

WELCOME TO BHAB PATHWAYS TO CONTINUUM OF CARE FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND ADULTS IMPACTED BY ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

PLEASE MUTE



YOUR AUDIO WHEN YOU ARE NOT SPEAKING.

PLEASE USE THE



Raise Hand

FUNCTION OF THE ZOOM TO PARTICIPATE.

PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND AGENCY/AFFILIATION IN THE CHAT.

PLEASE KEEP PARTICIPATION COMMENTS BRIEF.



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UC San Diego

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES (BHS)

**Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA)
Overview & Input Session with
BHAB Pathways to Continuum of Care for
Children, Youth, and Adults Impacted by
Alcohol and other Drugs Subcommittee**

Monday, October 13, 2025, 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

BHS Communication & Engagement (C&E) Unit

Kat Casabar Briggs, MPH, Chief

University of California, San Diego (Contract #566007)

Krystal Lira, PhD & Katie Wan, MPH, MSW

Land Acknowledgment



“

We acknowledge that the San Diego region is made up of the traditional lands of the Kumeyaay, Luiseño/Payómkaichum, Cahuilla and Cupeño/KuupangaxwicheM Peoples.

We acknowledge the harmony that existed among the land, nature, and its original Peoples, who have since endured displacement, persecution, and systemic oppression.

We pay our respect to the uncaded territory and homelands of the 18 federally recognized tribes in our region.

We honor the ancestral grounds and sovereignty of the Tribal Nations, whose resilience and strength inspire forward movement towards more equitable and sustainable programs, policies, and practices.

”



Pathways to Continuum of Care for Children, Youth, and Adults Impacted by Alcohol and other Drugs Subcommittee

*To increase awareness of the Continuum of Care
for children, youth, and adults who are impacted
by alcohol and other drugs.*

Today's Session



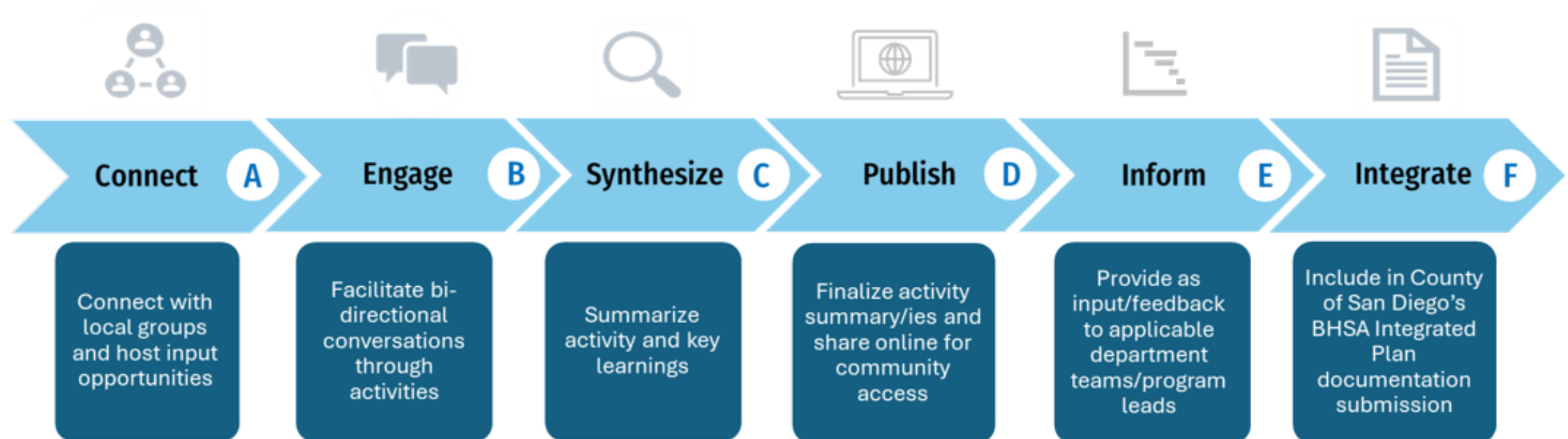
- **Welcome & Background – BHS**
 - Session Activity Overview
 - BHSA Background
 - Spotlight: San Diego Access & Crisis Line (ACL)
- **Input Session – UCSD Health Partnership**
- **Wrap-up & Next Steps – BHS**

Session Activity Overview



How will input from today's meeting be utilized by the department?

