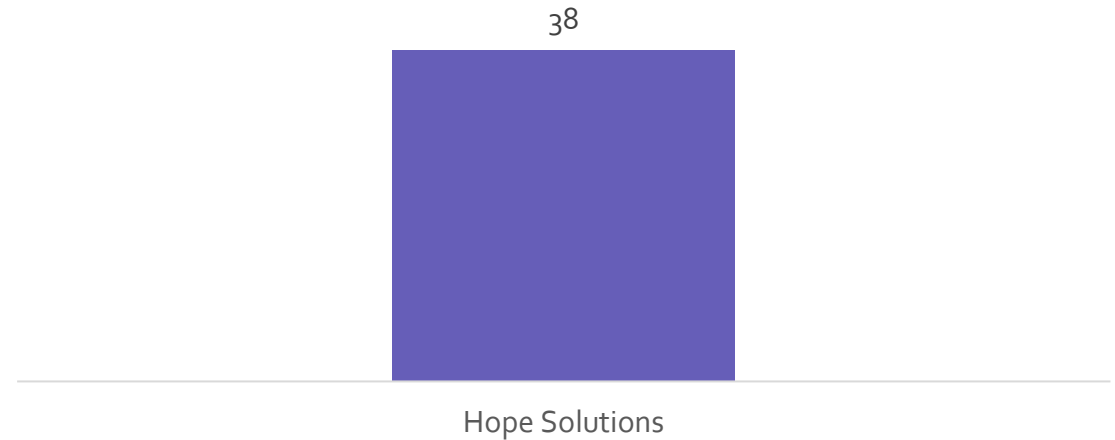
Data Source: Prevention/Rapid Exit Performance Dashboard

Successful Exits from Rapid Exit



Percent of households exiting Rapid Exit, who exited to **temporary or permanent housing**

