

<b>To:</b>	<b>BHS System of Care (SoC) Councils and Regional Collaboratives</b>
<b>From:</b>	<b>Behavioral Health Services</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Friday, January 24, 2025</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Evolving and Enhancing BHS Stakeholder Engagement</b>

### Overview

Over the last couple of years, BHS has prioritized messaging and engagement and endeavored to steadily increase its capacity to conduct engagement activities in response to stakeholder input and community requests. Concurrently, shifts in federal and State policies have elevated the importance of this work and it is critical the department continue to broaden its ability to identify and respond to evolving community behavioral health needs. BHS recently conducted a review of its engagement activities, including content/topics of programming, meeting formats, and the capacity of an activity to support bi-directional communication and information sharing. Currently, BHS facilitates over 30 ongoing convenings related to its System of Care (SoC), in addition to annual community health promotion and outreach events. Based on this recent review, several opportunities to refine processes and resources to foster broader community participation, promote better service outcomes, and enable more meaningful stakeholder engagement have been identified.

### Transition of Engagement Convenings

To support more efficient deployment of resources, and more consistent, effective communication, BHS will be reconfiguring its existing engagement convenings and piloting new, more tailored activities over the next 18 months to provide stakeholders more inclusive options to connect with the department. BHS will be establishing engagement opportunities centered around the shared identities of groups and communities, in addition to existing regional and sector-based programming. This streamlines and optimizes efforts and will enable more cohesive collaboration while ensuring effective use of resources. This customized approach will also ensure more relevant opportunities for diverse populations in alignment with State Behavioral Health Transformation priorities.

### Timeline *(subject to change)*

- **December 2024:** Initial notification of transition shared with BHS providers and stakeholders
- **January 2025:** Presentation of changes at combined Council Meeting, scheduled for January 31, 2025
- **By March 2025:** Complete reconfiguration of existing BHS SoC and regional collaborative meetings
- **April 2025:** Begin ramp up of new activities, pending related guidance from the State

### Upcoming Changes

Current convenings impacted by this planned transition include:

#### 1. Individual System of Care (SoC) Council and Related Committee Meetings

- Adult Council
- Older Adult Council
- Children, Youth, and Families Council
- Transition Age Youth Council

#### 2. Regional Collaborative Meetings

- Central & North Central Region Collaborative
- East Region Collaborative
- North Region Collaborative
- South Region Collaborative

#### For More Information:

Contact [BHSContactUs.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:BHSContactUs.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov)

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### Other Engagement Opportunities

Stakeholders are invited and encouraged to participate in these other existing meetings, as follows:

#### 1. Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) Meetings *(In-person and virtual format)*

- BHAB meetings are held at the County Administration Center at 1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92101, on the Third Floor in Room 302, on the first Thursday of every month.
- BHAB meetings are governed by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Brown Act) and requires adherence to a set of specific rules.
- Individuals wishing to provide remarks should complete a [Public Comment Form](#) online by 12:00 PM or fill it out in-person at the meeting location before the meeting begins.

#### 2. Live Well San Diego Community Leadership Team & Workgroup Meetings *(various formats)*

MEETING	MEETING DETAILS
North County Community Leadership Team	Meets first Wednesday of every month, in-person, from 10:00am-12:00pm
East Region Behavioral Health Solutions Workgroup	Meets third Thursday of every month, in-person, from 10:30am-12:00pm
North Central Behavioral Health Workgroup	Meets second Wednesday of every month, in-person, from 11:00am-12:30pm
Central Region Health and Well-Being Workgroup	Meets the fourth Monday of the month from 1:30pm-3:30pm; locations and formats vary per month
South Region Behavioral and Mental Health Workgroup	Meets first Wednesday of every month, virtually, from 9:30am-10:30am
Meeting details are subject to change. Interested attendees are encouraged to email <a href="mailto:HHSA.Communities@sdcounty.ca.gov">HHSA.Communities@sdcounty.ca.gov</a> to confirm upcoming occurrences.	

Beginning in April 2025, stakeholder engagement activities (e.g., listening sessions, town halls, and workshops) organized by geographic region, community sector, shared identity, and/or Behavioral Health Transformation initiative will commence. Stay current with the State's Behavioral Health Transformation (BHT) by signing up for information distribution lists and by visiting the State BHT webpage: [www.dhcs.ca.gov/BHT/Pages/home.aspx](http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/BHT/Pages/home.aspx).

### General Community Requests

Are you or your organization planning an upcoming event? Scan the QR code to submit a request for behavioral health materials, presentations, or resources to BHS' Communication & Engagement (C&E) Unit.



### Service and Contract Questions

Inquiries about contracted services and operations should be directed to the Contracting Officer's Representative (COR).

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Contact [BHSContactUs.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:BHSContactUs.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov)