



COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS ORIENTATION

January 9, 2025 from 1:00-3:00pm

WELCOME

Jamie Schechter, *H3*

Purpose of the Meeting: *This meeting is the annual orientation for new and continuing Council members.*

INTRODUCTIONS



Jamie Schechter, *Homeless Services Chief*

Jaime Jenett, *Community Engagement Specialist*

For board members, email: contracostaCoC@cchealth.org
For general inquiries, email: CHomelesscouncil@cchealth.org



Michele Byrnes, *Directing Analyst*

Mark Mora, *Senior Policy Analyst*

Email: contracosta@homebaseccc.org

TODAY'S AGENDA

1. *Welcome & Introductions*
2. *Why are we doing this work?*
3. *Contra Costa Homeless System of Care Overview*
4. *Break (around 2:00)*
5. *CoH Commitment to Racial Equity*
6. *Council Expectations & Responsibilities*
7. *Council Member Committee Participation*
8. *Wrap-up*

CoH MEMBER INTRODUCTION

Name

Pronouns

(example: she/her)

Council Seat

(example: Re-Entry Representative)



FACILITATORS' REQUESTS FOR TODAY

01

Minimize multi-tasking

02

Share your experiences

03

Focus on getting oriented (vs. retaining detail)

Are there any other meeting requests that would help you today?

