



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

AGENDA

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2024, 1 PM – 3 PM

@ **1026** 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, <i>Chair and Faith Community Representative</i> |
| 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, <i>Chair and Faith Community Representative</i> |
| 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 September 5, 2024 Council meeting b. APPROVE staff report for the October 3, 2024 Council meeting | Wayne Earl, <i>Chair and Faith Community Representative</i> |
| 1:25 3 min | 5. Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity Update a. (ACTION ITEM) Approve FY2024 and FY 2025 CoC NOFO Priority Listing of projects as recommended by the Review & Rank Panel (? Mins) | a. Riley Meve and Alex Michel, Homebase |
| 1:28 34 min | 6. Committee Report Outs - Report outs from each of the committees below. | a. Hope Dixon, <i>Community Member Representative</i> |



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Homelessness Awareness Month Committee (8 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. (ACTION ITEM) REVIEW and APPROVE Recognition recommendations and proclamation language as recommended by the Homelessness Awareness Month Committee b. Youth Advisory Board (YAB) Update (10 min) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> and Juno Hedrick, <i>Lived Experience Advisor</i> b. Caroline Miller, <i>H3</i> and Juno Hedrick, <i>Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor</i> |
| 2:02 <i>10 min</i> | 7. <u>Old Business</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Funding Updates (10 min) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Jamie Schecter and Christy Saxton, <i>H3</i> |
| 2:12 <i>45 min</i> | 8. <u>New Business</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Presentation: Grants Pass Supreme Court Decision and California Executive Order N-1-24 (30 min) b. Nomination For County Administrator’s Office (CAO) Innovation Fund Panel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. (ACTION ITEM) APPROVE interested Council on Homelessness members’ nomination to the Measure X Innovation Fund Review Panel c. Learning Corner: Legistar (agenda posting) (5 min) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Vanessa Spinazola, Sarah Ahmed, and Michele Byrnes, <i>Homebase</i> b. Jamie Schecter, <i>H3</i> c. Jamie Schecter, <i>H3</i> |
| 2:57 <i>3 min</i> | 9. <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 |
| 3:00 | 10. <u>Pin It</u> | Wayne Earl, <i>Chair and Faith Community Representative</i> |

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 |



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

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

October 3, 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

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. Masking is recommended but not required (masks are available)
2. Social distancing – red pen = please keep safe distance, black = ask first
3. Raise your hand (actual or virtual) before speaking
4. Say your name before speaking and try to speak as clearly as you can
5. A brief recap of discussion will be provided at the end of each agenda item
6. 2-minute timer for public comments
7. Make and take space – consider your privilege and the other voices who are in and not in the room

HYBRID MEETING NORMS

8. Minimize distractions like side conversations and cell phone use
9. Food and drink – please clean up and be mindful of smells and allergens
10. Sign-in if you are in-person so we can track attendance
11. Maintain a safe and respectful environment, even when disagreeing
12. This meeting is being recorded
13. If in-person meeting is interrupted for an emergency, 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 informing the Chair**

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

ACTION ITEM

Approve the **consent calendar** items as listed:

- Approve minutes from the September 5, 2024 Council Meeting
- Approve staff report for the October 3, 2024 Council Meeting



CONTINUUM OF
CARE (COC)
NOTICE OF
FUNDING
OPPORTUNITY
(NOFO) UPDATE

CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity Update –
Riley Meve and Alex Michel, *Homebase*

COC NOFO UPDATE

Riley Meve and Alex Michel, *Homebase*

BACKGROUND

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funds the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program
- Annually releases a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), competition for approximately 450 Continuums of Care
- FY 2024 and FY 2025 CoC NOFO:
 - Released on July 31, 2024, \$3.5 billion available nationally
 - Possible \$22.6 million available to Contra Costa (not guaranteed)

ESTIMATED AVAILABLE FUNDING

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) | \$18,458,788 |
| CoC Bonus Funding | \$2,215,055 |
| Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus Funding | \$1,037,892 |
| Tier 1 Funding | \$16,612,909 |
| *Tier 2 Funding | \$5,098,826 |
| CoC Planning Funding (not ranked) | \$922,939 |
| Total Request to HUD | \$22,634,674 |

LOCAL REVIEW & RANK PROCESS

- Review and Rank Panel of non-conflicted Council members met on 9/16, 9/19, and 9/23
- Reviewed 12 scored renewal projects and 6 scored new project applications in the FY2024 and FY 2025 CoC local competition
- Projects were scored using Council-approved scoring tools revised by the Funding Committee earlier this year

OVERVIEW OF PRIORITY LISTING

- Recommended by the Review & Rank Panel based on application scores
- Renewal projects with less than 1 year of data, Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) projects, and Coordinated Entry (CE) projects are automatically placed at the bottom of Tier 1 in accordance with local policy
 - This year there are 4 such projects

NEW PROJECTS

- Scored 6 new project applications and 4 were included in the priority listing:
 1. *El Portal Place (Hope Solutions)*
 2. *YOUTH Hope (Hope Solutions)*
 3. *Riveter (Eden Housing, Inc.)*
 4. *Helping Hands (SHELTER, Inc.) – DV Bonus*
- 1 new expansion project, Planting Roots Expansion (SHELTER, Inc.), was added as it utilizing reallocated DV funds from a renewal DV project
- 2 new projects were not recommended for CoC funding as total request exceeded funding amount available to the CoC

COMMENTS FROM R&R PANELISTS

2024 R&R Panelists:

- Dani Jimenez
- Jo Bruno
- Juno Hedrick
- Nicole Green
- Wayne Earl

APPEALS PROCESS

- No eligible appeals were submitted

Rank Score Applicant Project Type Request Amount

| Tier 1 | | | | | |
|--------|--------|----------------|---|------|--------------|
| 1 | 100.00 | Hope Solutions | *ACCESS | PSH | \$ 1,649,824 |
| 2 | 99.86 | Hope Solutions | *Garden Park Apartments Community | PSH | \$ 353,714 |
| 3 | 99.25 | CCHS (H3) | *Destination Home | PSH | \$ 451,544 |
| 3 | 99.25 | Hope Solutions | *Families in Supportive Housing | PSH | \$ 1,135,449 |
| 5 | 96.00 | HACCC | *Lakeside | PSH | \$ 389,423 |
| 6 | 95.75 | SAHA | *Tabora Gardens Senior Apartments | PSH | \$ 275,955 |
| 7 | 95.38 | HACCC | *Contra Costa Tenant-Based Rental Assistance | PSH | \$ 7,206,039 |
| 7 | 95.38 | CCHS (H3) | *Permanent Connections | PSH | \$ 288,406 |
| 9 | 92.25 | SHELTER, Inc. | *Project Thrive | PSH | \$ 1,310,511 |
| 10 | 91.25 | Hope Solutions | *Richmond Hacienda | PSH | \$ 150,220 |
| 11 | ** | CCHS (H3) | Contra Costa Coordinated Entry | SSO | \$ 1,217,035 |
| 12 | ** | CCHS (H3) | Contra Costa HMIS | HMIS | \$ 175,596 |
| 13 | ** | SHELTER, Inc. | New Pathway | RRH | \$ 552,915 |
| 14 | ** | SHELTER, Inc. | Planting Roots | RRH | \$ 584,259 |
| 15 | 89.75 | CCHS (H3) | *High Utilizers of Multiple Systems (<i>Straddling Tiers</i>) | PSH | \$ 872,019 |

| Tier 2 | | | | | |
|--------|-------|----------------|---|-----|--------------|
| 15 | 89.75 | CCHS (H3) | *High Utilizers of Multiple Systems (<i>Straddling Tiers</i>) | PSH | \$ 1,092,779 |
| 16 | 82.38 | Hope Solutions | *Project Home SAFE | RRH | \$ 641,100 |
| 17 | --- | SHELTER, Inc. | ***Planting Roots Expansion (New Project) (DV Reallocation) | RRH | \$ 100,000 |
| 18 | 99.20 | Hope Solutions | El Portal Place (New Project) | PSH | \$ 339,686 |
| 19 | 94.40 | Hope Solutions | YOUTH Hope (New Project) | RRH | \$ 1,523,769 |
| 20 | 93.60 | Eden Housing | Riveter (New Project) | PSH | \$ 363,600 |
| 21 | 87.60 | SHELTER, Inc. | ****Helping Hands (New Project) (DV Bonus) | RRH | \$ 1,037,892 |

| *****Not Recommended for CoC Funding | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|---------------|-----------------------------------|--------|--------------|
| 22 | 91.90 | SHELTER, Inc. | New Beginnings (New Project) | PSH | \$ 2,215,054 |
| 23 | 88.20 | LFCO | CARE Casita - Hasan (New Project) | TH-RRH | \$ 446,112 |

* Effective as of the 2024 competition, the CoC adopted a policy that prioritizes renewal projects above new projects if they meet 1 or more of the following criteria: meet 3 specified performance measures, have extenuating circumstances impacting performance, and/or a loss of funding would result in adverse impacts to underserved populations. See here for the full policy (p. 5): <https://homebase.box.com/s/2x68kttf3unrg6ofvodgf0gmrygs8b96>

** Per local process, HMIS, CE, and projects with less than 1 year of data are automatically ranked at bottom of Tier 1.

*** Planting Roots Expansion is a new DV expansion project utilizing reallocated dollars from a renewal DV Bonus project.

**** This is the only new project being submitted for DV Bonus funding.

***** These projects are not recommended for CoC funding as total requests exceeded funding available to the CoC.

FY2024 AND FY 2025 PRELIMINARY PRIORITY LISTING

COUNCIL APPROVAL OF PRIORITY LISTING

- Per local policies:
 - Council approves the final ranked list
 - Any Council members with a conflict of interest must recuse themselves from all related discussions and abstain from the vote
- A conflict of interest exists if:
 - You or immediate family member have (in the past year), currently, or will (per agreement) serve as a Board member, staff member, or paid consultant of an org making a proposal for funding
 - You are currently employed by or sit on a Board for an org that has a contractual relationship with any entity making a funding proposal, unless the contractual relationship does not impact the funding proposal

ACTION ITEM

- Approve FY2024 and FY 2025 CoC NOFO Priority Listing of projects as recommended by the Review & Rank Panel



NOFO - WHAT'S NEXT

- **Thu, 10/3** – Council approves the Final Priority Listing
- **Thu, 10/3** – Applicants notified of final decisions
- **Wed, 10/23** – Project Applications and attachments submitted in e-snaps (Homebase will provide recommended revisions in early October)
- **Fri, 10/25** – Consolidated Application and Priority Listing posted for public review
- **Tue, 10/29** – Consolidated Application submitted in e-snaps
- **Wed, 10/30** – Consolidated Application due to HUD

COMMITTEE REPORT OUTS

**Homelessness Awareness Month Committee
(ACTION ITEM)** – Juno Hedrick and Hope Dixon,
Committee Members

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

**HOMELESSNESS
AWARENESS
MONTH
COMMITTEE**

Juno Hedrick and Hope Dixon, Committee
Members

UPCOMING EVENTS

Board of Supervisors Meeting (11/12)

- Afternoon meeting
- Staff will prepare packet for BOS meeting
- Chair/Vice Chair will do SHORT presentation and receive proclamations
- Recognitions in packet but not named

Recognition Event (11/12)

- After BOS presentation (exact time unknown but likely mid-afternoon)
- 1025 Escobar, Martinez
- Chair/Vice Chair will present certificates
- Slide deck with quote from submission form
- Reception with snacks
- PLEASE ATTEND!

Panel Conversation Event (11/14)

- Contra Costa College
- 11/14, 3 pm – 5 pm
- Youth themed
- Details TBD

Homeless Persons' Memorial Event (12/20)

- 11:30- 1 pm
- Walnut Creek Library
- Registration/name sharing info coming soon

RECOGNITION PROCESS UPDATE

- Recognizing anyone nominated that meets criteria
 - versus awarding just one recipient
- Submissions have been reviewed by staff and Committee
- How we'll recognize them:
 - CoC email blast with link to the full nomination documents
 - COH Presentation to Board of Supervisors on 11/12
 - Will name recipients in agenda packet
 - Presentation of certificates and reception after BOS meeting in Conference Room in same building

OUTSTANDING PARTNERSHIP

Loaves and
Fishes/BACS Delta
Landing
Partnership

Loaves and
Fishes/Trinity
Center Partnership
#1

Loaves and
Fishes/Trinity
Center Partnership
#2

Community
Villages Partners

Housing First
Collaborative

Clean Start
Partners

El Portal Place
Partners

SHARE Community
Partnership

Contra Costa Crisis
Center Partners

CEP/BARM
Partnership

OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER

Contra Costa Crisis
Center's Call Center
Volunteers

Daniel Aderholt,
American River
Homeless Crews #1

Daniel Aderholt,
American River
Homeless Crews
#2

Doreen Oberg,
GROW Concord

Liana (Lili) Baldazo

Maurice Tierney,
SOS Richmond

Nichole Gardner,
Facing
Homelessness

Sandro Trujillo, RR
Ministries

Sonia Leopold

OUTSTANDING LANDLORD

Joseline Medina,
The John Stewart
Company

Stephanie Bergin
& John O'Keefe,
John O'Keefe
Properties

Tiffany Powell,
GLO's
Independent
Living #1

Tiffany Powell,
GLO's
Independent
Living #2

Tiffany Powell,
GLO's
Independent
Living # 3

Tiffany Powell,
GLO's
Independent
Living # 4

Tiffany Powell,
GLO's
Independent
Living # 5

Verna Cruz, Bay
Area Community
Services

PHOENIX RISING

Amelia
Juner

Angie Pena

Ashley
Graham

Carlos
Aguilar

Christopher
Williams

Darren
Stallcup

Malika
Mahanna

Teddy
Thollaug

Victoria
Fairchild

PROCLAMATIONS

Homelessness Awareness Month

- Will go to BOS on 11/12
- Could go to other elected bodies

Homeless Persons' Memorial Day

- Will go to BOS on 11/12
- Could go to other elected bodies
- Event 12/20

REMINDER: UPCOMING EVENTS

Board of Supervisors Meeting (11/12)

