

# Committee Member Introductions

Created on Aug 06, 2025 13:21:59

## Short Summary

Committee members introduced themselves, sharing their professional roles and personal experiences with homelessness and systemic challenges.

## Long Summary

The conversation features introductions from several committee members, including Semaj Alger, Shangay Armstead, Lauren Cardin, Monique Guerra, and Deshelle Kendrick. Each member shared their professional roles, often related to housing advocacy, justice reform, or support for vulnerable populations. Many highlighted their personal lived experiences with homelessness, foster care, or the justice system, emphasizing their commitment to systemic change and addressing the interconnected issues of housing instability and social challenges.

## Committee Member Introductions

- **Semaj Alger**
  - Represents First Step Communities.
  - Brings lived experience with homelessness to the committee.
  - Aims to share news and perspectives from peers.
- **Shangay Armstead**
  - Director of Los Angeles County Justice, Care and Opportunities Department.
  - Pronouns: she/her/hers.
  - Has personal experience with being unhoused as a teen, the foster care system, and the justice system.
  - Hopes to find ways to stop the pipeline between the justice system and homelessness.
- **Lauren Cardin**
  - Director of California Housing Advocacy at Justice and Age.
  - Pronouns: she/her.
  - Leads statewide efforts to prevent and end homelessness for older adults and people with disabilities.
  - Aims to ensure the needs of older adults and people with disabilities are centered in homelessness policies and actions, with a focus on Housing First.
- **Monique Guerra**
  - Lived Experience Advisory Board lead support member and Policy Analyst with Cal ICH.
  - Pronouns: she/her/hers.
  - Brings personal experience with homelessness, foster care, and navigating systems of care.
  - Has been involved with California Youth Connection (CYC) and Riverside's Housing and Homelessness Solutions department.
- **Deshelle Kendrick**
  - Currently oversees domestic violence housing programs at SCADPI (until August 22nd).
  - Will become the Director of Survivor Empowerment Services for YWCA Greater Los Angeles.
  - Pronouns: she/her/hers.
  - Holds multiple roles, including chairing the LA City Domestic Violence Alliance.
  - Is a survivor with lived experience of homelessness, substance abuse, human trafficking, and domestic violence.

## Transcriptions

**A - Aug 06, 2025 13:22:06**

Now, I ask that, oh- I see that Cal ICH, um, staff has already brought in the, uh, instructions for the introductions. So I'm gonna call out each one of you in alphabetical order.

**A - Aug 06, 2025 13:22:17**

In order by last name, beginning with Samaj Alger.

**A - Aug 06, 2025 13:22:22**

Hello, everybody. Um, I represent-- I'm Semaj. I represent First Step Communities. That's the group that got me started with the committee. Um, I wanted to just be sharing my experience with lived homelessness, and I hope to bring in more ways to help just from getting, um, news from our peers.

**B - Aug 06, 2025 13:23:00**

Thank you so much for that. Um, next I'll call Shangay Armstead.

**B - Aug 06, 2025 13:23:08**

Good afternoon. I'm, um, Sanhai Armstead. I am she, her, hers are my pronouns and I am the Director of Los Angeles County Justice, Care and Opportunities Department.

**B - Aug 06, 2025 13:23:30**

I also have- I was unhoused as a teen, so I have that experience that I'm also bringing to this, um, experience. I also spent time in the foster care system and was in the justice system, um, at 18. So the pro- the department that I oversee now is the intersection of sort of restorative justice and, um...

**B - Aug 06, 2025 13:23:36**

... um, alternatives to incarceration and sort of moving people out of the justice system. And so what I'm hoping to-

**D - Aug 06, 2025 13:23:47**

(coughs)

**B - Aug 06, 2025 13:23:48**

... bring to this work is looking for more ways that we can stop sort of the pipeline. Those who are justice impacted are often unhoused, and those who are unhoused are often justice impacted as well-

**A - Aug 06, 2025 13:24:02**

Thank you. I look forward to learning from you this year. Uh, next is Lauren Cardin.

**C - Aug 06, 2025 13:24:10**

(paper rustles) Hi, everyone. I'm Lauren Cardin. Uh, pronouns are she/her. Um, I'm the Director of California Housing Advocacy at Justice and Age.

