

System Impact Committee Minutes

minutes

September 3rd, 2025

2:00pm-4:00pm

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Phone: 1 646-876-9923

Meeting ID: 88041862364

System Impact Committee meetings are public. Public Participation by Alameda County Residents, including residents with lived experience of homelessness is encouraged. Public Comment, limited to two minutes per person will be taken at the beginning of each meeting.

Helpful links:

- **Google drive folder** for the System Impact Committee:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1nM9ePaLZFrBi_PTMIPW1tk20WtpQ8gIU?usp=sharing
- **Website page** (on Everyone Home website) for the System Impact Committee:
<https://everyonehome.org/about/committees/system-impact-committee/>
- **Acronyms and Glossary:** https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/118hFMAU2IE-FqYmK8TZ9Hp40vmS1zRck9EBEbPIbwy8/edit?usp=drive_link
- **Alameda County data dashboard:**
https://homelessness.acgov.org/data_homeless_response.page

Committee Purpose

The purpose of the System Impact Committee is to monitor progress against the community's [strategic plan \(Home Together\)](#), including regular review of system-level and provider performance to support more rapid identification of emerging trends and needed changes to policy and programming. The committee will also be responsible for monitoring actual system performance against assumptions used in the Home Together system modeling to support updates to the plan as needed.

You can learn more about the Committee's Purpose [here](#).

Meeting Purpose / Overview

The purpose of the September 3, 2025 System Impact Committee meeting is to hear how the HMIS Lead Team is leveraging federal technical assistance to strengthen the CoC's data infrastructure and governance, advance the committee's 2025 work plan by reviewing updates on recommendations to the Standards, Compliance, and Funding Committee, and engage in a

discussion on streamlining the CoC committee structure to improve clarity, effectiveness, and alignment with the Home Together strategic plan.

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Please come off mute and/or put in the chat your: Name, pronouns, affiliation (organization, etc.).
- Ground Rules

2. Approval of minutes, 8/6/2025

Ahead of today's meeting, Homebase distributed the meeting minutes (meeting minutes are the written record of our monthly meetings) from the August 6th System Impact Committee meeting for committee members to review.

- The draft minutes have also been posted in the System Impact Committee's [google drive folder](#).
- This time is held for committee members to let us know if they believe the minutes do not accurately capture the discussion items from the September meeting and need to be amended.

You may also email Homebase at jose@homebaseccc.org and matthieu@homebaseccc.org copying alameda@homebaseccc.org, if you see anything in the draft minutes that are distributed following today's meeting that should be amended.

Minutes:

Minutes were approved with no edits.

3. System Impact Committee Public Comment

- Public Comment will be taken at the beginning of each meeting and is limited to 2 minutes per person.
- Homebase has created a public comment tracker where public comments across CoC meetings will be recorded.

Comments will be directed to the appropriate CoC committee, Alameda County staff, or any other relevant CoC member/entity

Minutes:

No public comments.

4. Announcements

HMIS Committee Data Quality Workgroup

The HMIS Committee has formed a workgroup to better understand the barriers service providers face in maintaining high-quality data in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). This includes challenges related to timeliness, completeness, accuracy, and utilization.

Data quality directly impacts:

- Accurate counts of people experiencing homelessness

- Tracking where people are going within the system
- Understanding the length of time individuals spend in services
- Measuring outcome data like exit destinations
- HUD reporting compliance
- CoC NOFO (Notice of Funding Opportunity) competitiveness
- Ensuring equity in our data and services

We are seeking input from:

- Coordinated Entry Providers using HMIS
- Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing providers
- Other HMIS-participating service providers
- City Government Partners who use HMIS or manage providers that use the HMIS and/or who work directly with the HMIS Lead Team

How You Can Participate:

The workgroup is offering the following ways to share your insights:

- Virtual focus groups – reach out to Jose Lucio (jose@homebaseccc.org) and Matthieu Kaman (Mathieu@homebaseccc.org) to participate!
- Electronic survey - [Survey link](#)

Minutes:

No other announcements.