- Afternoon meeting
- Staff will prepare packet for BOS meeting
- Chair/Vice Chair will do SHORT presentation and receive proclamations
- Recognitions in packet but not named

Recognition Event (11/12)

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Panel Conversation Event (11/14)

- Contra Costa College
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- Youth themed
- Details TBD

Homeless Persons' Memorial Event (12/20)

- 11:30- 1 pm
- Walnut Creek Library
- Registration/name sharing info coming soon

ACTION ITEM

- Approve Recognition recommendations and proclamation language as recommended by the Homelessness Awareness Month Committee



**YOUTH
ADVISORY
BOARD**

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

PLACEHOLDER

- Placeholder

OLD BUSINESS

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

FUNDING UPDATES

Jamie Schechter, *H3*
Christy Saxton, *H3*

FUNDING UPDATES – HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS SERVICES RFP



Stakeholder engagement themes from Summer 2024

Clarify interviews

Incorporate lived
experience in
process

Clarify funding
priorities and
sources

Continue with
longer submission
timeline

Emphasize
diversity and
representation on
scoring panel

BidSync
challenges

FUNDING UPDATES - HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS SERVICES RFP



Next Steps –

- RFP posting on H3's website!
- Sign up for Funding Opportunity updates through the [CoC Newsletter](#)
- H3 and DCD working to identify lived experience panel to review and score project applications

FUNDING UPDATES – COC BUILDS NOFO



- Released on July 19, 2024 the CoC Builds Notice of Funding Opportunity provides funding to **acquire, build, or rehabilitate** projects into Permanent Supportive Housing
- Applications due November 21, 2024
- \$175 million available with \$65 million set-aside for states with less than 2.5 million people
- **One project per CoC allowed** – will require prioritization if more than one project seeks to apply
- **\$7.5 million maximum request** allowed for Contra Costa CoC
- Full grant information available on [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov)

TIMELINE

| CoC Builds Timeline | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Letter of Interest | 9/13/2024 |
| Information workshop | 9/25/2024 |
| Applicant Office Hours | 9/30/2024 |
| Applications due | 10/16/2024 |
| Review and Rank | 10/21 - 10/25/2024 |
| Appeal Process | 10/28 - 11/1/2024 |
| CoH materials due | 11/1/2024 |
| CoH approval | 11/7/2024 |
| Grants.gov submission | No later than 11/21/2024 |

FUNDING UPDATES – TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM



- H3 awarded funding from US Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families to provide Transitional Living Program (TLP) services for runaway and youth ages 18-21
- TLP services will provide housing and supportive services to help youth establish self-sufficiency and sustainable living
- Awarded \$250,000 with non-competitive continuations for up to five years

FUNDING UPDATES – EL PORTAL PLACE

OPENING SOON



NEW BUSINESS

Presentation: Grants Pass Supreme Court Decision and California Executive Order N-1-24 – Vanessa Spinazola, Sarah Ahmed, and Michele Byrnes, *Homebase*

(ACTION ITEM) Nomination for County Administrator's Office (CAO) Innovation Fund Panel – Jamie Schechter, *H3*

Learning Corner: Legistar (Agenda Posting) – Jamie Schechter, *H3*

**PRESENTATION:
GRANTS PASS
SUPREME
COURT
DECISION &
CALIFORNIA
EXECUTIVE
ORDER N-1-24**

Vanessa Spinazola, *Homebase*

Sarah Ahmed, *Homebase*

Michele Byrnes, *Homebase*

Grants Pass & EO N-1-24

*Presentation for Contra Costa Council on
Homelessness*

Homebase, Criminal Legal System Initiative

September 5, 2024

Introduction

Homebase's mission is to build community capacity to end homelessness and reduce poverty, and to foster thriving, inclusive communities.

The Criminal Legal System Initiative seeks to improve outcomes for those impacted by the criminal legal system, decrease system-involvement through housing solutions, improve public safety outcomes, and reduce strain on public resources.



Sarah Ahmed
Staff Attorney II



Michele Byrnes
Directing Analyst



Vanessa Spinazola
Directing Attorney

For Discussion Today

- Overview of *Grants Pass* Decision
- Executive Order Review
- Impacts and Action Steps
- Q&A

Legal disclaimer: the content in this presentation is provided for information purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Homebase does not enter into attorney-client relationships.

Grants Pass Decision Overview

Syllabus

NOTE: Where it is feasible, a syllabus (headnote) will be released, as is being done in connection with this case, at the time the opinion is issued. The syllabus constitutes no part of the opinion of the Court but has been prepared by the Reporter of Decisions for the convenience of the reader. See *United States v. Detroit Timber & Lumber Co.*, 200 U. S. 321, 337.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

Syllabus

CITY OF GRANTS PASS, OREGON *v.* JOHNSON ET AL.,
ON BEHALF OF THEMSELVES AND ALL OTHERS
SIMILARLY SITUATED

CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR
THE NINTH CIRCUIT

No. 23–175. Argued April 22, 2024—Decided June 28, 2024

Grants Pass, Oregon, is home to roughly 38,000 people, about 600 of whom are estimated to experience homelessness on a given day. Like many local governments across the Nation, Grants Pass has public-camping laws that restrict encampments on public property. The Grants Pass Municipal Code prohibits activities such as camping on public property or parking overnight in the city's parks. See §§5.61.030, 6.46.090(A)–(B). Initial violations can trigger a fine, while multiple violations can result in imprisonment. In a prior decision, *Martin v. Boise*, the Ninth Circuit held that the Eighth Amendment's Cruel and Unusual Punishments Clause bars cities from enforcing public-camping ordinances like these against homeless individuals whenever the number of homeless individuals in a jurisdiction exceeds the number of "practically available" shelter beds. 920 F. 3d 584, 617. After *Martin*, suits against Western cities like Grants Pass proliferated.

Plaintiffs (respondents here) filed a putative class action on behalf of homeless people living in Grants Pass, claiming that the city's ordinances against public camping violated the Eighth Amendment. The district court certified the class and entered a *Martin* injunction prohibiting Grants Pass from enforcing its laws against homeless individuals in the city. App. to Pet. for Cert. 182a–183a. Applying *Martin's* reasoning, the district court found everyone without shelter in Grants Pass was "involuntarily homeless" because the city's total homeless population outnumbered its "practically available" shelter beds. App.

Grants Pass Overview

- 2018: the 9th Circuit Court ruled in *Martin v. Boise* that cities cannot enforce public camping bans if they do not have alternate shelter to offer.
 - Considered “cruel and unusual punishment” under the Eighth Amendment
- 2024: SCOTUS issues a decision in *City of Grants Pass v. Johnson*.
 - Rules that the enforcement of bans on public property does not constitute “cruel and unusual punishment” prohibited by the Eighth Amendment



Grants Pass Overview

- Grants Pass Holding: The enforcement of generally applicable laws regulating camping on public property does not constitute “cruel and unusual punishment” prohibited by the Eighth Amendment.
- In the decision SCOTUS ruled that:
 - 8th amendment is about curtailing the method of punishment, not what can be criminalized.
 - This punishment is not “cruel or unusual.”
 - This case is different from Robinson, because Grants Pass is not criminalizing a status – they are outlawing acts.

Majority Opinion

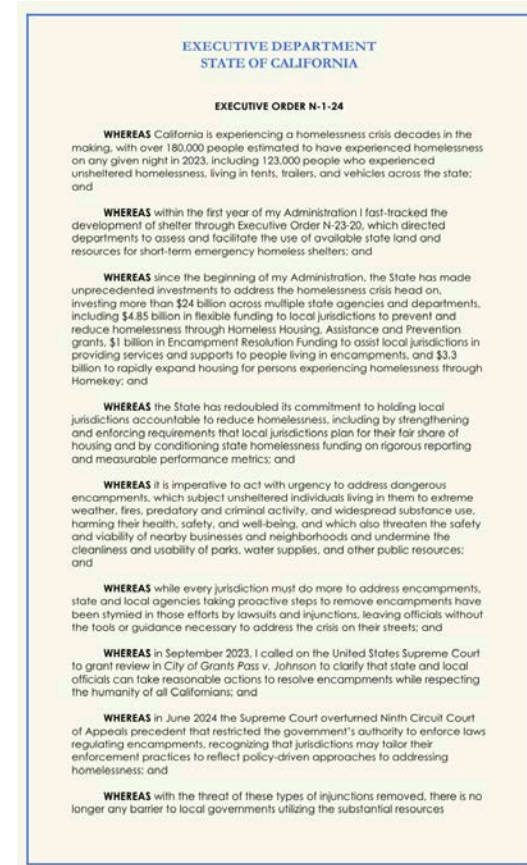
- Other Amendments (not 8th) better address what governments may criminalize (*Powell*).
- American people with their collective wisdom, through their elected representatives and charities, are better positioned to solve problem than federal judges.
- Cities and states are not bound to adopt public camping laws; states can narrow parameters (like Oregon).
- Other substantive constitutional protections come into play when laws are enforced against people experiencing homelessness.



Executive Order

Executive Order

- Agencies and departments subject to Governor's authority (State Parks, Fish & Wildlife) **shall** adopt policies consistent with CalTrans Maintenance Policy Directive 1001-R1:
 - Site assessment for priority level
 - Notice regarding clearing, property storage
 - Coordination with local community-based outreach
- State agencies and departments not under his authority are **requested** to adopt similar policies.
- Local governments are **encouraged** to adopt similar policies.
- CAL ICH to develop guidance.



CAL ICH Guidance

- Continued funding, guidance for programs serving people experiencing homelessness
- Series of webinars in August 2024. First one is linked [here](#)
- Highlighted compliance with Housing First under CA law
- Encourage incorporation of “person-centered, trauma-informed, and evidence-based approaches to address homelessness.”
- HCD ERF grants forthcoming

Grants Pass Supreme Court Decision: How it affects California



July 26, 2024

How is California responding to the Supreme Court's ruling?

In response to the Supreme Court ruling, Governor Newsom issued [Executive Order N-1-24](#) on July 25, 2024. This Order directs state agencies and departments to move with urgency and compassion in addressing encampments on state property.

As the state's leader in ending and preventing homelessness, the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) will continue to support agencies and departments in their design and implementation of policies, funding and programs that serve people experiencing homelessness, including those described in Executive Order N-1-24. To ensure state and local partners incorporate evidenced-based practices in their respective encampment responses, Cal ICH will host a series of webinars throughout the month of August 2024.

Furthermore, per [Welfare and Institutions Code \(WIC\) section 8256](#), Cal ICH will continue supporting state agencies and departments in adopting guidelines and regulations that incorporate the core components of Housing First into, “any programs a California state agency or department funds, implements, or administers for the purpose of providing housing or housing-based services to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.”

What is the City of Grants Pass v. Johnson case?

The City of Grants Pass v. Johnson is a federal court case brought by unhoused persons in Grants Pass, Oregon, who argued that the City's practice of ticketing unhoused individuals for camping in public violated the Eighth Amendment of the United States Constitution, which prohibits the government from imposing “cruel and unusual punishment” on criminal defendants. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, which includes California, upheld the decision.

On June 28, 2024, the Supreme Court ruled that enforcing laws that prohibit camping on public property is not cruel and unusual punishment. As a result, local governments across the country may freely enforce laws regulating camping on public property.

General Impacts

- Overturns *Martin v. Boise*
- Permits enforcement of existing laws that punish people for sleeping with bedding or camping on public property, with nowhere else to go
- Sanctions use of “**necessity defense**” for each violation of local ordinance
- Allows states and localities to introduce new legislation punishing people for sleeping or camping outside
- States and localities can still decline to criminalize homelessness ([this case is NOT a mandate](#))

Unaffected Laws and Rights

Americans with Disabilities Act and state law corollaries

Religious Freedom Acts

Procedural Due Process

Substantive Due Process

Dormant Commerce Clause

Right to Travel/Privileges and Immunities – under federal and California constitutions (and other states)

Fourth Amendment seizure of property and state corollaries

Excessive Fines clause of 8th Amendment

Impacts and Action Steps

Criminal Legal System Involvement Can Reduce Housing Options

- Lack of stable housing compromises criminal legal outcomes
 - Pre-trial detention possible; more likely results in conviction
 - Alternatives to custody, diversion may require an address
- Difficulty fulfilling conditions of sentence
 - Common conditions premised on stable housing
 - Fines, fees, court costs, & restitution (possible jail time)
- Difficulty securing and maintaining [housing](#) with a record
 - Criminal records may affect eligibility for public housing
 - Private landlords may have bias
- Job loss: One study demonstrated job loss in 30% of people at 3 days in jail.