**D - Aug 06, 2025 13:24:11**

Oh, justice.

**B - Aug 06, 2025 13:24:11**

... as sort of the pipeline from the foster care system as well, and, and learning from everyone else that's on the committee as well. Thank you.

**C - Aug 06, 2025 13:24:20**

Um, I lead our statewide efforts to prevent and end homelessness for older adults and people with disabilities. Um, and my work really centers around expanding access to safe, affordable, and accessible housing that supports (microphone interference) aging in place and upholds the dignity of older adults and people with disabilities. Um, my previous work was as a legal aid attorney, um, in rural and urban settings representing low-income homeowners and tenants in a broad range of housing matters. Um, and I really hope on this committee that I can help ensure that older adults and people with dis- disabilities, that their needs are centered and my-

**C - Aug 06, 2025 13:24:56**

... policies surrounding, um, homelessness, uh, actions, um, and that we remain focused on the Housing First policies. We're very happy to be here. Thank you.

**A - Aug 06, 2025 13:25:12**

Thank you so much, Lauren. Next, I'll call upon Monique Guerra.

**E - Aug 06, 2025 13:25:13**

Okay.

**B - Aug 06, 2025 13:25:14**

Hello, everyone. My name is Monique Guerra. My preferred pronouns are she/her/hers. Um, I currently serve as one of the Lived Experience Advisory Board lead support members, um, so really excited to be here. I bring both, uh, personal experience and professional, um, dedication to this work. I too have, uh, experienced-

**E - Aug 06, 2025 13:25:39**

(clears throat) A lot of different systems of care and, uh, currently still experience some of those with family and, um, just always trying to advance the community that I come from first. Right? Um, (clears throat) my journey is rooted in lived experience with homelessness, foster care, navigating multiple systems of care, um, and that's what drives the passion for this advocacy and systems change. Um, during my time in college at, uh, UCR, I faced housing instability, so even as a youth, um, and a young adult, um, but was able to access transitional housing resources, um, to complete my degree. So that experience really brought perspective to the resources, um, and support systems that young people need. And, um, I've been involved with, with other organ-

**E - Aug 06, 2025 13:26:18**

... organizations like CYC, California Youth Connection, um, Riverside's Housing and Homelessness Solutions department, um, as well as the continuum of power within Riverside County. Um, I've been an AmeriCorps VISTA, and, um, currently now serve with Cal ICH as well as a policy analyst, um, but was on the leave as, um, a COC youth coordinator, so really excited to be here and share that experience.

**E - Aug 06, 2025 13:26:50**

All right. Can you all hear me?

**D - Aug 06, 2025 13:26:53**

Yes.

**E - Aug 06, 2025 13:26:53**

Okay, thank you. Hey everyone, Deshelle Kendrick, she, her, hers pronouns. I'm currently with SCADPI. My, um, final date is the 22nd of August. I oversee our domestic violence housing programs. Um, our-

**D - Aug 06, 2025 13:26:55**

Yes, we can.

**A - Aug 06, 2025 13:27:05**

Thank you so much. I really appreciate you being here. Um, next is Deshelle Kendrick.

**E - Aug 06, 2025 13:27:17**

... YWCA Greater Los Angeles. Off the back, I'm able to announce that I'll be the Director of Survivor Empowerment Services for YWCA Greater Los Angeles. I also serve, I wear many hats. Um, I also serve as an at-large director for the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence and serve as chair of the, uh, LA City Domestic Violence Alliance. Uh, and then I also co-chair a- an effort for lived experience advisory work for the county. Um, I am a thriving survivor myself and, um, as many folks have previously mentioned, I'm a thriving survivor of many intersection-

**E - Aug 06, 2025 13:27:55**

...of homelessness, as well as homelessness itself. Um, inclusis-- inclusive of, um, substance abuse, um, human trafficking, domestic violence, sexual assaults, um, and, and, um...

**E - Aug 06, 2025 13:28:13**

...system impacted. I guess that's the best way to say it.

**E - Aug 06, 2025 13:28:16**

And the impact that I hope to have as a part of this committee is to look at-

**E - Aug 06, 2025 13:28:24**

... when it comes to housing. I think a lot of the, um, solutions are focused in getting folks off the streets, and we don't really take a look at what the recidivism rate is and point a lot of fa- fingers at the folks that are doing the work, as opposed to considering what that qualitative data looks like.

