

MXCAB 2025–26 Budget Hearing Priorities Summary

Priority Recommendations Under Consideration

1. **Resources to address youth and young adult homelessness, which may include housing vouchers, infrastructure investments, or other strategies,** as aligned with the Contra Costa County Continuum of Care’s Youth and Young Adult (YYA) Homelessness Priority Strategies, Objectives, and Actions and Community Needs Assessment for YYA Homelessness in Contra Costa County (2024). At the November 12, 2024 joint meeting of MXCAB and the Board of Supervisors, the supervisors unanimously indicated interest in examining how remaining one-time funds could support needs related to housing and homelessness.
2. **Mental health services for priority populations, including Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) and school-aged youth.** The MXCAB has consistently elevated the need for mental health resources to support the county’s AAPI populations, but this has not yet been funded. Additionally, in the most recent \$1.4 million mental health allocation to priority populations, school-aged youth received the smallest portion, at \$100,000, despite evidence of the escalating mental health crisis affecting this population and the overwhelming need for resources to address it.
3. **SAFE Center.** The Contra Costa Immigrant Rights Alliance and community partners, in partnership with Supervisor Carlson, are proposing three years of immigrant inclusion/services funding. This package includes a SAFE center (Services and Access For Everyone) in Concord (with work on satellite services in West and East) as well as essential funding for county positions to ensure that language justice, immigrant outreach, and legal services are backbones to the center.
4. **Refugee resettlement.** Chair Andersen raised an emergent need to assist Jewish Family and Children's Services, CWS NorCal, and International Rescue Committee for a loss of Federal Funds for Refugee resettlement services for 125 residents in Contra Costa.

5. **Rental assistance to support households at risk of eviction and housing insecurity.** There is a huge demand for rental assistance, and it is a particularly impactful way to invest one-time funds.
6. **Early childhood and family support.** Services requested by First 5 include: (1) expanding mental health consultation to reach additional child care sites, (2) expanding Family Navigation Services to children under age 6, (3) investing in parent peer support services, and (4) investing in Family Support Services to strengthen the protective factors of families.

Core Values and Operating Principles

Our recommendations continue to elevate the core values and operating principles that have guided MXCAB's work over the past four years. These include:

1. Holding a shared responsibility to practice core values of equity, justice, inclusion, and compassion
2. Recognizing the importance of a strong safety net
3. Addressing prevention as well as current system gaps
4. Actively seeking transformational ideas
5. Leveraging other funding sources
6. Prioritizing the perspectives of residents most impacted by community needs, with a recognition that solutions must be interconnected and intersectional
7. Naming inequities and disparities, and recognizing those most harmed (especially by anti-Black racism)
8. Recognizing that economic opportunity and equity are at the heart of our work
9. Creating a culture of inclusion, welcoming, and belonging