



# California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions

WINTER 2020 Newsletter

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



**CALBHBC NEWSLETTER**

**“An ounce of performance is worth pounds of promises.” Mae West**

**W**hat is the impact of the mental health programs, services and facilities in our communities?

Why do we ask?

It is alarming to hear statewide leadership speak about an “MHSA Refresh” when we do not have the information to understand the performance of the current MHSA offerings.\*

CALBHB/C is therefore working in two areas to increase access to performance outcome information to better inform local advisory boards and commissions, and state leadership.

1. **Advocacy:** CALBHB/C is advocating for a standard set of MHSA Performance Outcome Data. (eg: [Letter to CA Senate Budget Subcommittee Dec. 2019.](#))
2. **Performance Outcome Information** on our [website](#): This includes a compilation of Medi-Cal, MHSA\* and SAMHSA performance outcome data related to:
  - Criminal Justice
  - ER Visits
  - Employment
  - Homelessness
  - Hospitalizations
  - Student Performance

See: [www.calbhbc.org/performance](http://www.calbhbc.org/performance)

\* For Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) programs, each of the 59 local mental/behavioral health agencies are collecting and reporting on different performance outcome data.

### TELECONFERENCES

Suicide Prevention  
Criminal Justice  
January 31, 11:30 am

Older Adults  
Friday, February 21, 11:30 am

### REGIONAL MEETINGS/TRAINING

Oakland: April 18, 2020  
Riverside: June 20, 2020  
Fresno: Fall, 2020

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

### ISSUE BRIEFS

[www.calbhbc.org](http://www.calbhbc.org)

Board & Care (ARF)  
Criminal Justice  
Disaster Preparation/Recovery  
Employment  
Older Adults

Additional Topics:  
[www.calbhbc.org/newsissues](http://www.calbhbc.org/newsissues)

### RESOURCES

[www.calbhbc.org/resources](http://www.calbhbc.org/resources)

- Handbook (Best Practices)
- On-Line Training
- Training PowerPoints
- ... and more!

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

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

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

Recent CA WIC changes are noted in **bold**. More at: [www.calbhbc.org/legislation-mhb-wic.html](http://www.calbhbc.org/legislation-mhb-wic.html)

## 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) Duties of Boards & Commissions (5848)

MHSA Duties from Code Section 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](http://www.calbhbc.com/mhsa-plans-updates)  
[www.calbhbc.org/training](http://www.calbhbc.org/training)