# Homelessness Policy & Advisory Role

Created on Aug 06, 2025 14:44:24

## Short Summary

The Cal ICH advisory committee discussed policy, practice, and integrating lived experience to combat homelessness.

## Long Summary

The Cal ICH advisory committee convened to establish a foundational understanding of its work in addressing homelessness. The discussion emphasized the critical need for a clear statutory framework, the impact of federal policy shifts, and the importance of incorporating best practices and lived experiences into policy and service delivery. Members identified the committee's role as a vital voice for practical solutions to policymakers, aiming to ensure real progress and accountability in combating homelessness across California.

## Advisory Committee's Role and Structure

- The committee's purpose is to provide expertise and create a foundational understanding of the work on homelessness for both the committee and the public.
- The committee is encouraged to act as a "megaphone" for best practices, particularly when political pressures make it difficult for state agencies to do so.
- Members may be asked to join Cal ICH in legislative presentations to share their expertise and stories.

## Statutory Framework for Homelessness

- A key issue identified is the lack of a statutory framework in California that defines roles, responsibilities, and funding commitments for addressing homelessness.
- A proposed framework should include:
  - **Policy:** A clear statutory basis for the work.
  - **Funding:** A dedicated and ongoing commitment.
  - **Accountability:** Linking funding and responsibilities to specific outcomes.
- The current three-year action plan is seen as an opportunity to develop recommendations for codifying these responsibilities into law.

## Federal Policy and State Response

- There is significant concern about a federal executive order on homelessness, viewed as potentially harmful and a threat to current housing projects and funding.
- The committee is urged to advise the state on a comprehensive response to changes in federal policy and potential funding cuts.
- Cal ICH is working with the Governor's and Attorney General's offices to assess the potential impacts on California's braided federal and state funding.

## Committee Operations and Communication

- The committee meets quarterly in public meetings, as required by law, which prevents private meetings as a full body.
- To improve communication between meetings, Cal ICH will provide monthly updates to the committee.
- These updates will inform members of policy developments and offer opportunities for further engagement.

## Lived Experience Integration

- A concern was raised about ensuring feedback from individuals with lived experience meaningfully impacts policy and recommendations.
- Cal ICH collaborates with its Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB) on various projects.
  - Examples include developing guidance on Housing First principles and creating materials for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.
- Cal ICH is committed to demonstrating how this feedback is directly integrated into its work products.

## Public Comments

- A commenter expressed hope that the committee would address the federal executive order to prevent the collapse of housing projects.

- A representative from Sonoma County's Behavioral Health Board urged the committee to integrate local behavioral health plans into the state's strategy to avoid service silos.

## Next Steps

- The next advisory committee meeting is scheduled for November 5th, from 1:00 to 3:00 PM.
- Members will receive an onboarding packet with the committee charter to review before the next meeting.
- The next full Cal ICH council meeting will be on September 3rd at 1:00 PM.

## Transcriptions

**D - Aug 06, 2025 14:44:24**

Are you all telling me I did such a thorough job at explaining Cal ICH and the advisory committee that there are no questions?

**D - Aug 06, 2025 14:44:32**

You're MCing now, so I certainly thought you would have a few for me.

**user - Aug 06, 2025 14:44:39**

Yeah, my... I even put-

**user - Aug 06, 2025 14:44:39**

Yes, sure. Um-

**user - Aug 06, 2025 14:44:41**

I see hands now. Okay.

**user - Aug 06, 2025 14:44:42**

Oh, hands. Here you go. Yes.

**user - Aug 06, 2025 14:44:43**

I even put my hand up (laughs) because that's what-

**user - Aug 06, 2025 14:44:50**

Like I asked you to. See? You're an MC at. Thank you.

**user - Aug 06, 2025 14:44:52**

I... Yeah. I always do what you tell me to do, (laughs) so I put my hand up. Um, all right. So, thank you for the full walkthrough. This was actually really helpful. And to see all of it in one place with all of us to create a- the right foundation in terms of what the work is, I think, is valuable for us as an advisory committee, and also for the public to have a sense for what we're all charged with doing, because they have an accountability role in this as well, and it's really important. Um, I- as you were talking about how all this kinda connects together, it made me think about how we can be most helpful. And there's so much expertise in all different components, so I think y'all did a really good job of figuring out who to be on and, uh, in order to accomplish that. That's awesome. And, um, wanna make sure we get to the end goal, which is to have a real-

**user - Aug 06, 2025 14:45:53**

Conversation.

