

Leadership Board

Draft Minutes

December 18, 2025

2:00pm – 4:30pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/j/81761154580>

Meeting ID: 817 6115 4580

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. Public Comment is also accepted in advance via email to: alameda@homebaseccc.org.

Helpful links:

- **Google Drive folder** for the Leadership Board:
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1tnbDx2jDcGMtVhXtqdHXgJcu8dfnrLOg?usp=sharing>
- **Website page** (on EveryOne Home website) for the Leadership Board:
<https://everyonehome.org/about/leadership-board/>
- **Acronym Glossary:** <https://everyonehome.org/main/continuum-of-care/coc-member-resources/>

Committee Purpose

The Leadership Board provides overall leadership for our collective impact initiative and serves as the compass for the homelessness response system in Alameda County. It sets the vision, strategic direction and collective goals for the entire homelessness response system and ensures accountability from all subcommittees and workgroups. The Leadership Board ensures that racial equity is at the center of our work to end homelessness and that people with lived experience are represented in decision-making roles throughout the system. The Leadership Board also holds the formal designation as the Continuum of Care (CoC) Board, as required by HUD. Learn more about the purpose of the Leadership Board [here](#).

Leadership Board Shared Agreements:

- Have sensitivity and respect for each other's experiences.
- Agree to show up and engage. When meeting virtually, this includes having the camera on when possible and safe, while recognizing there are many valid reasons not to have cameras on.

- When making decisions, prioritize the best interests of the homelessness response system and people experiencing homelessness above the interests of the individual board member/organization.
- Commit to racial equity and justice in decision-making. Participate in training and create space and time for this practice.
- Function as peers instead of a hierarchy of persons with lived experience and others.
- Be constructive, not obstructive; try to offer solutions along with barriers.
- One voice at a time, no interruptions.
- Give people the chance to speak once before you speak twice.
- Share and review the materials in the packet in advance of meetings.
- Prioritize action items near top of agenda to help with time management in meetings.
- Give people the opportunity to process, ask questions, and understand before voting.
- If we stray from these agreements, we agree to pause, breathe, and reset.

Minutes

Opening Items and Announcements

- 1) Welcome / Introductions** (C'Mone Falls, City of Alameda, co-chair)
- 2) Leadership Board Public Comment** (C'Mone Falls)
 - a) No public comment.
- 3) Approval of November 20th Minutes** (C'Mone Falls)
 - a) Revised minutes were sent out in advance of the meeting. Revised minutes approved.
- 4) Homeless Response System Updates** (All)
 - a) Morgan Bernados (Homebase): Destination: Home has been collecting applications for the National Lived Experience Leadership and Advisory Board. Applications due December 19th.
 - b) C'Mone Falls: Alameda County Health, Housing and Homelessness (H&H) released a request for letters of interest for people interested in CoC funding or projects. [See here for more information.](#)
- 5) Leadership Board Updates** (C'Mone Falls, Moe Wright; co-chairs)
 - a) Moe thanked outgoing Leadership Board members and offered opportunity for folks to share thanks and reflection. Sharon Cornu, John Lo, Annie Bailey, and Tammy Nguyen were all co-chairs of Committees that were recently sunset, and thus they will no longer be Board members. Meeting attendees shared appreciation for their service.
 - b) People also shared gratitude for C'Mone as this was her last meeting as a co-chair, though she will remain a Board member.
 - c) Moe also introduced Tochi to the Board who is now joining the Leadership Board as the appointed Youth Advisory Board representative.
- 6) 2026 Point-in-Time Count Update** (Matt Simmonds, Simtech)
 - a) Matt shared an update on the January 22nd Point-in-Time Count. Over 400 people are already signed up to volunteer. Cities have been recruiting, H&H has been working on volunteer materials, and the link to volunteer will go out to the EveryOne Home listserv soon. Simtech is using known location technology to identify high density areas where we need to count and will do random samples of other areas.
 - i) Link to sign up to volunteer: <https://alameda.pointintime.info/>
 - ii) New this year: City of Oakland will be doing some pre-count data collection of the larger encampments.
 - iii) The survey questions have been in development with the PIT planning team and the City of Oakland. Working to get the HUD-mandated

questions completed first and then deeper questions if the situation allows after that. Surveyors will be trained on how to engage people in the longer interview if it seems appropriate. The Evidence-Based Solutions Committee has requested to review the survey questions; Matt from Simtech said they would be sent over.

