AGENDA

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Thursday, February 6, 2025	**1:00 PM**	**Location: In person: 1025 Escobar St., Martinez Virtual: https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZclf-uspzovGdR7op72t5-X4nsGdqdpvL-X#/registration**

General Meeting

Agenda and slide deck for 2.6.25 meeting **25-419**

Attachments: COH Agenda w Time 2.6.25
COH Slides 2.6.25
Q4-2024 Report

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

Wayne Earl, Chair

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

Wayne Earl, Chair

3.   Consent Calendar (ACTION ITEM) – a) APPROVE minutes from the January 9, **25-420** 2025 Council meeting   b) APPROVE staff report for the February 6, 2025 Council meeting

Attachments: COH Minutes 1.9.25
COH Staff Report 2.6.25

Wayne Earl, Chair

4.   Committee Report Outs: Youth Advisory Board Update

Caroline Miller, H3 and Juno Hedrick, Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor

5.   Old Business: Update: Coordinated Entry Housing Needs Assessment Project

Mary Juarez Fitzgerald, H3

6.   Old Business: Update: 2025 Point-In-Time Count

Yessenia Aguilar, H3

7.   Old Business: Update: 2024 Quarter 4 report to Family and Human Services   **25-422**
Committee of the Board of Supervisors

     Attachments: Q4-2024 Report

Jaime Jenett, H3

8.   Old Business: Funding Updates

Jamie Schecter and Christy Saxton, H3

9.   New Business: APPROVE 2025 Council on Homelessness Chair and Vice Chair(ACTION ITEM)

Jaime Jenett, H3

10.   New Business:APPROVE 2025 Council on Homelessness Committee and Work   **25-421**
Group Members (ACTION ITEM)

     Attachments: 2025 CoH Committees Overview

Jaime Jenett, H3

11.   New Business: Update: CoC Monitoring

Michele Byrnes, Homebase

The next meeting is currently scheduled for March 6, 2025

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 (Suite 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 or call 925-608-6700

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Staff Report

File #: 25-419   **Agenda Date:** 2/6/2025   **Agenda #:**

Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness
Subject: Agenda and Slide deck for 2.6.25 meeting
Presenter: N/A
Contact: N/A

Information: N/A

Referral History and Update: N/A

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s): N/A

CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

AGENDA

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2025, 1 PM – 3 PM
@ 1025 ESCOBAR STREET (ROOM 110A), MARTINEZ, CA 94533

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

MEETING PURPOSE:

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

PUBLIC ACCESS AND PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS:

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

HOW TO JOIN THE MEETING VIA ZOOM:

Link to register: https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZclf-uspzovGdR7op72t5-X4nsGdqdpvL-X
How to Join the Meeting Via Call-In: 1-669-444-9171 / Meeting ID: 838 8249 1530

TIME	AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER
1:00	1. **Call to Order -** Chair starts the meeting	Wayne Earl, *Chair and Faith Community Representative*

1:00 *15 min*	2. **Introductions**
	  a. Hybrid Meeting Norms (1 min)
	  b. Roll call of Councilmembers and introduction of guests (11 min)
	  c. Poll – Who's in the room? (3 min)
		Wayne Earl, *Chair and Faith Community Representative*

1:15 *5 min*	3. **Public Comment** - Open period for members of the public to comment on items not listed on the agenda.	Members of the public

1:20 *5 min*	4. **Consent Calendar (ACTION ITEM)** – Items on the consent calendar are generally non-controversial and may not require discussion. Approving the Consent Calendar means approving the items below in one vote. Council members and the public can remove an item from the consent calendar for discussion by informing the Chair.
	  a. APPROVE minutes from the January 9, 2025 Council meeting
	  b. APPROVE staff report for the February 6, 2025 Council meeting
		Wayne Earl, *Chair and Faith Community Representative*

1:25 *10 min*	5. **Committee Report Outs -** Report outs from each of the committees below. a. Youth Advisory Board (YAB) Update (10 min)	a. Caroline Miller, *H3* and Juno Hedrick, *Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor*
1:35 *40 min*	6. **Old Business** a. Update: Coordinated Entry Housing Needs Assessment Project (15 min)	a. Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, *H3* b. Yessenia Aguilar, *H3*

	b. Update: 2025 Point-In-Time Count (5 min) c. Update: Recommendations for the 2024 Quarter 4 report to Family and Human Services Committee of the Board of Supervisors (10 min) d. Funding Updates (10 min)	c. Jaime Jenett, *H3* d. Jamie Schecter and Christy Saxton, *H3*
2:15 *30 min*	7. <u>**New Business**</u> a. (**ACTION ITEM**) Select 2025 Council on Homelessness Chair and Vice Chair (10 min) b. (**ACTION ITEM**) Select 2025 Council on Homelessness Committee and Work Group Members (10 min) c. Update: CoC Monitoring (10 min)	a. Jaime Jenett, *H3* b. Jaime Jenett, *H3* c. Michele Byrnes, *Homebase*
2:45 *5 min*	8. <u>**Announcements**</u> – Open for all to share announcements about upcoming events and to give brief reports about recent events/trainings relevant to the Council.	All
2:50	9. <u>**Pin It**</u>	Wayne Earl, *Chair and Faith Community Representative*

HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:
Persons who wish to address the Council on Homelessness during public comment on matters
within the jurisdiction of the Council on Homelessness that are not on the agenda, or who wish to
comment with respect to an item on the agenda, may comment in person, via Zoom, or via call-in. Those
participating in person should stand where they are sitting when called upon. Those
participating via Zoom should indicate they wish to speak by using the "raise your hand" feature in the Zoom app.
Those calling in should indicate they wish to speak by pushing "9" on the phone. All public comments will be
limited to 2 minutes per speaker. For assistance with remote access contact: contracostacoc@cchealth.org or call
925-608-6700. Public comments may also be submitted before the meeting by email at
contracostacoc@cchealth.org or by voicemail at 925-608-6700. Comments submitted by email or voicemail will
be included in the record of the meeting but will not be read or played aloud during the meeting.

CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
APR	Annual Performance Report (for HUD homeless programs)
CARE	Coordinated Assessment and Resource
CCYCS	Contra Costa Youth Continuum of Services
CDBG, CDBG-CV	Community Development Block Grant (federal and state programs) and the federal Community Development Block Grant CARES Act coronavirus allocation.
CESH	California Emergency Solutions and Housing program (state funding)
Continuum of Care (CoC)	Continuum of Care approach to assistance to the homeless. Federal grant program promoting and funding permanent solutions to homelessness.
Con Plan	Consolidated Plan, a locally developed plan for housing assistance and urban development under CDBG.
CORE	Coordinated Outreach Referral, Engagement program
COVID-19	Coronavirus
DOC	Department Operations Center
EHSD	(Contra Costa County) Employment and Human Services Division
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
ESG and ESG-CV	Emergency Solutions Grant (federal and state program) and the federal Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act coronavirus allocation.
ESG-CV	Emergency Solutions Grant CARES
FMR	Fair Market Rent (maximum rent for Section 8 rental assistance/CoC grants)
HCD	Housing and Community Development (State office)
HEAP	Homeless Emergency Aid Program (State funding)
HEARTH	Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009
HHAP	Homeless Housing and Assistance Program
HMIS	Homeless Management Information System
HOME	Home Investment Partnerships (CPD program)
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (federal)
MHSA	Mental Health Services Act
NOFA	Notice of Funding Availability
PHA	Public Housing Authority
PUI	Persons Under Investigation
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration
SRO	Single-Room Occupancy housing units
SSDI	Social Security Disability Income
SSI	Supplemental Security Income
TA	Technical Assistance
TAY	Transition Age Youth (usually ages 16-24)
VA	Veterans Affairs (U.S. Department of)
VASH	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing
VI-SPDAT	Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool

EQUITY DEFINITIONS

(adapted from C4 Innovations and approved by Council on Homelessness on 8/3/23)