Input will inform specialty mental health and substance use disorder treatment services, priorities and investments included in San Diego County's first BHSA Integrated Plan draft scheduled for presentation to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors in Summer 2026.



About BHSA



- Part of Proposition 1; takes effect July 1, 2026
- Modernizes the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) passed by CA voters in 2004
- New components, requirements, and restrictions for counties on how revenue derived from millionaire's tax may be used for behavioral health programs and services

Learn More

bit.ly/BHSA_BHS



SanDiegoCounty.gov Home

Behavioral Health Services

GET HELP NOW I WANT TO FIND MENTAL HEALTH SUBSTANCE USE

Behavioral Health Services Act

The Behavioral Health Services Act, also known as BHSA, is a state law passed by voters in March 2024. BHSA updates the [Mental Health Services Act \(MHSA\)](#) by:

- Expanding service access to include treatment for people with substance use disorders,
- Prioritizing care for people with the most serious mental illness,
- Providing ongoing resources for housing and workforce development, and
- Continuing investments in prevention, early intervention, and innovative behavioral health pilot programs.

BHSA aims to close service gaps and ensure equitable access to quality care across the state. New BHSA requirements will also enhance oversight, transparency, and accountability at the state and local levels.

To learn more about BHSA:

- [Behavioral Health Transformation \(DHCS\)](#)

To receive updates about BHSA, subscribe to these statewide sites:

- [Department of Health Care Services \(DHCS\)](#)
- [California Department of Public Health \(CDPH\)](#)

Community Planning

BHSA requires counties to look at their whole behavioral health system of care through a formal Community Planning Process (CPP). The CPP supports the County of San Diego's goal to involve communities in meaningful conversations and decision-making about local behavioral health services to ensure programs reflect their unique needs and voices.

Share Input via Our Online Form

Access this online form to share insights and recommendations with BHS to help guide the development of San Diego County's first BHSA Integrated Plan for Fiscal Years 2026–2029.

Participate in Upcoming Activities

View upcoming and past engagement activities hosted by the department, including community workshops, town halls, and input opportunities to help inform the BHSA Integrated Plan for Fiscal Years 2026–2029.

MHSA Three-Year
Expenditure Plans
& Annual Updates



BHSA Three-Year Integrated Plans (IP) & Annual Updates

Behavioral Health Outcomes, Accountability, and Transparency Reports

MAIN GOALS OF BHSA

1. Reach and serve most high-need populations
2. Increase access to substance use disorder services, housing interventions, and evidence-based and community-defined practices
3. Expand the behavioral health workforce
4. Focus on data, outcomes, and health equity

- ALL local, state and behavioral health funding (*previously only MHSA*)
- Workforce strategies
- Alignment with statewide goals and outcome measures

Eligible adults/older adults who are:

- Chronically homeless or experiencing homelessness or are at risk of homelessness.
- In, or are at risk of being in, the justice system.
- Reentering the community from prison or jail.
- At risk of conservatorship.
- At risk of institutionalization.

Eligible children and youth who are:

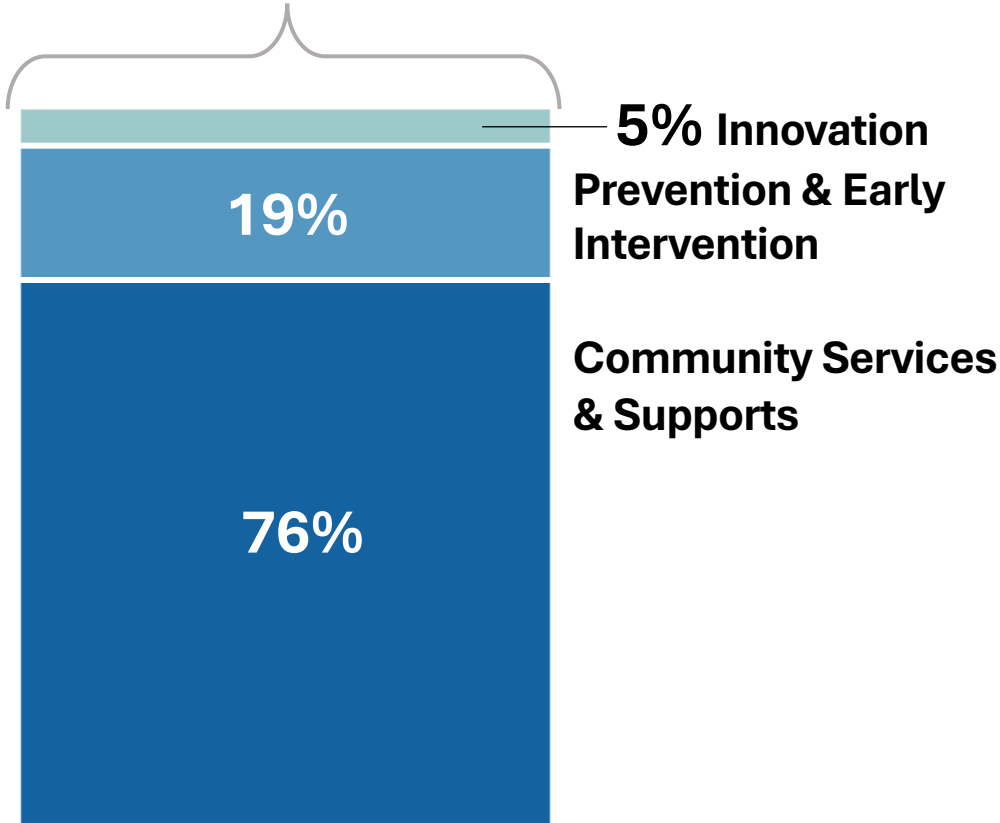
- Chronically homeless or experiencing homelessness or are at risk of homelessness.
- In, or are at risk of being in, the juvenile justice system.
- Reentering the community from a youth correctional facility.
- In the child welfare system.
- At risk of institutionalization.

BHSA: Components



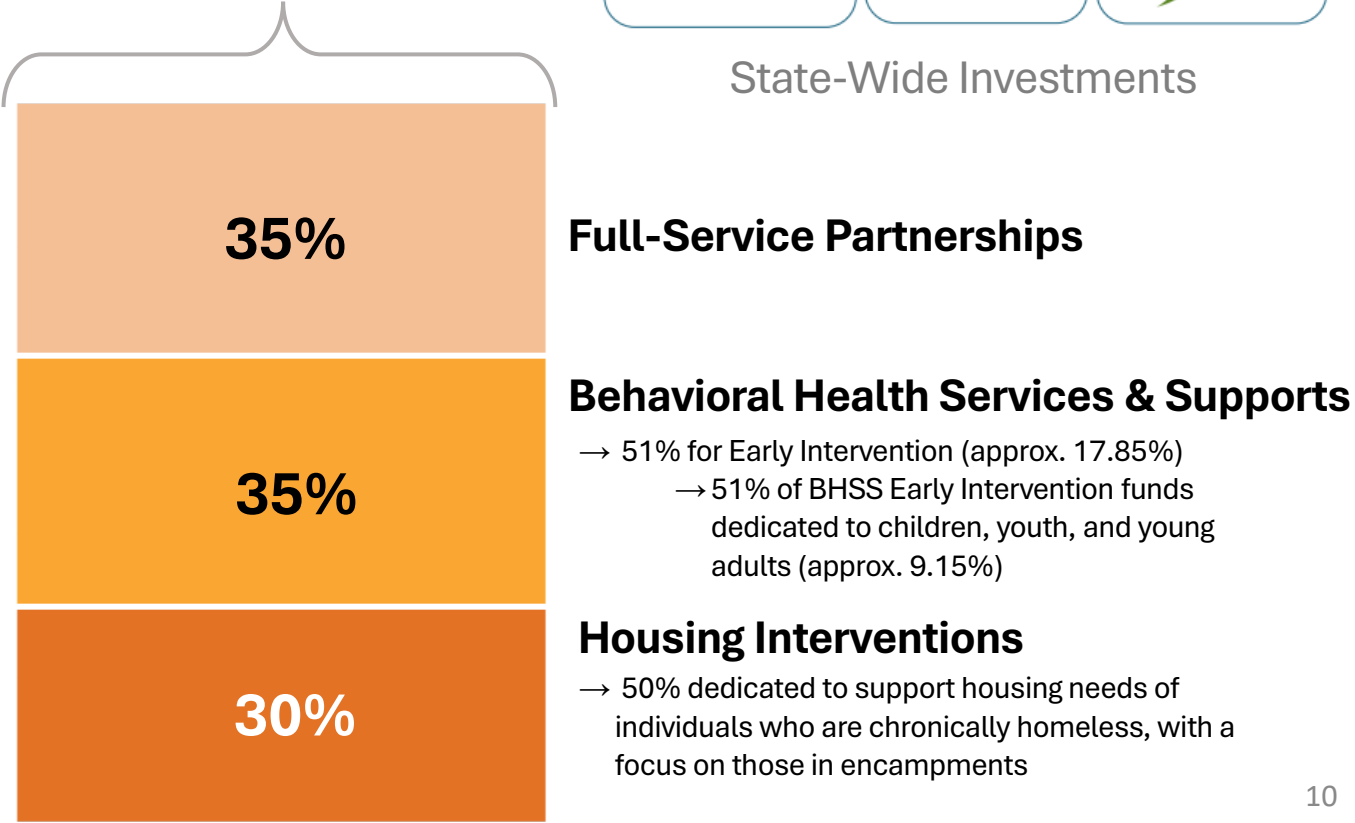
County Allocation of MHSA Dollars (Before Prop 1)