- iv) Surveyor training is happening on January 14th. Based on feedback from the last count, they will not be doing a train-the-trainer model for volunteers training.

7) Co-Chair Election (Moe Wright, co-chair)

- a) The public sector co-chair term is expiring at the end of 2025. Current Leadership Board members are invited to apply for the position. [The current application for the seat can be found here.](#)

Action I.

i. Vivian Wan motioned to elect Laurie Flores as the new public sector co-chair of the Leadership Board, term beginning January 2026. Peter Radu seconded the motion.

ii. No discussion.

iii. Roll Call Vote:

YES: Brenda Wadsworth, Caroline Topeé, C'Mone Falls, Isamara Ochoa Dominguez, Kate Hart, Kelsey Knutson, Jonathan Russell, Laurie Flores, Liz Varela, Michelle Starratt, Moe Wright, Ms. Shelley Gonzalez, Nic Ming, Peter Radu, Tunisia Owens, Vivian Wan, Tochi Anagonye

NO: None

ABSTAIN: None

iv. Motion passes with 17 yes votes, 0 noes, 0 abstains.

8) NOFO Update (Jonathan Russell, Alameda Health, Housing & Homelessness; Kate Bristol, NOFO Consultant)

- a) The Leadership Board held time for an update on the 2025 CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity.
- b) Update from Jonathan: Appreciate the discussion/vote last meeting to create a NOFO Response Team of 6 people: Riley and Jonathan from H&H, Sasha and Laurie from Cities, Liz as a service provider, and Katie as a person with lived experience. There was a scheduled hearing on December 8 for two pending lawsuits. On that same day, just before the hearing, HUD withdrew the NOFO – took it off grants.gov and sent a listserv saying they withdrew to make some changes, reserved the right to re-issue. There was discussion of the withdrawal at the hearing. Judge did not dismiss the case as moot. Alameda County continued on with our process because of short time frame and uncertainty for a bit and then ultimately decided to pause our local competition. We haven't cancelled but we're holding. Unless any future NOFO that comes out is drastically different, we don't think we'll have to scrap what we'd previously done. Alameda County is also continuing the gather interest for potential new projects. Next court hearing is December 19th, so we hope to learn more at that time.

- i) Given the change in the NOFO, some asked if additional decisions were needed around the NOFO Response Team, such as a sunset date for that group. Other members recommended keeping everything in place as was decided at the November Board meeting due to the uncertainty of the situation and the potential for another short timeline if a new NOFO is issued.
- ii) A Board member asked who will be ranking the submitted applications, the NOFO Response Team or the NOFO Committee? Kate Bristol (NOFO Consultant) shared that at this point, all renewal applications will be scored on objective factors so there will be no narratives to read. For the new project applicants, the plan had been for both the NOFO Response Team and the NOFO Committee to review applications based on timing and capacity. If a new NOFO is dropped, that process will restart.
- c) A discussion began about how, when, and what to communicate about this situation to CoC-funded providers as well as residents and participants in CoC-funded programs. Some concern about programs that are set to have their funding run out in January and have a lapse in CoC-funds. Several people shared resources, summaries, and advocacy opportunities put together by All Home and the National Alliance to End Homelessness, but there was still discussion of a more local communication that would be client-facing.
 - i) Some Board members wanted to take action on notifying residents so they can understand how they may be impacted and how to get resources/support. Other members were hesitant to publish any type of “tenant notice” as there is still so much uncertainty, and we don’t want to cause more harm or panic than is necessary. Additionally, some housing providers were hesitant to issue a general notice about impacts if there isn’t anything actually concrete to say about the situation. Alameda County reiterated that it’s their intention to reduce the impacts so that no one’s tenancy is disrupted. In addition, not every CoC project has funds expiring in January. As of right now, there are no CoC projects that are at immediate risk of closing. About 1/3 of the CoC projects have grants that start between March and June.

