



California Behavioral Health Planning Council

ADVOCACY • EVALUATION • INCLUSION

AGENDA

January 20, 21, 22, and 23, 2026

[Bahia Hotel](#)

998 West Mission Bay Drive, San Diego, CA 92109

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 **January 5, 2026** 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, January 20, 2026

2:00 p.m. [Performance Outcomes Committee](#)

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

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

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

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

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

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

Thursday, January 22, 2026

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 Workgroup (tentative)

Thursday, January 22, 2026

COUNCIL GENERAL SESSION

Room: Mission DE Ballroom

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

Meeting ID: 817 0827 1878 **Passcode:** 015656

1:30 p.m. Welcome and Introductions

Tony Vartan, Chairperson

1:40 p.m. Acceptance of January 2025 Meeting Minutes

TAB I

Susan Wilson, Chairperson Elect

1:45 p.m. Local Behavioral Health Services Overview

Tab J

*Nadia Privara Brahms, Interim Director of Behavioral Health Services,
County of San Diego Health & Human Services Agency*

- *Presentation (30 minutes)*
- *Council Member Question & Answer (15 minutes)*
- *Public Comment (5 minutes)*

2:35 p.m. 15-Minute Break

2:50 p.m. Council Focus for 2026

Tony Vartan, Chairperson and Susan Wilson, Chairperson Elect

3:10 p.m. Committee Report-Outs

- **Performance Outcomes:** Noel O'Neill, Chairperson
- **Executive:** Tony Vartan, Chairperson
- **Patients' Rights:** Mike Phillips, Chairperson
- **Legislation and Public Policy:** Javier Moreno, Chairperson
- **Workforce and Employment:** Bill Stewart, Chairperson
- **Housing and Homelessness:** Deborah Starkey, Chairperson
- **Systems and Medicaid:** Karen Baylor, Chairperson

4:00 p.m. 15-Minute Break

4:15 p.m. CBHPC External Partners Representation Updates

Tab K

*Noel O'Neill, Council Member, The Quality and Equity Advisory Committee
Jenny Bayardo, Executive Officer, Pacific West Hub Advisory Board*

4:40 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, January 23, 2026

COUNCIL GENERAL SESSION

Room: Mission DE Ballroom

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

Meeting ID: 817 0827 1878 **Passcode:** 015656

8:30 a.m. Welcome Back & Announcements

Tony Vartan, Chairperson

**8:40 a.m. Patient Advocacy in Substance Use Disorder
Residential Treatment Facilities**

Tab L

Iris Olivares-Searcy, Patients' Rights Advocate, Jewish Family Service of San Diego, Patient Advocacy Program

Tera Gigax, Certified Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist, Jewish Family Service of San Diego, Patient Advocacy Program

- *Presentation (45 minutes)*
- *Council Member Question & Answer (15 minutes)*

9:40 a.m. 20-Minute Break

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

Michelle Baass, Director, CA Department of Health Care Services

- *Presentation (20 minutes)*
- *Council Member Question & Answer (5-7 minutes)*
- *Public Comment (4-5 minutes)*

**10:30 a.m. Substance Use Disorder Voices for Change:
The Consumer Revolution**

Tab M

Robb Layne, Executive Director, California's Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives (CAADPE)

- *Presentation (20 minutes)*
- *Council Member Input/Discussion (10 minutes)*

11:00 a.m. Commission for Behavioral Health Update

Tab N

Riann Kopchak, Assistant Deputy Director of Legislative and External Affairs, Commission for Behavioral Health

- *Presentation (20 minutes)*
- *Council Member Question & Answer (10 minutes)*

11:30 a.m. 2025 Conference Sharing

Tab O

11:45 a.m. General Public Comment

11:55 a.m. Closing Remarks

Tony Vartan, Chairperson

12:00 p.m. Adjourn

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

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2026 Council Meeting Schedule

- 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