

# Commission Meeting March 27, 2025 Presentations and Handouts

Agenda Item 5: • Presentation: Advocacy Spotlight - Mental Health America of California

Agenda Item 7: • Presentation: Proposed New CBH Advisory Committees

Agenda Item 8: • Presentation: Full-Service Partnership Legislative Report

Agenda Item 11: •Presentation: Report to the Legislature on the Behavioral Health Student

**Services Act** 

Agenda Item 12: •Presentation: Behavioral Health Student Services Act Evaluation

Agenda Item 12: • Handout: Innovation Partnership Fund Letter



# L GBTQ+ I NCLUSIVITY, V ISIBILITY, & E MPOWERMENT



# LIVE PARTNERS



#### STONEWALL ALLIANCE CENTER **Butte County**



#### SACRAMENTO LGBT COMMUNITY CENTER Sacramento County



#### DRAG STORY HOUR SAN FRANCISCO SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY



#### SAN FRANCISCO AIDS FOUNDATION San Francisco County





**MOPRIDE** 



# LIVE PARTNERS



REACH LA
Los Angeles County



AIDS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION, LOS
ANGELES
Los Angeles County



VIETNAMESE-AMERICAN ARTS & LETTERS ASSOCIATION
Orange County



VIET RAINBOW OF ORANGE COUNTY
Orange County



ASIAN MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT
SAN BERNADINO COUNTY



NORTH COUNTY LGBTQ
RESOURCE CENTER
San Diego County



AIDS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION, SAN DIEGO San Diego County



LIBRARY FOUNDATION SD
San Diego County





# LIVE PROGRAM TIMELINE

#### 2024-25

#### Communities Develop Campaigns

- Form #WERKgroups within each5 regions
- Conduct needs assessments
- Each region develops statewide
   Policy, Systems, and Environment
   (PSE) change goals using Human
   Centered Design

#### Advocacy at local level:

- 5 Empowerment Circles (annually)
- 5 Empowerment #WERKshops
- Podcast (annually)

#### Advocacy state level:

- WE LIVE Panel (annually)
- #WERK'n Poud, LIVE'n Loud
   Conference (annually)

#### 2025-26

- In addition to yr 1:
- 15 #WERKgroup
   Roundtables (yrs 2 & 3)
- 2 Intergenerational Drag Queen Story Telling Campaigns
- 2 Health Resource Pop-Ups
- Vogue Workshop
- 2 Community Briefings
- Individual meetings with decision makers

#### 2026-27

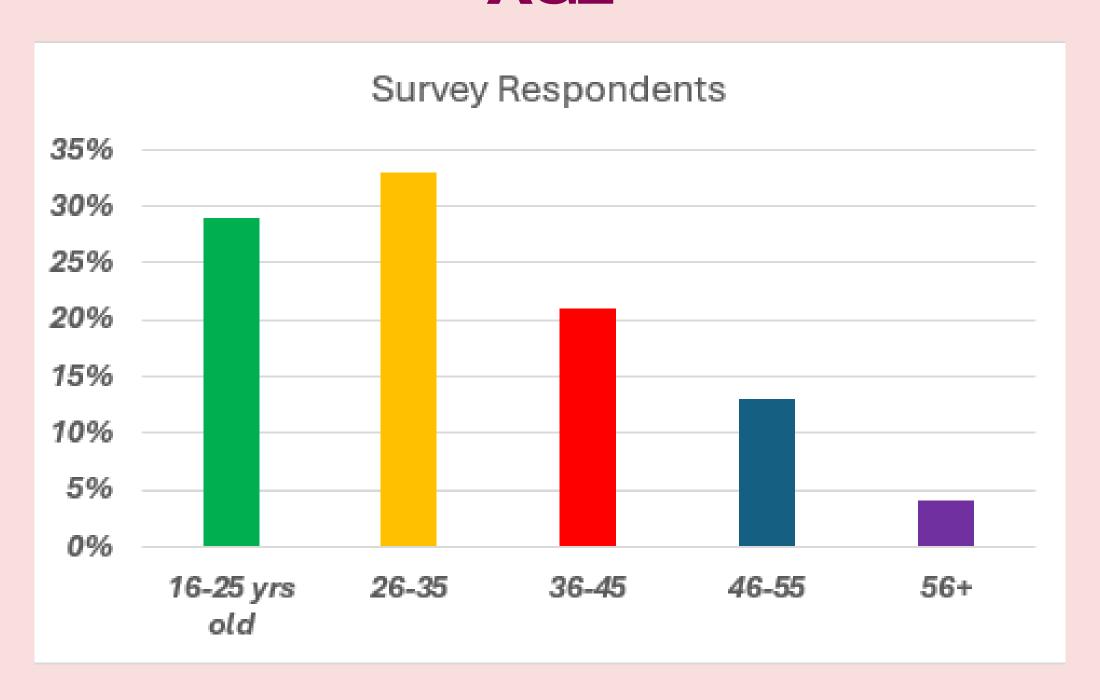
- In addition to yrs 1 & 2:
- Statewide LIVE'd Experience Panel
- Safe Space Free Expression Open Mic Night
- Community Briefing of Statewide Campaigns
- WE LIVE Conference
- LIVE Story Telling Campaign
   Featured at Film Festival





