

REVIEW: Key Considerations and Roles

“Review” means to examine or assess (something) formally with the possibility or intention of instituting change if necessary.

Key Considerations - The following are suggested as key elements for mental/behavioral health board/commission members to consider when reviewing mental/behavioral health offerings.

1. **Accessibility** - Are programs accessible to all?
 - a. **Culturally Relevant** - Understanding and effectively responding to racial, ethnic, cultural, LGBTQ, and age needs across the entire behavioral health system is integral to providing effective, accessible and equitable offerings.
 - b. **Scaled** to meet the needs of the community
 - c. **Integrated** programs in: schools, senior centers, work-settings, hospitals, religious institutions, wellness-centers, etc.) Aligning mental health and substance use disorder resources with health care, education and social service offerings is fundamental to providing access to an effective and accessible continuum of care.
 - d. **Communicated**
 - i. **Website, Media, Signage:** Availability of services and how to access them is clearly communicated and includes languages of the local population.
 - ii. **Messaging:** Widespread mental/behavioral health education and messaging reaches all age groups, cultures, ethnicities, races, LGBTQ+ and all sectors (schools, senior centers, work-settings, hospitals, community centers, religious institutions, wellness-centers, etc.)
2. **Recommended Practices** - Do offerings provide evidence-based or promising practices?
 - a. **Client & Family Driven**
 - i. **Peer Providers** are an essential component
 - ii. Clients and family members are treated with dignity and respect and are included in decision-making
 - iii. Program leadership and staff includes individuals with lived experience and family members (such as on non-profit boards and as employees)
 - b. **Evidence-Based Practices**
 - c. **Trauma-Informed Practices**
 - d. **Community-Defined Evidence Practices**
3. **Sustainability** - Are programs sustainable?
 - a. **Financially Viable:** Sustainable funding mechanisms for county agencies, local agency partners and community-based organizations
 - b. **Workforce:** Development of Workforce, Competitive Wages, Education, Training
4. **Performance** - What is the impact of the behavioral health offerings?

Measuring performance is integral to identifying, providing, scaling and improving programs. Collecting, analyzing and sharing data that tracks the impact of behavioral health programs on individuals and communities (Children & Youth, Criminal Justice, Employment, Hospitalizations, Housing) is key to justifying and supporting ongoing implementation and funding. www.calbhbc.org/performance

REVIEW Continued

Roles:

Mental/Behavioral Health Director - to CONSULT with Advisory Board

WIC Section 5608 (c): The Mental/Behavioral Health Director is required to recommend to the governing body [usually the Board of Supervisors], after consultation with the advisory board [the local mental/behavioral health board/commission], the provision of services, establishment of facilities, contracting for services or facilities and other matters necessary or desirable in accomplishing the purposes of this division.

Mental/Behavioral Health Board/Commission Members - 6 Areas to Review*:

- 1) **Mental/behavioral health** needs, services, facilities and special problems
- 2) **County agreements** entered into pursuant to Section 5650.**
- 3) **Community Planning:** Procedures used to ensure citizen and professional involvement at all stages of the planning process.
- 4) **Mental/ Behavioral Health Director** applicants
- 5) **Performance Outcome Data**
- 6) **Realignment:** Assess the impact of the realignment of services from the state to the county, on services delivered to clients and on the local community.

* Full Duty Descriptions: www.calbhbc.org/duties

** *Section 5650 refers to the annual [Performance Contract](#) between local mental/behavioral health agencies and CA's Department of Health Care Services. The Performance Contract sets forth conditions and requirements that counties must meet in order to receive the following funding: Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH), Community Mental Health Block Grant programs and community mental health services provided with realignment funds.*