



SONOMA COUNTY
**HOMELESS
COALITION**

**Sonoma County Homeless Coalition Board
Agenda Report**

Item No: 1 (Consent Calendar)
Subject: October 22, 2025, Sonoma County Homeless Coalition Board Meeting Agenda
Meeting Date: October 22, 2025
Staff Contact: Araceli Rivera, Araceli.Rivera@Sonomacounty.gov

SUMMARY

This staff report presents the October 22, 2025, Sonoma County Homeless Coalition Board Meeting proposed agenda. The agenda contains all proposed items that will be discussed by the Board. The proposed agenda is attached as Attachment A.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

Approve October 22, 2025, agenda.

Attachment A



Sonoma County Homeless Coalition

Board Meeting Agenda

October 22, 2025

1:00pm-4:30pm Pacific Time

Public Zoom Link:

<https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/92759747120?pwd=Cuw1daWS0PM5s8CIAWgPrJ8wYLeBgp.1>

Phone: +16694449171 Webinar ID: 927 5974 7120 Passcode: 589476

	Agenda Item	Packet Item	Presenter	Time
	Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions		Board Chair	1:00pm
	<i>Note: Items 1-4 below are proposed for adoption via one motion as the Consent Calendar.</i>	N/A		
1.	10/22/2025 Agenda (Consent Calendar)	Draft Agenda	Staff	1:05pm
2.	Minutes from 09/24/2025 (Consent Calendar)	Draft Minutes	Staff	
3.	Summary of Follow-ups from the Previous Meeting(s) (Consent Calendar) • CoC Program YWCA Grant Transfer Update • HMIS Shelter Utilization	Summary of Follow-ups	Staff	

4.	Reports for Standing Committee Updates <i>(Consent Calendar)</i> - CEA Committee - HMIS Committee - Lived Experience Advisory & Planning Board (LEAP)	Staff Report for Standing Committees	Staff	
5.	Reports from Lead Agency Staff - Department of Health Services (DHS) Director Updates - Sonoma County Racial Equity Workgroup Update Potential ACTION ITEM	Staff Report	Staff	1:15pm
6.	Lead Agency Evaluation Update Potential ACTION ITEM	Staff Report	Board Chair and Vice Chair	1:30pm
7.	HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Updates Potential ACTION ITEM	Staff Report	Staff	1:35pm
8.	MOUs Between Homeless Coalition and Lead Agency ACTION ITEM	Staff Report	Staff	2:00pm
9.	10-minute break			2:20pm
10.	Word from the LEAP Board Potential ACTION ITEM		LEAP Board Chair	2:30pm
11.	Strategic Plan Update and Review ACTION ITEM	Staff Report	Staff	
12.	Request for Proposals (RFP) Updates - Coordinated Entry System (CES) Operator - Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Software Vendor Potential ACTION ITEM	Staff Report	Staff	2:40pm
13.	Review Agenda for December (12/17) Coalition Board Meeting Potential ACTION ITEM - Rapid Rehousing (RRH) Standards Updates - Homeless Coalition Board Elections Update 25/26 local NOFA - Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Standards	Staff Report for DRAFT Agenda	Board Chair	3:00pm

	- Point in Time (PIT) Count - Homeless Coalition Quarterly Membership Meeting QMM Agenda			
14.	Board Member Questions & Comments Potential ACTION ITEM		Board Chair	3:15pm
15.	Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda		Board Chair	3:25pm

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Public Comment may be made via email or during the live zoom meeting.

To submit an emailed public comment to the Homeless Coalition Board, submit your responses via the website at [Homeless Coalition Board Comment Form >>](#). Please label the written notice as public comment referencing the Homeless Coalition Board, provide your name, the agenda number(s) on which you wish to speak, and your comment.

Public comment during the meeting can be made live by joining the Zoom meeting using the above provided login information. Available time for comments is determined by the Board Chair based on agenda scheduling demands and total number of speakers. If you need technical assistance with submitting a public comment, please contact Jynessa Lazzaroni at jynessa.lazzaroni@sonomacounty.gov



**Sonoma County Homeless Coalition
Minutes Staff Report**

Item No: 2 (Consent Calendar)
Subject: Meeting Minutes 9/24/25

Meeting Date: 10/22/25

Staff Contact: Kim Holden, Senior Office Assistant, Kim.Holden@sonomacounty.gov

SUMMARY

This staff report briefly summarizes the September 24, 2025 Sonoma County Homelessness Coalition Meeting Minutes. The attached meeting minutes contain all items discussed by the Sonoma County Homeless Coalition Board at the September 2025 Sonoma County Homelessness Coalition Meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

Approve Sonoma County Homeless Coalition Minutes from the 9/24/2025 Sonoma County Homeless Coalition Board Meeting.



Sonoma County Homeless Coalition Board

Homeless Coalition Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 24, 2025

1:00 – 4:30 PM, Pacific Time – Meeting held via Zoom

Zoom Recording:

https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/rec/share/gH90I3QSKcuxYqk8Y0_Agx7jgeS9xLMP9aDADL1wTwYD9oF-RH8MvoNTsuucTxzz.Rd_GNOWKI64FDqnotartTime=1758743945000

Passcode: *Lv@dY%0

Welcome and Roll Call Introductions (00:01:47–00:05:08)

Chair Jennielynn Holmes called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM and explained the Zoom rules regarding public comment and the Brown Act guidelines.

Chair Holmes made several acknowledgements prior to roll call:

- Many thanks to Rebekah Sammet for her years of service to the Homelessness Coalition (HC) as she now steps down from her position on the Board.

- Congratulations to Chessy Etheridge as she moves into the role of Chair of the Lived Experience & Advisory Planning (LEAP) Board. She will also retain her role in the Adult Lived Experience Seat on the HC Board.

- Welcome to Kimberly Stevens, who was recently appointed as the LEAP Board representative to the HC Board.

Present: Jennielynn Holmes, Catholic Charities | Caroline Bañuelos, City of Santa Rosa | Kevin McDonnell, City of Petaluma | Chris Coursey, Sonoma County Board of Supervisors | Dot Norton, proxy for Martha Cheever, Community Development Commission | Stephen Zollman, City of Sebastopol | Jackie Elward, City of Rohnert Park | Dannielle Danforth, West County Community Services | Chessy Etheridge, Adult Lived Experience Seat | Chris Cabral, Committee on the Shelterless (COTS) | Kristi Lozinto, Member At-Large | Angelica Smith, Tribal Seat | Rosie Traversi, Licensed Healthcare Organization Seat | Maria Rico, BIPOC Led/Serving Organization Seat |

Absent: Margaret Sluyk, Reach for Home

A quorum was present.

1 - 4. Approval of Consent Calendar (00:05:09 – 00:06:28)

- Chair Holmes presented the following consent calendar items for approval:
 1. 9/24/25 meeting agenda
 2. 8/27/25 meeting minutes
 3. Summary of Follow-Ups from the Previous Meeting(s)
 4. Reports for Standing Committee Updates

- **Public Comment:** None.

Motion: Mayor Stephen Zollman moves to approve the Consent Calendar.

Second: Ron Wellander seconds the motion.

Abstentions or Objections: None.

Motion passes. The consent calendar is approved.

5. Reports from Lead Agency Staff (00:06:29 – 00:29:54)

- **Department of Health Services (DHS) Director Updates:**

-DHS Director Nolan Sullivan reported that interviews were conducted last week to fill the position of Interim Homelessness Services (HS) Division Director. A selection was made, pending formalizing of the offer process. The interim candidate will oversee the HS division for a period of six (6) to eight (8) months, during which time a class specification and recruitment will be constructed for a new (permanent) position of Deputy Division Director.

-Additionally, the current Homelessness Services Division will be integrated into the Behavioral Health Division as a section, led by the envisioned new Deputy Division Director. The target date for the merge is January 1, 2026

-A consultant firm, MRG, has been involved in assessing and creating work plans for the various DHS divisions over the last several months, including Homelessness Services. MRG will be analyzing the county's support to the Continuum of Care (CoC) as the lead agency and assessing how the county is doing with regard to homeless services.

