



The Arizona Balance of State Continuum of Care (AZBOSCO) Justice Equity Diversity and Inclusion Statement

- All individuals and families in the Arizona Balance of State have the right to safe, affordable housing in healthy communities with access to a network of supportive services.
- The AZBOSCO recognizes that there are disparities in housing outcomes across the Balance of State region, linked to race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability, socio-economic status or other factors, that are perpetuated by historical and structural inequities within the homeless response system.
- The equity statement is to provide guidance for the Governance Advisory Board in establishing trauma informed, person/family centered comprehensive and evolving processes, procedures, policies, documents, outcomes, membership work groups that ensure equity and inclusion in the Balance of State.
- To truly achieve the CoC mission of ending homelessness within the communities it represents and serves, and to meet the purpose of planning and managing homeless assistance resources and services effectively and efficiently, the AZBOSCO understands the needs to both identify and intentionally address these inequities within the homeless response systems region-wide.
- Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion shall be transparent, trauma-informed, and representative of the community served.

The AZBOSCO commits to the following:

- To identify the landscape of inequities within the homeless response system across the Balance of State region, and how policies, procedures, addressing board processes, membership work groups and how biases may contribute to inequitable outcomes among people of color and other socio-economic groups, using a data driven approach.
- To create an intentional action plan to dismantle system inequity and disparities in housing outcomes region-wide

- To effectively engage the expertise of individuals with lived experience into the identification and action related to system inequity. Persons with lived experience to provide insight, knowledge of the diverse issues within the communities and people served, including homelessness, domestic and/or sexual violence, mental health, substance use, etc.
- To ensure access to housing, services and supports, all aspects of AZBOSCO work includes systematic practice that factors in diversity, equity, and inclusion that is reflective of each community served.