

**UCSD HEALTH PARTNERSHIP  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS  
FY 2023-24**

ANNUAL REPORT UPDATE

MHSA priority  
populations

Additional groups  
identified in  
outreach efforts

Language  
accessibility

Diversity of  
opportunities

Balance:  
Relationship  
building ~ data  
collection

Community  
Co-facilitation

**FY2023-24 CONSIDERATIONS (SHARED AUG 2023)**



# OUTREACH

Over 125  
community &  
county-led  
meetings attended  
from May 2023 to  
December 2024

# OUTREACH

## Resource Booths

- ❖ National Recovery Month Celebration
- ❖ Live Well 5k
- ❖ Meeting of the Minds
- ❖ Out of the Darkness
- ❖ Live Well Advance
- ❖ San Diego High Wellness Fair

## Expanded Networks & Connections

- ❖ Chula Vista Community Collaborative
- ❖ Health San Diego Justice-Involved Workgroup
- ❖ St. Paul's PACE
- ❖ Interfaith Community Services
- ❖ JIREH Partners
- ❖ Among others

**20** key informant interviews and **20** focus groups  
engaging over **130** individuals representing the following  
communities/key populations:

Adult residential facilities

Black/African American

Deaf community

Hispanic/Latiné

Homeless/unhoused

Individuals with Lived  
Experience

Individuals with SMI

Justice-Involved

LGBTQI+

Native population

Older adults

People using substance  
use services

Refugee population

TAY

Veterans

Youth and young adults

INTERVIEWS &  
FOCUS GROUPS

**14** listening sessions engaging **270** individuals through the community in the following ways:

- ❖ Live Well Advance Conference (1)
- ❖ Spanish-Speaking Engagement Session (2)
- ❖ Regional Community Engagement Forums in partnership with the Live Well San Diego Community Regional Leadership Teams (4)
- ❖ Virtual Engagement Listening Sessions (2)
- ❖ Regional Community Engagement Listening Sessions (4)
- ❖ Young Children Listening Session (1)

LISTENING  
SESSIONS

# PRELIMINARY KEY FINDINGS

Lack of access  
and diversity  
among clinicians

Lack of  
awareness of  
resources  
available

Barriers in  
accessing services  
in other  
languages

Transportation  
barriers in  
accessing care

Lack of housing

Workforce  
challenges

# SUBSTANCE USE CONCERNS

"So I think that's also part of the problem when it comes to the **opioid crisis and the Fentanyl crisis and xylazine** and all these different things is that... **we see it, we know it's there.** But we're not addressing the elephant in the room, because it's something that still feels dirty to us. It's something that still feels like, 'Oh my gosh, even if I help that community, maybe people will think that I'm a part of that community, and I don't want that.' **Or people will feel like, 'I don't understand anything about it so why even bother getting involved'"**



# NEED FOR MORE APPROPRIATE SERVICES

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"Yeah, it's just it's interesting because I feel like **there's so many people that do look like me**, but I **can't seem to find them in these behavioral health spaces** and so I kind of wonder what's causing that divide?"

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"Most often if a client is coming in who identifies as transgender, just because of the experiences that they have experienced in life, their mental health, typically is on the higher side. Yet I struggle with referring them to any other place because, like I said, **there is no other place that really services, LGBTQ, especially transgender population**. So there's a gap, there's a **hole of high mental health co-occurring LGBTQ services**, I can state my life on that sentence, that's a fact."

# THE BENEFITS OF PEER SUPPORT

"And but you put somebody that has lived experience. Because I've been there. And we always joke around...the one who's struggling with mental health or depression or trauma that are in the pit. People walked by right the priest walked by there with a Bible, therapist walked by throws a prescription. **The person in recovery jumps in the hole with them.** Hey, I've been here. Come on, I know how to get out that lived experience and **having that somebody from the ground up is huge.**"

"I think **the mental health community** is one of the **most compassionate, authentic real communities** that I found."

"Picking **venues** that are that are going to have **accessibility, good parking, that's important for our community, good transportation, being near a bus line** or something is really important...So **we're uplifting and you're supporting the community** that you're trying to reach out to. So that's really important when you're picking a venue and a space that is accessible, centered and you're uplifting a small business."

"...engaging them in their language, you are going to be discussing different issues, and **engage trusted ambassadors**. No one can just go into a community and say, hey, guess what, I want to talk to you about this problem. And they are going to say 'Who are you?'. Right? So, **engaging, who are these known leaders in the community, and involve them in the process**, and then they can be able to share that information with the community and invite them to the focus group or however you are going to gather the information."