-Thai Hilton is working with Susan Price, a consultant with MRG, to collect data and host a series of work groups to solicit feedback. HC Board members, service providers, and individuals with lived experience, along with DHS staff, may be contacted to provide input.

--Planning is being initiated to reimagine and reinvigorate Eliza's Village as a therapeutic and harmonious campus environment conducive to effecting enhanced life-altering

changes for residents. Investments in additional resources, services, and perhaps additional dormitories, are being considered.

- The Measure O Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) closed last week, with fifty-two (52) applications being submitted for the ten million (\$10,000,000) dollars of available funds.

Informational item only; no action taken.

- **Board Meeting Holiday Schedule Adjustments**

Due to upcoming conflicting holidays, Andrew Akufo recommended that the HC Board meeting scheduled for November 26, 2025, be cancelled and the December 24th, 2025 (Christmas Eve) meeting be rescheduled to December 17th, 2025.

Additional information is included within the packet of meeting materials, Item #5, pgs. 15-16.

- **Homeless Coalition Board Election Timeline**

Jynessa Lazzaroni explained that a timeline has been developed for nominations and voting for the 2026 HC Board elections, which are upcoming in December 2025. Five seats will be open for election, to be announced at the January 28, 2026 meeting.

The timeline and additional information are included within the packet of meeting materials, Item #5, pg. 16.

Informational item only; no action taken.

- **Emergency Shelter Utilization Report**

Daniel Overbury-Howland presented slides depicting shelter utilization trends and averages for 2025. Edits had been made, as directed by the HC Board at a previous meeting presentation.

The average of shelter utilization for the period from March - September 19th, 2025 was about seventy-two (72%) percent. Capacity was nine-hundred thirty-nine (939) beds, with six-hundred eighty-five filled.

Additional information and a link to the shelter utilization report is included within the packet of meeting materials, Item #5, pgs. 16-17.

Informational item only; no action taken.

Public Comment: None

- **Motion:** Mayor McDonnell moves to approve the recommendation for holiday schedule adjustments as outlined in the staff report:
 - Cancel the November 2025 HC Board meeting.
 - Reschedule the December 24, 2025, HC Board meeting to Wednesday, December 17, 2025, 1-5 PM

Second: Mayor Zollman seconds the motion.

Abstentions or Objections: None

Motion passes.

6. Lead Agency Evaluation Update (00:29:56 – 00:31:56)

- Jennielynn Holmes reports that the Lead Agency Evaluation Ad Hoc Committee is developing a survey to elicit public and stakeholder feedback for evaluation of the performance of the lead agency. The ad hoc plans to finalize the survey questions at their next meeting.

Additional information describing the lead agency evaluation process is included within the packet of meeting materials, Item #6, pg. 18.

Public Comment: None.

Informational item only; no action taken.

7. Coordinated Entry Annual Performance Report (00:31:58 – 01:11:24)

- Thai Hilton presented the annual performance report for Coordinated Entry, as required by the HC Board charter. This assessment consists of three parts: regulatory compliance, presented by Thai Hilton; accomplishments, presented by Hunter Scott, Vice-President of HomeFirst Sonoma County; and data review, presented by Caitlin Johnson- Carney, HomeFirst Coordinated Entry Director.

Additional information and a link to the complete self-assessment are included within the packet of meeting materials, Item 7, pg. 19.

Public Comment: None. **Informational item only; no action taken.**

8. Service Provider Roundtable (SPR) Update (01:11:15 – 01:11:42)

- This item was omitted, as no representatives for the Service Provider Roundtable were in attendance to provide an update.

9. Committee Membership and Quorum Issues (01:11:45 – 01:23:31)

- Thai Hilton described quorum issues currently being experienced by the Coordinated Entry Advisory (CEA) Committee, as well as the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Data Committee.

The CEA Committee allows as many as thirteen (13) to fifteen (15) participants. Difficulties arise when attendance at any given meeting is insufficient to maintain a quorum, resulting in cancelled meetings. No particular skill set is necessary to participate on this committee.

The HMIS Data Committee is comprised of thirteen (13) seats, but currently only has ten (10) members. Recruitment efforts haven't proven fruitful in establishing a full roster. This committee explores issues of a more technical nature, so it's desirable that participants have some specialized skillsets, such as analytical, data, and systems thinking.

The staff recommendation presents two options to amend the Governance Charter to address these issues:

Option A: Adjust committee quorum requirements to improve functionality of large Committees,

Option B: Reduce the required number of members for certain committees to better align with available capacity and skillsets.

Additional information describing the membership committees' membership and quorum issue is included within the packet of meeting materials, Item #9, pg. 20 -21.

Public Comment: Sasha Brown

Motion: Mayor McDonnell moves to update the Governance Charter to reflect Option A: Adjust committee quorum requirements to improve functionality of large committees.

Second: Councilmember Jackie Elward seconds the motion.

Abstentions or Objections: None

Motion passes.

10. 10-Minute Break: 2:22 – 2:35 PM (01:23:34 – 01:36:40)

11. Point in Time (PIT) Count Full Report (01:36:41 – 02:30:33)

- Michael Gause presented an overview of the full 2025 PIT Count Report. This count of the unsheltered population in Sonoma County occurred on January 31, 2025, and revealed a decrease of 23% in the unsheltered population in Sonoma County; a total of 1,952 individuals were observed, as compared to a count of 2,522 individuals in 2024.

Of particular note, however, were an increase of 37% in unsheltered families, and an increase of 20% in the chronically homeless population.

Staff analysis of the PIT Count Report and a link to access the full report are included within the packet of meeting materials, Item #11, pgs. 22 -24.

The 2026 PIT Count will occur on Friday, January 30, 2026.

In consideration of the current climate of impending funding cuts, the HC Board entertained an in-depth discussion of the findings of the PIT Count report with respect to prioritizing funding and developing collaborative efforts to consolidate resources to best support the future needs of various demographics within the unsheltered community.

One suggestion is to utilize the 2025 PIT Count data in reviewing the Strategic Plan to identify the strategies that are most relevant in this moment, and to re-prioritize those that would most effectively produce optimal outcomes, although the Strategic Plan as a whole would not be rewritten. To that end, the Board desires to continue the discussion via a future agenda item.

Public Comment: None.

Informational item only; no action taken

12. Word from the LEAP Board (02:30:37 – 02:34:00)

- Chessy Etheredge reported that the LEAP Board has completed their survey of shelter residents and staff. Fifty-five (55) responses were received from residents and twenty-two (22) from shelter staff. The LEAP Board will now embark upon analysis of the results in an effort to acknowledge practices that are working efficiently, and to identify areas of needed improvement. Once further research is completed and solutions are developed, the LEAP Board will bring a new set of advisory recommendations to the HC Board.

Public Comment: None.

Informational item only; no action taken.

13. Coordinated Entry Redesign Implementation (02:34:01 – 02:54:17)

- In late 2023, a workgroup within the Homeless Coalition began a complex process to redesign the assessment and prioritization elements of Coordinated Entry (CE). Thai Hilton explained that the HC Board subsequently approved a proposal to redesign the CE assessment tool and prioritization process in May 2025. An abbreviated and more trauma informed assessment tool was developed to replace the VI-SPDAT, in collaboration with innumerable agencies, providers, and community groups.

The lead agency has been working in conjunction with HomeFirst to implement the new assessment tool and prioritization process. Updated prioritizations were developed for all populations and a new population for seniors was added. Assessments for all populations were updated, as well, with one combined assessment to be utilized for all.

Kaitlin Carney of HomeFirst presented an in-depth analysis of the updates and policy changes needed to put the new assessment tool and prioritization process into practice. Included are the replacement of the VI-SPDAT assessment tool with the “CES Combined Primary Assessment,” and the renaming of the By Names List to the “Dynamic Housing Roster.”

