



Housing Stability and Homelessness Prevention Committee

March 25, 2026
1:00-2:30 PM
Draft Minutes

[Link to Zoom Meeting](#)
Phone: [1 386-347-5053](tel:13863475053)
Meeting ID: 83085774509

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.

Helpful links:

- **Google drive folder** for the Housing Stability and Homelessness Prevention Committee: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1zPoP9Q_HT-Q9rCaXvKazzlURH-vfndxt?usp=sharing
- **Website page** (on EveryOne Home website) for the Housing Stability and Homelessness Prevention Committee: <https://everyonehome.org/about/committees/housing-stability-and-homelessness-prevention-committee/>
- **Acronyms and Glossary:** <https://everyonehome.org/main/continuum-of-care/coc-member-resources/>

Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Housing Stability and Homelessness Prevention Committee is to develop strategies and collaborations to prevent new homelessness, including for formerly homeless people who have moved into housing. Learn more about the Committee's purpose [here](#).

Meeting Purpose / Overview

The purpose of this meeting will be to: (1) receive an update on the Alameda County Homelessness Prevention Framework, (2) discuss the potential Prevention for Older Adults research project that has been proposed for the 2026 workplan, and (3) discuss a Tips and Tricks homelessness prevention resource, potentially directed at the reentry population.

Minutes

- 1. Welcome/Introductions** (Dylan Sweeney, HCD, Kelsey Knutson, BACS; Co-Chairs)
- a. February 25th minutes approved. Co-chairs reviewed the new committee agreements.

- 2. Public Comment** (Dylan Sweeney, Co-Chair)
- a. No public comment.

- 3. Announcements** (All)
- a. New resource: Homebase has released a [Grievance Policy and Procedure FAQ!](#) This document addresses frequently asked questions about grievance policies for the Continuum of Care (CoC) and its associated systems, including Coordinated Entry and the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).
 - b. Save the date for the Spring Community Meeting, Wednesday, May 27th at California Endowment Center in Oakland.
 - c. Committee applications are now open until Monday, April 13th! [The link to apply is here](#) and has a link to the available seats and description of the committees. Please circulate to anyone you know who is interested in becoming a voting member of the Alameda CoC.
 - d. The Evidence-Based Solutions Committee wants to hear from you about your experience in the CoC! As part of their role in the CoC, the ESC wants to check in on Committee members and others who want to be more involved in the CoC but aren't able to. Encourage any active members in the CoC or people who wish they could be more involved to [fill out this quick 3 minute survey](#). Results will be anonymous and analyzed by Homebase staff and ESC leadership and inform any going recommendations to Homebase, Leadership Board, or other entities in the CoC. We are always open to feedback but this round of the survey will close Tuesday, April 21.

- 4. Evidence-Based Solutions Committee (ESC) Report Out** (Elsie Lee, ESC Liaisons)
- a. Morgan Bernados (Homebase) and Ms. Shelley Gonzalez (Community Member) supported Elsie and shared some reminders about the [Evidence-Based Solutions Framework](#). The framework is a tool that supports individuals and groups to make decisions and take action that create enduring change in addressing homelessness and housing instability in our community.



b.

The framework has a foundation that centers on seven core questions that guide inquiry that helps to make key decisions take action. The questions are:



5. Update on the Alameda County Homelessness Prevention Framework (Alameda County Health Housing and Homelessness Services (H+H) and Focus Strategies)

- a. **Background and context:** H+H leads the development and implementation of the [Homelessness Prevention Framework](#). The goal is for the Homelessness Prevention Framework to serve as a companion to the Home Together Plan. The HSHP actively participated in the development of the Homelessness Prevention Framework by providing input and feedback. The HSHP Committee voted to approve the Framework in June 2024. In November 2024, it was also approved by the former Racial Equity Committee (REC) and the Leadership Board. In 2025, the Homelessness Prevention Framework was approved by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.
- b. **Update on the Homelessness Prevention Framework implementation:**
 - i. **Background & Development:** The prevention framework has been in development for roughly two years, with robust community engagement as its foundation. This included a Homelessness Prevention Strategy Team of approximately 50 diverse stakeholders — people with lived expertise, community-based organizations, and county/city leaders — who met over eight months to shape the goals and strategies. The framework was further informed by a comprehensive literature review, analysis of HMIS data, and 20 one-

on-one interviews with stakeholders across the homelessness response system and related public systems. It has since been integrated into the Home Together Plan, Alameda County's broader roadmap for reducing and eliminating homelessness, which is also grounded in a racial equity framework. The plan received Board of Supervisors approval and sign-off from multiple city jurisdictional partners.

