

HOMELESS POLICY DEPUTIES MEETING AGENDA

MEETING WILL BE VIRTUAL

Date: Thursday, February 6, 2025

Time: 11:00 – 12:30 PM

Location: Virtual

For members of the public who wish to join virtually or over the phone, please see below:

Microsoft Teams Link: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Teleconference Number: [+1 323-776-6996,,605730583#](#)

For Spanish interpretation, members of the public should send emails within 48 hours in advance of the meeting to ClusterAccommodationRequest@bos.lacounty.gov

	AGENDA ITEM	LEAD
I.	Welcome and Introductions	Tyler Cash, Fifth District
II.	EverExcel Update on Funding Recommendation Listening Session Findings	Cheri Todoroff Executive Director, Homeless Initiative and Affordable Housing Earl J. Edwards, PhD Founder and Principal Consultant, EverExcel Consulting LLC
III.	Items Recommended for Future Discussion	
IV.	Public Comment*	

* Public Comment is limited to one minute. Those joining virtually interested in speaking should raise their hand on Microsoft Teams and unmute once called upon by the Chair. Those on their phones should press *5 to raise their hand and *6 to unmute.

NEXT MEETING: February 13, 2025

2024

HOMELESS INITIATIVE

COMMUNITY

LISTENING

CAMPAIGN

Findings Presentation

Presented by Reba Stevens
Sage Johnson
Elianny C. Edwards Phd.
Earl J. Edwards, Phd.





Topics	Allocated Time
The Report	20 Minutes
Ideas for Future Listening Sessions	5 Minutes
Q&A	15 Minutes





Dr. Earl J. Edwards



Sage Johnson



Dr. Tr'Vel Lyons



Joslynn Cerrato



Reba Stevens



Jerzy Messan



Dr. Elianny C. Edwards



Tae Thompson

- Homeless Research Experience
- Facilitation Experience
- LA County Homeless Advocacy Experience
- Lived Experience of Homelessness

