



County Moves to Ease Homelessness

Alameda County will spend more than \$350 million over the next three years to reduce homelessness and serve homeless residents in all parts of the County. These funds, approved by the Board of Supervisors late last year, will be on top of the more than \$83 million Alameda County was already spending on homelessness programs each year.

Included in Alameda County's latest effort to curb homelessness is a \$10.5 million allocation approved by the Board in December to provide relief in unincorporated areas that have seen a marked rise in the number of unsheltered residents in recent years. These areas include Castro Valley, the Ashland/Cherryland community south of San Leandro and areas at the County's eastern edge near Livermore.

The Unincorporated County Homelessness Action Plan will support added shelter space, expanded outreach and new resources including a mobile hygiene bus that will provide showers, restrooms and other services to homeless residents in the unincorporated areas. The County is working directly with local cities on similar efforts to bolster homeless services in all areas of the County.

"Homelessness has become a Countywide issue that requires solutions that reach all of our Alameda County communities," said Alameda County Supervisor Wilma Chan. "This plan is an important step in that direction."

The increased funding in the unincorporated areas will support a wide range of efforts, including programs to prevent displacement and homelessness among seniors and households at risk of losing their homes; and to provide health care and access to showers and bathrooms for people who are already homeless.

Funds will also pay for the conversion of two Warming Centers – temporary shelters open only on nights that are rainy or very cold – into shelters open every night during the winter months.

In addition, the plan calls for spending \$310,000 to provide case management and other support to residents of a planned "Tiny Home Community," consisting of six units of transitional housing on the grounds of the First Presbyterian Church in Castro Valley.

The additional spending was recommended by the County Homelessness Council, which was established by the Board of Supervisors in February to address the issue of increased homelessness. The Council includes leaders from the County's law enforcement, social services, health care, housing and community development agencies.

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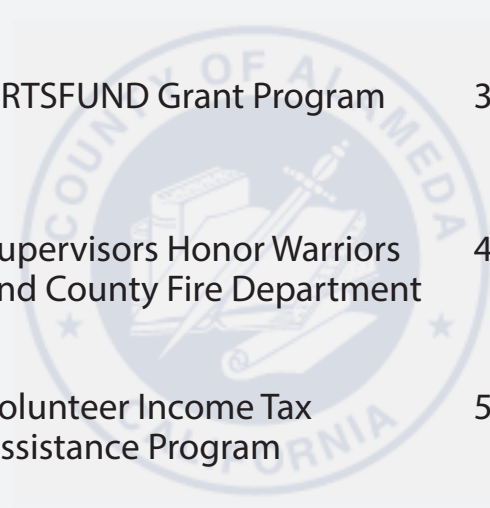
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Finalists Announced for 2019 East Bay Innovation Awards

The East Bay Economic Development Alliance (East Bay EDA) has announced the finalists for the **7th Annual East Bay Innovation Awards**. Award winners will be announced at the awards ceremony on March 28, 2019, at the historic Fox Theater in Oakland.

More than 145 East Bay companies and organizations were nominated as the region's best examples of innovation in product development, services and processes. A panel of experts narrowed this list down to 14 finalists in seven competitive categories. Nominees from Alameda and Contra Costa counties will be highlighted at the March awards ceremony, with the winners to be announced during the event.

Also to be honored at the awards ceremony is the **Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory**, which has been named the program's 2019 **Legacy Award** winner. The 2019 finalists, listed by category in alphabetical order, are:

Catalyst of the Year:

Cyclotron Road (Berkeley)
Wareham Development/QB3 East Bay Innovation Center (Berkeley)

Clean Tech:

PolyPlus Battery Company (Berkeley)
Vigilant (Oakland)

Education:

Scientific Adventures for Girls (Oakland)
TechHire Oakland (Oakland)

Engineering & Design:

AEye (Pleasanton)
Sigray, Inc. (Pacheco)

For more information on the Finalists and the awards ceremony, contact info@EastBayEDA.org or (510) 272-6746. For more information about the East Bay Innovation Awards, go to: iawards.EastBayEDA.org

Join Us for 26th Annual Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame

The 26th Annual Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame Luncheon and Awards Ceremony is scheduled for **Saturday, March 30, 2019, at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 4700 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland.**

The Women's Hall of Fame is accepting nominations in 13 categories: Business and Professions; Community Service; Culture and Art; Education; Emerging Leader; Environment; Health; Justice; Non-Traditional Careers; Science, Technology, Engineering; Sports and Athletics; Philanthropy and Youth.



We will be announcing this year's honoree in February. Tickets to the Awards Luncheon are still available and there are many sponsorship opportunities for you to support this important local program. For information about tickets, sponsorships and other details, go to <http://www.acgov.org/whof/>.

More than 200 women have been inducted into the Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame since its inception in 1993. In addition to honoring extraordinary women leaders from Alameda County, the program raises funds for the Mary V. King "Leading the Way" Youth Scholarship and helps support local nonprofit community partners serving women, youth and families.