The following changes to CE policies and procedures were unanimously approved at the September Coordinated Entry Advisory (CEA) Committee meeting

- Edited Assessment and Prioritization sections to align with new CES model
 - Prioritization changes: pgs. 28-41
 - Assessment changes: pgs. 18-27
 - Enhanced Assessment, Prioritization, and Progressive Engagement Transfers: pgs. 28-34
- Changed all mentions of VI-SPDAT to CES Combined Primary Assessment, By Names List/BNL to Dynamic Housing Roster: Throughout
- Added Seniors population: Throughout
- Added Additional Appendix- CES Combined Primary Assessment: pgs. 87-89
- Added new Forms to Appendixes, pgs. 92-97:
 - Permanent Supportive Housing Enhanced Assessment Form,
 - Enhanced Assessment – Mitigation Form,
 - Progressive Engagement Form
- Updated CES Performance Evaluation measurement criteria: pgs. 73-78
- Updated MOU requirements for Cooperating Agencies: pgs. 79-85
- Removed “Information Sharing Partner” Cooperating Agency designation. Pg. 80
- Updated CES eligibility definition to align with the CoC/ESG rules rather than the HEARTH Act: pg. 3
- Clarified that a simple majority is needed for all CES Case Conference votes EXCEPT the initial referral decision, which requires a unanimous vote. pg. 43

The staff recommendation is to approve the updates to the CE policies and procedures.

Additional information, along with a link to the full text of the CE Policies and Procedures document, are included within the packet of meeting materials, Item #13, pgs. 25-26.

Public Comment: None.

Motion: Chessy Etheredge moves to approve the updates to CE policies and procedures.

Second: Maria Rico seconds the motion.

Abstentions or Objections: None.

Motion passes.

14. October Quarterly Membership Meeting Agenda (02:54:19 – 02:57:18)

- Jynessa Lazzaroni presented the agenda for the October 16th Quarterly Membership Meeting, which includes presentations from Sonoma Works and the Family Justice Center. Thai Hilton will also present the annual Emergency Transfer Plan (ETP) training. The draft agenda is included in the meeting packet of materials, Item #14, pgs. 27-28.

Motion: Maria Rico moves to approve the Quarterly Membership Meeting agenda.

Second: Chris Cabral seconds the motion.

Abstentions or Objections: None.

Motion passes.

15. Review Agenda for October Coalition Board Meeting (02:54:19 – 02:59:14)

- Michael Gause reviewed the draft agenda for the October 22, 2025, HC Board meeting, which is included with in the packet of meeting materials, Item #15, pgs. 29 -31.

Mayor Zollman requests the following additions to the October 2025 meeting agenda:

- A continued discussion of utilizing the PIT Count data in consideration of adjustments to Strategic Plan priorities,
- A discussion to brainstorm ways to incentivize Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) developers to incorporate Coordinated Entry and PIT Count data into their project planning process.
- **Public Comment:** None.

Chair Holmes notes that the additional requests will be taken into consideration for future agenda items, if not possible for the October 2025 agenda

16. Board Member Questions and Comments (02:59:17 – 02:59:41)

- None.
- **Public Comment:** None.

17. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda (02:59:44– 03:00:00)

- None.

Adjournment: 4:02 PM (03:00:04 – 03:00:26))

DRAFT

Sonoma County Homeless Coalition Follow-ups Staff Report

Item No: 3 (Consent Calendar)
Subject: Summary of Follow-ups from the Previous Meeting(s)
Meeting Date: October 22, 2025
Staff Contact: Michael Gause, Michael.Gause@sonomacounty.gov

Summary

At the previous meeting, Coalition Board members and others asked for the Lead Agency staff to follow up on specific items. Staff summarized responses to present at the June Sonoma County Homeless Coalition Board meeting.

Recommended Action(s)

Receive and file.

Discussion

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

1. **CoC Program YWCA RRH Grant Transfer Update-** On Monday, October 6th, Catholic Charities staff submitted an executed grant agreement for the expiring CoC Program YWCA RRH Grant to serve individuals experiencing domestic violence. They will have less than a year to operate the project. Staff have set a meeting with Catholic Charities and Coordinated Entry staff to develop and expedited referral process for when the project opens. As noted in HUD response emails, there will likely be delays for the provider to receive a final executed agreement from HUD and/or access these funds due to the government shutdown.
2. **HMIS Shelter Utilization-** This HMIS shelter utilization report is being provided by request of the Homeless Coalition Board. During the September 2025 meeting, it was requested to further break out the subpopulations within the report. The report now includes information if the project is specific to serving individuals, Veterans, families and youth (ages 18-24).

Updated HMIS Shelter Utilization Report: <https://share.sonoma-county.org/link/-nmXimoCMtk/>

Sonoma County Homeless Coalition Board
Committees Staff Report

Item No: 4 (Consent Calendar)

Subject: Reports from the Coalition's Standing Committees and the LEAP Board

Meeting Date: October 22, 2025

Staff Contact: Michael Gause, Michael.Gause@sonomacounty.gov

Summary

This agenda item contains summaries of Standing Committees' work in the recent month, as well as information from the Lived Experience Advisory Planning Board (LEAP). Committee Chairs were asked to prepare brief summaries for their respective Committee.

- 1. Coordinated Entry Advisory (CEA) Committee:** CEA did not meet in October. There were no updates to bring to the committee. The Coordinated Entry operator is implementing the new prioritization system and will have updates on progress soon. Below is a table referral information for the month of September.

Accepted Coordinated Entry Permanent Housing Referrals During September 2025		
Agency	Program	# of Accepted Housing Referrals
COTS	SAM PSH	6
COTS	Petaluma River Place	1
CSN	Integrated Recovery TAY Housing	4
HomeFirst	Sonoma Valley RRH	1
COTS	ERF Housing Problem Solving Fund	3
PEP Housing	River City PSH	1
Sonoma County Housing Authority	S+C SPC1A (FTF)	1
PEP Housing	Linda Tunis PSH	3
Catholic Charities	PALMS PSH	1
Reach for Home	PHC Permanent Supportive Housing	1
COTS	COTS Family RRH	3
Total Accepted Housing Referrals in September 2025		25

2. **Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Committee:** The Committee met on October 13, 2025. The Committee were provided with a Staff Report on the September HMIS Office Hours, and a presentation of Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA) report data in Stella Performance Module (Stella P) visualization tool. Committee members were emailed links to published reports with requests to review and come up with ideas for future analysis of LSA data using the Stella P visualization. The Committee also discussed a possible HMIS software feature enhancement implementation option for including an Electronic Signature option for the HMIS/CE Release of Information (ROI) form. The November meeting of HMIS Committee is canceled due to staffing constraints.

3. **Lived Experience Advisory & Planning (LEAP) Board:**

- Approved and sent a letter of support on behalf of the DHS Behavioral Health division's application for Bond Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (Bond BHCIP) Round 2: Unmet Needs funding
- Hosted a discussion with DHS and MRG staff to provide lived experience feedback about the current system of homeless services in Sonoma County
- Hosted a presentation by DHS and MRG staff about the DHS Homeless Services division transition to Behavioral Health
- Working with Sonoma County Department of Health Services (DHS) Director, Nolan Sullivan to provide lived experience input on various DHS homeless-related initiatives
- Revisited and updated board priorities and goals
- Reviewed data and started proposing solutions to help improve shelter standards for guests in Sonoma County. Currently reviewing standards for homeless shelter staff
- Participated and hosted a table at a local county job fair
- Applications for LEAP Board membership are ongoing. Visit the following link to apply online: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8SMWDY2>
- Public email: sonomacountyleap@gmail.com



**Sonoma County Homeless Coalition Board
Report From Lead Agency Staff**

Item No: 5
Subject: Reports from the Lead Agency Staff
Meeting Date: October 22, 2025
Staff Contacts: Michael Gause, Michael.Gause@sonomacounty.gov

1. Department of Health Services (DHS) Director Update:

This item was established as a standing agenda item at the request of the Board. The Director of the Department of Health Services (DHS) will provide a verbal update on several critical initiatives. These updates are intended to keep the Homeless Coalition Board informed of key activities and emerging issues.

