



**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board  
Agenda Report**

**Item No:** 1 (Consent Calendar)  
**Subject:** July 26, 2023 CoC Board Meeting Agenda  
**Meeting Date:** July 26, 2023  
**Staff Contact:** Alea Tantarelli, Alea.Tantarelli@Sonoma-County.org

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**SUMMARY**

This staff report presents the July 26, 2023 CoC Board Meeting proposed agenda. The agenda contains all proposed items that will be discussed by the CoC Board. The proposed agenda is attached as Attachment A.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)**

Approve July 26, 2023 agenda.



**Attachment A**

**Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC) Board**

**Agenda for July 26, 2023**

**1:00pm-5:00pm Pacific Time**

**Public Zoom Link:**

<https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/99261791880?pwd=djc0b1ZsU1FpOU1kbnJ0UDNOcUhfQT09>

**Phone: 1 (669) 900-9128 Webinar ID: 992 6179 1880 Passcode: 650935**

	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Packet Item</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Time</b>
	Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions		Board Chair	1:00pm
	<b>Note: Items 1-6 below are proposed for adoption via one motion as the Consent Calendar.</b>	N/A		
1.	7/26/23 Agenda <i>(Consent Calendar)</i>	Draft Agenda	Staff	1:05pm
2.	Minutes from 6/28/23 <i>(Consent Calendar)</i>	Draft Minutes	Staff	
3.	Summary of Follow-ups from the Previous Meeting(s) <i>(Consent Calendar)</i>	Summary of Follow-ups	Staff	
4.	Updates to Emergency Shelters and Rapid Rehousing Standards <i>(Consent Calendar)</i>	Staff Report on Emergency Shelter and Rapid Rehousing	Staff	
5.	Strategic Planning Update <i>(Consent Calendar)</i>	Staff Report on Strategic Plan Progress	Staff	
6.	Sonoma County Community Development Commission's Housing Authority Grant Transfer to Social Advocates for Youth <i>(Consent Calendar)</i>	Staff Report on CDCHA Grant Transfer to SAY	Staff	
7.	Reports from Lead Agency Staff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) 2023 Update</li> </ul>	Staff Report for Reports	Staff	

	Potential ACTION ITEM	from Lead Agency		
8.	Service Provider Roundtable (SPR) Update & West County Community Services Peer Program Presentation Potential ACTION ITEM		Margaret Sluyk	1:50pm
9.	Word from the Street Potential ACTION ITEM		Chessy Etheridge	2:10pm
10.	Decorum Guidance ACTION ITEM	Staff Report on Decorum Guidance	Chair & Staff	2:20pm
11.	Representation on the CoC Board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tribal Member Seat on the CoC Board</li> <li>• LEAP Board Chair on CoC Board (non-voting member)</li> </ul> ACTION ITEM	-Staff Report of Tribal Member Seat -Staff Report on LEAP Board Chair on CoC Board	HCD & Vice Chair	2:45pm
12.	10-minute break			3:15pm
13.	Long-term Funding Plan (2 <sup>nd</sup> Discussion) Potential ACTION ITEM	Staff Report on Long-term Funding Plan	Staff	3:25pm
14.	Reports from Standing Committees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding &amp; Evaluation Committee</li> <li>• Lived Experience Advisory &amp; Planning Board (LEAP)</li> </ul> Potential ACTION ITEM		Committee Representatives	4:15pm
15.	Review Agenda for Next CoC Board Meeting Potential ACTION ITEM	Staff Report for DRAFT Agenda for 8/23/23	Board Chair	4:30pm
16.	Board Member Questions & Comments Potential ACTION ITEM		Board Chair	4:45pm
17.	Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda		Board Chair	4:55pm

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*Public Comment may be made via email or during the live zoom meeting. To submit an emailed public comment to the Board email [Araceli.Rivera@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Araceli.Rivera@sonoma-county.org) . Please provide your name, the agenda number(s) on which you wish to speak, and your comment. These comments will be emailed to all Board*



*members. Public comment during the meeting can be made live by joining the Zoom meeting using the above provided information. Available time for comments is determined by the Board Chair based on agenda scheduling demands and total number of speakers.*



**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board  
Agenda Report**

**Item No:** 2 (Consent Calendar)  
**Subject:** Meeting Minutes 6/28/2023  
**Meeting Date:** 7/26/2023  
**Staff Contact:** Araceli Rivera, Homeless Project Specialist, [Araceli.Rivera@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Araceli.Rivera@sonoma-county.org)

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**SUMMARY**

This staff report briefly summarizes the June 28th, 2023, CoC Board Meeting Minutes. The attached meeting minutes contain all items discussed by the Continuum of Care Board at the June 28th, 2023, CoC Board Meeting.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)**

Approve CoC Board Meeting Minutes from June 28th, 2023.

## Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board Meeting Meeting Minutes

DRAFT Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time – Meeting held by Zoom

### Welcome and Roll Call (00:07:01: - 00:10:01)

- Dennis Pocekay called meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. and went over the Zoom rules around public comment and Brown Act guidelines.
- *Present: Dennis Pocekay, City of Petaluma; Jennielynn Holmes, Catholic Charities Diocese of Santa Rosa; Kelli Kuykendall proxy for Natalie Rogers, City of Santa Rosa; Susan Gorin proxy for Chris Coursey, BOS County of Sonoma; Chris Keys, Redwood Gospel Mission; Kathleen Pozzi; Martha Cheever, Sonoma County CDC; Una Glass, City of Sebastopol; Don Schwartz, City of Rohnert Park; Jackie Elward, City of Rohnert Park; Ron Wellander proxy for Jack Ding, City of Sonoma; Danielle Danforth, West County Community Services; Chessy Etheridge; Margaret Sluyk, Reach for Home*
- *Absent: Ben Leroi, Cheyenne McConnell, Mark Krug*

**A quorum was present.**

### 1. Approval of Consent Calendar (00:10:07 – 00:20:07)

Dennis Pocekay, CoC Board Chair went over consent calendar, 6/28 and approval of 5/24/2023 meeting minutes.

Una Glass motions to pull item 3.3 from consent calendar. Regarding MOU'S that are going to Board of Supervisors that are under consent; request to ask staff and Board that item be placed on regular calendar. Chessy Etheridge seconds.

**Public Comment:** none

*Abstentions or objections: None*

### Motion Approved

Approval of Consent calendar items 1, 2, 4 and remaining parts of item 3.

Recusal process for local homeless services NOFA 23-24 remaining funding decisions. Board members affiliated with organizations, with proposals to receive this funding. Raise your hand and placed in the attendees temporarily for vote, and then moved back over.

Susan Gorin moved to approve consent calendar; Una Glass seconds motion.

Don Schwartz requested staff all known information with Board as to how individuals could access the homeless prevention activities that were proposed to be funded by West County and SAY.

*Abstentions or objections: None*

**Approved**

**2. Reports from Lead Agency Staff (00:20:47 – 01:02:44)**

- June 2023 regional Homeless Activities Update: Dave Kiff provided update and referred back to regional homeless services update linked in packet.
- Point in Time Count: Michael Gause provided update on Point in Time Count; final report should be available soon and will go to BOS in August, MOU's to added in that same August item. Shared some preliminary result numbers.
- Funding & Evaluation Process Recommendations: Dave Kiff provided information on internal process that lead staff and service providers have been working on; specifics noted in staff report.
- Bimonthly Provider & Staff Collaboration: Michael Gause provided update on second bi-monthly provider meeting that was held. Shared what group was focused on and what the next meetings focus will be.
- Consultation Regarding Additional 2 million for Measure O: Dave Kiff briefly went over item and continuing consultation between CoC Board and BOS; specifics provided in staff report/packet. Proposed sending 1.4 million to George's hideaway, \$400,000 towards Homeless Action Sonoma and \$200,000 to kick start SAVS Latin Village project.

Recusal Process for open discussion on Consultation Regarding Additional 2 million for Measure O item.

Public comment: Ludmilla Bade, Annie Falandes, Adrienne Lauby

**3. Service Provider Roundtable (SPR) Update (01:02:51 – 01:06:19)**

Margaret Sluyk provided update on what group discussed; quality data and how it would be helpful for when funding decisions are made and would help drive strategic plan. Feel there needs to be a better way to pull data. Thanked all volunteers who participated in Point in Time Count.

**Public Comment:** None

**4. Word from the Street (01:06:21 – 01:08:38):**

Chessy Etheridge shared update on tranquilizer drug/Xylazine; Drug is in California, 3 deaths in Petaluma within 1 week, 3 deaths under 20 years old. Estimate is that drug is in 80% opioid drugs.

**Public Comment:** None

**5. 10-minute break (01:09:33 – 01:16:00)**

*Meeting resumed; Staff confirmed a quorum was present.*

**6. Bridge Housing Presentation (01:17:16 – 02:03:27):**

Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, Division Director of the Department of Health Services' Behavioral Health Division, provided presentation on proposal for Behavioral Health Bridge Housing program that was submitted to state. Answered questions posed by CoC Board Members.

**Public Comment:** Gregory Fearon, Teddie Pierce, Ludmilla Bade

**7. CoC Program Preliminary Renewal Project Scoring (02:03:31 – 02:22:27):**

Dennis Pocekay provided overview on CoC Program Renewals, Unconditional & Conditional Renewals, CoC Renewal Site visits and scoring, Hud program scoring, APR's reviewed, additional areas of scoring and 2023 CoC Program Renewal Project Final Scoring Recommendations & Corrective Actions Plans. Update from 2022 CoC Program Corrective Action Plans updates also provided for Catholic Charities and Reach for Home Projects.

Recommended Actions as Approved by F& E Committee on June 14, 2023:

1. Approve the scoring of renewal projects for the 2023 CoC Competition as recommended by The Sonoma County CoC Funding and Evaluation Committee– Renewal Projects.
2. Approve Corrective Action Plans for Community Support Network Stony Point Commons and Buckelew FACT projects.

Recusal Process for open discussion on CoC Program Preliminary Renewal Project Scoring.

**Public comment:** Gregory Fearon

Don Schwarts moved recommended action to approve the scoring of renewal projects for the 2023 CoC Competition and approve Corrective Action Plans for Community Support Network Stony Point Commons and Buckelew FACT projects; Jackie Elward second's motion.

*Abstentions or objections: None*



**Motion passes**

**8. HMIS Evaluation Report (02:23:22 – 03:17:17)-**

Dave Kiff provided brief introduction, Heather Sweet provided main presentation and gave overview on HMIS Lead Evaluation, detailed information provided in staff report that includes links.

**Public comment:** Hunter Scott, Gregory Fearon, Teddie Pierce

Una Glass motions to accept HMIS Evaluation and requests further report out (possibly in September or timeframe close) on alternative options on how to improve shortfall issues in report; Susan Gorin second's motion.

*Abstentions or objections: None*

**Motion passes**

**9. Reports from Standing Committees: (03:17:28-03:34:15)**

- **Funding & Evaluation Committee:**  
Teddie Pierce provided brief update, stated that she would like Board to confirm if evaluation discussion will be going back to F & E committee as agenda setting meeting has not been scheduled. Committee reconvening in July and would like to discuss RFP process.
- **Strategic Planning Committee:**  
Tom Bieri provided update. Strategic Planning committee meets the first Friday of the month for 1 hour, last met on 6/16 and spent time defining scope and discussed SP accountability. Time placed agenda for committee members, staff ad public to have collaborative conversations. Shared some areas of focus and possible extension of meeting time from 60 to 90 minutes.
- **Lived Experience Advisory & Planning Board (LEAP):**  
Rebecca Sammet provided update; LEAP Board is full, adopted new LEAP board conflict of interest policy pending legal approval from Homefist and CEA Committee, working to add new peer support programs new County emergency shelter site, exploring options to help address grievances filed by lived experiences members at various sites, LEAP members participating in Conversational Tribal Nations Workshop and Training Series

**Public Comment:** Adrienne Lauby, Teddie pierce

**10. July Quarterly Membership Meeting Agenda: (03:34:21-03:38:05)**

Araceli Rivera presented July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023, CoC Quarterly Membership Meeting agenda for Board Approval.