# COMMUNITY DATA

#### RESPONDENT AGE

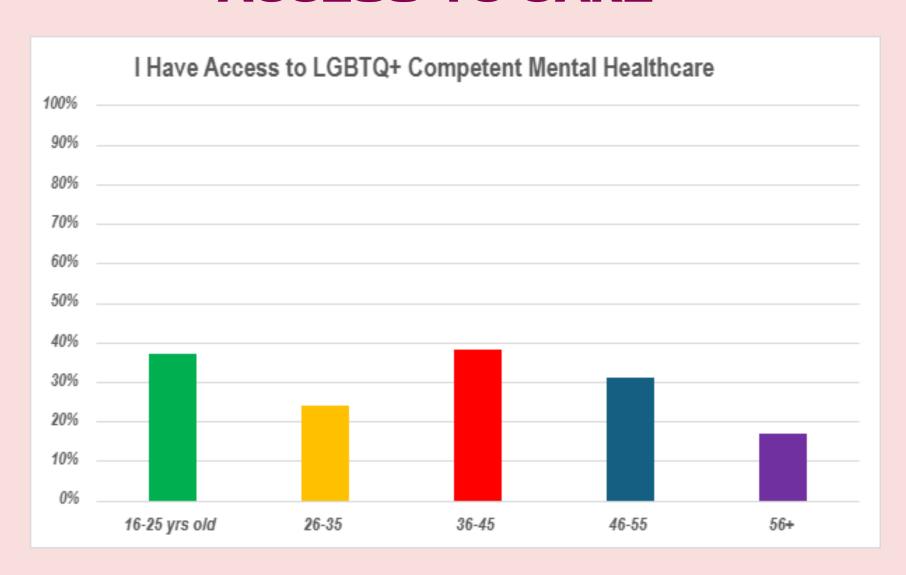




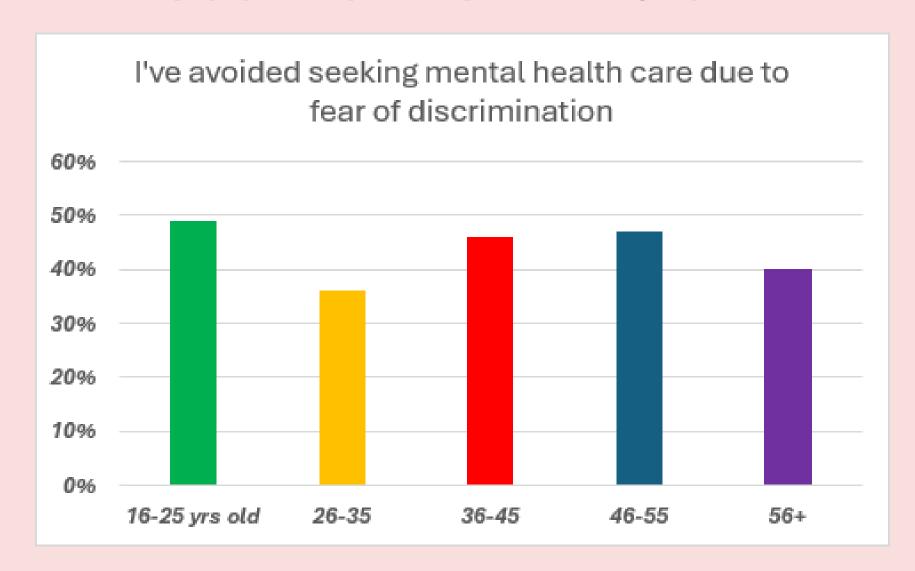


# COMMUNITY DATA

#### **ACCESS TO CARE**



#### **DISCOMFORT SEEKING CARE**





# VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY







# ASK TO THE COMMISSION

The Innovation Partnership Fund must be used to improve the Behavioral Health Services Act programs and practices funded pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 5892 for the following groups:

- (i) Underserved populations
- (ii) Low-income populations
- (iii) Communities impacted by other behavioral health disparities
- (iv) Other populations, as determined by the Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission.<sup>1</sup>
  - 1. The Behavioral Health Services Act Innovation Partnership Fund



# LGBTQ+ ASK

#### Too many lives have already been lost.

We asks that you support our community in creating and maintaining LGBTQ+ Community Defined Safe Spaces.

Safe spaces that provide:

- LGBTQ+ Affirming Care;
- Culturally Responsive Supports and Services;
- Inclusive Community Integration;
- Direct Services;
- Increased Belonging.



# QUESTIONS? WE GOT YOU.

#### **ANTHONY GARIBAY-MENA**

PROGRAMS MANAGER
AGARIBAYMENA@MHAC.ORG

#### **DANNY THIRAKUL**

PUBLIC POLICY COORDINATOR
DTHIRAKUL@MHAC.ORG

#### **DIMITRIUS STONE**

PROGRAM DIRECTOR DSTONE@MHAC.ORG











# **Proposed New CBH Advisory Committees**

March 2025



# **Create three CBH Committees**



1 Budget and Fiscal Advisory Committee

Legislative and External AffairsAdvisory Committee

**Program Advisory Committee** 



#### **Authority**

#### RULE OF PROCEDURE 6.1 (B)

The Commission may establish any multi-member body (e.g. committee, subcommittee, taskforce) consisting of Commissioners appointed by the Chair as necessary to support the work of the Commission.



#### **Committee Structure**

#### **COMPOSITION & NATURE**

- Membership for Advisory Committees established will be Commissioner-only
- Committees are advisory not a decision-making body
- Commission Chair will appoint Chair and Vice Chair of each Committee annually
- Meetings open to the public, subject to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act



#### **Budget and Fiscal Advisory Committee**

#### **PURPOSE**

Monitor and Advise on Commission's Budget. The
Advisory Committee supports the Commission by
monitoring the Commission's budget and provide
recommendations on annual priorities, in alignment
with the Program and Legislative and External Affairs
Committees.





