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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 10, 2022

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**Alameda County Endorses the Home Together Community Plan**

*The Home Together 2026 Community Plan centers racial equity and identifies the strategies, activities, and resources, needed to dramatically reduce homelessness in Alameda County.*

**ALAMEDA COUNTY, CA** – Today, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors endorsed The Home Together 2026 Community Plan, a five-year strategic initiative that centers racial equity and identifies the strategies, activities, and resources, needed to dramatically reduce homelessness in Alameda County.

The Home Together Community 2026 Plan shows that the current investments do not meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness, especially as additional people enter into homelessness. As we await the 2022 Point-in-Time Count results, the 2019 data revealed more than 8,000 people experience homelessness in the County on a single night, a number that grows to approximately 15,000 people recorded over the course of a year.

The Home Together 2026 Community Plan has four goals:

- Preventing homelessness for residents
- Connecting people to shelter and direct resources
- Increasing housing solutions
- Strengthening coordination, communication, and capacity

“The Alameda County 2022 Home Together plan underscores the collection of years of data that highlights the structural and institutional disparities in the areas of health care, mental health, and housing resulting in disproportionate levels of homelessness experienced by African Americans and People of Color,” said Alameda County Board of Supervisors President Keith Carson. “The Plan is constructed to combat the underpinnings that lead to homelessness and provide a roadmap for all entities investing in ending homelessness. It will be a useful tool as the County moves forward in addressing this challenge.”

The Plan proposes significant increase in investment and the creation of new program models and pathways out of homelessness to decrease new homelessness, improve racial equity in outcomes, reduce lengths of time being homeless, and reduce rates at which people return to homelessness.

The report shows the total cost to fully meet system needs and significantly reduce homelessness is \$2.5B and 24,000 additional housing opportunities over 5 years. This includes \$430M to add new shelter beds; \$1.68B to add new housing units and increased subsidies for existing units; and \$388M for rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention.

“Homelessness has very real impacts on our communities,” said Colleen Chawla, Agency Director, Alameda County Health Care Services Agency (HCSA). “Our countywide homelessness response system has made significant strides over the past decade, and we are proud to be taking this next step in prioritizing the health and wellbeing of our unhoused residents.”

The County and local cities will develop and enact local action plans that align with the Home Together Community Plan, outlining strategic investments in the homeless response system while minimizing disruptions to services.

“This plan helps our whole community understand the resources and actions needed to end homelessness in Alameda County and includes the input and leadership of people with lived expertise,” said Kerry Abbott, Director, HCSA’s Office of Homeless Care and Coordination. “We’re excited to have a shared countywide plan that creates a path to housing all of our residents.”

Alameda County and Cities currently spend a combined \$184M per year on homelessness programs and operations. Most of this funding is braided together from disparate state and federal sources, which often come with specific requirements and conditions. Additionally, the County and Cities devote resources and staff time to mitigating the impacts of unsheltered homelessness. The Home Together Community Plan’s modeling shows that we need more than two and a half times the funding we currently have available to support a system that can meet the existing and future needs of people experiencing homelessness.

“The Home Together Community 2026 Plan clearly lays the groundwork for what our system needs to do to address the homeless crisis in our county,” said Chelsea Andrews, Executive Director, EveryOne Home, the County’s Continuum of Care backbone agency, and member of the Home Together 2026 Strategic Planning Committee. “We can no longer wait to take action. The time to invest in the health and safety of the County’s unhoused individuals is now.”

“Homelessness is not just a Berkeley or Alameda County issue, it is a crisis across the State,” said Jesse Arreguín, Mayor of the City of Berkeley and Director of the Alameda County Conference of Mayors. “The Home Together Community Plan calls for investment across the county because this is a crisis, and we must take action.”

“We must get people off the streets and into housing,” said James Vann, co-founder of the Oakland Tenants Union and member of the Home Together 2026 Strategic Planning Committee. “Access to safe and affordable housing is a must.”

Read more about the Home Together 2026 Community Plan [here](#).

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