Term	Definition
Individual Racism	A person's beliefs and actions that serve to perpetuate racial oppression. This can be conscious and unconscious. This may be externalized or internalized
Institutional Racism	Policies and practices at the organization (or "sector") level that perpetuate oppression. It involves unjust policies, practices, procedures, and outcomes that work better for white people than people of color, whether intentional or not.
Interpersonal Racism	The interactions between people - both within and across racial groups.
Microaggressions	Brief, everyday exchanges that send denigrating messages to certain individuals because of their group membership.
Race	A social construct created in the 17th century by white Europeans to justify the enslavement of Africans and the spread of colonialism. Understanding of race as a concept has changed over time, but the outcomes of discrimination based on race remain entrenched in our systems.
Race Equity Lens	A way of viewing the world in an integrated and holistic manner, taking into account past and present racial injustices and seeking to address them through more equitable practices and structures.
Racial Bias	Implicit and/or explicit bias that reinforces discriminatory attitudes and behaviors when interacting with people or situations.
Racial Equity	The condition where one's racial identity does not predict their social, health, or economic outcomes. Racial equity is a process of eliminating racial disparities and improving outcomes for everyone. It is the intentional and continual practice of changing practices, systems, and structures by prioritizing the measurable change in the lives of people of color.
Racism	A system of institutional, systemic oppression, and practices of individuals and society that shape cultural beliefs and values that support racist policies and practices.
Structural Racism	How these effects interact and accumulate across institutions and across history. Structural racism highlights how racism operates as a system of power with multiple interconnected, reinforcing, and self-perpetuating components which result in racial inequities across all indicators for success.
Systemic Racism	infrastructure of rulings, ordinances or statutes adopted by a sovereign government or authoritative entity, whereas such ordinances and statutes entitles one racial group in a society certain rights and privileges, while denying other groups in that society these same rights and privileges because of long-established cultural prejudices, religious prejudices, fears, myths, and Xenophobia's held by the entitled group.
White Fragility	White fragility refers to feelings of discomfort a white person experiences when they witness or engage in discussions around racial inequality and injustice. Their engagement in conversations about racism may trigger a range of defensive actions, feelings, and behaviors, such as anger, fear, and silence. These reactive behaviors reinforce continued white dominant culture.

COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

February 6, 2024 from 1:00-3:00

WELCOME

Wayne Earl, *Chair & Faith Community Representative*

Purpose of the Meeting*: These are monthly meetings for the Council on Homelessness (COH) to conduct the business of the Council. The Council is the planning body that coordinates the community's policies, strategies, and activities toward preventing and ending homelessness in Contra Costa County.*

PUBLIC COMMENT

Wayne Earl, *Chair & Faith Community Representative*

IN-PERSON / HYBRID MEETING

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

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Just Cause

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

Emergency Circumstances

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

VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE EXEMPTION

HYBRID MEETING NORMS

Wayne Earl, *Chair & Faith Community Representative*

HYBRID MEETING NORMS

1. <u>Raise your hand</u> (actual or virtual) before speaking

2. <u>Say your name</u> before speaking and try to <u>speak as clearly</u> as you can

3. <u>2-minute timer</u> for public comments

4. <u>Make and take space</u> – consider your privilege and the other voices who are in and not in the room

5. <u>Minimize distractions</u> like side conversations and cell phone use

6. Maintain a <u>safe and respectful</u> environment, even when disagreeing

7. If in-person meeting is <u>interrupted for an emergency</u>, the meeting will be suspended or cancelled, case-by-case basis.

HYBRID MEETING NORMS

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

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Wayne Earl, *Chair & Faith Community Representative*

INTRODUCTIONS

Council Members: Please unmute and share your name, pronouns, seat, and agency (if applicable)

Community Members: Please introduce yourself in the chat.

Purpose of the Meeting: These are monthly meetings for the Council on Homelessness (COH) to conduct the business of the Council. The Council is the planning body that coordinates the community's policies, strategies, and activities toward preventing and ending homelessness in Contra Costa County.

POLL – WHO'S IN THE ROOM?

Wayne Earl, *Chair & Faith Community Representative*

POLL – WHO'S IN THE ROOM?

1) How many Council on Homelessness meetings have you attended?

2) Do you have lived experience of homelessness?

3) What best describes your racial identity?

CONSENT CALENDAR

Wayne Earl, *Chair & Faith Community Representative*

CONSENT CALENDAR

- Items on the consent calendar are **generally non-controversial and do not require much, if any, discussion**

- Enables grouping such items together and **deciding on them at one time**

- Council members and the public can **remove an item** from the consent calendar if they **desire to discuss the item by <u>informing the Chair</u>**

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

ACTION ITEM

Approve the **consent calendar** items as listed:
- Approve minutes from the January 9, 2025 Council Meeting
- Approve staff report for the February 6, 2025 Council Meeting

1. Member makes a motion	2. Second (every motion requires a second)	3. Discussion	4. Vote: Motion passes

COMMITTEE REPORT OUTS

Youth Advisory Board – Caroline Miller, H3 & Juno Hedrick, *Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor*

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

Caroline Miller, *H3* & Juno Hedrick, *Lived Experience Advisor and Vice Chair*

OLD BUSINESS

Update: Coordinated Entry Housing Needs Assessment Project – Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, *H3*

Update: 2025 Point-In-Time Count – Yessenia Aguilar, *H3*

Update: Recommendations for the 2024 Quarter 4 report to Family and Human Services Committee of the Board of Supervisors – Jaime Jenett, *H3*

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

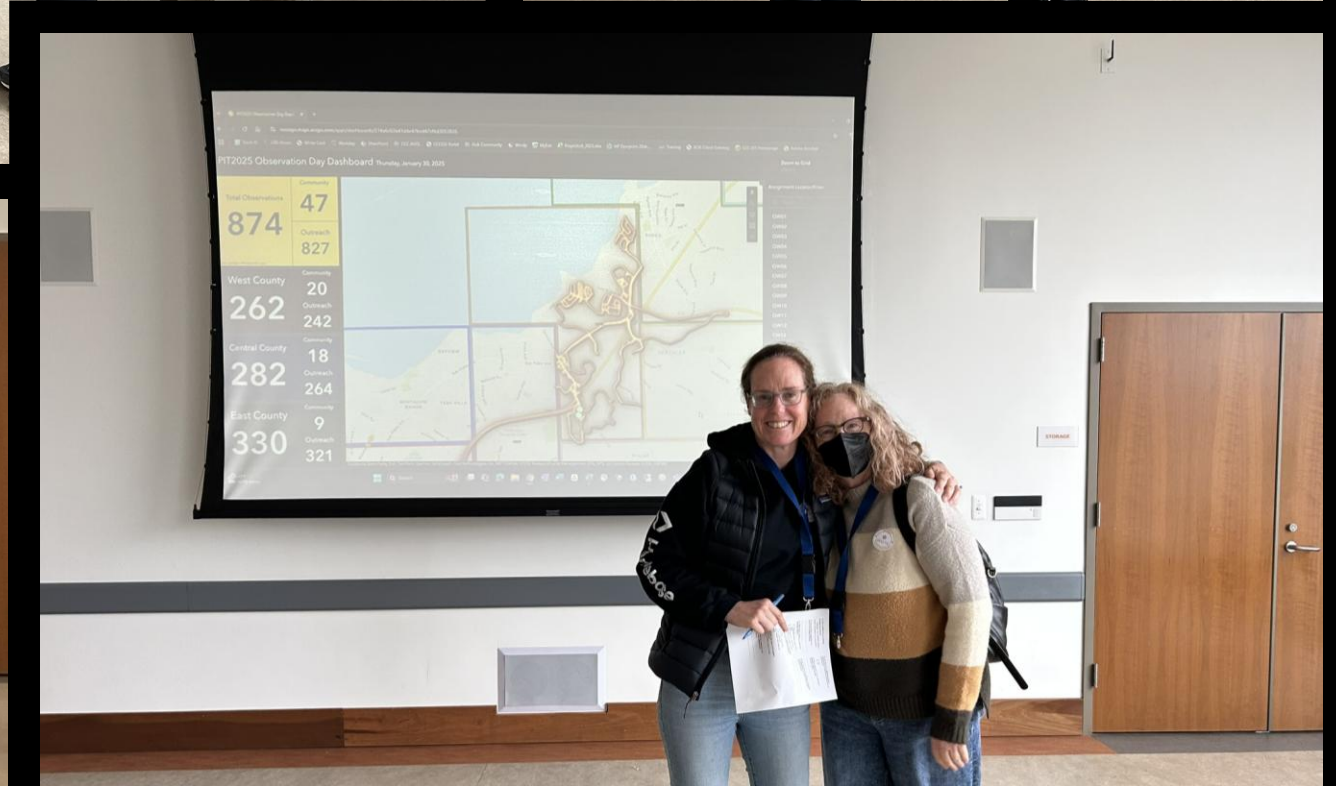# UPDATE: COORDINATED ENTRY HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT PROJECT

Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, *H3*

PLACEHOLDER

- Placeholder

UPDATE: 2025 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT

Yessenia Aguilar, *H3*

UPDATE: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2024 QUARTER 4 REPORT TO FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Jaime Jenett, *H3*

RECOMMENDATION

- *In alignment with the California State Association of Counties, support ongoing funding for the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program and other critical safety net services that support people experiencing homelessness in Contra Costa County.*

FUNDING UPDATES

Jamie Schecter, *H3*
Christy Saxton, *H3*

FUNDING UPDATES – HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS SERVICES RFP

~20 applications received

Capacity Building Interviews

RFP Panel training

Panelist scoring and debrief

FUNDING UPDATES - HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS SERVICES RFP

Next Steps –

- Finalize funding recommendations

- Communicate with applicants

- Present recommendations to the Family and Human Services, March 10th

- Sign up for Funding Opportunity updates through the [CoC Newsletter](#)

FUNDING UPDATES – FEDERAL FUNDING

- The Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued OMB Memorandum M-25-13 on January 27, 2025, ordering a temporary pause all activities related to obligation or disbursement of all Federal financial assistance
    - The list of programs impacted included all Continuum of Care programs, Emergency Solutions Grants, and many other programs supporting housing and homeless services
- On January 28, 2025, OMB issued OMB Memorandum M-25-14 rescinding this pause
- The CoC recommends any service provider with federal grants completes timely, regular billing to minimize impact of possible future orders.

FUNDING UPDATES – COC FUNDING

- On January 17th, HUD published the first round of FY 2024 Continuum of Care (CoC) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) awards

- Contra Costa was awarded funding for all renewal projects, 1 new project through Domestic Violence Bonus funding, and its CoC Planning Grant.

- Contra Costa was awarded a total of $22,336,034, which increases CoC funding by over $3 million from FY2023 $19,300,140 award.

- HUD anticipates a second announcement of CoC awards, but uncertain what those awards will contain.

FUNDING UPDATES – YOUTH HOMELESSNESS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT FUNDING

- On January 14th, HUD published Youth Homeless Demonstration Project (YHDP) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

- As of January 27th, this NOFO is no longer available on grants.gov and it is unclear when it will be republished

FUNDING UPDATES – NEXT STEP INTERIM HOUSING

- H3 working with Housing Consortium of the East Bay to provide additional interim housing capacity for participants with identified housing opportunities

- Goal is to increase flow from shelters and stability for participants exiting unsheltered homelessness to permanent housing

- 21 people enrolled as of 1/29/2025

- Anticipated maximum capacity increasing to 38 units by end of February 2025

NEW BUSINESS

Select 2025 Council on Homelessness Chair and Vice Chair (ACTION ITEM) – Jaime Jenett, *H3*

Select 2025 Council on Homelessness Committee and Work Group Members (ACTION ITEM) – Jaime Jenett, *H3*

Update: CoC Monitoring – Michelle Byrnes, *Homebase*

SELECT 2025 COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR (ACTION ITEM)

Jaime Jenett, *H3*

CHAIR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provides **general oversight** for the CoH

- **Presides over CoH meetings**

- Participates in a **monthly CoH planning call** with H3 and Homebase

- **Represents the CoH** in community-facing efforts as needed:
  - Presents the quarterly CoH report to the Family and Human Services Committee; writes an introductory message for this report
  - Presents the Homelessness Awareness Month toolkit at the Board of Supervisors meeting in November; writes an introductory message for the toolkit
  - Reviews and approves CoC applications for funding

VICE-CHAIR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provides oversight for Committees – **regularly participates in all Committees**

- Participates in a **monthly CoH planning call** with H3 and Homebase

- Assumes responsibility of Chair if the Chair is absent or vacant

ACTION ITEM

- Approve 2025 Chair and Vice Chair for Council on Homelessness.

| 1. Member makes a motion | 2. Second (every motion requires a second) | 3. Discussion | 4. Vote: Motion passes |

SELECT 2025 COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE AND WORK GROUP MEMBERS (ACTION ITEM)

Jaime Jenett, *H3*

PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE

Purpose:

- Work towards the goal of reducing unsheltered homeless in Contra Costa County by 75%

Timing:

Monthly; 3rd Thursday from 9:30-11am, 11 meetings

Membership:

- 2024 Number of CoH Members: 6
- 2024 CoH Members:
  - Deanne Pearn, Homeless Service Provider Seat
  - Jo Bruno, Lived Experience Advisor Seat
  - Juno Hedrick, Lived Experience Advisor Seat
  - Shawn Ray, Public Safety Seat
  - Tony Ucciferri , Public Housing Authority Seat
  - Wayne Earl, Faith Community Seat

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Purpose:

- Reviewing and assessing the development, implementation, and improvement of:
  - CoC
  - Coordinated Entry System
  - HMIS database
  - System Outcomes

- Oversee the following Working Groups: TBD

Timing:

Every other month, 3rd Thursday, 11:30 -1:30pm, 6 meetings

Membership:

- 2024 Number of CoH Members: 8
- 2024 CoH Members:
  - Alejandra Chamberlain, Education and Vocational Services Seat
  - Carolyn Foudy, Employment and Human Services Seat
  - Deanne Pearn, Homeless Service Provider Seat
  - Gabriel Lemus, Emergency Solutions Grant Seat
  - Juno Hedrick, Lived Experience Advisor Seat
  - Leslie Gleason, CoC/ESG Seat
  - Mia Fairbanks, Health Care Seat
  - Wayne Earl, Faith Community Seat

HMIS POLICY COMMITTEE

Purpose:

- Develops and shares updates on HMIS policies and practices, compliance, and troubleshooting

- Plans technical assistance and training

- Informs standards of practice and monitoring

Timing:

3rd month each quarter, 2nd Tuesdays from, 12-1:30pm, 4 meetings

Membership:

- 2024 Number of CoH Members: 5
- 2024 CoH Members:
  - Jo Bruno, Lived Experience Advisor Seat
  - Juno Hedrick, Lived Experience Advisor Seat
  - Gabriel Lemus, Emergency Solutions Grant Seat
  - Juno Hedrick, Lived Experience Advisor Seat
  - Tony Ucciferri, Public Housing Authority Seat

FUNDING COMMITTEE

Purpose:

- Expanded in scope after previously existing as the CoC/ESG Committee (which supported the application process for funds administered by HUD, including the CoC Program)

- Direct community input process for several federal and state funding streams

- CoC NOFO work is now under the Funding Cmte

Timing: mid-2025, may not convene

Membership:

- 2024 Number of CoH Members: 5
- 2024 CoH Members:
  - Deanne Pearn, Homeless Service Provider Seat
  - Dani Jimenez, Behavioral Health Seat
  - Juno Hedrick, Lived Experience Advisor Seat
  - Nicole Green, Reentry Services Seat
  - Wayne Earl, Faith Community Seat

EQUITY COMMITTEE

Purpose

- Increase awareness, community dialogue, and lead concrete actions to achieve equity throughout the homeless system of care.