NEW YEAR, NEW COUNCIL



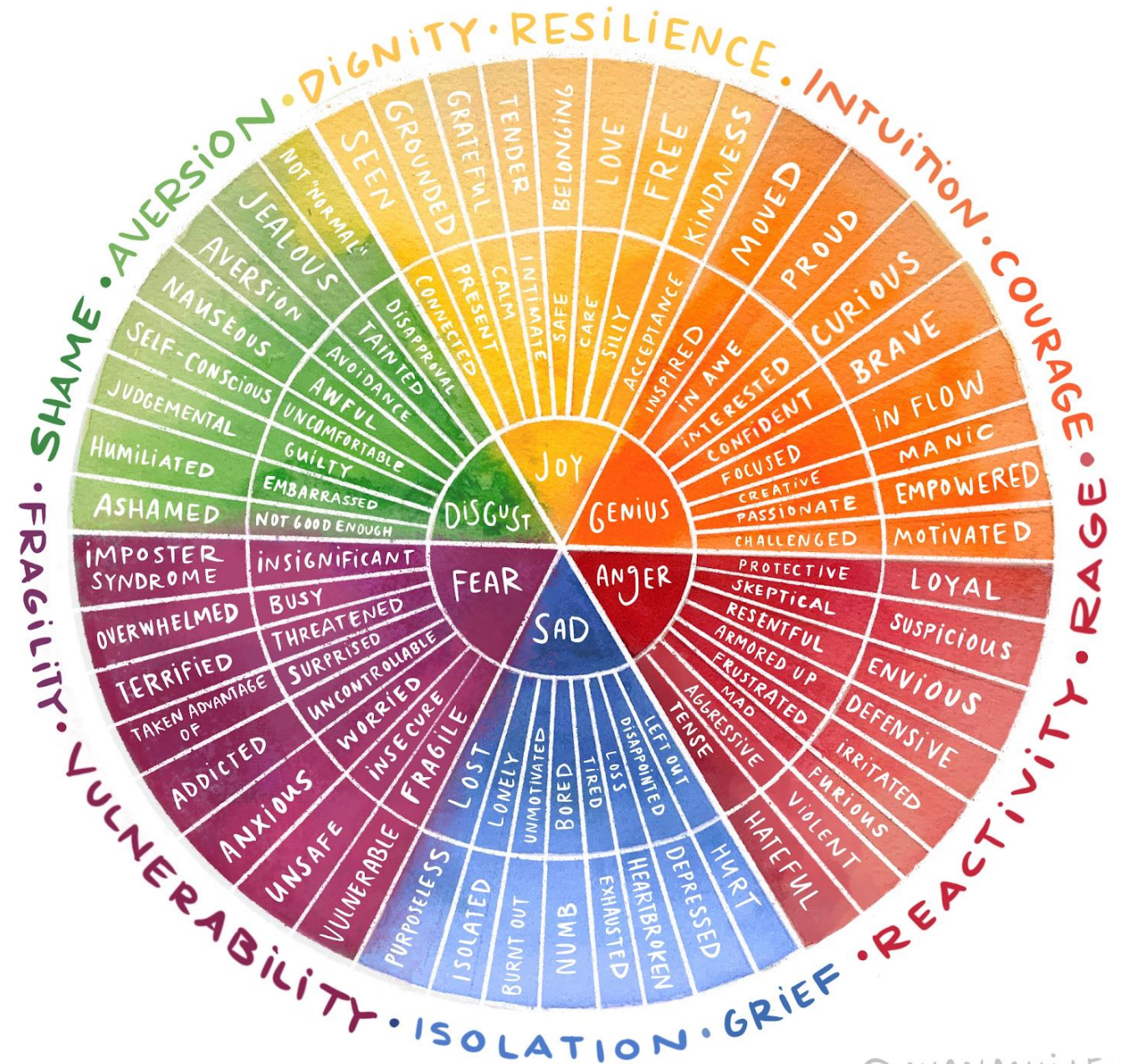
GROUNDING IN THE WORK

Mark Mora, *Homebase*

HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS MONTH VIDEO

Reflection Questions:

- Is there anything from the video that stood out to you?
- What emotions did the video bring up for you?

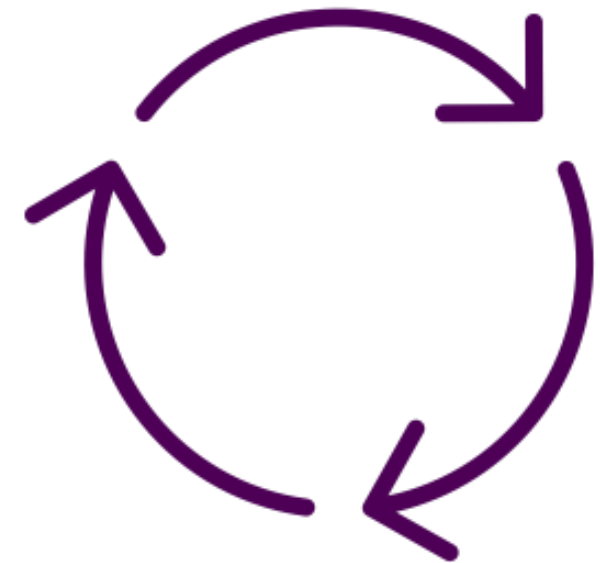


@AVANMUIJEI

IDENTIFYING OUR "WHYS": ACTIVITY

What motivates you to work on preventing and ending homelessness?

What brought you to this work?



CONTRA
COSTA
HOMELESS
SYSTEM OF
CARE
OVERVIEW

Michele Byrnes, *Homebase*

WHAT IS A **CONTINUUM OF CARE** (CoC) ?

- Group of organizations and agencies that collectively **coordinates homeless assistance activities and resources** in a community.
- CoC's:
 - Are **NOT a legal entity**
 - **Designate an entity** to apply for funding on its behalf (H3)
 - Receive **federal CoC funding** through an annual competitive process
 - Promote **community-wide commitment** to ending homelessness
 - Must establish certain community-wide **processes**:
 - Ex: coordinated way for people to access services (also known as Coordinated Entry)

WHAT ARE SOME OF HUD'S MAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR CoCs?

- CoC Board/Council: collective of individuals designated to provide **oversight and governance** on behalf of the CoC
- Coordinated Entry: the **process** each CoC sets up to ensure that people experiencing or at risk of homelessness are
 - **Prioritized** for resources based on **severity of need**, and
 - **Matched** to available resources most **suitable to meet their needs**
- HMIS: **data systems** that communities use to collect and analyze client, service, and housing data