**Public Comment:** Ludmilla Bade, Adrienne Lauby

Susan Gorin motions to approve CoC Quarterly Membership agenda for July 20<sup>th</sup>; Una Glass seconds motion.

*Abstentions or objections: None*

**Motion passes**

**11. Review Agenda for Next CoC Board Meeting: (03:38:07-03:45:00)**

Dennis Pocekay went over July 2023 Draft agenda. Opened it up for proposals on additional agenda requests.

**Public Comment:** Michael, Ludmilla Bade

Additional Items to be added to agenda:

Jennielynn Holmes proposed adding LEAP Board discussion- Leap Board Chair participating in CoC Board Meetings.

**12. Board Member Questions & Comments: (03:45:12-03:48:19)**

**Public Comment:** Gregory Fearon

**13. Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items: (03:48:23-03:52:57)**

**Public Comment:** Michael, Ludmilla Bade

***Meeting was adjourned at 4:47 p.m.***

## Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board Agenda Report

**Item No:** 3 (Consent Calendar)  
**Subject:** Summary of Follow-ups from the Previous Meeting(s)  
**Meeting Date:** July 26, 2023  
**Staff Contact:** Dave Kiff, DHS Homelessness Services Division, Dave.Kiff@sonoma-county.org

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### Summary

At the previous meeting, CoC Board members and others asked for the Lead Agency staff to follow up on specific items. Staff summarized responses to present at the July 26<sup>th</sup> CoC Board meeting.

### Recommended Action(s)

No recommended Action

### Discussion

At the previous meeting, CoC Board members and others asked for the Lead Agency staff to follow up on the following questions or comments.

- 1. Keep Oakland Housed Next Steps:** Homelessness Services staff and City of Santa Rosa staff are meeting with All Home and BACS on July 21<sup>st</sup> for a live demonstration of ways to incorporate/model the Keep Oakland Housed model. Staff will report back to the CoC Board during the August CoC Board meeting on next steps.
- 2. Bridge Housing Questions:**
  - **Where is the site?** *The Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) grant application includes concepts for uses versus fixed sites. The application envisions using up to three different sites, which is likely to include residential treatment, step-down locations, and similar.*
  - **How many beds will be available?** *Bed count could be up to 70-100.*
  - **What is the maximum length of time someone can stay?** *Generally, 6-12 months*
  - **Will you be accepting clients with MH diversion?** *Yes*
  - **When will this be up and running?** *The BHBH grant envisions accepting clients in residential settings within a year of the grant award.*
  - **How long is the grant for?** *The grant is a one-time grant, but can be expended over a period of years. However, we as a region need to put in place a sustainable funding model for this system's operational expenses.*

- **Where will the staff come from and will this takeover from other needed services?** *Staffing will be new, and invariably will compete for critical behavioral health and substance use disorder clinicians. We as a region need to figure out ways to be competitive in attracting qualified workers to Sonoma County.*
- **What is Marin County going to bring in?** *As planned right now, some of Marin County's BHBH funding will support beds in Sonoma County that would accommodate Marin County clients. Partnering here may help make the system more sustainable.*
- **Will referrals go through Coordinated Entry?** *No, although generally all clients should be enrolled in CE and assessed. Referrals will go through Behavioral Health Housing Coordinator.*
- **How will this dovetail with existing providers?** *Existing service providers will be able to work with County Behavioral Health to refer clients to the BHBH sites and programs.*
- **Where are these people already and where can we leverage? (Doing more before we have refined what we're already doing)** *We've heard loudly and clearly that our system of care needs treatment beds for high needs clients with substance use disorders and critical BH issues. This program, funded by State funds, attempts to create beds and programming for these clients so that existing service providers can focus on clients with different needs.*
- **How will this be accounted for with our CoC Strategic Plan?** *These are interim beds added to the system, which is part of Strategy 1.2a. Further, it is part of Strategy 2.2d: Increase the availability of detox and substance abuse services ...*
- **What is the cost per year?** *It's hard to know this right now. But County BH staff will follow up on this over time and provide the information to the CoC Board when it is available.*

### 3. HMIS Follow-Ups

#### 1 – What interaction does ACCESS/Watson have with the HMIS? Is it once every now and then, no interaction at all, regular interaction?

*There is no direct interface between HMIS and Watson, however, HMIS data is provided to the county IT dept (ISD) on a quarterly basis as part of the ACCESS project. That data is then uploaded to Watson.*

#### 2 – How quickly will we be able to do a new HMIS User Satisfaction survey?

*A new [Sonoma County HMIS User Training Evaluation](#) survey has been created in DHS' Survey Monkey account. This survey will be distributed to training attendees at the end of HMIS User trainings by HMIS Lead Agency staff by August 1, 2023.*

#### 3 – Where is ETO in the realm of what agencies are using what platforms?

*The below link details HMIS use in CA as of 2021. There were, as of 2021, 3 communities using ETO for HMIS in CA.*

*<https://homelessstrategy.com/almost-half-of-californias-continuums-of-care-changed-homeless-management-information-system-hmis-software-vendors-since-2015/>*

#### 4 – Setting aside the cost and time to switch platforms, is there a systemwide merit to having a platform that draws more robust reports? I.e. if we really want to get to data-driven decision making, is a more report-oriented platform essential (or not)?

*As of July 2023, the cost of switching vendors is \$115k in one-time set-up fees on top of the regular annual cost (industry standard regardless of vendor). A change would also require 6-12 months of planning and preparation. Current contract with vendor will be up for renewal in May 2024. Our*

*current HMIS is highly customizable and so would recommend gathering feedback from users and other stakeholders to identify gaps to determine whether we could improve what we currently have (via training or better reporting) to better meet local needs.*

**5 – Are providers training other providers on HMIS work?**

*We are aware of staff at some agencies consulting privately with other agencies on HMIS work. Consulting with HMIS is common in many communities. There are no trainings that are conducted by staff from and representing another agency. Training is provided by lead agency staff on an ad-hoc basis and is scheduled in a timely manner according to provider staff availability. The only exception to this is with Coordinated Entry – HomeFirst as the operator of the program conduct training specific to the Coordinated Entry workflow to all users that access the CE system. This a contractual deliverable.*

**4. STELLA P/STELLA M Differences:**

*STELLA P is a HUD system that uses the Longitudinal Systems Analysis data to produce visuals to illustrate how households move through the homeless system and highlight outcome disparities. Those visuals can be found [here](#) and direct access to the system can be granted by staff if needed.*

*STELLA M is an online analysis tool to support the system modeling process. Stella M uses a community's data on homelessness, combinations of project types, and performance goals to calculate the inventory of housing, shelter, and services needed to fully meet the community's needs.*

*More information about these tools and their use can be found [here](#).*

**5. Systems performance reports that get filed to HUD:**

*System-wide performance reports as submitted to HUD can be found on our website linked below. <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/health-and-human-services/health-services/divisions/homelessness-services/what-we-know-about-homelessness/homeless-data>*

**6. How someone can access the West County Community Services (WCCS) and SAY homeless prevention programs?** Lead agency staff asked for this information from both WCCS and SAY and report back as follows:

**From WCCS staff:** The homeless prevention program at WCCS is part of our multi-pronged agency wide rebranding and community engagement efforts. First, we note to the CoC Board that we at WCCS are a small community and news travels fast. No matter what the problem is, people in our community are saying "check with WCCS".

We have a Resources Request form for people to fill out just telling us what their need is and then we forward it to the department that is most likely to be able to help. This form can be found in our office, online and in our various programs, Peer Centers, PV Community Trailer, and other locations.

One of our programs ("Crisis Funds") is not funded by the County. These are undesignated funds WCCS raises to be able to offer assistance to people who do not qualify for other, funded, programs. When these requests come in, if they qualify for other services, they are referred there. Word gets

around about this service. Even businesses that we have worked with like a local auto repair place will later tell people to check with us if someone needs help, even for non-auto things since they know these funds are available.

**From SAY:** People can contact SAY through going to our website, calling SAY, or coming in to the Dream Center or the Coffee House drop-in. We don't list specific funding sources on our website, but we have an [easy to reach page](#) where people who want help can reach out to us and we will contact them.



**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board  
Executive Summary**

**Item:** 4. Updates to Emergency Shelter (ES) and Rapid Re-housing (RRH) standards

**Date:** July 26, 2023

**Staff Contact:** Thai Hilton [thai.hilton@sonoma-county.org](mailto:thai.hilton@sonoma-county.org)

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Agenda Item Overview

In 2022, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) monitored the lead agency for compliance with ESG-CV regulations. This monitoring generated 7 findings and 3 concerns. Findings result in required corrective action. Concerns result in recommended corrective action. Most of these findings pertained to the local written standards for ES and RRH programs and were largely related to record-keeping requirements. The lead agency updated the ES and RRH standards which were then reviewed and approved by HCD. The lead agency then held a required training on the changes to the standards. All providers who received ESG-CV funds attended the training or watched a recording of the training. The lead agency has been cleared from these findings and concerns. The changes to these standards were approved by the Coordinated Entry Advisory Committee on July 5<sup>th</sup>. Below are details on the changes to the standards. The new language is highlighted.

**Updates to ES standards:** HCD found that some ES providers were conditioning shelter stays on participation in case management, which is not permitted. Also, HCD found that ES providers were not properly documenting homelessness status at intake. The lead agency created a new policy that states that ES providers cannot condition shelter stays on participation in case management. The lead agency also updated the intake policy to reflect the record-keeping requirements.

- 1) Prohibition of conditioning shelter stays on participation in case management: Pg. 6 of ES standards.

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**SERVICES:**

With the understanding that each participant's needs are individual, as a system of care the CoC seeks to make the following services available to all shelter participants. These services may be provided by the shelter or the shelter may refer clients to these services if/when they are available. These services are not mandated parts of the shelter program and the acceptance of these services or referrals is up to the client. **Program participants must not be required to receive treatment or perform any other prerequisite activities (such as engaging in a housing plan) as a condition for receiving shelter.**

- i. Health Assessment, establishment of primary care home and health coverage, and access to behavioral health treatment as needed.
- ii. Financial education, Money Management & Savings Programs, including tenancy education and credit clean-up.



- iii. SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) benefits assistance; a program designed to increase access to Social Security Administration (SSA) disability benefits for eligible individuals who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and have a mental illness, medical impairment, and/or a co-occurring substance use disorder.
- iv. Legal services: record expungement, addressing pending charges, and legal services for those fleeing domestic violence.

Other Mainstream resources: i.e. MediCal, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Cal Fresh, substance abuse services.

2) Documenting homelessness status at intake: Pg. 9 of ES standards.

*Documentation of Homelessness or At-Risk status per federal guidelines.*

Emergency shelters must document homeless status through written certification by the individual or head of household as the primary method of establishing homeless eligibility. For shelters where program participants may stay only one night and must leave in the morning, documentation must be obtained each night. At a minimum, the emergency shelter program should use a sign-in sheet for participants entering the shelter, certifying they are experiencing homelessness. If program participants may stay more than one night, then documentation must be obtained only on the first night the household stays in the shelter.





