

The Summer Solstice, a day filled with light, is a fitting time to honor the accomplishments, resiliency and strength of people experiencing homelessness, and to draw inspiration from them as we continue in the struggle for justice.

# **Honoring Osha Neumann**



(In photo: David Modersbach, Osha Neumann, April Anthony)

In this year's Summer Solstice Celebration of the Strength and Resilience of people experiencing Homeless, the ACHCH Consumer/Community Advisory Board honored Berkeley lawyer, artist and activist <u>Osha Neumann</u> for a lifetime achievement award. A tireless warrior for the rights of unhoused persons, Osha developed the homeless street law model, taking his efforts directly to the streets to support unsheltered people to exercise their rights to shelter, housing, health and dignity, in a way that brings power to people and helps them stand up against injustice and build community. Some of Osha's former clients attended the event, and Osha gave a stirring speech about the power and inspiration he has drawn from the people he has served over the years.

## **Resilience and Determination Hero Awardees**

The ACHCH CCAB opened nominations to the community of housed persons and services providers to identify people who have demonstrated strength and resilience in their struggles to gain housing and support those around them by their model and by their example.

#### **Recipients of this year's awards included:**

Janice Anderson

- Aisha C.
- Patrick Ford
- Elizabeth Silva
- Lawrence Lincoln
- Carla Leal
- Frank Luna
- April Anthony

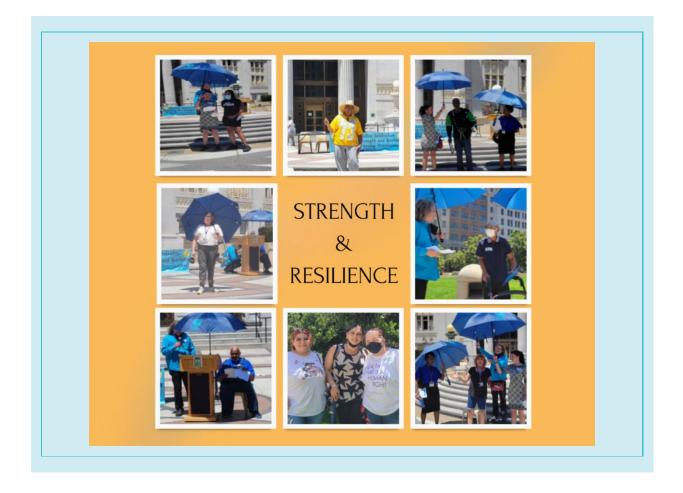
### ACHCH thanks the amazing group of sponsors of the event:

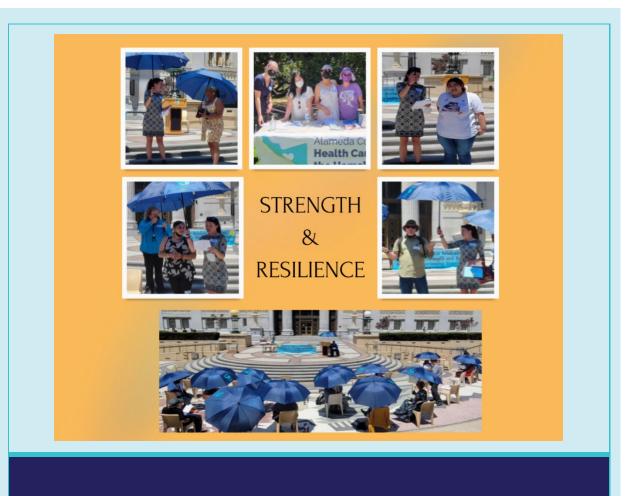
- Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless Consumer
  /Community Advisory Board
- Alameda Health System Homeless Health Center Consumer Board
- Lifelong Medical Care
- Alameda Health System Foundation
- Alameda County Office of Homeless Care and Coordination

### **Contributors:**

- Bay Area Community Services
- Abode Housing, Inc.
- Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson
- "Old School" James Copes
- Joe Sharkey Artwork & Design

A special thank you to Bennie and Brenda Whitfield and the ACHCH Consumer/Community Advisory Board (CCAB) for their amazing work opening and closing the event.





Special recognition and thanks to Alameda Health System (AHS) Foundation for providing the catered lunch for 80 participants in the Solstice Celebration. Summer Solstice Celebration of the Strengths and Resilience of People Experiencing Homelessness in Alameda County

Tuesday June 21 Noon-Ipm Oscar Grant/Frank Ogawa Plaza City of Oakland City Hall FREE LUNCH RAFFLE PRIZES MUSIC HERO AWARDS

Sponsored by: Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless Consumer/Community Advisory Board, Office of Homeless Care and Coordination, Lifelong Medical Care, Alameda Health System Homeless Health Center Board, AHS Foundation Info: 510-891-8950 or www.achch.org

#### 2022 Summer Solstice Celebration of the Strength and Resilience of People Experiencing Homelessness in Alameda County Tuesday, June 21, 2022 Oakland City Hall (Oscar Grant/Frank Ogawa Plaza) 12:00pm-1:00pm

On Summer Solstice, June 21, 2022 --the longest day of the year -- the Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless Consumer/Community Advisory Board (CCAB) is joining communities across the country in an annual event to celebrate the strength and resilience of people experiencing homelessness.

