



# California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions

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CALBHBC NEWSLETTER

## CALBHBC: A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION SUPPORTING THE WORK OF LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

“If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.” *African Proverb*

We want to go far together! Thank you to board/commission leadership who participated in regional teleconferences and submitted on-line reports. We hear you, and are here to support you locally and advocate for your needs statewide!



### Local Advice for Boards/Commissions

- 1) Jails — Now that many jails have mental health programs, review of these programs is recommended. See [FAQs #12](#).
- 2) Supportive Housing, Facilities—Showing support for supportive housing, facilities and programs can be key to BOS approval. See: [www.calbhbc.com/advocacy.html](http://www.calbhbc.com/advocacy.html)
- 3) Local Resources: Increasing Local Tax Revenue for Mental Health Services was a success in Mendocino County, resulting in \$35 Million over 5 years. [Link to article](#).

### MEETINGS / TRAINING

- Bay Area: March 16, Oakland  
 Statewide: April 9 & 10 Sacramento & Capitol Day  
 Southern/LA: June 21 & 22 Santa Ana

Registration at: [www.calbhbc.com](http://www.calbhbc.com).

*Trainings include Responsibilities of MH/BH Boards by CA Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions, CIBHS; and Community Program Planning by Access CA, a program of NorCal MHA. CIBHS requires additional registration.*

### REMINDERS

Data Notebook: 2018 Data Notebooks are due March 31, 2019. [Info](#)

Annual Reports: Submit annually to Board of Supervisors/Governing Body Share with us too! Advice/templates available: [www.calbhbc.com/faqs.html](http://www.calbhbc.com/faqs.html)

**Statewide Advocacy** — The following bills closely address issues reported around the state. Boards may wish to consider advising your Board of Supervisors regarding these bills.

- 1) Workforce—SB 539: Address mental health workforce needs by funding 5-Year [OSHDP WET Plan](#).
- 2) 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; [AB8](#): MH Professionals in Schools.
- 3) Jails and other facilities w/Mental Health Programs - Whistle-blower protection for Patients' Rights Advocates [AB333](#).
- 4) Peer Provider Certification—To promote recovery and self-sufficiency—[SB10](#)
- 5) Adult Residential Facilities (ARF) for adults with Severe Mental Illness. [AB1766](#): ARF Data Collection; [AB-1034](#): ARF Disaster Plans - (*draft*) more to come.
- 6) Parity of MH /substance use disorder benefits comparable to medical/surgical benefits.—[SB11](#)

Contact Us: [info@calbhbc.com](mailto:info@calbhbc.com)

Website: [www.calbhbc.com](http://www.calbhbc.com)

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**Resources** ([link to website](#))

[Best Practices Handbook:  
for Mental/Behavioral Health Boards &  
Commissions](#)  
[Brown Act \(Open Meeting Rules\)](#)  
[Data Notebooks](#)  
[Mental Health Services Act \*Plans/Innovations\*  
Templates/Sample Docs](#)  
[Bylaws, Member Orientation, Site Visit, etc.](#)  
[Training \(Online and Handbooks\)](#)  
*And More!* [www.calbhbc.com/resources.html](http://www.calbhbc.com/resources.html)

**Duties of Boards & Commissions**

The local mental health board shall : ([WIC 5604.2\(a\)](#))

1. Review and evaluate the community's mental health needs, services, facilities, and special problems.
2. Review any county agreements entered into pursuant to [Section 5650](#).
3. Advise the governing body and the local mental health director as to any aspect of the local mental health program.
4. Review and approve the procedures used to ensure citizen and professional involvement at all stages of the planning process.
5. Submit an [annual report](#) to the governing body on the needs and performance of the county's mental health system.
6. Review and make recommendations on applicants for the appointment of a local director of mental health services. The board shall be included in the selection process prior to the vote of the governing body.
7. Review and comment on the county's performance outcome data and communicate its findings to the California Mental Health Planning Council. ([Data Notebooks](#))
8. Nothing in this part shall be construed to limit the ability of the governing body to transfer additional duties or authority to a mental health board.

[5604.2\(b\)](#): ...shall assess the impact of the realignment of services from the state to the county, on services delivered to clients and on the local community.

[5848](#): ...conducts a public hearing on the county's MHSA Three Year Program and Expenditure Plan and Annual Update.

**Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Summary**

The Mental Health Services Act of 2004, passed by the voters as "Proposition 63," increased overall State funding for the community mental health system by imposing a 1% income tax on California residents with more than \$1 million per year in income. The stated intention of the proposition was to "transform" local mental health service delivery systems from a "fail first" model to one promoting intervention, treatment and recovery from mental illness. A key strategy in the act was the prioritization of prevention and early intervention services to reduce the long-term adverse impacts of untreated, serious mental illness on individuals, families and state and local budgets.

According to WIC 5813.5, MHSA Planning for services shall be consistent with the philosophy, principles, and practices of the Recovery Vision for mental health consumers:

1. To promote concepts key to the recovery for individuals who have mental illness: hope, personal empowerment, respect, social connections, self-responsibility, and self-determination.
2. To promote consumer-operated services as a way to support recovery.
3. To reflect the cultural, ethnic, and racial diversity of mental health consumers.
4. To plan for each consumer's individual needs.

**The Six Components:** The funds are divided into six components. County mental health agencies are required to develop detailed plans for the use of MHSA funds in each of these components, then submit those plans to the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) or State for approval. The following are the components:

1. Community Program Planning (CPP)
2. Community Services and Supports (CSS)
3. Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI)
4. Innovation (INN)
5. Capital Facilities & Technology Needs (CFTN)
6. Workforce Education and Training (WET)

**[MHSA On-Line Training](#)**

Role of the Mental Health Board w/  
MHSA Component Descriptions and Fiscal Info