



Date: October 7, 2020
To: Family and Human Services Committee
Supervisor John Gioia, District I, Chair
Supervisor Candace Anderson, District II, Co-Chair
From: Lavonna Martin, Director, Health, Housing and Homeless Services Division
CC: Anna Roth, RN, MS, MPH Health Services Director
Subject: Council on Homelessness Seat Membership Recommendation Process

The Director of Health, Housing and Homeless Services, Lavonna Martin, respectfully requests that the Family and Human Services Committee accepts the recommendation to appoint twelve (12) individuals for open seats on the Contra Costa Council on Homelessness (aka the Homelessness Advisory Board).

PURPOSE OF COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

The Contra Costa Continuum of Care is governed by the Contra Costa Council on Homelessness (hereinafter referred to as the Council). The Council is appointed by the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors to assist and provide guidance in the development and implementation of long-range planning and policy formulation of homeless issues in Contra Costa County.

The Contra Costa Council on Homelessness is responsible for making data driven, equitable decisions related to federal, state, and local regulations and funding guiding the administration of homelessness crisis response in the County. The Council also provides a forum for communication and coordination of the County's Strategic Plan to End Homelessness and to educate the community on federal, state and local policy issues affecting people who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness in Contra Costa County.

Governance

The Council on Homelessness is appointed by the Board of Supervisors and consists of 19 seats representing homeless or formerly homeless persons, community members, educational/vocational services, health care, housing providers, law enforcement, local government, the faith community, and homeless service providers including the Veterans Administration. All Council members reside in or are employed in Contra Costa County, demonstrate a professional interest in or personal commitment to addressing and alleviating the impact of homelessness, and be able to contribute unique expertise, opinions and viewpoints on homeless issues. Candidates will serve two-year terms.

SUMMARY OF RECRUITMENT EFFORTS/NOMINEES FOR MEMBERSHIP

The Council on Homelessness continues to make every effort to fill its vacant seats. These efforts include sending a targeted email solicitation via the Continuum of Care mailing list (1000+ contacts that include each Supervisor's office), announcing vacancies at public Council on Homelessness meetings and posting information about the vacancies and application materials on the Council on Homelessness website.



A nominating committee consisting of three (3) seated nonconflicted Council on Homelessness members reviewed applications and supplemental information including a supplemental application for all seats. The committee used a rubric to evaluate the applicants that included capacity to meet the functions and tasks of the Council on Homelessness as stated in the Council's bylaws and evaluating the diversity of current and potential Council members to ensure that a diverse population contributes to deliberations and decision-making—including consumers and community members—as well as gender, ethnic, cultural, and geographical representation.

Following a close review of applications and interviews with the candidates by a nominating committee, the Council on Homelessness recommends appointing the following twelve (12) nominees:

1. Affordable Housing Developer Representative

Iman Novin
Consultant
Novin Development Consulting
Walnut Creek, CA

2. Behavioral Health Representative

Margaret Schlitz
Program Manager
Portia Bell Hume Center's West County FSP program
Richmond, CA

3. City Government Representative

Teri House
CDBG Manager
City of Antioch
Antioch, CA

4. Consumer Representative

Jo Bruno
Consumer
Antioch, CA

5. Educational/Vocational Representative

Alejandra Chamberlain
Homeless Liaison
Contra Costa County Office of Education
Pleasant Hill, CA

6. Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Representative

Gabriel Lemus
Administrator, Community Development Block Grant Program and Emergency Solutions Grant Program
Contra Costa Department of Conservation and Development
Martinez, CA



7. Healthcare Provider Representative
Linea Altman
Public Health Program Specialist II
Contra Costa Community Connect and Healthcare for the Homeless
Concord, CA

8. Homeless Service Provider Representative
Deanne Pearn
Executive Director
Hope Solutions
Pleasant Hill, CA

9. Public Safety #1 Representative
Manjit Sappal
Chief of Police
City of Martinez
Martinez

10. Veteran Administration
Misaki Hiriyama
Coordinated Entry Specialist
Northern California VA Healthcare System
Martinez, CA

11. Workforce Development Representative
Maureen Nelson
Administrator
One Stop Consortium

12. Youth Representative
Renee Hendrick
Youth Action Council Member
Crockett, CA

The candidates have expressed a sincere interest in serving on the Council and are dedicated to fulfilling the mission and goals as outlined in the Council on Homelessness by-laws.

Based on the above information, the Director of Health, Housing and Homeless Services Division, on behalf of the Council on Homelessness respectfully recommends that the FHS Committee appoint the above listed people to the Council on Homelessness.

Encl:
Current Roster of Members as of 12/31/20
Full roster of applicants to open seats

