



Youth Committee

February 11, 2025

2:30 – 4:30pm

Minutes

Link to Zoom Meeting

Phone: +1 386 347 5053

Meeting ID: 896 7043 6125

Meetings are public. Alameda County residents with lived experience of homelessness are encouraged to attend. Public Comment will be taken at the beginning of each meeting and is limited to 2 minutes per person.

Helpful links:

- **Google drive folder** for the Youth Committee:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1nba_vF_vhpoybIRfSnAzw11UsmwYXXLz?usp=sharing
- **Website page** (on EveryOne Home website) for the Youth Committee:
<https://everyonehome.org/about/committees/youth-committee/>
- **Acronyms and Glossary:** https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1I8hFMAU2IE-FqYmK8TZ9Hp40vmS1zRck9EBEbPIbwy8/edit?usp=drive_link

Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Youth Committee is to align goals and develop shared strategies and collaborative practices across systems, agencies, programming, and funding streams that work to prevent and end youth homelessness. The Committee will act as a collaborative table bringing together transitional age youth with lived experience of homelessness, youth service providers, county and city government representatives, and other partners to build a coordinated response to youth homelessness. Learn more about the Committee's purpose [here](#).

Meeting Purpose / Overview

The purpose of this month's meeting was for the Youth Committee members to: (1) receive reports from the Racial Equity Committee and Youth Advisory Board (YAB), (2) receive an update on the local Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Memo that was completed last year and discuss future feedback to other Committees, (3) finalize the Transition Age Youth (TAY) Engagement Chart, and (4) discuss and analyze the information gathered through the development of the TAY Engagement Chart.

Agenda

1) Welcome and Warm-Up Activity (Marisol Rodriguez-Sanchez, Alameda County Health, Housing and Homelessness Services)

- a) Marisol led the Committee through a fun warm up activity.

2) Ground Rules/Approval of January 14th, 2025 Minutes (Youth Committee Co-Chairs)

- a) Minutes from January 14th approved.

3) Announcements/Public Comment (Kris Maun, Homebase)

- a) The Harvard Kennedy School [Government Performance Lab \(GPL\)](#) invites you to join our Data-Driven Decision-Making Training series. These trainings are virtual and open to anyone working in and around homelessness prevention and response work in Alameda County.

- i) Please register for the training [here: bit.ly/gpltraining](https://bit.ly/gpltraining).

(1) Choose-Your-Own-Data-Adventure | Friday, Feb. 7 at 10 am - 11 am: In this hands-on simulation, you'll be challenged to use limited data to understand and address an emerging homelessness concern.

(2) Continuous Improvement & Key Performance Indicators | Friday, Feb. 14 at 10 am - 12 noon: Not sure how best to use the data you have or see in meetings? This training will focus on tools to connect program and system goals with the data you track to help improve the services being delivered.

(3) Unpack & Interpret Data | Friday, March 14 at 10 am - 12 noon: Learn strategies for disaggregating data to better understand what your data is telling you.

(4) Communicate with Data | Friday, April 11 at 10 am - 12 noon: Bring all your learnings from previous sessions together and focus on how to present data to support action-oriented meetings and conversations.

- ii) Please reach out to Sky Mihaylo (skymihaylo@hks.harvard.edu) if you have any questions.

- b) **Three** different CoC Workgroups are looking for volunteers:

- i) The **Performance Measures Workgroup** will update the Performance Measures for CoC projects, last updated about 10 years ago. The updated measures are planned to be used as a part of scoring the 2026 NOFO project applications.
- ii) The **Data Quality Workgroup** will develop a data quality plan for the community
- iii) SCF is developing a NOFO Toolkit in its **NOFO Workgroup**. The toolkit will be designed to help orient new applicants to the NOFO process of CoC funding.

- iv) Seeking members who are: providers, PWLE, REC committee members, and Youth Committee members
- v) Please alameda@homebaseccc.org you are interested, no later than February 19th
- c) No public comments.

2) Racial Equity Committee Report Out (Sabrina Abong, Racial Equity Liaison)

- a) Sabrina shared that new resources for liaisons for sharing have been created by the Racial Equity Committee and will be implemented in future meetings.

