

OAKLAND, BERKELEY / ALAMEDA COUNTY CoC

Leadership Board

Minutes

February 19, 2026

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.

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.

OAKLAND, BERKELEY / ALAMEDA COUNTY CoC

- 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.

Agenda

Opening Items and Announcements
<p>1) Welcome / Introductions / Acknowledgment (Laurie Flores, City of Fremont, co-chair)</p> <p>a) Laurie Flores welcomed attendees and opened the meeting. C'Mone Falls requested her affiliation be updated to include Mid-county. Laurie previewed plans for an in-person, facilitated community-building session in March.</p>
<p>2) Leadership Board Public Comment (Laurie Flores, co-chair)</p> <p>a) Public comments are limited to 2 minutes per person and may also be submitted in advance to alameda@homebaseccc.org. No public comments were submitted in advance or received during the meeting.</p>
<p>3) Approval of January 15th Minutes (Laurie Flores, co-chair)</p> <p>a) No corrections or revisions were submitted. The January 15th minutes were deemed approved.</p>
<p>4) Review of Board Shared Agreements (Laurie Flores, co-chair)</p> <p>a) The Board reviewed how meetings have been going and began discussion on: (1) defining a process for upholding the Shared Agreements when violated; (2) reviewing current agreements for needed changes; and (3) establishing a timekeeping agreement.</p> <p>b) Discussion summary: Members discussed who should be empowered to enforce agreements, with co-chairs identified as the most natural arbiters. A 48–72 hour window for addressing violations was suggested. Members noted that some violations could be handled in real time, while more serious harm might warrant a private meeting. The group also discussed reducing information-heavy updates in favor of 1–2 substantive discussion items, and exploring a buddy/partnering system and optional decompression sessions.</p> <p>c) Next steps: Homebase will circulate a summary of agreements and ideas for Board input. A buddy/partnering system will move forward (C'Mone Falls and Laurie Flores as volunteers to be buddies). The March meeting will include an action to adopt updated Shared Agreements.</p>
<p>5) 2026 Planning and Priorities (Laurie Flores, co-chair)</p>

- a) Members shared 2026 priorities to inform the Board's workplan. Input was also collected via Google Form.
- b) Priorities shared: Expanding access to services countywide (Laurie Flores); making participation meaningful and sustainable (Ms. Shelley Gonzalez); serving as ambassadors for the 2030 Home Together Plan (Jonathan Russell); data-driven goals and supporting Coordinated Entry (Ray Corona); clarifying the Board's scope and structure (Peter Radu); using forums and watch parties for connection and learning (Jared DeFig).

Action Items

- 6) Action: Sunset NOFO Response Team (Laurie Flores, co-chair)**
- a) The NOFO Response Team was authorized in November 2025 to work on FY2025 NOFO strategy. With the NOFO withdrawn and new federal appropriations passed, the possibility of a rapid NOFO reissue was raised—creating ambivalence about sunsetting the team.
 - b) Discussion summary: Members favored tabling the item to March given rapidly evolving federal context. Suggestions included ensuring continued PWLE representation, maintaining coordination with the existing NOFO Committee, and having the team meet once or twice before March to develop scenario options.

Action I.

- i. Ms. Shelley Gonzalez moved to table the action to sunset the NOFO Response Team to the March 2026 meeting. Caroline Topée seconded.
- ii. The motion passed by consensus.
- iii. Next steps: The NOFO Response Team continues in the interim. Homebase will bring a 2026 NOFO planning item to March. The team is encouraged to meet once or twice before then to develop options.

- 7) Action: Open and Seat 2026 Nominations Committee (Laurie Flores, co-chair)**
- a) The Board voted on volunteers for the 2026 Nominations Committee. A list of interested volunteers and their information was shared via spreadsheet; Board members voted via Google Form.
 - b) Discussion summary: Members noted strong interest including from new members. It was clarified that outreach went out via the general listserv and that with sufficient volunteers, targeted outreach to prior members was unnecessary. Jonathan Russell noted he could not continue due to bandwidth.

Action I.

- i. Laurie Flores moved to open the 2026 Nominations Committee and delegate final selection to the Board co-chairs based on Google Form results. C'Mone Falls seconded.
- ii. Roll Call Vote for Motion to Open and Seat 2026 Nominations **Committee:**

YES: Adrienne Chambers, Andrea Ford, Brenda Wadsworth, Caroline Topée, C'Mone Falls, Elsie Lee, Kelsey Knutson, Laurie Flores, Liz Varela, Michelle Starratt, Ms. Shelley Gonzalez, Nic Ming, Peter Radu, Vivian Wan, Tochi Anagonye

NO: (none)

ABSTAIN: Isamar Ochoa Dominguez

PRESENT NOT VOTING: Kate Hart

iii. Motion passed with 15 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstain. Kate Hart was present not voting. John Janosko, Jonathan Russell, Ray Corona, and Tiara Jones had left prior to the vote.

iv. Next steps: Co-chairs will review Google Form results and determine final Nominations Committee membership.