#### **Budget and Fiscal Advisory Committee**

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Review Annual Budget. Review annual budget documents, quarterly budget updates, and budget change proposals, and recommend Commission action including amendment, adoption, and submission as necessary to the Department of Finance or the Legislature.
- Reviewing Fiscal Analysis of Projects/Contracts/Grants. Review periodic fiscal analyses of projects, contracts, and grants under the jurisdiction of the Commission, and making the Commission aware of matters of concern. The Advisory Committee will determine the frequency and schedule of such analyses.





# Legislative and External Affairs Advisory Committee

#### **PURPOSE**

• Shape the Legislative Agenda and Advocacy Priorities.

The Advisory Committee supports the Commission by shaping the Commission's legislative agenda and advocacy priorities.





# **Legislative and External Affairs Advisory Committee**

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Monitor and Propose Legislation. Monitor legislation and develop and propose new policies or amendments for existing laws that enhance behavioral health services and access
- Stakeholder Engagement. Engage with Commission stakeholders, including community leaders, providers, and advocates, to obtain diverse insights and identify policy priorities, and where applicable, adopt policy reports
- Partner with Advocacy Contract Grantees. Support and collaborate with the Commission's Advocacy Contract Grantees to strengthen their capacity for effective representation and advocacy on behalf of their constituent communities.





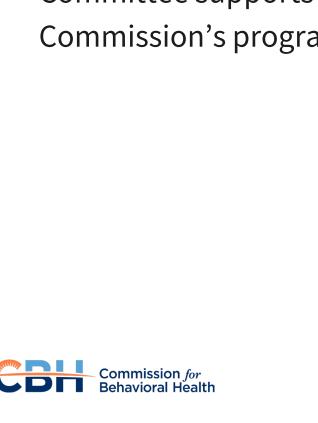
#### **Program Advisory Committee**

#### **PURPOSE**

Committee supports the Commission by shaping the Commission's program priorities.









#### **Program Advisory Committee**

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Review Proposals for Research and Projects. Review proposals for Commission research, project development, contracts, and grants, and recommend Commission action including amendment, approval or rejection.
- **Ensure Transparency.** Review adequacy of accountability, transparency, deliverables, reporting, and process for evaluation.
- Review Program Updates. Review periodic program updates to ensure the terms of approval are satisfied, and reports progress, outcomes, and concerns, if any, to the Commission. The Advisory Committee will determine the frequency and schedule of such updates.





#### **Program Advisory Committee**

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES (CONT.)**

• Requesting Commission Resources. Proposals requiring Commission resources will be referred by the Program Advisory Committee to the Budget and Fiscal Advisory Committee to ensure availability of resources.

#### Area of Responsibility Include:

- Behavioral Health Wellness Act
- Behavioral Health Student Services Act
- Behavioral Health Services Innovation Partnership Fund
- Any other specific authorities granted to the Commission





#### **Questions?**

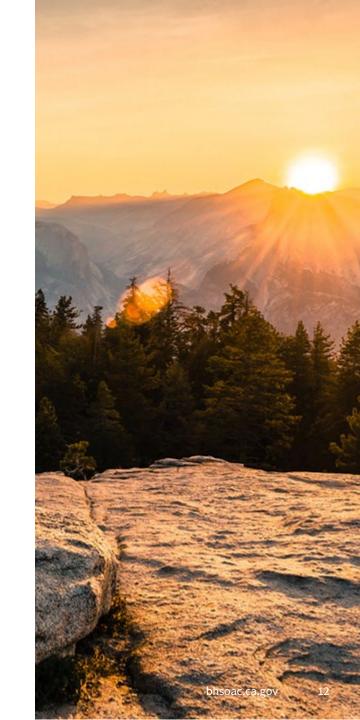
#### **CONTACT**

Sandra M. Gallardo (she, her(s),ella) Chief Counsel

(916) 261-1808

Sandra.Gallardo@bhsoac.ca.gov







February 2025

# FSP Legislative Report

bhsoac.ca.gov

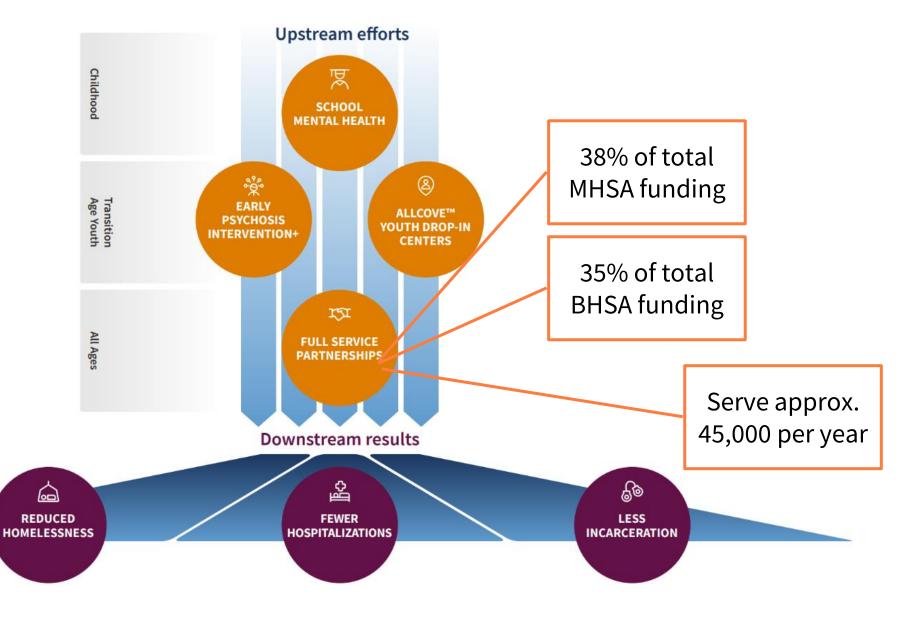




# **FSPs: Past and Future**

# Full Service Partnership

"whatever it takes"