Action II.

- i. Tunisia Owens motioned to make a press release about the HUD NOFO process and timeline from federal government that’s sent out to the public, and about what the current administration is doing that is impacting HUD funding. Tochi seconded.
- ii. Discussion: Moe had previously suggested compiling a communication that includes materials from NAEH that cover the dilemma all Continuums of Care are in. Moe would be happy to help compile the materials and draft the email.
- iii. Moe Wright’s suggested amendment: Create a message that includes same info as in NAEH and All Home – timing, dilemma, etc. - but customize for Alameda County and send via press release, listserv, on our website.
- iv. Tunisia accepted Moe’s amendment. Tochi seconded the amendment.

v. Discussion on amended motion: Some confusion about the intention and impact, who are we trying to reach. Peter offered that if the intent is to amplify a message to the community, a press release is not going to be effective. Peter shared that a formal press release involves a narrative, quotes from elected officials, submitting through a formal portal. Can't support the motion as written if those details are not outlined.

vi. Peter Radu's suggested amendment to remove "press release": Motion to take info that NAEH and All Home have put out about HUD's recent doings and impacts and compile/customize them a bit for Alameda County and share via listserv and website.

vii. Tunisia did not accept the amendment. Jonathan put forward a new motion (*Action III, below*) as the amendment was not accepted. Discussion over how procedurally to move forward with two motions on the floor. C'Mone Falls as co-chair decided the following process: the whole Board will vote on Action II (Motion from Tunisia Owens) and if it doesn't pass, the whole Board will vote on Action III (Motion from Jonathan Russell).

viii. Roll Call Vote:

YES: Brenda Wadsworth, Caroline Topéé, C'Mone Falls, John Janosko, Moe Wright, Ms. Shelley Gonzalez, Nic Ming, Tunisia Owens, Tochi Anagonye

NO: Corinne Lee, Josh Thurman, Kate Hart, Kelsey Knutson, Jonathan Russell, Laurie Flores, Liz Varela, Michelle Starratt, Peter Radu, Vivian Wan, Sharon Cornu

Abstains: None

ix. Motion did not pass with 9 Yes votes, 11 No votes, 0 Abstains. The Board moved to roll call vote on Action III (See below).

Action III.

i. Jonathan Russell motioned to take info that NAEH and All Home have put out about HUD's recent doings and impacts and compile/customize them a bit for Alameda County and share via listserv and website. Peter Radu seconded.

ii. Discussion over how procedurally to move forward with two motions on the floor. C'Mone Falls as co-chair decided the following process: the whole Board will vote on Action II (Motion from Tunisia Owens) and if it doesn't pass, the whole Board will vote on Action III (Motion from Jonathan Russell).

iii. Roll Call Vote:

YES: C'Mone Falls, Frank Rogers, Josh Thurman, Kate Hart, Kelsey Knutson, John Janosko, Jonathan Russell, Laurie Flores, Liz Varela, Moe Wright, Ms. Shelley Gonzalez, Peter Radu, Vivian Wan, Sharon Cornu

NO: Brenda Wadsworth, Caroline Topéé, Nic Ming, Tunisia Owens

Abstains: Tochi Anagonye

iv. Motion passes with 14 Yes votes, 4 Noes, 1 Abstain.

Action IV.

- i. Moe Wright motioned to notify the Leadership Board of any changes in the current NOFO requirements and to call a special meeting of the Leadership Board if there are significant changes to the NOFO. Jonathan Russell seconded.
- ii. Discussion: C'Mone suggested that “significant changes” needs to be defined.
 - iii. C'Mone Falls suggested amendment: Motion to notify the Leadership Board of any changes in the current NOFO requirements and to call a special meeting of the Leadership Board if there are significant changes to the NOFO *as determined by the NOFO Response Team*. Moe accepted the amendment, Jonathan seconded.
 - iv. Nic asked if further language about changed priorities or timelines would be good to further qualify “significant.” Also asked about the timeline and who would call the meeting?
 - v. In response, C'Mone Falls additional suggested amendment: notify the LB of any changes in the current NOFO requirements and to call a special meeting of the LB if there are significant changes to the NOFO as determined by the NOFO Response team *in consultation with the Leadership Board chairs*. Moe accepted the amendment, Jonathan seconded.

