

## Outreach, Access, and Coordination Committees

### Minutes

February 12th, 2025

2:00pm – 4:00pm

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Join Zoom Meeting

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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.

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#### Helpful links:

- **Google Drive folder** for the Outreach, Access, and Coordination (OAC) Committee: [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1XydfAT-\\_booxFXw5eg3fmv\\_ZeXWhlrB9?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1XydfAT-_booxFXw5eg3fmv_ZeXWhlrB9?usp=drive_link)
- **Website page** (on EveryOne Home website) for the OAC Committee: <https://everyonehome.org/about/committees/outreach-access-coordination/>
- **Acronyms and Glossary**: [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/118hFMAU2IE-FqYmK8TZ9Hp40vmS1zRck9EBEbPIbwy8/edit?usp=drive\\_link](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/118hFMAU2IE-FqYmK8TZ9Hp40vmS1zRck9EBEbPIbwy8/edit?usp=drive_link)

#### Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Outreach, Access, and Coordination Committee is to ensure that people experiencing homelessness receive available services tailored to their individual needs, and that the system offers welcoming and effective points of engagement. The committee will coordinate, monitor, and improve the quality and effectiveness of outreach, coordinated entry and other services that connect people to the homelessness response system and mainstream or other community services. Learn more about the purpose of this committee [here](#).

Agenda

**1. Welcome / Introductions** (Kate Hart)

**2. Approval of minutes, January 8th, 2024** (Kate Hart)

*No roll call vote is needed, corrections not already received by Homebase will be noted and minutes changed accordingly.*

**3. Public Comment** (Kate Hart)

- Public comments are welcome from anyone in attendance at the meeting, but are limited to 2 minutes per person. Comments are also accepted in advance of the meeting via email sent to: [alameda@homebaseccc.org](mailto:alameda@homebaseccc.org)

Laurie Flores: I am not an attorney. I do not represent the Police department. I work for Fremont City. The City of Fremont passed an ordinance that prohibits or bans camping. It was said publicly in the Council meeting that there are not resources available to enforce this ordinance. There is also concern around the aiding and abetting clause. Outreach groups and providers are not subject to this ordinance.

Kara: I've heard that the ordinance is really around structures. If my outreach workers provide tents is that seen as creating structures?

Laurie: No, giving a tent is not the same as creating a structure.

Pam: Did I hear there are no resources to enforce this?

Laurie: There is not enough police staffing to carry out action in all encampment situations.

Pam: So it doesn't really have any teeth? So it's just a measure for the public? It's not enforceable?

Nic: I think we are asking Laurie to interpret the ordinance. What we have are the facts that the ordinance passed and the facts are that there is not enough enforcement.

Pam: Ok thank you, I appreciate both of your responses.

Nic: As a person that was part of the unsheltered workgroup will we make an action item to release a person-centered statement on what happened? What is next?

Laurie: Is this directed at me?

Nic: No this is to the CoC, what do we do next? How do we create an action item on this?

Kate: I don't know what we can do but I can tell you as an individual, I was there, I was appalled. I would be in support of the CoC making a statement on it. It's an ordinance that's already passed. I'm not sure we'll have significant influence.

Nic: Maybe it's just being able to create the space for the conversation and the space for us to talk about it.

Jenn: I was there also, I think this is really bad. I think we should say something and have a responsibility to do so. Although the police chief tried to play down the impact it could have. This will have rippling effects on Alameda County. People could get scared and move out to other cities and affect other systems of care. We need to say something.

Kate: Even though there maybe are not enough resources to enforce it, it will also make things difficult anyways. People may feel they can call the police and forcefully displace individuals in encampments.

Jonathan: I think the more statements the better. What was painfully obvious last night is that not everyone was able to be heard. Well over 100 were not heard. An opportunity of the CoC to lift up the voices of folks directly impacted could be really powerful. The County submitted a letter which usually does not happen in the City-County context. We submitted a letter with the racial repercussions that this kind of ordinance could have. This came from both Alameda County Health and Alameda Housing and Homelessness. This is a ban for something that they say is needed in practice for only extreme situations. But how do we determine what is 'extreme'? This is not a good way to go about creating a [broad] law [based on] rare cases.

Jenn: I agree, the actual ordinance doesn't say when it is to be used in emergency situations.

