



P: (925) 608-6700

2400 Bisso Lane
Building D, Floor 2
Concord, CA

<https://cchealth.org/h3/>



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 urgent concern regarding the anticipated changes to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) FY2025 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). These changes, if implemented as currently described, would significantly disrupt our local homelessness response system and jeopardize housing stability for hundreds of vulnerable residents in Contra Costa County.

According to recent reports, HUD intends to introduce sweeping changes to the CoC Program, including:

- **A cap limiting permanent housing projects to 30% of total CoC funding**, a drastic reduction from the current 87% allocation. This would eliminate housing assistance for more than 170,000 people nationwide, including older adults, people with disabilities, veterans, and families with children.
- **Scoring penalties for organizations that have implemented diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) practices**, including those that recognize gender non-conforming or transgender individuals. This would disproportionately impact Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) projects and other programs serving marginalized populations.

These proposed changes are not only misaligned with evidence-based practices but also threaten to unravel years of progress made in reducing homelessness in our region. HUD's stated focus on treatment and recovery, while important, must not come at the expense of permanent housing—the most effective intervention for ending homelessness

We respectfully urge the Board of Supervisors to:

1. **Publicly oppose the proposed changes to the FY2025 CoC NOFO** and affirm Contra Costa County's commitment to permanent housing and inclusive service delivery.
2. **Advocate with our Congressional delegation** to press HUD to maintain current funding structures and scoring criteria that support housing-first approaches and equity.

3. **Support the inclusion of the following legislative provision** in any continuing resolution or appropriations bill:

“Not later than December 15, 2025, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall noncompetitively renew all existing continuum of care grants and youth homelessness demonstration projects expiring during calendar year 2026 for one 12-month period, notwithstanding any inconsistent provisions in subtitle C of title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended: Provided, That the Secretary shall make reasonable adjustments for cost-of-living adjustments for supportive services and use fiscal year 2025 fair market rents for determining eligible renewal amounts.”

This provision would ensure continuity of services while HUD’s funding processes are under review and protect our most vulnerable residents from unnecessary displacement.

We appreciate your leadership and partnership in addressing homelessness in Contra Costa County and stand ready to support your advocacy on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nicole Green".

Nicole Green

Chair, Contra Costa Council on Homelessness
cchomelesscouncil@cchealth.org