

Evidence-Based Solutions Committee

Minutes

January 8, 2026

11:00am – 1:00pm

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. Written comments can also be submitted in advance of the meeting to alameda@homebaseccc.org.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://homebaseccc.zoom.us/j/81649176975>

Meeting ID: 816 4917 6975
+1 669 900 6833

Helpful links:

- **Google Drive folder** for the Evidence-Based Solutions Committee:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ZG59MFs7BkWc77cwPJfO_wnaTXDjNjOI?usp=sharing
- **Website page** (on EveryOne Home website) for the ESC:
<https://everyonehome.org/about/committees/evidence-based-solutions-committee/>
- **Acronyms and Glossary:** <https://everyonehome.org/main/continuum-of-care/coc-member-resources/>

Committee Purpose

The primary purpose of the Evidence-Based Solutions Committee is to ensure that the Continuum of Care (CoC) centers and integrates evidence-based data and practices to effectively identify, prioritize and provide solutions to serve the people and populations who are most vulnerable to and disproportionately impacted by homelessness across Alameda County.

The Evidence-Based Solutions Committee plays a key role within the CoC’s collective impact model. It fosters collaboration and ensures accountability for all CoC committees and workgroups, including the Leadership Board. The Committee provides oversight to implement and integrate measures, goals, metrics, outcomes, policies, and practices aimed at addressing the systemic and structural root causes of housing disparities. This work focuses on reducing disproportionalities in homelessness response systems that affect the communities most at risk.

Committee 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.
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Agenda

1) Welcome / Introductions (Lynette Ward, co-chair)
2) Approval of November 13th minutes (Lynette Ward) a) November 13 th Minutes approved.
3) Public Comment (Lynette Ward) a) Sunita shared that she will be a grandmother soon. b) Patrick shared that he intends to make more public comments moving forward.
4) Community Building Activity (Lynette Ward) a) Lynette led attendees through sharing a word or intention for the new year.
5) Announcements (All) a) Point-in-Time Count 2026: Still recruiting volunteers for the PIT Count on January 22 nd . Lynette shared that there is especially a need for volunteers in unincorporated areas and mid-county such as San Leandro, Ashland, Cherryland, Castro Valley, Hayward, etc. Link to sign up to volunteer here . b) The ESC planning group is looking for a few more members to help plan for this Committee. The commitment includes at least one additional 90-minute meeting per month. Let Mark or Morgan know if interested.

- c) Tunisia shared that the Oakland Museum currently has an exhibit featuring the Russell City community (now Hayward) and helps highlight how housing discrimination led to this crisis.

Action Items

6) Vote on 2026 Workplan (Lynette Ward, Tunisia Owens, co-chairs; Morgan Bernados, Mark Mora, Homebase)

- a) The planning team, Homebase, and Committee members have been working on ideas for the ESC 2026 Workplan over the last few months. Homebase, at the direction of the planning group, has developed a working draft workplan for the Committee to organize its work. This workplan can be updated throughout the year and will serve as an anchor for the Committee’s activities and duties.
- b) [Link to workplan here.](#)
- c) Discussion: Members shared the importance of involving ESC early on in other committee projects as part of equity-centered engagement. Also folks shared it’s important to be intentional about those cross-collaborations and closing the loop and resolving out-standing items.

Action I.

- i. Lynette Ward motioned to approve the 2026 workplan as a working draft. Laurie Flores seconded the motion.
- ii. No discussion.
- iii. Roll Call Vote:
 - YES: Ms. Shelley, Jared, Laurie, Elsie, Sunita, Lynette, Nic, Sabrina, Tunisia, Fiani, Patrick
 - NO: None
 - ABSTAIN: None
- iv. Motion passes with 11 Yes votes, 0 Noes, 0 Abstains.

7) CoC-Wide Survey (Lynette Ward, Tunisia Owens, co-chairs; Morgan Bernados, Mark Mora, Homebase)

- a) The ESC has identified a need to develop a CoC-wide survey to gather regular feedback on how Committees and individuals are feeling about the CoC. The co-chairs directed Homebase to draft a survey for the Committee to review and provide input on.
- b) [Link to draft survey here](#)
- c) After reviewing the survey in the meeting, many members raised some areas for further editing. Some ideas include:

- i) Making it possible to answer the questions per Committee since not everyone may have the same experiences in each Committee they participate in.
- ii) Request to make email addresses optional
- iii) Change how the survey is sequenced, add sections

Action II.

- i. Nic Ming motioned to update the draft survey and advance it to the work group for further review, and then return to the ESC at the February Committee meeting. Tunisia Owens seconded.
- ii. No discussion:
- iii. Roll Call vote:
 - YES: Ms. Shelley, Jared, Elsie, Marcela, Sunita, Nic, Tunisia, Fiani, Patrick, Sabrina
 - NO: None
 - ABSTAIN: Non
- iv. Motion passes with 10 Yes votes, 0 Noes, 0 Abstains.