**user - Aug 06, 2025 14:45:53**

... have real progress that occurs. Uh, and because ultimately, that's... It isn't about us and then ultimately it's not about ICH, and it, it involves the governor and the, and the legislature. So, um, I- I'm just gonna throw this thing out in case it's helpful or/and you can toss it or whatever.

**B - Aug 06, 2025 14:46:13**

Um, the- the components that I think are most valuable are about first having a statutory framework that addresses what we're trying to accomplish, um, who's doing work, and what the funding commitment is on a going forward basis. I know there's some politics around that. But, we... That doesn't exist. There's nothing in state law that says that we're to really do anything around homelessness. And I find that unacceptable, um, as someone that represents counties and

we struggle with it and we have our own challenges and folks can, can point those out, but it's true for other players in this as well. So that, that's, there's that statutory framework which has policy, funding, needs to have accountability. And then that's at, at that policy level and then there's a practice level that I think this group can be really valuable, um, in addressing which does touch on housing support and what that looks like. Emergency, interim transitional, permanent supporting where it's needed. Um, resource support in terms of folks just sustaining themselves. The services support which touches some of what counties are responsible for and others as well, health plans and, and community-based organizations and others. All that services support that needs to be put in place. Education and training so that some can actually be stable on a going forward basis. And then having the right data which I'm hoping we don't overly complicate. We keep it as focused as possible on what the outcomes are, um, and then have accountability linked to all of that. So that the dollars are aligned to the responsibilities, are aligned to the, um, accountability, are, is aligned to the outcomes and if any lever in that isn't working, like it all kind of falls apart, and we have the opportunity to really build.

**user - Aug 06, 2025 14:48:08**

And the more that different levels get involved, the more complicated I think it becomes for those that then have to do the work on the, um, in the community. So that, just a thought. If that's... If there's a way in which we can-

**C - Aug 06, 2025 14:48:25**

... package our work together and then figure out how to tackle each one of those things, and I'm sure I'm missing some and some of them might not be right, whatever, then, um, I'd be interested in that as a pathway to expedite getting to making recommendations, because I don't think there's a lot of mystery about doing, doing better on, in this area and how to get there. But we have to design the interactions and all the different level- levers first in order to make it happen. So, in case that's helpful.

**E - Aug 06, 2025 14:49:01**

Yeah, super helpful, Graham. Um, I just want to elaborate a little bit more for those of you who are not, um, who haven't been reading welfare institution codes or health and safety codes in your spare time. But, um, to Graham's point, um, and I think I, I touched on this briefly, but in, in the state law, um, we identify counties as being responsible for a certain set of services. So, those are mostly our safety net programs, right? So, counties are responsible for administering, um, cash assistance programs like CalWORKs. Uh, they operate general assistance or general relief, uh, programs for, for single adults. They are very clear on who does that and, and, and what they, uh, what they receive to, to accomplish those, those benefit, um, the administration of those benefits. There's no mention, there's no clarification of who, uh, locally is responsible for addressing their community's, um, homeless needs. And so I can abso- the, let me back up to the action plan. So, we have our, um, our, uh, progress report. That is, is going to be, um, our timeline for publication of that is in March of 2026. And that's going to be, you know, a year in reflection of what we've accomplished, how that, how the landscape of, of, um, funding has changed, whether it's state funding, we will have programs that have sunset in the time, you know, from the, the adoption of the plan to the time that we're writing this progress report, um, but also the, the changing landscape in federal policy. The culmination report for the three-year action plan is absolutely going to be that time, uh, to make those recommendations that are not tied to a specific program or to a, a specific program type. I can see a world in which this body redevelops the recommendation to say, uh, it would benefit the state of California to identify and clarify and codify, uh, rules and responsibilities to address homelessness in, in law. Um, so I, I do think there's opportunity, avenue to accomplish that recommendation or that, um, m- moving that work forward, Graham, I would say is in, in our, uh, in our updates to the action plan. Should also said, this is the first action plan that is, uh, is a three-year plan, which, uh gives us time to sort of assess, provide interim updates as opposed to what it, it had been traditionally was a one-year action plan. Um, so lots of opportunities to inform, um, uh, change through the lifespan of this, this particular plan, so.