3) Youth Advisory Board (YAB) Report Out (Tammy Nguyen, co-chair)

- a) Key Updates:
 - i) YAB opened applications for two Core Team positions and three Member positions. Currently in interviewing phase for Member positions. Positions will be filled by mid-March.
 - ii) YAB is reviewing and giving feedback to the “Alameda County/Larkin Street/Covenant House Joint Component Program Manual” and “Welcome Packet”
 - iii) YAB met with Supervisor Marquez of District 2 for relationship building and planting seeds for future collaboration
 - iv) Two-day YHDP Implementation Training on Equity in Practice
 - v) YAB members participated in Executive Advocacy Days with California Coalition for Youth (CCY). Two key highlights are:
 - (1) Anticipating less reliance on general state funding and more reliance on bonds.
 - (2) Reintroducing the Youth Housing Bond and supporting the youth CES bill.
 - vi) Sahra Nawabi is transitioning from her role as the YAB’s Youth Lead to begin working full-time with the “Youth and Allies Against Homelessness” research team at UC Berkeley!
- b) Black Joy Parade is taking place on Sunday, February 23rd at 12:30pm
- c) Tax Assistance for foster youth: Resources compiled by John Burton Advocates for Youth (JBAY) at this link <https://jbay.org/resources/fytc/>
- d) UC Berkeley’s research team, Youth and Allies Against Homelessness (YAAH) is recruiting a cohort of 6-8 California youth leads with lived experience of homelessness to work with their team as paid research interns.
 - i) Internship begins first week of March and the deadline to apply is February 18th.
 - ii) [Click Link to Apply](#)
- e) Mental Health California is doing a webinar series on Youth Mental Health Awareness and looking for volunteers to speak and share insights. Each participant receives \$50 per hour session. Begins March 5th.
 - i) [Click Link to Apply](#)
- f) Chris Middleton from Youth Law Center compiled a list of resources, included in slide deck with meeting materials.

g) [YAB Report Out Slides Available Here](#)

4) Update on Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Memo (Kate Bristol)

- a) The Committee received an update from Kate Bristol on the NOFO Memo that the Youth Committee shared with the NOFO Workgroup. Since this project came out of a request from the NOFO Workgroup, the Committee discuss whether they would like to invite other Committees to invite other Committee's to share their work plans with the Youth Committee for feedback.
- b) Kate shared that almost all recommendations from the Youth Committee NOFO were implemented in the 2024 process; some are being considered for the next NOFO in 2026.
- c) Theme 1: Performance Measures
 - i) Recommendation: Expand performance measures beyond income increases to include whether youth are participating in educational programs and/or job training and/or are connected to health and behavioral health systems.
 - ii) Action: This recommendation is being taken up in 2025 as part of an overall effort to revise and update performance measures for the 2026 CoC NOFO process.
 - iii) Kate shared she expects it will be hard to track educational involvement because that's not data that's stored centrally. The Performance Measure workgroup will think of creative ways to account for the fact that youth are not always focused on increasing income in the way adults are.
- d) Theme 2: Youth-Tailored Services
 - i) Recommendation: Ask applicants how their programs ensure low barrier access and provide ongoing services relevant for youth and other high needs populations.
 - ii) Action: Implemented in 2024! Question was asked of all projects, and other questions were revised to specifically ask how programs are removing barriers to youth participation.
- e) Theme 3: Youth Engagement and Involvement
 - i) Recommendation: Revise or expand questions to specifically ask how youth are involved and what support they receive to ensure there is authentic participation.
 - ii) Action: Implemented in 2024! Questions related to involving people with lived experience were expanded to specifically ask about youth engagement and involvement (for youth serving projects).
- f) Theme 4: Organizational Capacity

- i) Recommendation: Refine questions and scoring factors relating to organizational capacity to better capture whether applicants have the infrastructure needed to serve youth and other populations with high service needs
- ii) Action: Partially implemented in 2024! Questions on the new project application were revised to include these topics. The renewal application does not have a narrative relating to applicant capacity, but this is something that we could in the future.
- g) Overall NOFO Results: The application package submitted in October 2024 included four YHDP grants plus five youth-serving CoC projects. All made it into Tier 2, and all were awarded their funding in January 2025.
- h) Discussion:
 - i) Tanya: Any update on how the new administration will affect these proposals/awards?
 - (1) Kate: Legally the money that was awarded must flow as it was already appropriated by Congress. There have been illegal delays and attempts to freeze. The 2025 appropriations are not done yet, Congress hasn't finished their cycle of determining the amounts. No new competition in 2025 and HUD will be automatically renewing, so yet to see how 2026 competition will shake out.
 - ii) Kris shared that Annie Bailey wanted to ask the Committee if the Youth Committee wanted to invite other Committees to come and present their workplans or get input on their projects. The Committee overall is interested in taking up other Committees on their offer to have Youth Committee review their work.