CoC Models of Care

Continuum
of Care

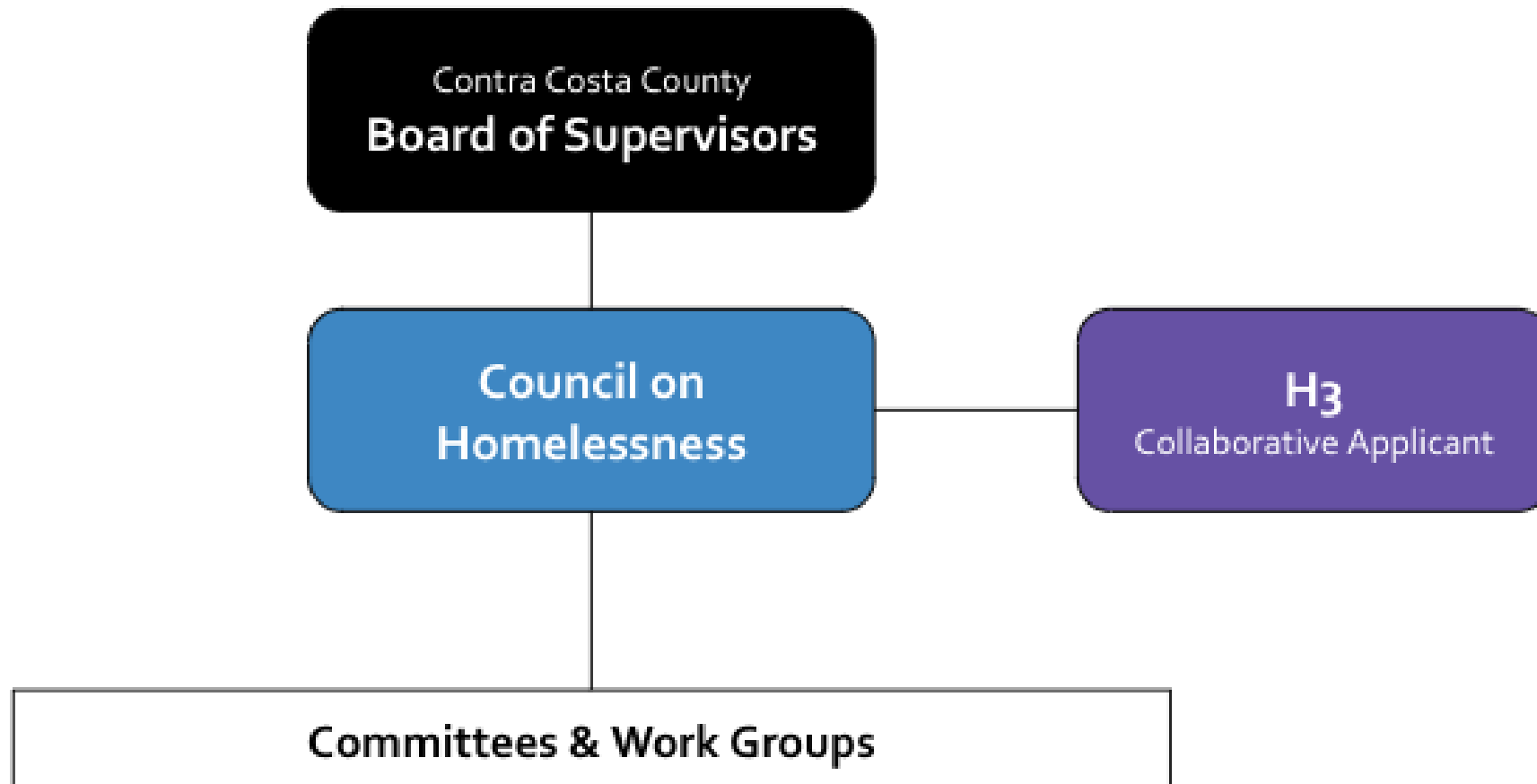
- Prevention
- Rapid Exit
- Outreach
- CARE Centers
- Emergency Shelter
- Rapid Rehousing
- Permanent Supportive Housing

FISCAL YEAR BUDGETS: 2019-20 TO 2023-24

BUDGET	FY 19–20	FY 20–21	FY 21–22	FY 22–23	FY23–24	% CHANGE
CoC Award	\$15,857,604	\$15,239,701	\$16,296,852	\$17,318,215	\$19,300,140	+22%
Special NOFO Award*					\$1,789,609	N/A
Other government and local funding	\$19,676,057	\$25,158,000	\$28,967,000	\$33,015,872	\$21,689,934	+10%
Total Funds	\$34,862,042	\$41,454,852	\$45,815,402	\$50,334,087	\$42,779,683	+23%

Special NOFO funding is a 3 year award totaling \$5.3 million. This table reflects a third of this award.