A PATH TO TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE

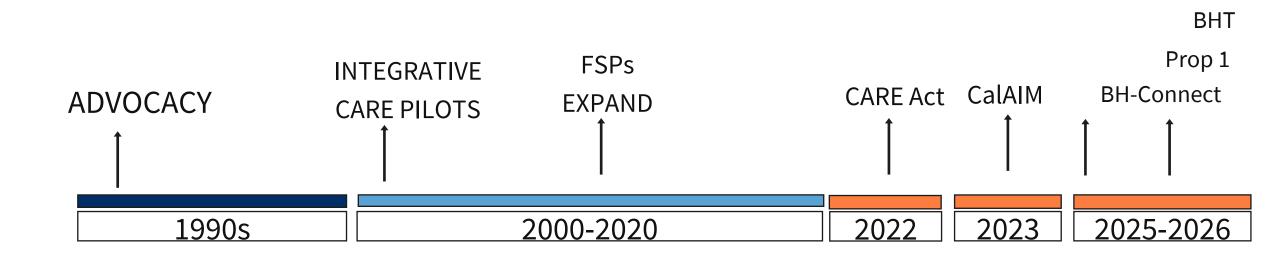
#### The Commission's Commitment to Improving FSPs

#### **Supporting Counties:**

Data Organization, Storage, and Capacity Building

#### Leveraging Inter-agency Data: Linkage and Testing

**Supporting Providers:**Quality Improvement and
Technical Assistance







# SB 465 Legislative Ask

#### Senate Bill 465 directs the Commission to report on:







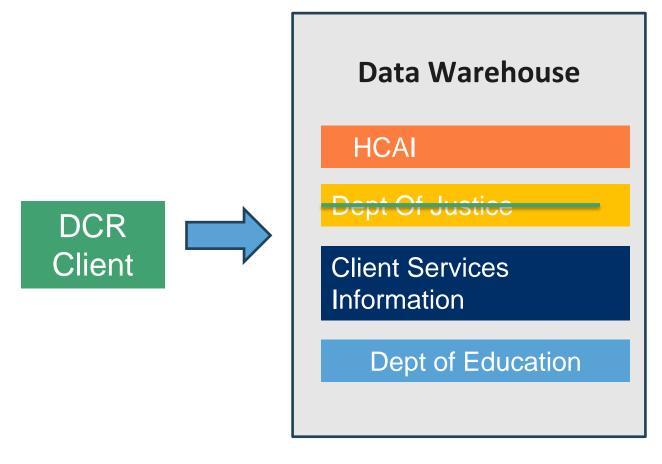


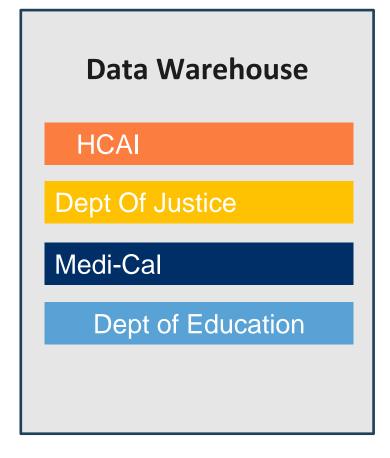


#### Leveraging the Commission's Data Warehouse to Meet the Legislative Task

2024 Report







Oversight & Accountability Commission bhsoac.ca.gov



#### **Public Panels**

The Commission hosted two public panels on FSPs including representatives from the Department of Health Care Services, a county behavioral health director, and leading researchers in the field of behavioral health

#### Solicited Feedback

Shared with Commissioners, staff at Agency, DHCS, Legislative staff, County BH staff, and posted the Executive Summary with a feedback form.

#### Targeted Outreach

- 87 participants
- 40 organizations
- 22 counties
- 28% identified as people of color
- 24% shared they had personal or family experience of behavioral health challenges

#### **Community Forums**

- 145 participants
- 76 organizations
- 29 counties
- 43% identified as people of color
- 44% shared they had personal or family experience of behavioral health challenges

#### Statewide Survey

- 228 participants
- 35 counties
- 57% identified as people of color
- 46% shared they had personal or family experience of behavioral health challenges
- Average of 10 years of experience in FSPs

#### Research

- 3 deep dives on county contract practices.
- 2 case studies on data collection and reporting
- 2 pilot projects on performance management
- 4 site visits (3 adult and 1 child/TAY)



### **Descriptive Analysis**

#### **Client characteristics**



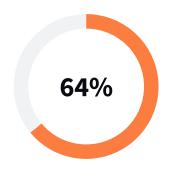
#### **Children / TAYs**

Children and TAYs make up 56% of FSP clients. Adults 26-64 are 34% and older adults 65 and over are 6%.



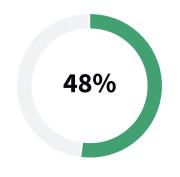
#### Homelessness

About 60% of adult and 30% of child/TAY clients have reported being homeless.