5. Ice Breaker (Nic Ming, Committee Co-Chair)

Since we're focusing on strengthening data capacity and streamlining committee work, let's do a quick round: *What's one word you'd use to describe how you want our CoC data and committee structure to feel?*

6. Presentation on Strengthening Data Capacity and HMIS Governance (ICF and HMIS Lead)

- ICF is the HUD TA provider working with the CoC to enhance its HMIS data infrastructure. Working jointly with Abt Global and the HMIS Lead Team on increasing the CoC's capacity for data collection, analysis, and governance.

Minutes:

During the discussion, questions were raised on how policy development is reflected, specifically if the HMIS lead proposes/drafts and the HMIS committee ratifies/adopts. Homebase clarified that the HMIS lead can bring policies for review or request committee support in drafting them, such as the

HMIS access policy. Alex Baker (Alameda County) clarified that the HMIS committee functions as an advisory body, not an approving board, for policy creation. The HMIS lead always brings policies to the committee for review and advice on adjustments, changes, or additions, especially since many policies are responses to federal requirements.

A committee member questioned if the definitions of entities and their functions previously established (e.g., collaborative applicant, HMIS lead team, coordinated entry system) were being applied. Homebase confirmed that ICF's work incorporated those existing MOUs and definitions to inform their tools, not undo them. This work aims to form administrative regulations for those policies to ensure their proper implementation and function.

7. 2025 SIC Work Plan Workstreams

Discussion: Updates on Recommendations to CoC SCF (Homebase)

- SIC developed a set of [recommendations](#) for the CoC SCF Committee on updates to the NOFO scoring tool. Our SIC Co-chairs shared SIC's draft recommendations with the ESC for their input. The original recommendations along with the [recommendations](#) from ESC, have been delivered to Kate Bristol and the CoC SCF Homebase facilitators to agendaize and start working through. Homebase will provide an update.

Minutes:

This agenda item provided an update on the Evidence-Based Solutions Committee (ESC)'s feedback on draft recommendations to the Standards Compliance and Funding (SCF) Committee regarding the NOFO scoring tool. Matt Kaman reminded the group that the System Impact Committee (SIC) had previously developed these recommendations after reviewing NOFO scoring tools from various Bay Area Continuums of Care (e.g., San Francisco, Napa, Marin, Solana) to identify new and promising practices. The SCF Committee is expected to approve these recommendations soon, after the ESC reviewed them for equity integration.

Key takeaways from the System Impact Committee's initial recommendations included:

- The current Alameda scoring tool bundles too many concepts (e.g., equity and client voice), which should be distinguished to allow for more specific feedback from people served.
- Utilization scoring (based on an 80% threshold) should look at improvements over time, with potential to raise the threshold.
- A new "innovation category" was proposed to recognize creative or high-impact practices not contractually required.
- Recognition that smaller organizations are disadvantaged by limited technical assistance or grant writing capacity, and the tool should promote these grassroots organizations often better connected to the community.
- The need to highlight cross-sector partnerships and mentorship, as these were not previously recognized.

- A desire for the tool to have more verifiable information beyond grant writing, to confirm that programs are doing what they claim.
- The process should elevate cross-learning and use participant feedback (e.g., COC-wide surveys) to verify claims and inform provider performance.

ESC's feedback on these recommendations:

- **Housing Measures:** The ESC emphasized the importance of regularly measuring project progress and publicly sharing this information, so the community understands fund usage and impact. This aligns with the SIC's work plan to develop "report cards" for providers. The ESC also stressed that scoring and practices must account for nuanced outcomes, such as reunification with family or friends, recognizing that data alone might not fully capture positive or negative exits based on cultural differences.
- **Capacity Building and Equity:** Given the disadvantage faced by smaller, grassroots, BIPOC-led organizations, the ESC suggested awarding extra points to them. They also recommended a deeper analysis of specific barriers these organizations encounter, aligning with the SCF's existing work plan to develop a toolkit for smaller organizations engaging with NOFO.
- **Innovation Category:** The ESC was enthusiastic about this category and proposed accounting for how smaller and emerging organizations might be nimbler and better suited to innovate. They highlighted the value of networking and social capital over organizational scale and suggested incorporating artificial intelligence as part of innovation.