2. Sonoma County Racial Equity Workgroup Update

Earlier this year, the Racial Equity Workgroup (REW) began reviewing the Racial Equity Survey and Assessment completed in 2023 by the REW with the assistance of a professional consultant. The REW completed review and made minor changes to the survey last month and decided to redistribute the newly revised survey in an effort to collect current data to compare to the results of the assessment and redefine the groups priorities. The survey was developed in both English and Spanish and will remain open to the public for a minimum of two weeks or until 300 survey responses are collected. Once the survey closes, the REW will convene to assess and compare the results and determine their next initiative as well as set future priorities.

We encourage you to share the survey with your staff, colleagues, and broader network. To participate in the survey, please use the survey fliers linked below:

<https://share.sonoma-county.org/link/k8WNhVEQQjU/>



SONOMA COUNTY
HOMELESS
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Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board
Staff Report

Item No: 6

Subject: Lead Agency Evaluation Update

Meeting Date: October 22, 2025

Staff Contact: Michael Gause, Michael.Gause@sonomacounty.gov

SUMMARY:

Informational Update: Lead Agency Evaluation Ad Hoc Committee

As recommended by the Governance Charter Ad Hoc Committee, the Homeless Coalition Board approved an evaluation tool in April 2025 to assess the performance of the Lead Agency/Collaborative Applicant for the Continuum of Care. Although the tool was adopted, no start date was initially set.

In December 2024, the Board tasked the Governance Charter Ad Hoc Committee with creating an evaluation plan. The process includes:

- Tool: A checklist based on a previously available HUD resource.
- Frequency: Every two years.
- Process: Led by a Board-appointed ad hoc committee.
- Accountability: Committee may develop an action plan if needed.
- Authority: Final decisions rest with the HC Board.

On June 25, 2025, the Board approved forming a new ad hoc committee (up to 7 members) to carry out the evaluation over a six-month period. The committee will report monthly to the Board and hold two public meetings.

This item includes a verbal update from the Homeless Coalition Board Chair and Vice Chair on the formation and progress of the ad hoc committee.

Informational only.

Sonoma County Homeless Coalition Board

Agenda Item

Item No: 7

Subject: HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Updates

Meeting Date: October 22, 2025

Staff Contact: Karissa White, Karissa.White@sonomacounty.gov

Summary

The Sonoma County Homeless Coalition receives approximately \$4.2 million annually from HUD to fund critical permanent supportive housing projects as well as Coordinated Entry and HMIS. This funding is dedicated to serving the most vulnerable in our community as all individuals served in permanent supportive housing projects are chronically homeless with disabilities.

Staff have yet to hear anything from HUD regarding the release date of the possible 2025 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). However, there have been several concerning messages from national homeless advocates regarding information related to changes in the possible NOFO. If true, these changes would have significant impact on our permanent supportive housing projects funded through this program. Staff are presenting this information to the Homeless Coalition Board to begin discussions about what these reported changes would mean for our community.

According to a report from the National Alliance to End Homelessness and report provided by POLOTICO, these are some of the possible 2025 NOFO changes:

1. **Permanent Housing Cap:** HUD intends to cap the total amount of funding that each CoC can use for permanent housing to only 30 percent of CoC funds. Currently, 87 percent of all CoC-funded projects are for permanent housing (Permanent Supportive Housing and Rapid Re-Housing). This change alone would result in the loss of permanent housing assistance for more than 170,000 people nationwide, including older adults, people with disabilities, veterans and families with children. Nearly every CoC in the country will be negatively impacted by this change.
2. **Potential Funding Cuts:** Over half of HUD's 2026 homelessness funding for permanent housing projects would be redirected to transitional housing with work or service requirements, according to HUD insiders. Permanent housing funding, currently \$3.3 billion, would drop to about \$1.1 billion under the proposed policy. President Trump's fiscal 2026 budget also calls for cutting funding to the entire Continuum of Care (CoC) program.
3. **Anti-DEI Criteria:** Organizations that previously used any type of racial preferences or recognized gender non-conforming or transgender people will have points deducted.

4. Sonoma County Homeless Coalition CoC Program Projects

Sonoma County currently has 11 competitive CoC funded projects, 9 supporting local permanent supportive housing (PSH) projects and two for system supports (Coordinated Entry and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)). The 9 PSH projects funded through this program have a total of \$3,327,627 for 2025-2026, providing funds for 209 PSH units.

The following is a list of these projects, number of units, and budgets.

Applicant Name	Project Name	Leasing	Rental Assistance	Supportive Services	Operating Costs	Admin	Total Units	Total
Bucklew Programs	Sonoma SCIL	\$193,856	\$0	\$51,745	\$35,634	\$11,162	9	\$292,397
Sonoma County Community Development Commission	Rental Assistance - Persons with HIV/AIDS	\$0	\$672,048	\$0	\$0	\$49,870	38	\$721,918
Community Support Network	Stony Point Commons	\$0	\$0	\$18,434	\$43,716	\$2,722	16	\$64,872
Committee on the Shelterless	Community Based Permanent Supportive Housing	\$265,604	\$0	\$30,996	\$14,239	\$11,764	18	\$322,603
West County Community Services	Mill Street Supportive Services	\$0	\$0	\$13,460	\$89,826	\$4,339	8	\$107,625
Catholic Charities	Permanent Supportive Housing Santa Rosa 2	\$135,365	\$0	\$610,409	\$57,223	\$43,103	45	\$846,100
Community Support Network	CSN Sponsor-Based Rental Assistance	\$0	\$221,376	\$101,897	\$0	\$12,338	16	\$335,611
Society of St. Vincent de Paul Sonoma County	St. Vincent de Paul Commons PSH	\$0	\$0	\$255,837	\$71,329	\$0	30	\$327,166

West County Community Services	Elderberry Commons	\$0	\$0	\$282,896	\$0	\$26,439	29	\$309,335
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Local Impact on Proposed Policy Shifts

If HUD caps permanent housing funding at 30%, our CoC's current \$3,327,627 allocation for PSH would drop to about \$998,000—a loss of more than \$2.3 million. This would significantly reduce resources for PSH, could force programs to scale back or possibly close. If this policy shift comes about, the remaining funds would shift toward short-term or transitional housing, likely increasing housing instability and slowing progress toward reducing homelessness locally. These figures are provided only as examples to illustrate the potential impact of the proposed HUD CoC Program policy changes. They do not include the potential \$2.2 billion in nationwide funding reductions, which would further compound the impact on our local projects.

Article from National Alliance to End Homelessness: <https://endhomelessness.org/blog/ceo-corner-week-of-september-29/>

Article from POLITICO: <https://www.politico.com/news/2025/09/29/trump-admin-looks-at-deep-cuts-to-homeless-housing-program-00585770?ceid=1531088&emci=f3a5168e-dca2-f011-8e61-6045bded8ba4&emdi=57cf7768-efa2-f011-8e61-6045bded8ba4>

Recommended Action Item

None, informational only for discussion.



SONOMA COUNTY
HOMELESS
COALITION

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board
Staff Report

Item No: 8

Subject: MOUs Between Homeless Coalition and Lead Agency

Meeting Date: October 22, 2025

Staff Contact: Michael Gause, Michael.Gause@sonomacounty.gov

SUMMARY:

In this item, staff provide an update on the MOUs Between the Homeless Coalition and Lead Agency/Collaborative Applicant that were previously approved by the Coalition Board. County Counsel had additional minor edits for review.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Approve the MOUs between the Homeless Coalition and Lead Agency/Collaborative Applicant for final adoption.

DISCUSSION:

The Sonoma County Homeless Coalition and Department of Health Services, serving as the Collaborative Applicant and Lead Agency for the Coalition, began work on two MOUs in 2022 to establish roles and responsibilities at each entity. The Coalition has approved the MOUs; however, County Counsel for the Lead Agency identified several minor edits needed in both MOUs.

