

Presentation Summary – Melissa Moore
Alameda County Measure W/Home Together Fund
Community Meeting, District 2
Monday December 8th, 5-6:30pm

Presenter: Melissa Moore

Background & Experience

- Seven years of lived experience with homelessness
- Former Community Health Outreach Worker, Tiburcio Vasquez
- Board Member, Street Medicine Institute
- Founder, RISE (Rising Into Self-Empowerment) — street outreach focused on engagement, dignity, and self-determination

Purpose of Presentation

This presentation walked participants through the homelessness response system from both lived experience and service provider perspectives, highlighting system successes, structural failures, and opportunities for improvement.

-Accessing the System

- Fragmented and inconsistent entry points
- Access depends heavily on provider capacity and follow-through
- Primary access pathways discussed:
 - Street Medicine Teams/Street Outreach
 - HMIS / Clarity System

Street Medicine Teams Strengths

- Medical providers meet people where they are
- Immediate diagnosis and engagement in non-clinical settings

Challenges

- Understaffed due to funding limitations
- Inconsistent return visits result in loss of engagement and continuity of care

-HMIS / Clarity System

Strengths

- Centralized client information
- Supports housing navigation when used correctly

Challenges

- Inaccurate or false data entry
- Lack of follow-up after initial contact
- Clients stagnate and are not housing-ready

-Encampment Sweeps

- Often conducted without preemptive planning

Needed before sweeps:

- Early legal aid and advocacy
- Storage provided in advance
- Credible, humane alternatives for relocation
- Preemptive coordination preserves dignity and reduces trauma

-Housing Models

Non-congregate interim housing should be prioritized

Congregate shelters:

Do not work for many individuals

Create additional barriers

Do not resolve homelessness

System-Level Needs

-Stronger accountability and oversight of large nonprofit providers

-Meaningful integration of people with lived experience and peer support

-Expanded legal advocacy to protect basic human rights

-Community collaboration and storytelling to build public support

Sanctioned Encampments

Proven effective in other jurisdictions

A local pilot project can demonstrate feasibility and impact

Measure W Funding: Closing Message & Call to Action

Measure W funding is critical and should be used to:

Challenge traditional ideology

Question existing system structures

Build new bridges that actually move people off the streets

Funding should be outcome-driven, not system-preserving:

Do not continue to expand or sustain programs that fail our people

Invest in real-world solutions highlighted throughout this presentation

Targeted Measure W investments include:

-Fully staffed and consistent street medicine teams

-HMIS/Clarity training, audits, and accountability

-Preemptive sweep response: legal aid, storage, credible relocation options

-Non-congregate interim housing

-Lived-experience leadership and peer transitional support

-Community collaboration and storytelling

-Pilot projects like sanctioned encampments

The goal of Measure W funding is clear:

To get people off the streets — not to maintain ineffective systems or programs that do not serve the people most impacted