5) TAY Engagement Chart: Communications and Roll Out (Kris Maun)

- a) The Committee discussed how to finalize formatting of the Transition Age Youth (TAY) Engagement Chart, including who will lead the formatting and whether any accompanying materials should be drafted. The Committee also discussed the communications strategy for sharing the TAY Engagement Chart.
- b) Discussion on Formatting and What Materials We Need:
 - i) Tammy would like to see a PDF version that is more simplified. YAB has a graphic design and communications subgroup that could support.
 - (1) Ray: Interested in helping with graphic.
 - ii) Tammy and Delilah agree the chart should be both formats – online resource and PDF/printable.
 - iii) Delilah: I think if the print is for youth utilizing resources, it should be user-friendly. I also believe it would be helpful for service providers to have posters of it on a larger scale so youth in passing can see it.

- (1) Overall, the Committee agreed that maybe a QR code could work as a printed resource.
 - (2) Tammy also wanted to note that a phone is not always accessible for people, so having things like organization name, location and contact info should be explicitly listed on the flyer.
 - (3) Marisol suggested having a poster and flyer with service categories and QR Code to the full spreadsheet.
- iv) Sabrina: I feel that the TAY Engagement should be formatted as a PDF but subject to change should be put on the bottom. I think the YAB should be the lead in formatting.
 - v) Kris: Is there a way to condense the information into something that's printing size? And for producing a poster – would we ask EveryOne Home or YAB?
 - (1) Marisol: YAB can support with layout and accessibility in collaboration with EveryOne Home.
 - (2) Kris: Do you think that the Alameda County through the YAB would finance the printing?
 - vi) Michai Freeman (Community Member) suggested having the resources as a Word Document because that's more universally accessible – PDFs can be problematic with accessibility software. Using plain language and not too much jargon or text is also helpful.
 - vii) Delilah: Kris was asking about consolidation, maybe even just the housing sheet is the most critical and that's what we could put on a flyer and then have a QR code for the rest.
 - viii) Amanda: On a related note, making sure it is 508 compliant to ensure accessibility.
 - ix) Tanya: How are social media platforms saving or sharing this is kind of info, in highlights? On-going content creation around the resources?
 - x) Kris proposed that this new workgroup space could be used to develop the materials, and we could invite the YAB communication team to join.
 - (1) Tammy agreed!
 - xi) Morgan will prepare a list for the next workgroup meeting of all the potential materials we'd want to design and create.
- c) Discussion on Communications Rollout
- i) EveryOne Home Communication Channels: share on website, listserv, Leadership Board, Racial Equity Committee
 - (1) Kris asked if we could share with YAB, use the YAB listserv? Amanda shared that list is pretty YAB specific, but open to exploring with Marisol.
 - ii) Amanda: Share with Alameda County Health, Housing and Homeless Services huddle space, share with Ending Youth Homelessness Collaborative invite list. How do we share beyond just those inner circles?
 - iii) Tammy: YAB has connections with Tipping Point and California Coalition for Youth which are larger organization, will blast it with them. YHDP Peer Navigators can help push it.

- iv) Michai recommended independent living centers and public access channels that regularly accept community information. Also share with school districts, children's hospitals, social workers, recovery centers. Overall need to expand to people who don't know but are engaged with youth.
- v) Kris also uplifted that we need to send it also to everyone we solicited feedback from.
- vi) Tammy overall sees this as an opportunity to invite new folks in CoC spaces. YAB also has a long list of youth-only contacts that could be utilized. Lots of connections with young people who are in and out of the space.
- vii) Marisol offered to present at Ending Youth Collaborative in May since that's where this work originally began.

The Committee will finish discussing this at the February workgroup meeting and invite the YAB Communications subcommittee to also attend. Tammy will relay this invitation to YAB.

