Contra Costa Council on Homelessness Orientation 2026

The Contra Costa Council on Homelessness provides a forum for communication and coordination about the implementation of the County's Strategic Plan to prevent and end homelessness. The Council provides advice and input on the operations of homeless services, program operations, and program development efforts in Contra Costa County. Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Council. Please reach out to the Council on Homelessness at CChomelesscouncil@cchealth.org at least 72 hours before a meeting or deadline to request reasonable accommodation. For more information, please see Contra Costa County's Reasonable Accommodations page.

AGENDA

Date: Thursday, January 8. 2026, 1:00PM – 2:50PM
2120 Diamond Boulevard, Concord
McMorrow Training Room

Time	Agenda Item	Speakers	Detail
1:00 - 1:15	**Welcome & introductions**	• Jamie Schecter, *H3* • Michele Byrnes, *Homebase* • Mark Mora, *Homebase*	• *Welcome* • *Introduce H3 and Homebase* • *Agenda* • *Member introductions* • *Group norms*
1:15- 1:25	**Community Builder**	• Michele Byrnes, *Homebase*	• *Community building activity*
1:25 - 1:40	**Why are we doing this work?**	• Mark Mora, *Homebase*	• *Screen Homelessness Awareness Month video* • *Activity: sharing motivations for joining CoH* • *Think, pair, share*
1:40- 2:00	**Contra Costa Homeless System of Care Overview**	• Michele Byrnes, *Homebase*	• *What is a CoC?* • *CoC basics: geographic area, key players, funding* • *How is Contra Costa responding to homelessness with housing and services?*
2:00 - 2:10	**Break**		
2:10 - 2:20	**CoH Commitment to Serving the Community**	• Jamie Schecter, *H3*	• *Who does the CoC serve and how reflective is CoH of the population we are serving?* • *Required trainings for CoH members*
2:20 - 2:35	**Council Member Expectations**	• Jaime Jenett, *H3*	• *Overview of roles and expectations* • *Activity* • *Overview of upcoming CoH trainings & support* • *Discussion around support needs* • *Peer Mentorship* • *Process for Requesting Accommodations*
2:35 - 2:45	**CoH Member Committee Participation**	• Mark Mora, *Homebase* • *CoH Members*	• *Overview of committees, including potential 2026 focus areas and time commitment* • *Discussion opportunity*
2:45- 2:50	**Wrap-Up**	• Michele Byrnes, *Homebase*	• *Next steps & questions* • *Upcoming meetings* • *Closing*

COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS

Acronym	Definition
APR	Annual Performance Report (for HUD homeless programs)
BHSA	Behavioral Health Services Act
BIPOC	Black and Indigenous People of Color
CARE	Coordinated Assessment and Resource
CCYCS	Contra Costa Youth Continuum of Services
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant (federal and state programs)
Continuum of Care (CoC)	Continuum of Care approach to assistance to the homeless. Federal grant program promoting and funding 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
DCD	(Contra Costa County) Department of Conservation and Development
DHCS	California Department of Health Care Services
EHSD	(Contra Costa County) Employment and Human Services Department
ESG	Emergency Solutions Grant (federal and state program)
FMR	Fair Market Rent (maximum rent for Section 8 rental assistance/CoC grants)
HCD	California Department of Housing and Community Development
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/NOFO	Notice of Funding Availability/ Notice of Funding Opportunity
PHA	Public Housing Authority
PSH	Permanent Supportive Housing
PWLE	People With Lived Experience of Homelessness
RFP	Request for Proposals
RRH	Rapid Rehousing
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration
SRO	Single-Room Occupancy housing units
SSDI	Social Security Disability Income
SSI	Supplemental Security Income
SSO	Support Services Only
TA	Technical Assistance
TAY	Transition Age Youth (usually ages 18-24)
TH	Transitional Housing
VA	Veterans Affairs (U.S. Department of)
VASH	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing
VI-SPDAT	Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool

More information available at: https://www.cchealth.org/about-contra-costa-health/leadership/commissions-advisory-groups/council-on-homelessness