**Updates to RRH standards:** HCD found that some RRH providers were not conducting reevaluations in compliance with ESG-CV regulations. They also found that some RRH providers were not documenting eligibility of program participants properly and that they were not documenting services and payments made on behalf of program participants in compliance with ESG-CV regulations. They also found that the local RRH standards lacked information on how to comply with these regulations. They found that some RRH files lacked proper lease-up documents or that the lease-up documents lacked required Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) protections. They found that the local RRH standards lacked the information needed to comply with VAWA regulations. They found that the standards lacked information on how to comply with lead-based paint regulations. Finally, HCD found that the standards lacked regulations that relate to documenting disposition and use of equipment bought with federal or state funds. The policy language for these changes can be found below.

1) Reevaluations: Pg. 9, 22, 23

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## RE-EVALUATIONS

RRH providers must reevaluate a program participant's eligibility not less than once annually. At a minimum, each re-evaluation of eligibility must establish that;

- 1) The program participant does not have income that exceed the income limit for continued service. This limited is dependent on funding source. See below
  - a. ESG/CoC RRH: Program participant's income cannot exceed 30% AMI
  - b. ESG-CV: Program participant's income cannot exceed 50% AMI
- 2) The program participant lacks sufficient resources and support networks necessary to retain housing without ESG assistance.

RRH providers may require each program participant receiving RRH assistance to notify the RRH provider regarding changes in the program participant's income or other circumstances (*e.g.*, changes in household composition) that affect the program participant's need for assistance under ESG. When notified of a relevant change, the recipient or subrecipient must re-evaluate the program participant's eligibility and the amount and types of assistance the program participant needs.

For recording keeping requirements for re-evaluations, see "Record Retention and Storing" below.

2) VAWA protections: pgs. 17-20

### Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Protections

[24 CFR 576.409](#) is the regulatory body for VAWA protections. VAWA protections apply to RRH participants.

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## HMIS COMPARABLE DATABASE

Domestic violence service providers (VSPs) are prohibited from maintaining participant data in the CoC's HMIS; instead, they are required to maintain participant data in an HMIS comparable database.

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## PROHIBITION ON RETALIATION

It is illegal for owners or managers of covered housing to discriminate against any person because that person has opposed any act or practice made unlawful by VAWA's housing provisions, or because that person testified, assisted, or participated in any related matter.

Additionally, it is illegal for an owner or manager of covered housing to coerce, intimidate, threaten, interfere with, or retaliate against any person who exercises or assists or encourages a person to exercise any rights or protections under VAWA's housing provisions.

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## RIGHT TO REPORT CRIME AND EMERGENCIES

Landlords, homeowners, tenants, residents, occupants, and guests of, and applicants for, housing shall have the right to seek law enforcement or emergency assistance on their own behalf or on behalf of another person in need of assistance. Also prohibited is penalizing or threatening to penalize persons because they request assistance or report criminal activity of which they are a victim or otherwise not at fault under the laws or policies adopted or enforced by covered governmental entities.

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## PROHIBITION ON DENIAL OR TERMINATION OF ASSISTANCE OR EVICTION ON THE SOLE BASIS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

RRH program participants cannot be denied assistance, have their assistance terminated, or be evicted from their housing solely because they are a victim of domestic violence.

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## NOTICE OF OCCUPANCY RIGHTS UNDER THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

RRH providers that determine eligibility for or administer ESG rental assistance is responsible for providing the following two forms to each applicant for ESG rental assistance and each participant receiving ESG rental assistance:

- "Notice of Occupancy Rights under the Violence Against Women Act" (Form HUD5380), available [here](#)
- "Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternative Documentation" (Form HUD-5382), available [here](#)

These forms must be provided at each of the following times:

- When an applicant is denied ESG rental assistance
- When an applicant's application for a unit receiving project-based rental assistance is denied
- When a participant begins receiving ESG rental assistance
- When a participant is notified of termination of ESG rental assistance
- When a participant receives notification of eviction

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## LEASE BIFURCATION

When a family receiving tenant-based rental assistance separates under the lease bifurcation clause of 24 CFR 5.2009(a), the family's tenant-based rental assistance and utility assistance, if any, shall continue for the family member(s) who are not evicted or removed.



If a family living in a unit receiving project-based rental assistance separates under the lease bifurcation clause of 24 CFR 5.2009(a), the family member(s) who are not evicted or removed can remain in the assisted unit without interruption to the rental assistance or utility assistance provided for the unit.

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### VAWA LEASE LANGUAGE

RRH providers are required to ensure that the requirements listed under 24 CFR Part 5, Subpart L, are included or incorporated into all rental assistance agreements and leases for units that receive ESG-funded short-term or medium-term rental assistance. If a landlord-provided lease includes all protections listed in 24 CFR Part 5, Subpart L, subrecipients do not need to take any further action. Under most circumstances, however, subrecipients will need to provide and require a lease amendment including the necessary language. Subrecipients may choose between two options for VAWA lease amendments:

- Subrecipients may use the sample “Lease Addendum” (HUD-91067), provided [here](#)
- Subrecipients may create their own lease addendum, which must incorporate all protections listed in [24 CFR Part 5, Subpart L](#).

### 3) Recordkeeping

- Intake and eligibility: pg. 22

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### RECORDKEEPING AND REPORTING: INTAKE AND ELIGIBILITY

RRH providers will maintain policies and procedures to ensure compliance with the homelessness definition defined in [24 CFR 576.2](#). Procedures must require documentation of homeless status at intake relied upon to establish and verify homeless status. The procedure will reflect HUD’s order of priority for obtaining evidence of homeless status

- 1) Third-party documentation
- 2) Intake worker observations
- 3) Self-certification

Records contained in an HMIS,

or comparable database used by victim service providers or legal service providers are acceptable evidence of third-party documentation. Where third-party documentation is not obtainable, a written record of the intake worker's due diligence in attempting to obtain the evidence will be maintained with the self-certification.

- Lease-up documents: pgs. 23-24

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### RECORD KEEPING: LEASE UP DOCUMENTS

Each program participant file must contain the following lease-up documents;

- An executed, legally binding written lease or sublease and rental assistance agreement, which also addresses late payment requirements;
- Evidence that each program participant resides in a housing unit that has met, or passed, the ESG minimum habitability or alternative standards threshold; and



- Evidence of an analysis and documentation showing that ESG rental assistance was only provided to units for which the rent complied with HUD’s standard of rent reasonableness and Fair-Market Rent.
  - For CoC RRH programs, evidence of an analysis and documentation showing that CoC rental assistance was only provided to units for which the rent complied with HUD’s standard of rent reasonableness.
- Lead-based paint requirements: pg. 24

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### RECORD KEEPING: LEAD-BASED PAINT REQUIREMENTS

Each program participant must contain the following documents

- Evidence that the program participant was provided with EPA’s “Protect Your Family from Lead” pamphlet.
  - Leases with adequate lead-based paint disclosure information.
  - A copy of a completed HPRP Lead-Based Paint Screening worksheet. 23
  - If analysis determines the presence of lead-based paint, evidence of further evaluation and stabilization efforts.
- 
- Services provided and payments made of behalf of program participants: pg. 24

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### RECORD KEEPING: SERVICES PROVIDED & PAYMENTS MADE ON BEHALF OF PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

In accordance with [24 CFR 576.500\(f\)\(1\)](#), RRH providers must maintain records for each program participant that document:

- The services and assistance provided to that program participant, including, as applicable, the security deposit, rental assistance, and utility payments made on behalf of the program participant.

#### 4) Equipment: pgs. 24-26

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### RECORD KEEPING: EQUIPMENT

In accordance with [2 CFR 200.313](#), equipment must be used by the RRH provider in the program or project for which it was acquired as long as needed, whether or not the project or program continues to be supported by the Federal/State award, and the RRH provider must not encumber the property without prior approval of the awarding agency. The awarding agency may require the submission of the applicable common form for equipment. When no longer needed for the original program or project, the equipment may be used in other activities supported by the awarding agency, in the following order of priority:

- Activities under a Federal/State award from the Federal/State awarding agency which funded the original program or project, then
- Activities under Federal/State awards from other Federal/ awarding agencies. This includes consolidated equipment for information technology systems.



During the time that equipment is used on the project or program for which it was acquired, the RRH provider must also make equipment available for use on other projects or programs currently or previously supported by the Federal Government, provided that such use will not interfere with the work on the projects or program for which it was originally acquired. First preference for other use must be given to other programs or projects supported by awarding agency that financed the equipment and second preference must be given to programs or projects under Federal awards from other Federal awarding agencies. Use for non-federally funded programs or projects is also permissible. User fees should be considered if appropriate.

Notwithstanding the encouragement in [§ 200.307](#) to earn program income, the RRH provider must not use equipment acquired with the Federal/State award to provide services for a fee that is less than private companies charge for equivalent services unless specifically authorized by Federal statute for as long as the Federal Government retains an interest in the equipment.

When acquiring replacement equipment, the RRH provider may use the equipment to be replaced as a trade-in or sell the property and use the proceeds to offset the cost of the replacement property.

#### *Management requirements*

Procedures for managing equipment (including replacement equipment), whether acquired in whole or in part under a federal/state award, until disposition takes place will, as a minimum, meet the following requirements:

- (1) Property records must be maintained that include a description of the property, a serial number or other identification number, the source of funding for the property, who holds title, the acquisition date, and cost of the property, percentage of Federal/State participation in the project costs for the Federal/State award under which the property was acquired, the location, use and condition of the property, and any ultimate disposition data including the date of disposal and sale price of the property.
- (2) A physical inventory of the property must be taken, and the results reconciled with the property records at least once every two years.
- (3) A control system must be developed to ensure adequate safeguards to prevent loss, damage, or theft of the property. Any loss, damage, or theft must be investigated.
- (4) Adequate maintenance procedures must be developed to keep the property in good condition.
- (5) If the RRH provider is authorized or required to sell the property, proper sales procedures must be established to ensure the highest possible return.

#### *Disposition*

When original or replacement equipment acquired under a Federal/State award is no longer needed for the original project or program or for other activities currently or previously supported by a Federal/State awarding agency, except as otherwise provided in Federal statutes, regulations, or Federal awarding agency disposition instructions, the RRH provider must request disposition instructions from the awarding agency if required by the terms and conditions of the Federal/State award. Disposition of the equipment will be made as follows, in accordance with Federal/State awarding agency disposition instructions:



(1) Items of equipment with a current per unit fair market value of \$5,000 or less may be retained, sold or otherwise disposed of with no further responsibility to the Federal/State awarding agency.

(2) Except as provided in [§ 200.312\(b\)](#), or if the Federal awarding agency fails to provide requested disposition instructions within 120 days, items of equipment with a current per-unit fair market value in excess of \$5,000 may be retained by the RRH provider or sold. The Federal/State awarding agency is entitled to an amount calculated by multiplying the current market value or proceeds from sale by the Federal/State awarding agency's percentage of participation in the cost of the original purchase. If the equipment is sold, the Federal/State awarding agency may permit the RRH provider to deduct and retain from the Federal share \$500 or ten percent of the proceeds, whichever is less, for its selling and handling expenses.

(3) The RRH provider may transfer title to the property to the Federal Government or to an eligible third party provided that, in such cases, the RRH provider must be entitled to compensation for its attributable percentage of the current fair market value of the property.

(4) In cases where a RRH provider fails to take appropriate disposition actions, the Federal/State awarding agency may direct the RRH provider to take disposition actions.

## 5) Program income: Pg. 20

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### PROGRAM INCOME

Program income is defined as "gross income earned by the RRH provider that is directly generated by a supported activity or earned as a result of the federal award during the period of performance." Additional information about what constitutes program income can be found in 2 CFR 1201.80.