Local Actions to Address Criminalization of Homelessness

- **The Grant's Pass Decision doesn't require governments to enforce or create laws making sleeping outside or camping a crime.**
- Develop clear governance policies and consensus decision-making processes that outline how CoCs can advocate against criminalization with a unified voice
- Host a CoC-wide workshop about criminalization of homelessness that includes people with lived experience
- Establish non-carceral, voluntary shelter and interim housing options
- Connect with legal services providers to meet the needs of people facing criminalization

Local Actions to Address Criminalization of Homelessness (con't)

- Advocate for policies that protect the safety and dignity of individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness
- Work with Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) to limit barriers to program access for people with criminal records
- Coordinate with advocacy groups and other allies on a compelling, coordinated, and locally tailored narrative for change
- Minimize interactions between law enforcement and individuals experiencing homelessness
- Work with local encampment residents to assess needs prior to clearing encampments

Local Actions to Address Criminalization of Homelessness (con't)

- Advocate against the adoption of local ordinances in alignment with the Executive Order. The EO applies to State land and State agencies and departments. **The Governor does not have enforcement power over county and local governments.**
- Remind decision makers that the Federal Government and some State partners do not support the criminalization of homelessness
- Emphasize the discriminatory effects of the criminalization of homelessness
- Get involved if new policies are being proposed or drafted

Q & A

clsi@homebaseccc.org

<https://www.homebaseccc.org/clsi>

**(ACTION ITEM)
NOMINATION FOR
COUNTY
ADMINISTRATOR'S
OFFICE (CAO)
INNOVATION FUND
PANEL**

Jamie Schecter, *H3*

MEASURE X INNOVATION FUND



- Measure X-funded Innovation Fund grant program seeks review panelist from advisory bodies
- These applications are NOT related to the RFP administered by H3 and the Department of Conservation and Development
- The review panel will select proposals for a planning phase and recommendations for awarding up to \$1.95 million in Innovation grants
- Time commitment is 24-36 hours between October 2024 – January 2025.
- No compensation is available for participating on the panel
- Nicole Green Council on Homelessness member expressed interest

ACTION ITEM

Approve interested Council on Homelessness members' nomination to the Measure X Innovation Fund Review Panel



**LEARNING
CORNER:
LEGISTAR
(AGENDA
POSTING)**

Jamie Schechter, *H3*

WHAT HAS CHANGED

What's Changed

- Actual website address
- Format of landing page
- Format of agenda

What hasn't changed?

- Constant Contact reminder
- Ability to sign up for direct notification
- Posting requirements

Old: Agenda Center

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- ▼ **Council on Homelessness** 2024 2023 2022 View More

| Agenda | Minutes | Download |
|--|---------|------------|
| ▶ Sep 25, 2024 — Posted Sep 20, 2024 7:18 PM Homelessness Awareness Month Committee Work Group | | Download ▼ |
| ▶ Sep 18, 2024 — Posted Sep 13, 2024 4:16 PM Point in Time Count Committee Work Group #1 | | Download ▼ |
| ▶ Sep 10, 2024 — Posted Sep 6, 2024 4:01 PM Equity Committee Work Group | | Download ▼ |
| ▶ Sep 5, 2024 — Amended Sep 3, 2024 12:41 PM Council on Homelessness | | Download ▼ |
| ▶ Aug 29, 2024 — Posted Aug 26, 2024 11:24 AM Nominating Committee Work Group | | Download ▼ |
| ▶ Aug 28, 2024 — Posted Aug 21, 2024 4:48 PM Homelessness Awareness Month Committee Work Group | | Download ▼ |
| ▶ Aug 20, 2024 — Posted Aug 16, 2024 9:13 AM Nominating Committee | | Download ▼ |
| ▶ Aug 15, 2024 — Posted Aug 9, 2024 4:43 PM Oversight Committee Work Group | | Download ▼ |
| ▶ Aug 15, 2024 — Posted Aug 9, 2024 4:57 PM PATH Committee | | Download ▼ |
| ▶ Aug 13, 2024 — Amended Aug 9, 2024 3:04 PM Equity Committee Work Group | | Download ▼ |
| ▶ Aug 1, 2024 — Posted Jul 26, 2024 5:16 PM Council on Homelessness | | Download ▼ |
| ▶ Jul 24, 2024 — Posted Jul 19, 2024 5:00 PM | | Download ▼ |

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New: Legistar

The screenshot shows the Legistar website for Contra Costa County, California. The page features a navigation menu with options like Home, Search Agenda Items, Meeting Calendar, Superior Board & District Meetings, and Advisory Body Meetings. A sign-in button is located in the top right corner. Below the navigation is an email update sign-up form with a text input field for an email address and a submit button. A large yellow arrow points to this form. Below the form is a section titled 'Upcoming Meetings' which contains a table of meeting information. A yellow arrow points to the table. The table has columns for Name, Meeting Date, Meeting Time, Meeting Location, Meeting Details, Agenda, Accessible Agenda, Agenda Packet, Minutes, Accessible Minutes, and Video. The meetings listed include the Developmental Disabilities Council, Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board, Head Start Policy Council, Kensington Municipal Advisory Council, Assessment Appeals Board, Racial Justice Oversight Body, Hazardous Materials Commission, Fish and Wildlife Committee, Equal Employment Opportunity Advisory Council, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, and Advisory Council on Aging. A yellow arrow also points to the left side of the page.

Upcoming Meetings

| Name | Meeting Date | Meeting Time | Meeting Location | Meeting Details | Agenda | Accessible Agenda | Agenda Packet | Minutes | Accessible Minutes | Video |
|---|--------------|--------------|--|---------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------|
| Developmental Disabilities Council | 9/25/2024 | 10:00 AM | 1025 Escobar St., Martinez https://cchealth.zoom.us/j/96433584883?pwd=bEtCdk9wM0NyZHFvVi0N3U3Rm1mQ109 Call in: (646) 518-9805, meeting ID 964 3358 4883, password 872892 | Meeting details | Agenda | Accessible Agenda | Not available | Not available | Not available | |
| Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board | 9/25/2024 | 4:00 PM | Diablo Valley College (DVC) 321 Golf Club Rd. Pleasant Hill, CA 94523, Diablo Room in HSF Bldg. https://cchealth.zoom.us/j/94725400865 Call in: 1-646-518-9805 Access Code: 947 2540 865 <i>AODAB Meeting at Diablo Valley College Pleasant Hill Campus</i> | Meeting details | Agenda | Accessible Agenda | Agenda Packet | Not available | Not available | |
| Head Start Policy Council | 9/25/2024 | 6:00 PM | 500 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/87045135129?pwd=WGddEdpMVjTWkJEQWVjd0RTZk4Zz09 Code 826100 Call: USA 8882780254 Code: 379008 | Meeting details | Agenda | Accessible Agenda | Agenda Packet | Not available | Not available | |
| Kensington Municipal Advisory Council | 9/25/2024 | 7:00 PM | 61 Arlington Ave., Kensington https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/83020078959?pwd=YlRscWZRMtNLUWgrUKVsUzQwOEJYdz09 Meeting ID: 830 2007 8959 Password: 136555 | Meeting details | Agenda | Accessible Agenda | Agenda Packet | Not available | Not available | |
| Assessment Appeals Board | 9/26/2024 | 9:00 AM | Administration Building 1025 Escobar Street, Martinez | Meeting details | Agenda | Accessible Agenda | Agenda Packet | Not available | Not available | |
| Racial Justice Oversight Body | 9/26/2024 | 3:00 PM | 50 Douglas Drive, 2nd Floor (Madrone/Sequoia Room), Martinez, California 94553 https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82410462822?pwd=MWH778FdvvxhYnBUcRuangwWGVhocz.1 Call in: (669) 444 9171 Access Number: 105103 <i>Data Subcommittee</i> | Meeting details | Agenda | Accessible Agenda | Agenda Packet | Not available | Not available | |
| Hazardous Materials Commission | 9/26/2024 | 4:00 PM | 777 Arnold Dr., Martinez, CA 94553 - Paramount Room Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/93502466349 Phone: 1 (669) 900-6833 Meeting ID: 935 0246 6349 | Meeting details | Agenda | Accessible Agenda | Agenda Packet | Not available | Not available | |
| Fish and Wildlife Committee | 9/26/2024 | 5:00 PM | ** REVISED AGENDA ** Martinez Yacht Club 111 Tarantino Dr. Martinez, CA 94553 ZOOM LINK https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/86277677520 Dial: 888-278-0254 Access Code: 198675 | Meeting details | Agenda | Accessible Agenda | Agenda Packet | Not available | Not available | |
| Equal Employment Opportunity Advisory Council | 9/27/2024 | Canceled | 2350 Arnold Drive, Martinez https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/84847038398?pwd=MieTYlgtbSwoggFuixNnciHQ2ZnHQ8.1 Call-In: 1-214-765-0478 / Conference Code: 480778 / Meeting ID: 848 4703 8398 / Password: 439954 | Meeting details | Not available | Not available | Not available | Not available | Not available | |
| BOARD OF SUPERVISORS | 10/1/2024 | 9:00 AM | Administration Building 1025 Escobar Street, Martinez https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/87344719204 Call in: 888-278-0254 access code 843298# | Meeting details | Not available | Not available | Not available | Not available | Not available | |
| Advisory Council on Aging | 10/1/2024 | 10:00 AM | 400 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill, CA Room 303 (Third Floor) <i>Planning Committee Link:</i> https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/8193050743?pwd=CaDrCQib0b41w2AkcQYhEGKmb1uzpp.1 Meeting ID: 819 3050 743 Password: 650708 Dial-In-Number: 214 765 0478 or 888 278 0254 Code: 608770 | Meeting details | Agenda | Accessible Agenda | Agenda Packet | Not available | Not available | |

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- Meeting Agendas (All)
 - Advisory Council on Aging
 - African American Holistic Wellness Hub Feasibility Study Steering Committee
 - Airports Committee
 - Alamo Municipal Advisory Council
 - Alamo Police Services Advisory Committee (CSA P-2B)
 - Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board
 - Aviation Advisory Committee
 - Bay Point Municipal Advisory Council
 - Bethel Island Municipal Advisory Council
 - BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
 - Board of Supervisors - Special Meeting
 - Contra Costa County Fire Protection District
 - Byron Municipal Advisory Council
 - Community Corrections Partnership
 - Contra Costa Council on Homelessness
 - Contra Costa County Merit Board
 - County Service Area P-2A (Blackhawk) Citizens Advisory Committee



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, November 7, 1 – 3 PM (IN PERSON)
- **Homeless Service Provider Meeting:** Thursday, October 10, 8:30 – 9:30 AM (Zoom)
- **PIT Committee Work Group:** Tuesday, October 16, 2:30 – 4:30 PM (Zoom)
- **PATH Committee Work Group:** Thursday, October 17, 9:30 – 11 AM (Zoom)
- **Oversight Committee:** Thursday, October 17, 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM (IN PERSON)
- **CoC Training (CoC Equal Access Rule):** Monday, October 21, 10 AM – 12 PM (Zoom)
- **Homelessness Awareness Month Committee Work Group,** Wednesday, October 23, 2-4 pm (Zoom)



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MINUTES

Date: Thursday, September 5, 2024, 1 pm – 3 pm

Recording link: Available by email request to CChomelesscouncil@cchealth.org

Council Member Attendance:

- In-Person (12): Alejandra Chamberlain; Carolyn Foudy; Dani Jimenez; Deanne Pearn; Gabriel Lemus; Hope Dixon; Iman Novin; Jazmin Ridley; Mia Fairbanks; Nicole Green; Shawn Ray; Wayne Earl
- Remote (4): Jo Bruno; Juno Hedrick; Tony Ucciferri; Yahel Moreno
- Absent (3): Janae Thomas; Jai De Lotto; Leslie Gleason

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

Community Member Attendance:

- In-person: Daniel Busch, EHSD; Jill Ray, Supervisor Candace Anderson’s Office; Laronette Perry, CCH-AODS
- Remote: Guita Bahramipour, AOD Advisory Board; Theresa Karr, CA Senator Bill Dodd; Rena Moore, CAB and Safe Return Project; Leng Power, City of Concord; iSHANI Rasanayagam, City of Pittsburg; Teresa Gonzalez, Community Connect/Enhanced Care Management; Sara B, Community member; Jacqueline Lopez-Padilla, Community Services Bureau; Colleen Awad, Contra Costa County; Jaclyn Tummings, Contra Costa County; Peter Myers, Contra Costa County; Gina Bills, CCCOE; Carina Rodriguez-Peña , CCH; Kelsey Mayeda, Diablo Valley College; Brianna Ramos, Fresh Lifelines for Youth; Tiffany Powell, Glo's independent Living LLC; Ralph Payton, GRIP; Brittany Ferguson, H3; Caroline Miller, H3; Cheryl Leonor, H3; Ernesto Robles, H3; Kate Horsting, H3; Lavonna Martin, H3; Mary Juárez-Fitzgerald, H3; Michael Callanan, H3 CORE; Natalie Siva, H3; Shelby Ferguson, H3; Tara Cantu, H3; Yessenia Aguilar, H3; Michele Byrnes, Homebase; Sarah Ahmed, Homebase; Vanessa Spinazola, Homebase; Kristin Kane, Kaiser Permanente; Carmen Cano, Lao Family Community Development; Joelle Chinnock, NCC SDA; Courtney Pal, Resources for Community Development; Alicia Alferez, SHELTER, Inc.; Andrea Foti, SHELTER, Inc.; Antoinette Smith, SHELTER, Inc.; Brandon Wirth, SHELTER, Inc.; Cynthia Chavez, SHELTER, Inc.; James Randolph, SHELTER, Inc.; James Worley, SHELTER, Inc.; Juan Florez, SHELTER, Inc.; Kathryn Ross, SHELTER, Inc.; Shayne Kaleo, SHELTER, Inc.

| Time | Agenda Item | Presenter |
|---|---|--|
| 1:00 | 1. <u>Call to Order</u> – Chair starts the meeting | a. Wayne Earl, <i>Chair and Faith Community Representative</i> |
| - Wayne Earl called the meeting to order. | | |



