



California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions

Summer 2020 Newsletter

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CALBHB/C SUPPORTS THE WORK OF CALIFORNIA'S 59 LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARDS & COMMISSIONS.



CALBHB/C NEWSLETTER

Advise to Reduce Disparities! Be Intentional!

Mental and behavioral health boards and commissions can and must work to address cultural, ethnic and racial discrimination, disparity and barriers.

As boards/commissions strive to make a difference toward increasing effective mental/behavioral health offerings, we encourage intentional strategies in the following areas.

Recruit to achieve diverse membership:

Seek out and recommend qualified/diverse individuals for appointment by Board of Supervisors. (per [WIC 5604\(2\)\(A\)](#)) See "[Best Practices 2020: Recruitment](#)" for guidance.

Listen for issues, gaps and successes.

- Invite organizations and individuals to your meetings that can speak to the needs of diverse communities.
- Listen to the public, treating all with dignity and respect.
- Attend CALBHB/C "Unconscious Bias" Training Teleconference, [6/26 Registration](#)

Review penetration rate, data and programs:

- Review staff reports. County data is also available at: calbhbc.org/performance
- Review plans, services and facilities to ensure they meet diverse community needs.

Specific racial, ethnic, cultural info at: www.calbhbc.org/cultural-competence

Advise the BH Director and local leadership:

Recommend goals and services that meet the diverse MH/BH needs of your community!

CALBHB/C TELECONFERENCES

Meeting: June 19, 2:30-4:30 pm

[Registration](#)

Presenters include:

- African Communities Public Health Coalition
- MH Services Oversight & Accountability Commission
- CA BH Planning Council

Training: June 26, 12:30-3:30 pm

[Registration](#)

Training Includes:

- Unconscious Bias
- Performance & Fiscal Data
- MHS Community Planning

RESOURCES

- [On-line Training and Recordings](#)
- [Performance Outcome Data](#)
- [Handbooks](#)
- [Templates](#) and more!
- [WIC 5604 for MHBs \(Full Code\)](#)

ISSUE BRIEFS

[Board & Care \(ARF\)](#)

[Criminal Justice](#)

[Disaster Preparation/Recovery](#)

[Employment](#)

[Older Adults](#)

[Suicide Prevention](#)

Additional Topics:

www.calbhbc.org/newsissues

Contact Us: info@calbhbc.com

Website: www.calbhbc.org

Facebook: [CALBHBC](https://www.facebook.com/CALBHBC)

1) Duties of Boards & Commissions (5604.2)

The local mental health board shall :

1. Review and evaluate the community's public mental health needs, services, facilities, and special problems in any facility within the county or jurisdiction where mental health evaluations or services are being provided, including, but not limited to, schools, emergency departments, and psychiatric facilities.
 2. Review any county agreements entered into pursuant to Section 5650. The local mental health board may make recommendations to the governing body regarding concerns identified within these agreements.
 3. Advise the governing body and the local mental health director as to any aspect of the local mental health program. Local mental health boards may request assistance from the local patients' rights advocates when reviewing and advising on mental health evaluations or services provided in public facilities with limited access.
 4. Review and approve the procedures used to ensure citizen and professional involvement at all stages of the planning process. Involvement shall include individuals with lived experience of mental illness and their families, community members, advocacy organizations, and mental health professionals. It shall also include other professionals that interact with individuals living with mental illnesses on a daily basis, such as education, emergency services, employment, health care, housing, law enforcement, local business owners, social services, seniors, transportation, and veterans.
 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 MH 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 Behavioral Health Planning Council.
 8. This part does not limit the ability of the governing body to transfer additional duties or authority to a mental health board.
- (b) The board shall assess the impact of the realignment of services from the state to the county, on services delivered to clients & on the local community.

2) MHSA Duties of Boards & Commissions (5848)

- (b) The mental health board established pursuant to Section 5604 shall conduct a public hearing on the draft three-year program and expenditure plan and annual updates at the close of the 30-day comment period required by subdivision (a). Each adopted three-year program and expenditure plan and update shall include any substantive written recommendations for revisions. The adopted three-year program and expenditure plan or update shall summarize and analyze the recommended revisions. The mental health board shall review the adopted plan or update and make recommendations to the local mental health agency or local behavioral health agency, as applicable, for revisions. The local mental health agency or local behavioral health agency, as applicable, shall provide an annual report of written explanations to the local governing body and the State Department of Health Care Services for any substantive [see (f) below] recommendations made by the local mental health board that are not included in the final plan or update.
- (f) For purposes of this section "Substantive recommendations made by the local mental health board" means any recommendation that is brought before the board and approved by a majority vote of the membership present at a public hearing of the local mental health board that has established its quorum.

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Summary

The MHSA 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 CA 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, state and local budgets. More:

www.calbhbc.com/mhsa-plans--updates
www.calbhbc.org/training