Jonathan: Exactly, how do we know it will only be in emergency situations if it doesn't mention it?

Kate: It writes inequitable application of the ordinance. All the examples of situations where the ordinance would be used, there already exist other laws that cover those actions, such as lighting fires or assault.

Jenn: It seems people just want to have it in their back pocket for them to use it when they want. Everyone that also said they were for the ordinance to be passed claimed it would make Fremont safer. I don't see how that will make the city safer. The whole thing seemed pointless, punitive, and cruel.

Kate: Laurie, I think you did a great job talking of all the services the city does offer. I'm sure it was a difficult night for you as well.

Laurie: I really appreciate that. I have linked the agenda and ordinance language

Kate: So in terms of next steps what can we do?

Kim: We could always submit a letter or memo to the Leadership Board for them to act. I am not sure if our committee itself could submit a public-facing letter without going to the leadership board.

Kate: What thoughts do people have about that? About speaking on this or writing a memo to go to the board.

Jenn: I think that is definitely in order. Doing nothing is more harmful.

Alan: I recommend we propose to the leadership board we encourage submitting a response to the city of Fremont, and those interested could contribute.

Kim: There is not a lot of time between now and Thursday but I am happy to summarize what everyone has commented today. I could always meet with Kate and figure that out. Does anyone else want to volunteer to support writing such a statement? And if not is everyone comfortable with that [Kim and Kate writing a letter to the Board]?

Pam: I am comfortable with that.

Kate: Jenn do you also want to participate?

Jenn: Yes, I can help with that.

Kate: Again, it is harmful, cruel and not taking into account the persons affected.

Kim: We could also endorse other statements. I haven't seen them but if someone released a good public statement we can endorse them.

Jenn: I like what ACLU said.

Kate: Yes I did too, we also have several organizations that put together a statement with 'Fremont is for Everyone' that we could endorse.

Jenn: Is it practical though to not have our own statement?

Kim: It won't be as strong but at least is a good way to get us started. We definitely would have to write an introduction.

Jenn: Yes I think we need to write a statement since many, like Jonathan pointed out, did not have the opportunity to provide a statement. No one else from the CoC was able to provide a comment.

Laurie: I will say that anyone can come to the city council meetings and submit a public comment. It is every Tuesday at 7pm, except for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month. It can be a written comment submitted or a public comment.

Kate: I did notice that they do keep records of written comments. They do not hide the email addresses or contact information. I was able to see 2000 written comments. Ok so if everyone is ok with us writing a statement to the Leadership Board we can do that.

**4. Homeless System Updates or Urgent Items (All)**

- Community members are encouraged to share announcements or other brief informational items.

Three workgroups are currently recruiting. If you would like to join please email [alameda@homebaseccc.org](mailto:alameda@homebaseccc.org)

Performance Measure Workgroup

HMIS Data Quality Workgroup

NOFO Workgroup

**5. Racial Equity Standing Time (OAC Racial Equity Liaisons)**

- In an effort to Center Racial Equity within all committee spaces, each meeting contains standing time for equity liaisons to provide updates or host discussions with the committee on equity topics.
- Conversation on setting equity goals

**6. Unsheltered Workgroup – Recommendations to TWG (unsheltered workgroup)**

- The Workgroup has completed a memo to be sent to the County Mayor's Technical Working group. The memo provides recommendations on improving the encampment prioritization matrix. It is meant to be a dialogue between the different cities, county, and CoC to take a collective stance on working with encampments.

Pam: Is the TWG made up of Oakland and Berkeley staff?

Laurie: There is a Mayor's conference every month to every other month to connect Mayors .A sub group of Mayor's focused on homelessness was formed. The Mayors' asked city staff focused on homelessness to meet at the Technical Working Group with County staff.

Pam: So it's Hayward, Livermore, Oakland, Berkeley, and Fremont.

Nic: I totally like the design of the document.

Kim: Thank you! The goal was to put all of these ideas in a digestible format for folks coming from anywhere and with limited knowledge of the Homeless Response System. Matthieu created the design.

Nic: Would it be helpful to give examples of how to create equitable policies? I guess that is also implied through the recommendations and next steps.

