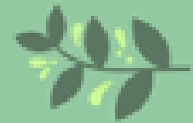
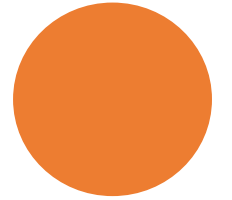


Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice

Dr. Kendra Carr, Co-Director
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Contra Costa County

May 2, 2025



Office of Racial
Equity & Social
Justice

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

African American Holistic Wellness and Resource Hub

Implementation Plan Update

On April 15, 2025, Ceres Policy Research presented their final feasibility study report to the Board of Supervisors.

Their report included a comprehensive community needs assessment and recommendations toward a three-phase implementation plan that proposes:

- Phase 1: Immediate activation of mobile services and leveraging of County-led rapid-response services that target high-need groups such as elders, unhoused, geographically isolated, etc. (\$2.87M)
- Phase 2: Engage and fund CBO's to fill service gaps by delivering dispersed "satellite" services through a sub-regional approach that prioritizes high-need Districts 5 and 3. (\$2.74M)
- Phase 3: Establish a physical site in Antioch, CA by 2028 that delivers medical, mental health, social and economic support through co-location of County and community services (\$3.6M)
 - Total implementation budget for initial 3 phases: \$9.21M

Recommended first steps include:

- Hire an implementation lead (e.g. executive director) within 90 days
- Expand and extend Steering Committee role/function to Oversight and Advisory Body
- Activate rapid-response services by Jan 2026

African American Holistic Wellness and Resource Hub

Implementation Plan Update (continued)

Board of Supervisors directed the ORESJ to return to Equity Committee for further direction, with goal of returning to full Board by June or July 2025 with a fully developed and actionable implementation plan that builds off the Ceres Policy Research report, and that also addresses the following:

- Conduct an inventory analysis of existing County-run services and programs that support and/or prioritize the improved health and wellness of African American communities and individuals.
- Explore sub-regional approaches that meet the unique strengths, needs and concerns of the diverse African American communities and their respective needs throughout the County's supervisorial districts.
- Prioritize recommendations for investment of the current approved allocation of \$7.5 million to initiate efforts and services toward establishing a hub, and propose a long-term sustainability plan that includes non-County funding sources.
- Propose a governance structure other than a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) that allows for more flexibility and nimbleness in establishing formal partnerships with stakeholders, encourages shared responsibility, and prioritizes community leadership and partnership.
- Propose an approach to securing an entity and/or staff to carry out the implementation of services and establishment of a hub that does not include hiring new County employees.

African American Holistic Wellness and Resource Hub

Implementation Plan Update (continued)

Since receiving direction from the Board of Supervisors on April 15, 2025, ORESJ has:

- Created and shared a survey with County departments requesting information on services and programs that prioritize and serve vulnerable groups within African American communities, with an eye towards what is immediately available, as well as uncovering gaps and what may be missing.
- Initiated contact and conversation with local/regional organizations with expertise and success in implementing community-embedded, community-led health and wellness centers to learn of concrete implementation steps, lessons learned, and potential funding opportunities.
- Explored models and processes to fast track the establishment of an independent 501c3 non-profit organization that can independently hire an executive director and other staff to carry out the day-to-day implementation and coordination of services.
- Drafted bylaws and structure for a Community Advisory Body to oversee the creation and implementation of a hub.

African American Holistic Wellness and Resource Hub

Update on \$1M Allocation for Existing Services

- All fourteen service MOU's have been finalized and processed with projects/services beginning May 1, 2025.
- East Bay Community Foundation is administering the contracts on behalf of the County and are responsible for program monitoring, reporting, and processing of invoices and payments.
- See attached list of funded organizations with short description of the projects.

Questions or Comments

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