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1:00 | <p>2. <u>Introductions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Hybrid Meeting Norms b. Roll call of Council members and introduction of guests c. Poll – Who’s in the room? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Wayne Earl, <i>Chair and Faith Community Representative</i> b. Wayne Earl, <i>Chair and Faith Community Representative</i> c. Wayne Earl, <i>Chair and Faith Community Representative</i> |
| <p>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.</p> <p>b. Wayne Earl conducted a roll call of Council members and invited guests to introduce themselves in the chat.</p> <p>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:</p> <p>1. Question 1: How many Council on Homelessness meetings have you attended?</p> <p>Answer: This is my first meeting: 1 (4%) I’ve attended some meetings: 7 (26%) I’ve attended a lot of meetings: 19 (70%) I prefer not to answer: 0 (0%)</p> <p>2. Question 2: Do you have lived experience of homelessness?</p> <p>Answer: Yes, currently 0 (0%) Yes, within the past 7 years 5 (17%) Yes, more than 7 years ago 3 (10%) No 21 (72%) I prefer not to answer 0 (0%)</p> <p>3. Question 3: What best describes your racial identify?</p> <p>Answer: African American/Black 3 (9%) American Indian/Alaskan Native 3 (9%) Asian/Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian 3 (9%) Hispanic/Latinx 7 (21%) White 14 (41%) Multi-racial 3 (9%) I describe myself in another way 0 (0%) I prefer not to answer 1 (3%)</p> | | |
| 1:19 | <p>3. <u>Public Comment</u> – Open period for members of the public to comment on items not listed on the agenda.</p> | <p>a. Members of the public</p> |
| - | | |



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>- H3 mourned the loss of a departing colleague, Michael Fischer, and discussed plans to honor his legacy. Details of his service and memorial were shared in the chat.</p> | | |
| 2:10 | <p>4. <u>Consent Calendar (ACTION ITEM)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. APPROVE minutes from the August 1, 2024 Council meeting. b. APPROVE staff report for the September 5, 2024 Council meeting. | <p>a. Wayne Earl, <i>Chair and Faith Community Representative</i></p> |
| <p>Motion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State of Motion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To approve the consent calendar items as listed above. • Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ None. • Procedural Record <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Motion made by: Nicole Green ○ Seconded by: Shawn Ray ○ AYES: Alejandra Chamberlain; Carolyn Foudy; Dani Jimenez; Deanne Pearn; Gabriel Lemus; Hope Dixon; Iman Novin; Jazmin Ridley; Juno Hedrick; Mia Fairbanks; Nicole Green; Shawn Ray; Tony Ucciferri; Wayne Earl; Yahel Moreno ○ NOES: None ○ ABSTAINS: None ○ ABSENT: Jai De Lotto; Janae Thomas; Jo Bruno; Leslie Gleason | | |
| 1:25 | <p>5. <u>Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) | <p>a. Mark Mora, <i>Homebase</i></p> |
| <p>a. <u>CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)</u>: Mark Mora provided an update on the Continuum of Care (CoC) program, highlighting the July 31st release of the Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity for fiscal years 2024 and 2025, as well as the upcoming September 11th deadline for new project local applications and drafts of e-snaps project applications. Mark also outlined changes to the renewal project application process, including email response-only interviews for renewal projects due by September 18th, as well as the virtual interview process for new projects on September 23st. Anyone with questions about the competition may reach out to contracosta@homebaseccc.org.</p> | | |
| 1:40 | <p>6. <u>Committee Report Outs- report outs from each of the committees below.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Nominating Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. (ACTION ITEM) REVIEW and APPROVE revisions to Council member recruitment process and application materials as | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Jaime Jenett, <i>H3</i> b. Jaime Jenett, <i>H3</i> c. Hope Dixon, <i>Community Member Representative</i> d. Caroline Miller, <i>H3</i> and Juno Hedrick, <i>Vice Chair</i> |



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | <p>recommended by the Nominating Committee and APPROVE Council Members to serve on the Nominating Panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Point-In-Time Count Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. (ACTION ITEM) Recruit and APPROVE Council on Homelessness members to serve on the 2025 Point-In-Time Count Committee c. Homelessness Awareness Month Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. (ACTION ITEM) REVIEW and APPROVE recognition categories d. Youth Advisory Board (YAB) Update | <p><i>and Lived Experience Advisor</i></p> |
|--|--|--|

a. Nominating Committee:
 Jaime Jenett presented the proposed revisions to the council member nomination process to make it more accessible and inclusive. The presentation included the purpose, materials, recommendations, recruitment process timeline, and open seats for 2025. Issues regarding synchronizing the expiration dates for lived experience and advisor seats were discussed, with a solution proposed to offer staggered term lengths. H3 also showed the purpose and time commitment of the nominating panel recruitment with a list of eligible participants. The following COH members expressed interest in being part of the nominating panel: Jo Bruno, Mia Fairbanks, Nicole Green, Tony Ucciferri, and Hope Dixon.

Motion

- State of Motion:
 - To review and approve revisions to the Council on Homelessness member recruitment process and application materials as recommended by the Nominating Committee and as discussed today AND approve COH members for Nominating Panel as well as to approve the process for the lived experience advisor seat to stagger them.
- Discussion:
 - None.
- Procedural Record
 - Motion made by: Dani Jimenez
 - Seconded by: Mia Fairbanks
 - AYES: Alejandra Chamberlain; Carolyn Foudy; Dani Jimenez; Deanne Pearn; Gabriel Lemus; Hope Dixon; Iman Novin; Jazmin Ridley; Juno Hedrick; Mia Fairbanks; Nicole Green; Shawn Ray; Wayne Earl; Yahel Moreno
 - NOES: None
 - ABSTAINS: None
 - ABSENT: Jai De Lotto; Janae Thomas; Leslie Gleason

b. PIT Count Committee:



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Jaime Jenett summarized the process for the upcoming Point in Time count, a biannual observational count and survey conducted by the community, scheduled in the month of January. The committee will review the methods, identify hotspots, and finalize the survey. The committee's meetings will be held on the third Fridays of September, October, and November, with the November meeting being in-person. The following COH members decided to be part of the PIT committee: Hope Dixon, Nicole Green, Dani Jimenez, Jo Bruno, and Juno Hedrick.

Motion

- State of Motion:
 - To approve COH members for Point-In-Time Count Committee.
- Discussion:
 - None.
- Procedural Record
 - Motion made by: Deanne Pearn
 - Seconded by: Jazmin Ridley
 - AYES: Carolyn Foudy; Dani Jimenez; Deanne Pearn; Gabriel Lemus; Hope Dixon; Iman Novin; Jazmin Ridley; Juno Hedrick; Mia Fairbanks; Nicole Green; Shawn Ray; Wayne Earl; Yahel Moreno
 - NOES: None
 - ABSTAINS: None
 - ABSENT: Jai De Lotto; Janae Thomas; Leslie Gleason

c. Homelessness Awareness Month Committee:

Hope Dixon went over the changes of the recognition categories and explained that some of the categories remain the same, but they are also introducing new ones. The "Outstanding Landlord" and "Outstanding Volunteer" categories are the same, while the "New Project Program Recognition" was replaced with the "Outstanding Partnership" category. A new category, "Rising Phoenix," was introduced to replace the "Face of Homelessness" category. The committee sought input from organizations with experience in homelessness for the "Outstanding Partnership" category, which replaces the "New Project/Program" recognition. The Council discussed the possibility of holding a separate event at the Board of Supervisors to recognize the nominees, and H3 will arrange the schedule for this event.

d. Youth Advisory Board (YAB):

Caroline Miller and Juno Hedrick provided an update on the Youth Advisory Board (YAB), which was established to provide leadership, education, and advocacy opportunities for young people involved in the continuum of care services. They shared that the Board has been holding hybrid meetings at Pomona TLP and RYSE Center, with 19 youth and young adults participating so far. Juno mentioned that the intention is to focus more on YAB outreach and to solidify the group's structures according to the youth's needs. Additionally, Caroline reported that they had submitted their application to HUD for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) and were expecting an estimated project completion date of October 1st, 2027. YAB also submitted a YouTube video as part of the application



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and may be viewed [here](#). The results of a community inquiry into the concept of authentic youth collaboration were also shared, emphasizing the importance of trust, safety, and equity in such collaborations.

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| 1:45 | 7. <u>Old Business</u> a. Funding Updates | a. Jamie Schecter and Christy Saxton, <i>H3</i> |
|------|---|---|

a. Funding Updates:
 Jamie Schecter shared that the Metrics Housing Fund's Measure X went through a process of feedback, with 14 responses received from Measure X applicants, that led to improvements in the interview process, funding priorities, and scoring panel representation. Next steps include incorporating the feedback received into the Request for Proposal (RFP) process, releasing an RFP draft in early October, developing a resource sheet for applicants, and finalizing the application and release timeline. Additionally, it was announced that the Measure X Funded Innovation Fund Grants is seeking review panelists from advisory bodies to award \$1.95 million in innovation grants. The months and time commitment were shared, and no compensation will be provided for participating on the panel. The Council may approve up to two nominations. Anyone interested may reach out to H3 at contracostacoc@cchealth.org. Another update provided was about the new funding opportunities called the CoC Builds NOFO program, which provides funding to acquire, build, or rehabilitate projects into Permanent Supportive Housing. The total funding is \$175 million dollars and communities may only submit one project proposal. H3 can apply for up to \$7.5 million. The application deadline is November 21st, 2024 and the eligibility for the review and rank panel was shared. Lastly, the Mary McGovern Transitional Housing program, which provided transitional housing for transition aged youth in Central County, will end in September 2024 due to inability to renew the lease, but current residents will be moved to other housing as H3 hopes to find a new site while increasing beds in other programs.

| | | |
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| 2:05 | 8. <u>New Business</u> a. Learning Corner: SPIRIT Program (Behavioral Health Service Provider Individualized Recovery Intensive Training) b. Presentation: Grants Pass Supreme Court Decision and California Executive Order N-1-24 | a. Victoria Fairchild and Bianca Berrios, <i>Contra Costa Behavioral Health Services, Office for Consumer Empowerment</i> b. Vanessa Spinazola, Sarah Ahmed, and Michele Byrnes, <i>Homebase</i> |
|------|--|---|

a. 2023 CoC Annual Report Preview:
 Victoria Fairchild introduced herself and shared her personal journey of recovery and how the program helped her turn her life into a positive one. The SPIRIT Program is a six-month course with 60 hours of internship divided into three parts that covers topics such as peer support, group facilitation, and cultural responsiveness. Upon completion, students receive certificates and ongoing support for job opportunities and mock interviews. The team also informed the application process for peer positions



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and post-SPIRIT education paths. The SPIRIT Program applications were shared and are due on October 4th, 2024. Anyone interested in the program may reach out to victoria.Fairchild@cchealth.org.

b. Presentation: Grants Pass Supreme Court Decision and California Executive Order N-1-24:
Due to time constraints, this agenda item was tabled for the October meeting.

| | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|
| 2:55 | 9. <u>Announcements</u> | a. All |
| <p>a. General Announcements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leng Power announced that the City of Concord has an active Request for Proposal to assist with implementation of the strategies in the homeless strategic plan. The due date to apply is Friday, September 13th and the link to the RFP can be found here. - Jamie Schecter, H3, announced that the PATH Committee Work Group and the HMIS Policy Committee are cancelled for September for COH members and the public to attend Michael Fischer’ service. - It was clarified that the Homeless Service Provider meeting is the second Thursday of the month, with the September meeting scheduled on September 12th, 8:30 – 9:30am. | | |
| 2:59 | 10. <u>Pin It</u> | a. Wayne Earl, <i>Chair and Faith Community Representative</i> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next COH meeting will be on October 3rd, 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. | | |



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING

Commonly Used Acronyms

| 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 |



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| | |
|----------|---|
| 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 |



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS STAFF REPORT

Report for the October 3, 2024 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 Work Group met on 9/11 and was presented with preliminary demographic information on Participant Satisfaction Survey, highlight of 2023 Annual Report Equity Related Data, provided input on equity related themes/issues related to Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures and continued with Equity Committee Work Planning



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS STAFF REPORT

Funding Committee

- The purpose of the Funding Committee is to direct the community input process for several time-sensitive federal and state funding streams. The work of the Continuum of Care/Emergency Solutions Grant (CoC/ESG) Committee, namely updating materials and prepare for the annual Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity (CoC NOFO) competition, will now take place within the Funding Committee.
- There are no scheduled meetings for the remainder of 2024.

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.
- This ad hoc committee and work group convened monthly from February to March 2024 on the following dates. Recommended revisions to the Council on Homelessness Bylaws and Governance Charter were developed and were reviewed by County Counsel. The Council on Homelessness for reviewed and approved the revisions at the June meeting. The Family and Human Services Committee of the Board of Supervisors approved the proposed changes at their September 23, 2024 meeting and the next step is for the revisions to be approved by the County Board of Supervisors.

Nominating Committee

- Five people attended at least one of the two Technical Assistance Support hours for people applying for the Council on Homelessness. More detail about number of applicants, demographics, etc will be presented at the November COH meeting.

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.



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS STAFF REPORT

- The next Oversight Committee meeting will be a **IN-PERSON for CoH members** on October 17th, 11:30am - 1:30pm. Please [use this link to register](#). While CoH members are expected to attend in-person, community members are welcome to attend in-person or virtually.

Plan to Accelerate Transformative Housing Innovations Committee

- No meeting was held in September.