We invite people experiencing homelessness to join us and enjoy a free catered lunch, music, raffle, prizes, gifts, awards and speeches from people who have surmounted incredible challenges to gain stability, create community and inspire those around them.

We will be joined by the Alameda County Office of Homeless Care and Coordination, Lifelong Medical Care, Alameda Health System Homeless Health Center and the AHS Foundation and many services providers.

#### The event will be from 12pm-1pm at Oscar Grant/Frank Ogawa Plaza in front of Oakland City Hall.

We will celebrate everyone's strength and hopes, but we will also honor certain persons, nominated by their community, as **Resilience and Determination Heroes**. Services providers, cities, advocates and peers are invited to submit nominations via <u>this online form</u>. The ACHCH CCAB will review nominations. **Community nominations must be\_submitted by Monday, June 13th**. We will invite all nominees to the event and assist them with transportation if needed.

There will be an awards ceremony with music and inspiring words, prizes for RAD Heroes, gifts and a raffle for participants. We will also present a special award to the beloved lawyer and activist Osha Neumann who has touched so many people's lives. Afterward the ceremony, people may stay and enjoy the music and vendors of <u>Pablo's Alley</u>.

Homelessness is not permanent. It is not a condition that defines the rest of a person's life. It is easy to become homeless, but it is no easy task to break out of homelessness. People without homes face many systemic barriers, from the high cost of housing to low wages and inadequate public assistance programs, all complicated by poor health, high risks and poverty. Yet people surmount these incredible hurdles and reclaim stable, healthy, and productive lives. The Summer Solstice, a day filled with light, is a fitting time to honor their accomplishments and to draw inspiration from them as we continue in the struggle for justice.

## Special Thanks to Sponsors and Partners:

### Sponsors

- Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless Consumer /Community Advisory Board
- Alameda Health System Homeless Health Center Consumer Board
- Lifelong Medical Care
- Alameda Health System Foundation
- Alameda County Office of Homeless Care and Coordination



## Contributors

- Bay Area Community Services
- Abode Housing, Inc.
- Alameda County Supervisors Keith Carson & David Haubert
- "Old School" James Copes
- Joe Sharkey Artwork & Design



Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless 510-891-8950 <u>www.achch.org</u> Summer Solstice Celebration of the Strengths and Resilience of People Experiencing Homelessness in Alameda County

Tuesday June 21 Noon-Ipm Oscar Grant/Frank Ogawa Plaza City of Oakland City Hall FREE LUNCH RAFFLE PRIZES MUSIC

HERO AWARDS

EVENT PROGRAM

June 21, 2022 Noon-1pm

Homelessness is not permanent. It is not a condition that defines the rest of a person's life. It is easy to become homeless -- but it is not easy task to break out of homelessness.

People without homes face many systemic barriers, from the high cost of housing to low wages and inadequate public assistance programs, all complicated by poor health, high risks and poverty. Yet people surmount these incredible hurdles and reclaim stable, healthy, and productive lives.

The Summer Solstice, a day filled with light, is a fitting time to honor their accomplishments and to draw inspiration as we continue in the struggle for justice.

## Solstice Event Schedule Noon-1pm Tuesday 6/16/22

Welcome by Master of Ceremonies

**Bennie Whitfield**, Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless Consumer /Community Advisory Board (CCAB)

Welcome: Alameda Health System Homeless Health Center CAB

"I Believe I Can Fly" Brenda Whitfield ACHCH CCAE

**Honoring Osha Neumann** 

**Resilience and Determination Hero Awardees** (Bennie, Dr. Aislinn Bird, Wale Arshad PNP):

- April Anthony
- Carla Leal
- Dearlean Bailey
- Elizabeth Silva
- Frank Luna
- Janice Anderson
- John V.
- Lawrence Lincoln
- Patrick Ford

Raffle: Host: Benny Whitfield & Friends

(Thanks to BACS, Abode, ACBH, SSA, Supervisors Keith Carson & David Haubert for contributing prizes!)