Total Rapid Exits by Program



Measure Timeframe: October – December 2024

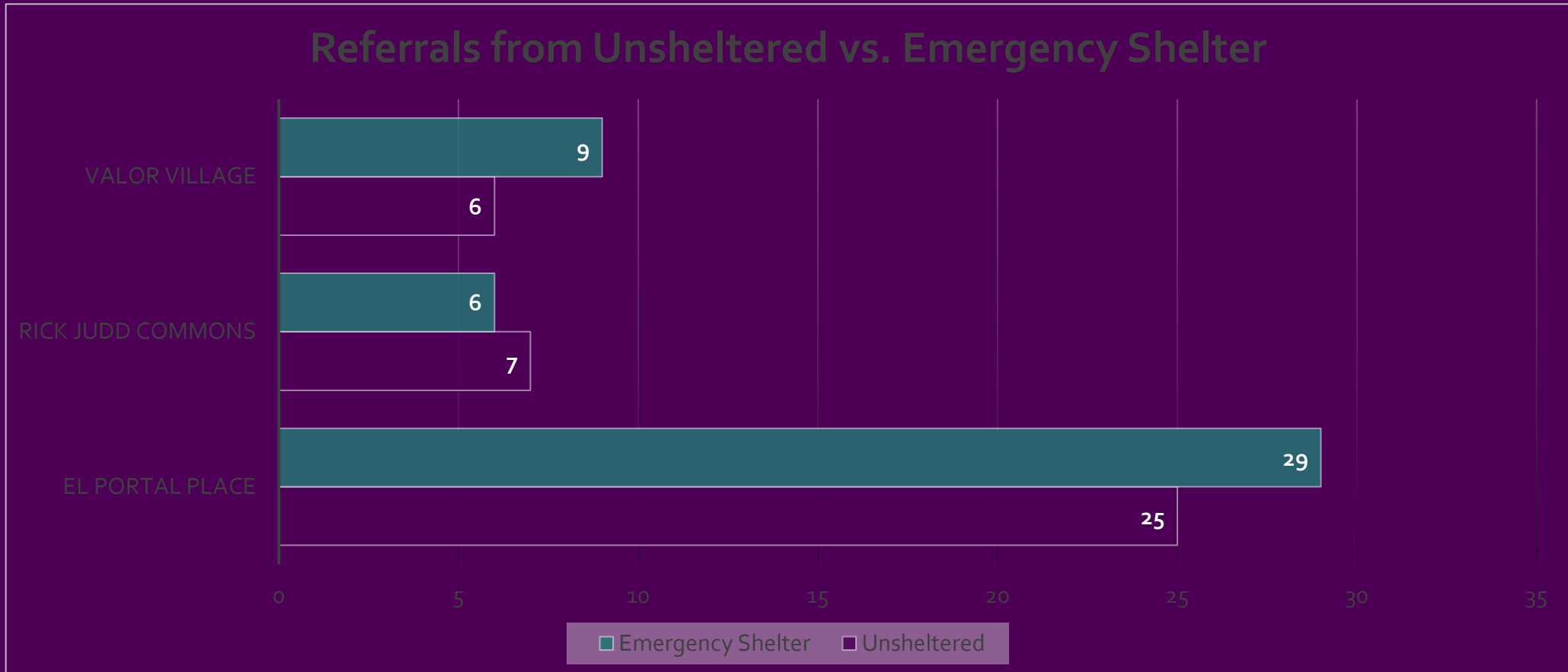
COORDINATED ENTRY
HIGHLIGHT:
PROGRAM REFERRALS
FROM UNSHELTERED
STATUS

Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, H3

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING REFERRALS FROM UNSHELTERED VS. EMERGENCY SHELTERS

PROGRAM	TOTAL REFERRALS	UNSHELTERED REFERRALS	EMERGENCY SHELTER REFERRALS
El Portal Place	54	25	29
Rick Judd Commons	13	7	6
Valor Village	15	6	9

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING REFERRALS FROM UNSHELTERED VS. EMERGENCY SHELTERS



STAKEHOLDER SPOTLIGHT:

NEXT STEP INTERIM HOUSING PROGRAM *HOUSING CONSORTIUM OF THE EAST BAY (HCEB)*

Darin Lounds, Executive Director, HCEB

Chaeanna Williams, Program Manager, HCEB

Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, Coordinated Entry Manager, CCH

HOUSING CONSORTIUM OF THE EAST BAY

HCEB provides homes, support/services for extremely low-income individuals with developmental disabilities, serious mental illness, other special needs, and histories of homelessness.

HCEB provides programs and services for the unhoused; resident service coordination; developing and operating permanent supportive housing and partnering with other developers to secure set-asides within larger rental communities.

Our services are grounded in individual-based practices, focused on individualized support and long-term stability and well-being.



NEXT STEP INTERIM HOUSING PROGRAM

Pilot Program

Partnership between Contra Costa Health (H3) & HCEB

Launched on January 1st

Currently Located at Motel site in Concord

Capacity of 38 Households (38 Rooms)

CaAIM Services also available; w/HCEB as CaAIM Provider

PROGRAM PURPOSE


Provide trauma-informed, safe interim housing for individuals experiencing literal homelessness.



Support rapid exit from homelessness by facilitating transition into permanent housing.



Create **flow** within the shelter system to **optimize resources** and support system-wide effectiveness



Year-round, Housing First, and no barriers to entry based on sobriety, treatment, or income.

ELIGIBLE POPULATION & PRIORITIZATION

Eligible Population:

- Participants must be literally homeless with an identified housing solution.

Prioritization:

- Open beds in bridge housing, funded through Contra Costa County Health, Housing, and Homeless Services, are filled via Coordinated Entry
- Priority is given to participants with an identified housing solution:
 - Emergency Shelter
 - CORE
 - CARE Centers
- Identified for Supportive Housing or other Permanent Housing opportunities through the Coordinated Entry System

PROGRAM ELEMENTS

Year-Round Operation

- Next Step program will operate year-round to support exits to permanent housing (i.e., not a “seasonal” program)

Housing Solution Focus

- The primary responsibility is to support a smooth transition into the housing solution or placement that has been identified for the referred participant, as their “Next Step” from a emergency shelter or unsheltered setting

Trauma-Informed, Housing-First Model

Length of Stay

- No Set length of stay, as it varies based on the housing solution identified
- Stays revisited / assessed every 30 days

INITIAL PROGRAM LAUNCH & IMPLEMENTATION



DURING MONTH OF JANUARY THROUGH PRESENT, PROGRAM REACHED FULL CAPACITY



REFERRALS CONSISTED OF PARTICIPANTS FROM SHELTER & CORE WHO ARE IN PROCESS OF MOVING INTO VARIOUS PSH PROGRAMS (EL PORTAL, RICK JUDD, VALOR VILLAGE, ACCESS, ETC), AND OTHER HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES



WEEKLY MEETINGS WITH H₃ & HCEB

PUBLIC COMMENT

Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies

Open period for public comment on items discussed or not listed on the agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEXT STEPS

Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- March 20, 2025 (Working Group Meeting)
- April 17, 2025 (Working Group Meeting)
- May 15, 2025 (Committee Meeting)



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-495

Agenda Date: 2/20/2025

Agenda #: 2.

Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Subject: **Review and Approval of Minutes**

Presenter:

Contact:

Information:

Review PATH Innovations Committee minutes from 12.19.25 Committee and 1.16.25 Work Group.

Referral History and Update:

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s): Approve both sets of minutes



PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Thursday, December 19th, 2024, 9:30 am – 10:30 am

RECORDING OF MEETING:

A recording is not available for this meeting.

Time	Agenda Item	Presenter/Facilitator
9:30	<u>Welcome and Introductions</u>	- <i>Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies</i>
	<u>Hybrid Meeting Norms</u>	- <i>Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies</i>
	<u>Review and Approval of Minutes</u>	- <i>Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies</i>
	<u>Public Comment</u> – Open Period for public comment on items discussed or not listed on the agenda.	- <i>Members of the public</i>
9:50	<u>Prevention Screening Tool</u> – Update on development process and timeline for new prevention tool	- <i>Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, H3</i>
9:55	<u>2025 Committee Workplan</u> – Review proposed 2025 Workplan	- <i>Jamie Schecter, H3</i>
10:15	<u>Action Item: 2025 Committee Workplan Approval</u> – Vote on whether to adopt the 2025 workplan as discussed in the meeting	- <i>Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies</i>
10:20	<u>Announcements</u>	- <i>All</i>
10:25	<u>Next Steps</u>	- <i>Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies</i>



PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Welcome and Introductions

Committee Members in Attendance: Juno Hedrick (virtual), Tony Ucciferri, Shawn Ray, Wayne Earl, Deanne Pearn

Staff and Consultants: Jamie Schecter (H3), Shelby Ferguson (H3), Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald (H3), Matt Lemon (FS), Claire Burrus (FS)

Additional Attendees: Wilanda Hughes, Karen McBride (BACS), Sarah Soto, Yessenia Aguilar (H3), Jo Bruno, Kristin Kane

Hybrid Meeting Norms

Matt Lemon described hybrid meetings norms including a recommendation to wear masks in person, practicing social distancing, raising your hand, saying your name before speaking and maintaining a safe and respectful environment. Individuals who behave in a manner that threatens the safety of the group or that does not honor meeting norms may be asked to leave

Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

2025 Committee Workplan (Note: This item was moved up on the agenda due to staff availability.)

Jamie Schecter reviewed the 2025 Committee workplan. She noted that the workplan outlines the Committee's activities for the year, clarifies connections between those activities and the Committee's objectives, and rolls up to a high-level workplan for the Council on Homelessness.

Jamie Schecter stated that the goals of workplan development include aligning the CoH Committees, maintaining flexibility to iterate, striving for impact, and strategically building on identified priorities. She noted that the strategies in the draft workplan include funding (e.g., implementing and monitoring ERF-funded programs), tools and processes (e.g., reviewing the Unsheltered Data Dashboard), and communication and coordination (e.g., working with stakeholders to explore models of landlord engagement).

Deanne Pearn recommended that any landlord engagement be performed following the development of standards for service providers. She noted that engagement with landlords will be more effective if they have learned to expect a consistent standard of treatment by and responsiveness from service providers.

Wayne Earl offered that different types of owner-renter arrangements will warrant different approaches. For example, someone renting a room will have a different relationship with the property owner than someone living in a large apartment complex. Deanne Pearn agreed and reiterated the need for consistency in engagement and follow up procedures in cases in which landlords need to get in touch



PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

with service providers, such as when rental payments need to be made by service providers on behalf of clients. Juno Hedrick agreed with the need to build a shared understanding.

Jamie Schecter led a discussion on the overall goal in the draft workplan for the Committee to monitor projects related to the countywide goal of reducing unsheltered homelessness in Contra Costa County by 75%.

Wayne Earl recommended the removal of the goal from the workplan, noting that there are no rewards for meeting the goal nor consequences for not meeting it. Juno Hedrick agreed, sharing that people with lived experience have expressed negative reactions when groups set goals that they know they will not meet. Wayne Earl stated that such goal setting undermines the credibility of the groups.

Tony Ucciferri stated that the goal in the workplan was drawn from state-level goals set by the Governor and was related to the Regional Action Plan. He noted that he understands the urge to remove the goal, especially given that the community is far from meeting it, but also stated that removing the goal may send a message that the group is not being a player in the Regional Action Plan.