Timing: 2nd Tuesday of 2nd and 3rd months every quarter, 2-4pm, 8 meetings

Membership:

- 2024 Number of CoH Members: 4

- 2024 of CoH Members:
  - Hope Dixon, Community Member Seat
  - Janae Thomas, Workforce Development Seat
  - Juno Hedrick, Lived Experience Advisor Seat
  - Leslie Gleason, CoC/ESG Seat

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Purpose:

- Review and revise the Governance Charter & Bylaws to increase CoH efficiency and impact

Timing:

2 meetings: February and March, 4th Tuesday 1-3pm

Membership:

- 2024 Number of CoH Members: 5
- 2024 CoH Members:
  - Dani Jimenez, Behavioral Health Seat
  - Jazmin Ridley, City Government Seat
  - Juno Hedrick, Lived Experience Advisor Seat
  - Nicole Green, Reentry Services Seat
  - Tony Ucciferri , Public Housing Authority Seat

AD HOC COMMITTEES/WORK GROUPS: RECRUITING LATER

- **CoH Nominating Committee**: Reviews applications for potential new Council members and provides recommendations to the full Council
  - Estimated Timing: ad hoc, 1-2 meetings from July to October 2025, dates TBD

- **Point-in-Time Count Workgroup**: Plan and implement the annual Point-in-Time Count, an annual HUD-required count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness and provide recommendations to the full Council
  - Estimated Timing: ad hoc, November 2025 to January 2026, dates TBD

- **Homelessness Awareness Month Workgroup**: Plan for annual Homelessness Awareness Month (November) activities
  - Estimated Timing: March virtual, May IN PERSON, August virtual, September IN PERSON, October virtual, November virtual

SCHEDULE

Equity
- 1 virtual and 1 in person/quarter

Funding
- Monthly VIRTUAL except May IN PERSON

Governance

2 virtual, 2 in person likely starting February

Homelessness Awareness Month Planning
- 4 virtual, 3 in person

HMIS Policy
- 2 in person, 2 virtual

Nominating
- August to October 2024,

Oversight
- Every other month, in person

PATH Innovations
- 6 virtual, 6 in person

ACTION ITEM

- Approve 2025 committee and work group selections for Council on Homelessness members.

| 1. Member makes a motion | 2. Second (every motion requires a second) | 3. Discussion | 4. Vote: Motion passes |

UPDATE: COC MONITORING

Michele Byrnes, *Homebase*

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.

2025 FOCUSED MONITORING APPROACH

- Focus Area 1: Systemic Findings from previous monitoring cycles

- Focus Area 2: Equity

- Focus Area 3: Project Corrective Actions

FOCUS AREA 1: SYSTEMIC FINDINGS

- Grant Spenddown

- Timekeeping

  o Tracking staff time and connecting it to approved, eligible activities

- Fair Housing

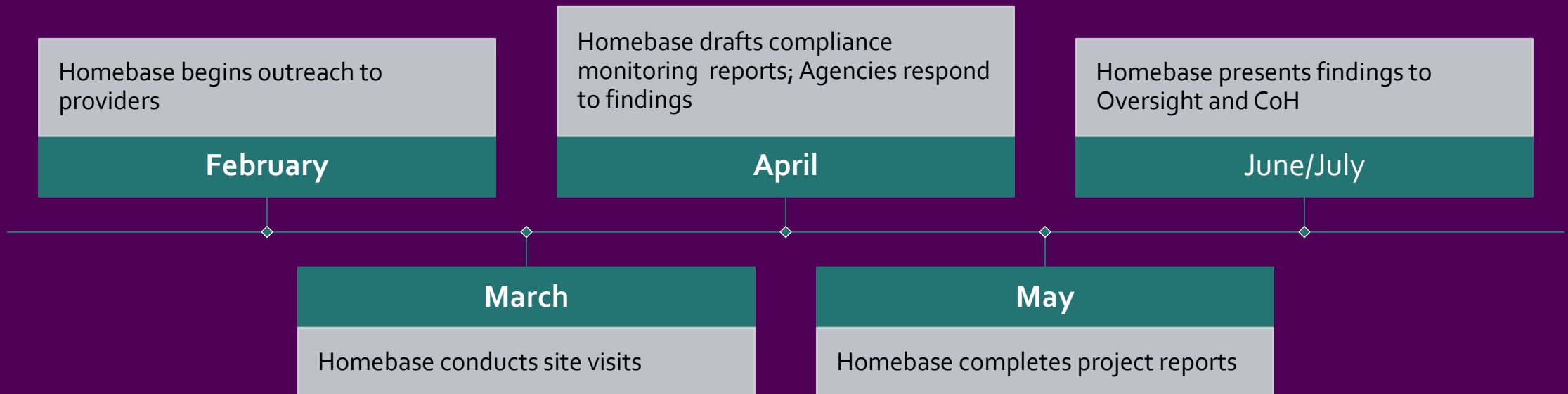 o Fair Housing Remedies and Notification

FOCUS AREA 2: EQUITY

- 2024 CoC NOFO Scoring Tool

  o Racial Equity

  o Lived Experience Engagement

FOCUS AREA 3: PROJECT CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

- Reviewing progress made on project-specific findings from previous monitoring cycles

- Example: If an agency did not have a compliant record retention policy in 2023, we would request documentation that the agency has an updated, compliant policy.

COMPLIANCE MONITORING TIMELINE

Homebase begins outreach to providers

February

Homebase drafts compliance monitoring reports; Agencies respond to findings

April

Homebase presents findings to Oversight and CoH

June/July

March

Homebase conducts site visits

May

Homebase completes project reports

QUESTIONS?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Open for all to share announcements about upcoming events and to give brief reports about recent events/trainings relevant to the Council on Homelessness

PIN IT

Wayne Earl, *Chair & Faith Community Representative*

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- **Next COH Meeting:** Thursday, March 6, 1 – 4 PM (IN PERSON)

- **CoC Training (Housing First):** Monday, February 10, 10 AM – 12 PM (Zoom)

- **Equity Committee Meeting:** Tuesday, February 11, 2– 4 PM (In-Person)

- **Homeless Service Provider Meeting:** Thursday, February 13, 8:30 – 9:30 AM (Zoom)

- **PATH Committee Meeting:** Thursday, February 20, 9:30 – 11 AM (IN PERSON)

- **Oversight Committee Meeting:** Thursday, February 20, 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM (IN PERSON)

- **Governance Committee:** Tuesday, February 25, 1:00 – 3:00 PM (Zoom)

- **Homeless-Workforce Integration Network Field Trip:** Wednesday, February 26, 1:00 – 2:30 PM (IN PERSON)

Contra Costa County Homeless System of Care Quarterly Report for Quarter 4, 2024 (October – December)

INTRODUCTION

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

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

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

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

SYSTEM FUNDING

This quarter the CoC continued to evaluate the system of care and pursued funding opportunities to address the gaps in Contra Costa's homeless system, including our largest source of funding, the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

FEDERAL

HUD NOFO: In this quarter, the CoC completed on-time submission to the FY 2024 Continuum of Care competition. Providers worked collaboratively with the CoC to ensure an on-time submission. Council on Homelessness members served as the CoC's Review and Rank panel to create and approve the Priority Listing that was approved by the Council on October 3,

2024. (See Appendix C for 2024 CoC Priority Listing). HUD released the first round of award decisions in early 2025.

CoCBuilds NOFO: On July 19, 2024, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the Continuum of Care Builds (CoCBuilds) NOFO to fund acquisition, rehab, or new construction of permanent supportive housing. After conducting a letter of interest, the CoC worked collaboratively with Hope Solutions to submit an application for $5 million in funding to develop 15 units of permanent supportive housing for transition aged youth called Hope Village in Pittsburg. It is unclear if or when HUD will announce awards under this NOFO.