Edits to both documents are the same and in redline. Edits include:

- Revising the term through January 2028 unless either party gives notification prior to that.
- Both parties having the option to exercise two one-year contract term extensions thereafter.
- Adding language that both parties will adhere to all applicable state, federal and local laws, rules and regulations that HUD or other governing bodies dictate.
- Adding language that the writing is intended as the final expression of the agreement(ss) and acknowledgment of such
- Revising the termination clause to six months rather than one year.

After Coalition Board review and approval, the MOUs will be routed to both parties for a final signature.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**THE SONOMA COUNTY HOMELESS COALITION ACTING AS THE SONOMA COUNTY
CONTINUUM OF CARE (CA-504)**

AND

THE COUNTY OF SONOMA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Sonoma County Homeless Coalition acting as the local Sonoma County Continuum of Care (hereinafter, "CoC") shall serve the geographic area of the SONOMA COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE (CA-504), which encompasses all of Sonoma County, to:

- Create a unified, coordinated, equitable, and integrated system with a clear vision across the community to reduce homelessness;
- Develop a system of care that ensures that all persons experiencing homelessness have a safe, supportive and permanent place to call home;
- Build a future in which there are sufficient resources, political leadership, and community involvement to end homelessness as a permanent fixture in our social landscape;
- Ensure quick access to permanent housing, stable and increased income for participants, strength-based consumer relationships (those relationships which focus on an individuals' strengths and not deficits), effective and financially responsible services and programing, coordination and collaboration with community partners, policy and resource advocacy, and comprehensive community education;
- Collaborate with the Lead Agency and other local partners and agencies in order to ensure there are sufficient programming and services in all regions of Sonoma County;
- Support policies that address disparities in Sonoma County which may be contributing factors to homelessness;
- Commit to principles of equity and inclusion and strive to engage all community members, regardless of background, throughout Sonoma County, especially those whose voices have been traditionally marginalized;
- Pursue upstream investments before problems occur, to reduce overall societal costs, including: diverting those at imminent risk of homelessness, engaging and empowering people who are experiencing homelessness to regain housing stability and their own financial independence, avoiding high criminal justice and hospital costs and negative health outcomes with appropriate housing, income, and access to health services, and aligning public and private efforts to address the problems we share; and

WHEREAS, the CoC adopted a governance charter on December 29, 2021, which included policies and procedures conforming to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requirements detailed in 24 CFR part 578 to designate an eligible organization to serve as the Lead Agency to provide services outlined in this Memorandum of Understanding; and

WHEREAS, the CoC is represented by its governing body, the Homeless Coalition Board ("The Board"), and the Board is authorized to sign and execute this MOU on its behalf; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that the County of Sonoma's Department of Health Services ("County") has extensive experience and is capable of serving as the "Lead Agency" to execute the roles and provide the services set forth herein;

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree to the following:

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES, IN ITS ROLE AS THE LEAD AGENCY:

1. To the best of its ability the Lead Agency will provide staffing support for CoC mandated activities as long as such staff are available and funded, and that there are no conflicts with Lead Agency internal policies, practices or processes including but not limited to:
 - a. Membership meetings - scheduling, noticing, logistics, agendas, minutes
 - b. CoC Board meetings - scheduling, noticing, logistics, agendas, minutes
 - c. Committee meetings - scheduling, noticing, logistics, agendas, minutes
2. Provides Board and member support, as long as such staff are available and funded, with a particular focus on upholding the CoC's equity goals and strategies, including:
 - a. Maintaining membership lists
 - b. Engaging and inviting potential new members
 - c. Facilitating and supporting Board election processes
 - d. Providing Board and member development and onboarding
3. Maintains all CoC-related documents and recordkeeping functions
4. Engages within and to the community regarding CoC activities
5. Reviews and supports the alignment of local public and private funds, state funds, and federal funds to prevent and end homelessness
6. Ensures that all local public and private funds, state funds, and federal funds align with applicable state and federal procurement rules and requirements and follow proper procurement guidelines.
7. Partners with the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Lead to establish appropriate performance targets by population and program in consultation with the CoC and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program Grantee and sub-recipients
8. Updates and maintains any CoC-related social media (Facebook, etc.)
9. Updates and maintains the CoC website
10. Completes and submits State of California mandated reporting in alignment with standard Lead Agency practices
11. Collect and submit the annual HUD CoC Registration
12. Supports CoC planning efforts, including the development and implementation of a strategic plan
13. Supports the CoC in establishing a vision and pursuing strategic goals for how to carry out the coordination of homeless services across the CoC's geographic area
14. Supports the CoC in setting priorities, allocating resources, and aligning short-term operations and program management with long-term goals and objectives
15. Coordinates and facilitates collaboration among agencies to ensure successful planning and partnership within the CoC geographic area
16. Researches and produces planning materials, including analysis of best practices
17. Provides and/or arranges for training and technical assistance on topics of relevance to the CoC and for agencies not meeting HUD-mandated CoC performance standards
18. Coordinate with the CoC to produce a Point-in-Time Count Census at least once every two years, as well as a Housing Inventory Count

19. Upholds and implements the CoC's equity goals and strategies while maintaining compliance with County policies, practices, and procedures, and all other applicable state, federal and local laws, rules, and regulations, within the activities outlined above
20. In the event there are conflicts or performance issues between the Lead Agency and the CoC, the following steps will be taken:
 - a. Every effort should be expended by both parties, in good faith, to resolve conflicts and performance issues at the start; else those issues should be escalated to the next level:
 - b. Either party should communicate such elevated conflicts or performance issues on either side to both the Director of the Department of Health Services and the Chair of the Homeless Coalition for resolution.
 - c. At the request of a majority of the CoC Board, the County (including the County Executive and Department of Health Services Director) will meet with the CoC Board or its designated representatives to discuss and seek resolution of performance issues related to this MOU, which could include specific issues with staff.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CONTINUUM OF CARE WITH REGARD TO THE LEAD AGENCY:

1. Approve policies and procedures for performance monitoring, evaluation, corrective plans and reporting for all CoC Program and ESG Program recipients and sub-recipients, in compliance with the Lead Agency policies, practices and procedures
2. Ensure that any potential or perceived conflicts of interest are addressed in an effective, open, and timely manner and that those conflicts are communicated and resolved in collaboration with the Director of the Lead Agency or designee(s).
3. Works collaboratively with the Department of Health Services to secure, align, and leverage CoC-dedicated public and private funds, CoC-dedicated state funds, and CoC-dedicated federal funds to prevent and end homelessness.
4. Review annual funding to support Lead Agency staff in their support work of the CoC and provide feedback on resource gaps..
5. Review and approve project applications for state and federal funding, in alignment with the Lead Agency policies, practices and procedures
6. Approve CoC performance targets appropriate for each population and program type.
7. Conduct an annual performance review of the CoC Lead Agency.
8. Review the annual HUD CoC Program Consolidated Application as approved by the Collaborative Applicant, the Point-in-Time Count, and the Housing Inventory Count.
9. Complete an annual review of the CoC Governance Charter.
10. Ensure staff from the Lead Agency are not eligible to vote with the CoC Board.
11. Coordinate with the Director of the Lead Agency or designee(s) prior to requesting support or assistance with activities or projects not outlined in this MOU.

DURATION AND RENEWAL

Except as provided in the TERMINATION section, upon mutual execution, this MOU shall be effective through December 31, 2025 and will renew automatically on January 1 of each year through January 1, 2028 thereafter unless either party gives notification pursuant to the

TERMINATION section. The Parties shall have the option to exercise two one-year contract term extensions thereafter.

