



HOMELESSNESS SERVICES

Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC) Board
2023 Nomination Form

Name of Nominee: Benjamin Leroi Agency: Santa Rosa Community Health

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

The CoC Consolidated Application requires CoC Lead Agency to include specific race and ethnicity information for those included in CoC Board, committees, and activities. Responses must specifically identify the race(s) and ethnicities overrepresented in our homeless care system and provide the percentage of their over-representation. Please select all that apply.

How would you describe your racial/ ethnic identity?

- Latino (North America) Latino (Central America) Latino (Other group)
- Another Race or Ethnicity Asian Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander Black or African American
- Afro Caribbean Indigenous or Tribal Nations White Other: _____ Prefer not to answer

Geographical Area or Subpopulation(s) Represented: Work in Santa Rosa, Live in Petaluma, Intend to serve the needs of the whole county. Subpopulation: People experiencing chronic homelessness

Other reasons the nominee should be considered for the CoC Board: It has been an honor serving on the Sonoma County CoC Board and many of its Committees. Thanks to the members of the CoC Board, Lead Agency staff, partners, CoC Membership, and an engaged public including people with lived experience, great progress has been made over the past 3 years and there is obviously still much work that remains to be done to accomplish the long-term goal of approaching functional zero homelessness.

Please fill out this section only if you are nominating someone other than yourself. Please ensure you forward the Statement of Interest form to the individual you are nominating for completion.

Name of Nominator: _____ Agency: _____

Contact Information: _____ Signature of Nominator: _____

Vacant Seats for Election by the CoC Voting Members

1 At Large: No CoC membership requirements and anyone can apply; elected by voting the CoC voting members.

1 Homeless Service Provider: One representative of a homeless services provider different than the one with an appointed seat, as elected by CoC voting members.

1 Licensed Health Care Organization: One representative from a licensed health care organization, as elected by CoC voting members.



Candidates may run for no more than two seats. Should a candidate run for two seats, one of them must be an at-large position. **Please select which seat(s) the individual is being nominated for:**

At Large Homeless Service Provider Licensed Health Care Organization

Nominations and Statement of Interest must be received by 5:00 pm on November 29th, 2023, to Araceli.Rivera@sonoma-county.org

Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC) Board 2023 Statement of Interest

This section is to be filled out by the individual being nominated and will be shared publicly.

Name of Candidate: Ben Leroi, Sr. Dir., Special Population Pgms Agency: Santa Rosa Community Health

Please provide a statement of your interest in the Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board:

It has been an honor serving on the Sonoma County CoC (now called the Sonoma County Homeless Coalition) Board of Directors since 2021. Thanks to the members of the CoC Board, Lead Agency staff, valued partners, CoC Membership, and an engaged public including people with lived experience, great progress was made over the past three years rebuilding trust between various stakeholders in building a coordinated system of care for our most vulnerable residents. A new Board Charter was created, a comprehensive strategic plan with community-wide input was developed and approved, regional By-Names-Lists and outreach teams are being launched, we transitioned to a housing-focused Coordinated Entry System (CES) and are now working on re-vamping the CES Assessment and Prioritization methodology. A Lived Experience Advisory group launched in 2022 and has been providing invaluable feedback to the Board. It would be an honor to continue serving as a member of the Sonoma County Homeless Coalition (CoC) Board as we collectively build on this momentum as there is obviously still much work to be done as work on our long-term goal of approaching functional zero homelessness in our community.

In my role at Santa Rosa Community Health, a community health center serving more than 40,000 patients each year, including more than 2,000 people experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity, I help lead our Health Care for the Homeless (HCH) programming. In recent years, we have launched mobile care providing medical care in the community at congregate shelters, non-congregate shelters, and homeless service programs, including mobile COVID-19 vaccination clinics. Our HCH team launched a new clinic in Catholic' Charities Caritas Center, co-locating health services with social services, shelter beds, and recuperative care. In my career, I have worked at organizations in San Mateo and Marin counties that provided outreach, homeless drop-in services, emergency shelter, transitional housing, rapid re-housing, integrated mental health, substance use, and medical services, multidisciplinary case conferencing including shared client data systems, and permanent supportive housing with local, state and federal government funding. I have worked to launch integrated Whole Person Care and Coordinated Entry systems inclusive of a By Names List. I serve on the Board of Directors of COTS, which collaborated closely with the City of Petaluma to launch People's Village, a community of Quick Haven tiny homes as an alternative to congregate shelter as well as with Burbank Housing on the Studios At Montero permanent supportive housing project. I



believe strongly in integrating multi-disciplinary health care services and housing/shelter for our most vulnerable residents to help promote stability and quality of life. I am serving on the Coordinated Entry Assessment and Prioritization Redesign Workgroup that will revamp our systems for evaluating referrals to permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing programs.

There is still much that needs to be done, but working together, we can make substantial progress to improve our community's system of care as we work towards functional zero.

Signature of Candidate



Date: 11/02/2023