COUNCIL FLOW CHART





WHAT QUESTIONS DO YOU
HAVE ABOUT
HOMELESSNESS IN CONTRA
COSTA COUNTY?

BREAK
RETURN AT: 2:10

CoH
COMMITMENT
TO RACIAL
EQUITY

Jaime Jenett, *H3*

CoH DIVERSITY STATEMENT

The Council aims to include and engage a broad representation of abilities, ages, sexual and gender identities, immigration statuses, and racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds, as well as geographical representation within the County.

WHO DOES THE CoC SERVE?

Overall data

- 9,632 households served (14,002 individuals)
- 48% increase since 2019

Increases since 2019 by age group

- Minors (81%)
- TAY (36%)
- 55-64 (13%)
- 65+ (71%)

Racial Inequities

- Black/African American/African over-represented 4x in CoC vs. county population
- Multiple Races over-represented 3.8x in CoC vs county population

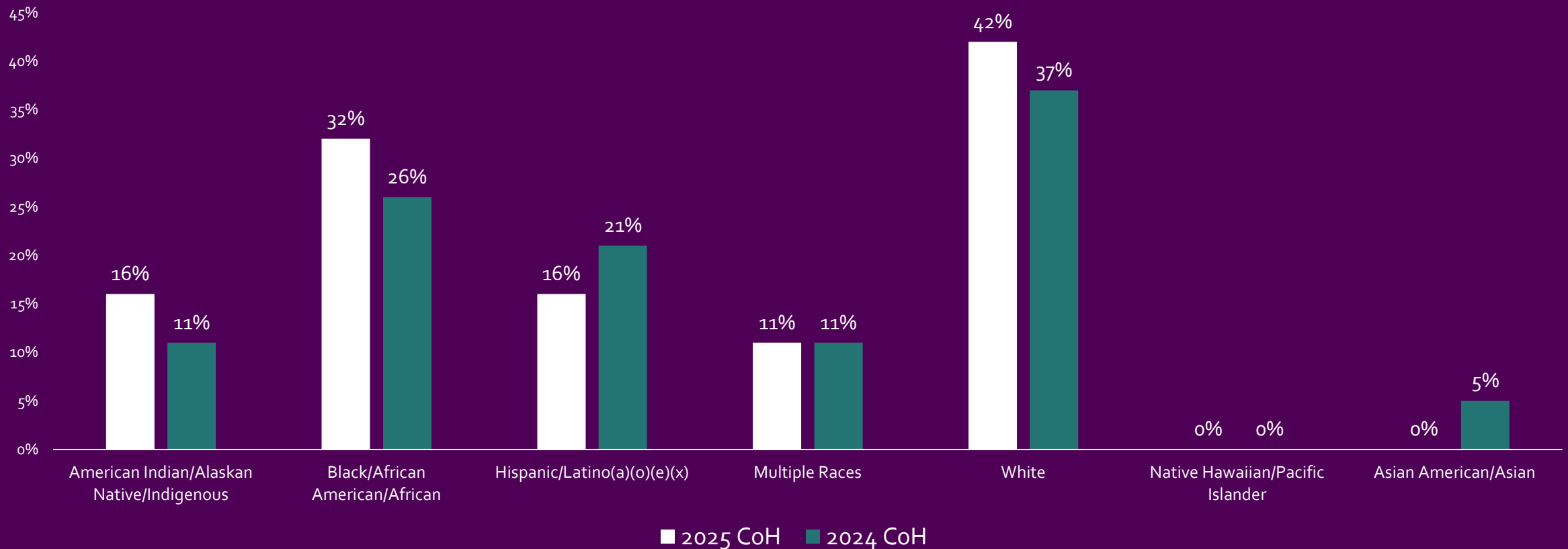
Disability

- Disabling condition (70%)
- Long-term mental health condition (45%)
- Chronic health condition (36%)
- Physical disability (35%)

DEMOGRAPHICS OF 2025 COUNCIL MEMBERS

- 42% of 2025 CoH will have current or lived experience of homelessness (same % as 2024 CoH)

