

2025 Recognition Categories and Descriptions

Outstanding Housing Provider

- As part of Homelessness Awareness Month (November), the Contra Costa Council on Homelessness wants to recognize those **landlords, property management companies, and other housing operators that create permanent housing opportunities for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness in Contra Costa County** through the Outstanding Housing Provider category.
- Outstanding efforts towards providing **permanent housing opportunities** for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness can be demonstrated in a number of ways including **length of time involved in providing units/rooms; Number of units/rooms; and/or; quality of units/rooms rented**
- Person or company **must rent units/rooms** in Contra Costa County to people at risk of or experiencing homelessness. This **may include shared housing, sober living environments, recovery housing, board and cares, halfway houses and transitional housing.**

Outstanding Partnerships Recognitions

- As part of Homelessness Awareness Month (November), the Contra Costa Council on Homelessness wants to recognize **partnerships that support people at risk of or experiencing homelessness** through the Outstanding Partnership category.
- Partnerships can be **with/between government agencies, nonprofits/CBOs, advocacy groups, faith organizations, individuals (including those facing homelessness), and businesses.**
- The partnership **must support people facing homelessness** in Contra Costa County in some way, but **does not have to only serve people experiencing homelessness.**

Outstanding Volunteer Recognitions

- The Contra Costa Council on Homelessness wants to recognize individuals or groups who have **enriched the lives of people facing homelessness in Contra Costa County through volunteer efforts.**
- Outstanding efforts can be demonstrated by **length of involvement, by a strong concentration of service or impact of efforts.**

- The nominee must **volunteer in Contra Costa County** and the volunteer activity **must be without pay**

Phoenix Rising Recognitions

- This category recognizes **individuals with a lived experience of homelessness** who have **demonstrated outstanding courage, strength and/or resilience** through the Phoenix Rising category. The Phoenix is a bird that rises up again and again from the ashes. It embodies courage and resilience through its journey or flight.
- Nominated people must have a **lived experience of homelessness in Contra Costa County** and/or have **experienced homelessness elsewhere and currently live and/or work in Contra Costa County**