**D - Aug 06, 2025 14:52:07**

Well, Dashed's hand went down, so maybe, um, maybe something else came up. But, um, I- I appreciate you mentioning... I- first I want to ditto pretty much everything Graham said. To- totally agree that that's important. And, um, I appreciate you mentioning the federal landscape a couple times. I think it's gonna behoove us to talk about that as a committee very soon. Right? And what the state is doing in response to whether it's the executive order or the just, um, mercurial landscape around potential cuts to funding. Um, I, as, uh, somebody watching the state legislature and watching the administration on housing and homelessness, it's felt like a little bit of business as usual, um, while we're watching just major changes happening to the federal administration. And so I think it would be really important for us to have a voice in advising the, um, the inter-agency council on what steps the state should be taking to have a more kind of fulsome response 'cause ultimately folks on the street, the service providers, like they don't care whether we're in the silo of state or whether they're in the silo of federal. They just know that the larger set of resources is gonna be cut or is gonna be moving radically away from what we know works. Um, and the other thing I- I... Just to actually answer the question that Claire put in the, in the chat. Um, I think in terms of the role of this committee, I heard a lot of things, Meghan, that you... I heard you lift up a lot of best practices. You talked about things like throughput, um, you talked about, you know, that it's not necessarily a fight between, you know, shelter and housing. It's housing that as a homelessness shelter can play a role. Some of that feels somewhat divorced from what we sometimes hear from policymakers, whether it's in the legislature, sometimes from certain folks within the adminis-

**D - Aug 06, 2025 14:52:43**

All right. Alex?

**D - Aug 06, 2025 14:52:48**

Um, thanks, Megan. I, I think D'Chelle had her hand up, so I don't... D'Chelle, did you want to chime in first?

**E - Aug 06, 2025 14:53:01**

Thank you, Alex. I asked for hands and then stopped looking at hands, but yes, please.

**D - Aug 06, 2025 14:54:06**

... nation. Um, so I think what resonates for me is that this body can be a voice of best practices when the politics may make it hard, um, to kind of carry that voice into the legislature, um, into other statements. Um, and so, you know, let us be a megaphone for what you sometimes can't say or what sometimes folks in the legislature need to hear from you all.

**E - Aug 06, 2025 14:54:50**

Yeah, I will, uh, absolutely take you up on that, as, as I have, I've done with many of you, uh, already. But, um, to Alex's point, you know, as I had mentioned in my, my first introduction, I, uh, am appointed by the governor. I'm a governor's appointee. Um, there is, uh, there are lines for and room for folks who are, um, appointed by the governor, certainly civil servants, um, our, our colleagues in the legislature. There's a tremendous amount of opportunity coming this year for us to, um... And I'll say this very plainly, like, Cal ICH historically has not had a relationship with, with the legislature, and that has to change. Um, and so we're sort of, uh, inserting ourselves, um, in, in those spaces. There's, um, a cohort for, uh, new, new member, uh, members of the legislature, their staff to participate in, um, these, these learning cohorts. I will be facilitating the first ever cohort on, on homelessness coming in October. Um, but are also offering to our council member departments who have, um, various committee hearings, um, our support in attending those hearings with them. Um, I can also see a world where, uh, Cal ICH is asked to do a presentation for, uh, a legislative committee and we ask members of our advisory committee to attend and join and to share in, in the storytelling. So yeah, appreciate that, Alex.

**D - Aug 06, 2025 14:56:02**

Uh, Adrian?

**B - Aug 06, 2025 14:56:06**

Hi. Thank you. Um, my comment or- or- or question was actually along the same lines as Alex, um, as well, and I was thinking about the administration's executive order, um, around homelessness and how harmful, um, most of that, all of it, would be for the- for the populations that we're working with. Um, like, how do we pivot or- or, um, you know, uh, you know, it was so helpful to hear, uh, you know, background on the plan and, like, sort of how we work together with the full council, but like, how do we pivot when something like that, um, either, you know, federally or state is happening, either good or bad? Like, do we ever issue statements, um, like for example, on the, you know, the administration's executive order? Do we weigh in or could we weigh in on those again, positive or, and- and, or harmful? Like, how do we- how do we pivot or how do we, uh, you know, you know, be more, I guess, visible, um, to our policymakers? So those are just, uh, comment and question I had too.