Regarding next steps, Kate Bristol, the COC NOFO consultant, will present to SCF on the performance measures workgroup's updates and these recommendations. The recommendations from both SIC and ESC have been shared with Kate Bristol and the Homebase colleagues staffing SCF. Kate Bristol found the SIC recommendations "really great" and the ESC recommendations to offer "additional nuance," believing many could be incorporated into this year's competition, with others considered for future cycles. An SCF committee member confirmed that the SCF will vote on items implementable this year and pass them to the NOFO committee, while continuing to plan for future updates.

Discussion: Streamlining CoC Committee Structure

- The Leadership Board has asked Co-Chairs to gather feedback on the current Committee structure. In response, Co-Chairs are opening the discussion to the full group. Several CoC members have expressed frustration about the limited impact of committees and confusion around which committees are responsible for different parts of the Homeless Response System. In light of this, the Leadership Board is considering restructuring and consolidating committees to improve clarity and effectiveness. They are asking each committee to reflect on where they have had impact, where they have not, and to suggest potential opportunities for consolidation.

Minutes:

The discussion was initiated by the Leadership Board, which asked all committees to consider ways to streamline the CoC committee structure. Homebase noted that while an initial idea of merging the System Impact Committee (SIC) and HMIS committee into a single data committee was considered, both committee leads have expressed hesitancy due to the distinct functions and specific work each committee undertakes.

The proposed adjustments aim for streamlining without a full merger, focusing on maximizing meeting times and ensuring discussions are on timely, high-impact topics. Key proposals include:

- Bi-monthly meetings: Instead of meeting monthly, both committees would meet bi-monthly on an alternating schedule (e.g., SIC in October, HMIS in November). This would allow for more and better planning, alignment with COC planning cycles, and focused agendas, avoiding the pressure to fill time.
- Quarterly HMIS Office Hours: A separate, dedicated space would be launched for HMIS-focused Q&A and discussions. This would be staffed by Homebase facilitators and HMIS lead team experts, ensuring that committee meetings focus on their specific agenda topics and administrative questions are addressed elsewhere.
- The rationale behind these adjustments is to maintain the distinct functions of both committees while achieving the Leadership Board's desire for streamlining. SIC would continue to focus on data analysis, system outcomes, and system performance, aligning with the "Home Together" strategic plan. HMIS would address its administration, policies, and operational priorities, providing data to inform SIC's work. This alternating schedule is also seen as a way to better leverage the HMIS lead team's capacity, allowing them to focus on fewer, more robust presentations and support.
- Committee members' feedback included clarification on the alternating schedule and confirmed that SIC would continue its role of analyzing provider performance and overall county homelessness data. Alex Baker emphasized the collaboration, where HMIS would understand SIC's data needs and proactively provide relevant data in advance, allowing SIC members time to review and formulate questions.
- Nic Ming reiterated his concerns about a full merger due to the integral administrative and governance pieces of HMIS that don't necessarily align with SIC's broader focus. He suggested that some HMIS-related information relevant to other committees (e.g., returns to homelessness for the housing committee) should go directly to them rather than always passing through SIC. Nick also highlighted that this streamlining would save an estimated 24 hours annually across the two committees, time that could be reallocated to other COC work.
- Ms. Shelley raised questions about the status of other proposed committee changes, specifically the Youth Committee. Homebase clarified that the Youth Committee's future (including potential sunseting or redistribution of youth voices) is an open conversation for the Leadership Board to discuss and decide, not something being decided by the System Impact Committee.

Overall, the sentiment appeared generally positive toward the alternating schedule and dedicated office hours, and with support for the streamlining of SIC and HMIS. The aim is to create a more

harmonious and efficient flow of information and work between the committees while preserving their distinct, critical functions. The idea of testing the alternating schedule between now and January was suggested.

Committee Members

Alex Baker	HMIS Lead / OHCC	
Chris Hess	Consultant	
David Amaral	All Home	
Dorris Freeman	City of Oakland	
Fiani Johnson	The Araminta Ross Foundation	
Jared DeFig	Wood Street	
Jason Espinoza	Insight Housing	
Jonathan Medrano	Covenant House	
Josh Jacobs	City of Berkeley	
Miguel Dwin	Alameda County	
Nic Ming	Social Impact Wheel	
Nicole Adibi	FVLC-policy	
Resheemah White	Emerging Leaders/BACS	
Sabrina Abong	Youth Action Board	