SYSTEM INITIATIVES

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

Equity: Progress this quarter included developing and approving a Work Plan for 2025 with the following priorities:

1. Monitor metrics related to equity in the CoC
2. Provide input to CoC policies and procedures
3. Learn about topics and programs impacting equity in homelessness response program
4. Develop equity dashboard
5. Leverage partnerships to increase participation in Equity Committee, particularly PWLE.
6. Develop projects and recommend priorities within CoC to address root causes of racial disparities in homeless system of care

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

- Of the 31 applications we received for open seats on the Council on Homelessness, 19 had a lived experience of homelessness.
- The Youth Action Board, a group of transition aged youth with a lived experience of homelessness, spoke at a panel discussion for Homelessness Awareness month.
- PWLE were deeply involved in planning for Homelessness Awareness Month activities.
- Housing Needs Assessment Process: hosted input session with Youth Action Board and group of system utilizers, HNA reDesign Steering Committee includes 3 PWLE

Homelessness Awareness Month: Recognitions: Hosted a well-attended reception to honor those nominated for outstanding work to address homelessness. Panel: Successful panel discussion on youth and young adult homelessness co-hosted by Contra Costa College, Youth Action Board and Council. Video of the event can be seen here: https://youtu.be/U6_AquHLHpM. Presentation: The Council Chair presented to the Board of Supervisors, and solicited 2 resolutions of support, on November 12th. Memorial: A memorial

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event, cohosted by the Contra Costa Crisis Center, SoS Richmond, NAMI Contra Costa, Loves and Fishes and the Council on Homelessness was held on 12/20 at the Walnut Creek Library.

Point in Time Count (PIT): Methods for the PIT were approved by the Council and planning and volunteer recruitment took place throughout the whole quarter. More than 150 volunteers and staff will be trained in Q1, 2025 to support the community observational count portion of the PIT that will be held on the morning of Thursday, January 30, 2025.

Youth and Young Adult Homelessness

On October 29th, HUD announced the recipients of the FY 2023 Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP). While our CoC was not selected, H3 and the Youth Action Board (YAB) remained actively engaged in advancing our youth and young adult homelessness response.

- On Oct. 30th, a total of 23 partners, including 8 YAB members, convened to review and plan for the Youth and Young Adult 6 Month Priority Strategies 2024.docx, a roadmap for action in 2025.
- On November 14th, as part of Homeless Awareness Month and in collaboration with the Council on Homelessness and Contra Costa College, the YAB hosted the Youth and Young Adult Panel on Homelessness. The hybrid event brought together 47 community members and was featured in the Contra Costa Pulse article, Youth Affected by Homelessness Want to Help Solve 'Crisis.' The full recording of the event is available here: Youth and Young Adult Panel Discussion (11/14/24).
- On November 22nd, 5 YAB members participated in a regional convening hosted by Tipping Point Community, bringing together YABs from Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara Counties. The event featured workshops on Understanding the Federal Funding and Policy Landscape and Working with Local Government and a Youth Panel Developing Actionable Strategies.
- Throughout Q4, YAB members participated in multiple CoC initiatives including the Housing Needs Assessment Redesign Steering Committee, Consolidated Housing and Homelessness Funding RFP Panel, and the PIT Committee Meetings. Additionally, the YAB held eight meetings focused on developing YAB bylaws, electing core leadership, and planning for Homeless Awareness Month.

GOVERNANCE/REPORTING

- The Brown Act requirement for in person attendance continues to create barriers to participation for a number of members in seats that require lived experience.
- In November, the Family and Human Services Committee approved 9 proposed member recommendations, expiration date adjustment and received the Council's Q3 report. They were approved by the Board of Supervisors in December.

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- Polls conducted at the beginning of each Council on Homelessness regular meetings capture data on # of Council meetings previously attended, lived experience of homelessness and race/ethnicity of attendees. Overall, since Quarter 1, we've seen an increase in first time attendance (from 7% to 12%), an increase in people attending who are currently experiencing homelessness (from 4% to 9% of attendees), and increase in Black/African American attendees (16% to 19%) and Multi-racial attendees (7% to 11%) (See Appendix B for Q4 averages.)

MEETINGS, TRAININGS AND EVENTS

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

Committee	Purpose
Equity Committee	Create accessible information, outreach, and educational materials to engage hard to reach or previously unreached communities in Contra Costa County.
Homelessness Awareness Month Committee	Plans activities and materials for Homelessness Awareness Month (November).
HMIS Policy Committee	Develops and shares updates on Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) policies & practices, compliance, & troubleshooting. Plans technical assistance & training.
Nominating Committee	Reviews application tools and process for potential new CoH members.
Oversight Committee	Reviewing and assessing the development, implementation, and improvement of the CoC, Coordinated Entry System, HMIS database, and system outcomes
PATH Innovation Committee	Work towards the goal of reducing unsheltered homeless in Contra Costa County by 75% .
Point in Time Count Committee	Plan and implement the annual Point-in-Time Count, an annual HUD-required count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness

Trainings
- Equal Access Rule (10.21.24)
- Creating a More Inclusive and Equitable System of Care: Combating Implicit Bias in Contra Costa (11.18.24)
- Connecting Clients to Mainstream Benefits (12.9.24)
- The Council received a presentation about the local impact of the Grants Pass Supreme Court Decision and California Executive Order N-1-2 n at the October 3, 2024 meeting.

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Events
- CoC Provider Meetings (3)
- Homelessness Awareness Month presentation to the Board of Supervisors
- Homelessness Awareness Month Reception to honor outstanding volunteers and projects (11/12)
- Homeless-Workforce Integration Network/ Workforce Integration Network Joint meeting (11/13)
- Panel on Youth Homelessness (11/14)
- Homeless Persons' Memorial Event (12/20)

The recordings, minutes and materials for trainings and meetings can be found on the H3 website[1] and on the County agenda center[2], and a calendar of upcoming meetings and events can be found on the H3 website.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- In alignment with the California State Association of Counties, support ongoing funding for the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program and other critical safety net services that support people experiencing homelessness in Contra Costa County.

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

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Commonly Used Acronyms and Terms

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

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

APPENDIX B

Poll Question Answers Q4

How many Council on Homelessness meetings have you attended?	Q4 avg
This is my first meeting	12%
I've attended some meetings	31%
I've attended a lot of meetings	57%
I prefer not to answer	0%

Do you have lived experience of homelessness?	
Yes, currently	9%
Yes, within the past 7 years	8%
Yes, more than 7 years ago	17%
No	66%
I prefer not to answer	0%

What best describes your racial identity?*	
African American/Black	19%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	6%
Asian/Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian	8%
Hispanic/Latinx	21%
White	32%
Multi-racial	11%
I prefer not to answer	2%
I describe myself in another way	2%

*This category allows people to select multiple options

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| **File #:** 25-420 | **Agenda Date:** 2/6/2025 | **Agenda #:** 3. |

Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness
Subject: Consent Calendar (ACTION ITEM) - a) APPROVE minutes from the January 9, 2025 Council meeting b) APPROVE staff report for the February 6, 2025 Council meeting
Presenter: Wayne Earl, Chair
Contact:

Information:

Items on the consent calendar are generally non-controversial and may not require discussion. Approving the Consent Calendar means approving the items below in one vote. Council members and the public can remove an item from the consent calendar for discussion by informing the Chair.