Few activities funded by ESG can or are likely to generate program income. If an ESG subrecipient generates program income, it is most likely because the subrecipient paid for a security deposit under the homelessness prevention (ESG-HP) or rapid re-housing (ESG-RRH) components, and some or all of the security deposit was returned to the subrecipient.

### Recommendation

Approve the changes to the ES and RRH standards.

**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board  
Agenda Report**

**Item No:** 5 (Consent Calendar)  
**Subject:** Strategic Planning Committee Update  
**Meeting Date:** July 26, 2023  
**Staff Contact:** Michael Gause, Ending Homelessness Program Manager,  
Michael.Gause@sonoma-county.org

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**SUMMARY**

The Strategic Planning Committee is currently meeting bimonthly on the third Friday of the month from 9-10:00am. At each meeting, staff provide an overview of progress on the year one efforts. The CoC Board requested this update be presented to the Board at each meeting.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)**

Informational Item only.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

A: Strategic Planning First Year Efforts Update

Lead Agency Initial 2023 Efforts	Plan id	Start Date	Projected End date	Assigned	Notes
In alignment with Built for Zero, establish a single By Names List to better serve all individuals experiencing homelessness in Sonoma County	3.6a	1/1/2023	9/1/2023	Thai	Target date of completion - September 2023. In progress.
Create a new vulnerability assessment, prioritization, and placement process to replace the VI-SPDAT that includes an analysis of individuals' housing strengths and results in equitable housing placement	3.7a	6/1/2023	12/31/2023	CE redesign working group	Home Base's Technical Assistance is helping with this effort. Meetings are taking place with providers for feedback on a weekly basis with Homebase.
Develop a robust communication strategy to keep the public and individuals experiencing homelessness more informed of services, policy changes, challenges, and successes	3.5a	5/1/2023	9/1/2023	Michael and Alea	An Internal DHS Workgroup is now meeting weekly to develop this strategy; focus is on website development and also communicating success stories. A redesigned website is in staging process and can be shared with CoC Board in August 2023.
Strengthen and prioritize the supportive services in the existing homeless response system	2.1 a+b	1/1/2023	Ongoing	Systemwide	The FY 2023-24 NOFA has attempted to start to address this, but more work needs to be done; revised NOFA process in summer 2023 with provider collaboration.
Build an effective and equitable subregional street outreach model	2.5b	7/1/2023	12/31/2023	BFZ improvement team	In progress
Adopt a long-term funding strategy for homeless services	3.1b	1/1/2203	9/30/2023	Lead Agency and CoC Board	Review at July CoC Board Meeting
Ensure the system of care and its individual programs are evaluated based on key performance metrics	3.14a	1/1/2023	ongoing	F&E Committee	The F&E Committee attempted to use new metrics within recent NOFAs, but more needs to be done.
Add 200 PSH and 100 non-congregate shelter beds	1.2a , 1.3a	1/1/2023	Tally by 12/31/2023	Systemwide	In Calendar 2023, the County of Sonoma added 87 NCS Beds. Catholic Charities/Burbank will add 30 NPLH PSH beds towards the end of June 2023. Studios at Montero added 60 PSH beds in May - June 2023. Housing inventory Chart reflected over 200 new PSH beds in 2023. Achieved for PSH.
Ensure an effective transition to Department of Health Services	N/A	1/15/2023	7/1/2023	Lead Agency	The Lead Agency staff continues to work on this.





**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board  
Agenda Report**

**Item No:** 6  
**Subject:** CoC Program Grant Transfer Letter of Support  
**Meeting Date:** July 26, 2023  
**Staff Contact:** Karissa White, Karissa.White@sonoma-county.org

**SUMMARY**

The Sonoma County Community Development Commission’s (SCCDC) Housing Authority has begun the process of transferring one of their Continuum of Care Program Grants to Social Advocates for Youth (SAY) with HUD (Rental Assistance Youth with Disabilities). As the partnership has been with SAY to provide supportive services to this project, and they provide the site-based facility, the SCCDC is requesting a letter of support from the CoC Board to approve this transfer.

Removing the Housing Authority as an in-between entity and will streamline the process for referrals going direct to the organization.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)**

1. Approve the CoC Board Chair to sign the attached Letter of Support to begin the process with HUD to transfer recipients for this grant.

**DISCUSSION**

The Sonoma County Housing Authority is respectfully requesting to transfer the CoC Program recipient organization for grant # CA0890L9T042112 Renewal Rental Assistance – Youth with Disabilities from the Sonoma County Community Development Commission to Individuals Now, Inc. DBA Social Advocates for Youth.

This change is requested as the Housing Authority has determined this project does not align with the Public Housing Authority procedures and regulations. The administration of Continuum of Care grants by the Housing Authority is not seen as the primary purpose of the Housing Authority.

It is believed this grant can be best served by our partner organization as the primary recipient. Social Advocates for Youth (SAY) is a leading community provider in homeless housing services. SAY currently delivers the existing supportive services and oversee the property management of the site-based property associated with this grant. In addition they operate multiple

Continuum of Care renal-based assistance programs putting them in a position of already having expertise and qualifications to operate this grant.

Removing the Housing Authority as an in-between entity will streamline the process for referrals going direct to the organization that offers the supportive services and property management functions including move ins/outs, initial/annual income evaluations, and unit inspections. This shift will reduce duplicative efforts of the Housing Authority and the Property such as collecting income verifications and performing unit inspections creating a streamlined, less confusing process for individuals served. (More information and background – up to 2 pages, generally. Typically, start with why this is before the CoC Board itself – i.e. “the Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board is charged by US HUD with .... “)

**ATTACHMENTS:**

A: Letter of Support

Attachment A



**Sonoma County Community Development Commission  
Sonoma County Housing Authority**

July 10, 2023

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Office of Community Planning and Development  
San Francisco Regional Office  
One Sansome Street, Suite 1200  
San Francisco, CA 94104-4430

Re: Request for Recipient Change  
Grant # CA0890L9T042112

To Whom it May Concern:

The Sonoma County Continuum of Care is in support of the proposed transfer of recipient organization from the Sonoma County Community Development Commission to Individuals Now Inc. DBA Social Advocates for Youth for grant # CA0890L9T042112 Renewal Rental Assistance – Youth with Disabilities.

It is believed this grant will be best served by Social Advocates for Youth as the grant recipient as a leading community provider in homeless youth housing services currently operating multiple Continuum of Care rental-based assistance projects in addition to Youth shelters and Youth Street Outreach teams.

Please feel free to reach out to the contacts below if any additional or clarifying information is needed.

Sincerely,

CoC Designated Rep



## Sonoma County CoC Board Executive Summary

**Item:** 7. Reports from Lead Agency Staff

CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) 2023 Update FY 2023

**Date:** July 14, 2023

**Staff Contact:** Karissa White, Continuum of Care Coordinator, [Karissa.White@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Karissa.White@sonoma-county.org)

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### Overview

On July 05, 2023, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued the [Continuum of Care \(CoC\) Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#) for the 2023 Continuum of Care Program Funds. Within the NOFO, HUD lays out specific scoring criteria in which CoC's are scored on how we score our projects, our CoC's System Performance, annual Homeless Count, and how well we do on the full CoC Application submitted by staff, as the CoC's Collaborative Applicant. Why does it matter how well we score? Scoring well on this process reduces the chances of our CoC losing existing funds (our Annual Renewal Demand- ARD) we receive annually, and it provides an opportunity for our CoC to increase our ARD through new project awards. In last year's competition, we were able to increase our ARD with a new project awarded to our community!

### CoC NOFO Next Steps

The next step in this NOFO process is to adjust the new project scoring tool from last year's competition. The [CoC Competition and Evaluation Workgroup is scheduled to meet on July 25<sup>th</sup>](#) to review and approve the new project scoring tool for the competition. After a review of the NOFO, staff determined that most of the priorities from last year's New Project Scoring tool remain the same. There are specific sections in the NOFO in which certain criteria are weighted higher than others. Thus, staff has requested that the workgroup review the sections and their point values to determine if there should be any adjustments to the numerical scoring of each measure listed within the new project scoring tool.

Given the timeline associated with the NOFO and these competitive funds, the Funding and Evaluation Committee has been invited to attend the Workgroup meeting to provide feedback on the scoring tool via public comment.

The approved new project scoring tool will be included in the required Local Request for Proposals (RFP). As with the scoring tools, the RFP is used from the previous year, and updated with any new information in the NOFO, outlining our CoC's local process with pertinent information about the competition, eligible components (project types), updating timelines, any new priorities, and amounts of funding available. Project components for this year's funding competition remain the same as last year:

1. Permanent Supportive Housing
2. Rapid Rehousing
3. Joint Transitional/ Rapid Rehousing
4. Supportive Services Only- Coordinated Entry
5. HMIS- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS Lead can only apply)

As a reminder, these funds are nationally competitive, there is never a guarantee that we will receive funding for any new project application.

CoC Staff will run a local competition for funding within the timeline required outlined in the CoC NOFO; this is likely to be released the first week of August. As with the last two competitions, HUD is offering up to 14 points for new housing projects that have commitments from healthcare providers and from housing providers that will provide the matching requirements to the new project (25% required match of the award requested). CoC Staff have attempted to solicit new projects in the last couple of years with commitments of in-kind supportive services from health care providers and in-kind commitment of a housing subsidy other than CoC/ESG funds without any success. This information will be included in the RFP and all the technical assistance sessions.

Once we have received all new project applications, those applications will then be brought forth to the workgroup to score and rank with the renewal projects. All projects, new and renewals, will be evaluated and put on a list based on their scores, also known as the "Priority Listing."

This NOFO is unique as most of the funding available is for projects that are already existing (Renewal Projects). However, the CoC can reallocate funding for underperforming projects and place a new project in their place (if a new project better meets the need of community/threshold requirements).

To provide as much time as possible for new projects to apply for this funding, and to meet the HUD required timelines, staff will invite the Funding and Evaluation Committee to provide their feedback through public comment during the Final Priority ranking workgroup meeting, which will then be brought forth to the CoC Board for final approvals.

This year, HUD has announced that up to 7% of our Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) is at risk. In terms of the CoC Program Renewal projects already scored, this means that the following projects are potentially at risk of losing their funds:

1. Community Support Network, Sanctuary Villas
2. Buckelew Programs, Samaritan FACT
3. Buckelew Programs, Sonoma SCIL (partially at risk)

Sonoma County CoC's Estimated ARD: \$4,154,689

Estimated ARD potentially at risk: \$290,828

### HUD Homeless Policy Priorities

The following are HUD Homeless Priorities outlined with the 2023 NOFO; priorities identical to the ones released in the 2022 NOFO.

1. Ending homelessness for all persons;

2. Use a Housing First Approach;
3. Reducing Unsheltered Homelessness;
4. Improving System Performance;
5. Partnering with Housing, Health, and Service Agencies;
6. Racial Equity;
7. Improving Assistance to LGBTQ+ Individuals;
8. Persons with Lived Experience; and
9. Increasing Affordable Housing Supply.

Additional information will be provided and announced widely once the Local RFP has been updated and released.

**Staff Recommendation:**

None, information item only.

**Optional Review**

The following information is being provided for transparency, and for those who wish to review the materials, it is not required that you review these documents.

CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=349091>

See the tab “Related Documents” to download the full notice of funding.