Cities and COGS

Service Providers BIPOC Advisory Groups

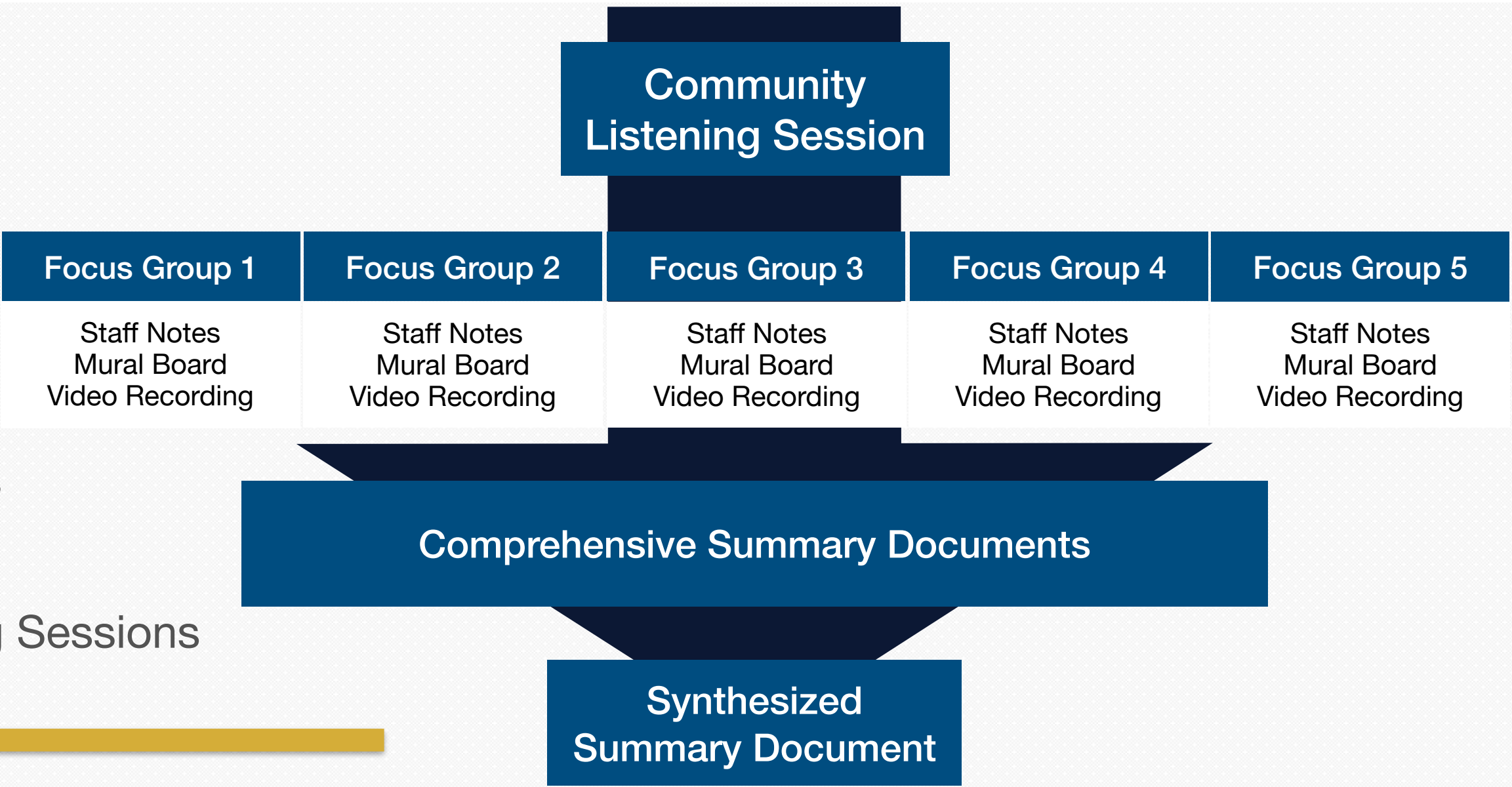
Older Adults Service Planning Areas

Adults with Lived Experience

Youth Service Providers

Youth with Lived Experience

Family Service Providers Spanish Speaking Sessions



22 Community Listening Sessions **+5**

1,292 Participants at Listening Sessions **+758**

150 Survey Respondents **-3**

138 Participants with Lived Experience **+103**

■ Increase from 2022

■ Decrease from 2022

"As an African American woman, **I feel invisible to the naked eye.** I don't matter, and it's my own fault that I'm in the position I'm in. At least, that's how I'm treated. It's so defeating."

Black Woman Experiencing Homelessness

Overarching Challenges

- **Black Advocates Feel Unheard**
- Low-Quality Experiences in the Homeless Service Delivery System for Black People
- Misleading Reporting on Black Homelessness
- **Services for Spanish and Non-English Speakers**
- **Better Data Collection Methods for American Indian and Alaska Natives**
- More Dedicated Oversight on DEI within the Sector

Areas to Invest In

- **Culturally Responsive and Culturally Sustaining Pilot Programs for the American Indian and Alaskan Native Community**
- Equity-Centered Advisory Convening
- **BPEH Recommendations**
- Partnerships with Spanish-Speaking Organizations
- Representative Leadership Structures and Equitable Wages
- **Organizations that Prioritize an Organizing Model**

“The thing that would really support us is bringing more of a full-person developmental model to youth homeless services...there is little acknowledgment that we're still developing in our individual selves as well as a community. And this is the time when we need to have those sound supports that help us develop as a whole person and not just from one aspect of our life.”

Black Man TAY Experiencing Homelessness

Overarching Challenges

- Lack of Developmentally Responsive Models in Housing Services
- Lack of Culturally Responsive Models in Housing Services
- **Tethering Work, Education, and Housing**
- Lack of Resources and Awareness in K-12 Schools
- **Limited THP and THP+ Programs throughout LA County**

Areas to Invest In

- **A 24-hour TAY Community Centers**
- **Homeless Prevention Funding For K-12 Schools**
- More Youth CES Coordinators
- Building more Single Site Supportive Housing for Youth
- Promising Organizations Mentioned
 - LGBT Center
 - Sanctuary of Hope
 - LA: Rise
 - Youth Emerging Stronger
 - Safe Place for Youth

“I had not known that when the police moved you from an area, and you go to the next area, [moving] could possibly make you stay homeless longer...I did not know that every time you move outside of a [service provider] zone, you start your application all over again. And so, for three years, I thought I was on the list, but **I was never on the list because they kept taking me back off every time I moved and talked with a new provider.**”