Race/Ethnicity 2025 CoH v. 2024 CoH





HOMELESSNESS & RACIAL EQUITY

Video Source: [Community Solutions](#)

COUNCIL
EXPECTATIONS
AND
RESPONSIBILITIES

Jamie Schechter, *H3*

COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES



Advises County Board of Supervisors



Provides advice and input on the operations of homeless services, program operations, and program development efforts



Creates a forum for the CoC to communicate about strategies to prevent and end homelessness



Educates the community on homeless issues, and advocates on policy issues

COUNCIL MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

- Members are expected to attend **monthly CoH meetings IN PERSON**
 - Two virtual attendances permitted per year
 - Two absences (excused or unexcused) in a rolling 12-month period warrant inquiry from the Council
 - Three absences warrant a recommendation of removal
- Must participate in at least **one additional committee** in 2025
- Review **meeting materials** in full in preparation for each meeting
- Uphold **standards of performance and good conduct**
- **Complete required trainings** by the end of March 2025 (more information to come)

CHAIR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provides **general oversight** for the CoH
- **Presides over CoH meetings**
- Participates in a **monthly CoH planning call** with H3 and Homebase
- **Represents the CoH** in community-facing efforts as needed:
 - Presents the quarterly CoH report to the Family and Human Services Committee; writes an introductory message for this report
 - Presents the Homelessness Awareness Month toolkit at the Board of Supervisors meeting in November; writes an introductory message for the toolkit
 - Reviews and approves CoC applications for funding

VICE-CHAIR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provides oversight for Committees – **regularly participates in all Committees**
- Participates in a **monthly CoH planning call** with H3 and Homebase
- Assumes responsibility of Chair if the Chair is absent or vacant

PEER MENTORSHIP

- New members partner with existing members for ongoing mentorship and guidance
- Email contracostacoc@cchealth.org if you want to become a mentor or need a mentor

HOMEBASE & H₃ RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Develop CoH agendas and other meeting materials** in partnership with the Chair, Vice Chair, CoH Members, other CoC members, and/or partners as needed
- **Coordinate meeting logistics**
- **Publicly post materials** in accordance with the Sunshine Act
- **Research and provide insight on relevant topics** (for example: HUD CoC NOFO competition)

REQUESTING ACCOMMODATIONS

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.

**CoH MEMBER
COMMITTEE
PARTICIPATION**

Various H3/Homebase staff and Council
Members

GOALS OF THE FOLLOWING SLIDES

Receive an
overview of the
Committees

Be ready on
February 6 to
approve Committee
membership

PLAN FOR ACCELERATING TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) INNOVATIONS COMMITTEE

Purpose:

- Work towards the goal of reducing unsheltered homeless in Contra Costa County by 75%

Timing:

Monthly; tentatively 3rd Thursday from 9:30-11am

Membership:

- 2024 Number of CoH Members: 6
- 2024 CoH Members:
 - Deanne Pearn, Homeless Service Provider Seat
 - Jo Bruno, Lived Experience Advisor Seat
 - Juno Hedrick, Lived Experience Advisor Seat
 - Shawn Ray, Public Safety Seat
 - Tony Ucciferri, Public Housing Authority Seat
 - Wayne Earl, Faith Community Seat

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Purpose:

- Reviewing and assessing the development, implementation, and improvement of:
 - CoC
 - Coordinated Entry System
 - HMIS database
 - System Outcomes
- Oversee the following Working Groups:
TBD

Timing:

Every other month, tentatively 3rd
Thursday, 11:30 -1:30pm

Membership:

- 2024 Number of CoH Members: 8
- 2024 CoH Members:
 - Alejandra Chamberlain, Education and Vocational Services Seat
 - Carolyn Foudy, Employment and Human Services Seat
 - Deanne Pearn, Homeless Service Provider Seat
 - Gabriel Lemus, Emergency Solutions Grant Seat
 - Juno Hedrick, Lived Experience Advisor Seat
 - Leslie Gleason, CoC/ESG Seat
 - Mia Fairbanks, Health Care Seat
 - Wayne Earl, Faith Community Seat

HMIS POLICY COMMITTEE

Purpose:

