



Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless

Quarterly Newsletter

January - March 2024

In The Spotlight

Welcome New OHCC Director Jonathan Russell, PhD

Jonathan Russell, PhD, has been selected as the incoming director for the Office of Homeless Care and Coordination (OHCC). Jonathan's experience working at the intersection of homelessness, behavioral health, and racial and housing justice, makes him a great fit for the work that lies ahead for OHCC. Jonathan will start with the County in early March and we look forward to working with Jonathan in Health Care for the Homeless.



Saying Goodbye to Office of Homeless Care and Coordination Founding Director Kerry Abbott

While we welcome Jonathan with much excitement and hope for our future work together we also want to celebrate the groundbreaking work of the founding OHCC Director, Kerry Abbott.



Over the past four years Kerry has been a steadfast, innovative, and collaborative, leader who not only led the tremendous work of OHCC during the COVID-19 pandemic but created lasting change from that work, alongside the Home Together Plan, forging stronger partnerships across the county and

among the communities we serve. Kerry has worked shoulder to shoulder with the ACHCH team through it all.

On behalf of our community, and all those we serve THANK YOU KERRY! You will be missed.

Program Highlights

Point-in-Time Count 2024

At 5am on Thursday, January 25th more than 1,200 volunteers turned out for Alameda County's biennial countywide Point-in-Time (PIT) homelessness count. This was an unprecedented level of participation from county residents in providing important support for a process that guides critical strategies and policies for addressing and reducing homelessness. The PIT is a joint effort between the Continuum of Care, the County, cities, and other stakeholders who come together to lead the strategy design and implementation. The PIT is a critical opportunity for the County, Continuum of Care, and cities to understand the magnitude of homelessness in Alameda County, and to utilize the data to allocate resources, inform programmatic decisions, and raise awareness. Many thanks to all the volunteers, staff, cities, and Continuum of Care partners for making the 2024 Point-in-Time Count a success!



Read more about the PIT Count:

- **SF Chronicle**
- **East Bay Times**
- **CalMatters**
- **KALW Public Media**
- **Oakland Post**

Alameda Point Collaborative Groundbreaking Ceremony

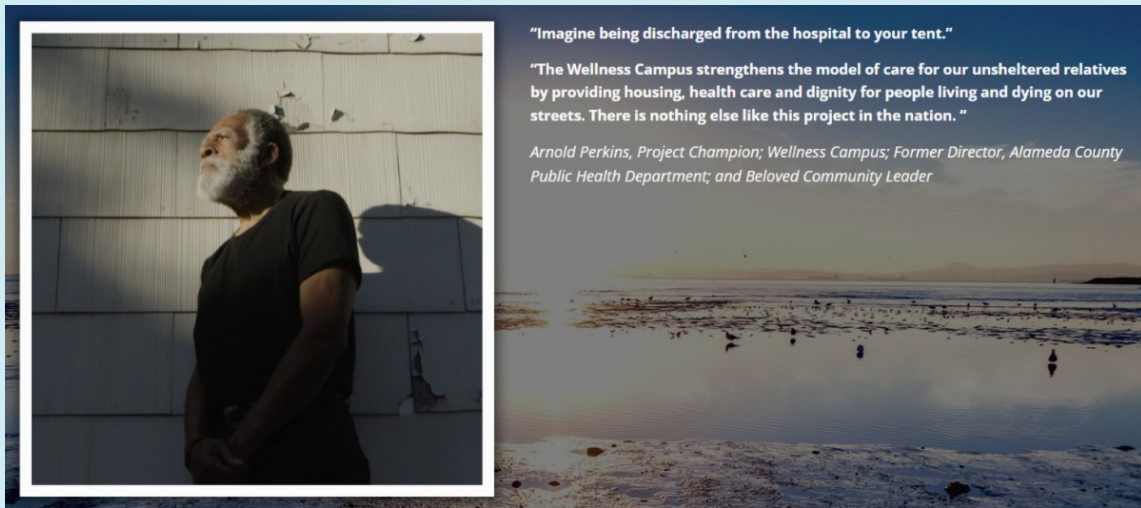
On Monday, January 22nd, Alameda Point Collaborative and LifeLong Medical held a groundbreaking ceremony for the Alameda Wellness Campus. Each year, the 3.6-acre campus will serve an estimated 700 unhoused Alameda County residents in a healing center next to Alameda's Crown Memorial Beach and shoreline park. The campus will include a medical respite, community health center, permanent supportive housing, and a homelessness prevention program.

The 50-bed Medical Respite Center will be the first area of the campus to

complete construction. The Center will offer recuperative care and on-site healthcare services for unhoused Alameda County residents 18 years and older who have complex medical conditions or need hospice care. The program anticipates serving approximately 400 unhoused patients annually with:

- Recuperative care stays for health recovery
- Culturally affirming and trauma-informed medical and behavioral health services
- Dignified and compassionate hospice care
- Assistance to secure stable housing and consistent primary care

For more information on the Alameda Wellness Center visit: **The Vision: A New Standard of Care - Alameda Wellness Campus**



Home Together 2026 Community Plan Update



The **Home Together 2026 Community Plan** lays out goals, strategies, and necessary funding investments to dramatically reduce homelessness in Alameda County by 2026 and combat racial disparities in homelessness by fully centering equity. The ambitious Plan calls for the addition of 24,000 housing resources between years 1 and 5, which will cost an estimated \$2.5 billion to operate.

Progress on the **implementation of the Home Together Plan** is tracked and reported annually. Initial findings from the Progress Update for Year 2 (FY22-23) of the Home Together Plan show that:

- Despite housing more people in FY22-23 than in previous years, new people entering homelessness outpaced exits to housing, and the existing need among people experiencing homelessness continues to

grow.

- Despite the addition of new resources and accomplishments in years 1 and 2 of the Home Together Plan (such as the addition of more than 1,100 permanent housing opportunities and new federal funding for programs to address unsheltered homelessness) significant and recurring resources and investments are still needed to expand the homelessness response system to drastically reduce homelessness.

The final Home Together Year 2 Progress Update will be released in the coming months and will be available at www.homelessness.acgov.org.

Congratulations Terri Moore, ACHCH Contracts Manager

We commend Terri Moore on her achievement of completing the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Institute Executive Credential. Completion of the credential demonstrates Terri's commitment to ongoing professional education to enhance her leadership and knowledge. Congrats Terri and thank you for all you do as a leader in ACHCH.



ACHCH Monthly Provider Training Series

Every fourth Wednesday of the month, ACHCH offers trainings for shelter and outreach providers in Alameda County. Trauma Stewardship, Hoarding Disorder, De-escalation, and Treating Clients with Psychosis are just a few of the topics that are presented. To view previously recorded trainings, visit our [website](#).

**Alameda County Health Care
for the Homeless**
(510) 891-8950
384-14th Street
Oakland, CA 94612-3208



**Mental Health
Services Act (MHSAs)**
Alameda County Behavioral Health

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