
From: Nancy Facher <nfacher@laclinica.org>

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To: BHSOAC Public Comment <Publiccomment@bhsaac.ca.gov>

Subject: Public Comment: CBH

Hello,

Thank you, Commissioners. My name is Nancy Facher, I am Chief of BH at LC de La Raza, and we provide health and behavioral health care to 80,000 members in Alameda, Contra Costa and Solano counties. We stand with REMHCO, Safe Passages, NAMI, CAMPRO, and other agencies elevating and listening to multicultural voices. I respectfully oppose the proposal to combine the committees. the Cultural and Linguistic Competence Committee (CLCC) and the Client and Family Leadership Committee (CFLC) into a single committee. While we recognize the Commission's efforts to streamline work, these two committees serve distinct and critical purposes that merit focused attention and separate spaces for dialogue and policy development. We already have evidence that the combination won't work:

Since combining the committees, discussions of Community Defined Evidence Practices have virtually vanished. It is not necessary to silence or mute the voices of our community members to amplify those of people and family members living with mental illness. They are not mutually exclusive. Both should be amplified and heard, now more than ever. Language and cultural backgrounds are powerful determinants of health and behavioral health outcomes, and we must ensure that those affected by disparities based on these elements have a meaningful seat at the table.

Cultura y Bienestar and other Community Defined Evidence Practices or CDEPs have been rigorously evaluated and accepted as on par with listed EBPs by the DHCS. This effectiveness is based on listening to and following the guidance of community members with the lived experience of oppression, racism, immigration, and being non-English speaking. The current structure excludes these voices and the evidence they have established and rejects the success of the California Reducing Disparity Project.

We support the proposed hybrid model for the Committee Structure submitted by The

Children's Partnership. I ask the *Commission to approve the combination of the Client, Family, and Community Inclusion, Lived Experience, and Diversity Advisory Committee, effective immediately.*

Nancy Facher

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