Shawn Ray suggested grounding the goal with something concrete. Wayne Earl recommended restructuring the goal to state that it is in support of the Regional Action Plan. Jamie Schecter changed the language of the goal to include alignment with the Regional Action Plan.

Jamie Schecter walked through the annual priorities in the 2025 Committee workplan including reducing unsheltered homelessness, targeting prevention and Rapid Exit resources, and monitoring encampment interventions, shelter flow, and the development of new housing opportunities.

Wayne Earl noted the importance of shelter in offering safety and reducing the trauma of homelessness as housing options are pursued. He noted the lack of sufficient shelter coverage for the local population experiencing homelessness.

Deanne Pearn emphasized the need for increased permanent housing and prevention capacity along with increased shelter capacity in alignment with the 1-2-4 framework outlined in the Regional Action Plan. This framework recommends two permanent housing solutions and four prevention solutions for each shelter bed in the system. Deanne suggested that the PATH Committee focus on shelter and prevention solutions. Wayne Earl agreed. Jamie Schecter edited the fourth priority in the workplan to incorporate this idea.

Tony Ucciferri inquired as to whether addressing substance use in the unsheltered population might be considered as a priority in the workplan. Jamie Schecter recommended pursuing stakeholder engagement with providers that work in behavioral health with the population experiencing homelessness.

Jamie Schecter reviewed the audience section of the workplan. No changes were recommended by the group.



PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Jamie Schechter reviewed each quarter's goals and activities for the Committee and working groups as outlined in the draft workplan. Juno Hedrick recommended building stronger partnerships between the PATH Committee and other groups that members of the Committee are also a part of. Jamie Schechter recommended a discussion on which entities the Committee is interested in engaging with throughout the year in the first meeting of 2025.

Wayne Earl expressed interest in building partnerships with the education system. He noted that homelessness is defined differently in school districts than it is in the homelessness sector, and expressed concerns that there is a portion of the homelessness crisis that the Committee does not have information on. Shelby Ferguson recommended requesting one or more presentations from the community's education outreach teams.

Jamie Schechter stated that there will be additional opportunities to adjust the workplan in the future.

Action Item: 2025 Committee Workplan Approval (Note: This item was moved up on the agenda due to staff availability.)

Tony Ucciferri made a motion to approve the workplan as discussed in this meeting. Deanne Pearn seconded the motion. Wayne Earl asked if someone would present the workplan at the Council on Homelessness meeting in January 2025. Juno Hedrick expressed interest in presenting to the Council and requested time to review the workplan in advance with H3 staff.

The motion passed unanimously.

Review and Approval of Minutes

Wayne Earl made a motion to approve the minutes from February 15, 2024. Deanne Pearn seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed with three votes in favor and zero votes against. Shawn Ray and Tony Ucciferri abstained.

Prevention Screening Tool

Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald shared that the prevention screening tool was originally planned to roll out this month but will be pushed back to the end of January due to a delay in integrating the tool into HMIS. Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald stated that H3 will reach back out to Community Solutions for support in January.

Announcements

Jo Bruno shared that she has been asked by HomeBase to be a panelist with lived experience on a panel discussion on the intersection of homelessness and behavioral health in February 2025.

Next Steps

Matt Lemon stated that the next scheduled meetings are a Working Group meeting on January 16, 2025, a Committee meeting on February 20, 2025, and a Working Group meeting on March 20, 2025.



PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

The meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m.



PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

DATE:

Thursday, January 16th, 2025, 9:30 am – 11:00 am

RECORDING OF MEETING:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/PXuSWMBFfA1aRNlrXzuzWXWijNTI--5gnEj8Mxlry-1ayl-mmgL-YVpVITVr67ao.jDa8B492SKckk8IF?startTime=1737048606000>

PASSCODE:

wq83Jd!d

Time	Agenda Item	Presenter/Facilitator
9:30	<u>Welcome and Introductions</u>	- <i>Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies</i>
	<u>Working Group Meeting Norms</u>	- <i>Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies</i>
9:45	<u>2025 Workplan Review</u> – Overview of 2025 Committee Workplan	- <i>Jamie Schechter, H3</i>
9:55	<u>Review of Program Models</u> – Overview of shelter, rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, and voucher programs	- <i>Shelby Ferguson, H3</i>
10:30	<u>Monitoring and Engagement Opportunities</u> – Discussion of topics and groups that the Committee would like to engage with during the year	- <i>Jamie Schechter, H3</i>
10:50	<u>Announcements</u>	- <i>All</i>
10:55	<u>Next Steps</u>	- <i>Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies</i>



PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Welcome and Introductions

Committee Members in Attendance: Tony Ucciferri, Juno Hedrick, Shawn Ray

Staff and Consultants: Jamie Schecter (H3), Shelby Ferguson (H3), Janel Fletcher (H3), Matt Lemon (Focus Strategies), Claire Burrus (Focus Strategies)

Additional Attendees: Gerry La Londe-Berg (Richmond Commission on Aging Appointee), Wendy Fabian (Field Representative for Assemblymember Lori Wilson), Jill Ray (Office of Supervisor Candace Andersen), Evon Ufland, Brianna Ramos, Cheryl Sudduth, Hope Dixon

Meeting Norms

Matt Lemon described norms for virtual meetings including raising your hand (virtually), saying your name before speaking, and maintaining a safe and respectful environment. Individuals who behave in a manner that threatens safety or does not align with norms may be asked to leave.

2025 Workplan Review

Jamie Schecter reviewed the 2025 PATH Committee Workplan, which was approved by the Council on Homelessness on January 9th, 2025. Strategies in the workplan include funding, tools and processes, and communication and coordination with other groups. The goal of the committee as outlined in the workplan is to monitor projects related to the countywide goal of reducing unsheltered homelessness in Contra Costa County in alignment with the Regional Action Plan.

Jamie Schecter provided a detailed review of the annual priorities and quarterly goals and activities outlined in the 2025 PATH Committee Workplan. Annual priorities include reducing unsheltered homelessness, targeting prevention and rapid exit resources to overrepresented groups, and monitoring encampment intervention services, shelter flow and capacity and the development of new housing opportunities.

Gerry La Londe-Berg inquired about the availability of data regarding the housing inventory in the community. Jamie Schecter directed group members to reports available on the H3 website for more information and indicated that much of the information about housing inventory and the number of people housed over time is available on an annual basis.

Review of Program Models

Shelby Ferguson presented a review of the program models for programs available in the Contra Costa County Continuum of Care. These program models were adopted by the Council on Homelessness in July 2022 and cover seven interventions utilized to address homelessness locally: Homelessness prevention, Rapid Exit, CARE Centers, Outreach, Shelter, Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing.



PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Shelby Ferguson provided an overview of the homelessness prevention program model, which is a strategy utilized to keep people from experiencing literal homelessness for the first time or from returning to homelessness after being permanently housed. This program type includes housing problem solving and financial assistance services and is available through 2-1-1 referral. Households eligible for this program type include those who meet the HUD definition of “at risk” for homelessness, unless the funding source for the program allows for more flexibility. Shelby specified that the decision to expand homelessness prevention eligibility to a wider pool of applicants based on funding source flexibility was made by the PATH Committee.

Shelby Ferguson detailed the Rapid Exit program model, which is similar to homelessness prevention but is intended to resolve homelessness for people who are experiencing literal homelessness as opposed to preventing literal homelessness from occurring. Shelby noted that Rapid Exit eligibility is limited to literally homeless households who have a housing solution identified. Referrals to Rapid Exit occur through CORE, CARE Centers and shelters. Services include trauma-informed housing problem solving and financial assistance.

Shelby Ferguson outlined the program model for CARE Centers in the community. CARE Centers serve as Coordinated Entry access points for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness and provide basic needs services such as meals, showers, laundry and housing-focused case management. Although the primary target population is people who are unsheltered, people who are precariously housed also access basic needs services at CARE Centers. Referrals can occur through 2-1-1, CORE or through self-referral.

Shelby Ferguson provided an overview of the outreach program model in the Contra Costa County Continuum of Care. Similarly to CARE Centers, outreach programs serve as Coordinated Entry access points for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness and can support these individuals in meeting their basic needs. Eligibility for outreach services is limited to people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, however, and can only be accessed through CORE dispatch, which occurs through 2-1-1. Services offered through outreach programs include the provision of supplies such as blankets and tents, and housing problem solving services.

Shelby Ferguson detailed the shelter program model, through which trauma-informed, safe interim housing is provided for people experiencing literal homelessness. The shelter program model also includes housing focused case management, two meals per day and prohibits the implementation of any length of stay criteria. In Contra Costa County, priority for shelter access is given to families, seniors (ages 62 and above) and people living with multiple disabling conditions. Shelter referrals primarily occur through Coordinated Entry, however some shelters in the system allow for self-referrals.