- ii. **Funding:** The primary funding source is Measure W, a local sales tax measure — referred to locally as the Home Together Fund. Jeanette was explicit that this is not federal or COC/HUD funding. Approximately \$23 million annually is planned for prevention services. Standard county procurement processes (RFPs, RFIs, RFQs) govern how these funds are deployed.
- iii. **Current Deployment: Housing Resource Centers (HRCs):** The first deployment of prevention funds is through the Housing Resource Centers. An RFP was released last month, proposals have already been submitted and are currently under review, and contracts are expected to start July 1. The vision for the HRCs is a major expansion beyond what they've historically offered — from narrowly focused access points into much more robust, full-service hubs. Planned enhancements include: prevention funding, employment services, extended hours (nights and weekends), outreach staff who can go out to people who can't come in, online access, lower caseloads to allow deeper engagement, and workshops to help people not just access funds but sustain their housing long-term. The RFP explicitly called out older adults and individuals with complex medical needs as priority populations. Lucy framed this as a shift toward understanding each person's full situation when they come in — for example, someone who recently lost a job might need both prevention funding and employment support.
- iv. **Future Deployment: Prevention Hub**
 - 1. The next phase is developing a Prevention Hub — a larger, centralized model. An RFP for a hub operator is expected to be released around July 1, with the actual procurement and build-out happening over the next several months in parallel with the HRC launch. Focus Strategies will support this planning.
- v. **HMIS & Assessment Tools:** A significant thread of discussion was how to build data infrastructure to support the prevention framework. The county is actively researching what assessment tools other

communities use to determine who should receive prevention services, and how those tools can be integrated into HMIS (Clarity BitFocus). Communities being reviewed include those using the All Home tool (Bay Area), Los Angeles (which has both a predictive analytics model and a separate assessment tool), and Ohio's prevention tool. Diego noted that no single existing tool will be adopted as-is — it will need to be adapted to Alameda County's specific goals and populations, with particular attention to racial equity (e.g., making sure self-reported assessment questions don't inadvertently disadvantage already-marginalized populations). Predictive analytics/AI integration with HMIS is on the horizon as a possibility but wasn't seen as ready for this first iteration. The HMIS tool selection will inform what data gets collected from the start, with the long-term goal of being able to track longitudinally: who received prevention services, were those services effective, and did they prevent returns to homelessness.

- vi. **Staffing:** A three-person prevention team within H&H is being stood up, reporting to Lucy's side of the house (the coordinated entry/front-door side). Those positions are about to be posted, and the committee was encouraged to share the openings.

c. Discussion and Q&A:

- i. What does the timeline look like for HMIS to be up and running? Will it be ready by July 1?
 - 1. July 1 is more likely when the Hub RFP would be released, not when HMIS would be ready. The right assessment tool is still being researched; Focus Strategies is studying what other communities using Clarity BitFocus have done.
- ii. What is the July RFP for, as distinct from the Housing Resource Center RFP?
 - 1. The July RFP is for the Prevention Hub operator. The HRC RFP is already submitted and those contracts start July 1. The two are designed to flow into each other, not be separate processes.
- iii. Will initial prevention funding operate through HRCs without the HMIS software or a formal prioritization tool in place — similar to flex funds?
 - 1. The intent is an iterative model, not a rough starting point. It will be built with intentionality so that the HRC deployment can be built upon and expanded into the Hub model. Data collection will be embedded from the start.
- iv. Are there any regional models or CoCs you're looking at?