If you wish to review the scoring out of the NOFO in which HUD sets the scoring methodology for how we are scored on the CoC Application and how we are scored on our rating and ranking process, please see the following section from the CoC NOFO: [https://share.sonoma-county.org/link/g\\_UNqH33Jpw/](https://share.sonoma-county.org/link/g_UNqH33Jpw/)

2022 CoC New Project Scoring Tool and Request for Proposals

<https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/health-and-human-services/health-services/divisions/homelessness-services/continuum-of-care/continuum-of-care-competition/2022-continuum-of-care-competition>

See the section “Request for Proposals” to download last year’s RFP, which includes the 2022 scoring criteria for new projects.

**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board  
Agenda Report**

**Item No:** 10  
**Subject:** Emphasizing Decorum at Board and Committee meetings  
**Meeting Date:** July 26, 2023  
**Staff Contact:** Dave Kiff, Division Director, DHS Homelessness Services Division

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**SUMMARY**

Should the Continuum of Care Board (including its committees) make a statement about the importance of decorum at meetings? Some public entities have decorum guidance to provide for more deliberate meetings that respect all participants' roles without limiting speech rights. Few if any entities require strict adherence to decorum rules, as doing so can run afoul of free speech rights.

However, the guidance can help amplify quieter voices, improve participants' comfort with speaking, and can avoid trauma for some. Where decorum guidance policies have not been adopted, entities have either not seen problems associated with meeting conduct or have wanted to avoid any appearance of limiting speech, even offensive speech.

This item proposes decorum guidance for the Continuum of Care Board to consider adopting.

**DISCUSSION**

Per the terms of the CoC Governance Charter (Page 4, April 26, 2023, revision date), the Vision of the Continuum of Care in Sonoma County includes this statement:

*Our commitment to equity and inclusion at the Continuum of Care strives to engage all community members, regardless of background, throughout Sonoma County, especially those whose voices have been traditionally marginalized.*

Also within the Charter (page 9, April 26, 2023 revision date), the CoC Board has these roles and responsibilities:

4. *Individual Members: Individuals serving on the Board must:*
  - a. *Commit to preventing and ending homelessness*
  - b. *Attend meetings of the Board meetings (sic)*
  - c. *Participate as an active member of the Continuum of Care*

- d. Seek out input from the peers, industry, and/or population he/she represents*
- e. Bring that input to Board deliberations, while remaining attentive to un-represented views*
- f. Communicate Board work to the peers, industry, and/or population he/she represents*
- g. Adhere to all Governance Charter policies*

As shown above, there are no specific rules or policies in the Governance Charter about decorum, and nor is that required. However, in order to attempt to improve meeting flow and meeting duration, as well as to help ensure that participants who struggle with public speaking or presentations are supported, Lead Agency staff have considered how or where Decorum Guidance might help the Continuum of Care's meetings.

Some examples of decorum guidance or "tips" include:

The Institute for Local Government's (ILG) tips for promoting civility in public meetings, which include:

- *Embrace diverse points of view*
- *Everyone gets a chance to share their views*
- *Everyone follows reasonable time limitations*
- *Avoiding debates and interruptions*
- *Reducing uncertainty by explaining how and when view sharing occurs*
- *The importance of listening*
- *Compassion towards others' possible fear of public speaking*
- *Avoiding direct personal accusations or questions*

Some cities have Codes of Conduct, such as this one excerpted below (from the City of Mountain View, CA):

*Council members shall refrain from abusive conduct, personal charges, or verbal attacks upon the character or motives of other members of the City Council, Boards, commissions, committees, staff, or the public.*

*Council members shall inform themselves on public issues, listen attentively to public discussions before the body, and focus on the business at hand.*

*It is the responsibility of the Council members to publicly share substantive information that is relevant to a matter under consideration that they have received from sources outside of the public decision making process with all other Council members and the public prior to taking action on the matter.*

The Board may wish to consider whether Decorum Guidance (such as the draft attached) are worthy of consideration and adoption.



**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)**

Discuss and consider adopting (or amending and adopting) the proposed Decorum Guidance for the Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board and its Committees.

**ATTACHMENTS**

A – Institute of Local Government (ILG) [“Tips for Promoting Civility in Public Meetings”](#)

B – Proposed Draft Decorum Guidance

Sonoma County Continuum of Care  
Decorum Guidance (DRAFT – July 2023)

The Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board offers this guidance to Board members and Committee members as guidance to approach meetings and our interactions with colleagues, staff, service providers, and the public:

- We work in support of the mission of the Continuum of Care – i.e that we address the problems of housing and homelessness by having a countywide, community-informed, and person-centered CoC system that is compassionate, inclusive, financially responsible, equitable, coordinated, and outcomes based.
- We will treat everyone courteously. Continuum of Care meetings are safe spaces where people who have experienced trauma may come to share important perspectives.
- Everyone gets a chance to share their views. We will encourage and lift the voices of those who don't often speak.
- We will listen. Listening is a sign of respect for others – so is repeating back the speaker's core points.
- We will help use Board and Committee meeting time wisely. Time is a valuable resource, and CoC Board meetings run long. We will speak within reasonable time limits, to allow greater participation by all. We will work to address less consequential questions, typo corrections, and related comments by email to staff before or after the meeting.
- We separate the person from the problem. We address comments and questions to the group as a whole (or to staff as a group) and not to any other member of the public, a single staff member or to any single CoC member unless in response to a question from that member.
- We embrace diverse points of view, and embrace respectful disagreement and dissent as democratic rights that are inherent components of an inclusive public process and tools for forging sound decisions.
- We avoid debates and interruptions – everyone should be allowed to complete their thoughts.
- We are compassionate about others' possible fear of speaking.
- We are a place where individuals and Board members can come to express concerns about any aspect of the Continuum of Care. When this occurs, we will avoid generalities or opaque suppositions and instead be specific so that staff can appropriately address the stated concern.

The Continuum of Care Board Chair and Vice-Chair are leaders in applying this decorum guidance, and are encouraged to work with Board and Committee members when the Chair or Vice-Chair determine that decorum was not maintained by a fellow Board or Committee member.

This guidance is not intended to infringe upon any individual's 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment right to free speech, or even to offer speech that many believe is offensive. These Commitments shall not be used to restrain or limit most speech, including by members of the public during public comment time. However, by adopting this Guidance, the Continuum of Care Board hopes to affirm that decorum and process in meetings is valuable, and that our personal and individual commitments to decorum help bring about better outcomes for all.

**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board  
Agenda Report**

**Item No:** 11  
**Subject:** Representation on the CoC Board (Tribal Member Seat)  
**Meeting Date:** July 17, 2023  
**Staff Contact:** Karissa White, Continuum of Care Coordinator, [Karissa.White@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Karissa.White@sonoma-county.org)

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### **SUMMARY**

In January 2023, Sonoma County CoC Lead Agency Staff developed a local plan to address racial inequities within our homeless system of care in partnership with Technical Assistance provided by CA Housing and Community Development. One of these items was developing relationships, understanding access to resources and disparities, and bringing the voice of indigenous people to the CoC Board. Over the last several months, CoC staff have held four workshops for members of the Continuum of Care regarding cultural competency as it relates to indigenous peoples, each session including a tribal speaker.

During these sessions, staff received support from CoC members to include a designated tribal representative on the CoC Board. The CoC's Homeless Management Information System confirms that those who identify as American Indians, Alaska Native or Indigenous experiencing homelessness show the largest disparities when compared to the general population in Sonoma County.

As such, to ensure that our CoC Board is representative of the population served in Sonoma County, the recommendation is to redesignate an existing at-large seat to ensure Tribal Entities have representation to help reduce these disparities with their unique service needs.

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)**

1. Revise the current CoC Governance Charter to redesignate one of the three CoC Board At-large seats for Tribal Nations, Indian Tribes, and Tribally Designated Housing Entities and Tribal Organizations (Tribal Entities).
2. If approved, CoC Staff shall meet with local Tribal Entities interested in partnering with the CoC to develop a recommendation on how this seat is either elected or appointed to be provided for CoC Board approval at a future meeting.
  - a. Depending on the timing of item two above, the recommendation is either to:
    - i. Redesignate the at-large seat with the term expiring in December of 2023;
  - OR

- ii. Redesignate one of the two at-large seats with the term expiring in December of 2024.

**DISCUSSION**

Please see Attachment A, for the complete report on the recommendation from CA Housing and Community Development Technical Assistance provider, Seetha Reddy, Reddy Anthropology Consulting, Inc.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

A: Need for Designated Seat on the Sonoma County COC Board

## Need for Designated Seat on the Sonoma County COC Board

Sonoma County Continuum of Care (COC) has been keen on learning about the Indigenous Peoples of the County so that the COC can start engaging with the Tribal Nations, Tribes and Indigenous Communities within the County. The primary impetus behind this desire is to honor and embrace the spirit behind Assembly Bill 1010 (AB1010) to ensure California Tribes have access to affordable housing programs and remove barriers for participation. In addition, the COC staff want to take their ethical responsibility forward in meaningful ways to provide services to all community members, with special focus towards individuals and groups that have historically been discriminated against, stolen from, and harmed. As such, the staff are determined to actively work to address the structural racism that exists and negatively impacts Black, Brown, Indigenous, and People of Color in the County.

As part of the initiative, the COC has been receiving Technical Assistance (TA) on Tribal Engagement from CA Housing and Community Development (CA HCD). The Tribal TA has involved planning and completion of four workshop conversations on aspects of historical context and generational historic trauma, understanding California's Native culture and housing, communication, building relationships and best practices for successful engagement. Each of these workshops also brought Indigenous voices to the discussion topics. Discussions at each workshop highlighted and recognized the need for representation of Indigenous voices in decision-making contexts. For example, housing needs of Tribal Nations and Indigenous communities are similar yet also quite distinct from the Euroamerican and other ethnic communities; and to truly understand these needs, and how services can be of assistance, it is critical to have representation at the decision-making table. This is akin to the immense value of having people with lived experiences provide insights into the decision-making process centered around housing.

This document presents the reasoning and framework for why it is important that Sonoma County COC engages with Tribal Nations and Indigenous communities to form meaningful partnerships. Towards this and through this technical assistance process, it is being recommended that the COC redesignate a seat for a designated seat for representation on the COC Board for Tribal Nations, Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities and Tribal Organizations (referred to as Tribal Entities hereafter). The goal of adding a designated seat is to bring Indigenous and Tribal voices to the COC governing table so that their opinions are heard and incorporated in meaningful ways in the decision-making process regarding services to provide, funding opportunities, and other important housing related topics. The boundaries of Sonoma County are within the ancestral territory of the Coast Miwok, Patwin, Pomo/Kashaya Pomo and Wappo Peoples, and their descendants are citizens of at least 10 Tribal Nations of which six are located within Sonoma County (**see Table 1**). In addition, a Tribe without federal recognition, and two Tribal Entities are also located within the County. Note that none of the Patwin Tribal Nations are located within the current boundaries of the County. Similarly, a Tribal Entity is located outside the County, but provides services to Indigenous People who live within the County. It is important to have their representation for several reasons, and four are specifically discussed here.

