



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD (BHAB) ACTION ITEM

APRIL 2, 2026

RE-ENTRY SUPPORT FOR JUSTICE-INVOLVED YOUTH AND ADULT AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Subcommittee respectfully recommends the Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) to consider the following:

- 1. Increase Behavioral Health Services (BHS) funding for staffing Enhanced Case Management (ECM)**
 - More staff are needed so caseloads stay manageable.
 - Helps reduce repeat offenses and a revolving-door system.
 - Many agencies (courts, hospitals, peers, law enforcement, EMS, probation, etc.) rely on this support.
 - Partner with peer-led groups staffed by Certified Peer Support Specialists (CPSS).
- 2. Map the entire criminal-legal and behavioral health systems.**
 - Including Alternative to Incarceration (ATI) related agencies, departments, programs, and resources.
 - Show how all groups collaborate (liaisons, data sharing, etc.).
 - Publish online so everyone can use it.
- 3. Create a unique identification system for all San Diego County justice-involved individuals receiving behavioral health services.**
 - Helps track services and outcomes over time.
 - Allows for faster, more effective interventions.
 - Supports building programs based on real needs.
 - Enables a “look-back” to spot earlier opportunities for help.
- 4. Develop a countywide language guide**
 - Encourage respectful, person-centered terms (e.g., “incarcerated individual” instead of “inmate”).
 - Use in all county communications and among all partners.
- 5. Ensure everyone leaving jail is connected to services early.**
 - Support people released same-day, pretrial, or after serving time.

- Connect them months before release when possible.
- Provide housing links, treatment warm handoffs, and prescriptions.
- Fund an analysis of the Intercept model through ATI with full stakeholder cooperation.

6. Integrate juvenile and adult ATI programs.

- Make sure programs and data systems work together.
- Prevent “siloes” planning between youth and adult services.
- Reduce the school-to-jail pipeline by offering early help.

DRAFT

It is THEREFORE, recommended that BHAB vote to approve the BHAB Re-entry Support for Justice-Involved Youth and Adult Ad Hoc Subcommittee Recommendations.