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October 8, 2025

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

1025 Escobar Street
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Chair Andersen and Members of the Board,

On behalf of the Contra Costa Council on Homelessness, we write to express our deep concern regarding the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) decision to cancel the Round 2 CoC (Continuum of Care) Build awards and replace them with a third Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) that allows only five business days for reapplication.

As you are aware, the CoC Builds Round 2 awards included a \$5.5 million allocation to Hope Solutions' Village of Hope project in Pittsburg—a permanent supportive housing initiative for Transition Aged Youth (TAY) experiencing homelessness. This project is not only shovel-ready but also a vital response to the acute housing crisis in East County. The abrupt cancellation of this award jeopardizes the project's viability, delays urgently needed housing, and undermines the intent of Congress in appropriating these funds.

The new Round 3 NOFO process, which prioritizes timestamped submissions over merit-based evaluations, introduces significant uncertainty and inequity. It places undue burden on local nonprofits—many of whom lack the administrative capacity to respond within such a compressed timeframe—and disregards the thoughtful planning and compliance demonstrated in Round 2 applications.

We respectfully urge the Board of Supervisors to advocate to the California Congressional Delegation on behalf of our community to urge HUD to reinstate the Round 2 awards. Doing so will ensure that critical projects like Village of Hope can proceed without further delay, that federal investments are used as intended, and that our most vulnerable residents are not left behind due to bureaucratic shifts.

We appreciate your continued leadership in addressing homelessness in Contra Costa County and welcome the opportunity to collaborate further on this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Nicole Green

Chair, Contra Costa Council on Homelessness
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