95% County Allocation
5% State



County Allocation of Proposed BHSA Dollars (Under Prop 1)

90% County Allocation
10% State



BHSA: Integrated Plan



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**Counties' first BHSA Integrated Plan (IP) will cover
Fiscal Years 2026-2029 and be due to DHCS by June 30, 2026.**

All counties given template by state to provide:

- County Demographics and Behavioral Health Needs
- Plan Goals and Objectives
- **Community Planning Process (CPP)**
- Comment Period and Public Hearing
- County Behavioral Health Care Continuum Capacity
- Services by Total Funding Source
- Behavioral Health Services Fund Programs
- Workforce Strategy
- Budget and Prudent Reserve



**Section 3
County
Integrated
Plan**



<https://policy-manual.mes.dhcs.ca.gov/behavioral-health-services-act-county-policy-manual/V1.0.0/3-county-integrated-plan>

BHSA: CPP Timeline



Phase 1 Receive New State Guidance for Planning	 Phase 2 Conduct Community Education & Engagement	Phase 3 Develop IP (Fiscal Years 2026-2029)	Phase 4 Review & Approve IP	Phase 5 Submit IP to State
Summer 2025-Fall 2025	Fall 2025 – Winter 2026	Winter 2026 – Spring 2026	Spring 2026-Summer 2026	By June 30, 2026
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review BHSA County Policy Manual (finalized June 2025) and evaluate new requirements for counties from the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). • Attend DHCS webinars for counties on Integrated Plan (IP) development and the Community Planning Process (CPP) to structure BHSA CPP engagement activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide BHSA education through informational handouts and presentations at public meetings. • Facilitate outreach, listening sessions, focus groups, and other opportunities at community events and convenings for stakeholders to provide input. • Document key learnings and stakeholder recommendations to support community priorities and system needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department synthesis of stakeholder input, fiscal data, and program assessments. • Draft San Diego County's IP for Fiscal Years 2026–2029. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post IP draft for public comment and feedback. • Present proposed IP to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board). • Incorporate public comments and finalize IP language. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board-approved IP provided to State (DHCS) through their BHSA County Portal. • Prepare for official implementation of BHSA funding and reporting requirements on July 1, 2026.