#### **Length of Stay**

18 months after joining an FSP about 64% of child/TAY clients had exited compared to 39% of adult clients.



#### **Met Goals**

Child/TAY clints were almost twice as likely to exit their FSP because they met their goals (48% vs 28%)



# **Descriptive Analysis** *Services Usage*

In three key areas, FSP clinets showed a reduction in service utilization in the year after joining an FSP compared to the year prior.

**Crisis services** 

-14.6K

**Psychiatric admissions** 

-27K

**Hospital in-patient days** 

250K



#### Data collection and reporting

The existing DCR system has substantial issues that impact the ability to meet the data reporting and transparency requirements under Prop 1.

The Commission recommends overhauling or replacing the DCR to make it efficient, effective, and accurate.

DHCS is currently planning an overhaul of the DCR. This report can serve as a valuable resource in those efforts.





#### **Staffing and workforce**

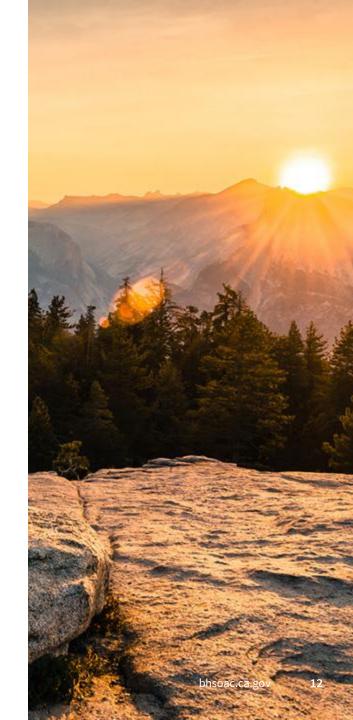
Workforce shortages affects all aspects of FSP programs and impact their ability to run at capacity.

#### Recommendations

- Widen the pipeline
- Increase incentives/benefits
- Reduce provider stress
- Utilize peers

Our findings and recommendations can support the current peer recruitment and certification efforts through HCAI and DHCS.





#### Performance management & Outcomes contracting

- Most providers lack systematic goal setting and tracking
- Insufficient incentives to providers for reaching client goals
- Incorporate performance metrics into contracts with service providers
- Launch of a statewide learning community on performance management
- Comprehensive valuation of the plausible impact and resources needed to create scalable performance management statewide.

DHCS has recently released an RFA to support FSPs around performance management. Our findings can substantially inform and strengthen these efforts.



## **Technical Assistance:**

### **Funding and Service Models**

Counties and providers both need support and clarity around BHSA requirements

Expanding technical assistance and training on the impacts of BHSA.

DHCS and HMA are establishing Centers of Excellence in key areas under BH-Connect. We are working to ensure alignment of these with our efforts specific to FSPs.





## **Next steps**

**Pilot projects** in Sacramento and Nevada Counties on performance management. Results will be brought to the Commission in Summer 2025.

**\$20 Million** in MHWA Funds to improve FSP outcomes and service delivery.

-\$10 million to be released in a technical assistance and capacity building RFP.

### **FSP Toolkit:**

- Peer and paraprofessional supports in the workforce
- Services and treatment for individuals with substance use disorders.
- Collaboration with community and cultural partners
- Step-down levels of support
- Outreach and engagement

Evaluation of Child FSPs to better understand who is being served and what services they are receiving





# Appendix

## **Data collection**

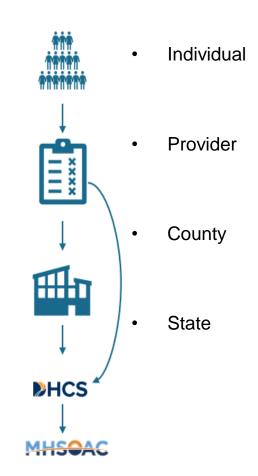
### **Required Forms**

i PAF The Partner Assessment Form (PAF)

KET The Key Event Tracking (KET)

3M Quarterly reports

## Reporting



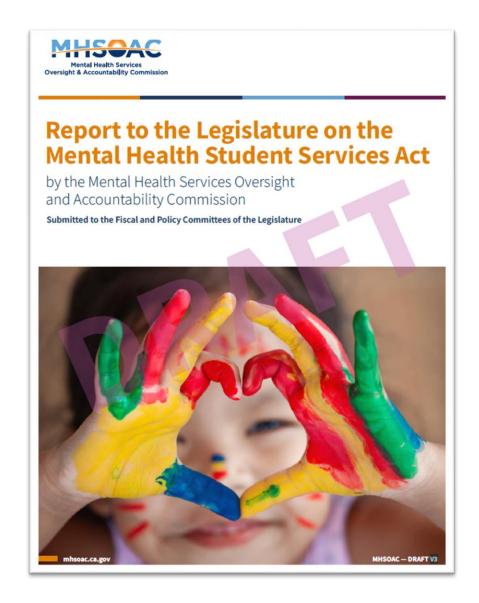




# Report to the Legislature on the Behavioral Health Student Services Act



# **Draft Report**





## **Behavioral Health Student Services Act**

- As part of the State's 2019 Budget Act, Senate Bill 75 authorized the Behavioral Health Student Services Act (BHSSA).
- BHSSA provides incentive grants to build and strengthen partnerships between county behavioral health departments and local education agencies (LEAs) to deliver a continuum of school-based mental health services to young people and their families.