1. First, Native and Indigenous People are the original stakeholders of Sonoma County. Since 1769, with the Spanish colonialism, they have been taken away from their lands, and lost the lands along with many other aspects of their lifeways and culture<sup>1</sup>. This loss has resulted in historic and generational trauma that is very real for them even today. Being unsheltered, and precariously housed, is one of the manifestations of this trauma. Understanding this trauma and how it manifests is very important for anyone working in social services, whether it is housing, health, safety, etc.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Akens and Bauer 2021; Bauer 2016; Castillo 2015; Costo and Costo 1987; Field 1993; Lindsay 2012; Madley 2016; Sepulveda 2016; Tinker 1993

<sup>2</sup> Brave Heart 2016; Brave Heart et al. 1998; Brave Heart et al. 2011; Sandoiu 2022

Table 1. Tribal Nations, Tribes and Indigenous Entities in Sonoma County

Entity	Name	Location of Headquarters
Tribal Nation (Tribes with federal recognition and have a government-to-government relationship with the Federal, State and local governments.)	Cloverdale Rancheria of Pomo Indians	Cloverdale, Sonoma County
	Dry Creek Rancheria Band Of Pomo Indians	Geyserville, Sonoma County
	Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (Coast Miwok, Southern Pomo) <sup>a</sup>	Rohnert Park, Sonoma County
	Kashia Band of Pomo Indians the Stewarts Point Rancheria	Santa Rosa, Sonoma County
	Koi Nation of the Lower Lake Rancheria (Pomo)	Santa Rosa, Sonoma County
	Lytton Rancheria of Pomo Indians	Santa Rosa, Sonoma County
	Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians	Lakeport, Lake County
	Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun Indians of the Colusa Indian Community	Colusa, Colusa County
	Kletsel Dehe Wintun Nation	Williams, Colusa County
Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation	Brooks, Yolo County	
Tribes (Tribes without federal recognition. California does not have State recognition; however, Tribes are listed on the Native American Heritage Commission ( <a href="https://nahc.ca.gov/">https://nahc.ca.gov/</a> ) are considered legitimate Tribes).	<i>Mishewal</i> Wappo Tribe of Alexander Valley	Windsor, Sonoma County
Indigenous Entity (Organizations providing services to Indigenous Peoples)	Northern Circle Indian Housing Authority <sup>b</sup>	Ukiah, Mendocino
	Sonoma County Indian Health Project <sup>c</sup>	Santa Rosa, Sonoma County
	<i>Ya-Ka-Ama</i> <sup>d</sup> (Indian Education and Development)	Forestville, Sonoma County

<sup>a</sup> Is also the Tribal Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) for Sonoma County

<sup>b</sup> Serves a consortium of Tribes in several counties

<sup>c</sup> Serves citizens of the consortium of Tribes including Cloverdale, Dry Creek, Graton Rancheria, Kashia, Lytton, and Manchester Band; and also, other Indigenous People

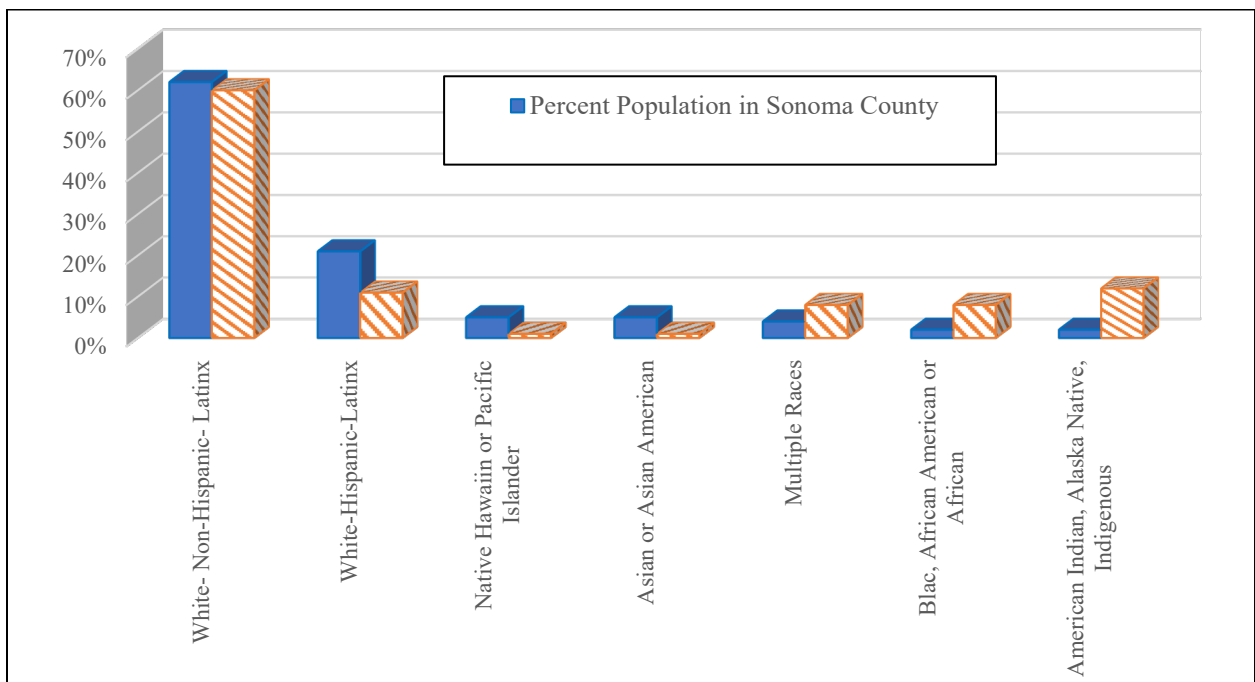
<sup>d</sup> Servicing Native Americans from the Tribal communities of Sonoma, Lake, Mendocino, Napa and Marin Counties

2. Second, it is a fact that Native Americans face daunting housing challenges rooted in historical injustices for a multitude of reasons. Indigenous Peoples are represented in higher proportions among those experiencing homelessness. For example, in Sonoma County, 2.3 percent of the County population self-identify as American Indians, Alaska Native or Indigenous, with approximately 6 percent of this population experiencing homelessness; and they represent approximately 9 percent of the homeless population (**Table 2**). Furthermore, people identifying as American Indians, Alaska Native or Indigenous account for the largest percentage of the homeless population in the County’s amongst Black Indigenous People of Color category (BIPOC) (**Figure 1**). Collaboration between the COC Board and representatives of Tribal Nations and Tribal Entities will provide insights into these staggering statistics, and also identify pathways to reduce this over-representation.

Table 2. Sonoma County Population

Category	Sonoma County (Count)	People Identifying as American Indians, Alaska Native or Indigenous (Count)
Total Population	482,650 (2022)	~11,100 (2.3 percent of the population)
Homeless	2,893 (5.9 percent of County population)	~273 (2 percent of the People Identifying as American Indians, Alaska Native or Indigenous; 9 percent of all homeless)

Source: <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/sonomacountycalifornia>; County of Sonoma



**Figure 1. Percentage of population in Sonoma County and percentage of people experiencing homelessness by race and ethnicity from 2022. Source: Sonoma County HMIS**

3. Third, the needs of Indigenous Peoples and Tribes are unique, and often case workers need expertise to provide culturally informed engagement with the unsheltered and precariously sheltered in these communities. Much of it is centered on trust and different sociocultural expectations. Having a representative or designee on the COC Board who understands these elements of housing would be extremely constructive for the COC to begin building lasting relationships with Indigenous communities, Tribes and Tribal Nations.

4. Fourth, the 1956 Indian Relocation Act (also known as the Adult Vocational Training Program) by the Federal government, another colonial injustice, displaced Indigenous Peoples from different parts of the United States<sup>3</sup>. As part of this policy, the BIA began the voluntary relocation of Native Peoples from their rural ancestral places to seven metropolitan areas, and in California this was Los Angeles, San Francisco,

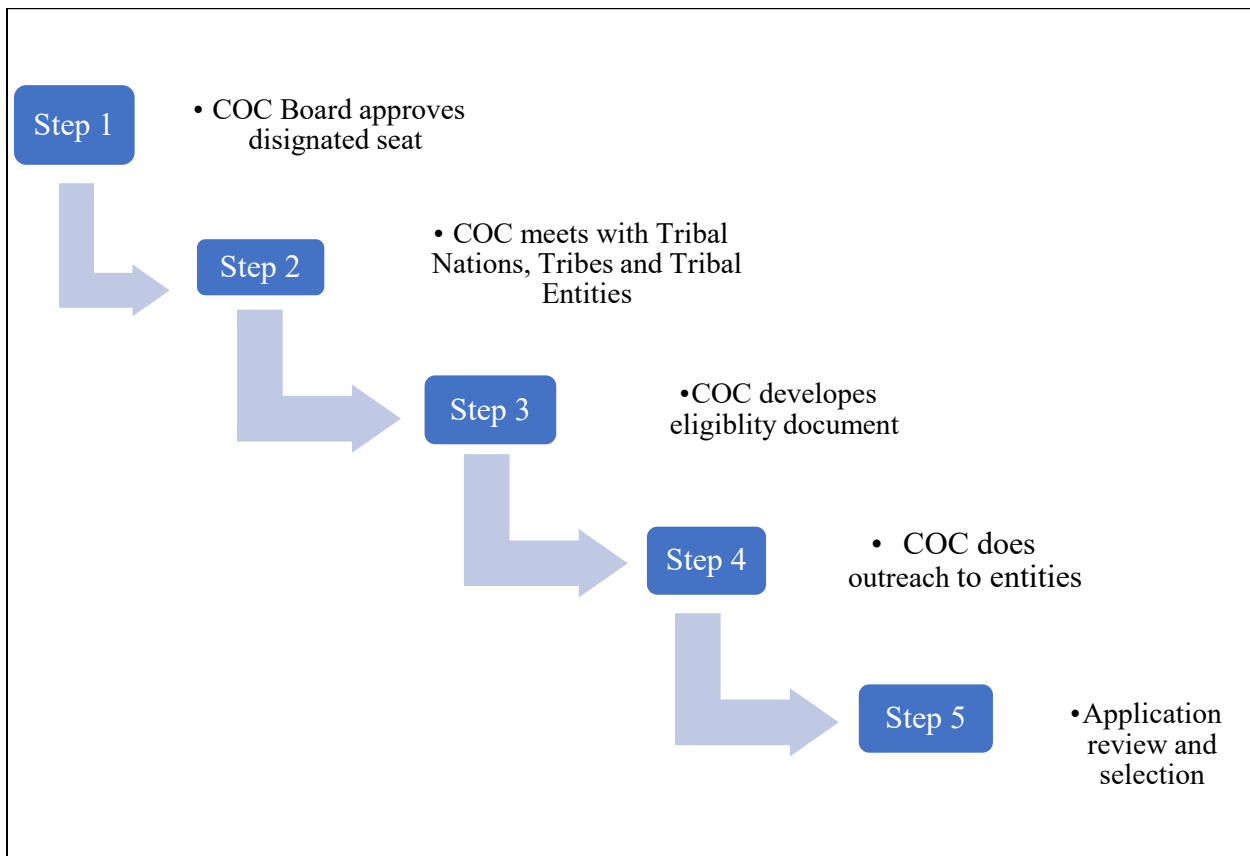
<sup>3</sup> Ablon 1964; Moore et al. 2019; Murphy 2010



San Jose, and Oakland. BIA promised housing and employment; and provided one-way transportation. Native Peoples struggled to adjust to life in a metropolis. They faced unemployment, were given low-end jobs, were discriminated against, and experienced homesickness and trauma of the loss of the traditional cultural support systems. Today, the San Francisco Bay Area and surrounding Counties has more than 140,000 Native Americans, including Native Peoples whose ancestral lands are from outside California. Many Indigenous Peoples in Sonoma County include descendants of these Native Peoples. They do not have any Tribal representation since they do not belong to the Tribal Nations of California or Tribes. Instead, they can only obtain services from Tribal organizations (Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families [TANF] and non-profits)<sup>4</sup>.