Learnings from Past Engagement



Overarching goal: Continue to build upon learnings from past years' CPP and community engagement activities

Topics frequently identified through MHSA CPP/other input opportunities:

1. Accessibility
2. Care coordination and navigation
3. Community outreach and education
4. Crisis response services
5. Culturally appropriate and affirming care
6. Support for people experiencing homelessness
7. Services for youth and transition age youth
8. Workforce capacity and diversity

Community members indicated a desire for more tailored activities and materials to:

1. Promote awareness and health literacy of local behavioral services and resources
2. Bolster socio-emotional competence and wellness (more skill-building)
3. Prevent deaths by suicide
4. Prevent social isolation
5. Promote substance use prevention
6. Promote overdose prevention
7. Engage and support youth and transition age youth
8. Support behavioral health workforce training and development

Spotlight: Access & Crisis Line (ACL)



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One key opportunity identified by stakeholders: Better outreach and education and promotion of the ACL

- Longstanding resource yet very well known
- Misconceptions around type of help available
- Confusion around how it relates to 9-8-8

ACL	9-8-8	9-1-1	2-1-1
<p>Provides support for people experiencing a mental health or substance use issue, including suicidal thoughts or feelings.</p> <p>Dialing 9-8-8 allows for easier access to the national 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.</p>		<p>Utilized for emergencies with a focus on dispatching Emergency Medical Services, fire, and police as needed.</p>	<p>Provides non-emergency health and social service assistance information and referrals.</p>



Spotlight: Access & Crisis Line (ACL)



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Social Media Carousel



Posters (Doctor's Offices & Pharmacies)

Get help for a
mental health crisis, fast.
**Call or text the
9-8-8 Lifeline.**

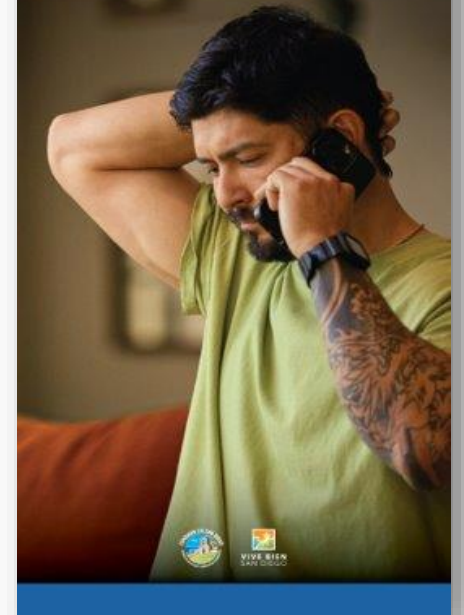
9-8-8 can connect you to help that comes to you.



Doctor's Office Standees

Si tú o alguien que conoces
está teniendo dificultades
o luchando con las drogas
o el alcohol,
**la Línea de Ayuda
9-8-8 puede ayudar.**

Consejero local | Sin costo



Billboards

If you're struggling
emotionally, there's help.
**Call the
9-8-8 Lifeline.**



Input Session Overview

The bottom of the slide features three overlapping, wavy horizontal bands. The top band is a medium blue, the middle band is a lighter teal, and the bottom band is white. These bands create a sense of movement and depth at the base of the presentation.

Input Session Overview



55 minutes to cover 5 questions

Questions:

- Within the substance use disorder (SUD) continuum of care, what specific gaps or barriers do you see in helping people navigate or access these services?
- How can BHS strengthen community outreach and public messaging efforts, so individuals and families impacted by substance use disorders are better informed about, and able to access, SUD services for themselves or for a loved one?
- While funding and flexibility are limited, what creative/practical ideas would you suggest to help connect people more easily to the right level of care?
- What would make it easier and more meaningful for consumers, families, and partners to join in SUD discussions (i.e., in terms of meeting formats, timing, supports, engagement approaches)?
- Looking across the SUD continuum of care, what needs or priorities would you most want BHS to keep in mind?

Input Session

University of California, San Diego (Contract #566007)

Krystal Lira, PhD & Katie Wan, MPH, MSW

UC San Diego

Share Input via Online Form



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Behavioral Health Services

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Community Planning

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SCAN ME

- Access our online form
- Share insights and recommendations

bit.ly/BHSA_BHS

Behavioral Health Services Act Online Input Form

SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

The County of San Diego's Behavioral Health Services Department invites you to share your ideas and recommendations for behavioral health programs and services as California counties prepare to implement the Behavioral Health Services Act on July 1, 2026.

The Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) modernizes the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) passed by voters in 2004, to address today's behavioral health system and needs. The transition from MHSA to BHSA will not introduce additional funding, but brings new requirements, modifies how counties' allocations may be used, and redistributes funds across new BHSA components and revised service categories.