Contra Costa Council on Homelessness
FY2024 CoC Program Competition Priority Listing
Preliminary as of September 23, 2024

| Rank | Score | Applicant | Project | Type | Request Amount |
|---------------|--------|----------------|---|------|----------------|
| Tier 1 | | | | | |
| 1 | 100.00 | Hope Solutions | *ACCESS | PSH | \$ 1,649,824 |
| 2 | 99.86 | Hope Solutions | *Garden Park Apartments Community | PSH | \$ 353,714 |
| 3 | 99.25 | CCHS (H3) | *Destination Home | PSH | \$ 451,544 |
| 3 | 99.25 | Hope Solutions | *Families in Supportive Housing | PSH | \$ 1,135,449 |
| 5 | 96.00 | HACCC | *Lakeside | PSH | \$ 389,423 |
| 6 | 95.75 | SAHA | *Tabora Gardens Senior Apartments | PSH | \$ 275,955 |
| 7 | 95.38 | HACCC | *Contra Costa Tenant-Based Rental Assistance | PSH | \$ 7,206,039 |
| 7 | 95.38 | CCHS (H3) | *Permanent Connections | PSH | \$ 288,406 |
| 9 | 92.25 | SHELTER, Inc. | *Project Thrive | PSH | \$ 1,310,511 |
| 10 | 91.25 | Hope Solutions | *Richmond Hacienda | PSH | \$ 150,220 |
| 11 | ** | CCHS (H3) | Contra Costa Coordinated Entry | SSO | \$ 1,217,035 |
| 12 | ** | CCHS (H3) | Contra Costa HMIS | HMIS | \$ 175,596 |
| 13 | ** | SHELTER, Inc. | New Pathway | RRH | \$ 552,915 |
| 14 | ** | SHELTER, Inc. | Planting Roots | RRH | \$ 584,259 |
| 15 | 89.75 | CCHS (H3) | *High Utilizers of Multiple Systems (<i>Straddling Tiers</i>) | PSH | \$ 872,019 |

| | | | | | |
|---------------|-------|----------------|---|-----|--------------|
| Tier 2 | | | | | |
| 15 | 89.75 | CCHS (H3) | *High Utilizers of Multiple Systems (<i>Straddling Tiers</i>) | PSH | \$ 1,092,779 |
| 16 | 82.38 | Hope Solutions | *Project Home SAFE | RRH | \$ 641,100 |
| 17 | --- | SHELTER, Inc. | ***Planting Roots Expansion (New Project) (DV Reallocation) | RRH | \$ 100,000 |
| 18 | 99.20 | Hope Solutions | El Portal Place (New Project) | PSH | \$ 339,686 |
| 19 | 94.40 | Hope Solutions | YOUTH Hope (New Project) | RRH | \$ 1,523,769 |
| 20 | 93.60 | Eden Housing | Riveter (New Project) | PSH | \$ 363,600 |
| 21 | 87.60 | SHELTER, Inc. | ****Helping Hands (New Project) (<i>DV Bonus</i>) | RRH | \$ 1,037,892 |

| | | | | | |
|---|-------|---------------|-----------------------------------|--------|--------------|
| *****Not Recommended for CoC Funding | | | | | |
| 22 | 91.90 | SHELTER, Inc. | New Beginnings (New Project) | PSH | \$ 2,215,054 |
| 23 | 88.20 | LFCD | CARE Casita - Hasan (New Project) | TH-RRH | \$ 446,112 |

* Effective as of the 2024 competition, the CoC adopted a policy that prioritizes renewal projects above new projects if they meet 1 or more of the following criteria: meet 3 specified performance measures, have extenuating circumstances impacting performance, and/or a loss of funding would result in adverse impacts to underserved populations. See here for the full policy (p. 5): <https://homebase.box.com/s/2x68kttf3unrg6ofvodgf0gmrygs8b96>

** Per local process, HMIS, CE, and projects with less than 1 year of data are automatically ranked at bottom of Tier 1.

*** Planting Roots Expansion is a new DV expansion project utilizing reallocated dollars from a renewal DV Bonus project.

**** This is the only new project being submitted for DV Bonus funding.

***** These projects are not recommended for CoC funding as total requests exceeded funding available to the CoC.

| | | |
|--|-----------|-------------------|
| Annual Renewal Demand | \$ | 18,458,788 |
| CoC Bonus | \$ | 2,215,055 |
| Domestic Violence Bonus (1 application received) | \$ | 1,037,892 |
| Tier 1 Amount | \$ | 16,612,909 |
| Tier 2 Amount | \$ | 5,098,826 |
| CoC Planning (not ranked) | \$ | 922,939 |
| Total Request to HUD | \$ | 22,634,674 |



Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Homelessness Awareness Month 2024 Recognitions for “Outstanding Partnership”

The Outstanding Partnership category is designed to recognize partnerships that support people experiencing homelessness. Partnerships can be with/between government agencies, nonprofits/CBOs, advocacy groups, faith organizations, individuals (including those who have experienced homelessness), and businesses. The partnership must support people facing homelessness in Contra Costa County in some way, but does not have to only serve people experiencing homelessness.

Nominees

1. Loaves and Fishes/BACS Delta Landing Partnership
2. Loaves and Fishes/Trinity Center Partnership #1
3. Loaves and Fishes/Trinity Center Partnership #2
4. Community Villages Partners
5. Housing First Collaborative
6. Clean Start Partners
7. El Portal Place Partners
8. SHARE Community Partnership
9. Contra Costa Crisis Center Partners
10. CEP/BARM Partnership

The following pages contain descriptions of each nominee as provided by the person (s) who nominated them.

Supervisory District where project takes place: District 5 (Hercules, Martinez, Pittsburg, portions of Pinole and Antioch, and unincorporated communities of Alhambra Valley, Bay Point, Briones, Rodeo, Pacheco, Crockett, Tormey, Port Costa, Mt. View, Vine Hill, Reliez Valley, and Clyde)

Loaves and Fishes/BACS Delta Landing Partnership

Nominated by: Janette Kennedy, Loaves and Fishes

Please describe the key partners and if/how the partnership engages people with lived experience of homelessness in the work.

Loaves and Fishes of Contra Costa (LFCC) and Bay Area Community Services (BACS)

Please describe how the partnership supports people facing homelessness in Contra Costa County.

Loaves and Fishes of Contra Costa (LFCC) and Bay Area Community Services (BACS) partner together at Delta Landing to make sure people who have experienced homelessness and are now housed in the shelter at Delta Landing receive a hot and nutritious meal and groceries Monday through Friday. BACS provides wrap around services and LFCC provides hot and nutritious meals to people who have experienced homelessness but who are now staying at the shelter.

Supervisorial District where project takes place: District 5 (Hercules, Martinez, Pittsburg, portions of Pinole and Antioch, and unincorporated communities of Alhambra Valley, Bay Point, Briones, Rodeo, Pacheco, Crockett, Tormey, Port Costa, Mt. View, Vine Hill, Reliez Valley, and Clyde)

Loaves and Fishes/Trinity Center Partnership

Nominated by: Janette Kennedy, Loaves and Fishes

Please describe the key partners and if/how the partnership engages people with lived experience of homelessness in the work.

Trinity Center (TC) and Loaves and Fishes of Contra Costa (LFCC).

Please describe how the partnership supports people facing homelessness in Contra Costa County.

TC and LFCC provide much needed services to people experiencing homelessness. LFCC runs the dining room at TC and provides a hot and nutritious meal to TC members. TC offers much needed services such as showers, laundry, mail box and more. People experiencing homelessness needing essential services, including a hot and nutritious meal, can come to TC and receive those services due to the partnership between TC and LFCC.

In addition to the daily services TC and LFCC provide, during the winter months, LFCC hosts one of its 12-week free culinary arts training programs at TC for 6-10 students (also members of TC). The students learn the basic skills to have a job in the culinary industry, plus the food they prepare is also served to the Winter Evening Program guests (winter shelter at Armory) that TC hosts.

Supervisorial District where project takes place: District 2 (San Ramon, Danville, Alamo, Lafayette, Moraga, Orinda, Canyon, Rossmoor, Parkmead, Saranap and a portion of Walnut Creek))

Trinity Center/Loaves and Fishes Partnership

Nominated by: Pamela McGrath, Trinity Center

Please describe the key partners and if/how the partnership engages people with lived experience of homelessness in the work.

Trinity Center (TC) and Loaves and Fishes of Contra Costa (LFCC).

Please describe how the partnership supports people facing homelessness in Contra Costa County.

Together we provide a safe, welcoming space at Trinity Center with nutritious meals provided by Loaves and Fishes. Meal time offers a real sense of community where hope flourishes and doorways to opportunity can lead to wellness, employment, and housing.

Our four year partnership has provided for essential human needs on a daily basis. Throughout our partnership, we have collaborated on new ventures and community outreach efforts and we have supported each other's organizations in many ways.

Supervisory District where project takes place: They serve the entire county

Community Villages Partners

Nominated by: Tanya Jacobs, Community Villages

Please describe the key partners and if/how the partnership engages people with lived experience of homelessness in the work.

Community Villages, GLO's Independent Living LLC, Contra Costa Youth Services Bureau and Greenwood High school in Richmond.

Please describe how the partnership supports people facing homelessness in Contra Costa County.

Community Villages supports individuals experiencing homelessness by providing resources and linkage to basic essentials such as food, resources to other agencies or housing partners, and facilitates wellness checks. Community Villages partners with organizations such as GLO's Independent Living, LLC to increase housing access to individuals that are unhoused, without barriers. Those individuals that we encounter who are ready for housing are assessed and their needs assessment determines where and how they can be supported with housing. In addition, Community Villages collaborates with Contra Costa Youth Services Bureau to increase resources for youth that are unhoused. They also partner with Greenwood High school in Richmond who provide resources to youth that are in transition and need supports. This partnership helps secure individuals with resources and being an ally to help advocate with other communities. Community Villages empowers community connections and relationship building.

Supervisory District where project takes place: District 1 (Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, part of Pinole, and the unincorporated communities of Bayview, East Richmond Heights, El Sobrante, Kensington, Montalvin Manor, Tara Hills, North Richmond, and Rollingwood)

Housing First Collaborative

Nominated by: James Becker, Richmond Community Foundation

Please describe the key partners and if/how the partnership engages people with lived experience of homelessness in the work.

The partners are Richmond Community Foundation, City of Richmond, SOS Richmond, Labor of Love, Catholic Charities of the East Bay, Motel 6, Extended Stay America and CORE. People with lived experience have been hired to help lead this work and engage with the partners daily on specific issues and monthly as a full group to provide feedback on what is working.

Please describe how the partnership supports people facing homelessness in Contra Costa County.

The partnership provides immediate housing in area motels and hotels for those leaving the homeless encampments who are ready for housing, providing wrap around services. The partners then work with the people to develop a housing plan and secure long-term housing. Once the person is in long-term housing, wrap around services are continued and rent is paid for up to 12 months. The goal is to help the person secure employment and other income so that the person can assume the rent after 12 months.

Supervisorial District where project takes place: District 1 (Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, part of Pinole, and the unincorporated communities of Bayview, East Richmond Heights, El Sobrante, Kensington, Montalvin Manor, Tara Hills, North Richmond, and Rollingwood)

Clean Start Partnership

Nominated by: Daniel Gordon, City of Martinez

Please describe the key partners and if/how the partnership engages people with lived experience of homelessness in the work.

The Bay Church, the City of Martinez, and Contra Costa Health

Please describe how the partnership supports people facing homelessness in Contra Costa County.

Clean Start is a homeless outreach program that provides mobile shower facilities, laundry services, and toiletries for people experiencing homelessness in Contra Costa County. The partnership supports people facing homelessness by providing them with weekly opportunities to access sanitation facilities, receive hygiene supplies, get a haircut, and to have clothes laundered. Navigation and healthcare services are also provided through Contra Costa Health programs.

The program operates weekly in three locations: Bay Point, Martinez, and Pittsburg. In 2023, the program provided 3,499 showers between the three locations it serves in Contra Costa County. It served 559 individuals experiencing homelessness, and one-quarter of guests returned six or more times a year.

Supervisorial District where project takes place: District 5 (Hercules, Martinez, Pittsburg, portions of Pinole and Antioch, and unincorporated communities of Alhambra Valley, Bay Point, Briones, Rodeo, Pacheco, Crockett, Tormey, Port Costa, Mt. View, Vine Hill, Reliez Valley, and Clyde)

El Portal Place Collaboration

Nominated by: Cheryl Leonor, Contra Costa Health: H3

Please describe the key partners and if/how the partnership engages people with lived experience of homelessness in the work.

Contra Costa Health, Contra Costa Public Works, Housing Authority of Contra Costa County (HACCC), Overaa, and Hope Solutions

Please describe how the partnership supports people facing homelessness in Contra Costa County.

The El Portal Place Collaboration, including Contra Costa Health, Public Works, Housing Authority of Contra Costa County (HACCC), Overaa, and Hope Solutions, led to the second Homekey facility opening in Contra Costa County since 2022. This partnership was instrumental in transforming the El Portal Place property from a vacant office building to a 54 units of permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless, high utilizers of services in Contra Costa County. This team of professionals has consistently demonstrated their commitment to serving some of the county's most vulnerable population. El Portal Place demonstrates that through collaboration and innovation, we can bring about lasting change and impactful solutions to homelessness in our community. This successful collaboration is truly deserving of being recognized for their exceptional contributions and positive impact to support Contra Costa County's homeless population.

Each Agency has acted in concert to share resources and their expertise to bring El Portal Place into fruition:

- *Overaa built El Portal Place in 1970 and later renovated the 27,000 SF building to offer residents approximately 300 square feet each, with ADA-adaptable bathrooms and kitchenettes.*
- *CCH spearheaded the project by initiating the Homekey application and bringing the agencies together to coordinate efforts.*
- *HACCC sought and was awarded 41 Housing Stability Vouchers through the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Twenty-five of these vouchers will support households living at El Portal Place and offer long term financial stability to the project with these vouchers. HACCC has been working tirelessly with CCH to review housing applications for residents referred to units at El Portal Place.*
- *Hope Solutions is partnering with CCH to provide person centered, trauma informed Property Management and Supportive Services to people experiencing homeless in Contra Costa County.*
- *Public Works assisted CCH with the purchase the property and will continue to support Hope Solutions in maintaining facilities at El Portal Place.*

Supervisory District where project takes place: District 1 (Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, part of Pinole, and the unincorporated communities of Bayview, East Richmond Heights, El Sobrante, Kensington, Montalvin Manor, Tara Hills, North Richmond, and Rollingwood)

SHARE Community Partnership

Nominated by: Ricka Davis-Sheard, SHARE Community and Joleen Lafayette, Loaves & Fishes

Please describe the key partners and if/how the partnership engages people with lived experience of homelessness in the work.

SHARE Community, Contra Costa Healthcare for the Homeless, and Loaves & Fishes of Contra Costa

Please describe how the partnership supports people facing homelessness in Contra Costa County.