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

# CHALLENGES/GAPS



Minimal use of our static questionnaire

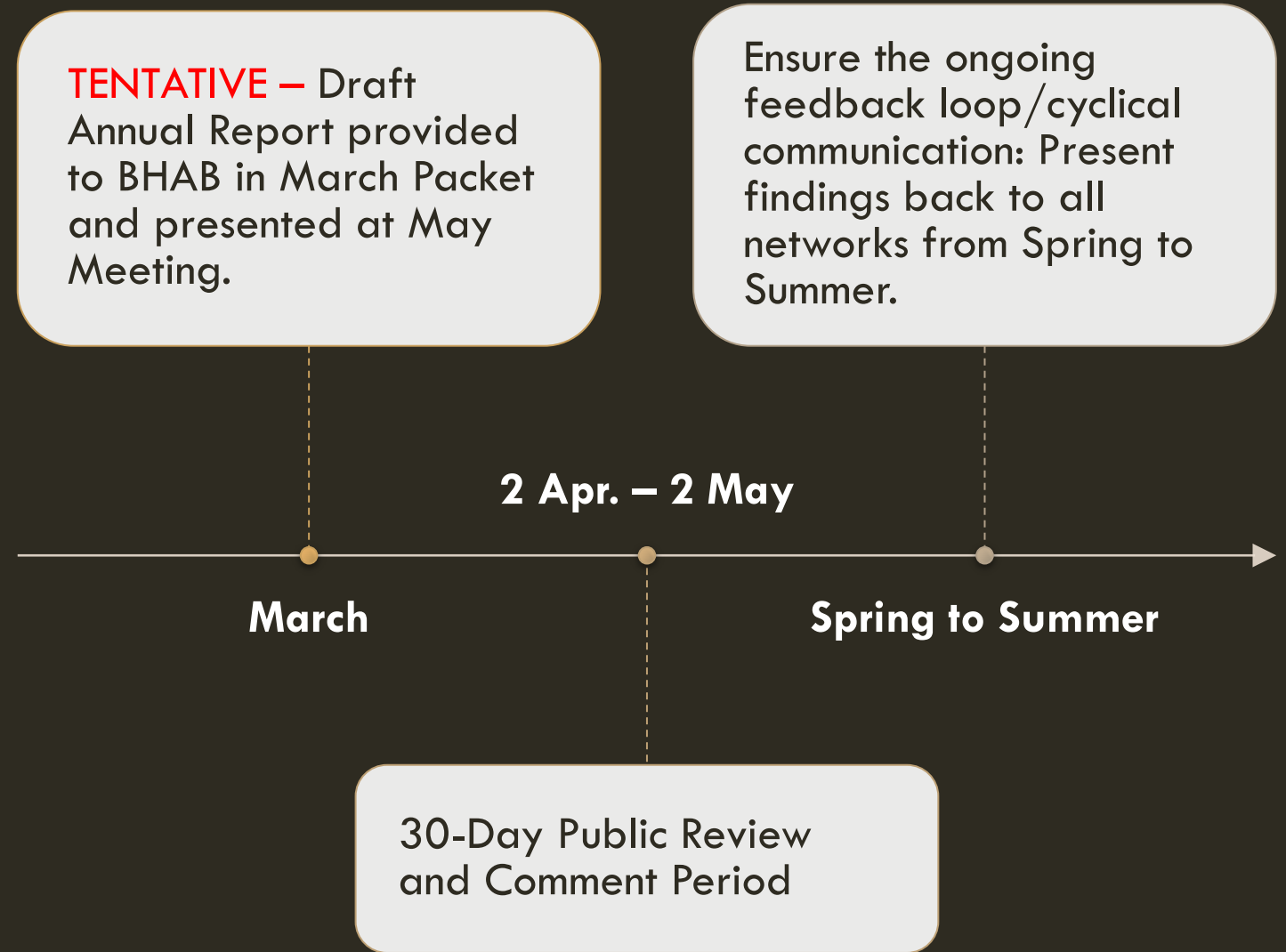


Challenges with attendance at regional listening sessions

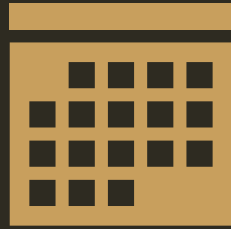


Continued need for expansion to underserved and hard-to-reach communities

# UPCOMING



# LOOKING FORWARD



Collaboration with BHS (including this subcommittee, where feasible) to establish 2024-2025 engagement calendar



To that end: Feedback for us

Successes?

Areas of saturation?

Who (else) to include?

What to improve?