BHSA prioritizes care for individuals with the most serious mental illnesses, expands services to include treatment for people with standalone substance use disorders, provides ongoing resources for housing and workforce development, and continues investments in early intervention programs.

Information submitted through this form will help identify local priorities, uncover opportunities for system improvement, and strengthen alignment with new BHSA components. Responses will be collected through December 2025 and combined with input and insights from other stakeholder activities to inform development of the County's first BHSA Integrated Plan for Fiscal Years 2026–2029.

What about BHSA would you like to provide input on?

Select from the list below to populate response boxes:

- ☐ Behavioral Health Services and Supports (BHSS) component
- ☐ BHSS: Workforce Education and Training
- ☐ BHSS: Early Intervention
- ☐ Full Service Partnerships (FSP) component
- ☐ Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Services
- ☐ Housing Interventions component
- ☐ Communities Most Impacted
- ☐ Other

About You

Please share a little about yourself to help us understand who we heard from.

Which of the following best describes you and/or the agency or organization you represent? *

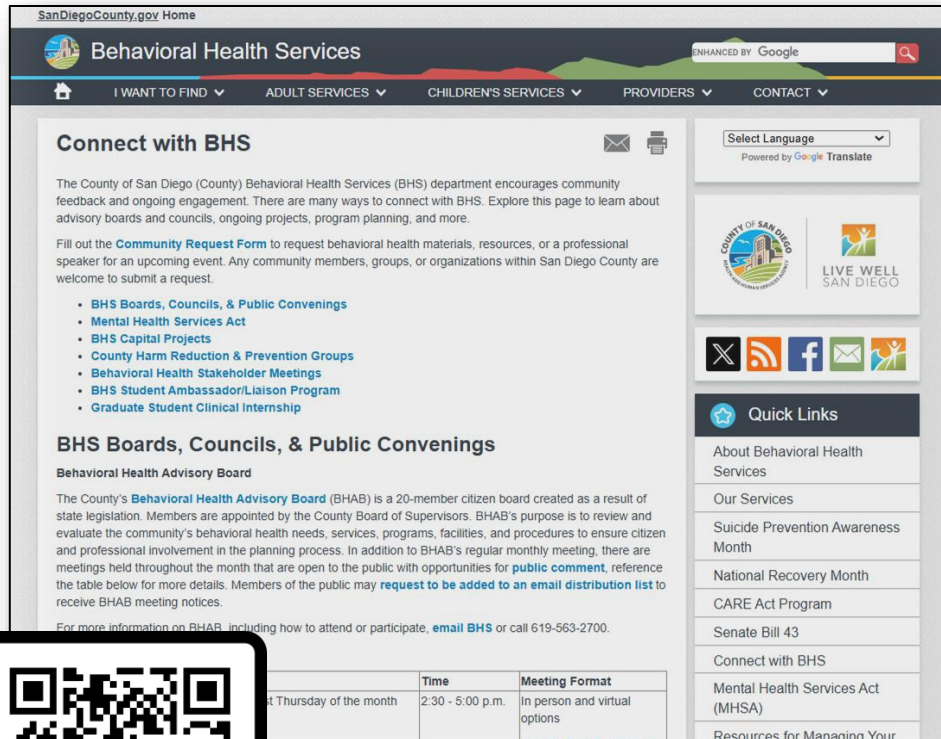
(Mark all that apply)

- ☐ Adult or older adult with lived mental health or substance use experience
- ☐ Youth or young adult with lived mental health or substance use experience
- ☐ Family member of someone with lived mental health or substance use experience
- ☐ Mental health, substance use, or social services provider
- ☐ Public or government agency

