

State of California

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMISSION

BHSSA Collaboration Teleconference Meeting Summary
March 5, 2025

BHSOAC
1812 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95811

Staff Presenting:

Cheryl Ward, Health Program Specialist
Michele Nottingham, Health Program Specialist

Welcome, Announcements, and Updates

Cheryl Ward, Health Program Specialist, called the BHSSA Collaboration teleconference meeting of the Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (BHSOAC, Commission, or Commission for Behavioral Health (CBH)) to order at approximately 1:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the 17th quarterly meeting. She stated, with the passage of Proposition 1, the Commission's name changed from mental to behavioral health and the MHSSA is now the BHSSA. She asked grantees who did not receive the new branding guide, logo, and colors, to send a request to their grant manager.

Ms. Ward stated this meeting has expanded to include Phase 4 BHSSA grantees. She stated the goal of these learning collaboration meetings is for grantees to share knowledge, successes, and challenges. The hope is that grantees can help each other strengthen their partnerships, programs, and sustainability by sharing information and exchanging ideas.

Ms. Ward asked Phase 1, 2, and 3 BHSSA grantees to ensure they have a plan in place to address unspent funds, if applicable, for the remaining grant term as they complete one grant year and move to the next. She encouraged grantees to work with their grant manager to adequately prepare budget modifications for the remaining grant years in order to avoid reversion of funds.

Ms. Ward stated most of the Phase 4 contracts have been executed and are underway. She asked grantees to submit their quarterly progress reports using the template provided by their grant manager. The progress reports for grantees with late contract start dates that opted to combine the first and second quarters into one report will be due March 31st.

CBH Introduction of the BHSSA STAC: Your Support Net Just Got Bigger!

- 1. The who/what/how/why of the BHSSA Statewide Technical Coordinator**
- 2. Our vision for streamlined support**

Michelle Nottingham, Health Program Specialist, announced that, although Commission staff will still be involved, the new BHSSA Statewide Technical Assistance Coordinator (BHSSA STAC) – Center for Applied Research Solutions (CARS) – will be leading the BHSSA learning collaboration meetings going forward. She asked the BHSSA STAC team to give their presentation.

Leora Wolf-Prusan, Project Director, BHSSA STAC (CARS), introduced the members of the team and asked everyone to respond to an icebreaker question in the Chat Section.

Ms. Wolf-Prusan provided an overview, with a slide presentation, of the background, approach, collaboration, and next steps of the BHSSA STAC. She stated training and technical assistance (TTA) services are trauma-informed, healing-centered, equity-driven, and culturally responsive, and will include a tiered structure of universal, tailored, and intensive TTA services that are rooted in evidence-based practice, practice-based evidence, and Community-Defined Evidence Practices (CDEPs).

Small Group Breakouts for Peer Support and Consultation

Ms. Wolf-Prusan invited grantees to break up into small groups to share problems of practice, questions, comments, and concerns about next steps. Each of the seven breakout rooms focused on a different area, such as Sustaining Ourselves and Our Teams, Navigating the Contexts in Front of Us – Students and Families and Educators and Providers, Community Partnerships, Data-Driven Decision Making, Implementation Navigation, and Braided Funding. She asked everyone to separate into their chosen breakout rooms.

Report Out from Small Group Session

Grantees reconvened. Ms. Wolf-Prusan asked grantees to share in the Chat Section takeaways, ideas, questions, and resources that emerged from the small group time.

Grantees and group facilitators provided feedback as follows:

- Are there onboarding, sunrise, and capacity 101 resources?
- Leaning on peers across the state for support – we are there for each other.
- It was helpful to hear others' experiences with funding and fee schedule.
- How to get stakeholders to come to the meetings and engage in discussions.
- The phenomenal work being done to support teams during these tumultuous times.
- Reminder about being human – allowing our spaces to be places where we allow for emotion, gratitude and celebration.

- Others facing similar challenges.
- Learning to determine if a barrier is an adaptive challenge or technical problem.
- Struggling with the loss of services and staff when grants sunset.
- Sustaining funds for both employees and the important programs that are now an integral part of schools.
- Showing up is a small effort, but has a huge impact.

Looking Ahead

Ms. Wolf-Prusan invited everyone to the California School-Based Health Alliance's (CSHA) Annual Conference, "The Power of Partnerships," in Anaheim on April 28th-29th, 2025. The conference will focus on connecting and learning how to best support students with increased access to healthcare at school.

Ms. Wolf-Prusan stated the next BHSSA learning collaboration meeting will be held on June 4th, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Ms. Wolf-Prusan encouraged grantees to sign up for the BHSSA STAC Listserv to receive all Commission announcements, peer resources, upcoming BHSSA trainings, and more.

Closing and Next Steps

Grantees suggested that topics for future small group sessions include upcoming funding sources, braided funding, data/evaluation, and sustainability.

Adjourn

Ms. Ward thanked grantees for their participation and the BHSSA STAC, CARS, CSHA, and Technical Coaching Teams (TCTs) for facilitating the meeting and the breakout sessions.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:00 p.m.