1. Currently reviewing the All Home tool (Bay Area), LA's two models (one predictive/AI-based, one not), and Ohio's prevention tool. The goal is to identify the best fit and adapt it for Alameda County.
2. Mentioning LA means been thinking about predictive analytics or AI integration with HMIS?
 - a. LA uses two distinct models — a predictive analytics model and a separate non-predictive assessment tool. Predictive modeling is a future possibility, but it's not likely to be part of this first iteration of prevention services.
- v. What's your experience implementing racial equity frameworks that actually benefit specific demographic populations?
 1. Focus Strategies has done deep equity analyses in other communities, including San Francisco, where they examined how self-reported assessment questions differentially affected which populations got prioritized for services. The same lens will be applied here to ensure the most at-risk and marginalized populations are appropriately served.
- vi. Have you looked at using census tracts rather than zip codes for geographic prioritization?
 1. Not specifically yet — prioritization work has primarily used zip codes. Open to conversations about what makes the most sense for Alameda County.
- vii. Will access be primarily brick and mortar through HRC locations, or is online access on the table?
 1. All of the above — in-person at HRC locations, online access, and outreach staff who can go out to people who can't come in, to eliminate as many access barriers as possible.
- viii. Has there been any work on population-specific supports within HRCs, such as ADRC (Aging and Disability Resource Connect) integration for older adults who may need caregiving support or help navigating finances after a spouse's death?
 1. The HRC RFP explicitly called out older adults and people with complex medical needs. The vision for HRCs is exactly this kind of deeper, more holistic care: lower caseloads, understanding a person's full situation, and coordinating with other resources. She acknowledged forensic accounting isn't guaranteed but emphasized the intention to provide a much greater depth of care across the full spectrum of needs.
- ix. What's the relationship between CoC funding and the county's procurement process for prevention?
 1. Clarified that the prevention and HRC funding is local Measure W / Home Together funds, not federal or COC/HUD funding.

Standard county procurement processes (RFPs, RFIs, RFQs) are required regardless.

- x. Have there been changes to how health conditions are weighted in the qualification formula for coordinated entry?
 - 1. No changes to how conditions are weighted within coordinated entry scoring. However, expansions have been added — including a medically frail permanent supportive housing parallel process and a recently added medically enhanced interim housing track for individuals with higher physical and behavioral health needs.

6. 2026 Work Planning: Prevention for Older Adults Research Project (Dylan Sweeney, Co-chair, and Luke Barnesmoore, Committee member)

- a. **Background and Context:** Dylan Sweeney and Luke Barnesmoore will report out on the potential Prevention for Older Adults Research Project that the HSHP Committee did not have time to discuss at the last meeting.
- b. **Project Overview:** The scope of work can be found here. This is a Phase 1 research scope aimed at better understanding why older adults are returning to homelessness at disproportionately high rates in Alameda County. The central question driving the work is: which specific programs are older people returning to homelessness from — rapid rehousing, dedicated affordable housing, permanent supportive housing? Using HMIS data already started by the AllHome team, the research will dig into those return rates and identify where the gaps are most pronounced. From there, the team plans to conduct qualitative interviews with both service providers and older adults with lived experience to understand the "why" behind the data.
 - i. Once those findings are in hand, the project moves into a landscape analysis — looking locally and nationally for program models that effectively address those gaps, with long-term shallow rent subsidies emerging as a likely candidate. The subgroup will work between meetings and bring findings back to the full committee at each step. Dylan and Luke also noted strong timing, pointing to growing interest from aging philanthropy organizations and the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, creating a real opportunity to use the research findings to attract new investment into the system.
- c. **Discussion, Questions:**
 - i. What about the complexity of age thresholds — people just shy of 55, complications after a spouse's death, caregivers not on leases, etc.?
 - 1. The age 65 threshold is arbitrary, originating with Otto von Bismarck in the late 1800s when the average lifespan was 63. That's why the research uses age 50 as the starting point. He acknowledged deep intersectional complexities — older women receive ~80% of the Social Security older men do, older members of communities of color and LGBTQ older

adults face additional layers. Addressing these through case management and appropriate interventions is the goal.

- ii. A personal story was shared: became homeless in his late 50s, disabilities worsened due to the rigors of homelessness, was forced to take SSDI early at 62 resulting in a permanently reduced rate, has spent 6 years trying to get a case manager, and has been largely navigating everything alone. Endorsed call for more direct, real-time data from people with lived experience, noting what individuals report will differ from what agencies report.
 1. Agreed — this is exactly why the research will use a mixed-methods approach, combining HMIS data analysis with qualitative interviews of people who have experienced these gaps and service providers trying to keep people housed.