Online Resources for Info & Input

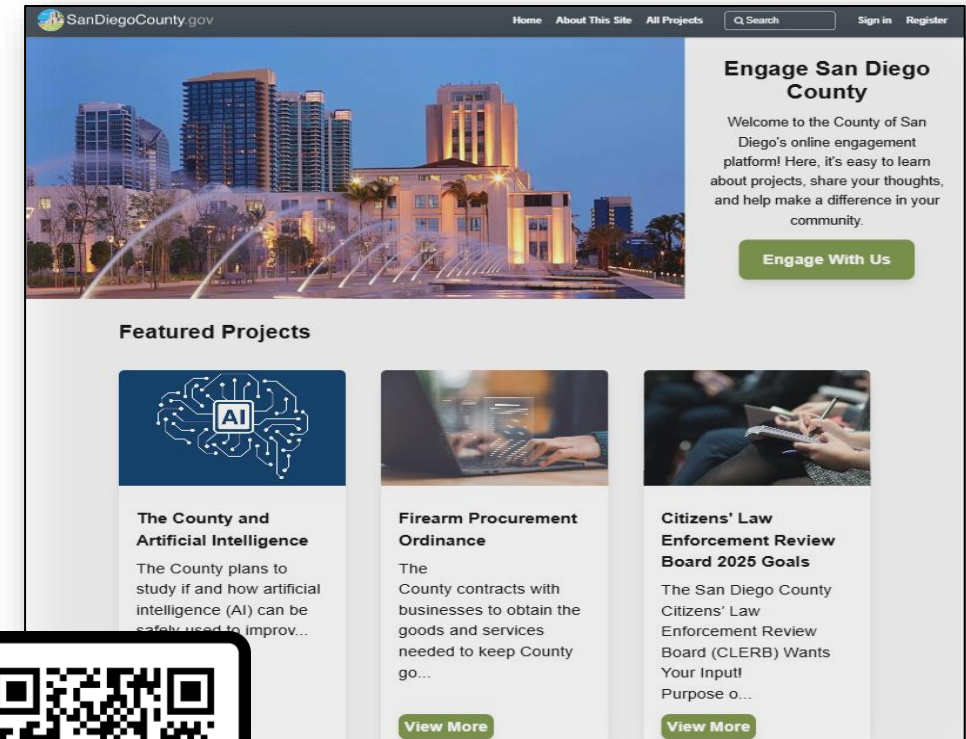


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- Bookmark URL
- Submit community requests
bit.ly/connectwithBHS



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- Register for platform
- Subscribe to BHS pages
bit.ly/engageCoSD

State-Level Resources



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DHCS

Services Individuals Providers & Partners Laws & Regulations Data & Statistics Forms & Publications Search

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Behavioral Health Transformation

Stakeholder Engagement

BHT Listening Sessions

DHCS SAC/BH-SAC Meeting

Public Comment

Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program

Resources

Mental Health for All

Mental Health Services Act

Newsroom

Stakeholder Engagement

Behavioral Health Transformation

Behavioral Health Services Act (Senate Bill (SB) 326 (Eggman, Chapter 790, Statutes of 2023) requires DHCS to participate in stakeholder engagement and consultation activities to support the planning, development, and implementation of Behavioral Health Transformation related policy.

Behavioral Health Transformation Listening Sessions

DHCS will host recurring (April 2024 – October 2024) public Behavioral Health Transformation listening sessions to gather feedback from affected Behavioral Health Transformation stakeholders. The meeting topics and duration will vary.

November Public Listening Session

November 04, 2024 | Webinar

Behavioral Health Services and Support

- [Recording](#)
- [PowerPoint Slides](#)
- [Themes Report](#)

October Public Listening Session

October 30, 2024 | Webinar

Full Service Partnership

- [Recording](#)
- [PowerPoint Slides](#)
- [Themes Report](#)



SCAN ME

- Bookmark URL
 - Review news, webinars
- bit.ly/dhcs-BHSA***

CDPH

California Department of Public Health

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TRANSFORMING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Transforming Behavioral Health

Partner and Community Engagement

Sign up for updates:

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Partner and Community Engagement

Behavioral Health Transformation

Behavioral Health Services Act (Senate Bill (SB) 326 (Eggman, Chapter 790, Statutes of 2023) requires CDPH to participate in engagement and consultation activities with interested parties to support the planning, development, and implementation of Behavioral Health Transformation related policy.

CDPH will publish updates on engagement opportunities related to behavioral health transformation planning on this webpage.



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- Bookmark URL
 - Sign-up for BHSA updates
- cdph.ca.gov/Programs/OPP/Pages/Engagement.aspx***

BHS' C&E Unit – *Connect with Us!*



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Health Education/Promotion, Outreach & CHW Coordination



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**Community
Request Form →**



Questions?



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Next Meeting:

Monday, November 10, 2025
@3:00PM-4:30PM
Virtual (Zoom)