So, how to go about planning for a designated seat? A five-step process is proposed (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Proposed Process to Develop Tribal Designated Seat on the COC



**Step 1.** Once the COC Board approves the designated seat, the COC invites these entities to provide a designee or representative of their Tribal Nation and Indigenous Peoples in the County to the newly created seat that is designated for Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (Tribal Organizations) on the COC Board. As the CoC Board is a 17-member body, the recommendation is not to add another seat,

<sup>4</sup> Tribal Nation are Tribes with federal recognition and have a government-to-government relationship with the Federal, State and local governments.

Tribes do not have federal recognition. California does not have State recognition; however, Tribes are listed on the Native American Heritage Commission (<https://nahc.ca.gov/>) are legitimate Tribes).

Organizations providing services to Indigenous Peoples (for example Sonoma County Indian Health Project)

but instead, replace one of the elected At-Large seats. If the recommendation is passed, CoC staff will work with Tribal organizations to develop a recommendation on how this seat is either appointed or elected.

**Step 2.** The COC meets with the entities to discuss the resolution and invite them to participate in placing an individual in the designated seat. Part of the discussion should include soliciting their input on how they would like to see the COC develop the eligibility determination. This discussion can occur in July and August 2023 when Tribal TA will be scheduling individual meetings with the entities as part of the Tribal TA for the COC.

**Step 3.** The COC works with interested Tribal Entities to develop an eligibility document, wherein there is clear guidance on who can apply for the position, including such factors as:

- Be a member of a California Tribal Nation, Tribe, Tribal Entity (provide verification of membership in the form of an enrollment number and contact for verification)
- Resident of the county
- Previous experience in housing
- Previous experience working with Tribal Nations, Tribes, and Indigenous Peoples

**Step 4.** Once the eligibility guidance document is finalized, the COC staff who participated in Step 3 should reach out to the Tribal Nations, Tribes and Tribal Entities and share the document, along with the application form. If practical, a listening session should be held wherein the COC staff discuss the eligibility guidance document and the application, and answer questions. The application process and eligibility shall then be developed with this feedback and be provided to the CoC Board for approval.

**Step 5.** The application review and selection process are to be determined as developed with local tribal organizations.

On a final note, when the individual for the Tribal Designated Seat comes for the first meeting, the COC Board should consider enquiring if the individual would like to offer an opening statement at the start of the meeting.

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**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board  
Agenda Report**

**Item No:** 11  
**Subject:** Representation on the CoC Board  
**Meeting Date:** July 26, 2023  
**Staff Contact:** Andrew Akufo, PPEA, Andrew.Akufo@Sonoma-County.org

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**SUMMARY**

Continuum of Care (CoC) staff and board leadership is recommending a non-voting Lived Experience seat be added to the CoC Board for representation of the Sonoma County Lived Experience and Advisory Planning (LEAP) Board. The Chair of the LEAP Board would serve in an advisory role on the CoC Board as a non-voting member, able to participate and contribute during discussions.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)**

1. Approve adding (1) non-voting lived experience seat to the Continuum of Care (CoC) Board for the Chair of the Sonoma County Lived Experience and Advisory Planning (LEAP) Board. This would be a revision to the current CoC Governance Charter.

**DISCUSSION**

CoC lead staff and LEAP Board Co-Chairs met with the CoC Board Vice Chair in 2022 during a CoC Board agenda-setting meeting after the recent formation of the LEAP Board to discuss the LEAP Board's role within the CoC. CoC Board Chair, Tom Schwedhelm was unavailable to attend the meeting. However, he voiced agreement with the CoC Board Chair, lead staff and LEAP Board leadership that the Chair of the LEAP Board should maintain an advisory role during CoC Board as a non-voting member of the CoC Board.

Following the discussion, Rebekah Sammet, LEAP Board Chair maintained a role as a non-voting member of the CoC Board until recently discussed during the May 2023 CoC Board meeting by board members that the action was never officially approved by the CoC Board nor the non-voting seat included within the CoC Charter.

Although the LEAP Board remains its own entity, separate from the CoC and not subject to the Brown Act for confidentiality purposes, the CoC Board was created in February 2022 to advise Sonoma County on homeless-related programs, policies and how to allocate funding targeted

for homeless services. The LEAP advises and plans with the Continuum of Care Board and homeless service agencies how to improve homeless programs, services, shelters, and housing.

The CoC Board currently has (2) seats, reserved specifically for a lived experience member, and lived experience youth member. Although the current Lived Experience seat on the CoC Board is filled by a LEAP Board member, the seat is open to anyone within the Sonoma County community with lived experience of homelessness. There is currently no official representation of the Sonoma County LEAP Board on the CoC Board aside from providing standing committee reports and public participation.

The LEAP Board has made significant contributions to the Sonoma County CoC's efforts to end homelessness since its inception in February 2022. LEAP Board members have provided invaluable feedback and expertise, advising CoC staff on matters pertaining to the new emergency shelter site, Coordinated Entry, warming/cooling stations, peer support, case conferencing, as well as the CoC strategic plan.

The LEAP Board sent a letter to the CoC Board earlier this year, requesting the expansion of more lived experience seats on the CoC Board prior to CoC Board elections. To ensure more lived experience representation on the CoC Board as well as a consistent influx of lived experience advisory and expertise from the LEAP Board, we recommend a non-voting seat be added to the CoC Board in representation of the Chair for the LEAP Board.

**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board  
Agenda Report**

**Item No:** 13  
**Subject:** Long Term Funding Strategy – 2<sup>nd</sup> Discussion  
**Meeting Date:** July 26, 2023  
**Staff Contact:** Dave Kiff, Division Director, [Dave.Kiff@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Dave.Kiff@sonoma-county.org)

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**SUMMARY:** Andrew Hening did an extensive amount of work for the Sonoma County Continuum of Care in late 2022 to help do the following (which we refer to as the Long-Term Funding Strategy):

1. Estimate the amount of funding allocated to homelessness and the system of care in Sonoma County from various sources – State, Federal, local, and philanthropic.
2. Discuss and summarize what programs and services current funding goes towards, by category.
3. Using the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan, determine what the system’s needs might be in order to successfully reach functional zero in homelessness.
4. Provide the basics of a roadmap to start to align funding sources with programs and program needs, as well as to identify where gaps might exist, where surpluses might exist, and where the system can adjust to, over time, use existing and new funding to operate an ideal and effective homeless system of care.

At the Board’s March 22, 2023, the Board took action to adopt the Strategy. This agenda item returns Mr. Hening’s work to the Continuum of Care board asks the Board “what next?” From Lead Agency staff’s perspective, a good pathway would be to focus on incorporating subregional street outreach and benchmarked homelessness prevention as initial steps.

**BACKGROUND:**

Continuum of Care Board members and others should read Andrew’s full (and updated) presentation at the link at the end of this staff report. It is about 200 slides of material, but it is a relatively quick read, as many of the slides are brief summaries of ideas and action steps. In presenting it to the Board again, we want to focus on Andrew’s “Bring it All Together” summary slides to get additional direction on starting to incorporate the action steps in the Strategy to the action steps in the Strategic Plan (they are not inconsistent).

The issues for the Board to discuss may include, but not be limited to:

1. In Andrew’s slides 172 and 173, he shows how some funding allocations change from Year 1 (today) and Year 5 (generally 2027). These include:
  - a. The % of overall funding for Permanent Supportive Housing would go from 35.4% to 50.2%
  - b. The % of overall funding for Street Outreach would go from 9.4% to 6.7%.
  - c. The % of overall funding for Homelessness Prevention would go from 2.7% to 1.8%
  - d. The % of overall funding for Rapid Rehousing would go from 15% to 10%.

*Q: Is the system ready to move in this direction, and at what pace?*

2. Talking about just Street Outreach, the Strategy suggests moving to subregional street outreach, including the repurposing of contracts and the revision of the way that some programs like the County’s HEART and IMDT/SOUL team operate.

*Q: Is the system ready to move in this direction, and at what pace?*

3. The investment in PSH (especially the services side, but capital too) is significant. Andrew identifies the need to backfill existing PSH case management (where we identify PSH units that lack needed services), in addition to standardizing services to PSH units along these lines (Slide 133):

<b>Services for 800 PSH Units</b>					
<b>Intervention</b>	<b>Service Level</b>	<b>Unit Cost</b>	<b>% Needed*</b>	<b># Needed</b>	<b>Annual Service Cost</b>
“Standard” PSH	1:15 Case Ratio	\$6,667 per client	50%	400	\$2,668,000
ACT Teams	100 Clients / Team	\$1,700,000 per team	25%	200	\$3,400,000
24/7 On-Site	24/7 On-Site	FUTURE HOMEKEY	19%	152	Recommendation 4c
Beyond the System	E.G. Care Court	BEYOND SYSTEM	6%	48	Recommendation 4d
Landlord Recruitment*	---	\$2,000,000	---	---	\$2,000,000
<b>Services for 600 Scattered Site Units for</b>					<b>\$8,066,800</b>
<b>Potential Value of Vouchers (1 bedroom units)</b>					<b>\$13,377,600</b>
<b>“Local” to Federal Funding Leverage</b>					<b>1.6x match</b>

*\* This strategy will only work if there is a sustained and proactive landlord engagement effort to ensure vouchers are actually placed in the community.*

*Q: Is the system ready to move in this direction, and at what pace?*

4. RFP to Benchmarks. Andrew also discusses how it can be common that public agencies receive funding allocations and then issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) based on spending priorities versus benchmarked versions of required services. For example, instead of issuing an RFP for broad programs, an RFP could ask for a specific proposal(s) that can meet described and agreed-to best practices in Homelessness Prevention or PSH.



*Q: Is the system ready to move in this direction, and at what pace? Would doing this for Street Outreach make the most sense initially?*

These are just a few questions and direction(s) that the Board could give Lead Agency staff in moving forward. NOTE: We also suggest that, based on Andrew's availability, we discuss these items again with him present, or with his additional input.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Direct that the staff focus on benchmarking best practices for two key programs – Street Outreach and Homelessness Prevention – as staff prepares the 2023-2024 Local Homeless Funding NOFA. The Funding and Evaluation Committee would be tasked with doing some of this benchmarking and directing that the NOFA reflect the Board's intent to move to a model similar to the concepts in Andrew's presentation.

**ATTACHMENT.** Updated Long-Term Funding Strategy: [https://share.sonoma-county.org/link/VDYC\\_2PnT7Q/](https://share.sonoma-county.org/link/VDYC_2PnT7Q/)

**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board  
Agenda Report**

**Item No:** 15  
**Subject:** August 23, 2023 CoC Board Meeting Draft Agenda  
**Meeting Date:** August 23, 2023  
**Staff Contact:** Alea Tantarelli, Alea.Tantarelli@Sonoma-County.org

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**SUMMARY**

This staff report briefly summarizes the August 23, 2023 CoC Board Meeting proposed agenda. The draft agenda contains all proposed items that will be discussed by the Continuum of Care Board at the August 23, 2023 CoC Board Meeting. The draft agenda is attached as **Attachment A**.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)**

None – an informational item only.