GRANTS & FINANCIAL SUPPORT

1. **HUD CoC Program Grant.** A separate MOU may designate the Department of Health Services as the Collaborative Applicant. If approved, this means that the Department of Health Services will be eligible for a grant of CoC planning funds.
2. **CoC Program Planning Grant.** The Department of Health Services, if named the CoC's Collaborative Applicant, is the only entity that may apply to HUD for CoC planning costs.
3. **County General Fund.** Historically, the County has used General Fund monies to subsidize the cost of some of the Lead Agency functions and roles. Following the first year of this agreement, the Department of Health Services Fiscal Unit will provide the CoC Board with a financial overview of the cost to operate the Lead Agency function, which may include the associated costs to operate any other CoC functions such as the Collaborative Applicant, the HMIS Lead, and/or the Coordinated Entry Lead. This overview will include a breakdown of funding sources. The County and the CoC will then use this analysis to determine the best strategy for funding the Lead Agency function, as well as any other related CoC functions. Every effort should be made by all parties to prioritize and ensure administrative costs are fully covered for all support work associated with this MOU and its related Collaborative Applicant MOU.

COMPLIANCE

Both Parties agree to adhere to and comply with HUD's rules and regulations overseeing the Continuum of Care, and all other applicable state, federal and local laws, rules, and regulations. The Parties agree to update, within the HUD-specified timeframe for such change, this MOU and other operational documents, as well as practices and procedures, in order to comply with any updates to HUD regulations, notices, standards, and other applicable laws, rules, and regulations that HUD or other governing bodies dictates in notices or other HUD guidelines.

MERGER, AMENDMENTS, AND NOTICES

This writing is intended both as the final expression of the agreement between the parties hereto with respect to the included terms and as a complete and exclusive statement of the terms of the MOU. Each Party acknowledges that, in entering into this MOU, it has not relied on any representation or undertaking, whether oral or in writing, other than those which are expressly set forth in this MOU. The MOU may only be amended in writing, and any amendment must be mutually agreed upon and signed by both parties to take effect. Notices shall be mailed, emailed or delivered to:

1. Chair of the Sonoma County CoC Board of Directors
2. Director of the Department of Health Services as head of the Lead Agency

TERMINATION

Either party, the CoC and/or the County of Sonoma, may terminate this MOU on a mutually agreed upon timeline no less than six month's written notice to the other party. The termination shall be effective on the date specified in the notice of termination.

APPLICABLE LAW AND FORUM

This MOU shall be construed and interpreted according to the substantive law of California, regardless of the law of conflicts to the contrary in any jurisdiction. Any action to enforce the terms of this MOU or for the breach thereof shall be brought and tried in Santa Rosa or the forum nearest to the City of Santa Rosa, in the County of Sonoma.

SIGNATURES:

Sonoma County Department of Health Services

BY: _____
(Signature of Authorized Official)
Nolan Sullivan, Director, Department of Health Services

(Date)

Sonoma County Homeless Coalition Board Chair

BY: _____
(Signature of Authorized Official)

(Typed Name and Title of Authorized Official)

(Date)

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**THE SONOMA COUNTY HOMELESS COALITION ACTING AS THE SONOMA COUNTY
CONTINUUM OF CARE (CA-504)**

AND

THE COUNTY OF SONOMA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Sonoma County Homeless Coalition acting as the local Sonoma County Continuum of Care (hereinafter, “CoC”) shall serve the geographic area of the SONOMA COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE (CA-504), which encompasses all of Sonoma County, to:

- Create a unified, coordinated, equitable, and integrated system with a clear vision across the community to reduce homelessness;
- Develop a system of care that ensures that all persons experiencing homelessness have a safe, supportive and permanent place to call home;
- Build a future in which there are sufficient resources, political leadership, and community involvement to end homelessness as a permanent fixture in our social landscape;
- Ensure quick access to permanent housing, stable and increased income for participants, strength-based consumer relationships (those relationships which focus on an individuals’ strengths and not deficits), effective and financially responsible services and programing, coordination and collaboration with mainstream partners, policy and resource advocacy, and comprehensive community education;
- Collaborate with the Lead Agency and other local partners and agencies in order to ensure there are sufficient programming and services in all regions of Sonoma County;
- Supports policies that address disparities in Sonoma County which may be contributing factors to homelessness;
- Commit to principles of equity and inclusion and strive to engage all community members, regardless of background, throughout Sonoma County, especially those whose voices have been traditionally marginalized.
- Pursue upstream investments before problems occur, to reduce overall societal costs, including: diverting those at imminent risk of homelessness, engaging and empowering people who are experiencing homelessness to regain housing stability and their own financial independence, avoiding high criminal justice and hospital costs and negative health outcomes with appropriate housing, income, and access to health services, and aligning public and private efforts to address the problems we share; and

WHEREAS, the CoC adopted a governance charter on December 29, 2021, which included policies and procedures conforming to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requirements detailed in 24 CFR part 578 to designate an eligible organization to serve as the “Collaborative Applicant” to provide services outlined in this Memorandum of Understanding; and

WHEREAS, the CoC is represented by its governing body, the Homeless Coalition Board, and the Board is authorized to sign and execute this MOU on its behalf; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that the County of Sonoma's Department of Health Services ("County") has extensive experience and is capable of serving as the Collaborative Applicant to execute the roles and provide the services set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Health Services, as the Collaborative Applicant, is the sole eligible applicant for HUD CoC Planning Grant funds, shall manage the required HUD process on behalf of the CoC to ensure the maximum amount of funds are received by the CoC jurisdiction, and will help ensure that the CoC is in compliance with all applicable HUD rules and regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree to the following:

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES, IN ITS ROLE AS COLLABORATIVE APPLICANT:

1. Conducts the HUD CoC Program grant process, in a way which is compliant with County formal solicitation practices, which will include but is not limited to:
 - a. Designing, operating and following a collaborative, fair, and transparent process for developing applications and approving submission of applications in response to a CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).
 - b. Staffing a performance, scoring, and ranking committee that:
 - i. Establishes CoC priorities that align with HUD's priorities, as stated in the NOFO or related materials;
 - ii. Scores projects using an objective set of criteria based on CoC priorities, performance, and such other objective criteria deemed appropriate; and
 - iii. Ranks projects according to the NOFO's instructions.
 - c. Analyzing the NOFO Score from HUD and identifying ways to improve such score to maximize funding.
 - d. Determining if one or more applications will be submitted, and if more than one, designate the Collaborative Applicant.
 - e. Developing an application timeline and project proposal process consistent with the requirements of the HUD CoC NOFO.
 - f. Preparing and approving the CoC Program Consolidated Application on behalf of the CoC.
 - g. Submitting the consolidated application to HUD.
2. Applies for HUD planning dollars and is able to provide the match required for the planning grant.
3. Develops, in cooperation with CoC committees, performance targets appropriate for each population and program type based on HUD performance standards identified in HUD guidance, NOFOs and notices.
4. Conducts performance monitoring, evaluation and reporting of all CoC program and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program recipients and subrecipients.
5. Develops a quality improvement plan (QIP), and completes a DHS Pre-Award Risk Assessment (PARA) process, and provides technical assistance for underperforming projects including all mitigation efforts required by PARA.
6. Provides required reports to HUD.

7. In collaboration with CoC committees and the CoC Board, establishes written standards for funding recipients and subrecipients.
8. Ensures that all local public and private funds, state funds, and federal funds align with applicable state and federal procurement rules and requirements and follow proper procurement guidelines.
9. Serves as the liaison between CoC-funded projects and the local HUD Field Office located in San Francisco, CA.
10. Upholds and implements the CoC's equity goals and strategies while maintaining compliance with County policies, practices, and procedures within the activities outlined above.
11. In the event there are conflicts or performance issues between the Lead Agency and the CoC, the following steps will be taken:
 - A. Every effort should be expended by both parties, in good faith, to resolve conflicts and performance issues at the start; else those issues should be escalated to the next level:
Either party should communicate such elevated conflicts or performance issues on either side to both the Director of the Department of Health Services and the Chair of the Homeless Coalition for resolution.
 - C. At the request of a majority of the CoC Board, the County (including the County Executive and Department of Health Services Director) will meet with the CoC Board or its designated representatives to discuss and seek resolution of performance issues related to this MOU, which could include specific issues with staff.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CONTINUUM OF CARE WITH REGARD TO THE COLLABORATIVE APPLICANT:

1. Approve policies and procedures for performance monitoring, evaluation, corrective plans and reporting for all CoC Program and ESG recipients and sub-recipients, in compliance with the Department of Health Services policies, practices and procedures.
2. Ensure that any potential or perceived conflicts of interest are addressed in compliance with the CoC's conflict of interest policy in alignment with the Department of Health Services policies, practices and procedures..
3. Works collaboratively with the Department of Health Services to secure, align, and leverage CoC-dedicated public and private funds, CoC-dedicated state funds, and CoC-dedicated federal funds to prevent and end homelessness.
4. Review the annual CoC Program Consolidated Application submission and response to HUD's annual CoC Program NOFO for homelessness assistance resources.
5. Approve CoC performance targets appropriate for each population and program type.
6. Approve written standards for HUD-funded and state-funded homeless projects.
7. Conduct an annual performance review of the Collaborative Applicant.
8. Ensure staff from the Collaborative Applicant are not eligible to vote with the CoC Board.
9. Coordinate with the Authorized Representative(s) from the Collaborative Applicant prior to requesting support or assistance with activities or projects not outlined in this MOU.

