

Legislative Advocacy

CALBHB/C's Governing Board supports legislation in response to issues reported from CA's 59 local mental/behavioral health boards & commissions, providing written and in-person advocacy at the Capitol. Join with us to advocate after reviewing "Understanding your Role" (below).

Understanding your Role

As Individuals: Individuals can and should write to their state legislators! Legislators especially appreciate hearing from residents within their districts.

As Advisory Bodies: Local mental/behavioral health boards/commissions are in an advisory role. In most counties, legislative advocacy is handled through the Board of Supervisors / Executive Office. Boards/commissions may wish to recommend specific legislation to their Governing Body (in most cases Board of Supervisors) and MH/BH Director (the BH Directors also advocate through their statewide association, County Behavioral Health Directors Association (CBHDA).

Supported Legislation

Sample Letters are on our website at:

<https://www.calbhbc.com/legislative-advocacy.html>

Workforce - AB-565 (Maienschein) Public health workforce planning.

Children/Youth--AB 734: Foster family support services pilot programs providing strengths-based, skills-based, trauma-informed coaching; SB 582: Creates parity and access to school-based mental health services. (Restores triage grant funding); SB12: Mental Health Centers for Youth.

Peer Provider Certification—Peer support standardization to promote recovery and self-sufficiency--SB10

Adult Residential Facilities (ARF) (Board & Cares) for adults with Severe Mental Illness

AB-1034: ARF Disaster Plans

AB1766: ARF Data Collection

Access to Mental Health Care (two Medi-Cal visits in the same day)--SB66

Superior Region Meeting/Training

August 24th in Chico

[Agenda](#) [Registration](#)

Resources

Member Orientation, Recruitment & more:

<https://www.calbhbc.com/resources.html>

On-line Training & Handbooks:

<https://www.calbhbc.com/training.html>

Frequently Asked Questions:

<https://www.calbhbc.com/faqs.html>

Issue Briefs and more:

www.calbhbc.com

Summer 2019 CALBHB/C Newsletter



SUMMER 2019 Newsletter www.facebook.com/CALBHB/ www.calbhbc.com

CALBHB/C: A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION SUPPORTING THE WORK OF LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

"The way a team plays as a whole determines its success." Babe Ruth

California's behavioral health system is on the cusp of knowing and bringing to scale effective mental/behavioral health programs, facilities, prevention and integrated community solutions throughout the state.

We know that being on the cusp is not easy, and we encourage local board/commission leadership and staff liaisons to connect with us for resources, issue-based advice and requests for statewide advocacy.

Resources CALBHB/C provides support and resources to help boards/commissions fulfill their vital role in reviewing and advising locally as part of a system that strongly values input from individuals with lived experience of mental illness, their family members, and stakeholders. See page 2 for a list of resources, visit www.calbhbc.com, contact us at info@calbhbc.com or use our [on-line form](#).

Advocacy: We are involved in what we believe is the first-ever Capitol Day in April (in collaboration with NAMI, CA) with particular focus on mental health workforce development. We also participated in Mental Health Matters Day (organized by Mental Health America of CA) in May at the Capitol.

Our continued advocacy efforts focus on issues reported to us from CA's 59 local MH/BH boards/commissions. We note promising statewide movement toward addressing integrated mental/behavioral health solutions for Housing, Workforce, Employment, Education, Disaster Planning & more!

MEETINGS / TRAINING

Southern/LA: June 21 & 22, Santa Ana
Superior: August 24, Chico
Central: October, Sacramento
[Registration](#) at: www.calbhbc.com

There is no fee for meetings or trainings. All MH/BH board/commission members are invited, and support staff. Travel expenses reimbursed for 1+ member /county in the region.

NEW REPORTS AND MORE

Disaster MH Plan from Napa County
MHSA Fiscal and Program Data
[MHSOAC Transparency Dashboard](#)

Older Adult DN Overview Report
CA Behavioral Health Planning Council
[Overview of 2017 Data Notebook](#)

TOP ISSUES

Top mental health issues reported by leadership (42 jurisdictions reporting)

- 1) Gaps in Housing Continuum, including Board & Cares for adults with severe mental illness.
- 2) Gaps in Crisis Continuum – Need for increased crisis stabilization services and crisis residential for children and adults.
- 3) Workforce Shortage – Psychiatrists and mental health professionals needed at all levels.
- 4) Jails – MH Services in question; Facilities inadequate; assaults on inmates and staff; not therapeutic.

Contact Us: info@calbhbc.com Website: www.calbhbc.com Facebook: [CALBHB/C](#)

State/National Announcements

Criminal Justice/Mental Health

Survey: The Council for Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health has developed a survey to capture your feedback on Juvenile Justice Issues from your experience and perspective on what is working, what is not working and what is missing as well as what do you think are the next steps. The survey is quick, 5-10 minutes to complete.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SPT9ZHG>

The National Stepping Up Initiative was launched in May 2015 to elevate the crisis of too many people with mental illnesses in jails and to provide counties with tools and resources to create sustainable and data-driven plans to address this challenge. In the four years since the launch, more than 475 counties have passed a resolution or proclamation committing to act on this issue. Now, counties are being urged to keep the momentum going in 2019. [Read more](#)

Share Your Story:

A message from Jocelyn Wiener, journalist with CALmatters. I'm working on a series of stories for CALmatters looking at the state of mental health care in California. The stories I've written so far can be found [here](#).

For my current story, I am looking to talk with families or individuals who have been impacted by LPS conservatorship laws in the state. I'm also interested in talking with any families (or individuals) who have dropped private insurance in favor of getting Medi-Cal in order to access services for people with serious mental illness. Finally, I'm interested to know about any issues people have had waiting for psychiatric hospital beds and/or being stuck in a psych hospital facility while awaiting appropriate care in the community.

I am working on a series of stories, so also welcome other ideas of policy issues related to mental health in California. Learn more about Jocelyn at www.jocelynwiener.com You can respond to her call for stories by emailing jocelynwiener@gmail.com.

Peer-Run Crisis Respite:

New study: Peer-run crisis respite save money, reduce hospitalizations, and impact systems. A new study published in *Psychiatric Services* looked at 401 individuals who used peer-staffed crisis respite centers...[Read more](#)

Alcohol & Drug:

Webinar:

Translating Detox into Recovery: Innovations in Opioid Treatment, Tuesday, July 16, 3 – 4:30 p.m. ET, hosted by National Council

Grant Opportunity: The Executive Office of the President, Office of National Drug Control Policy and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) are accepting applications for FY 2019 Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Support Program grants. Apply by July 8, 2019.

Coming Soon: Trauma-Informed Change Package. Trauma-informed approaches mark a fundamental shift in primary care. "Trauma-Informed Care Primary Care: Fostering Resilience and Recovery" is a step-by-step model that demonstrates how primary care providers can support patients impacted by trauma. And it's coming soon from the National Council for Behavioral Health (with support from Kaiser Permanente).

CALBHB/C supports the work of CA's 59 local Mental/Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions

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