Kim: Yes that is also always helpful! I also want to open up the floor to anyone else who may have questions? I also want to say thank you to everyone who worked on this. It was a process that almost took a year.

Pam: Is this in the google drive?

Kim: Yes I can show how to access. [This is the link.](#) For anyone that is not familiar we also keep the minutes and meeting materials there in the drive.

Pam: Will the committee present to the TWG or the Leadership Board present to the TWG?

Kim: The TWG members in the workgroup will present to the TWG and then get back to our workgroup. It is moreso from working group to working group right now.

### 7. Focus Strategies Equity Analysis

- Diego from Focus strategies came to our committee and shared a presentation on equity trends in our CoC.

Christoverre: I notice concerns about disparities and consequent need to identify "root causes" for this, but then referring to "disparities" as "impacting" people, as if those are "causes" elsewhere. in Alameda CoC, Blacks show as up to 75% of access/use of "homeless services". Is this reducing representation in any other certain ways?

Diego: Could we get more context or clarification on the questions?

Anna: I welcome more context on the question. I believe it is more than 75%. This was a big reason as to why we decided to realize this study. We wanted to make sure we figure out how to reduce any discrepancies. We have really been trying to monitor who is getting into housing and who is not.

Jonathan: I would also be happy to provide more context. We are tracking disparities multiple ways including the reports that this committee receives. Am right that we do not have a matching and gained housing disparity?

Anna: I think this is a question we've been trying to grapple with in last couple years. We have some hypotheses. Scores are not the only ways that people are matched. It is also people who have been waiting the longest, people who are document ready. We also need a deeper dive on this, are people who are doc ready reflecting the demographic breakdown of the last PIT? We will look at this closer as we complete a 2024 recap.

Nic: Hi Anna! What would be focus strategies recommendations about other indices that could be adjusted? If we have two or three being adjusted based on healthcare or zip codes, and we see disparities in how people are returning to homelessness, can we use other economically driven factors to determine the primary indices?

Anna: One of Diego's slides does go somewhat into that. I'll let him talk about it but we did look at adjusting a lot of things from those categories. We had the intention to eliminate disparities as much as possible.

Diego: We did look at all the factors collected during the assessment to reduce disparities. The health factors tended to have the greatest effect. You are right Nic that there are other factors at play, like zip code. We saw that black households self-reported under 45% Area Median Income at a lower rate than other groups. This was not expected. We needed to look at how every question could affect rectifying the disparities. The questions with the greatest impact in reducing disparities were around healthcare.

Katharine: We then want to reduce the weight of how many health conditions a person reports, which is one that white people tend to report more, while lifting up the weight of zip codes as those determine the socioeconomic background an individual comes.

Jonathan: Yes, I think this is the really important impact. Is that then right to say? The other thing I wanted to say is we are trying to look at assessments holistically by tweaking the weight of factors throughout the assessment as to reflect the demographics of our community. We do have to find proxies for social capital and network impoverishment, which is where the zip code becomes really powerful. It's the only thing we have that gets beyond individual conditions. They track neighborhoods and social networks.

Chloe: Hi everyone. I'm a HUD technical assistance provider and independent consultant. I want to say thank you. I think this is very valuable information for the community to have. I was wondering, thinking of some of the assessment work I've supported in the past, it is helpful to have additional conversations with people with lived experience to understand some of the process pieces around the assessment. There may be some additional barriers and challenges to people conducting the assessment. It may even be the people conducting the assessment. The only way to know so is by talking with people with lived experience.

Anna: I appreciate your comment so much. We are still unsure if we will take this quantitative show on the road. I think there is a lot of alignment with what you are saying. The questions about the assessment piece are questions that we are actually hoping to tackle through the Coordinated Entry surveys as part of the evaluation process we are going through.

Nic: What would chart look like now if we update everything based on the recommendations? If you're going to add zipcodes as one of the factors. What are the weights in comparison to the health questions.

Diego: Looking at the 5 domains that were on the screen. Now there is an additional domain that might overlap a little bit but may encompass some of the unique barriers people face. In terms of the distributions we hope to look the overall distributions mirroring the demographic makeup of the community.

Jonathan: Yes I just want to add that we had also thought at one point that we wanted to provide more points to those justice involved but we found that only white people were more willing to share they were justice involved. What we do need to do is to check how to support folks who had addresses that were not in Alameda county. It could be a lot more involved if so.