**E - Aug 06, 2025 14:57:07**

Yeah. And I- unfortunately, I'm not gonna be able to say too much else other than what I, what I offered in the- the presentation. Um, we are though, uh, working very closely with our- our colleagues in the governor's office and the attorney general's office to, um, understand the potential impacts and doing those assessments of, um, California's investments that are also braided with federal dollars. And the worst-case scenarios for our continuums of care, for our counties, for our cities, our providers who are all implementing these things locally, um, to do our best to make sure that those services, those, um, you know, th- those folks are not having a major disruption in their lives, um, whether it's in the service or in their- their literal housing. So, there will certainly be more to come, I think, in the- the next several weeks. Um, what was also new for this advisory committee is that we will be doing monthly, um, updates to the committee. We meet quarterly, right? A lot happens in that- in that in-between time, um, and a valid complaint, uh, from our inaugural advisory committee was, you know, so much happens in that time and they felt- they felt disconnected sort of from the decisions and from the conversations and the opportunities for additional engagement. Um, and so this committee will be receiving monthly updates and opportunities to engage further, uh, in certain areas of work, uh, with Cal ICH.

**E - Aug 06, 2025 14:58:46**

I'm going to... Okay, I see no- no additional hands. Uh, I will open it up one last time before we- and we are very, uh, very early in our agenda, but that is okay. This is a lot of information, uh, to- to cover, to absorb. Um, we will certainly have a full agenda in- in November, um, with potentially some action items for this body. So, I'll offer one more opportunity for our- our advisory committee members to pose any questions. Um, if not, I will pass it to Claire to move us on to the next item. Oh, I see a hand.

**D - Aug 06, 2025 14:59:26**

Michelle.

**B - Aug 06, 2025 14:59:31**

Hi, sorry, I switched to my phone and it's confusing. Uh, yeah. So first, I wanted to say thank you, Megan. I can tell that you all were really intentional in this presentation and, and serving on different committees. I mean, we don't even... This is very helpful and it's the first time that I've had such an in-depth, um, onboarding experience. Uh, so I really appreciate the "What we do" and "What we don't" uh, slide. Uh, I'm also interested in hearing, uh, the... I had a concern about we meet quarterly and just keeping in touch on how we can advance efforts or educate ourselves more on any, uh, current movements that are happening would be helpful. So those monthly updates are helpful. Um, I'm just wondering, do we meet any time where we're not up in a public meeting?

**D - Aug 06, 2025 15:00:32**

Give me one second-

**E - Aug 06, 2025 15:00:34**

Yeah, um, I- I say unfortunately with all due respect to the faculty team act, um, it is for members of the public who are joining us, we'd love to, to, uh, have you all here. It is just, uh, it's- it becomes a little challenging when you have these virtual settings. So, um, unfortunately, uh, we cannot, uh, because this is a faculty team meeting, cannot meet outside of the designated, uh, meeting times as a body. We cannot discuss matters related to the advisory committee, um, not in a public setting. That is- that is, uh, uh, a little bit of a challenge for us.

**D - Aug 06, 2025 15:01:44**

Sorry, the convenience.

**B - Aug 06, 2025 15:01:47**

Understood. And then, so with that, I just... I'm interested in learning from- from feedback and findings from the inaugural committee. Um, oftentimes folks with lived experience are called in to serve in- in spaces like this. And there's often a- a, um, feedback where they're here to provide... Uh, peop- folks, lived experts are here to provide a voice, and then that voice is supposed to provide, um, information to help with design, uh, and- and so that the body can then say that they have consulted with folks from lived experience and that these recommendations are in alignment with that. So I'm interested in- in learning how, um, folks do provide an impact on recommendations.

**E - Aug 06, 2025 15:02:07**

I see..... our lived experience advisory board support with us today. Um, Melanie or Monique, I'm wondering if you wanted to share a little bit about your experience and how Cal ICH has engaged with the lead, um, and then have, um, you know, returned to close the loop on- on, um, the expertise that you've shared with us.

