



# CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS - OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP

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## OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP MINUTES

**Date:** Thursday, April 16, 2026, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**Recording link:** Available by email request to [CChomelesscouncil@cchealth.org](mailto:CChomelesscouncil@cchealth.org)

**Council Member Attendance:**

- Present: Wayne Earl, Courtney Pal, Shawn Ray, Ralph Payton, Juno Hedrick, Donnie Diego,
- Absent: Alejandra Chamberlain

**H3 Staff Attendance:** Brittany Ferguson, Janel Fletcher, Mary Juarez-Fletcher, Shelby Ferguson, Kayla Buscemi, Jacqueline Franco, Jamie Schecter

**Community Member Attendance:** Ginger Latu, Erica Givens

### AGENDA ITEM

#### 1) Welcome, Introductions & CoH Member Roll Call

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Presenters: Wayne Earl, *CoH*, Jamie Schecter, *H3*, and Alex Michel, *Homebase*

- Staff introductions were conducted
- CoH member roll call
- Community introductions in the chat
- Mentimeter Who's in the Room Activity?
- No comments

#### 2) 2026 Meeting Logistics

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Presenter: Wayne Earl, *CoH*

- Reviewed 2026 meeting logistics
- No comments

#### 3) Announcements

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Presenter: Courtney Pal, *CoH*

- Provided open period for announcement on items not listed on the agenda
- Comment: BARM is in the middle of preparing for renovations to one of the main buildings; the men's program will still be open but because of the construction area, we no longer accept donations of clothing and food after 4pm. Donations are being accepted from morning hours to 4pm; all other services are continuing on uninterrupted
- Comment: GRIP is being honored with nonprofit of the year award in their district; GRIP staff are headed to Sacramento to meet Governor Newsom and accept award.

#### 4) February Meeting Recap

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Presenter: Courtney Pal, *CoH*

- Provided February meeting recap; meeting minutes from the February Meeting will be approved during June 2025 meeting.



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## 5) Coordinated Entry System Updates

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Presenter: Mary Juarez-Fitzgerald, H3

- Overview of general CES updates including: 1) the addition of new staff on the CES team, 2) Partial hold of PSH referrals, 3) Homeless Prevention refresher trainings are being hosted for prevention program staff (reminder to prevention program staff to attend at least one of them), 4) Contra Costa CE presentations at state and national conferences (an opportunity to share the good work being done in Contra Costa 5) Update on new CE Housing Assessment Tool (trainings in implementation are next week and is set to officially launch 5/1/26)

## 6) Participant Satisfaction Survey Updates

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Presenter: Janel Fletcher, H3

- Provided update and next steps of the participant satisfaction survey
- No comments

## 7) Governance Updates

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**Presenter: Jamie Schevter, H3**

- Reviewed summary of revisions to 2026 bylaws
- No comments

## 8) System Performance Standards Updates

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Presenter: Janel Fletcher, H3

- Presented update on system performance measures data
- Question: what is the return to homelessness chart (measure 2) showing? Is it showing persons that were in PH and returned to these different program types?
  - JF: Yes, this chart shows participants that exited to PH and have returned w/in 2 years and they returned to the program models depicted in the chart
- Question: (measure three) How are we defining emergency shelter (ES) vs transitional housing (TH)?
  - JS: we are using the HUD definitions. ES is temporary only; TH is a program that combines housing and services and has to be less than 2 years in duration
- Comment in chat: In 2025, BARM provided Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing (residential program) for a total of 2034 people. This included 1323 people who stayed at BARM for the first time in 2025
- Question: (measure 6) any thought about collection of data on prevention?
  - JS: great question - we use state funding and local dollars to fund prevention programs, so we know data collections is happening at more local levels, but not really at the state level
- JS: SPMs are just one puzzle piece of our data system, it doesn't tell us the whole picture but it is a good starting point to see outcomes and see the growth we've had in our community
- Question: seeing this data is so valuable but would be helpful to know the 'why?' as in, why are the outcomes we are seeing occurring?



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- JS: it's hard because there are a lot of reasons that could be impacting the 'why'; we have different data points that make up this data puzzle but again it doesn't tell us the whole story
- JF: the program models adopted in 2022 put another layer of standardization across programs to get more specific about what we are measuring, internally we are comparing across our program models based on our local definitions as well.
- Comment in chat: Can we get a copy of the system performance standards updates as a separate document?
  - JF: FY2026 System Performance Measures HMIS Programming Specifications (link: <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/System-Performance-Measures-HMIS-Programming-Specifications.pdf>)

## 9) Federal Updates

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Presenter: Jamie Schecter, H3

- Update on federal CoC updates including, CoC Builds, CoC NOFO FY2025, CoC NOFO FY2026
- No comments

## 10) Q1 Accountability Corner

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Presenter: Jamie Schecter, H3

- Review of the Oversight Cmte quarter 1 goals and activities accomplished.
- No comments

## 11) Closing

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- Overview of upcoming meetings
- Comment: YAB is going to Sac for a collaboration conference w/ other YABs!



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## 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.
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



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VI-SPDAT	Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool
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**EQUITY DEFINITIONS** (adapted from C4 Innovations and approved by COH on 8.3.23)

Term	Definition
<b>Individual Racism</b>	A person's beliefs and actions that serve to perpetuate racial oppression. This can be conscious and unconscious. This may be externalized or internalized
<b>Institutional Racism</b>	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.
<b>Interpersonal Racism</b>	The interactions between people - both within and across racial groups
<b>Microaggressions</b>	Brief, everyday exchanges that send denigrating messages to certain individuals because of their group membership
<b>Race</b>	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.
<b>Race Equity Lens</b>	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.
<b>Racial Bias</b>	Implicit and/or explicit bias that reinforces discriminatory attitudes and behaviors when interacting with people or situations
<b>Racial Equity</b>	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.
<b>Racism</b>	A system of institutional, systemic oppression, and practices of individuals and society that shape cultural beliefs and values that support racist policies and practices.
<b>Structural Racism</b>	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.
<b>Systemic Racism</b>	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
<b>White Fragility</b>	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.