

Director Responsibilities in the Region

CALBHB/C Directors act locally, while thinking and advocating on a statewide level.

The three Directors in each region have joint responsibility for providing support to each local mental/behavioral health board or commission (MHB) in their jurisdiction. This support takes the form of:

- Ensuring that each MHB in the region is visited at least once annually.
- Providing updates on statewide issues and policy changes.
- Providing information regarding CALBHB/C's mission, resources, regional meeting and training offerings.
- Responding to inquiries from local MHBs in a timely manner.
- Noting any local need that can be elevated to a regional, and subsequently State level.
- Encouraging networking and mutual support between MHBs having similar issues and initiatives.
- Providing meaningful quarterly reports to the CALBHB/C Board.

Principles of Comportment

The Director is a representative of CALBHB/C. CALBHB/C provides support as requested by MHBs, and on terms suitable to the MHB. Thus, the attitude of the Director is always to *offer* rather than to insist, to *listen* rather than to tell, and to emanate patient support.

The building of trust is the first priority, and it must be continually strengthened. Directors are encouraged to interact with MHBs in a spirit of appreciation for the work they are doing, and affection towards their good will and pure aspirations. Directors are encouraged to listen attentively to the MHB's own perception of its needs and direction, and to avoid imposing their own sense of what the board should want and how it should change.

A budget estimate for travel and regional team meetings is to be submitted annually. Directors are responsible for maintaining expenses within the CALBHB/C approved annual budget.

Regional Organization

Each region is responsible for determining its own structure for providing these services. All three directors may be active in reaching out to MHBs, or they may decide to delegate that responsibility to only one or two of the directors; or – alternatively – to engage a broader team of regional helpers to perform this work.

Note that the Los Angeles Region acts in concert with the Southern Region and shares its Regional Meeting.