SHARE Community provides mobile showers for those experiencing homelessness, Loaves and Fishes provides over 100 meals/week during the shower services times and Healthcare for the Homeless provides medical services for those who are unhoused, once a week during shower services. Providing both food and medical services alongside mobile showers for the unhoused significantly enhances the effectiveness of outreach programs. Mobile showers alone help restore a sense of dignity by offering individuals a chance to care for their personal hygiene. However, combining this with food services ensures that individuals are not only clean but also nourished, which is essential for physical well-being and mental clarity.

Medical services are equally critical, as many individuals who are experiencing homelessness face untreated health issues—both physical and mental—due to limited access to healthcare. Offering medical care on-site allows for immediate treatment of injuries, infections, or chronic conditions that might otherwise worsen. It also provides a gateway for preventive care, vaccinations, and mental health support, which are often overlooked in traditional homeless services.

By integrating these services, mobile shower programs create a holistic support system. Individuals are more likely to engage with these services when they are all available in one location, fostering trust and encouraging them to seek additional help. This approach not only meets their immediate needs but also promotes long-term recovery, stability, and overall well-being.

Supervisorial District where project takes place: They serve the entire county

Contra Costa Crisis Center Partners

Nominated by: Elaine Schroth, Contra Costa Crisis Center

Please describe the key partners and if/how the partnership engages people with lived experience of homelessness in the work.

At the heart of our work is a county collaboration that brings together dedicated partners to support those experiencing homelessness in Contra Costa County. The Contra Costa Crisis Center serves as a vital 24/7 access point for the Contra Costa homeless Continuum of Care, providing prevention and diversion counseling, as well as referral services through the county's Coordinated Entry (CE) System. By calling or texting 211, individuals in need can access homeless shelters and connect with CORE, the county's homeless outreach team—services that are entirely free to the caller. This partnership engages people with lived experience of homelessness in multiple ways. Our compassionate team of 40 trained staff and 40 award-winning volunteers, many who have themselves faced hardship and are part of the local community, understand firsthand the struggles our callers endure. Last year alone, we received over 70,000 calls through the 988 crisis lifelines and the 211 information & referral helpline. These calls weren't just statistics; they were a testament to the courage and resilience of our community's most vulnerable. Through these calls, we were able to guide individuals and families toward basic necessities such as food, shelter, mental health services, and healthcare. The top concerns voiced—homeless services, housing and rent assistance, food security, and mental health—reflect the urgent needs we address every day. By working hand in hand with those who have lived through homelessness, we ensure that our services remain relevant, compassionate, and effective in helping people reclaim their dignity and stability.

Please describe how the partnership supports people facing homelessness in Contra Costa County.

To support people facing homelessness in Contra Costa County, our partnership offers a lifeline—accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week—through the 2-1-1 helpline or by texting "HOPE" to 20121. This essential service ensures that individuals and families on the brink of losing their homes receive compassionate and immediate support. Our dedicated call and text specialists, trained in homelessness prevention and diversion counseling, listen carefully to each person's story and provide tailored guidance to help them navigate the complex challenges they face. From the first call, our Crisis Center counselors work hand in hand with those in need, conducting thoughtful intakes, tracking their journey toward stability, and following up with exit interviews to ensure long-term success. We are committed to not just providing information but being a steady, supportive presence, offering a path to hope and secure housing when it's needed most. Through this partnership, we strive to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those facing homelessness, with every interaction focused on preventing loss and promoting dignity.

Supervisorial District where project takes place: They serve the entire county



Since 1963, the Contra Costa Crisis Center has been a beacon of hope for those in need, offering free, 24/7 support to anyone facing crisis. As a nonprofit deeply rooted in the community, our mission is simple yet profound: to keep people safe, to guide them through their most challenging times, and to connect them with services that are not only practical but also culturally relevant. We are here for individuals and families facing homelessness, ensuring they know they are not alone.

What sets us apart is the unwavering dedication of our staff and volunteers. Every day, they pour their hearts into this work, offering life-saving support with compassion, empathy, and understanding. They meet people in their darkest moments, providing a lifeline when hope seems lost. We are incredibly proud of the teamwork and resilience of our team, who tirelessly pursue solutions, knowing that each small act of kindness has the power to transform lives.

The Contra Costa Crisis Center is not just a service provider; it is a community of people committed to lifting others up, one conversation at a time. We are honored to continue this work and look forward to the opportunity to expand our impact with your support.

Supervisory District where project takes place: They serve the entire county

CEP/BARM Partnership

Nominated by: Beth Miller, CEP staff member and Children's Learning Center Volunteer

Please describe the key partners and if/how the partnership engages people with lived experience of homelessness in the work.

Community Education Partnerships (CEP) and the Bay Area Rescue Mission (BARM). The Bay Area Rescue Mission runs an emergency shelter and transitional program that serves unstably housed adults and children. Community Education Partnerships runs an onsite Children's Learning Center that provides academic support, enrichment, and one-on-one tutoring to all children onsite.

Please describe how the partnership supports people facing homelessness in Contra Costa County.

Through our partnership, CEP and BARM are able to provide support for families experiencing homelessness. BARM provides shelter, food, and some wrap-around support services. CEP focuses on the child's needs, including school enrollment, transportation to school, ensuring educational rights are respected, offering after-school and school break programming that is academically rigorous and includes child-directed enrichment, one-on-one tutoring, and school supplies, books, and backpacks. CEP's one-on-one tutoring and school supply program continues with families after being stably housed.

CEP and BARM have partnered together to ensure families experiencing homelessness are supported and know that their children will be set up for academic success.

Supervisory District where project takes place: District 1 (Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, part of Pinole, and the unincorporated communities of Bayview, East Richmond Heights, El Sobrante, Kensington, Montalvin Manor, Tara Hills, North Richmond, and Rollingwood)

Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Homelessness Awareness Month 2024 Recognitions for “Outstanding Volunteer”

The Contra Costa Council on Homelessness wants to recognize individuals or groups who have enriched the lives of people facing homelessness in Contra Costa County through volunteer efforts. Outstanding efforts can be demonstrated by length of involvement, by a strong concentration of service or impact of efforts. The nominee must volunteer in Contra Costa County and the volunteer activity must be without pay

Nominees

1. Contra Costa Crisis Center's Call Center Volunteers
2. Daniel Aderholt, American River Homeless Crews #1
3. Daniel Aderholt, American River Homeless Crews #2
4. Doreen Oberg, GROW Concord
5. Liana (Lili) Baldazo
6. Maurice Tierney, SOS Richmond
7. Nichole Gardner, Facing Homelessness
8. Sandro Trujillo, RR Ministries
9. Sonia Leopold

The following pages contain descriptions of each nominee as provided by the person (s) who nominated them.

Supervisory District: They serve the entire county

Contra Costa Crisis Center's Call Center Volunteers

Nominated by: Kaitlyn Coughran, Volunteer & Training Manager

Nominee's outstanding contribution to ending homelessness:

Our volunteers at the Contra Costa Crisis Center support individuals experiencing homelessness by answering the 211 Information and Referral Line which connects Contra Costa residents to local resources including, but not limited to, homeless resources. Last fiscal year, our agency took 8,737 homeless resource related calls and connected Contra Costa residents to a total of 73,403 resources across all calls.

The difference that the Nominee's service makes to individuals facing homelessness:

Without the efforts of our volunteers, those 8,737 individuals experiencing homelessness would not have been connected to vital resources. Therefore, the community as a whole is positively affected by the efforts of our outstanding volunteers and values the selfless service our volunteers provide.

The Contra Costa Crisis Center is nominating our group of 30 volunteers that serve our agency within our Call Center in order to provide recognition to all of our volunteers' selfless service.

Supervisorial District: They serve the entire county

Daniel Aderholt, American River Homeless Crews

Nominated by: Claudia Aderholt, Wife

Nominee's outstanding contribution to ending homelessness:

My husband Daniel Aderholt has been helping our homeless and their pets in Contra Costa County every day for over 43 years. The fact is my husband Daniel Aderholt has personally saved over 9,000 peoples lives in Contra Costa County these last few weeks by handing out food and supplies and clothes to survive living on the streets in the last few weeks of August and September 2024 to our homeless in Antioch and all over Contra Costa County. My husband Daniel Aderholt and his American River homeless crews non profit members just recently handed out over 9,438 MRE meals to our homeless in Antioch , Pittsburg and Concord and Martinez and also in Oakland and Tracy California in the last week alone.. because Golden Hills Christian Church Outreach closed it's doors leaving over 1,357 homeless in Brentwood ,Antioch and Pittsburg and Concord to starve with no other food places being available to feed all these people.. we have also supplied our homeless with brand new clothes and pet food for their pets to survive living on the streets as well. My husband Daniel Aderholt and his American River homeless crew members deserve to be recognized for their hard work saving our homeless and their pets lives every day in Contra Costa County as well. From Claudia Cardoza Aderholt

The difference that the Nominee's service makes to individuals facing homelessness:

He treats everyone like their his family and makes sure everyone has food and clothes and supplies to survive living on the streets every day. My husband loves our homeless with all of his heart and has saved 1,000's of lives each day

I don't know anyone who is more loving and dedicated in helping our homeless then my Daniel Aderholt.

He has several times discharged himself out of the hospital after having cancer surgery that same day and goes helps our homeless to make sure nobody starves or dies. That's how crazy and dedicated he is in helping our homeless people.

Supervisorial District: They serve the entire county

Daniel Aderholt, American River Homeless Crews

Nominated by: Daniel Aderholt, Self

Nominee's outstanding contribution to ending homelessness:

I have personally fed and clothed and handed supplies to our homeless of Contra Costa County every day and each week and we make sure nobody dies by making sure they have supplies for them and their pets to survive

The difference that the Nominee's service makes to individuals facing homelessness:

The difference we make is between life and death of our homeless and their pets.. we make sure nobody goes hungry and have supplies to survive living on the streets.

I have devoted my life in helping our homeless population and their pets. I have been helping our homeless of Contra Costa County all my life since I was 8 years old and I'm 54 years old now and I was homeless myself once as a child In Antioch, California who ran away from Abusive group homes.... There's nobody besides my family in this world I love more then our homeless of Contra Costa County.. I will always help them until the day I die.

Supervisory District: District 4 (Clayton, Concord, Pleasant Hill, part of Walnut Creek, and the unincorporated Contra Costa Centre)

Doreen Oberg, GROW Concord

Nominated by: Andrea Altman, co-volunteer and now friend

Nominee's outstanding contribution to ending homelessness:

Doreen has volunteered with GROW for over 2 years and has accepted more responsibility along the way. What makes her a hero is that all she does take in creates a huge positive impact in the lives of our homeless friends. Besides coordinating our meal service 3 nights each week for up to 40/night, she also cook, looks for food donations to share with other cooks that she has personally recruited, finds new volunteers to help serve meals, coordinates our shower program with our hotel partner and takes care of all things pets. Her specialty is working with people one on one to become friends, trusting of each other, and able to hold that persons hand until they are ready to walk without support. Nothing stops her from helping others or finding resources to help others. Our group now has 7 women who are clean and sober for 7+ months and Doreen was a big factor in that success.

The difference that the Nominee's service makes to individuals facing homelessness:

As a co-founder of our nonprofit, I can say that leadership values her work highly. I've never met a more dedicated and committed volunteer, working for the betterment of our homeless community and those who serve it. Even more important than her colleagues are the 20 or so homeless people who know she will be where she says, when she says, with food, hydration, warm clothes or blankets and whatever else is required for survival that moment. She also doesn't believe in geographical boundaries, she connects to homeless people in need throughout the area.

Doreen is extremely special to many.

Supervisory District: District 4 (Clayton, Concord, Pleasant Hill, part of Walnut Creek, and the unincorporated Contra Costa Centre)

Liana (Lili) Baldazo

Nominated by: Larena Baldazo, Mother

Nominee's outstanding contribution to ending homelessness:

My daughter Liana, 10, has been wanting to purchase and collect blankets to donate to our unhoused neighbors. Life and a newborn baby delayed things and she recently reminded me about her plan. I reached out to VESTA and EHSD's Volunteer services and they confirmed that they could support Liana's effort but that they must be sleeping bags. Liana and I ordered some from Amazon and she created a video to share with friends and family. While I didn't hear back from many people, I had boxes of sleeping bags delivered to my doorstep the very next day. Liana is continuing to collect and I am amazed at how big her heart is. We will be dropping off in bulk to 400 Ellinwood (VESTIA/EHSD Volunteer Services) where they will distribute to all offices in CCC where General Assistance recipients come to. Liana has a learning disability and is deaf in one ear and her situation has given her a unique perspective and a soft, yet strong, heart.

The difference that the Nominee's service makes to individuals facing homelessness:

The homeless were positively impacted by having sleeping bags available. The truth is, while we may not be able to change their situation, we can show kindness to make things less difficult. That is what Lili has done. The drive is still going, so I don't have a final count on the sleeping bags.

While I don't think that showing love and kindness needs a reward, I completed this form because this case has shown me just how innocent and loving our children are and it is up to us to empower that love and kindness so that it may grow as they age.

Supervisory District: District 1 (Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, part of Pinole, and the unincorporated communities of Bayview, East Richmond Heights, El Sobrante, Kensington, Montalvin Manor, Tara Hills, North Richmond, and Rollingwood)

Maurice Tierney, SOS Richmond

Nominated by: Morgan Richie, SoS Richmond

Nominee's outstanding contribution to ending homelessness:

Maurice Tierney is a Volunteer Photographer for SOS Richmond. Maurice has been making images for SOS since it's early days. His portraits of staff are incredibly beautiful, thoughtful, connected, and well composed. This, among other things, is a significant way that we represent our staff in a way that is real, dignified, and shows the true spirit of the individual.

