

# California Behavioral Health Planning Council

## Housing and Homelessness Committee Agenda

Thursday, April 16, 2026

8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

[The California Endowment](#)

1414 K St #500

Sacramento, CA 95814

Power Up Room

[Zoom Meeting Link](#)

**Meeting ID:** 261 743 5061

**Passcode:** 705358

**Join by phone:** (669) 444-9171

**Passcode:** 705358

- 8:30 a.m. Welcome, Introductions, and Housekeeping**  
*Maria Sierra, Chair-Elect*
- 8:40 a.m. Review and Accept January 2026 Draft Meeting Minutes (Action)** **Tab 1**  
*Maria Sierra, Chair-Elect*
- Committee Discussion
  - Public Comment
  - Accept Meeting Minutes
- 8:45 a.m. Nominate Interim Housing and Homelessness Committee Chairperson for 2026 (Action)** **Tab 2**  
*Maria Sierra, Chair-Elect*
- Committee Discussion
  - Public Comment
  - Roll Call Vote
- 8:50 a.m. Debrief of Turn to Recovery Tour** **Tab 3**  
*Maria Sierra, Chair-Elect*
- 9:00 a.m. Update on Committee Activities** **Tab 4**  
*Simon Vue, Committee Staff*
- 9:10 a.m. General Public Comment**  
*Members of the public can comment on any non-action agenda item that did not have public comment or any other general item.*

If reasonable accommodation is required, please contact the Council at (916) 701-8211 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting date.

# California Behavioral Health Planning Council

- 9:15 a.m. Hope Cooperative Presentation – An Overview of Renewed Hope Tab 5
- 10:05 a.m. Public Comment
- 10:10 a.m. Break
- 10:20 a.m. AMI Housing Presentation – An Overview of The Harbor Tab 6  
*Dr. Marjan Soltani, LMFT, PsyD, Director of Sun Rose Apartments*  
*Shaneka Hampton, Peer Support Specialist, Harbor Program*
- 11:10 a.m. Public Comment
- 11:15 a.m. Break
- 11:25 a.m. Presentation Debrief and Discussion Tab 7  
*Chairperson*
- Committee Discussion
- 11:50 a.m. Wrap-up & Next Steps  
*Maria Sierra, Chair-Elect*
- 12:00 p.m. Adjourn

The scheduled times on the agenda are estimates and subject to change.

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

## Committee Members

**Chairperson:**

**Chair-Elect:** Maria Sierra

**Committee Members:** Susie Baker, John Black, Jason Bradley, Monica Caffey, Dave Cortright, Erin Franco, Lynne Martin Del Campo, Lanita Mims-Beal, Barbara Mitchell, Don Morrison, Danielle Sena, Daphne Shaw, Deborah Starkey, Bill Stewart, Samantha Tosetti, Arden Tucker

If reasonable accommodation is required, please contact the Council at (916) 701-8211 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting date.

**California Behavioral Health Planning Council  
Housing and Homelessness Committee**

**Thursday, April 16, 2026**

**Agenda Item:** Review and Accept January 2026 Draft Meeting Minutes (Action)

**Enclosure:** January 2026 Draft Meeting Minutes

**Background/Description:**

Committee members will have the opportunity to ask questions, request edits, and provide other feedback before the minutes are accepted.

California Behavioral Health Planning Council

**Housing and Homelessness Committee**

Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

January 22, 2026

**Council Members present:** Susie Baker (virtual), John Black, Jason Bradley, Monica Caffey, Dave Cortright, Erin Franco (virtual), Lanita Mims-Beal, Barbara Mitchell, Don Morrison, Daphne Shaw, Maria Sierra, Deborah Starkey (virtual), Bill Stewart, Arden Tucker (virtual)

**Staff present:** Jenny Bayardo, Naomi Ramirez, Simon Vue

**Meeting Commenced:** 8:30 a.m.

**Quorum Established:** 14 out of 16 members

---

**Item #1      Review and Accept October 2025 Meeting Minutes**

---

The Housing and Homelessness Committee (HHC) reviewed the October 2025 Draft Meeting Minutes. The minutes were accepted by the committee as written.

**Action/Resolution**

October 2025 HHC Meeting Minutes will be posted to the Council’s website.

**Responsible for Action-Due Date**

Simon Vue – February 2026

---

**Item #2      Review and Accept Draft 2025-2026 Charter and Work Plan**

---

The Housing and Homelessness Committee (HHC) reviewed and accepted the final draft of the 2025-2026 Committee Charter and Work Plan as written.