vi. Roll Call Vote:

YES: Brenda Wadsworth, Caroline Topeé, C'Mone Falls, Isamar Ochoa Dominguez, Josh Thurman, Kate Hart, Kelsey Knutson, John Janosko, Laurie Flores, Liz Varela, Michelle Starratt, Moe Wright, Ms. Shelley Gonzalez, Nic Ming, Peter Radu, Vivian Wan, Tochi Anagonye, Sharon Cornu

NO: None

Abstain: Tunisia Owens

- vii. Motion passes with 19 yes votes, 0 noes, 1 abstain. A poll was sent out for Board members to share their availability for the potential special meeting.

Action V.

- i. Moe motioned to update the Policies & Procedures document as follows:

Add this paragraph to introduction: “It is the policy of this CoC to be an active partner with all organizations: federal, state, local and private that are part of or adjacent to the homelessness response system in Alameda County. The CoC recognizes that sub groups of homeless people such as children and youth, veterans and victims of domestic violence need to be acknowledged in program planning to ensure maximum coordination and collaboration.”

Add this statement to VIII. Public Comment: “B. The Board encourages statements and opinions from knowledgeable individuals and organizations.”

Tunisia Owens seconded.

ii. Discussion about the language specifics being inspired by the pre-existing NOFO application, not necessarily consistent with how people prefer talking about the Alameda County Community. No amendments to the motion.

iii. Roll Call Vote:

YES: Brenda Wadsworth, Caroline Topéé, C'Mone Falls, Josh Thurman, Kate Hart, Jonathan Russell, Laurie Flores, Liz Varela, Michelle Starratt, Moe Wright, Ms. Shelley Gonzalez, Nic Ming, Peter Radu, Tunisia Owens, Vivian Wan, Tochi Anagonye, Sharon Cornu

NO: none

Abstain: Isamar Ochoa Dominguez, Kelsey Knutson, John Janosko

iv. Motion passes with 17 Yes votes, 0 Noes, 3 Abstains.

9) Leadership Board Structure (C'Mone Falls, Gillian Morshedi, Homebase)

- a) The Leadership Board has been discussing ways to make the Board more effective and functional for the past several months. The following motions are being put forth for discussion and action. Board members are encouraged to come to the meeting with recommended amendments.
- b) **Action: The Leadership Board may vote to adopt or amend any one of the following motions in the memo linked here.**
- c) Due to time, the Board did not get to this item.

10) 2026 Preview (Moe Wright)

- a) The Leadership Board previewed the Board's tasks and activities for 2026. A formal workplan will be presented for approval in January 2026. No discussion or questions.

11) Closing (C'Mone Falls, co-chair)

- a) Discussion of upcoming agenda items for next meeting. Requests for future agenda items are also welcome at this time or via email to: alameda@homebaseccc.org
- b) The next Leadership Board meeting will take place on Thursday, January 15th.

Leadership Board Attendance:

Adrienne Chambers	Sub present
Andrea Ford	Absent
Brenda Wadsworth	Present
Caroline Topéé	Present
C'Mone Falls	Present
Darin Lounds	Absent

OAKLAND, BERKELEY / ALAMEDA COUNTY CoC

Deidre Wan	Absent
James Williams	Absent
Elsie Lee	Present
Frank Rogers	Present
Isamar Ochoa Dominguez	Present
Ray Corona	Absent
Josh Thurman	Present
Kalani Smith	Absent
Kate Hart	Present
Kelsey Knutson	Present
John Janosko	Present
Jonathan Russell	Present
Laurie Flores	Present
Liz Varela	Present
Marcell Lloyd	Absent
Michelle Starratt	Present
Moe Wright	Present
Ms. Shelley Gonzalez	Present
Nic Ming	Present
Peter Radu	Present
Shelly Haynes	Absent
Tunisia Owens	Present
Vivian Wan	Present
Tochi Anagonye	Present
Sharon Cornu	Present
Annie Bailey	Present