## **Behavioral Health Student Services Act**

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
PHASE	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Additional funding	Targeted grants*
GRANTEES	18 grantees	19 grantees	20 grantees	41 existing grantees	29 grantees
TOTAL FUNDING	\$74.8 million	\$77.5 million	\$54.9 million	\$47.6 million	\$25.0 million

**Total \$ Awarded to County/School Partners: \$280 million** 



# **Preliminary Lessons Learned**

1. BHSSA partners have built and strengthened partnerships but need additional guidance to support local success.

**57**county behavioral health departments

50 county offices of education

440+
school districts

2,100+ schools

229 charter schools

39 community-based organizations



# **Preliminary Lessons Learned**

2. Local MHSSA activities and services are **heterogenous** and tailored to meet local needs and gaps in services.

Infrastructure and capacity building

Universal prevention (Tier 1)

Targeted intervention (Tier 2)

Intensive intervention (Tier 3)

Crisis intervention services



# **Preliminary Lessons Learned**

- The need for school mental health services often exceeds local capacity.
- **4. School mental health standards** are needed in California to drive quality improvement.
- 5. **Alignment** of California's school mental health initiatives is important for local success.





## Recommendations

### THE STATE SHOULD:

- 1. Establish a leadership structure for youth behavioral health that includes the California Health and Human Services Agency, the California Department of Education, county offices of education to:
- Coordinate and align school mental health initiatives.
- Develop a long-term strategy for building sustainable, comprehensive school mental systems.



# Core features of a comprehensive school mental health system

#### **MENTAL HEALTH SCREENING**

Proactive universal and targeted assessment of risks, strengths, and needs



### EI EI

EVIDENCE-BASED AND EMERGING BEST PRACTICES

#### **WORKFORCE**

Well-trained educators and specialized support personnel



# LEADERSHIP, CAPACITY BUILDING,

**AND INFRASTRUCTURE** 



#### SUSTAINABLE FUNDING

Leverage and apply various financial and nonfinancial resources

### **DATA CAPABILITIES**

Data systems, data outcomes, and data-driven decision-making



### THOUGHTFUL PLANNING

Needs assessment and resource mapping

### **COLLABORATION AND TEAMING**

Student, family, school, community





#### **MULTI-TIERED SYSTEM OF SUPPORT**

Wellness promotion, prevention, early intervention, and crisis response



## Recommendations

### THE STATE SHOULD:

- 2. Build the necessary capacity and infrastructure for comprehensive school mental health services and make additional investments to fill the gap between implementation and long-term sustainability.
- **3.** Develop an accountability structure including school mental health standards and metrics.



## **Next Steps**



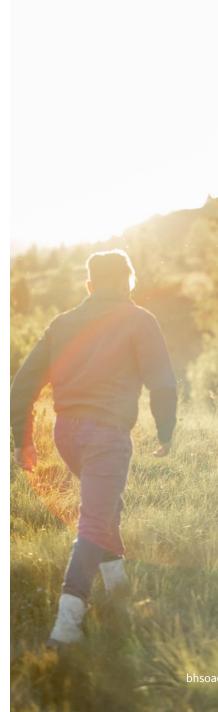
- 1. New Phase 4 BHSSA grant projects
- 2. Statewide Technical Assistance
- 3. BHSSA Evaluation



## **Thank You**

- Commissioners Mara Madrigal-Weiss and Dave Gordon
- BHSSA Grant Partners
- Commission Team
  - Mary Bradberry
  - Kali Patterson
  - Boyang Fan
  - Lester Robancho
  - Rachel Heffley
  - Nai Saechao
  - Riann Kopchak
  - Xing Shen

- Melissa Martin-Mollard
- Cheryl Ward
- Michele Nottingham
- Sarah Weber
- Tom Orrock
- Sara Yeffa
- Dan Owens
- Kendra Zoller







# Thank you



# **Behavioral Health Student Services Act Evaluation**

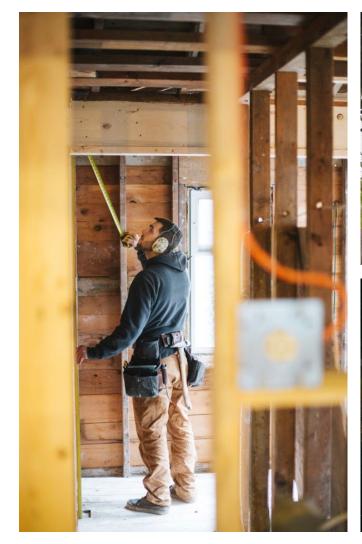
Melissa Martin-Mollard, *Chief of Research and Evaluation*March 27, 2025



## **BHSSA Components**

Grants: \$280M to foster system change

- Technical Assistance: capacity around key areas, including sustainability
- Evaluation and Learning









# **Background**

WestEd was selected in 2023 to be the Commission's external evaluation partner for all phases of the evaluation.

