

Designing for Equity:
Centering
Lived
Experience in
Coordinated
Entry System
Transformation

#### **Speaker Bios**



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Staff Support to Santa Clara Lived Experience
Advisory Board, Racial Equity Action Lab,
Supportive Housing Leadership Group,
Coordinated Entry Re-Design, Housing Problem
Solving Trainer



**Debra Townley** 

Member of West Valley Community Services' Lived Experience Advisory Committee and Survivors of the Streets at Sacred Heart Community Services, on the Board of the Affordable Housing Network. Founding member of a tenant association at permanent supportive housing building, Prioritization Committee member for CES Redesign, and Review and Rank NOFO panelist.









Image Source





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#### Prioritization Committee

 A representative group of 10-12 people with lived experience of homelessness

# PRIORITIZATION COMMITTEE DIVERSITY MECHANISM

Identity / Experience	Prioritization Committee Member #1	Prioritization Committee Member #2	Prioritization Committee Member #3	Prioritization Committee Member #4	Prioritization Committee Member #5
BIPOC					
LGBTQIA+			'	'	
Survivor of IPV					
Parents/ families					
Youth and young adults					
Elderly					
Has a disabling condition					
Veteran status					
Substance use experience					
Immigrant experience					
Households that are undocumented					
Foster care experience					
Use of mental health services					
Geographic distribution (North/East/ South County)					
Current experience of homelessness					

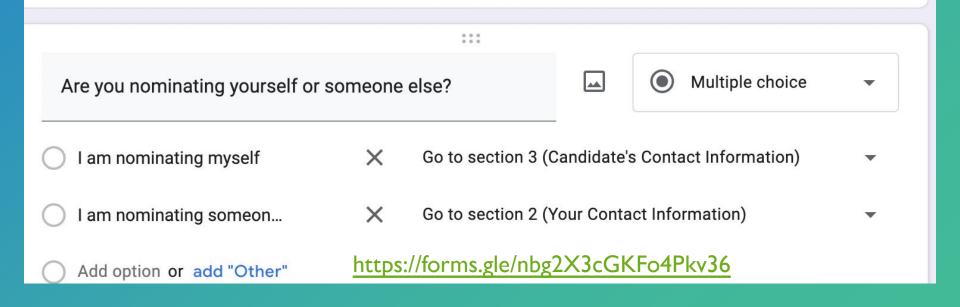
#### Prioritization Steering Committee Sign Up

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The Prioritization Steering Committee is a representative group of 10-12 people with lived experience of homelessness. The Prioritization Steering Committee will be responsible for the following components of Santa Clara County's redesigning coordinated entry efforts:

- 1.Establish a guiding vision and goals for the redesign process, identify priorities, and define "vulnerability"
- 2. Make an initial recommendation to the CoC Board
- 3. Consider/endorse Implementation Committee proposal

Compensation at \$25/hr will be provided to Prioritization Committee members with lived expertise of homelessness who are unemployed or who are attending Prioritization Committee meetings outside of their employed working hours.



## **Prioritization Committee Meetings**

- The Prioritization Committee held <u>ten weekly meetings</u>, an ad hoc meeting, and a half-day retreat, over the course of which members:
  - Built community and set goals
  - Gained an understanding of coordinated entry
  - Reviewed hypothetical prioritization scenarios
  - Identified value statements and came to consensus on the values
  - Discussed how to incorporate client choice into coordinated entry

...while continuously acknowledging that this work is **extraordinarily difficult**!



## Inclusivity



Providing in-person and virtual meeting options



Having translation and interpretation services



Zoom breakout rooms



Follow-up between meetings



## Compensation





All PC members were promptly compensated for their time

Flexible gift card options were provided depending on the need

#### **Team Workflow**



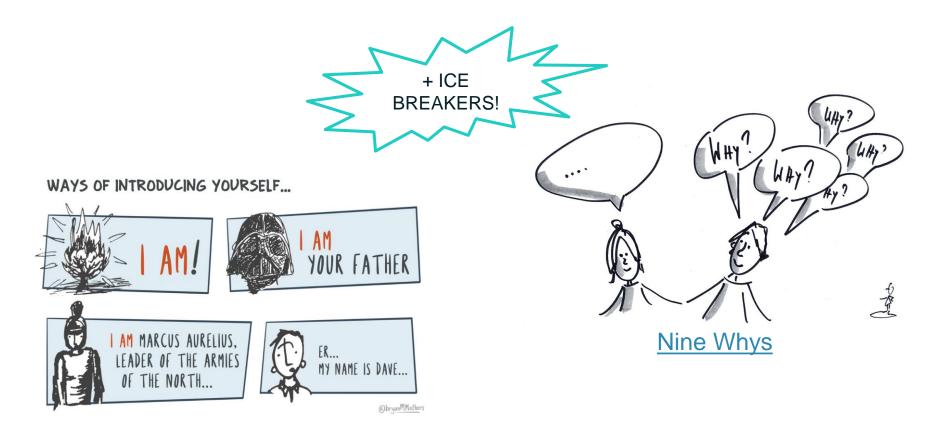




#1 key = FLEXIBILITY

So many brainstorming meetings!

## Meeting Facilitation Structures



Welcome and introductions + "I am..." activity
Image Source: Bryan M Mathers

## Overview of Prioritization Committee Values

## The Prioritization Committee has identified a set of **guiding values** that:

- Define vulnerability
- Advance equity
- Honor veterans
- Center client choice

## These values are **prioritized differently** within the following subpopulations:

- Youth and young adults
- Single adults
- Families with children
- Individuals with criminal legal system involvement



#### **Prioritization Committee Values**

- Centering client choice regarding housing and services that will meet individual needs
- Prioritizing racial/ethnic groups over-represented in the homeless population
- Protecting people who may not be able to protect themselves
- Preventing physical harm and prioritizing those who have experienced it
- Honoring veterans
- Helping people returning from incarceration to get a fresh start
- Prioritizing chronically homeless persons
- Protecting people who may not be able to take care of themselves
- Prioritizing individuals who are living unsheltered

Check out the Prioritization Committee report to learn more!



## Final Takeaways



**Image Source** 





Image Source: VectorStock



#### **Facilitation Resources**

- 1. Welcome and introductions + "I am..." activity
- What do you hope to get from and give this group? + intro to SCC CES + Q&A
- 3. What CE can/can't do + data on housing placements
- 4. What questions would you ask ten unhoused community members to decide who should be prioritized for one open housing slot?
- 5. <u>Emerging themes</u> + <u>nine why's activity</u>
- 6. Reflection on emerging values
- 7. ID decision-making agreements + clarify values
- 8. Finalize values + CoC Board presentation planning
- 9. <u>Integrating client choice into CE + data on values as reflected in</u> current CES referrals
- 10. Looking forward + Implementation Committee planning



### Thank You!



If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to nikole@homebasecc
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