DURATION AND RENEWAL

Except as provided in the TERMINATION section, upon mutual execution, this MOU shall be effective through December 31, 2025 and will renew automatically on January 1 of each year thereafter through January 2028, unless either party gives notification pursuant to the TERMINATION section. The Parties shall have the option to exercise two one-year contract term extensions thereafter.

GRANTS & FINANCIAL SUPPORT

1. **HUD CoC Program Grant.** This MOU designates the Department of Health Services as the Collaborative Applicant, which means that the Department of Health Services will be eligible for a grant of CoC planning funds.
2. **CoC Planning Program Grant.** The Department of Health Services, as the Collaborative Applicant, is the only entity that may apply to HUD for CoC planning costs.
3. **County General Fund.** Historically, the County has used General Fund monies to subsidize the cost of the Collaborative Applicant function. Following the first year of this agreement, the Department of Health Services Fiscal Unit will provide the CoC Board with a financial overview of the cost to operate the Collaborative Applicant function, which may include the associated costs to operate any other CoC functions such as the Lead Agency, the HMIS Lead, and/or the Coordinated Entry Lead. This overview will include a breakdown of funding sources. The Department of Health Services and the CoC will then use this analysis to determine the best strategy for funding the Collaborative Applicant function, as well as any other related CoC functions. Every effort should be made by all parties to prioritize and ensure administrative costs are fully covered for all support work associated with this MOU and the Lead Agency MOU.

COMPLIANCE

Both Parties agree to adhere to and comply with HUD's rules and regulations overseeing the Continuum of Care, and all other applicable state, federal and local laws, rules, and regulations. The Parties agree to update, within the HUD-specified timeframe for such change, this MOU and other operational documents, as well as practices and procedures, in order to comply with any updates to HUD regulations, notices, standards, and other applicable laws, rules, and regulations that HUD or other governing bodies dictates in notices or other HUD guidelines.

MERGER, AMENDMENTS AND NOTICES

This writing is intended both as the final expression of the agreement between the parties hereto with respect to the included terms and as a complete and exclusive statement of the terms of the MOU. Each Party acknowledges that, in entering into this MOU, it has not relied on any representation or undertaking, whether oral or in writing, other than those which are expressly set forth in this MOU. The MOU may only be amended in writing, and any amendment must be mutually agreed upon and signed by both parties to take effect. Notices shall be mailed, emailed or delivered to:

1. Chair of the Sonoma County CoC Board of Directors
2. Director of the Department of Health Services as the head of the Lead Agency

TERMINATION

Either party, the CoC and/or the County of Sonoma, may terminate this MOU on a mutually agreed timeline with no less than six month's written notice to the other party. The termination shall be effective on the date specified in the notice of termination.

SIGNATURES:

County of Sonoma Department of Health Services

BY: _____

(Signature of Authorized Official)

Nolan Sullivan, Director, Department of Health Services

(Date)

Sonoma County Homeless Coalition Board Chair

BY: _____

(Signature of Authorized Official)

(Typed Name and Title of Authorized Official)

(Date)



SONOMA COUNTY
HOMELESS
COALITION

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board
Staff Report

Item No: 11

Subject: Strategic Plan Update and Review

Meeting Date: October 22, 2025

Staff Contact: Michael Gause, Michael.Gause@sonomacounty.gov

SUMMARY:

In this item, staff provide an overview of the 5-year Strategic Plan on Homelessness adopted in December 2022 with an update on benchmarks and key input from the 2025 Homeless Count. Additionally, staff provide an update on possible impacts from funding reductions and policy changes at the federal level that will likely impact homeless services in the near future.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Provide feedback on next steps in possibly updating the Strategic Plan or continuing with work on key priorities.

DISCUSSION:

The Sonoma County Homeless Coalition and Sonoma County Board of Supervisors adopted a 5-Year Strategic Plan on Homelessness in December 2022. This followed extensive work by the Coalition Board, staff, and consulting support from Hombase in 2022. The plan can be found online here:

<https://sonomacounty.gov/health-and-human-services/health-services/divisions/homelessness-services/about/strategic-plan>

The foundation pillars of the Strategic Plan are investing more in housing and prevention, strengthening supportive services, and operating as one coordinated system with the goal of achieving functional zero in homelessness and aligning investments across Sonoma County.

[Strategic Plan Accomplishments](#)

Lead Agency Staff have implemented many core areas of the Strategic Plan over the past two years in partnership with the Coalition Board, jurisdictions, and stakeholders. Accomplishments include:

- Implementation of sub-regional street outreach
- Redesign of the Coordinated Entry Assessment and Prioritization Tool
- Creation of a countywide By Names List in 6 regions of the County
- Redesign of the Coalition website, social media posts, and public forums as part of a new Communications Plan
- Addition of over 400 permanent beds and 200 interim beds
- Implementation of performance metrics for homeless programs in housing, outreach, and shelter
- Launch of countywide prevention project, Keep People Housed, serving over 150 households in the first year
- New public facing data dashboards
- Redesign of annual NOFA to target specific interventions
- Merging of homelessness services into the Department of Health Services

Moving forward, staff will continue to implement other areas of the Plan, including working with service providers to ensure adequate staffing and resources in a time fiscal uncertainty as well as utilizing data from the annual Homeless Count to target interventions to areas of need.

2025 Homeless Count and the Strategic Plan

The 2025 Homeless Count can be utilized to inform adjusting the Strategic Plan and ensuring that resources are addressing areas of need and/or change. Key information from this year's Count that is of note includes:

- An overall decrease of 23% in homelessness
- Decrease in veterans and transition-age youth
- Increase in families and individuals experiencing chronic homelessness
- Increase in the number of individuals experiencing mental health issues and substance use issues
- Increase in number of individuals experiencing homelessness for more than a year.

The Coalition Board can utilize this information to inform the Strategic Plan and target funding. For example: families, individuals experiencing chronic homelessness, and individuals with mental health conditions and reporting substance abuse could be prioritized for intervention and funding.

Funding Landscape

HUD has announced their intent to publish a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) despite having previously committed to a two-year cycle in the Continuum of Care funding stream. In addition, dramatic changes are rumored to be in the NOFO, including a 70% reduction in renewable funding for permanent supportive housing as well as the elimination of best practices such as Housing First and support for the most vulnerable experiencing homelessness and a shift to transitional housing with conditions on sobriety and accepting services. These changes, should they take place, would heavily impact both the Strategic Plan and the existing system of care. Thus, any changes to the Strategic Plan and areas of focus could be rendered moot or significantly altered. Staff recommends weighing this fundamental shift in the service delivery with any changes to the Strategic Plan. State funding is also uncertain, which could result in additional funding reductions. Staff will bring back any updates on this matter to the Coalition Board on or before the December 2025 meeting.

Sonoma County Homeless Coalition Board

Agenda Item

Item No: 12
Subject: Request for Proposals (RFP) Update
Meeting Date: October 22, 2025
Staff Contact: Michael Gause, Michael.gause@sonomacounty.gov

Summary

Staff were asked to provide updated information regarding the Sonoma County Department of Health Services (DHS) Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) software vendor and the Coordinated Entry System (CES) Operator. Below is an update for each RFP.