- 8) Action: Seat Board Restructure Workgroup (Laurie Flores, co-chair)**
- a) The Board approved a 5–7 person workgroup at January's meeting. Nominees included Caroline Topée, Isamar Ochoa Dominguez, Moe Wright, Tochi Anagonye, Nic Ming, Ms. Shelley Gonzalez, Elsie Lee, and C'Mone Falls (Ray Corona nominated but could not accept).
 - b) Discussion summary: Members noted the need for nonprofit and H&H representation. An amendment was proposed to expand to up to 9 members. Given time constraints and need for clearer seat designations, Laurie tabled the item to March.

Action I.

i. This item was tabled to the March 2026 meeting. No vote was taken.

ii. Next steps: The Board will revisit seating the Workgroup at the March meeting with a revised proposal incorporating nonprofit and H&H seats and any other agreed amendments.

Discussion Items

- 9) CoC-Program Monitoring and Grievance Policy FAQ Update (Kris Maun, Homebase)**
- a) Per the MOU between the Collaborative Applicant and the Leadership Board, HUD requires CoCs to monitor themselves at least annually. H&H has asked Homebase to lead a monitoring and technical assistance plan (February–April 2026) focused on grievance policies. Kris Maun presented the plan.
 - b) Discussion summary: Members welcomed the effort and suggested circling back with providers after gathering PWLE input. Questions were raised about compliance burdens, distinguishing HUD-required vs. additional requirements, funding for compliance (e.g., legal consultation), and how to handle grievances about the system itself rather than a specific agency. Responses noted the FAQ will direct people to the right resource, and that there is no single authority in the homelessness response system.
 - c) Next steps: The Grievance Policy FAQ will be published on the EveryOne Home website and shared via listserv. Homebase will monitor CoC-funded recipients and subrecipients' grievance policies February–April 2026. PWLE input will be

gathered via survey (due March 13) and virtual focus group (March 2, 10–11am). A Grievance Policy Monitoring Report will be completed by April 30, 2026.
Announcements & Closing Items
<p>10) Leadership Board Updates (Laurie Flores, co-chair)</p> <p>a) Laurie will send a scheduling poll for an in-person community-building and restorative justice session in March (potential dates: March 20, 25, or 27, mid-morning/lunch, with light catering). Save the date: Community Meeting on Wednesday, May 27 at the California Endowment in Oakland.</p>
<p>11) Homeless Response System Updates (All)</p> <p>a) Community members were encouraged to share brief informational items. No additional system updates were shared.</p>
<p>12) March Agenda Look Ahead & Closing (Laurie Flores, co-chair)</p> <p>a) Agenda items requested: C'Mone Falls requested a presentation on the current state of the Coordinated Entry System, including the ongoing evaluation and Limited Access Points update.</p> <p>b) Expected March agenda items: NOFO 2026 Planning; Home Together Refresh Updates; OAC Committee Encampment Resolution Update; Review and approve Board workplan; Action to adopt updated Shared Agreements; Action to seat Board Restructure Workgroup.</p> <p>c) The next Leadership Board meeting will take place on Thursday, March 19, 2026.</p> <p>d) Laurie Flores adjourned the meeting and offered an optional debrief/decompression session.</p>

Leadership Board Attendance

Adrienne Chambers	sub present
Andrea Ford	sub present
Brenda Wadsworth	present
Caroline Topée	present
C'Mone Falls	present
Darin Lounds	absent
Deidre Wan	absent
Elsie Lee	present
Frank Rogers	absent
Isamar Ochoa Dominguez	present

OAKLAND, BERKELEY / ALAMEDA COUNTY CoC

James Williams	absent
John Janosko	<i>present</i>
Jonathan Russell	<i>present</i>
Kalani Smith	absent
Kate Hart	sub present
Kelsey Knutson	present
Laurie Flores	present
Liz Varela	present
Marcell Lloyd	absent
Michelle Starratt	present
Moe Wright	absent
Ms. Shelley Gonzalez	present
Nic Ming	present
Peter Radu	present
Ray Corona	<i>present</i>
Shelly Haynes	absent
Tiara Jones	<i>present (left early)</i>
Tochi Anagonye	present
Tunisia Owens	absent
Vivian Wan	present