Referral History and Update:

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s): Recommend Council
APPROVE minutes from the January 9, 2025 Council meeting and APPROVE staff report for the February 6, 2025 Council meeting

CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MINUTES

Date: Thursday, January 9, 2025, 3 pm – 4 pm
Recording link: Available by email request to CChomelesscouncil@cchealth.org

Council Member Attendance:
- In-Person (17): Alejandra Chamberlain; Courtney Pal; Dani Jimenez; Gabriel Lemus; Heather Worobey; Hope Dixon; Jazmin Ridley; Juno Hedrick; LeAnn Matthews; Leslie Gleason; Mia Fairbanks; Sherina Criswell; Shawn Ray; Tony Ucciferri; Verneda Clapp; Wayne Earl; Yahel Moreno
- Remote (2): Carolyn Foudy; Nicole Green
- Absent (0): None

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

Community Member Attendance:
- In-Person: Bessie Scott, City of Antioch; Walter Schlueter, Community member; Cinnamon Etta, H3.
- Remote: Ms. Evon Ufland, Agape's Restore & Renew Home; Jill Ray, BOS District 2; Edi Birsan, City of Concord; Christina Mellin, Community member; Justice Person, Community member; Jaclyn Tummings, Conservation and Development; Peter Myers, Contra Costa County; Anna Cleese, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors; Elizabeth Winstead, Contra Costa County Department of Rehabilitation; Melanie Erickson, Contra Costa County Department of Conservation and Development; Austin Zappas, Enfiaré Inc; Brianna Ramos, Fresh Lifelines for Youth; Brittany Ferguson, H3; Carina Rodriguez-Pena, H3; Caroline Miller, H3; Cheryl Leonor, H3; Ernesto Robles, H3; Janel Fletcher, H3; Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, H3; Emily Bero, Hope Solutions; Theresa Cox, Independent Living Resources of Solano & Contra Costa Counties; Angela Corona, Lao Family Community Development; Carmen Cano, Lao Family Community Development; Julie Clemens, LSS of Northern California; Wayne Pope, Member of Pacheco Municipal Advisory Council; Carolyn Bradford, Safe Return Project; Rena Moore, Safe Return Project; Ricardo Baires, Safe Return Project; Kelsey Mayeda, San Ramon Campus, Diablo Valley College; Sarah White, SHELTER, Inc.; Christi Rossi, SHELTER, Inc.; Trish Heaney, White Pony Express; Teri Lundvall, Winter Nights Family Shelter Inc.; <mark>17078532327</mark>.

Time	Agenda Item	Presenter
3:00	1. **Call to Order** – Chair starts the meeting	a. Wayne Earl, *Chair and Faith Community Representative*

-	Wayne Earl called the meeting to order.	
3:00	**2.** **Public Comment** – Open period for members of the public to comment on items not listed on the agenda.	a. Members of the public
-	None.	
3:15	**3.** **Introductions** a. Hybrid Meeting Norms b. Roll call of Council members and introduction of guests c. Poll – Who's in the room?	a. Wayne Earl, *Chair and Faith Community Representative* b. Wayne Earl, *Chair and Faith Community Representative* c. Wayne Earl, *Chair and Faith Community Representative*

a. Wayne Earl went over the hybrid meeting norms and guidelines to help ensure that meetings are conducted in a safe and respectful environment that encourages participation and inclusivity.

b. Wayne Earl conducted a roll call of Council members and invited guests to introduce themselves in the chat.

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

1. **Question 1: How many Council on Homelessness meetings have you attended?**
   Answer: This is my first meeting: 3 (11%)
                     I've attended some meetings: 7 (25%)
                     I've attended a lot of meetings: 18 (64%)
                     I prefer not to answer: 0 (0%)
2. **Question 2: Do you have lived experience of homelessness?**
   Answer: Yes, currently   1 (3%)
                     Yes, within the past 7 years   1 (3%)
                     Yes, more than 7 years ago   8 (26%)
                     No   68 (68%)
                     I prefer not to answer   0 (0%)
3. **Question 3: What best describes your racial identify?**
   Answer: African American/Black   8 (18%)
                     American Indian/Alaskan Native   4 (9%)
                     Asian/Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian   2 (4%)
                     Hispanic/Latinx   8 (18%)
                     White   17 (38%)
                     Multi-racial   4 (9%)

	I describe myself in another way 1 (2%) I prefer not to answer 1 (2%)	

3:20	**4. Consent Calendar (ACTION ITEM)**
	    a. APPROVE minutes from the December 5, 2024 Council meeting
	    b. APPROVE staff report for the January 9, 2025 Council meeting
	    c. APPROVE rescheduling Council on Homelessness Meeting on July 3, 2025 to July 10, 2025
		a. Wayne Earl, *Chair and Faith Community Representative*

Motion
- State of Motion:
  - To approve the consent calendar items as listed above.
- Discussion:
  - Some members decided to change their votes due to not being present at the previous meeting. It was clarified that it is common practice to abstain during the vote when a Council member does not attend the previous meeting but members can feel comfortable with their votes if they read all of the materials in advance. A Council member may also request that items from the consent calendar be pulled for discussion.
- Procedural Record
  - Motion made by: Dani Jimenez
  - Seconded by: Mia Fairbanks
  - AYES: Carolyn Foudy; Courtney Pal; Dani Jimenez; Gabriel Lemus; Heather Worobey;; Jazmin Ridley; Juno Hedrick; Mia Fairbanks; Nicole Green; Shawn Ray; Sherina Criswell; Shawn Ray; Wayne Earl; Yahel Moreno
  - NOES: None
  - ABSTAINS: Alejandra Chamberlain; Hope Dixon; LeAnn Matthews; Leslie Gleason; Tony Ucciferri; Verneda Clapp
  - ABSENT: None

3:25	**5. Committee Report Outs-** *report outs from each of the committees below.*
	    a. Plan for Accelerating Transformative Housing (PATH) Committee
	        i. **(ACTION ITEM)** APPROVE 2025 PATH Committee work plan as recommended by the PATH Committee
	    b. Youth Advisory Board (YAB) Update
		a. Jamie Schecter, *H3*
		b. Caroline Miller, *H3* and Juno Hedrick, *Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor*

a. Plan for Accelerating Transformative Housing (PATH) Committee:

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The PATH Committee presented its 2025 work plan to accelerate efforts to reduce unsheltered homelessness. The annual priorities are to reduce unsheltered homelessness, target prevention resources to overrepresented groups, monitor encampments and services, monitor shelter capacity, and monitor new housing opportunities. The target audience is providers in the homelessness response system, stakeholders interested in data driven innovation, and people experiencing or are at risk of homelessness. The work plan outlines four quarterly goals that includes orienting new members, assessing shelter and housing data, adopting prevention tools, reviewing outcomes for prevention/rapid exit, and adopt priorities and workplan for 2026.

Motion
- State of Motion:
  - To approve the 2025 PATH Committee work plan as recommended by the PATH Committee.
- Discussion:
  - None.
- Procedural Record
  - Motion made by: Tony Ucciferri
  - Seconded by: Leslie Gleason
  - AYES: Alejandra Chamberlain; Carolyn Foudy; Courtney Pal; Dani Jimenez; Gabriel Lemus; Heather Worobey; Hope Dixon; Jazmin Ridley; Juno Hedrick; LeAnn Matthews; Leslie Gleason; Mia Fairbanks; Nicole Green; Shawn Ray; Sherina Criswell; Shawn Ray; Tony Ucciferri; Verneda Clapp; Wayne Earl; Yahel Moreno
  - NOES: None
  - ABSTAINS: None
  - ABSENT: None

b. Youth Advisory Board (YAB):
YAB has been working on various projects including the Coordinated Entry housing needs assessment redesign committee, the housing services request for funding proposal panel, and the development of their own bylaws. The Board has revised and solidified the core leadership roles and received 11 applications. They also held a holiday celebration and participated in a panel at the Contra Costa Pulse, a community news and media outlet committed to amplifying the voices of under-served residents and led by young people, which featured an article about YAB. The next steps for quarter 1 for 2025 were shared. The final YAB Bylaws are expected to be submitted to the Council on Homelessness soon.