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Software Vendor

This RFP is currently in the review process internally with DHS staff. This RFP is in its initial draft stages with no current release date. The current software vendors contract ends as of 4/30/2027, DHS is required to put the contract out to bid according to County of Sonoma Procurement policy.

Coordinated Entry System (CES) Operator

The RFP for the CES operator was released on September 25th. A pre-bid conference was held on October 6th. Proposer's questions to DHS were due by October 14th and responses were posted on October 21st. Proposals are due on November 6th and will be evaluated by a panel in November. A notice of intent to award will be released some time in December 2025.

Recommendation

None, informational item only.



SONOMA COUNTY
**HOMELESS
COALITION**

**Sonoma County Homeless Coalition Board
Agenda Report**

Item No: 13
Subject: December 17, 2025, Sonoma County Homeless Coalition Board Meeting
Agenda
Meeting Date: October 22, 2025
Staff Contact: Araceli Rivera, Araceli.Rivera@sonomacounty.gov

SUMMARY

This staff report presents the December 17, 2025, Sonoma County Homeless Coalition Board Meeting proposed agenda. The agenda contains all proposed items that will be discussed by the Board. The proposed agenda is attached as Attachment A.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

Approve December 17, 2025, agenda.

Attachment A



Sonoma County Homeless Coalition

Board Meeting Agenda
DRAFT December 17, 2025
1:00pm-4:30pm Pacific Time

Public Zoom Link:

<https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/92759747120?pwd=Cuw1daWS0PM5s8CIAWgPrJ8wYLeBgp.1>

Phone: +16694449171 **Webinar ID:** 927 5974 7120 **Passcode:** 589476

	Agenda Item	Packet Item	Presenter	Time
	Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions		Board Chair	1:00pm
	<i>Note: Items 1-4 below are proposed for adoption via one motion as the Consent Calendar.</i>	N/A		
1.	10/22/2025 Agenda (Consent Calendar)	Draft Agenda	Staff	
2.	Minutes from 10/22/2025 (Consent Calendar)	Draft Minutes	Staff	
3.	Summary of Follow-ups from the Previous Meeting(s) (Consent Calendar) •	Summary of Follow-ups	Staff	
4.	Reports for Standing Committee Updates (Consent Calendar) • CEA Committee • HMIS Committee • Lived Experience Advisory & Planning Board (LEAP)	Staff Report for Standing Committees	Staff	

5.	Reports from Lead Agency Staff Department of Health Services (DHS) Director updates Potential ACTION ITEM	Staff Report	Staff	
6.	Lead Agency Evaluation Update Potential Action Item	Staff Report	Board Chair and Vice Chair	
7.	Rapid Rehousing (RRH) Standards Update Potential ACTION ITEM	Staff Report	Staff	
8.	Homeless Coalition Board Elections Update Potential ACTION ITEM			
9.	2025/2026 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) Potential ACTION ITEM			
10.	10-minute break			
11.	Word from the LEAP Board Potential ACTION ITEM		LEAP Board Chair	
12.	Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Standards Potential ACTION ITEM	Staff Report	Staff	
13.	Point in Time (Pit) Count Potential ACTION ITEM	Staff Report	Staff	
14.	Homeless Coalition Quarterly Membership Meeting Agenda Potential ACTION ITEM	Staff Report	Staff	
15.	Review Agenda for January Coalition Board Meeting Potential ACTION ITEM	Staff Report for DRAFT Agenda	Board Chair	
16.	Board Member Questions & Comments Potential ACTION ITEM		Board Chair	
17.	Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda		Board Chair	

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Public Comment may be made via email or during the live zoom meeting.

To submit an emailed public comment to the Homeless Coalition Board, submit your responses via the website at [Homeless Coalition Board Comment Form >>](#). Please label the written notice as public comment referencing the Homeless Coalition Board, provide your name, the agenda number(s) on which you wish to speak, and your comment.

Public comment during the meeting can be made live by joining the Zoom meeting using the above provided login information. Available time for comments is determined by the Board Chair based on agenda scheduling demands and total number of speakers. If you need technical assistance with submitting a public comment, please contact Jynessa Lazzaroni at jynessa.lazzaroni@sonomacounty.gov

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
		NOFO	Notice of Funding Opportunity
HSD	Human Services Department (County dept)	NOI-RROF	Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds
HUD	US Department of Housing and Urban Development	NPLH	No Place Like Home
HUD/202/811	HUD New Construction for Elderly/Handicapped	NSCS	North Sonoma County Services
HUD/236	HUD Mortgage Insurance & Interest Reduction Payment for Multi-Family Rental Projects	NSP	Neighborhood Stabilization Program
HUD/8	HUD Section 8 New Construction Program	OMB	Office of Management and Budget
IG	Inspector General	PASS	Plan for Achieving Self-Support
IGR	Independent Group Residence	PBV	Project-Based Voucher
IIG	Infill and Infrastructure Grant	PCC	Program Coordination Committee
IMD	Institute of Mental Disease	PHA	Public Housing Authority
IMDT	Interdepartmental Multi-Disciplinary Team	PHADA	Public Housing Authorities Directors Association
InRESPONSE	Mental Health Response Team (Santa Rosa)	PHC	Partnership Health Plan California
IOLERO	Independent Office of Law Enforcement Review and Outreach (County agency)	PHM	Public Housing Manager
IPA	Independent Public Accountant	PHRA	Public Housing Reform Act of 1998
JPA	Joint Powers Authority	PIC	Public and Indian Housing Information Center
JRT	Joe Rodota Trail	PIH	Public and Indian Housing
LASC	Legal Aid of Sonoma County	PI	Public Infrastructure (County department)
LHA	Local Housing Authority	PII	Personal Identifiable Information
LI	Low Income	PJ	Participating Jurisdiction
LIA	Live-In Aide	PLHA	Permanent Local Housing Allocation
LIHF	Low Income Housing Fund (San Francisco-based Fund Source)	PMSA	Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area Established by the US Census
LISC	Local Initiatives Support Corporation	PPSC	Petaluma People’s Service Center
LMIHAF	Low and Moderate-Income Housing Asset Fund	PRA	Public Records Act
LSA	Longitudinal Systems Analysis (HMIS)	PRMD	Permit & Resource Management Department (Sonoma County)
MAI	Member of the Appraisal Institute	PS	Payment Standard
MAR	Monthly Activities Report	PSA	Purchase and Sale Agreement
Measure O	¼ Cent Sales tax for housing/homelessness	PSH	Permanent Supportive Housing
MHP	Multi-Family Housing Project (HCD)	PSIF	Preliminary Site Information Form (Part of the RECD Process)
MITCS	Multi-Family Tenant Characteristics System	PUD	Planned Unit Development
MRBP	Mortgage Revenue Bond Program	QC	Quality Control
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area	QFHO	Qualified Fair Housing Organization
MSS	Mobile Supportive Services	QHWRA	Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998
MWBE	Minority and Women’s Business Enterprises	R&R	Reinvestment and Revitalization Fund
MYFS	Mendocino Youth & Family Services	RCAC	Rural Communities Assistance Corporation
NAHB	National Association of Home Builders	RCF	Residential Care Facility
NAHRO	National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials	RDIP	Rental Development Incentive Program
NAMI SC	National Alliance on Mental Illness Sonoma County	REAC	Real Estate Assessment Center (HUD)
NAREB	National Association of Real Estate Brokers	RECDS	Rural Economic Community Development Service
NBOP	North Bay Organizing Project	REFB	Redwood Empire Food Bank
NBVR	North Bay Veterans Resource Center	RFH	Reach for Home
NCCLF	Northern California Community Loan Fund	RFP	Request for Proposals
NDP	Neighborhood Development Program	RFQ	Request for Qualifications
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act	RHCP	Rental Housing Construction Program (State of California)
NFHA	National Fair Housing Alliance	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