



California Behavioral Health Planning Council

ADVOCACY • EVALUATION • INCLUSION

AGENDA

October 14, 15, 16, and 17, 2025

[Embassy Suites by Hilton San Francisco Airport Waterfront](#)

150 Anza Boulevard, Burlingame, California, 94010

Notice: All agenda items are subject to action by the Council. Scheduled times on the agenda are estimates and subject to change. If Reasonable Accommodation is required, please contact the Council at 916-701-8211 by **October 6, 2025**, to meet the request. All items on the Committee agendas posted on our website are incorporated by reference herein and are subject to action.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

2:00 p.m. Performance Outcomes Committee

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

8:30 a.m. [Executive Committee](#)

10:30 a.m. [Patients' Rights Committee](#)

12:00 p.m. LUNCH (on your own)

12:00 p.m. Children/Youth Workgroup

1:30 p.m. [Workforce and Employment Committee](#)

1:30 p.m. [Legislation and Public Policy Committee](#)

Thursday, October 16, 2025

8:30 a.m. [Housing and Homelessness Committee](#)

8:30 a.m. [Systems and Medicaid Committee](#)

12:00 p.m. LUNCH (on your own)

12:10 p.m. Reducing Disparities Work Group

12:10 p.m. Substance Use Disorder Workgroup

Thursday, October 16, 2025

COUNCIL GENERAL SESSION

Room: Embassy Ballroom

Conference Call: (669) 900-6833 (Listen Only)

Meeting ID: 835 7261 9616 **Passcode:** 400114

- 1:30 p.m. Welcome and Introductions**
Tony Vartan, Chairperson
- 1:35 p.m. Acceptance of April 2024 Meeting Minutes** **TAB A**
Susan Wilson, Chairperson Elect
- 1:40 p.m. Local Behavioral Health Services Overview** **Tab B**
Jeï Africa, PsyD, Behavioral Health Director, San Mateo County Health, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services
- 2:25 p.m. Public Comment on Presentation**
- 2:30 p.m. 15-Minute Break**
- 2:45 p.m. California's Publicly Funded Substance Use Disorder System Overview** **Tab C**
Dr. Brian Hurley, MD, Medical Director of the Bureau of Substance Abuse Prevention and Control, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
- 3:40 p.m. Public Comment on Presentation**
- 3:45 p.m. 15-Minute Break**
- 4:00 p.m. Options Recovery Services Presentation** **Tab D**
Justin Phillips, LMFT, Executive Director, Options Recovery Services
- 4:50 p.m. General Public Comment**
- 5:00 p.m. Recess**

Public Comment: Limited to a **2-minute maximum** to ensure all are heard.

Mentorship Forum for Council members, including Committee Chairpersons and Chair-Elects, will occur following Thursday's General Session in the same room. We respectfully ask those not participating to exit the meeting space to allow for Council business to occur.

Friday, October 17, 2025

COUNCIL GENERAL SESSION

Room: Embassy Ballroom

Conference Call: (669) 900-6833 (Listen Only)

Meeting ID: 835 7261 9616 **Passcode:** 400114

8:30 a.m. Welcome Back & Announcements

Tony Vartan, Chairperson

8:40 a.m. CBHPC External Partners Representation Updates Tab E

Naomi Ramirez, Council Staff, California Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, Benefits Planning Workgroup

Susan Wilson, Council Member, CARE Ad-hoc Group: Data Collection, Reporting & Evaluation Ad Hoc Group

8:50 a.m. 2025 Conference Sharing Tab F

Javier Moreno, Susan Wilson, Monica Caffey, Karrie Sequeira, Deborah Starkey, and Uma Zykofsky, Council Members

9:00 a.m. Committee Report-Outs

- **Executive:** Tony Vartan, Chairperson
- **Performance Outcomes:** Noel O'Neill, Chairperson
- **Patients' Rights:** Mike Phillips, Chairperson
- **Legislation and Public Policy:** Barbara Mitchell, Chairperson
- **Workforce and Employment:** Deborah Pitts, Chairperson
- **Housing and Homelessness:** Deborah Starkey, Chairperson
- **Systems and Medicaid:** Uma Zykofsky, Chairperson

9:45 a.m. 15-Minute Break

10:00 a.m. Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Update

Paula Wilhelm, Deputy Director of Behavioral Health, CA Department of Health Care Services

10:25 a.m. Public Comment on DHCS Presentation

**10:30 a.m. Overview of Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Tab G
Integrated Plans**

Marlies Perez, Chief, Community Services Division, Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)

10:55 a.m. The Integrated Plan Process in Action Tab H

Behavioral Health Board Roles & Responsibilities: Theresa Comstock, Executive Director, California Associations of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions

Statewide Implementation Update: Elissa Feld, County Behavioral Health Directors Association (CBHDA)

Local County Implementation Update: Dr. Todd Schirmer, Director of Behavioral

11:40 a.m. Commission for Behavioral Health Update

Commission Representative

**11:45 a.m. Public Comment on Integrated Plan Process and
General Public Comment**

11:55 a.m. Closing Remarks

Tony Vartan, Chairperson

12:00 p.m. Adjourn

2026 Council Meeting Schedule

- January 20-23, 2026: [Bahia](#), San Diego, CA
- April 14-17, 2026: [Residence Inn Sacramento Capitol Park/California Endowment](#), Sacramento, CA
- June 16-19, 2026: [Marriott Riverside at the Convention Center](#), Riverside, CA
- October 20-23, 2026: [Embassy Suites San Francisco Airport-South San Francisco](#), South San Francisco, CA