**B - Aug 06, 2025 15:02:40**

Um, I can start Melanie, if you'd like. So hi, everyone. Again, my name is Monique Lera. I am also on the Lived Experience Advisory Board and one of the support members. Um, I think one of our more recent projects was, uh, around Housing First and so those principles and how exactly are we supposed to carry out Housing First in local communities, but also how do folks in local communities, uh, feel about, about helping its implementation. And so we were able to get feedback around, um, the ways that we think it should look like when you're implementing Housing First correctly, um, but also with a person center view and make sure that you are trauma-informed and not just giving care and services, but access to housing support networks. And so being able to show that experience around Housing First principles, um, was helpful. And so just how important for, um, for our Housing First, uh, policy specialist was coming into meetings, sharing the information and then sharing how, um, resources, materials, um, are incorporated or created based on that feedback. Melanie, if you want to add something about a different project maybe.

**D - Aug 06, 2025 15:02:51**

That's helpful. Thanks.

**user - Aug 06, 2025 15:04:22**

Thank you, Monique. Yeah, another project that we've been working on is trying to get materials in the hands of people that are experiencing unsheltered homelessness. So we're talking about different safety protocols or perhaps a new policy on criminalizing homelessness. And so we've gone through various rounds of first putting input into it and then looking at the final product and getting feedback. Is this realistic for people to hold on to? What other ma- or what other things does it need? And how else do we want to make sure that these materials are shared so that it gets in the hands of the people that we intend it to serve?

**B - Aug 06, 2025 15:05:24**



Thank you. I just have one follow-up question. So then that sounds about 75% of the year, right? Because it, it sounds like one, one, that if it is developed and then consulted with policy analysts and then represented and that sounds like three out of the four meetings that we would have in a, in, in a calendar year?

**D - Aug 06, 2025 15:05:28**

I would say yes. So this is a two-year turn too for, for each of our, our new members and so the onboarding is sort of, uh, it takes up one of, one of those quarterly meetings. We are not opposed, uh, to meeting more often if that's, if that's the desire of this body. Um, but we, you know, recognize that folks have other jobs and lives outside of, of policy and...

**C - Aug 06, 2025 15:05:32**

Thank you.

**D - Aug 06, 2025 15:05:33**

So all that to say, um, there's... Yeah. I was just going to wrap that up to show that, um, when we asked for the lead input and feedback, we also as a part of those, those project proposals, um, gave an explanation as to how we will close that, that loop of information, how we're integrating the feedback into the work product. And I think the Housing First, um, uh, guidance is a, is a great example of that. Uh, that, you know, those, those experiences, those expertise are directly embedded into the, the guiding document as a result of, of that feedback. So...

**C - Aug 06, 2025 15:05:54**

... but it, it does something that (audio cuts out)

**D - Aug 06, 2025 15:06:02**

actually requires a minimum of quarterly meetings, but we can certainly increase...

**C - Aug 06, 2025 15:06:15**

because we are so early in the agenda.

**C - Aug 06, 2025 15:06:16**

Oh, cool. Thank you. No, I have-

**D - Aug 06, 2025 15:06:20**

Okay, no hands. I will thank you all for, for, uh, listening to, to very lengthy, um, explanation of a very complicated system. Uh, again, thank you all for, for your, um, your support in this work. And I will pass it to CalICH staff person, Clare Bannerman, to move us on to the next agenda item, which is me. Just to say that, uh, the next step for this committee, um, is our, is our quarterly advisory committee. Uh, the next meeting will be held on November 5th, uh, from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. We will be reviewing the group's charter. Um, after this meeting concludes, we will be doing a debrief, um, with staff and with the co-chairs. Um, and as I, as I mentioned, we'll be providing monthly updates to this body on sort of, the, the evolution of policy and goings ons in, in housing and homelessness. But, um, after this meeting you'll be sent your full onboarding packet, which will include the charter that we do ask for you to review, um, ahead of the November meeting. So with that, I will pass it to, uh, to Clare to facilitate the next item.

**user - Aug 06, 2025 15:07:58**

Great. Thank you. So we will now accept general public comments. We welcome all comments and feedback. Due to the structure of this public meeting, we will, we may not be able to respond then...

