PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE:
Thursday, May 15th, 2025, 9:30 am – 11:00 am

RECORDING OF MEETING:
https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/FGAEANcUeHHpjaRPiTQD0v9AzIfAKEqjAN4q6rcjbbe32naenvmOxJtpYcgpj3-Y.yIg1WrDlRaAaBN09

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Time	Agenda Item	Presenter/Facilitator
9:30	**Welcome and Introductions**	- *Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies*
	Hybrid Meeting Norms	- *Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies*
	Review and Approval of Minutes	- *Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies*
	Public Comment – Open Period for public comment on items discussed or not listed on the agenda.	- *Members of the public*
9:45	**Unsheltered Data Dashboard** – Quarterly review of unsheltered metrics and overview of system performance measures	- *Janel Fletcher and Jamie Schecter, H3*
10:00	**CoC Participant Satisfaction Survey Results** – Discuss the results of the 2025 survey with an emphasis on prevention and rapid exit	- *Jamie Schecter, H3*
10:20	**Behavioral Health Feedback Session** – Discuss feedback on using Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) funding for housing supports	- *Adam Down, Contra Costa Behavioral Health*
10:50	**Announcements**	- *All*
10:55	**Next Steps**	- *Matt Lemon, Focus Strategies*

PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Welcome and Introductions

Committee Members in Attendance**:** LeAnn Matthews, Shawn Ray, Wayne Early, Juno Hedrik, Tony Ucciferri

Staff and Consultants**:** Jamie Schecter (H3), Janel Fletcher (H3), Caroline Miller (H3), Matt Lemon (Focus Strategies), Allison Mabbs (Focus Strategies)

Additional Attendees: Adam Down (Behavioral Health), Kennisha Johnson (Behavioral Health), Jill Ray, Maria Dominguez, Teuna (AOT Program), Jo Bruno, Jaredi Murti, Sean Gannon, Audrey Montana, Briana Ramos, Marjorie Oliver

Hybrid Meeting Norms

Matt Lemon described hybrid meetings norms including a recommendation to wear masks in person, practicing social distancing, raising your hand, saying your name before speaking and maintaining a safe and respectful environment. Individuals who behave in a manner that threatens the safety of the group or that does not honor meeting norms may be asked to leave.

Review and Approval of Minutes

Wayne Earl made a motion to approve the minutes from February 20, 2025. Shawn Ray seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed with four votes in favor and one committee member abstaining.

Public Comment

Jamie Schecter made an announcement regarding an H3 event at the Pittsburg Library the week of May 19th. The event is part of the Library Series where the community can learn about available services. Jamie invited committee members and attendees to invite their neighbors to attend.

Unsheltered Data Dashboard

Janel Fletched provided an overview of the current unsheltered homelessness metrics, touching on upstream indicators and program outcomes. She provided a summary of HUD's system performance measures (SPMs). There are seven SPMs required by HUD which help communities look at progress over time. The SPMs have been in place since 2015. Janel Fletcher noted that there are some limitations to the SPMs as they do not break down to the subpopulation level and instead look at the system as a whole. HUD's SPMs include Measure 1: Length of Time Homeless, Measure 2: Returns to Homelessness, Measure 3: Number of People Experiencing Homelessness, Measure 4: Increases to Income, Measure 5: Number of First Time Homeless, Measure 6: Prevention Outreach*, and Measure 7: Positive Outcomes.

The Prevention Outreach metric was established by HUD for use by certain systems that are designated as “High Performing Communities” by HUD and is not currently a requirement in Contra Costa County.

Wayne Earl inquired about how the SPMs align with the community’s goals regarding a 75% reduction in unsheltered homelessness. Jamie Schecter responded that Measure 3: Number of People Experiencing Homelessness looks at Point-in-Time Count data and is split into unsheltered and 3b- sheltered homelessness.

Tony Ucciferri asked who would hypothetically be included in the Prevention Outreach metric that is not currently applicable in Contra Costa County. Jamie Schecter responded that it is a similar to a return to homelessness measure and that it is not clear who it would apply to in the community.

Tony Ucciferi followed up to ask about how Measure 4: Income Increase is measured. He noted that loss in income does not automatically mean a loss of housing. Jamie Schecter acknowledged this point and noted that it looks at income for stayers and leavers from programs.

Janel Fletcher provided some data on BACs new prevention pilot and data on other prevention programs in the community. Between January and March of 2025, 99% of households served through prevention programs exited to temporary or permanent housing.

Wayne Earl inquired about the breakdown of prevention funding by providers in the community. Jamie noted that this was a specific time frame of data and that how many people served by provider may be an indicator of where they were in their project spenddown at the time.

Janel Fletcher shared details of the most recent eviction data from the County Sherriff’s Department. In the first quarter of 2025 there was a 15% increase in the number of notices to a total of 314.

Wayne Earl inquired about who was included in the eviction data and noted that in his work he often comes across people who had to leave their housing but never had an official lease. Jamie Schecter clarified that this data was for formal evictions notices where a tenant received a legal writ of possession. Wayne Earl noted that this would undercount those in the situation he described. Jamie Schecter responded that there is a statewide survey that captures some of those types of situations.

Janel Fletcher shared data on successful exits from the Rapid Exit program. Rapid Exit is a program model that works increase system outflow by helping people exit the homeless response system at point of entry or quickly thereafter. In Contra Costa County, Hope Solutions is the primary community provider of Rapid Exit. Between January and March, 98% of participants exited to temporary or permanent housing.

Tony Ucciferri asked why Hope Solutions is the only provider in the community. Jamie Schecter responded that there are limited funds available so resource centralization for this program model makes sense. Wayne Earl requested to hear more from Hope Solutions about how many people they

have to turn away due to funding limitations. Jamie Schecter noted that some data on this may be available through Coordinated Entry.

