

**Community Engagement and Funding (CEF) Subcommittee
Record of Action [DRAFT]
4.9.26**

Present:

Ronell Ellis (subcommittee chair)
Dr. Talia Moore
Maileen Mamaradlo

Absent:

Stephanie Medley
Anthony Randolph
Marcus Walton
Shantell Owens
Ayo Lewis

Staff:

Peter Kim (ORESJ)
Emaan Ahmed (ORESJ)

Public (Online):

Cheryl Sudduth (RJOB member)
Jill Ray (District 2 Deputy Chief of Staff)
Wendy Fabian (District 3 Field Representative)

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Due to technical difficulties meeting began at 1:24 PM.

3 members present. No quorum.

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

No Comment.

3. RECEIVE and APPROVE the Record of Action for the November 13, 2025 meeting of the Racial Justice Oversight Body CEF Subcommittee, with any necessary corrections.

No quorum. Item moved to the next meeting.

4. DISCUSS 2026 Racial Justice Oversight Body Community Town Halls

Acknowledged the adhoc committee for its key role in coordinating the town halls. Thanked Stephanie Medley who led the adhoc committee and prepared the slide deck that presents a summary of the town halls. See slide deck attached to the agenda packet.

Staff presented the summary on behalf of Stephanie Medley since she was absent due to illness.

Discussion:

Observations, reflections, or lessons learned:

- Be more specific and intentional in targeting certain populations (i.e. youth, faith community, etc).
- Leverage other opportunities and partner with other organizations (i.e. attend PTA meetings, community meetings; D5 Youth Summit)
 - Ask Sup. Scales-Preston if/when the next one will be held; last one was Sept 2025
- Lift up the feedback that Black and Brown communities often do not receive or know of diversion opportunities
 - Maybe ask Data Subcommittee to collect actual data to illustrate the extent of disproportionate sentencing and offering of diversion options.
- Need to follow up with community, esp those who attended, with a report out of this summary as well as with any next steps that were informed and instigated by the information collected.
- Virtual event generated robust conversation and decent attendance
- Glad as a subcommittee we actually moved ahead and did something; almost 50 people total attended which is a solid turnout to be proud of. This is a spark.
- We are actually building on past RJOB efforts from previous years; we had robust discussions with east and west county communities, along with Supervisors, and took their feedback to heart and incorporated feedback in the development of the Diversion and Data subcommittee priorities and work, and even informed the creation and priorities of this CEF subcommittee. Cheryl, Jeff, Chala participated and have that historical perspective to offer. This effort isn't serendipitous; it is an outgrowth of past work.
 - Create a timeline and summary of lessons learned and how feedback
- Food was amazing (at Richmond especially), and reinforces the understanding that feeding people matters
- Identified need for childcare support
- Wordly was available at each event, but underutilized; speaks less to a lack of need and more of a need for stronger outreach
- Transportation barriers might be an issue to consider addressing; City of Richmond has a partnership with ride share companies that we can explore
- How does CEF continue to solicit and receive community feedback and suggestions?
- What role does CEF have in expanding awareness and sharing better information on resources, programs, and services? Is it to perform the actual outreach and information sharing, or is it more to assess and provide best practices and recommendations to CJ departments and CBO's who offer and deliver the services? Both?

- Eligibility reqt's for diversion opportunities (and other alternative sentencing) must be made clear, and that is responsibility of everyone but esp the CJ agencies that determine eligibility and offer opportunities via CJ processes (i.e. judges, DA, PD).
- We should be more of an advisory body to our CJ and CBO partners, and ultimately to the BOS if appropriate.
 - We first assess what options are out there, and how that info is being shared
 - What are the processes in place that afford people alternative opportunities?
 - How do we partner with and support the work of Diversion and Data subcommittees?
- Create a landing page on ORESJ site (RJOB tab) that contains links to resources (and ensure that those links lead to updated and comprehensive sites administered by the relevant CJ agencies)
- How do we prepare a budget request for the BOS to support future efforts?
 - Would need a detailed budget and rationale/narrative, present to full RJOB, and then if voted to move forward, to Equity Committee/BOS in December

Public Comment:

No comment.

5. DISCUSS Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Grant Proposal

Staff presented the summary on behalf of Data Subcommittee.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funding opportunity around data projects that focus on expanding equity and eliminating disparities. A possible \$50K grant award, one-time funds, 9 month service period (July 2026-Mar 2027). Applicant must be a 501c3 non-profit organization. RYSE Center submitted the proposal on behalf of RJOB Data Subcommittee. Notification of award expected in May.

Discussion:

- Subcommittee is in support of this effort and agrees to conducting 2 virtual listening sessions if the grant is awarded. Also willing to support RYSE youth with the 2 in-person listening sessions that they will conduct per the proposal.
- Will want to apply lessons learned and data collected from previous town halls in any research conducted as part of this project.

Public Comment:

No comment.

6. DISCUSS any general updates from subcommittee members or ORESJ staff

Updates from subcommittee:

- None

Updates from staff:

- New RJOB members: Dr. Sonia Sutherland (CCH Detention Health), Garry Malachi Scott (Community Representative Seat), Chief Melissa Klawuhn (Pinole PD)
- Contra Costa Together Summit next Thur 4/16 at Centre Concord.
- Federal Glover Community Wellness Network RFQ will be discussed at 4/20 Equity Committee.
- ORESJ Civic Engagement Workshop Series was completed in March.

7. REVIEW and ASSIGN actions items from today's meeting.

Prepare to present summary of Town Halls at full RJOB meeting.

Consider continuing discussion on future activities for CEF:

- Consider holding a youth specific listening session(s)
- Prepare a budget ask to support future CEF activities
- Research alternative sentencing and other informal diversion opportunities
 - Connect with Diversion and Data subcommittees to align efforts
- Research how other CJ and CBO orgs are sharing information and ensuring info is comprehensive, accurate, and up-to-date, while also protecting confidentiality
 - Possibly prepare best practices and recommendations

The next meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2026 at 1:00 pm at 1026 Escobar Street, #238/239, Martinez, CA 94553.

Next full RJOB quarterly meeting is May 7, 2026 at 1:00 pm also at 1026 Escobar Street, #238/239, Martinez, CA 94553.

8. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2:55 PM.