



BHSA BHSS Workgroup

SUMMARY

DATE: August 18, 2025

TIME: 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

LOCATION: Behavioral Health Training Center:
750 The City Dr. S., Suite #130, Orange CA 92868

AGENDA TOPICS

1. Welcome and Recap – Lorry provided a recap of the last meeting. Annette introduced what we'll be doing today, with a reminder that except for the carve outs of Housing and FSP, that EVERYTHING else in the system of care falls under BHSS. We have our work cut-out.
2. Responsibility of Managed Care – Carmen Katsarov, CalOptima
 - CalOptima is a Managed Care Plan (MCP) and a part of the County Organized Health Plan. They have a Medi-Cal line of business and a 1 care (Medi-Cal/Medicare) line, in addition to PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly). Over 900,000 members. Kaiser also joined the County Organized Health Plan in 1/2024.
 - Behavioral Health is an umbrella term for 1. Mental Health services, 2. Substance Use Disorder services, and 3. Behavioral Health Treatment – applied behavior analysis up to age 20.
 - Shared responsibility: CalOptima serves mild to moderate while County serves specialty MH. SUD for MCP is primarily screenings, or a disorder being managed by a counselor, physical health care provider, or low-level outpatient. BH Treatment for Children and Youth up to age 20 (for Autism and other) referred to contracted providers. CalOptima has a dedicated BH line and a full BH department to help members access services.



- CalAIM offers Enhanced Case Management (ECM). Typically, very strict rules of what can be covered, CalAIM relaxes that a bit to bridge services and increase access to care. 14 community supports are covered under CalAIM.
- New – Transitional Rent
- Student BH incentive program for schools to be able to bill MCPS for certain non-specialty MH services being provided on campus.
- For CBOs and other providers who want to contract with CalOptima send an interest email to CalOptima Provider Relations to get more information.

Q&A – Who does screenings for SMH? Answer: Whoever sees the member, everyone's job, not just BH.

3. Review of SUD System Maps for Children & Adults – Glenda Aguilar & April Thornton
Reviewed programs, services, funding source(s) and referrals

Q&A – Difference between Sobering Center, Sober living, and detox. Sobering Center is short-term facility for those actively detoxing allowing recovery up to 24 hours. Sober Living or Recovery Residences offer housing and sober support to those enrolled in outpatient or intensive outpatient treatment. Detox is up to 5 days of 24-hour supervision. There's also 3.7 Medically Monitored detox which County currently does not offer, but looking into soliciting for providers.

4. Review of Adult Mental Health System of Care Maps – Tracy Rick, Stacey Berardino, Jennifer Dinicola, Vanessa Thomas
Reviewed programs, services, funding source(s) and referrals
5. Early Intervention Exercise – postponed due to time
6. Next Meeting – September 8, 2025, in-person

A meeting was added for September 8, in-person only at BHTC 1:00 – 2:30 as no **meeting September 1 – Labor Day**. There will be 3 meetings in September - 8, 15, 29. We will combine the exercise scheduled for 8/18 with the “homework” exercise. Both will route with the invite for September 8.