3:45	**6. Old Business**
	     a. 2025 Point-In-Time Count
	     b. Funding Updates
		a. Jamie Schecter, *H3*
		 b. Jamie Schecter and Christy Saxton, *H3*

a. Point-in-Time Count Committee:
Volunteer registration is still open for the PIT Count event on January 30th, 5:30 – 9:30 am. The team is close to their target number of volunteers, but more are welcome to join. There are four trainings

scheduled for the month of January before the PIT count takes place. The methodology was approved in the December meeting.

b. Funding Updates:

The Consolidated Housing and Homeless Services RFP process is still ongoing and panelists, including YAB members, are reviewing each of the applications. The recommendations will be announced next month. The Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) round six funding application, from the California Department of Housing Community Development, is expected to be released in January 2025. Because this grant requires solid collaboration between the CoC and the County, H3 will look for input on the application and funding priorities. Anyone interested in receiving email notifications and updates for Funding Opportunities can sign up for the newsletter here.

| 3:52 | **7. New Business**
    a. None | |

None

| 3:52 | **8. Announcements** | a. All |

a. General Announcements:
- Jamie Schecter shared ways that COH members can submit feedback about trainings and the different committees, which can happen during meetings, one-on-one time, or at the committee level.
- Jamie Schecter encouraged the Council members to fill out their conflict-of-interest forms.
- H3 introduced and welcomed the new Research Evaluation Manager, Janel Fletcher.
- Leslie Gleason announced that Trinity Center has opened the Emergency Shelter program, a shelter opportunity with guaranteed dinner with a safe and warm sleeping accommodation seven nights a week in Walnut Creek. The shelter is expected to operate through March. It has a pre-approved process where people should meet all the criteria, one for which is to have been a member of Trinity Center for 15 days. Anyone interested should visit Trinity Center to begin the process.

| 3:57 | **9. Pin It** | a. Wayne Earl, *Chair and Faith Community Representative* |

- The next COH meeting will be on February 6th, from 1:00 – 3:00pm at 1025 Escobar Street in Martinez.
- A list of upcoming meetings was shared and will also be sent via email. Jaime Jenett clarified that there will be one link for all committee meetings and that members will receive advance communication to let them know when meetings will be in-person or virtual.

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CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS STAFF REPORT

Report for the February 6, 2025 Council on Homelessness Meeting

INTRODUCTION

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

PROJECTS

Project: Concord Naval Weapons Station (CNWS) and Homeless Collaborative
There are no updates at this time.

Technical Assistance (TA) Updates:
There are no updates at this time.

COMMITTEES

Equity Committee
- The Equity Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, February 11th from 2 pm – 4 pm at 2400 Bisso Lane, Suite D2, Concord and also on Zoom (Register by clicking here: https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZctcOCuqzItGNaAB8uy-JVxgiXlKuxUWPyX).

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

Governance Committee
- The purpose of the Governance Committee is to review and revise the [Governance Charter and Bylaws](#) to increase efficiency and impact in the Council on Homelessness. The Governance Committee Work Group met in March to discuss recommended revisions to the council bylaws.
- The committee will convene monthly from February to March 2025.

Nominating Committee
- The purpose of the Nominating Committee is to review and revise the process to recruit and select new Council members.
- The committee will convene in mid-2025.

Oversight Committee
- The purpose of the Oversight Committee is to review and assess the development, implementation, and improvement of: CoC, Coordinated Entry System, HMIS database, and System Outcomes.
- The first meeting of 2025 will be in February. Date, time, and location are TBD.
- Important highlights from the December Committee meeting are as follows:
  - Coordinated Entry Policies & Procedures revisions were approved and recommended for approval to the CoH
  - Written Standards revisions were approved and recommended for approval to the CoH

Plan to Accelerate Transformative Housing Innovations Committee
In January 2025, the PATH Innovations Committee held a working group meeting. The group reviewed the Committee's 2025 Workplan as approved by the Council on Homelessness. The group received a presentation on the program models for all interventions used to address homelessness locally, including homelessness prevention, rapid exit, CARE centers, outreach, shelter,

rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing. The group discussed stakeholder groups to invite and topics of interest to cover for potential stakeholder spotlight presentations to the Committee in 2025.

File #: 25-422   **Agenda Date:** 2/6/2025   **Agenda #:** 7.

Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness
Subject: Old Business: Update: 2024 Quarter 4 report to Family and Human Services Committee of the Board of Supervisors
Presenter: Jaime Jenett, H3
Contact:

Information: Staff sends a report to the to Family and Human Services Committee of the Board of Supervisors on behalf of the Council every quarter.

Referral History and Update:

Typically the COH approves a recommendation that goes into the report. Staff was unable to secure an approval from the Council on Homelessness for the recommendation before the report was due. Staff repeated a recommendation that had been approved before as it was still relevant.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s): Review the Q4 report.

Contra Costa County Homeless System of Care Quarterly Report for Quarter 4, 2024 (October – December)

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

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

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

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

SYSTEM FUNDING

This quarter the CoC continued to evaluate the system of care and pursued funding opportunities to address the gaps in Contra Costa's homeless system, including our largest source of funding, the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

FEDERAL

HUD NOFO: In this quarter, the CoC completed on-time submission to the FY 2024 Continuum of Care competition. Providers worked collaboratively with the CoC to ensure an on-time submission. Council on Homelessness members served as the CoC's Review and Rank panel to create and approve the Priority Listing that was approved by the Council on October 3,

2024. (See Appendix C for 2024 CoC Priority Listing). HUD released the first round of award decisions in early 2025.

CoCBuilds NOFO: On July 19, 2024, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the Continuum of Care Builds (CoCBuilds) NOFO to fund acquisition, rehab, or new construction of permanent supportive housing. After conducting a letter of interest, the CoC worked collaboratively with Hope Solutions to submit an application for $5 million in funding to develop 15 units of permanent supportive housing for transition aged youth called Hope Village in Pittsburg. It is unclear if or when HUD will announce awards under this NOFO.

SYSTEM INITIATIVES

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

Equity: Progress this quarter included developing and approving a Work Plan for 2025 with the following priorities:

1. Monitor metrics related to equity in the CoC
2. Provide input to CoC policies and procedures
3. Learn about topics and programs impacting equity in homelessness response program
4. Develop equity dashboard
5. Leverage partnerships to increase participation in Equity Committee, particularly PWLE.
6. Develop projects and recommend priorities within CoC to address root causes of racial disparities in homeless system of care

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

- Of the 31 applications we received for open seats on the Council on Homelessness, 19 had a lived experience of homelessness.
- The Youth Action Board, a group of transition aged youth with a lived experience of homelessness, spoke at a panel discussion for Homelessness Awareness month.
- PWLE were deeply involved in planning for Homelessness Awareness Month activities.
- Housing Needs Assessment Process: hosted input session with Youth Action Board and group of system utilizers, HNA reDesign Steering Committee includes 3 PWLE

Homelessness Awareness Month: Recognitions: Hosted a well-attended reception to honor those nominated for outstanding work to address homelessness. Panel: Successful panel discussion on youth and young adult homelessness co-hosted by Contra Costa College, Youth Action Board and Council. Video of the event can be seen here: https://youtu.be/U6_AquHLHpM. Presentation: The Council Chair presented to the Board of Supervisors, and solicited 2 resolutions of support, on November 12th. Memorial: A memorial

event, cohosted by the Contra Costa Crisis Center, SoS Richmond, NAMI Contra Costa, Loves and Fishes and the Council on Homelessness was held on 12/20 at the Walnut Creek Library.

Point in Time Count (PIT): Methods for the PIT were approved by the Council and planning and volunteer recruitment took place throughout the whole quarter. More than 150 volunteers and staff will be trained in Q1, 2025 to support the community observational count portion of the PIT that will be held on the morning of Thursday, January 30, 2025.

Youth and Young Adult Homelessness
On October 29th, HUD announced the recipients of the FY 2023 Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP). While our CoC was not selected, H3 and the Youth Action Board (YAB) remained actively engaged in advancing our youth and young adult homelessness response.

- On Oct. 30th, a total of 23 partners, including 8 YAB members, convened to review and plan for the Youth and Young Adult 6 Month Priority Strategies 2024.docx, a roadmap for action in 2025.
- On November 14th, as part of Homeless Awareness Month and in collaboration with the Council on Homelessness and Contra Costa College, the YAB hosted the Youth and Young Adult Panel on Homelessness. The hybrid event brought together 47 community members and was featured in the Contra Costa Pulse article, Youth Affected by Homelessness Want to Help Solve 'Crisis.' The full recording of the event is available here: Youth and Young Adult Panel Discussion (11/14/24).
- On November 22nd, 5 YAB members participated in a regional convening hosted by Tipping Point Community, bringing together YABs from Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara Counties. The event featured workshops on Understanding the Federal Funding and Policy Landscape and Working with Local Government and a Youth Panel Developing Actionable Strategies.
- Throughout Q4, YAB members participated in multiple CoC initiatives including the Housing Needs Assessment Redesign Steering Committee, Consolidated Housing and Homelessness Funding RFP Panel, and the PIT Committee Meetings. Additionally, the YAB held eight meetings focused on developing YAB bylaws, electing core leadership, and planning for Homeless Awareness Month.