**Action/Resolution**

The 2025-2026 Committee Charter and Work Plan will be posted to the HHC’s webpage.

**Responsible for Action-Due Date**

Simon Vue – January 2026

---

**Item #3      Discussion on Time Limits for Transitional Housing: Behavioral Health Services Act versus Federal Standards**

---

The Committee discussed two issues with the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) housing rules:

- **Length of Stay in Interim (Transitional) Housing:** BHSA limits transitional housing payments to one year (six months plus a six-month extension), while federal rules and the state Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Program allow up to two years.
- **Income-Based Tenant Contributions in Transitional Housing:** Under the BHSA, programs may not charge rent in transitional housing. This restriction conflicts with federal practice, where tenants usually pay 30% of their income.

### Committee Discussion

Barbara Mitchell shared that because permanent affordable housing is scarce, it is critical to identify a suitable placement if people must leave transitional housing sooner than expected. She noted that the state Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Program, which offers up to two years of transitional housing for people with behavioral health needs, will end in mid-2027.

John Black noted that people with conditions like schizophrenia often need many months to achieve stability on medication, and a premature end to housing can push them back into homelessness.

When asked how the rent payment would affect program budgets, Barbara shared that if tenants paid nothing, BHSA funds would have to cover all housing costs and reduce the number of subsidized units. She added that tenant contributions would save BHSA funds and allow more units to stay in the program.

When asked whether tenants could afford rent, Barbara explained that the 30% amount is based on income. People with zero income pay nothing and someone with \$100/month of income pays \$30. She added that programs often provide utility or other supports for those with no income, and rules do not allow programs to deny housing because someone has low or no income.

**Motion:** To send the two issues to the Officer Team for a letter to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) with the recommendations to restore a two-year maximum stay for transitional housing and allow tenants to be charged up to 30% of income for rent.

David Cortright moved the motion, and Bill Stuart seconded it. A roll-call vote passed the motion.

**Action Item:** Council staff will forward the two issues to the Officer Team.

---

### Item #4 Meeting Adjourn / Travel to TURN to Recovery Program Site

---

The Housing and Homelessness Committee adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Committee members participated in an off-site tour of the TURN to Recovery, a local recovery housing program in San Diego, California. This outpatient program serves individuals with alcohol use disorders and provides intensive case management, treatment and recovery services, housing support, and recovery residences.

## California Behavioral Health Planning Council Housing and Homelessness Committee

Thursday, April 16, 2026

**Agenda Item:** Nominate Interim Housing and Homelessness Committee Chairperson for 2026 (Action)

### **How This Agenda Item Relates to Council Mission**

*To review, evaluate and advocate for an accessible and effective behavioral health system.*

This agenda item provides the opportunity for committee members to nominate the interim Housing and Homelessness Committee (HHC) Chairperson. The Chairperson holds responsibility for all committee activities.

### **Background/Description:**

The Chairperson position became vacant following the January 2026 HHC Meeting when the former Chairperson stepped down from the leadership role. Each standing committee must have a Chairperson and Chair-Elect. The Chairperson serves a one-year term and may receive a re-nomination for an additional year. Former Chairperson Deborah Starkey completed her first term in 2025. Chair-Elect Maria Sierra began her term in January 2025 and is scheduled to assume the Chairperson role in January 2026. Council leadership consulted with the Chair-Elect and agreed in partnership with the Chair-Elect that experienced former Chairperson assume the role for the remainder of 2026. This approach will allow the current Chair-Elect to continue to observe and support the Chairperson before accepting the responsibility in 2027. Committee members shall approve an Interim Chairperson for submission to the Council's Officer Team.

The role of the Chairperson is outlined below:

- Facilitate committee meetings in person as well as virtual interim meetings.
- Participate in the Executive Committee Meetings.
- Participate in the Mentorship Forums in person on the Thursday evening of the quarterly meetings.
- Decide on the need for meetings in addition to quarterly meetings.
- Participate in all committee business and operations such as agenda development, speaker/presentation preparation, and any other matters relating to committee meetings, activities, or projects.

