

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES
Behavioral Health Stakeholder Advisory Committee (BH-SAC)
Charter

April 30, 2019

Purpose:

The purpose of the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Behavioral Health Stakeholder Advisory Committee (BH-SAC) is to advise the DHCS Director on the behavioral health delivery system. This includes behavioral health, prevention, treatment, and recovery services, and related waivers for Substance Use Disorder Services (SUDS) and Mental Health. The BH-SAC is led by the Director, Chief Deputy Director for Health Care Programs, and the Behavioral Health Deputy Director.

Objectives:

The core objectives of this committee are to:

1. Offer input, knowledge, and experience on how to improve the behavioral health components, both within and outside of the Medi-Cal program, for all beneficiaries.
2. Provide feedback on specific strategies that DHCS will propose to ensure the provision of high-quality, accessible behavioral health care services in Medi-Cal and other DHCS programs such as the Mental Health Services Act and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Block Grants (Mental Health Block Grant and Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant).
3. Suggest ideas for approaches to be used to monitor behavioral health utilization and county and health plan performance.
4. Review performance standards, and indicators that will be adopted to ensure that DHCS health and behavioral health services meet the multiple and complex needs of beneficiaries.
5. Provide comment on the progress of the programs within the Medi-Cal 2020 Waiver for SUDS and the 1915(b) Waiver for Mental Health.

Guiding Principles for the Behavioral Health Stakeholder Advisory Committee (BH-SAC):

Membership should reflect the diverse stakeholders of DHCS programs, focusing on the behavioral health components.

1. Meetings should provide a collegial and open environment to express different points-of-view.
2. Meetings should encourage direct communication and problem solving with DHCS as part of the process.
3. BH-SAC members should remain focused on how to best meet the objectives of BH-SAC.
4. Regular, consistent attendance at the meetings and active participation of members is key to meeting the BH-SAC's objectives.
5. Members will not send substitutes, delegates or proxies to meetings.
6. DHCS will not pay a per diem or compensate members for expenses, including travel and related costs to attend meetings.

Membership:

Members of the BH-SAC will be appointed by the DHCS Director after an application is submitted.

- a. Members have been selected to balance the expertise and viewpoints that are necessary to effectively address the issues to be considered by the BH-SAC.
- b. Members will be recognized stakeholders/experts in their fields, including but not limited to representatives of policy and advocacy organizations focused on behavioral health, clients and families, behavioral health providers to children and youth, adults and older adults, county entities, Medi-Cal managed care plans, providers of integrated behavioral health and medical providers, early intervention services, etc.
- c. Members should be prepared to attend all regularly scheduled meetings.
- d. BH-SAC will meet four times a year and the schedule of yearly meetings will be developed and communicated to members by October of the preceding year; BH-SAC meetings will be scheduled on the same days as the DHCS 1115 Waiver Stakeholder Advisory Committee meetings and will alternate meeting times.
- e. Meeting agendas for each meeting will be prepared by DHCS. Committee members will be encouraged to suggest agenda items.
- f. Members are strongly encouraged to participate in person; for those who cannot attend a meeting, an interactive teleconferencing service will be provided.
- g. All meetings will be held in accordance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act.