**Attachment A**  
**Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC) Board**  
**Agenda for August 23, 2023**  
**1:00pm-5:00pm Pacific Time**

**Public Zoom Link:**

<https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/99261791880?pwd=djc0b1ZsU1FpOU1kbjJ0UDNOcUhfQT09>

**Phone: 1 (669) 900-9128 Webinar ID: 992 6179 1880 Passcode: 650935**

	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Packet Item</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Time</b>
	Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions		Board Chair	1:00pm
	<b><i>Note: Items 1-3 below are proposed for adoption via one motion as the Consent Calendar.</i></b>	N/A		
1.	8/23/23 Agenda (Consent Calendar)	Draft Agenda	Staff	1:05pm
2.	Minutes from 7/26/23 (Consent Calendar)	Draft Minutes	Staff	
3.	Summary of Follow-ups from the Previous Meeting(s) (Consent Calendar)	Summary of Follow-ups	Staff	
4.	Reports from Lead Agency Staff Potential ACTION ITEM	Staff Report for Reports from Lead Agency	Staff	1:25pm
5.	Service Provider Roundtable (SPR) Update (2 Provider Update) Potential ACTION ITEM		Margaret Sluyk	2:00pm
6.	Word from the Street Potential ACTION ITEM		Chessy Etheridge	2:20pm
7.	10-minute break			2:50pm
8.	Reports from Standing Committees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding &amp; Evaluation Committee</li> <li>• HMIS Committee</li> <li>• CEA Committee</li> </ul>	Staff Report Committee	Committee Representatives	3:00pm

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic Planning Committee</li> <li>• Lived Experience Advisory &amp; Planning Board (LEAP)</li> </ul> <p>Potential ACTION ITEM</p>			
9.	Review Agenda for Next CoC Board Meeting Potential ACTION ITEM	Staff Report for DRAFT Agenda for 9/27/23	Board Chair	4:30pm
10.	Board Member Questions & Comments Potential ACTION ITEM		Board Chair	4:45pm
11.	Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda		Board Chair	4:55pm

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*Public Comment may be made via email or during the live zoom meeting. To submit an emailed public comment to the Board email [Araceli.Rivera@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Araceli.Rivera@sonoma-county.org) . Please provide your name, the agenda number(s) on which you wish to speak, and your comment. These comments will be emailed to all Board members. Public comment during the meeting can be made live by joining the Zoom meeting using the above provided information. Available time for comments is determined by the Board Chair based on agenda scheduling demands and total number of speakers.*

## ACRONYMS & COMMON TERMS – Updated 11-2-2022

AAF	Annual Adjustment Factor	CTAC	Cities and Towns Advisory Committee
ACC	Annual Contributions Contract	DCSS	Department of Child Services
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act	DDA	Disposition and Development Agreement
AFFH	Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing	DHCS	Dept of Health Care Services (State dept)
AHA	Affordable Housing Agreement	DHS	Department of Health Services (County dept)
AHDA	Affordable Housing Development Assistance (Santa Rosa)	DSLCL	Disability Services and Legal Center
AHP	Affordable Housing Program (FHLB)	DST	Downtown Streets Team (Petaluma)
AMI	Area Median Income	EA	Environmental Assessment
APE	Area of Potential Effect	EIR	Environmental Impact Report (State)
ASHC	Affordable Housing and Sustainable	EIS	Environmental Impact Statement (Federal)
BHDC	Burbank Housing Development Corporation	ELI	Extremely Low Income
CalHFA	California Home Finance Agency	ENA	Exclusive Negotiating Agreement
Cal-ICH	CA Interagency Council on Homelessness	EOP	End of Participation
CAPIT	Child Abuse Prevention, Intervention and Treatment Fund	ERAP	Emergency Rental Assistance Program
CAPSC	Community Action Partnership Sonoma County	ESG	Emergency Solutions Grants (formerly Emergency Shelter Grants)
CASp	Certified Access Specialist	ESL	English as a Second Language
CBDO	Community-Based Development Organization	FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
CCC	Center for Community Change	FESG	Federal Emergency Shelter Grants Program
CCOC	Cloverdale Community Outreach Committee	FHA	Federal Housing Administration
CCofSR	Catholic Charities of Santa Rosa	FHANC	Fair Housing Advocates of Northern California
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant	FHIP	Fair Housing Initiatives Program
CDBG-CV	CDBG for Coronavirus Response	FHLB	Federal Home Loan Bank
CDBG-DR	CDBG for Disaster Recovery	FHP	Fair Housing Plan
CDC	Community Development Commission	FMR	Fair Market Rent
CE	Coordinated Entry	FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
CEF	California Equity Fund	FSS	Family Self-Sufficiency Program
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act	FY	Fiscal Year
CFH	County Fund for Housing	FYE	Fiscal Year End
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	GAO	Government Accounting Office
CHAS	Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy	GR	Gross Rent
CHD	California Human Development Corporation	GSE	Government-Sponsored Enterprises
CHDC	California Housing Development Corporation	HAC	Housing Assistance Committee
CHDO	Community Housing Development Organization	HAP	Housing Assistance Plan
CHFA	California Home Finance Agency	HAS	Homeless Action Sonoma
CHRB	Community Housing Resource Board	HCD	Housing and Community Development (State of California)
CHRP-O	California Housing Rehabilitation Program for Owner-Occupied Housing	HCDA	Housing and Community Development Act
CHSC	Community Housing Sonoma County	HCV	Housing Choice Voucher
CIF	Community Investment Funds (FHLB)	HDS	Housing Discrimination Study
CLG	Centro Laboral de Graton (Graton Labor Center)	HEART	Homeless Encampment Access and Resource Team (County)
C of O	Certificate of Occupancy	HEAP	Homeless Emergency Assistance Program
CoC	Continuum of Care	HELP	Housing Enabled by Local Partnerships (funded by CalHFA)
COOP	Continuity of Operations	HERO	Helping Enrich Resource Opportunity
COTS	was "Committee on the Shelterless"	HEROS	HUD Environmental Review Online System
CPI	Child Parent Institute	HHAP	Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention
CRI	Community Resources for Independence	HHIP	Homeless Housing Incentive Program
CRLP	Commercial Rehabilitation Loan Program	HHSC	Health and Human Services Committee
CSF	Community Services Fund	HMDA	Home Mortgage Disclosure Act
CSHHP	California Self-Help Housing Program	HMIS	Homeless Management Information System
CSN	Community Support Network	HOME	Home Investment Partnerships Program
		HOPWA	Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS
		HOST	Homeless Outreach Service Team

## ACRONYMS & COMMON TERMS – Updated 11-2-2022

HPRP	Housing Prevention Rapid Re-Housing Program	NIMBY	“Not in My Back Yard”
HQS	Housing Quality Standards	NOFA	Notice of Funding Availability
HSD	Human Services Department (County dept)	NOFO	Notice of Funding Opportunity
HUD	US Department of Housing and Urban Development	NOI-RROF	Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds
HUD/202/811	HUD New Construction for Elderly/Handicapped	NPLH	No Place Like Home
HUD/236	HUD Mortgage Insurance & Interest Reduction Payment for Multi-Family Rental Projects	NSCS	North Sonoma County Services
HUD/8	HUD Section 8 New Construction Program	NSP	Neighborhood Stabilization Program
IG	Inspector General	OMB	Office of Management and Budget
IGR	Independent Group Residence	PASS	Plan for Achieving Self-Support
IIG	Infill and Infrastructure Grant	PBV	Project-Based Voucher
IMD	Institute of Mental Disease	PCC	Program Coordination Committee
IMDT	Interdepartmental Multi-Disciplinary Team	PHA	Public Housing Authority
InRESPONSE	Mental Health Response Team (Santa Rosa)	PHADA	Public Housing Authorities Directors Association
IOLERO	Independent Office of Law Enforcement Review and Outreach (County agency)	PHC	Partnership Health Plan California
IPA	Independent Public Accountant	PHM	Public Housing Manager
JPA	Joint Powers Authority	PHRA	Public Housing Reform Act of 1998
JRT	Joe Rodota Trail	PIC	Public and Indian Housing Information Center
LASC	Legal Aid of Sonoma County	PIH	Public and Indian Housing
LHA	Local Housing Authority	PI	Public Infrastructure (County department)
LI	Low Income	PII	Personal Identifiable Information
LIA	Live-In Aide	PJ	Participating Jurisdiction
LIHF	Low Income Housing Fund (San Francisco-based Fund Source)	PLHA	Permanent Local Housing Allocation
LISC	Local Initiatives Support Corporation	PMSA	Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area Established by the US Census
LMIHAF	Low and Moderate-Income Housing Asset Fund	PPSC	Petaluma People’s Service Center
LSA	Longitudinal Systems Analysis (HMIS)	PRA	Public Records Act
MAI	Member of the Appraisal Institute	PRMD	Permit & Resource Management Department (Sonoma County)
MAR	Monthly Activities Report	PS	Payment Standard
Measure O	¼ Cent Sales tax for housing/homelessness	PSA	Purchase and Sale Agreement
MHP	Multi-Family Housing Project (HCD)	PSH	Permanent Supportive Housing
MITCS	Multi-Family Tenant Characteristics System	PSIF	Preliminary Site Information Form (Part of the RECD Process)
MRBP	Mortgage Revenue Bond Program	PUD	Planned Unit Development
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area	QC	Quality Control
MSS	Mobile Supportive Services	QFHO	Qualified Fair Housing Organization
MWBE	Minority and Women’s Business Enterprises	QHWRA	Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998
MYFS	Mendocino Youth & Family Services	R&R	Reinvestment and Revitalization Fund
NAHB	National Association of Home Builders	RCAC	Rural Communities Assistance Corporation
NAHRO	National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials	RCF	Residential Care Facility
NAMI SC	National Alliance on Mental Illness Sonoma County	RDIP	Rental Development Incentive Program
NAREB	National Association of Real Estate Brokers	REAC	Real Estate Assessment Center (HUD)
NBOP	North Bay Organizing Project	RECDS	Rural Economic Community Development Service
NBVR	North Bay Veterans Resource Center	REFB	Redwood Empire Food Bank
NCCLF	Northern California Community Loan Fund	RFH	Reach for Home
NDP	Neighborhood Development Program	RFP	Request for Proposals
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act	RFQ	Request for Qualifications
NFHA	National Fair Housing Alliance	RHCP	Rental Housing Construction Program (State of California)
		RRH	Rapid Re-Housing
		RRP	Rental Rehabilitation Program
		RTA	Request for Tenancy Approval

## ACRONYMS & COMMON TERMS – Updated 11-2-2022

SAHA	Satellite Affordable Housing Associates
SAMHSA	US Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
SAVS	Sonoma Applied Village Services
SAY	Social Advocates for Youth
SCPEO	Sonoma County People for Economic Opportunity
SCFBOP	Sonoma County Faith-Based Organizing Project
SCRIMS	Sonoma County Rental Information and Mediation Services
SEMAP	Section 8 Management Assessment Program
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
SLE	Sober Living Environment
SMI	Severe Mental Illness
SMSA	Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area
SOS	Sonoma Overnight Support
SPARC	Site Plan and Architectural Review Committee (Petaluma)
SPMs	System Performance Measurements (HMIS)
SRO	Single Room Occupancy
SSA	Social Security Administration
SSI	Supplemental Security Income
Stella M	HUD online tool to assist in homelessness response system effectiveness
Stella P	HUD program using LSAs to show system performance
SVDP	St. Vincent de Paul
TANF	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
TAT	Threat Assessment Team
TBA	Tenant-Based Assistance
TBRA	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
TCAC	Tax Credit Allocation Committee
TLC	TLC Child and Family Services
TLR	The Living Room
TOD	Transit-Oriented Development
TOT	Transit Occupancy Tax (Advertising Fund)
TR	Tenant Rent
TTP	Total Tenant Payment
UA	Utility Allowance
UDAG	Urban Development Action Grant
URP	Utility Reimbursement Payment
USDA-RD	United States Department of Agriculture – Rural Development
VAMA	Voluntary Affirmative Marketing Agreements
VASH	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (voucher)
VAWA	Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2005
VCA	Voluntary Compliance Agreement
VLI	Very Low Income
VVC	Vietnam Veterans of California
WCCS	West County Community Services
WPC	Whole Person Care
WRS	Women's Recovery Service
YIMBY	Yes in My Backyard