GOVERNANCE/REPORTING

- The Brown Act requirement for in person attendance continues to create barriers to participation for a number of members in seats that require lived experience.
- In November, the Family and Human Services Committee approved 9 proposed member recommendations, expiration date adjustment and received the Council's Q3 report. They were approved by the Board of Supervisors in December.

- Polls conducted at the beginning of each Council on Homelessness regular meetings capture data on # of Council meetings previously attended, lived experience of homelessness and race/ethnicity of attendees. Overall, since Quarter 1, we've seen an increase in first time attendance (from 7% to 12%), an increase in people attending who are currently experiencing homelessness (from 4% to 9% of attendees), and increase in Black/African American attendees (16% to 19%) and Multi-racial attendees (7% to 11%) (See Appendix B for Q4 averages.)

MEETINGS, TRAININGS AND EVENTS

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

Committee	Purpose
Equity Committee	Create accessible information, outreach, and educational materials to engage hard to reach or previously unreached communities in Contra Costa County.
Homelessness Awareness Month Committee	Plans activities and materials for Homelessness Awareness Month (November).
HMIS Policy Committee	Develops and shares updates on Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) policies & practices, compliance, & troubleshooting. Plans technical assistance & training.
Nominating Committee	Reviews application tools and process for potential new CoH members.
Oversight Committee	Reviewing and assessing the development, implementation, and improvement of the CoC, Coordinated Entry System, HMIS database, and system outcomes
PATH Innovation Committee	Work towards the goal of reducing unsheltered homeless in Contra Costa County by 75% .
Point in Time Count Committee	Plan and implement the annual Point-in-Time Count, an annual HUD-required count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness

Trainings
- Equal Access Rule (10.21.24)
- Creating a More Inclusive and Equitable System of Care: Combating Implicit Bias in Contra Costa (11.18.24)
- Connecting Clients to Mainstream Benefits (12.9.24)
- The Council received a presentation about the local impact of the Grants Pass Supreme Court Decision and California Executive Order N-1-2 n at the October 3, 2024 meeting.

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Events
- CoC Provider Meetings (3)
- Homelessness Awareness Month presentation to the Board of Supervisors
- Homelessness Awareness Month Reception to honor outstanding volunteers and projects (11/12)
- Homeless-Workforce Integration Network/ Workforce Integration Network Joint meeting (11/13)
- Panel on Youth Homelessness (11/14)
- Homeless Persons' Memorial Event (12/20)

The recordings, minutes and materials for trainings and meetings can be found on the H3 website[1] and on the County agenda center[2], and a calendar of upcoming meetings and events can be found on the H3 website.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- In alignment with the California State Association of Counties, support ongoing funding for the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program and other critical safety net services that support people experiencing homelessness in Contra Costa County.

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

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APPENDIX A

Commonly Used Acronyms and Terms

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

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

APPENDIX B

Poll Question Answers Q4

How many Council on Homelessness meetings have you attended?	Q4 avg
This is my first meeting	12%
I've attended some meetings	31%
I've attended a lot of meetings	57%
I prefer not to answer	0%

Do you have lived experience of homelessness?	
Yes, currently	9%
Yes, within the past 7 years	8%
Yes, more than 7 years ago	17%
No	66%
I prefer not to answer	0%

What best describes your racial identity?*	
African American/Black	19%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	6%
Asian/Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian	8%
Hispanic/Latinx	21%
White	32%
Multi-racial	11%
I prefer not to answer	2%
I describe myself in another way	2%

*This category allows people to select multiple options

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CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Staff Report

File #: 25-421	**Agenda Date:** 2/6/2025	**Agenda #:** 10.

Advisory Board: Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Subject: New Business: APPROVE 2025 Council on Homelessness Committee and Work Group Members (ACTION ITEM)

Presenter: Jaime Jenett, H3

Contact:

Information: 2025 Council on Homelessness Committee and Work Groups need members identified

Referral History and Update:

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s): APPROVE 2025 Council on Homelessness Committee and Work Groups

2025 Council on Homelessness Committees

This document briefly outlines Council on Homelessness (COH) committees and workgroups.

COMMITTEES AND WORK GROUPS: RECRUITING NOW

EQUITY COMMITTEE

PURPOSE: Increase awareness, community dialogue, and lead concrete actions to achieve equity throughout the homeless system of care.
WORKING GROUPS: Equity Work Group
COMMITTEE AND WORK GROUP MEETINGS: 2nd (in-person) and 3rd (virtual) months of each quarter, 2nd Tuesday 2-4pm, dates: 2/11 (in-person), 3/11 (virtual), 5/13 (in-person), 6/10 (virtual), 8/12 (in-person), 9/9 (virtual), 11/11 (in-person), 12/9 (virtual)

FUNDING COMMITTEE

PURPOSE: Direct the community input process for several time-sensitive federal and state funding streams, including revising scoring tools for the Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity (CoC NOFO) competition.
WORKING GROUPS: Funding Work Group, CoC NOFO Work Group
COMMITTEE AND WORK GROUP MEETINGS: may meet later in 2025, date and time TBD

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE [AD HOC]

PURPOSE: Review and revise the Governance Charter and Bylaws to increase CoH efficiency and impact.
WORKGROUPS: Governance Work Group
COMMITTEE AND WORK GROUP MEETINGS: 4th Tuesday 1-3pm from February to March 2025, dates: 2/25 (virtual), 3/25 (in-person)

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

PURPOSE: Review and assess the development, implementation, and improvement of: CoC, Coordinated Entry System, HMIS database, and System Outcomes
WORKGROUPS: Oversight Work Group
COMMITTEE AND WORK GROUP MEETINGS: Every other month, 3rd Thursday 11:30am-1:30pm, dates: 2/19 (in-person), 4/16 (virtual), 6/18 (in-person), 8/20 (virtual), 10/15 (in-person), 12/17 (virtual)

PATH (PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE

PURPOSE: Work towards the goal of reducing unsheltered homelessness in Contra Costa County by 75% by 2024
WORKGROUPS: PATH Innovations Work Group
COMMITTEE AND WORK GROUP MEETINGS: Monthly on 3rd Thursday 9-11am, dates: 2/19 (in-person), 3/19 (virtual), 4/16 (virtual), 5/14 (in-person), 6/18 (virtual), 7/16 (virtual), 8/20 (in-person), 9/17 (virtual), 10/15 (virtual), 11/19 (in-person), 12/17 (virtual)

HMIS (HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM) POLICY COMMITTEE

PURPOSE: Develops and shares updates on Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) policies & practices, compliance, & troubleshooting. Plans technical assistance & training.
WORKGROUPS: HMIS Policy Work Group
COMMITTEE AND WORK GROUP MEETINGS: 3rd month of each quarter, 2rd Tuesday 12-1:30pm, in-person March & September, dates: 3/11 (in-person), 6/10 (virtual), 9/9 (in-person), 12/9 (virtual)

COMMITTEES AND WORKGROUPS: RECRUITING LATER

NOMINATING COMMITTEE [AD HOC]

PURPOSE: Review the revise the process to recruit and select new Council members

ESTIMATED TIMING: July to October 2025

HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS MONTH WORKGROUP [AD HOC]

PURPOSE: Plan for annual Homelessness Awareness Month (November) activities

ESTIMATED TIMING: August to November 2025

POINT-IN-TIME COUNT WORKGROUP [AD HOC]

PURPOSE: Plan and implement the annual Point-in-Time Count, an annual HUD-required count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness

ESTIMATED TIMING: November 2025 to January 2026