The Women's Hall of Fame is a countywide event held in conjunction with **National Women's History Month** in March.

ALAMEDA COUNTY ARTS COMMISSION



Annual ARTSFUND Grants Program

For nonprofit arts organizations in Alameda County

Application Deadline

March 1, 2019, 5pm

The ARTSFUND Grants Program

supports all types of arts programming such as dance, literature, media arts, music, theater, visual arts, and multidisciplinary arts programs presented in Alameda County by Alameda County nonprofit organizations. Standard grant awards are \$1,000 - \$2,500 each. During the 2019 funding cycle, between 35-45 arts organizations may be awarded grants.

Online Application

The ARTSFUND online application is now available.

Informational Video

The video includes step-by-step information about how to use the online application system. An updated video will be released in January 2019.

Free Grant Application Workshops

Wed., January 16, 3:00-4:30pm

Fremont Main Library, [2400 Stevenson Blvd., Fukaya Room A, Fremont, 94538](#)

Wed., January 23, 3:00-4:30pm

Arts Commission Office, [1401 Lakeside Dr., Conference Room 1107, Oakland, 94612](#)

Wed., February 6, 5:30-7:00pm

Livermore Community Center, [4444 East Avenue, Room Larkspur South, Livermore, 94550](#)

The Workshops are free and open to the public. Workshops will include information about the online application system and an overview of the program. Reservation is not required.

Saluting Our Hometown Heroes!



The Board of Supervisors took time out from its weekly meeting on December 18th to honor the Golden State Warriors and the Alameda County Fire Department for the excellence both teams bring to the job. For the third time in the past four years, Board members honored the Warriors (top photograph) - this time for winning the 2017-18 NBA Championship. Once again, the Board halted their meeting long enough to allow those in attendance to pose for photographs with the team's gleaming championship trophy. Later that morning, Supervisors celebrated the Alameda County Fire Department's 25th Anniversary. As a token of appreciation, Fire Chief David Rocha (second from left in lower picture) presented Board members with commemorative 25th Anniversary ACFD helmet shields. In a separate item authored by Supervisor Scott Haggerty, the Board also formally thanked County firefighters for their many sacrifices in 2018, including its extensive support of the recent effort to extinguish the devastating Camp Fire in Butte County. Firefighters attending the meeting, like everyone else, seized the opportunity to take a close look at the latest addition to the Warriors' trophy case.

Award-Winning Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program Up and Running for 2019!

ALAMEDA COUNTY EMPLOYEES PROVIDE NO COST IRS CERTIFIED TAX PREPARATION SERVICES

The Alameda County Social Services Agency (SSA) is providing no cost, IRS-certified tax preparation assistance to low- and moderate-income taxpayers at four locations through April 17, 2019.

Since 2002, SSA Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) preparers have helped taxpayers to receive larger tax refunds by claiming the credits they have earned. The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is provided to working families and single or married individuals. Additionally, families and individuals may be eligible for other credits.

Earn It! Keep It! \$ave It!

Find out if you qualify: <https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/earned-income-tax-credit>.

DID YOU KNOW? California offers its own Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) for W-2 wage and self-employed income earners with calendar year 2018 tax returns. This credit is offered in addition to the existing federal EITC. Check to see if you are eligible for the State EITC: <http://caleitc4me.org/get-it/>.

Visit one of our four sites and have your taxes prepared at no cost by our qualified IRS-certified preparers. Priority service will be given to low-income households. Have your tax refund as quickly as 7 to 10 days with a no-fee direct deposit card. It's Your Money--Get It! Don't miss out!

No-cost tax preparation services are available Monday and Wednesday evenings, and Saturdays at three locations – one in Hayward and two in Oakland. These services are also available Wednesday evenings and Saturdays in San Lorenzo. Appointments are required at all sites. To schedule an appointment, go to <https://alamedasocialservices.org/eitc.cfm>.

Valentine's Day Weddings to be at Clerk-Recorder's Offices in Oakland and Dublin

The Alameda County Clerk-Recorder's Office is taking reservations for wedding ceremonies on Valentine's Day, Thursday, February 14th, from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Reservations are available for weddings at both the Clerk-Recorder's main office (1106 Madison Street in Oakland) and at its Tri-Valley satellite office (7600 Dublin Boulevard in Dublin). The Oakland location offers a specially furnished Wedding Room, while the Tri-Valley location features a charming outdoor courtyard for ceremonies.

Couples who would like to make reservations for their wedding ceremonies on Valentine's Day should obtain their marriage license by Monday, February 11th. Marriage licenses are sold at both the Clerk-Recorder's main office and at the Tri-Valley satellite office.

Ceremonies are \$75, and appointments can be made when purchasing the marriage license or by calling the Clerk-Recorder's Office at **(510) 272-6362**. Each appointment will last approximately 20 minutes.



Alameda County Board of Supervisors

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