Nominee	description
Aisha Chapman	Aisha Chapman is a mother of two that has experienced homelessness. One of her children; her daughter, has graduated from high school and is now in college. Aisha somehow managed to save some money to attend the college with her daughter and pay a percentage of the tuition costs so that her daughter would not be in debt upon graduation. Aisha has maintained 2 jobs throughout her homelessness while being a single parent to her two children. Even though Aisha remains homeless with one child she has managed to give back to her community by providing resources to others in the same predicament. At one point the provider who nominated Aisha found herself unhoused, and when they realized they couldn't take a shower, Aisha was there with a list of places, dates and times of not only where to shower, but wash clothes, eat and what places provided storage. Aisha's son is involved in sports and Aisha finds time to attend his games, although, often times they are out of town. The most remarkable part of all of this is Aisha remains humble and in good spirits.
April Anthony	April has demonstrated strength and resilience in working within the homeless community while addressing her personal life trials. April continues to carry out her artwork, works with the HCH program, and continues to advocate for services greatly needed within the Homeless community working with people at all levels. She puts great effort into whatever endeavor comes her way. We hope she continues. THANK YOU APRIL!
Carla Leal	Carla was nominated by the HEPPAC program. In the time they have known Carla as a participant at our exchange, Carla has gotten sober attained housing, supported her younger sister through death of her father her mother into housing, and has taken advantage of every opportunity given to her gotten her children back been willing to share her experience in whatever way that could help others. It's a family affair, and Carla is an inspiration to us!

Dearlean Bailey	This year, Ms. Dearlean Bailey received the keys to her very own apartment after over a decade of living unhoused on the streets of Oakland. Her Lifelong Street Health team has had the great honor to bear witness to her extreme resilience and strength of character as she has navigated the challenges of living in tent on Wood St. while remaining focused on her health and life goals. She bravely faced the healthcare and Alameda Housing system, and impressed me with her steadfast stoicism and personal integrity.
Elizabeth Silva	This is what Sabrina Fuentes of the HCH Consumer Community Advisory Board and HEPPAC says: Elizabeth Silva is a young lady I have known for 6 years. If ANYONE deserves this award it is her. I have watched her continue to stay in school, we have had conversations about college, she became a caretaker for her mother, was homeless, lost her father, continued to graduation with aspirations to become a lawyer. If anyone will do this it will be her. She is an inspiration to other young people and needs to be honored
Frank Luna	Mr. Luna was nominated by his supporters at the Bridge Clinic at Highland Hospital. Frank is a gentleman who has been experiencing homelessness for many years. He has had significant medical needs that he has managed with remarkable resilience and dignity over the last several years. He was able to successfully be treated for a complex medical condition, which required cumbersome requirements medically and socially (needing a lot of testing, follow up visits, identification requirements). He successfully completed this treatment through our clinic, and was a joy to see make it through this treatment. Just after finishing treatment, he had a severe trauma after being hit by a car. He stayed for over a month in the ICU, hospital, and rehab. He was able to get through this traumatic and painful process, and remains engaged now in our program and clinic, while still experiencing homelessness. His resilience, strength, and compassion through this journey has inspired our clinic staff and other patients as well.

Janice	Janice has been an inspiration to those around her. While
Anderson	experiencing homelessness, she was able to go to school, face life-
	threatening illness, volunteer to help others, and then get hired as a
	fulltime at WORLD (Women Organized to Respond to Life-
	threatening Diseases) to continue her work helping others.
	Throughout this time, she not only utilized help and services, but
	then fully advocated for others, and was often awarded for being an
	example of excellence. This last year Janice attained permanent
	housing while maintaining a beautiful attitude and spreading light
	and energy that is an inspiration to her clients.
John V.	John V. had been experiencing homelessness for 14 years until he
	was recently housed at foon lok west in Oakland. After working with
	Lifelong Street Health Team for some time John realized that
	focusing on his health was the first step to getting housed. He
	became very determined to make all his appointments and complete
	his treatments. When he received a call for a housing match, we
	worked with John getting all his documents ready for intake . John
	was finally accepted to foon lok west and fulfilled his promise to his
	dog Moose to get him inside into a a safe place. Congratulations John
	and Moose!
Lawrence	Lawrence Lincoln was a person who had no place to be somebody.
Lincoln	On April 5, 2018, he went into a burning trailer to save a dog named
	Delilah, burning himself in the process. Since then, by partnering with
	Trust Clinic, Alameda County Healthcare for the Homeless,
	Downtown Streets Team, SFSU, and countless fine people, he has
	worked hard and is now happily housed, going to school at SFSU,
	speaking at social justice and street medicine seminars and doing
	consulting work with the Center for Health Care Strategies. He
	applies his energy towards advocating for people experiencing
	homelessness and educating others about what it means to be
	without a place and what we can all do about it.
Patrick Ford	Patrick has demonstrated resiliency and determination to reach his
	goals. He has become proactive with meeting his housing navigator,
	and the medical team regarding his health and keeping his therapy
	appointments. Patrick has overcome many challenges. For example,
	being in a car accident that caused temporary memory loss, having
	his money and telephone stolen, being homeless for more than two

years, and having mobility issues. Patrick continues to meet his goals
to drink less alcohol, improve his health overall, and gain permanent
housing. Patrick stated, "I have to get up and keep going because
God has a plan for me to be happy in my own apartment."