



## COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

September 4, 2025 from 1:00-3:00

# WELCOME

Juno Hedrick, *Vice Chair & Lived Experience Advisor*

***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.

# WEBINAR VS. MEETING FORMAT

- Due to Zoom Bombing, the virtual component of COH meetings have moved from Meeting to Webinar format.

## What's Different?

- Participants will join WITHOUT the ability to unmute or be seen on camera
- Host can give participants ability to unmute or be seen on camera as needed

## What's the Same?

- Participants can raise hand
- Participants can share in the chat

# 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

Juno Hedrick, *Vice Chair & Lived Experience Advisor*

# HYBRID MEETING NORMS

1. Raise your hand (actual or virtual) before speaking
2. Say your name before speaking and try to speak as clearly as you can
3. 2-minute timer for public comments
4. Make and take space – consider your privilege and the other voices who are in and not in the room
5. Minimize distractions like side conversations and cell phone use
6. Maintain a safe and respectful environment, even when disagreeing
7. 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

Juno Hedrick, *Vice Chair & Lived Experience Advisor*

# INTRODUCTIONS

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

**Community Members:** Please introduce yourself in the chat.

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# 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?

# PUBLIC COMMENT

Juno Hedrick, *Vice Chair & Lived Experience  
Advisor*

# CONSENT CALENDAR

Juno Hedrick, *Vice Chair & Lived Experience  
Advisor*

# 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 August 7, 2025 Council Meeting
- Approve staff report for the September 4, 2025 Council Meeting



# COMMITTEE REPORT OUTS

**Nominating Committee (ACTION ITEM)** – Jaime Jenett, *H3*

**Funding Committee: CoC NOFO Work Group** – Mark Mora, *Homebase*

**Youth Advisory Board** – Juno Hedrick, *Vice Chair and Lived Experience Advisor*; Anastasia Lockwood, *YAB Facilitator and Member*



## NOMINATING COMMITTEE (ACTION ITEM)

Jaime Jenett, *H3*

# PURPOSE OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- The purpose of the Nominating Committee is to review and recommend improvements to the nominating process for CoH seat appointments that will expire at the end of the 2025 calendar year
  - The nominating process includes recruitment and application materials
- Once recommended changes are approved by the Council and applications are received, the Nominating Panel will review and recommend applicants for seats (in October)

# COH APPLICATION MATERIALS

County Advisory Board Application

Council on Homelessness Supplemental Questions

Scoring Rubric

# RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

## Recommendations:

1

- Make supplemental questions 2 (experience), 4 (understanding of service barriers), 5 (ideas to improve system), and 7 (housing first) more readable and accessible

2

- Improve scoring guidance for supplemental question 4 (understanding of service barriers)

3

- Convert supplemental question 8 (availability for meetings) into a threshold question (not scored)

4

- No longer score 3 county application questions (interest, qualification, and volunteer) but add an “interest” question in supplemental application

# COH RECRUITMENT PROCESS

- **August 2025:** Refine Application Materials
- **September 2025:** Recruitment
- **October 2025:** Nominating Panel Selects Applicants
- **November 2025:** CoH/FHS Approval
- **December 2025:** Board of Supervisors Approval
- **January 2026:** New Council Members Start Term!

# COH OPEN SEATS FOR 2026

Behavioral Health

City Government

CoC/ESG Grantee

Community  
Member

Federal Homeless  
and Housing  
Funding Admin

Employment and  
Human Services  
(EHSD)

Faith Community

Public Housing  
Authority

Public Safety

Reentry Services

Youth

# RECRUITING FOR NOMINATING PANEL

- **Purpose:** review applications for the Council on Homelessness and make recommendations for vacant seats
- **Time Commitment:**
  - 12 hours of meetings spread across 3 meetings in October
    - Orientation: 10/1 (9:30-11 AM)
    - Meeting 1: 10/14 (1-3 PM)
    - Meeting 2: 10/22 (9:30-11:30 AM)
  - ~6-10 hours of reviewing and pre-scoring applications
  - **TOTAL: 18-22 hours**

# ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

- Any Council on Homelessness members not planning to re-apply for their seat
- Members with terms that are not expiring at the end of the year:

## Seat Expiring 12/31/25

- Carolyn Foudy
- Dani Jimenez
- Gabriel Lemus
- Hope Dixon
- Jazmin Ridley
- Nicole Green
- Shawn Ray
- Tony Ucciferri
- Wayne Earl
- Yahel Moreno

## Seat NOT expiring 12/31/24

- Alejandra Chamberlain
- Courtney Pal
- Heather Worobey
- Juno Hedrick
- LeAnn Matthews
- Mia Fairbanks
- Sherina Criswell
- Verneda Clapp



# ACTION ITEM

- Review and approve revisions to the Council on Homelessness member application materials as recommended by the Nominating Committee AND approve COH members for Nominating Panel.



# HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Signal boost the upcoming Constant Contact email re: openings
- Do direct outreach to people who you think may be a good fit
- Connect people to Jaime Jenett if they have questions

## FUNDING COMMITTEE

Mark Mora, *Homebase*

# BACKGROUND: HUD COC NOFO

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funds the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program
- HUD releases a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), competition for approximately 450 Continuums of Care
- FY 2024-25 and FY 2025-26 CoC NOFO:
  - First time two-year NOFO cycle (was annual competition)
  - Released on July 31, 2024, and made approximately \$3.5 billion available nationally
  - Contra Costa was awarded \$22.3 million in FY 2024

# UPDATE: HUD COC NOFO & WORK GROUP

- HUD is indicating that **there will be a 2025 CoC NOFO competition** which is unexpected
- **CoC NOFO Work Group** (of the Funding Committee) - tasked with improving the CoC NOFO competition process
  - First meeting on 8/19: possible revisions to Renewal Project Scoring Tool
  - **Next meeting on 9/16 (12:30-2:30pm) via Zoom:** a) revisit possible revisions to Renewal Project Scoring Tool, and b) discuss policy prioritizing high performing renewal projects over new projects
  - Meeting on 9/30: possible revisions to New Project Scoring Tool

# YOUTH ACTION BOARD (YAB)

Juno Hedrick, CoH *Lived Experience Advisor and  
Vice Chair, YAB Coordinator*

# YAB AUGUST MEETINGS

Bimonthly hybrid YAB Meetings at H3 Offices in Concord and RYSE Center in Richmond

YAB Subcommittees Meetings: Communications, Data & Research, and Outreach & Retention

Youth & Young Adult (YYA) Community Strategic Planning: Core and Workgroup Meetings

CoH and Oversight Committee

CES Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) Committee

Peer Support Check-In Meetings

# YAB AUGUST ACTIVITIES

YAB Welcome Week at  
Contra Costa College,  
Diablo Valley College,  
and Los Medanos College

Adultism and YYA  
Partnership train-the-  
trainer with Matthew  
Aronson Consulting

RFP Panel for  
Transitional Housing for  
TAY



# YAB AUGUST ACTIVITIES



# YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS (YYA) STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKGROUPS



**Resources (Action 1.2):** Get a handle on the resources we have and provide a toolkit that helps different stakeholders access resources

- **Facilitator:** Matthew Aronson, Matthew Aronson Consulting
- **YAB Member:** Ramon



**Outreach (Action 1.5):** Create and implement an outreach plan

- **Facilitator:** Jamie Schechter, H3
- **YAB Member:** Leon



**Safety & Liberation (Action 4.3):** Understand how well current partners are welcoming and supporting LGBTQIA+ and BIPOC YYA

- **Facilitators:** Juno Hedrick, YAB & Caroline Miller, H3
- **YAB Member:** Anastasia L.

# NEXT STEPS



Data & Research  
subcommittee to begin  
planning for Youth  
Point-in-Time Count.

Homeless Awareness  
Month planning,  
including YAB-lead YYA  
& Adulthood training on  
November 10th

YAB community  
outreach for 2026  
members.

