CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP

VIRTUAL WORKING GROUP NOTES

Thursday April 17, 2025, 11:30AM – 1:00PM

COMMITTEE PURPOSE:
The purpose of the Oversight Committee is to review and assess the development, implementation, and improvement of the CoC, Coordinated Entry System, HMIS Database, and system outcomes.

HOW TO JOIN THE MEETING VIA ZOOM:
Working Group (VIRUTAL ONLY) Link to register:
https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcsf-2urDssGdzVjZhCYrYEYtBPv6TuzAce
How to Join the Meeting Via Call-In: 1- 669-900-6833 / Meeting ID: 831 8462 0638

Attendees:
CoH: Wayne Earl, Leslie Gleason, Courtney Pal, Juno Hedrick, Alejandra Chamberlain, Leslie Gleason, Mia Fairbanks, Verneda Clapp

Community members: Anastaqsia Lockwood, Caroline Miller, Rebecca Gomez-Pellecer, Stephanie Bodisco, Anya Kushwaha, La Tanya Johnson, Jacqueline Franco, Brittany Ferguson, Anya Kushwaha, Anne Cleese

TIME	AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTERS
11:30am (10 min)	**Welcome, Introductions, & CoH Roll Call** a. Welcome b. Review agenda c. Introductions d. Mentimeter - Who's in the Room?	- Wayne Earl, *CoH* - Jamie Schecter, *H3* - Alex Michel, *HB*

AM Notes on Zoom Update:
- due to past instances, we have transitioned to webinars to provide for more safety
- this new feature does have some more restrictions
- as you can you see, you can only see "panelists" on the screen (today this means all presenters and CoH members)
- we still want to be able to have discussion and folks to be able to ask questions - this can happen in 2 ways:
  - 1) use the chat
  - 2) you can raise your hand and we individually give you access to unmute. once someone is done speaking we will revoke that access but can always open it up again
- the transition to this new system is new, so please bare with us as we learn to navigate
- we will add a slide with these instructions for future meetings

Notes:
- The committee members introduced themselves.
- A mentimeter activity was conducted to to get a sense of attendees' demographics

11:40am (3 min)	**2025 Meeting Logistics** a. Cmte vs. Work Group Mtg b. 2025 Meeting Schedule Update	- Wayne Earl, *CoH*

Notes:
- WE - went over the structure and differences between the committee and workgroup meetings. The timelines was also shown.

11:43am (5min)	**Announcements** a. Open period for announcements on items not listed on the agenda.	- Courtney Pal, *CoH* - Members of the public

Notes:
- No announcements were made.

11:48am (2 min)	**February Meeting Recap** a. Provide February meeting recap; meeting minutes will be approved during June 2025 meeting	- Alex Michel, *HB*

Notes:
- AM explained that meeting minutes do not need approval from committee members. A recap from the February meeting was shown. February Meeting minutes will be reviewed and approved during the June Oversight Cmte. Meeting.

11:50am (30min)	**CES Updates** a. Coordinated Entry Housing Needs Assessment Replacement & Redesign, Project Update (20 min) Link to [Coordinated Entry Policies & Procedures](#)	- Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, *H3* - Chela Shuster, *Focus Strategies*

Notes:
- MJ provided an update on the CE housing needs assessment project with the goal to replace the VI-SPADT.
- Chela and Claire Burrus, from Focus Strategies, presented an update on redesigning the Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) tool, project timeline and activities, initial stakeholder engagement,engagement themes, expanded data exploration, predictive analysis, setting for prioritization, and benefits of an inventory-based threshold approach. The team left an open space for questions and answers.
- Question - challenge with current vi-spdat is that it's a status number, yet experiences while being unhoused will continue to happen; is the system going to rescore them continually? The most effective use of this is to have a much more dynamic threshold, does this involve rescoring of people while waiting in the queue?
  - Claire: we're exploring what options look like for something that could be more real time in the future, looking at limitations that exists and exploring ways we can queue data in more real time in the future;trying to collect data
  - Chela: there are two things: the amount of what this tool does not do is to create more resources, 3% of people that are part of the CE system; doesn't meet the cutoff above the threshold, have frank conversations and engage in that problem solving; most people won't get them; scores are higher so the threshold continues to go higher because the resources are still limited; people wanting to know if they should be waiting for resources or working on something else
- MJF in chat: within the last 2 years we have increased that to roughly ~10%*
- MJF: inventory threshold setting we are able to identify probability of folks being able to receive services/housing in a more realistic time
- Questions: in regard to stakeholder engagement, what kind of outreach has been done to affordable developers and for housing inventory? Most new inventory in the next 5 years; people with high score don't qualify based on the typology of units, don't give them hope if there are not enough numbers of units to the population; qualifications and criteria is important; make connections to make stronger system
- MJF: hosted engagement in the homeless service provider meeting and through system access points; this is the first round for stakeholder engagement; most attendees were nonprofit agencies that are doing the service. Courtney said to use her as a resource.
- Question - tracking people for entry and exit: are you able to look at chronic homelessness? patterns, self reported or provider reported? are we guessing or have people self-identify?

	○ Claire: focusing on identifying predictors of continued prolonged or repeated episodes of homelessness; resource matching and referral process' predictive analytics process and really on identifying those predictors; received data for program enrollments into all of the program types included in HMIS; not solely relying on data elements per HUD definition, self-report questions but look at how many months was this person enrolled in a street outreach program in the past couple of years, separate enrollments, staying in shelter for along time or getting in and out of shelter; calculating outcomes when trying to predict; homeless history as predictors of future homelessness but also calculating the outcomes from rich data from HMIS managed by H3. ○ MJFy: looking at enrollment across the system, health system or coordination with their team; how long someone has stayed homeless. Updates for this project will be a standing agenda item. Focus Strategies added their contact information if anyone has more questions.	
12:20pm (20min)	**Program Models & Performance Standards Updates** a. Participant Satisfaction Survey Updates Link to Program Models & Performance Standards	- Shelby Ferguson, *H3*

Notes:
- SF went over the participation satisfaction survey results, with this year being the third year.
- The annual report is expected to be published in the summer.
- Comment: I see, we are comparing our "official" demographic data rather than doing a "snapshot" from HMIS in the same rough period as the survey period.
  - JS: correct
- Next steps include an evaluation of survey data over the 3 years, revisit survey questions with PWLE group and providers, and conduct surveys at exit

12:40pm (15min)	**YAB Update**	- Juno Hedrick, *CoH/YAB*

Notes:
- JH presented the meetings and activities that took place in March in the YAB, including the team attending the CA Coalition for Youth in Sacrament, attending a training about impact of stipends on taxes and public benefits offered by HB, and drafted bylaws.

12:55pm (5 min)	**Closing** a. Review next steps b. Overview of upcoming meetings	- Alex Michel, *HB*

Notes:
- Next meeting will be on June 26th.
- A list of other upcoming meetings was shared.

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

VASH	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing
VI-SPDAT	Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool

EQUITY DEFINITIONS
(adapted from C4 Innovations and approved by COH 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.