White Man with Lived Experience of Homelessness

Overarching Challenges

- Jurisdictional Divides Exacerbated by Grants Pass and Governor’s Order
- Limited Coordination Across SPAs

Areas to Invest In

- **A Streamlined PHA Application**
- More Co-Located Access Points
- More Safe Landing Sites
- **Leveraging Local Solutions Funding for Coordination**

“We can’t say we have prevention dollars that can help people pay their back rent and it takes over **90 days for the money to hit a landlord’s account.**”

Service Provider

Overarching Challenges

- **Narrow Eligibility Thresholds for Prevention Services**
- Rental Arrearages Take Too Long to Clear
- **Limited Use of Schools, Colleges, and Faith-Based Centers as Prevention Sites**
- Limited Prevention Targeting Older Adults

Areas to Invest In

- More Flexible Shallow Subsidies
- Holistic Legal Services
- **Expanding and Replicating the “Friendly Calling”**
- **Universal Prevention Funds**
- **Required Homeless Prevention Specialist Position(s)**

“I got evicted February 26th, 2024, I think 10:15 AM...And 211 just kept saying, call this place, call that place. And just everything was call here, call there, but no one actually gave me any real help.”

Black Woman Experiencing Homelessness

Overarching Challenges

- **The Ineffectiveness of 211 and Advertising Services**
- **The Need for More High-Quality Case Managers**
 - Establish a trusting rapport with community members
 - Have cultural humility and a strong social awareness of the SPA
 - Are knowledgeable of services offered by mainstream county systems and community-based organizations
 - Are strong and skilled advocates who know to speak and write persuasively on behalf of clients
 - Build their expertise in the position over time.
- Long Wait Times for LA-HOP

Areas to Invest In

- Expanding the CIRCLE Model
- **Online Resource Application and Hub**
- Case Management Recruitment and Retention Strategies
- Universal Prevention Funds
- **Create a Lived Experience Academy**

“Soy una persona asmática. No uso drogas ni alcohol, pero yo vivo dentro de una casa de una agencia donde las personas anteriores usan o usaron drogas y sus emociones son diferentes. Son sensibles. Entonces yo mantengo todo el día afuera y en la noche uso mi *housing* solo para dormir, lavar la ropa, y comer. Podra *housing* tener unas reglas o organizarse así de que una casa es para las personas que se están tratando de liberarse de drogas y otra casa es para las personas que están enfermas de asma o otra cosas similares para no enfrentar conflicto.”

Latino Spanish Speaking Male with Lived Experience

Overarching Challenges

- **Lack of Regional Control Over Housing Placement**
- **Lack of Beds for Subpopulations**
 - People Impacted by Substance Use Disorders
 - Unaccompanied Minors
 - Transitional Age Youth
 - LGBTQIA Community Members
 - Older Adults
 - Domestic Violence Survivors
- **Lack of Differentiation Between Housing Placements**
- **Low-Quality Housing Units**

Areas to Invest In

- **More Pathway Home Projects**
- **Multigenerational Family Subsidies**
- **Funding for FBOs and CBOs to Purchase and Renovate Property**

“[The service provider agency] is helping me not only find a place but how to keep the place...because you get there, what are you going to do? So they have been teaching me life skills, so I can take care of myself.”

Black Man Experiencing Homelessness

Overarching Challenges

- Lack of Capacity to Meet the Demands of Case Management
- **Case Management Services for Families with Children**
- Lack of Workforce Development Programming and Accountability Data
- Lack of Mental Health and Substance Use Services

Areas to Invest In

- Economic and Housing Stability
- Homeless Sector Staff with Lived Experience
- Employment Dashboard Indicator
- **Leverage FBO and CBO for Stabilization Support**
- Mental Health Support
- Substance Use Disorder



Ideas for Listening Forward

- Rotate between **comprehensive** listening sessions and **targeted** listening sessions that focus on 3 strategies
- Leverage town hall and public municipal meetings as naturally occurring listening sessions
- Partner with Spanish-Speaking Organizations
- Reach Back to Previous Participants

THANK YOU