- Phase 1: Planning and Evaluation Design (completed December 2024)
- Phase 2: Conducting the Evaluation and Disseminating Findings (2025-2027)

# **Phase 1 Planning Strategy**

### **Community engagement**

- 26 listening sessions
- 15 feedback sessions
- 6 grantee collaboration meetings
- 2 grantee surveys
- 1 family/caregiver survey
- Youth Advisory Group



### **Context understanding**

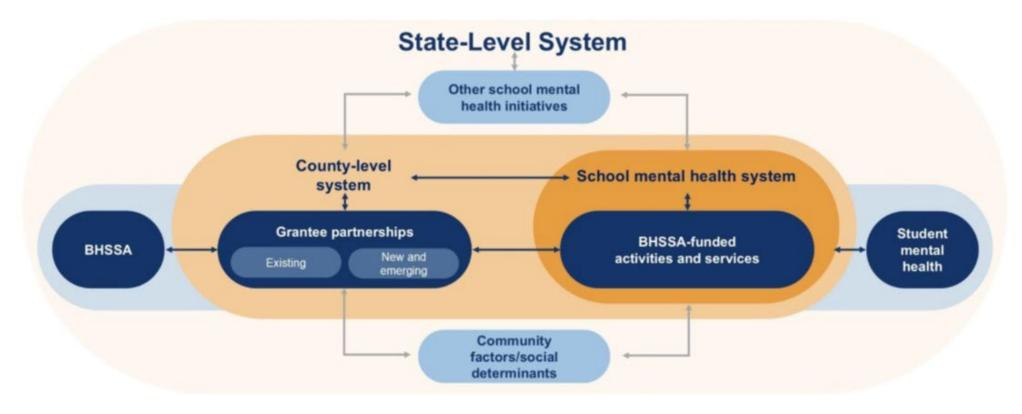
- Landscape analysis for other initiatives
- Codesign of evaluation with Commission staff
- Deep dive into
   progress reports and
   written materials from
   grantees



**Evaluation** design



# **BHSSA Conceptual Model**









# **Evaluation design**

The Evaluation includes ongoing community engagement, strategic communication, and dissemination activities.

Contextual descriptive analysis

**Grantee partnership** case studies

Process and systems change analysis

Implementation and impact case studies

# **Contextual Descriptive Analysis**

### MEASURING STUDENT MENTAL HEATH AND WELLBEING

Purpose: Describe the current state of mental health and wellbeing of students in California, incorporating school, district, and community characteristics to understand contextual factors at county and school levels.

### **Data sources:**

- California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS)
- California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS)
- U.S. Census
- California Open Data Portal
- KidsData.org
- California Overdose Surveillance Dashboard
- California Health Interview Survey
- National Center for Health Statistics Mortality Data



# **Process and Systems Change Analysis**

### MEASURING PARTNERSHIPS AND SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH

**Purpose:** Survey grantees on progress on partnership development and measure current state of school mental health system capacity at county, district, and school levels.

### **Data sources and domains:**

- Survey disseminated to school, district, and county points of contact
- Leadership
- Collaboration
- Practices
- Implementation facilitators and barriers



# **Grantee Partnership Case Study**

### **EXPLORE PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION**

Purpose: To focus on 10 grantees and contextualize how they implemented BHSSA activities to reimagine school mental health systems change.

### **Exploratory questions:**

- What was the impact of the BHSSA on cross-system partnerships?
- How did county- and school-level mental health systems change?
- What were the BHSSA implementation and successes, challenges, and lessons learned?
- What was the relationship between the BHSSA and other school mental health initiatives?
- What are emerging approaches to closing equity gaps impacting BHSSA communities?



# **Implementation and Impact**

# EXPLAIN THE IMPACT OF BHSSA-FUNDED ACTIVITIES AND SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM CHANGES ON SCHOOL AND STUDENT OUTCOMES

**Purpose:** Gather information from school staff, school mental health professionals, students, and families on impact.

### **Exploratory questions:**

- How did other school mental health initiatives serve as facilitators and/or barriers to sustainable school mental health systems change?
- How did improvements in the school-level mental health system support students' mental health needs, and for whom?



# **Evaluation Summary**









Establish baseline of student mental health

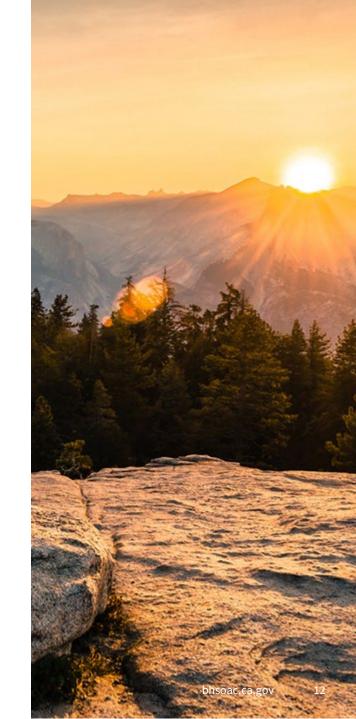
Measure BHSSA partnership development and systems change Understand broader context of school mental health initiatives

Inform next
steps for
infrastructure
and capacity
building to
expand and
sustain efforts



# **Proposed motion**

That the Commission approve a contract for up to \$4 million for WestEd to begin Phase 2 of the BHSSA evaluation.







March 20, 2025

Chair Mayra Alvarez and Commissioners Commission for Behavioral Health 1812 9th Street Sacramento, CA 95811

Dear Chair Alvarez and Behavioral Health Commissioners,

We would like to give a warm welcome to all the new Commissioners who attended their first regular Commission meeting on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025. We look forward to working and collaborating with all of you and providing support in any way possible. We also congratulate you, Chair Alvarez, on your election to lead the Commission for Behavioral Health, and pledge to support your leadership in the new behavioral health landscape throughout the state. We have a great deal of faith you will bring a new level of transparency and accountability to the Commission.

At the last Commission meeting, we appreciate that a significant allocation of time was dedicated to delve into the Innovation Partnership Fund under Proposition 1. In addition, we were very grateful for the time the Commission allowed for the many community stakeholders to provide public comment on that agenda item. It is not often at any Commission meeting that eighteen (18) members of the public wish to speak on a single agenda item and you were gracious to allow all to have their voices heard.