CoC Participant Satisfaction Survey Results

Jamie Schecter presented the most recent CoC Satisfaction Survey results. This survey occurs annually and is offered to participants across 7 program models in the CoC including Prevention, Rapid Exit, CORE, CARE Centers, Shelter/Transitional Living Programs, Rapid Rehousing, and Permanent Supportive Housing.

Since starting this annual survey in 2023, the CoC has doubled the number of responses to the survey. This year 897 surveys were administered. The majority of responses came from participants in PSH/RRH, CORE, and Shelter Programs. The fewest responses came from participants served in Prevention and Rapid Exit. Jamie Schecter noted that this might be due to when the survey was carried out, at a time when those programs may have had less funding available.

Wayne Earl inquired about how the number of surveys completed compares to the number of people served in these programs in the CoC in the last year. Jamie Schecter responded that over 10,000 people received services through the CoC. Wayne Earl noted that he would be interested in seeing results grouped by program type including Permanent Housing (RRH & PSH), CARE Centers & CORE, and Prevention & Rapid Exit. He noted that feedback might look different based on what program types participants were served in. Jamie Schecter noted that Shelby Ferguson does look at the survey results in that way.

In the survey, 96% of participants reported being satisfied with services. There were good customer services metrics across the board regarding treatment by staff.

Areas for improvement included “knowing how to access services” and “staff knowing about available resources.”. However, there were still high satisfaction rates in these areas.

Jamie Schecter shared plans to address the areas of improvement which include ensuring CoC/CE 101 Training is part of onboarding for all staff, providing on-going refresher trainings and updates to training manuals, offering the 2-1-1 database training to all providers, and continuing to update the services flyer. The CoC also plans to try and extend the survey response period for Prevention and Rapid Exit participants to help increase response rates from those program types.

Behavioral Health Feedback Session

Kennisha Johnson and Adam Down from the Behavioral Health Division presented on the Behavioral Health Transformation (BHT) and the shift from the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) to the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) under Proposition 1. They then facilitated a feedback session with committee members.

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Over the last few years, the state of California has been working to re-envision how services for mental health and substance use are being delivered across the state.

With the changes from Prop 1, the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) is now shifting to the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) which will expand to include people with substance use disorders (SUDs). BHSA, like MHSA, is a 1% income tax on those with incomes over $1 million dollars.

With the BHT, the state and Contra Costa County hope to improve access to care, increase accountability and transparency, and expand capacity of behavioral health facilities. Kennisha Johnson explained that the BHSA shifts how funding can be used, with 30% for housing and housing supports, 35% for full services partnership (FSP) programs, and 35% for the behavioral health system.

Wayne Earl inquired if there would be an increase in funding. Kennisha Johnson clarified that funding is not increasing but is being reallocated into those categories. Wayne Earl asked if this would mean a loss in certain services. Kennisha Johnson clarified that with the new funding priorities certain adjustments could feel like losses. Adam Downs also added that while BHSA funding is substantial, there are other funds in Contra Costa County for behavioral health services.

Kennisha Johnson shared the changes in priority populations under BHSA. While MHSA focused on severe and persistent mental health for both children and adults, BHSA will focus on children and adults who are chronically homeless, in or at-risk of justice system involvement, part of the reentry population, at risk of conservatorship, and at risk of institutionalization.

Kennisha Johnson shared additional details on FSP programs, which have been operating in Contra Costa County since the beginning of MHSA. FSP involves different levels of care, including Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) teams (the highest level of care) and Full Service Partnership Intensive Case Management teams (the second highest level of care). The lower level of care is Out-Patient Mental Health and SUD services.

Adam Down shared that the focus on housing for the Behavioral Health system marks a shift in how they administer services. Historically BH has not thought of themselves as Housing First and has viewed housing as part of a care plan. They will be working to make this shift and are asking for feedback from the housing services experts on the committee.

Tony Ucciferri asked if this shift means that the BH system will be operating or providing more of its own housing as opposed to giving funds to others to administer. Adam Down responded that this is one potential impact. Kennisha Johnson noted that people in housing will have some form of case management since they BH will be expected to provide support to those units.

Wayne Earl shared that there is a lot more need for BH services than there are services available and expressed concern that the BH system is being asked to do more when they already know there are shortages.

Kennisha Johnson asked the group to share what they would like to see more from the BH system.

Tony Ucciferri shared that increased access to services and a higher capacity would be most beneficial.

Jo Bruno expressed excitement at the possibility of more Peer Housing and Peer Respite, noting that combining lived experience and BH expertise is important and effective care.

Wayne Earl noted that certain populations, such as transition aged youth and the elderly, have high needs and could benefit from additional services.

Shawn Ray suggested utilizing the jails to help administer care, stressing that they should not be locking people up for their mental health or substance use but that for those already incarcerated, you have a location where care could be administered and monitored fairly easily.

Wayne Earl and Tony Ucciferri stressed the importance of figuring out how to engage the most vulnerable in BH services.

Kennisha Johnson wrapped up the feedback session noting that the BH team will be visiting more community spaces to seek feedback on the Behavioral Health Transformation and planned changes due to BHSA.

Announcements

There were no announcements offered.

Next Steps

Matt Lemon stated that the next PATH meeting will be a workgroup meeting, scheduled for June 19, 2025. Jamie Schecter noted that the June meeting date will need to be adjusted due to a county holiday conflicting with the currently scheduled time.

In addition, a working group meeting is scheduled for July 17, 2025, and the next Committee Meeting is scheduled for August 21, 2025.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:10 am.