Shelby Ferguson outlined the program model for Rapid Rehousing programs in the community. Rapid Rehousing is intended to permanently house people experiencing literal homelessness through housing location, move-in assistance, trauma-informed supportive services, and medium-term housing subsidies that taper over time. Rapid Rehousing programs are required to utilize the Housing First model,



PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

incorporate the Critical Time Intervention approach into case management, support clients with securing income and the housing location search process, and conduct follow up assessments with clients to track their progress throughout program enrollment. Referrals to Rapid Rehousing occur through the Coordinated Entry system and are designated for clients on the community queue.

Gerry La Londe-Berg inquired about the availability of housing support options for people on fixed incomes. Gerry emphasized the need for long term assistance for people unable to increase their income in the community. Shelby Ferguson offered that Section 8 vouchers can be utilized long-term, and Rapid Rehousing programs often find creative solutions to house people on fixed incomes such as shared housing options.

Shelby Ferguson provided an overview of the Permanent Supportive Housing program model. Permanent Supportive Housing programs are intended to permanently house the most vulnerable people in the community with permanent rental subsidies and supportive services. Eligibility for Permanent Supportive Housing is limited to chronically homeless individuals and families with documented permanent disabling conditions. Permanent Supportive Housing programs are required to follow the Housing First model, offer supportive services available to clients on a voluntary basis, ensure that participants pay no more than 30% of their income towards rent, and offer housing location services as applicable. Referrals to Permanent Supportive Housing programs occur through the Coordinated Entry system and are designated for clients on the community queue.

Wendy Fabian asked whether there is baseline data available regarding the geographic origin of people experiencing homelessness in Contra Costa County. Jamie Schecter shared that there is some data on this topic available on the data webpage of the H3 website, including where people lost their housing.

Monitoring and Engagement Opportunities

Jamie Schecter noted the presence of stakeholder engagement in the 2025 PATH Committee Workplan. She indicated that these stakeholder engagements offer an opportunity to collect “on the ground” information about the programs operating in the community. Jamie shared that in 2024, the PATH Committee heard presentations from H3, 2-1-1, the Equity Committee, the Community Advisory Board, Bay Area Community Services (BACS), the RYSE Center, and CORE. The topics covered in these presentations included encampment resolution, coordinated prevention, re-entry, and direct cash transfer programs.

Jamie Schecter asked working group meeting attendees to share which groups, if any, they would be interested in inviting to present to the PATH Committee in 2025. Jamie also asked if there are any topics beyond those detailed in the 2025 PATH Committee Workplan that the group would like to have covered in stakeholder presentations to the committee in 2025. Topics included in the workplan include prevention, rapid exit, shelter, housing and other community approaches.



PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Juno Hedrick recommended that the Youth Advisory Board be invited to provide a presentation to the PATH Committee in 2025.

Gerry La Londe-Berg recommended that the UCSF Bennioff Group and the Turner Center be invited to give stakeholder presentations. Gerry shared that the Turner Center might be able to present on shared housing or social housing models. Gerry also recommended that the group reach out to immigrant support organizations.

Hope Dixon recommended that the Committee invite groups offering services to K-12 students experiencing homelessness to present to the committee. Brianna Ramos asked whether any local organizations offer shared living housing options for families. Hope Dixon offered that Bay Area Rescue has recently established a section of their shelter for families with children that the group might be interested in reaching out to.

Shawn Ray expressed interest in hearing presentations from CORE and from providers involved in providing treatment to people with substance abuse issues through Proposition 36. Juno Hedrick also expressed interest in learning more about behavioral health and mental health services in the community.

Jill Ray recommended that the committee invite navigators funded by Measure X to present to the committee. Jill offered to connect with Jamie Schecter following the working group meeting to provide contact information for this group of navigators.

Announcements

Jamie Schecter reminded the group that the Point in Time Count will be occurring on January 30, 2025, in Contra Costa County. Jamie noted that this will be an observational count of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Jamie shared that the last training that would be offered for the upcoming Point in Time Count would be taking place on January 17, 2025. She clarified that attending training is required for participation in the Point in Time Count.

There were no other announcements offered.

Next Steps

Matt Lemon stated that the next PATH meeting will be a committee meeting on February 20, 2025. In addition, working group meetings are scheduled for March 20, 2025, and April 17, 2025.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:22 am.