This letter provides recommendations from a broad coalition of community based partners related to two current areas within the purview of the Commission: I. Innovation Partnership Fund and II. Standing Subcommittees.

### I. Innovation Partnership Fund

Many community-based organizations feel strongly about the crucial planning that must take place to ensure that the administration of the Innovation Partnership Fund produces successful outcomes. We highly recommend the Commission establish a clear process and timeline for the development of the Innovation Partnership Fund and outline these at the regular March 2025 Commission meeting. Furthermore, we offer the following specific recommendations regarding the process:

 Community stakeholders and representatives, especially those from underserved communities that the Innovation Partnership Fund is mandated to serve, must be included at all levels and stages of the process.

Language taken directly from Proposition 1 states that the innovative mental health and substance use disorder programs and programs and practices shall be designed for improving Behavioral Act Services programs and practices for: (i) Underserved populations (ii) Low-income populations (iii) Communities impacted by other behavioral health disparities (iv) Other populations, as determined by the BHSOAC

2. The processes regarding the Innovation Partnership Fund, as well as the decision-making, be open and transparent.

While we fully understand that the Commissioners have the decision-making power, there should be robust dialogue and public engagement prior to adoption of final priorities, policies and procedures. If Commissioners do not adopt recommendations strongly favored by public stakeholders, the reasons for this should be publicly stated. The process must include a public bidding process and no sole source contracts.

Although at the last Commission meeting, we were elated that you pledged no sole source contracts will be approved going forward, we believe the public has a right to know on what basis the decision was made to award a half million dollar sole source contract to an entity to support the outreach and planning process for the Innovation Partnership Fund. This process was not transparent and there was no opportunity for the public to comment on this action.

3. The process must begin with both the Commission and community stakeholders engaging in dialogue and building consensus on basic definitions, requirements, goals and objectives, and other basic aspects of the Innovation Partnership Fund before any single direction or idea is adopted.

This was clearly the theme from the initial community engagement discussions. (See pages 11-14 of the Draft White Paper). While a PPT was given at the last meeting promoting the establishment of a BH Institute for Sustainable Financing (ISF), this was not directly mentioned in the Draft White Paper, the Summary in the handouts, nor in the comments from community stakeholders. While this idea may be promoted later, it is premature to focus solely on this direction at this time.

4. Page 4 of the White Paper states, "California policymakers have a distinct opportunity to fully incorporate community voice into these system level change initiatives from design. Human centered design principles-fortified by growing experience in community empowerment have the potential to alloy the analysis traditionally used to determine where to pursue innovations and how to determine effectiveness. Moreover, community voice will be essential in deploying innovations to reduce disparities and improve social outcomes."

We agree that Commission has an incredible opportunity to engage the community in this process, however, the process to date has not realized this vision. Moving forward, we are asking that the Commission open the process to fully engage the community at all levels of the process and ensue that innovation invest build public trust in the process.

- 5. The Draft White Paper articulates a vision that includes the following elements of concern.
  - Envisioning a Community Centered Innovation Ecosystem yet there is no consideration of how our communities define

"innovation" or how our communities have driven innovation in California. The community is completely left out of the innovation recipe described repeatedly in the White Paper. The absence of consultation with community and culturally based experts/big thinkers is striking.

- **Strategically Focused on Social Need** Human centered design is referenced as being used to tailor services to cultural needs, but cultural practices are not considered or referenced in the paper.
- Available and Effective for All The Commission's vision for the innovation ecosystem should include a public commitment to ensure that R & D funded by public innovation funds should be the intellectual property of the people of California.
- Public in Every Stage- Examples of public innovation catalysts are included in the White Paper, however, there are no examples of community centered or community driven public innovation catalysts like the CRDP. A culturally or community-based innovation cluster like the CRDP could also be accelerated to serve the communities with the greatest needs.
- Community Centered Research- This does not represent a paradigm shift. Prop 1 Innovation funds are public dollars. Innovation should dictate the research is community designed and driven; only then can the Commission ensure that projects are designed to serve all Californians.

### II. Standing Committees

On another matter, we are requesting that you keep the two standing sub committees, the **Cultural and Linguistic Competence Committee (CLCC)** and the **Client and Family Leadership Committee (CFLC)** as these are specifically mentioned in the Commission's Rules of Procedure. This would also signify the Commission's commitment to incorporating the voice of stakeholders from the BIPOC, LGBTQ+, consumer, and family communities in the business of the Commission.

Thank you for taking our recommendations and concerns into consideration. We understand that time is of the essence. Again, we wish you success with the many endeavors the Commission undertakes in 2025. Please do not hesitate to call upon us if we can be of assistance in any way.

Sincerely,

Stacie Hiramoto, MSW

Director

Racial & Ethnic Mental Health Mental Health Disparities Coalition

Le Ondra Clark Harvey, Ph.D.

CEO, California Behavioral Health

Association

Executive Director, California Access

Coalition

Tony Vartan

Tony Vartan Chairperson

California Behavioral Health Planning

Council

**Karla Thomas** 

**Executive Director** 

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A SS

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Chair of the CRDP Cross Population

**Sustainability Committee** 

Dellnothilloghael

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Selena Liu Raphael

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Eba Laye

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Claudette Carroll Interim COO The Village Project, Inc.

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**Pysay Phinith** 

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Sery 7atpaporn

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cc: Will Lightbourne, Interim Executive Director
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