

Dear Valued Community Members,

The Continuum of Care Board is an independent body made up of local stakeholders who are committed to ending homelessness in Sacramento. They are responsible for advising Sacramento Steps Forward on matters related to the [Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing \(HEARTH\) Act](#) and the associated federal funding awarded to local service providers each year. In October, they approved the creation of a new **CoC Board Racial Equity (REQ) Committee**.

The **proposed purpose** of this committee is to uncover the scope, causes, and potential solutions of race serving as a predictor for homelessness in Sacramento. This discovery extends to the ways in which Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) experience homelessness and our local homelessness system. As knowledge is generated, it will be disbursed through interactive trainings, accessible reports, and other user-friendly mechanisms.

The Committee is tasked with developing an **Action Plan** that has been fully informed by BIPOC with lived experience of homelessness, as well as input and recommendations from stakeholders, studies, pilots, our local gaps analysis and Coordinated Entry evaluation, and the learnings of other communities to guide the decision-making process of the CoC Board over the next 3-5 years. The ultimate vision is to create an equitable, accountable, and transparent homelessness system that catalyzes structural change both inside and outside of our current sphere of influence.

We hope that the committee will be co-chaired by a CoC Board member and a member of the community. As will be the case with every member of the REQ Committee, beginning in January, the co-chairs will attend monthly 2-hour meetings and additional trainings, stakeholder forums, learning sessions, and other CoC committee meetings as warranted, as well as conduct committee assignments outside of the monthly meetings. Co-chairs will have the additional responsibility of meeting with staff for

approximately 2 hours per month to plan meetings and ongoing activities. The time commitment for all REQ Committee members is estimated at 4.5 - 6.0 hours per month and for co-chairs at 7.0 - 9.0 hours per month.

Because this work is anticipated to greatly impact the lives of BIPOC who are experiencing homelessness by surfacing their unique needs, circumstances, and recommendations, we are placing a special emphasis on having their **substantial representation** on the committee. We acknowledge that those who are actively and presently experiencing homelessness may not be well positioned to participate on this committee; however, those who have experienced homeless in the recent past and are still connected to individuals and families who have not yet been housed will be invaluable on this committee. There is a **\$25/hour stipend** available for committee members with lived experience.

We would love to welcome you to this essential work! If you are interested in co-chairing or otherwise serving on this committee, please contact me at [tgreen@sacstepsforward.org](mailto:tgreen@sacstepsforward.org). The application process is very simple and can be done through this link: <https://tinyurl.com/y4fnfy7n>.

Best,

Tamu Green, PhD  
Systems Performance Advisor  
Sacramento Steps Forward