**user - Aug 06, 2025 15:08:17**

The Cal ICH or the committee, please email us at calich@bcsh.ca.gov. Everyone will get two minutes for their comment. A Cal ICH staff member will soon share their screen with a two-minute countdown timer, and we will warn you when your time has expired.

**C - Aug 06, 2025 15:08:37**

Howdy.

**user - Aug 06, 2025 15:08:37**

There's a continuation of the meeting I was in.

**user - Aug 06, 2025 15:08:40**

The mention of the president's executive order, um, this has the potential to have...

**user - Aug 06, 2025 15:08:41**

I need a whole lot more than, go over to Adrian.

**user - Aug 06, 2025 15:10:03**

... this could have, not only in our community, but across the state. Uh, so it's my hope that, uh, in a future CAL ICH meeting, there'll be additional information for the different, uh, members to be able to have a robust discussion, uh, and hopefully help the state to garner some guidance, uh, so that our housing projects, uh, don't ultimately collapse under the pressure of the federal government, uh, in underwriting the subsidies that really help individuals be housed in our community and others. Um, so th- I mean, that's really just sort of my comment. Uh, I, I really do appreciate the conversation around Housing First, uh, but we do have this massive looming threat above us, uh, and I really would hate to see people, uh, return to the streets as a result of this conflict. Uh, thank you for your time, and, and, uh, there we go.

**A - Aug 06, 2025 15:11:02**

Thank you, Noah.

**A - Aug 06, 2025 15:11:07**

... who would like public comment at this time?

**A - Aug 06, 2025 15:11:07**

Recording in progress.

**A - Aug 06, 2025 15:11:08**

Okay. Do we have any other participants or attendees-

**A - Aug 06, 2025 15:11:11**

Okay. Gregory Pearson?

**A - Aug 06, 2025 15:11:14**

All right. You can unmute. You have two minutes.

**user - Aug 06, 2025 15:11:56**

Thank you very much. I'm, uh, Gregory Farren (echoing) . I'm, I'm gonna try and turn my cell phone off so it doesn't interfere.

**user - Aug 06, 2025 15:12:09**

Um, anyway, I'm on the Behavioral Health Board for Sonoma County, and we're, as you know, uh, very much e- engaged in developing an integrated plan for all of the money in the health department around, um, homelessness that behavior from a behavioral health and, uh, and, and substance use disorder point of view. It's the first time in my experience that we've actually had a chance to build strong wraparound services to a whole lot of, uh, homeless facilities. Um, I bring it up because somehow during the time of our either development of the plan or once it's produced by, uh, early next spring, I would hope that the Interagency Council on Homelessness would want to hear and braid our plan and our funding and our services into the services traditionally, um, perceived by, uh, you guys as within your scope of responsibility. Um, I don't want it to state the same thing we've always had at the local, which is the kind of siloization of homeless programs and homeless services and behavioral health and substance use in other silos. So I'm here to say that we're, we're doing our job in the behavioral health world, uh, and we hope that you take notice of that and that you integrate that as much as you can into what you're doing. Thank you very much.

**A - Aug 06, 2025 15:13:29**

I'll give one last chance for attendees to raise their hand if they would like to make a public comment.

**A - Aug 06, 2025 15:13:46**

Okay. We have no further hands. So, Josh, would you mind bringing back up the PowerPoint? Uh, thank you everyone. We appreciate your comments and your engagement. And I will now turn it over to the co-chairs of the advisory committee for final remarks and adjournment.

**A - Aug 06, 2025 15:14:13**

Thank you again, everybody, um, for joining us today. We do definitely appreciate the insights and comments from the committee members, and from the members of the public. As you can see, we're working really hard to move this committee toward actionable work, and are able to do so because of your thoughtful input and attention to the work in

this space. Our next committee meeting will be on November 5th, 2025 at 1:00 PM. I would also like to thank members of the public again for your attendance to this very long meeting. Um, there's a lot to learn and we will continue to learn as we move forward. Um, and then finally, let's see, uh, the... We also hope that you could all join us to listen in on the council meeting, which is on September 3rd at 1:00 PM. And with that, this meeting is adjourned at 3:14 PM. Uh, to receive an up-to-date information on the council's activities, please sign up o-

**A - Aug 06, 2025 15:14:35**

Thank you, Gregory.