The difference that the Nominee's service makes to individuals facing homelessness:

Maurice's portraits of staff help change the narrative about homelessness by bringing forth each person's character in a way that the viewer connects with. When you view his portraits, it's nearly impossible to hold on to constructs which perpetuate negative stereotypes. All of us at SOS Richmond are proud of our Who We Are webpage because of Maurice's sensitive portraits.

Supervisory District: District 1 (Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, part of Pinole, and the unincorporated communities of Bayview, East Richmond Heights, El Sobrante, Kensington, Montalvin Manor, Tara Hills, North Richmond, and Rollingwood)

Nicole Gardner, Facing Homelessness

Nominated by: Aly Brown

The difference that the Nominee's service makes to individuals facing homelessness:

Nichole and her nonprofit org team work directly with those experiencing homelessness, feeding them and often coordinating housing opportunities to get them off the streets

Supervisory District: District 3 (Bethel Island, Blackhawk, Byron, Diablo, Discovery Bay and Knightsen, as well as the cities of Antioch, Brentwood, and Oakley)

Sandro Trujillo, RR Ministries

Nominated by: Marjori Lizarraga, wife and RR Ministries secretary

Nominee's outstanding contribution to ending homelessness: *Sandro Trujillo and RR ministries Team*

The difference that the Nominee's service makes to individuals facing homelessness:

The nominee's service, led by Sandro Trujillo and the RR Ministries team, makes a transformative difference in the lives of individuals and families facing homelessness. By working tirelessly to pick up and distribute food and clothing, the team ensures that unhoused families and those in need have access to essential resources that provide both comfort and dignity. In addition to providing basic necessities, the team offers guidance, advice, and connections to critical resources, helping these families navigate challenges and work towards stability. One family that was positively impacted includes a mother and her two children, who were struggling to make ends meet after losing their home. With the support of the RR Ministries team, they received clothing, food, and vital resources that helped them regain their footing. The advice and assistance they received empowered the mother to find stable employment and ensure her children were well cared for. The nominee's service is highly valued not only by the families they serve but also by the broader community. Local families who can't afford tutoring for their children greatly appreciate the free tutoring center provided by RR Ministries. This center supports children in achieving their academic goals, preparing them for graduation, and equipping them for future career success. By offering these resources, Sandro Trujillo and his team are giving children the opportunity to break the cycle of poverty and build brighter futures. Community members, educators, and service providers recognize the invaluable role the nominee plays in helping families in need. Their commitment to offering food, clothing, advice, and educational support makes a lasting difference in the lives of those they serve, helping them to not only survive but thrive.

One key aspect of Sandro Trujillo's volunteer work that deserves recognition is his unwavering dedication to building lasting relationships with the families he serves. Beyond distributing food, clothing, and offering tutoring, Sandro goes above and beyond by checking in with families regularly, ensuring they feel supported not just as recipients of aid, but as valued members of the community. His approach fosters a sense of belonging and hope, which can be especially transformative for those facing homelessness or severe hardship.

Another remarkable quality is Sandro's leadership and ability to mobilize others. He inspires the RR Ministries team to share his vision of compassion and community service, creating a ripple effect that amplifies their impact. Through his leadership, volunteers are empowered to step into roles that allow them to meaningfully contribute to the cause, expanding the reach and effectiveness of the ministry's efforts. What sets Sandro apart as an outstanding volunteer is not just his hard work, but his heart for those he serves. His empathy, passion, and relentless drive to make a difference have truly transformed lives and brought hope to many in their darkest times.

Supervisory District: District 3 (Bethel Island, Blackhawk, Byron, Diablo, Discovery Bay and Knightsen, as well as the cities of Antioch, Brentwood, and Oakley)

Sonia Leopold

Nominated by: Steve Leopold, Father

Nominee's outstanding contribution to ending homelessness:

Sonia Leopold created a GoFundMe account to raise money to purchase critical supplies for unhoused people in Contra Costa County. She was able to raise nearly \$900 through her GoFundMe page. Additionally, she set up a lemonade stand at Heather Farms Park and raised money by offering free lemonade and asking for donations for supplies for unhoused people. She then went to Costco and purchased supplies with the money she raised; toothbrushes, soap, toothpaste, food, socks, jackets, hats, razors, underwear, etc. She then made bags, many of them with handwritten notes in them, filled with the supplies she purchased. Finally, she distributed the bags of critical supplies to unhoused people throughout Contra Costa County: Martinez, Pleasant Hill, and Concord

The difference that the Nominee's service makes to individuals facing homelessness:

The impact Sonia made on individual's facing homelessness can not be overstated or truly put into words. The smile she brought to people's faces when they knew that someone cared about them enough to go to them and give them some help, to simply be thought of and recognized as an individual who has feelings and needs, to be dignified as someone who has worth and value, this is just some of the way Sonia made a positive difference in people's lives. Everyone who Sonia gave supplies to values the work she did. They expressed great gratitude and admiration that she would do so much for someone she didn't even know.

Sonia is a 12 year old 7th grader at Valley View Middle School.

Supervisory District: District 3 (Bethel Island, Blackhawk, Byron, Diablo, Discovery Bay and Knightsen, as well as the cities of Antioch, Brentwood, and Oakley)



Contra Costa Council on Homelessness

Homelessness Awareness Month 2024 Recognitions for “Outstanding Landlord”

The Contra Costa Council on Homelessness wants to recognize landlords, property management companies and/or house managers that have enriched the lives of people facing homelessness in Contra Costa County by providing permanent housing opportunities. Outstanding efforts can be demonstrated in a number of ways including length of time involved in housing people affected by homelessness, number of units/rooms rented to individuals and/or families facing homelessness, quality of units/rooms rented, etc. Landlord, property management company or house managers must rent units/rooms in Contra Costa County to people individuals and/or families facing homelessness.

Nominees

1. Joseline Medina, The John Stewart Company
2. Stephanie Bergin & John O'Keefe, John O'Keefe Properties
3. Tiffany Powell, GLO's Independent Living #1
4. Tiffany Powell, GLO's Independent Living #2
5. Tiffany Powell, GLO's Independent Living # 3
6. Tiffany Powell, GLO's Independent Living # 4
7. Tiffany Powell, GLO's Independent Living # 5
8. Verna Cruz, Bay Area Community Services

The following pages contain descriptions of each nominee as provided by the person (s) who nominated them.

Supervisory District: District 2 (San Ramon, Danville, Alamo, Lafayette, Moraga, Orinda, Canyon, Rossmoor, Parkmead, Saranap and a portion of Walnut Creek))

Joseline Medina, Via Vasconcellos

Nominated by: Adrian Caulboy, Case Manager

Nominee's outstanding contribution to ending homelessness: *Joseline is the Property Manager for people with Project Based Voucher in 5 units at Villa Vasconcellos. She's worked there for over a year.*

The difference that the Nominee's service makes to individuals facing homelessness: *Joseline goes above and beyond to best support our clients. Joseline is caring compassionate.*

Supervisory District: District 2 (San Ramon, Danville, Alamo, Lafayette, Moraga, Orinda, Canyon, Rossmoor, Parkmead, Saranap and a portion of Walnut Creek))

Stephanie & John Bergin/O'keffe, John Okeefe properties

Nominated by: La Tanya Johnson, case manager for families they rent to

Nominee's outstanding contribution to ending homelessness: *John and Stephanie, our outstanding landlords and managers, took a significant chance on our program when it was in its infancy. Not only did they believe in our mission, but they also extended their compassion to homeless families in desperate need of stable housing. They understood the importance of housing stability for families to reunify with their children, secure employment, and rebuild their lives. John and Stephanie housed three families who were either unemployed, couch-surfing, in shelters, or fleeing domestic violence. They created a custom arrangement tailored to our clients' unique needs, especially since our program couldn't master lease the units. These three families were provided apartments despite lacking income and, in some cases, facing credit challenges. John and Stephanie generously offered six-month leases, with an agreement that the families could vacate without facing eviction if they hadn't secured income by the end of the term. Their trust and support have made a profound impact, giving these families a real chance to rebuild their lives with dignity.*

The difference that the Nominee's service makes to individuals facing homelessness: *Caminar's Rapid Rehousing program works closely with Child and Family Services to house homeless families, allowing them to reunify with their children while receiving essential case management services. This collaborative effort is highly valued by the clients, child welfare workers, and the program itself, especially given the significant risks that John and Stephanie have been willing to take. Their decision to provide safe housing, a second chance, and a foundation for families to regain stability is nothing short of remarkable. John and Stephanie have given families the confidence to take pride in their homes and this second opportunity. Their ongoing communication with the Bringing Families Home staff ensures that any challenges or hiccups along the way are addressed and managed efficiently. Their kindness and compassion in an increasingly difficult housing market have had a profound and lasting impact, demonstrating their commitment to making a difference in the lives of these vulnerable families.*

John and Stephanie consistently seek out unconventional ways to help tenants qualify for housing when they might not meet traditional standards. One key solution they implemented is the use of a guarantor program, which allows clients to qualify for housing without the need to find a cosigner themselves. This innovative approach reduces the burden on tenants while still providing security to the landlord.

Additionally, the guarantor program they use accepts payment from third parties, which streamlines the process for our program to make payments on behalf of clients. This flexibility has been instrumental in ensuring that the financial aspects are handled smoothly, making it easier for families to maintain stable housing while focusing on rebuilding their lives.

Supervisory District: They serve the entire county

Tiffany Powell, GLO's Independent Living

Nominated by: KJ Baldwin, Community cohort

Nominee's outstanding contribution to ending homelessness: *GLO's independent has been a leader in Richmond in housing those in crisis or critical housing needs. GLO's Independent has been in service to Contra Costa County for over 20 years. Currently (I believe) there are over 5+ Care homes under GLO's.*

The difference that the Nominee's service makes to individuals facing homelessness: *I have heard testimonies from those who called and were literally picked up by owner Tiffany. I am an active Chaplain and Nurse in the community, and have heard much praise about the owner and the length she will go to assist in placing unhoused recipients.*

I often see and hear about the bigger or more well known facilities here in Richmond and they do great work. But at GLO's, I understand the facility has classes that teach how to get and STAY on your feet. Owner Tiffany is a huge help to the unhoused community with not only compassion, but also treating her residents like they belong. To hear "You belong" at your lowest and most critical state is the first step to believing in yourself.

Supervisory District: They serve the entire county

Tiffany Powell, Glos Independance Living

Nominated by: Eddie Morris, Friend

Nominee's outstanding contribution to ending homelessness: *Great compassion and leadership qualities in housing the homeless with multiple houses that are consistently at capacity*

The difference that the Nominee's service makes to individuals facing homelessness: *Will go out her way, in any weather, to pick up and house people.*

She has lived experience from being homeless and is a quality provider

Supervisory District: District 1 (Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, part of Pinole, and the unincorporated communities of Bayview, East Richmond Heights, El Sobrante, Kensington, Montalvin Manor, Tara Hills, North Richmond, and Rollingwood)

Tiffany Powell, GLO's Independent Living LLC

Nominated by: Community Villages, Community Partner

Nominee's outstanding contribution to ending homelessness: *GLO's Independent Services has been committed to providing resources to individuals and securing them with holistic range of resources. They ensure people are informed and are inclusive throughout the process.*

The difference that the Nominee's service makes to individuals facing homelessness: *The individuals with children and the individuals who have been registered as a sex offender have the opportunity for equal housing. Many agencies or companies would reject providing housing but not GLO's. They ensure all people have a right to housing opportunities. The people value the work that is being done.*

Residents have the ability to share their own experiences and what their needs are. They are a part of the process.

Supervisory District: They serve the entire county

Tiffany Powell, GLO's Independent Living

Nominated by: Awura Dzidzornu, Friend/tenant

Nominee's outstanding contribution to ending homelessness: *I would like to nominate Tiffany Powell for landlord nominee work based on her soul, her devotion to helping end homelessness and her passion to see people's better selves. We need more people like her, with the heart and the devotion to want to help.*

The difference that the Nominee's service makes to individuals facing homelessness: *Tiffany helped get my mother off the streets when she was down on her luck, and it has helped her. She has been housed in her house for over 8 years. I'm getting some stability from being homeless too.*

I support Tiffany Powell 100%, based on her core values of wanting to help in homelessness and to see people for a better life. She has a true devotion for helping people and the genuine care and interest in doing her job. Even though it doesn't pay much, she does it for the because she do has a passion for helping people.

Supervisory District: District 1 (Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, part of Pinole, and the unincorporated communities of Bayview, East Richmond Heights, El Sobrante, Kensington, Montalvin Manor, Tara Hills, North Richmond, and Rollingwood)

Tiffany Powell, GLO's Independent Living

Nominated by: Vernon Trent, Friend

Nominee's outstanding contribution to ending homelessness: *Tiffany Powell is great*

The difference that the Nominee's service makes to individuals facing homelessness: *She is very nice and helpful. This place offers support and services. My friends and housemates are very respectful.*

Supervisorial District: District 1 (Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, part of Pinole, and the unincorporated communities of Bayview, East Richmond Heights, El Sobrante, Kensington, Montalvin Manor, Tara Hills, North Richmond, and Rollingwood)

Verna Cruz, BACS

Nominated by: Toni Jackson, I was a care coordinator, she housed two partners.

Nominee's outstanding contribution to ending homelessness: *Vena Cruz*

The difference that the Nominee's service makes to individuals facing homelessness: *Verna cares about our partners. She is the meaning of it takes a Village! She has stepped in a lot of times- she feeds people three meals a day, will also support the partner with doctor visits and trips to grocery store. Verna is on-site at the house. She has supported partners on many occasions. If I were homeless I would love to stay where I am cared about! She is a shared housing community.*

Supervisory District: They serve the entire county

Contra Costa Council on Homelessness
Homelessness Awareness Month 2024
Recognitions for “Phoenix Rising”

The Phoenix is a bird that rises up again and again from the ashes. It embodies courage and resilience through its journey/flight. The Phoenix category recognizes individuals with a lived experience of homelessness who have demonstrated outstanding courage, strength and/or resilience. Nominated people must have a lived experience of homelessness in Contra Costa County and/or have experienced homelessness elsewhere and currently live and/or work in Contra Costa County.