7. 2026 Work Planning: Tips and Tricks (Co-Chairs, ESC Liaison, Homebase staff)

- a. **Background and Context:** At the January 28th meeting, HSHP Committee members discussed creating a Tips and Tricks resource on homelessness prevention and housing stability. The resource would be focused on practical advice to help individuals avoid homelessness or remain stably housed, for example guidance on housing denials and credit issues. [The notes of the conversation are here.](#)
 - i. Since that conversation, the Homebase [Criminal Legal System Initiative \(CLSI\)](#) is now available to provide technical assistance on developing a Tips and Tricks resource for the re-entry population. The Tips and Tricks resource would focus on homelessness prevention and housing stability for those who are transitioning from incarceration into the community. The co-chairs are in support of this focus for the project.
- b. **Discussion Overview and Next steps:**
 - i. Committee overall agreed to move forward with the re-entry focused Tips & Tricks and will invite Homebase CLSI team members to join the next meeting to help give more background and think through the project.
 - ii. A community member mentioned having suggestions for how to present to landlords, based on own experience navigating housing with a criminal record and 10 years as a property manager.

8. Closing (Dylan Sweeney and Kelsey Knutson, Co-Chairs)

- a. Next Meeting is Wednesday, April 22nd, 2026 from 1:00pm to 2:30pm.
- b. The Committee members can submit agenda ideas to alameda@homebaseccc.org.

Dylan Sweeney	Alameda County Housing and Community Development (HCD)	Present
Eleni Spiru	Swords to Plowshares	Absent
Hugo Ramirez	City of Oakland	Absent
Myette Anderson	City of Berkeley	Absent
Jeannette Rodriguez	Alameda County Health, Housing and Homelessness Services (H&H)	Present
Kelsey Knutson	Bay Area Community Services (BACS)	Present
Luke Barnesmoore	Home Match—Front Porch	Present
Ms. Shelley Gonzalez	Community Member	Present
Richard Nudelman	Community Member	Present
Freeway	Cadera Health	Absent
Elsie Lee	Sistas With Voices	Present
Michael Esparza	Tri-Valley Haven	Absent

Public Attendance:

- Logan McDonnell, Bay Area Community Services
- Mandy Gawf, Focus Strategies
- Diego De La Peza, Focus Strategies
- Hannah Betesh, Oakland Housing and Community Development
- Katie Alducin, Alameda County Health, Housing & Homelessness
- Christoverre Kohler, Community Member
- Lucy Kasdin, Alameda County Health, Housing & Homelessness
- Ronnie Boyd
- Caroline Topeé, Community Member

1. When you first speak, state your name, your pronouns if you have a preference, where you live or work, and your agency or organization. Members are also asked to introduce themselves in the chat.
2. One person speaks at a time. Raised hands are not required unless the moderator decides they are necessary in the situation.
3. This is a public discussion, not a debate. The purpose is not to win an argument, but to hear many points of view and explore many options and solutions.
4. Everyone is encouraged to participate. You may be asked to share what you think, or we may ask for comments from those who haven't spoken. It is always OK to "pass" when you are asked to share a comment. People can participate via chat and are not obligated to come off mute or turn their camera on.
5. No one or two individuals should dominate a discussion. If you have already voiced your ideas, let others have an opportunity. When you speak, be brief and to the point.
6. Commit to racial justice and equity in decision making.
7. Do your best to understand the pros and cons of every option, not just those you prefer. Be as objective and fair-minded as you can be.
8. Seek first to understand, not to be understood. Ask questions to seek clarification when you don't understand the meaning of someone's comments.
9. Assume good intentions. Handle one another with grace.
10. Acknowledge the biases you bring into the meeting, assume good intent, treat others the way they expect to be treated, respect is in the eye of the beholder. Honor your own trauma and don't hold others responsible for your triggers.
11. Address/name the harm/disrespect in the moment. You can drop an emoji like a skull or a stop sign in the chat to signify if you feel you've experienced harm. If we don't have time to address it in that moment because of other time-sensitive items, then commit to it being the first thing that is addressed at the next meeting. If you don't feel comfortable naming the issue in the meeting space, you can share about the experience via email/phone call to Homebase staff and/or Committee co-chairs within 72 hours of the meeting and they will follow-up with you on how to address it.
12. 90 seconds for contributions, give everyone a chance to share before you shared a second time. The co-chairs are responsible for maintaining integrity of the meeting and keeping people on topic in a respectful way, reminding people of what's on the agenda and what the goal of the meeting is.

[Link to meeting recording here.](#)