Discussion Items

8) Planning for Learning Community Quarter 1 (Nic Ming, Social Impact Wheel)

- a) The Committee discussed and planned the topics and activities for the Learning Community, at least through the first 3 months of 2026. Nic suggested focusing conversation on 1) providing feedback on what worked well last year, and 2) seeking volunteers to help plan logistics for a specific month.
 - Ms. Shelley shared we had timely topics last year, good guests and input, learning community is good opportunity for dialogue and back and forth.
 - Suggestion from Nic to hold the meeting on the 4th Tuesday of the months in 2026, starting January 27th
 - Liaisons and Homebase are asked to keep circulating the Learning Community Feedback survey.
 - In addition to the topics presented in the ESC workplan, there were the following ideas:
 - community messaging that HCD is working on
 - Intersection of gender-based violence and homelessness
 - Misunderstood topics like substance use and mental illness and incarceration (data and misinformation about homelessness) which could bring more general public in
 - Returning elderly facing homelessness after long term incarceration

- Public Comment 101, “How to Use those Two Minutes”
- Ms. Shelley also suggested that the learning community can host lessons of framework integration through committees as applied to some real time occurrences (NOFO, Coordinated Entry, Grievances, etc.)
- Morgan will reach out to City of Oakland about presenting at an upcoming learning community

9) 2026 Project: Rolling out the ESC Framework (Lynette Ward, Tunisia Owens, co-chairs, Nic Ming, Social Impact Wheel)

- a) One project for the ESC in 2026 will be continuing to roll out the Evidence-Based Framework and deepening the CoC’s engagement with the material. The Committee will started developing ideas and a plan for moving that engagement forward.
- b) As a next step, liaisons will take 10 minutes in a Committee meeting between February and April to present on the framework. Liaisons will use the workgroup space to prepare for that presentation and develop a consistent slide deck and understanding. Fiani noted that it’s important for everyone to feel on the same page and equally able to talk about the framework so they can rotate who is able to support with training.
 - i) In addition, there was a request for an updated liaison template to ensure consistency when sharing out in Committee and Board meetings.

10) 2026 Project: Developing an “Evidence-Based Metrics Dashboard” (Lynette Ward, Tunisia Owens, co-chairs, Nic Ming, Social Impact Wheel)

- a) One proposed project for the ESC in 2026 is developing an “Evidence-Based Metrics Dashboard” to help communicate, understand, and propose/take action for continued system growth and impact. The Committee began sketching out a plan for this project and think through the following items:
 - i) What are existing data sources for this data? How could HMIS be involved? What would be the process to develop the dashboard once we have data sets? What subpopulations would this Committee like to make sure are included in the dashboard? What is the best structure (e.g., form a task group) to move this project forward?
 - ii) The group came to informal consensus that they want to work on this project and develop a set of data sources they can refer to for their ongoing analysis and recommendations. The goal is to gather data and review it so the Committee has a more clear picture of what’s happening in the County AND so they can make impactful recommendations to government and service provider partners. Comparing Alameda County data to other counties was also mentioned.
 - iii) The committee will be compiling existing data into a document/resource for easy reference and to inform analysis and conversations. They will

not be developing a new dashboard of data, but in case they ever do, here are some examples of well-designed dashboard from Ms. Shelley:

- <https://endhomelessness.org/state-of-homelessness/dashboards/>
- <https://hhs.marincounty.gov/divisions/homelessness-and-coordinated-care/see-current-data>
- <https://schs.saccounty.gov/Pages/SacramentoCountyHomelessnessDataDashboard.aspx>
- <https://sonomacounty.gov/health-and-human-services/health-services/divisions/homelessness-services/data/homeless-data>
- <https://www.sf.gov/homelessness-trends-dashboard-inflow-and-outflow-analysis>
- <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/coc-dashboard-reports/>

11) Closing

- a) Requests for future agenda items can be sent to alameda@homebaseccc.org.
- b) The next Evidence-Based Solutions Committee meeting will be Thursday, February 12th. The next ESC Workgroup will be Thursday, February 5th.

Resources

- [*Evidence-Based Solutions Framework*](#)
- [*REC CoC Capacity Building Plan \(Draft\)*](#)
- [*Centering Racial Equity Training \(Foundational Training for Committee Members\)*](#)

Attendance

Committee Members:

- Lynette Ward
- Patrick Anderson
- Elsie Lee
- Jared DeFigh
- Sabrina Abong
- Sunita Garret
- Nic Ming
- Marcela Munoz
- Fiani Johnson

Public and Staff:

- Morgan Bernados
- Mark Mora



OAKLAND, BERKELEY / ALAMEDA COUNTY CoC

- Caroline Topeé
- Christoverre Kohler