Diego: I think that's a great point, for this analysis we included only zipcodes in Alameda County.

**8. Action Item: Review 2025 Work Plan**

- We reviewed the 2025 work plan in January and incorporated feedback into the work plan.
  - Centering Racial Equity: We will now hold 10 minutes at the beginning of every meeting for the Racial Equity Liaisons to lead us through updates or activities.
  - CE Evaluation: It is the responsibility of OAC to support Alameda County Housing and Homelessness in conduct a self-entity evaluation and a systems evaluation.

- CE Dashboard oversight: We will develop a dashboard comprised of data points of interest to our committee for us to review on a regular basis.
- Gender based violence system implementation: the County is developing a new coordinated entry system dedicated to serving survivors of gender based violence. Gender based violence encompasses domestic violence,
- Accessibility: generate recommendations on NOFO scoring for CE providers around accessibility.

Pam: I make a motion to approve this work plan

Kara: I second the motion

Alan: Yes

Kate: Yes

Jenn: Yes

Laurie: Yes

Marcela: Yes

Ms. Veronica: Yes

Kim: With 8 yes votes the motion passes and the workplan is adopted! See you all next time!

## 9. Closing

- Upcoming Agenda Items
  - Discussion of upcoming agenda items for next meeting. Requests for agenda items are also welcome at this time or via email: [alameda@homebaseccc.org](mailto:alameda@homebaseccc.org)
- Next meeting **March 12th, 2025**

## Meeting Norms

### For all Committee Members:

1. Each meeting starts with space for introductions: committee purpose, purpose of meeting, who is in the room, and an icebreaker (optional in the chat).
  - a. When you first speak: state your name, preferred pronouns, where you live or work, and your organization, agency, or general affiliation.
2. Committees have agendas and goals based on the committee's work plan. We all agree to stick to the agenda as much as possible.

**OAKLAND, BERKELEY / ALAMEDA COUNTY CoC**

- a. Agenda items will be explained in the context of the committee's workplan and/or the CoC's work at large.
- b. If other items arise, they will be tabled for future agendas.
- c. The committee can decide as a group whether a non-agendized item should be discussed at a future meeting or whether it's not a topic for that committee to tackle.
3. Explain acronyms the first time they are introduced, and maybe say the whole word within the acronym, and then the acronym as a reminder for the first few meetings.
4. Everyone is encouraged to participate.
  - a. One person speaks at a time.
  - b. No one or two individuals should dominate a discussion.
5. Seek first to understand.
  - a. Listen to and respect other points of view.
  - b. Do your best to understand the pros and cons of every option.
  - c. This is a public discussion, not a debate.
6. If someone needs to be reminded of the ground rules and norms, remind them to assume good intentions and handle each other with grace.
7. Need to work from a trauma centered perspective.

**Attendance**

**Committee Member Attendance:**

Alan Guttirez	present	Laurie Flores	present
Pam Glassoff	present	Marcela Munoz	present
Amy Cole-Bloom	Absent	Marlisa Fischer	absent
Shane Rogge	Absent	Stacey Burmaster	present
Daniel Scott	Absent	Stephanie Semien	present
Jenn Oakley	present	Tiara Jones	absent
Kara Carnahan	present	Veronica Alder	present
Kate Hart	present		

**Public Attendance:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nic Ming (Social Impact Wheel)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kalani Smith (Lifelong Medical)</li> </ul>
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OAKLAND, BERKELEY / ALAMEDA COUNTY CoC

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Michael Garcia Picazo (East Bay Recovery)</li><li>• Anna Fellers (Alameda County H+H)</li><li>• Adriann Pemberton (Veterans Affairs)</li><li>• Chloé Greene (Sowing Love)</li><li>• Amy Lara (City of Oakland)</li><li>• Christoverre Kohler</li><li>• Mark Walker (Swords to Ploughshares)</li><li>• Nicole Adibi (Family Violence Law Center)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jonathan Russell (Alameda County H+H)</li><li>• Ray Corona (Youth Advisory Board)</li><li>• Delene Rankin (Midpen Housing)</li><li>• Emma Welty (Homeless Action Center)</li><li>• Courtney Pal (RCD Housing)</li></ul>
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