6) TAY Engagement Chart: Analysis (Tammy Nguyen, co-chair)

- a) As a next step after publishing the TAY Engagement Chart, the Committee discussed:
 - i) What did we learn about the CoC's relationship with youth-serving organizations?
 - ii) Do we know all the youth-serving organizations and are we engaged with them?
 - iii) What can we do to promote two-way communication with youth-serving organizations?
 - iv) What are effective methods of engagement with youth-serving organizations?
 - v) What information are we unable to get from youth serving organizations?
- b) Discussion:
 - i) Marisol: Learned that most youth-serving organizations don't know what the CoC is.
 - (1) Other Committee members agreed, Tammy shared there is a disconnect between providers and the CoC, not everyone knows the purpose or how to get involved.
 - ii) Tanya: As an organization that doesn't receive funding from the CoC and doesn't have to be engaged with the CoC, many organizations don't know about the non-CoC organizations.
 - iii) Delilah: At Youth Spirit Artworks, people will have clients with grievances with coordinated entry and they don't know how to access the CoC or make their grievances. It's going both ways, we don't know everyone and not everyone knows the CoC.
 - iv) Tammy also has noticed that the CoC folks tend to only focus on NOFO recipients.
 - v) Ray uplifted need for two-way communication.

- vi) Tammy uplifted that it was hard to get input and responses during the process of collecting info, so how can we better support engagement? How do providers even want to be communicated with?
 - (1) Delilah: Thinks we need to be sending more invitations to the space as they are public meetings.
 - (2) Michai: If there are in-person events, having things like snacks can help create community bonding and incentive attendance. Gift cards for basic needs and transportation also help.
 - (3) Tammy: Also leverage other incentives that other providers might provide to youth.
 - (4) Marisol also highlighted the importance of being in community as well and being in-person. Overall keep things relational as we are building rapport with other organizations.
 - (5) Ray: Also for engagement, keeping things peer-led and youth-centered.
 - vii) Tanya: Engaging outlining programs or those that have special populations like victim services, human trafficking, or culturally specific orgs that are youth-serving but not CoC members. Biannual invitation to learn about CoC, meet other programs, and learn why it's of value to be connected and also keep up with turnover.
 - viii) Tanya: Here's the information that was hard to get from organizations: funding, partnerships, referral/ enrollment capacity, surveys.
 - ix) Tammy also shared that social media can be an effective tool for engaging with youth and youth-serving organizations.
 - x) Marisol agrees funding streams weren't as easy to capture in the chart. A lot of contacts were general info contacts that didn't have all the information. Also, we asked about youth engagement strategies but not as in-depth about how they apply it or how effective the strategies really are.
- c) Overall Project Debrief – How was this process and project?
- i) Tammy: Because our meetings used to be shorter and we had other projects going on, the timeline was longer than expected and a challenge. It was also hard because everyone was working individually and not always altogether.
 - ii) Marisol agrees that more dedicated time together will help move it forward and finish it out. The processes were organic, and we added more categories as we were going, but also need to reinforce structure of who is holding what. Adding the workgroup will help the momentum as people are holding so many other things.

7) Agenda Items for Tuesday, March 11, 2025 (Kris)

- a) The Youth Committee Workgroup will meet on Wednesday, February 26, 2025 from 2pm to 3pm.
- b) The next meeting of the Youth Committee will be Tuesday, March 11, 2025.



- c) Announcement from Michai Freeman: It was great being here today. I am the Systems Change Advocate at the Center For Independent Living. We serve youth with different abilities live and participate equally in society. My contact is mfreeman@thecil.org. If I can be of assistance let me know.
- d) Delilah volunteered to lead the icebreaker at the next meeting.

Committee Attendance:

Name	Attendance
Annie Bailey	Absent
Carla Rosas	Absent
Delilah Aviles	Present
Denah Nunes	Absent
Marisol Rodriguez-Sanchez	Present
Ray Corona	Present
Sabrina Abong	Present
Sahra Nawabi	Absent
Tammy Nguyen	Present
Tanya Carvajal	Present

Public Attendance:

- Morgan Bernados, Homepage
- Kate Bristol, NOFO Consultant
- Andy Duong, Community Member
- Michai Freeman, Center for Independent Living
- Khantane Jackson, YAB
- Kris Maun, Homepage
- Amanda McKinney, Alameda County Health, Housing and Homeless Services