Prepare for HUD Youth  
Homeless  
Demonstration Program  
FY 2024 NOFO to be re-  
released soon!

# CONNECT WITH YAB!

Are you—or do you know—a young person with lived experience of homelessness or housing instability who wants to create change?

RSVP to join a meeting as a guest to learn more!

For more information, email:

[ContraCostaYAB@cchealth.org](mailto:ContraCostaYAB@cchealth.org)



# OLD BUSINESS

**Sector Report Outs** – Juno Hedrick, *Vice Chair & Lived Experience Advisor*

**Funding Updates** – Shelby Ferguson, *H3*

# SECTOR REPORT OUTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Juno Hedrick, *Vice Chair and Lived Experience  
Advisor*

# FUNDING UPDATES

Shelby Ferguson, *H3*

# FUNDING UPDATES – HOMELESS HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND PREVENTION PROGRAM



- Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP) Round 6 application submitted!
- Posted application materials available online - <https://www.cchealth.org/services-and-programs/homeless-services/continuum-of-care/funding>
- HHAP Round 7 *intended for appropriation* in FY26-27 budget at 50% of round 6 allocation.



# FUNDING UPDATES - HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS SERVICES RFP



- Coming soon – Consolidated Housing and Homelessness Services Request for Proposals
- Includes renewal funding for Measure X Housing programs, HHAP, and other funding sources
- Prioritizing sustaining services given shifting federal and state funding landscape
- Sign up for Funding Opportunity updates through the [CoC Newsletter](#)

# FUNDING UPDATES – FEDERAL BUDGET



- Federal Budget – **No update since August meeting**
  - Both the [House](#) and [Senate](#) passed appropriations bills for Transportation and Housing and Urban Development (THUD) that increases CoC funding
  - Neither bill contained additional funding for the Emergency Housing Voucher program
  - Congress has until October 1 to pass final FY2026 spending bills or enact a continuing resolution

# NEW BUSINESS

**Learning Corner: Spirit Program  
(Behavioral Health Service Provider  
Individualized Recovery Intensive) –**  
Victoria Fairchild and Bianca Berrios, *Contra  
Costa Behavioral Health Services, Office for  
Consumer Empowerment*

## LEARNING CORNER: SPIRIT PROGRAM

Victoria Fairchild and Bianca Berrios, *Contra Costa Behavioral Health Services, Office for Consumer Empowerment*

# 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

Juno Hedrick, *Vice Chair & Lived Experience  
Advisor*

# UPCOMING MEETINGS

- **Next COH Meeting:** Thursday, October 2, 1 – 3 PM (IN PERSON- **McMorrow Training Room, 2120 Diamond Blvd, Concord**)
- **CoC Training (Serving Immigrants Experiencing a Housing Crisis):** Monday, September 8, 10 AM – 12 PM (Zoom)
- **Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Policy Committee WG:** Tuesday, September 9, 12 pm – 1:30 PM (Zoom)
- **Equity Committee Work Group:** Tuesday, September 9, 2 pm – 4 pm (Zoom)
- **Contra Costa CoC Homelessness Memorial Event Planning Meeting:** Wednesday, September 10, 2 – 3 PM (Zoom)
- **Homeless Service Provider Meeting:** Thursday, September 11, 8:30 – 9:30 AM (Zoom)
- **Homelessness 101 (Antioch Library):** Saturday, September 13, 11 AM – 12:30 PM (IN-PERSON)
- **Funding Committee Work Group:** Tuesday, September 16, 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM (Zoom)
- **COH Application Support Session #1:** Wednesday, September 17, 9 – 10 AM (HYBRID)
- **Point in Time (PIT) Count Committee WG #1:** Friday, September 19, 1-3 (Zoom)
- **COH Application Support Session #2:** Monday, September 22, 12 – 1 PM (HYBRID)
- **Homelessness Awareness Month Committee:** Wednesday, September 24, 2 – 4 PM (HYBRID)
- **Funding Committee Work Group:** Tuesday, September 30, 12 PM – 2 PM (Zoom)