Nominees

1. Amelia Juner
2. Angie Pena
3. Ashley Graham
4. Carlos Aguilar
5. Christopher Williams
6. Darren Stallcup
7. Malika Mahanna
8. Teddy Thollaug
9. Victoria Fairchild

The following pages contain descriptions of each nominee as provided by the person (s) who nominated them.

Amelia Juner

Nominated by: Andrea Altman, Supporter, admirer of her abilities and friend

Please describe how the nominee has demonstrated courage, strength and/or resilience:

Amelia (Amy) possesses all of those character traits. In the past year plus Amy has taken steps to change her life around. Amy stepped away from her fears and anxiety, found steady employment, acquired housing, enrolled in classes, graduated from the SPIRIT program and interned for a while with CORE. Today she is in a new cute apartment with her son, participating in his life, and working daily. In between all of that she volunteers for GROW Concord in giving back to her friends still on the streets, but mostly as an inspiration to so many more that want to be like Amy.

Several people I have spoken to have known Amy for a long time. Her strength to take on her mental and physical health for the purpose of being with her son as he grew up was awesome to watch. She overcame obstacles like major depression, employer issues and stayed focused and resilient.

Supervisory District: District 4 (Clayton, Concord, Pleasant Hill, part of Walnut Creek, and the unincorporated Contra Costa Centre)

Angie Pena

Nominated by: Morgan Richie, Co-worker

Please describe how the nominee has demonstrated courage, strength and/or resilience:

Angie Pena's journey from living in a homeless encampment to becoming a key leader at SOS Richmond is nothing short of inspiring. Over the years, Angie has demonstrated unwavering commitment to not only rebuilding her own life but also uplifting others along the way. She has consistently shown resilience, strength, and determination, working her way up through various roles at SOS with an unmatched dedication. What sets Angie apart is her ability to lead with both empathy and effectiveness. Having experienced the struggles of homelessness firsthand, she brings a deep understanding and compassion to her work, earning the trust and respect of both her peers and those she serves. In each position she's held, Angie has been a model of consistency, showing up strong for her community day in and day out. As she took on more leadership responsibility, her impact only grew, not just because of her work ethic, but because of the care and thoughtfulness she brings to everything she does. Angie Pena is more than a leader—she is a beacon of hope and proof that, with dedication and support, it's possible to create a better future. Her contribution to SOS Richmond and to the broader community is invaluable, making her a truly deserving candidate for this nomination.

Supervisory District: District 1 (Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, part of Pinole, and the unincorporated communities of Bayview, East Richmond Heights, El Sobrante, Kensington, Montalvin Manor, Tara Hills, North Richmond, and Rollingwood)

Ashley Graham

Nominated by: Ashley Graham, Self

Please describe how the nominee has demonstrated courage, strength and/or resilience:

Ashley has engaged in treatment and reentry transition programs to live a healthier lifestyle and become self sufficient.

Ashley has suffered over 20 years of severe homelessness, drug addiction and being a victim of human trafficking. For the past two years she has worked closely with her treatment team and maintained her sobriety while pursuing a higher education at Diablo Valley College.

Supervisory District: District 5 (Hercules, Martinez, Pittsburg, portions of Pinole and Antioch, and unincorporated communities of Alhambra Valley, Bay Point, Briones, Rodeo, Pacheco, Crockett, Tormey, Port Costa, Mt. View, Vine Hill, Reliez Valley, and Clyde)

Carlos Aguilar

Nominated by: Daniel Aderholt, I'm his CEO of American River homeless crews non profit

Please describe how the nominee has demonstrated courage, strength and/or resilience:

They used to be homeless and now he helps our homeless with food and supplies every week as an American River homeless crew member

Carlos helps our homeless every chance he gets in Antioch

Supervisorial District: They serve the entire county

Christopher Williams

Nominated by: Morgan Richie, Co-worker

Please describe how the nominee has demonstrated courage, strength and/or resilience:

Christopher Williams' story is one of transformation and perseverance. After spending years in a homeless encampment, Christopher is now paying it forward in ways that profoundly impact his community. At SOS Richmond, Christopher has earned a reputation for being unafraid of hard work. Whether it's rolling up his sleeves for the most challenging tasks or stepping in to lend a hand to someone, he's ready to do whatever it takes. But what truly makes Christopher stand out is his ability to mentor others walking the path he once walked. He leads by example, showing those around him that determination and effort make change possible. His willingness to share his journey and guide others has made him a pillar of support within SOS. Christopher doesn't just give advice—he offers understanding, hope, and practical steps toward a better future. Christopher's personal life is moving forward as well. His warm personality, combined with his strong work ethic, makes him a natural leader and a source of inspiration. Christopher Williams is a person who embodies resilience and the power of community, making him an excellent candidate for this nomination.

Supervisory District: District 1 (Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, part of Pinole, and the unincorporated communities of Bayview, East Richmond Heights, El Sobrante, Kensington, Montalvin Manor, Tara Hills, North Richmond, and Rollingwood)

Darren Stallcup

Nominated by: Darren Stallcup, Self

Please describe how the nominee has demonstrated courage, strength and/or resilience:

My house burnt down and I lost everything. I overcame homelessness, mental health and drug addiction. Now I'm sober, selling cars, have my own place and I'm married.

Darren Stallcup

Supervisory District: District 3 (Bethel Island, Blackhawk, Byron, Diablo, Discovery Bay and Knightsen, as well as the cities of Antioch, Brentwood, and Oakley)

Malika Mahanna

Nominated by: Cristina Garrotto, Colleague/ friend

Please describe how the nominee has demonstrated courage, strength and/or resilience:

She shows strength of character by overcoming, severe neglect, physical, and psychological abuse. She persevered while suffering with a mental illness, over overcoming Juvenile hall and chronic homelessness.

I am honored to have worked by her side, and will forever be a friend and colleague.

Supervisory District: District 4 (Clayton, Concord, Pleasant Hill, part of Walnut Creek, and the unincorporated Contra Costa Centre)

Teddy Thollaug

Nominated by: Hope Dixon, Employer

Please describe how the nominee has demonstrated courage, strength and/or resilience:

Teddy Thollaug is a kind and compassionate person who shows incredible strength, courage, and resilience. Over the past year, while experiencing homelessness, Teddy graduated from high school and started college. They are an active member of the Youth Action Board, where they've helped work on our Youth Housing Demonstration Grant application and the Youth Community Needs Assessment. Through this work, they've advocated for their unhoused peers and contributed to creating important resources for young people. Through self-advocacy Teddy connected to several resources on campus and now works in the Basic Needs Department, helping support the campus food pantry and assisting fellow students who are facing similar challenges. Their dedication to helping improve our systems and support our community is a regular inspiration for me.

Supervisorial District: District 1 (Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, part of Pinole, and the unincorporated communities of Bayview, East Richmond Heights, El Sobrante, Kensington, Montalvin Manor, Tara Hills, North Richmond, and Rollingwood)

Victoria Fairchild

Nominated by: Victoria Fairchild, Self

Please describe how the nominee has demonstrated courage, strength and/or resilience:

This person is me. I have overcome so much. I spent 17 years in and out of prisons. After I stopped going to jail, I spent five years still in my addiction, living on the streets, pushing a shopping cart with living in homeless encampments. I had no hope. I thought I would die on the streets an ex-felon and drug addict. Today I am full of hope, with 11 years clean. I work in Contra Costa County at the Office for Peer and Family Empowerment as one of the SPIRIT Peer co-instructors teaching peers how to use their lived experience to instill Hope, Resiliency and Empowerment to others. I have turned my adversity into opportunity. I also work overtime with the A3 Miles Hall Crisis Call Center to provide support to those experiencing a crisis. My life is nowhere near what it once was. I live today helping others and breaking down stigma that keeps people from wanting to change.

This is the first time I am doing something like this for myself. I feel if I don't recognize my own courage, strength, and resiliency, how can I expect someone else too? Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Supervisory District: They serve the entire county

November as Homelessness Awareness Month Proclamation 2024

WHEREAS, the month of November is recognized as Homelessness Awareness Month in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the proclamation is acknowledge and raise awareness of the problems faced by youth, families and individuals at risk of and experiencing homelessness in Contra Costa County; and to encourage support for the Contra Costa Continuum of Care focused on ending homelessness, funding permanent housing solutions, promoting program access, and optimizing self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, 14,002 individuals accessed homeless services in Contra Costa in 2023 (a 28% increase since 2019)¹; and

WHEREAS, homelessness is more closely associated with housing availability, and housing costs, than with poverty²; and

WHEREAS, in Contra Costa, renters in Contra Costa County need to earn \$43.63 per hour - 2.5 times the City of Richmond minimum wage - to afford the average monthly asking rent of \$2,269³; and

WHEREAS racial disparities continue to be evident for those experiencing homelessness in Contra Costa, with Black/African American/African people represented four times higher, and people with Multiple Races almost four times higher in our system of care compared to the county population⁴; and

WHEREAS there was an 89% increase in households with minor children⁵, a 71% increase in the number of seniors aged 65+, and a 36% increase among Transition Aged Youth (ages 18-24) since 2019,⁶ and

WHEREAS, the Contra Costa Continuum of Care (CoC) unites over 50 organizations, cities, towns and individuals with a shared mission to prevent and end homelessness in Contra Costa County; and

WHEREAS, the Council on Homelessness is both an Advisory Board to the Board of Supervisors and the planning body for the Contra Costa Continuum of Care and coordinates the community's policies, strategies, and activities toward preventing and ending homelessness in Contra Costa County and welcomes community participation and engagement; and

¹ 2023 Contra Costa Continuum of Care Annual Report:

cchealth.org/home/showpublisheddocument/30782/638618317554030000, p. 4.

² Colburn, G., & Aldern, C. P. (2022). *Homelessness is a housing problem: How structural factors explain U.S. patterns*. University of California Press.

³ CONTRA COSTA COUNTY 2024 Affordable Housing Needs Report, California Housing Partnership [Contra-Costa_Housing_Report.pdf \(chpc.net\)](#)

⁴ 2023 Contra Costa Continuum of Care Annual Report:

cchealth.org/home/showpublisheddocument/30782/638618317554030000 p. 48

⁵ Ibid p.6

⁶ Ibid p. 45

November as Homelessness Awareness Month Proclamation 2024

WHEREAS, the Health, Housing and Homeless Services Division of Contra Costa Health, which staffs the Council on Homelessness, is committed to making homelessness short-lived and non-recurring by ensuring an integrated system of housing and support services for persons experiencing homelessness in Contra Costa County; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Contra Costa County hereby proclaims November as Homelessness Awareness Month.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors affirms its commitment to ensuring Contra Costa County continues to build and maintain a well-resourced, coordinated, and supportive Continuum of Care to meet the complex and multifaceted needs of people experiencing homelessness and ultimately end homelessness in Contra Costa County.

PROCLAMATION NAMING DECEMBER 21, 2024 NATIONAL HOMELESS PERSONS' MEMORIAL DAY

WHEREAS, December 21, 2024 marks the first day of winter and is the longest night of the year; and

WHEREAS, the National Coalition for the Homeless and the National Health Care for the Homeless Council have designated December 21, 2024 as National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day; and

WHEREAS, thousands of people across the United States die each year without stable housing; and

WHEREAS, homelessness raises one's risk of illness, injury and death; and

WHEREAS, non-elderly people experiencing homelessness have 3.5 times the mortality risk of those who are housed, accounting for differences in demographic characteristics and geography, and that a 40-year-old homeless person faces a similar mortality risk to a housed person nearly twenty years older;¹ and

WHEREAS, the Contra Costa Coroner reported 113 people experiencing homelessness who died during calendar year 2023;²; and

WHEREAS, drug and alcohol related accidental deaths represented the highest cause of death for this group in 2023, followed by natural causes and non-substance related accidents³; and

WHEREAS, 14,002 individuals accessed homeless services in Contra Costa in 2023, a 28% increase from 2019⁴; and

WHEREAS, Contra Costa County encourages all residents to recognize that thousands of people in Contra Costa do not have housing and need support from government, citizens and private/public nonprofit service entities to address the myriad challenges of homelessness; and

WHEREAS, the Council on Homelessness is both an Advisory Board to the Board of Supervisors and the planning body for the Contra Costa Continuum of Care and coordinates the community's policies, strategies, and activities toward preventing and ending homelessness in Contra Costa County and welcomes community participation and engagement; and

WHEREAS, the Health, Housing and Homeless Services Division of Contra Costa Health, which staffs the Council on Homelessness, is committed to making homelessness short-lived and non-recurring by ensuring an integrated system of housing and support services for persons experiencing homelessness in Contra Costa County; and

WHEREAS, a Homeless Person's Memorial event [\[add registration link\]](#), coordinated by the Contra Costa Crisis Center, SoS Richmond, NAMI and the Council on Homelessness, will take place on Friday, December 20, 2024 at the Walnut Creek Library from 11 am - 1:30 pm to remember those who died while experiencing homelessness; and

¹ Life and Death at the Margins of Society: The Mortality of the U.S. Homeless Population Bruce D. Meyer, Angela Wyse, and Ilina Logani NBER Working Paper No. 31843 November 2023. [w31843.pdf \(nber.org\)](#)

² 2023 Annual Report, Contra Costa Continuum of Care, p.62

³ Ibid., p. 62

⁴ Ibid., p. 4

WHEREAS, by joining together and remembering our neighbors, we can honor their lives by working to provide solutions to end homelessness within the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CONTRA COSTA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

That December 21, 2024 is hereby named National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day in Contra Costa County, to remember those who have died while experiencing homelessness, to encourage residents to come together to celebrate their lives, and commit to working to resolve factors that lead to homelessness within the County.