



Evidence-Based Solutions Committee (ESC) Survey

ESC Survey: Experience in CoC Committees

Purpose: To collect feedback regarding people’s experiences participating in Alameda County CoC committees and meetings. The ESC will analyze the feedback and make recommendations to improve operations, equity, impact, and more.

Survey launched: 3/25/26 (closed 4/21/26)

Survey length: 8 question survey

Number of people who completed survey: 44

Preliminary Survey Findings

Respondent representation

- 62% identified as a person with lived experience of homelessness
- 52% identified as representing a nonprofit service provider
- 16% identified as a government employee

Whether respondent feels their voice or opinion is valued in specific committee spaces

Committee	Participates in space	Feels voice/opinion is valued	Feels voice/opinion is NOT valued
Leadership Board	25	68%	32%
SCF: Standards, Compliance, and Funding Committee	20	75%	25%
ESC: Evidence-Based Solutions Committee	23	83%	17%
HMIS: Homeless Management Information System Committee	19	74%	26%
HSHP: Housing Stability & Homelessness Prevention Committee	17	71%	29%
OAC: Outreach, Access, and Coordination Committee	21	76%	24%
SIC: System Impact Committee	20	75%	25%

Highlighted Quotes

A few constructive quotes

- “It is imperative that every voice is heard, considered and appreciated for their expertise along with experience.”
- “Better education and orientation of committee members about the duties and scope of the committees”
- “It feels very exclusive and confusing and circular. Meaning select few, and always the same few, are the ones who can actually participate. It’s confusing as to which meeting are for what and with so many meetings.”

A few positive quotes

- “I began attending more committee meetings and gaining knowledge.”
- “I love it, but I need a lot of help and support.”
- “I’ve really enjoyed being part of a collaborative team, and overall my experience has been positive. At times, the voting process can be challenging when many people tend to lean in the same direction, but I don’t mind—I’m always in favor of building strong support and working together.”

Some Early Recommendations

Expectations of and support for voting members

- Find balance between accommodating everyone and getting things done, hold expectation that people come prepared to meetings
- Directed working sessions with voting members to discuss and understand agenda items
- Committee specific training
- Do not impose ideological indoctrinations in order to have equal access to participation
- People with lived experience of homelessness have been dissatisfied with their roles and have felt tokenized, need support and accommodations

Agenda and meeting structure

- Do not overload, front load agenda with voting item, Have a clear agenda with stated goals
- Tie agenda items and goals to tangible impacts on people experiencing homelessness
- Get through the information before answering questions
- Ensure people have reasonable time to speak and that no one dominates conversation

ESC Survey Next Steps

- The ESC will continue to analyze and discuss the survey results
- The ESC will share findings with individual committees and discuss possible next steps (ESC liaisons will also be a resource)
- The ESC will develop a set of improvement recommendations to be shared with the Leadership Board and committees