- Develops and shares updates on HMIS policies and practices, compliance, and troubleshooting
- Plans technical assistance and training
- Informs standards of practice and monitoring

Timing:

3rd month of quarter, tentatively 2nd Tuesdays from Noon – 1:30pm

Membership:

- 2024 Number of CoH Members: 5
- 2024 CoH Members:
 - Jo Bruno, Lived Experience Advisor Seat
 - Juno Hedrick, Lived Experience Advisor Seat
 - Gabriel Lemus, Emergency Solutions Grant Seat
 - Juno Hedrick, Lived Experience Advisor Seat
 - Tony Ucciferri, Public Housing Authority Seat

FUNDING COMMITTEE

Purpose:

- Expanded in scope after previously existing as the CoC/ESG Committee (which supported the application process for funds administered by HUD, including the CoC Program)
- Direct community input process for several federal and state funding streams
- CoC NOFO work is now under the Funding Cmte

Timing: Monthly from February to May 2025, time TBD

Membership:

- 2024 Number of CoH Members: 5
- 2024 CoH Members:
 - Deanne Pearn, Homeless Service Provider Seat
 - Dani Jimenez, Behavioral Health Seat
 - Juno Hedrick, Lived Experience Advisor Seat
 - Nicole Green, Reentry Services Seat
 - Wayne Earl, Faith Community Seat

EQUITY COMMITTEE

Purpose

- Increase awareness, community dialogue, and lead concrete actions to achieve equity throughout the homeless system of care.

Timing: tentatively 2nd Tuesdays of 2nd and 3rd months every quarter, 2-4pm

- Feb virtual, March in-person
- May virtual, June in-person
- August virtual, September in-person
- November virtual, December in-person

Membership:

- 2024 Number of CoH Members: 4
- 2024 of CoH Members:
 - Hope Dixon, Community Member Seat
 - Janae Thomas, Workforce Development Seat
 - Juno Hedrick, Lived Experience Advisor Seat
 - Leslie Gleason, CoC/ESG Seat

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Purpose:

- Review and revise the Governance Charter & Bylaws to increase CoH efficiency and impact

Timing:

Monthly from February-April 2025 (2-3 meetings), time TBD

Membership:

- 2024 Number of CoH Members: 5
- 2024 CoH Members:
 - Dani Jimenez, Behavioral Health Seat
 - Jazmin Ridley, City Government Seat
 - Juno Hedrick, Lived Experience Advisor Seat
 - Nicole Green, Reentry Services Seat
 - Tony Ucciferri, Public Housing Authority Seat

AD HOC COMMITTEES/WORKGROUPS: RECRUITING LATER

- **Point-in-Time Count Workgroup**: Plan and implement the annual Point-in-Time Count, an annual HUD-required count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness and provide recommendations to the full Council
 - Estimated Timing: ad hoc, November 2025 to January 2026, dates TBD
- **Homelessness Awareness Month Workgroup**: Plan for annual Homelessness Awareness Month (November) activities
 - Estimated Timing: March virtual, May IN PERSON, August virtual, September IN PERSON, October virtual, November virtual
- **CoH Nominating Committee**: Reviews applications for potential new Council members and provides recommendations to the full Council
 - Estimated Timing: ad hoc, 1-2 meetings from July to October 2025, dates TBD

COMMITTEE OVERVIEW

Which committees are you potentially interested in participating in? Be ready to make a decision at the next CoH meeting

- PATH Innovation Committee
- Oversight Committee
- HMIS Policy Committee
- Funding Committee
- Equity Committee
- Governance Committee – ad hoc
- Point-in-Time Committee – ad hoc
- Homelessness Awareness Month Committee – ad hoc
- CoH Nominating Committee – ad hoc

CLOSE OUT

Michele Byrnes, *Homebase*

NEXT STEPS

- Complete [CoH Orientation Experience Feedback Survey](#) by Friday, January 17
- Think about Committee alignment (finalize at 2/6 CoH Meeting)
- Attend next CoH Meeting: Thursday, February 6, 1 – 3 PM
- Complete the required trainings by end of March (Jaime Jenett will follow up via email)

Questions?

Jaime Jenett, Staff to the Council

Jaime.Jenett@cchealth.org

925-464-0152 (cell)