**Motion:** Approve the recommended Interim Housing and Homelessness Committee Chairperson for the remainder of 2026.

## California Behavioral Health Planning Council Housing and Homelessness Committee

Thursday, April 16, 2026

**Agenda Item:** Debrief of Turn to Recovery Tour

### **How This Agenda Item Relates to Council Mission**

*To review, evaluate and advocate for an accessible and effective behavioral health system.*

California's homelessness response emphasizes Housing First and includes support for Recovery Housing under the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA). The Housing and Homelessness Committee continues to spotlight and advocate for programs that promote long-term recovery and stability.

This agenda item aligns with the Council's 2026 Focus Area on the BHSA. The discussion will help identify action items to inform policy recommendations that strengthen BHSA implementation.

This agenda item also aligns with Committee Work Plan Goal 1:

- Advocate for Equitable Access to Housing for Persons with Serious Mental Illness and Substance Use Disorders Across the Lifespan.

### **Background/Description:**

On January 22, 2026, committee members toured [TURN to Recovery](#), an outpatient program operated by [TURN Behavioral Health Services](#). This program combines intensive case management, treatment, and recovery services with housing support and recovery residences for individuals with alcohol use disorders.

The tour provided committee members with the opportunity to observe program operations and hear directly from staff who graduated from the program about barriers, successes, and opportunities to improve recovery-oriented housing supports.

Committee members will share their experiences, observations, and takeaways from the site visit.

### **Additional Resources**

[State Guidance on Recovery Housing](#)

[Behavioral Health Services Act County Policy Manual](#)

## California Behavioral Health Planning Council Housing and Homelessness Committee

Thursday, April 16, 2026

**Agenda Item:** Update on Committee Activities

**Enclosure:** [CBHPC Recommendation Letter - Strengthening BHSA Housing Policy for Stability, Outcomes, and Fiscal Sustainability](#)

### **How This Agenda Item Relates to Council Mission**

*To review, evaluate and advocate for an accessible and effective behavioral health system.*

The Housing and Homelessness Committee works to influence policy, strengthen partnerships, and ensure access to housing programs and services for individuals who experience or are at risk of homelessness. The Committee carries out activities, such as participation in statewide housing efforts, development of recommendations, and engagement with key stakeholders, that advance the Council's mission and support the Committee Work Plan goals:

- **Council 2026 Focus:** Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) modification of regulations.
- **Work Plan Goal 1:** Advocate for equitable access to housing for persons with serious mental illness and substance use disorders across the lifespan.
- **Work Plan Goal 2:** Contribute to the development of regulations for housing initiatives serving these populations.

This agenda item updates the Committee on recent activities that support these goals:

- Housing California 2026 Conference.
- CBHPC Recommendation Letter – Strengthening BHSA Housing Policy for Stability, Outcomes, and Fiscal Sustainability.

### **Background/Description:**

Committee members and staff will share their experiences and key highlights from the Housing California 2026 Annual Conference, which took place in Sacramento from March 18–20, 2026. The event included community tours and sessions led by affordable housing, homelessness, and cross-sector leaders.

Committee staff will also provide an update on the California Behavioral Health Planning Council (CBHPC) Recommendation Letter to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) regarding Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) housing policy. At the January 22, 2026, Committee meeting, members identified two policy issues that affect

access to stable housing for individuals with behavioral health challenges. After the discussion, the Committee voted to elevate these issues to the Officer Team and develop a formal recommendation letter to DHCS.

The two issues identified by the Committee include:

- **Length of Stay in Interim (Transitional) Housing:** Current BHSA policy limits interim housing support to 12 months (six months plus a six-month extension), after which Housing Intervention funds must be used exclusively for permanent housing placements. Although this policy aims to encourage timely transitions, it does not reflect current housing market conditions or the stabilization needs of individuals with serious mental illness and co-occurring substance use disorders (SUDs). In many regions of California, permanent affordable housing placement timelines exceed 12 months.
- **Income-Based Tenant Contributions in Transitional Housing:** The BHSA policy prohibits charging rent in interim housing settings, which appropriately applies to emergency shelters. However, the policy does not distinguish emergency shelters from structured transitional housing programs that provide longer-term stabilization and supports. Federal transitional housing programs typically allow tenants to contribute up to 30% of their income toward rent.

**Additional Resources:**

[Housing California's website](#)

[Session Agenda 2026 - Housing CA 2026 Conference](#)

[Behavioral Health Services Act County Policy Manual](#)

## California Behavioral Health Planning Council Housing and Homelessness Committee

Thursday, April 16, 2026

**Agenda Item:** Hope Cooperative Presentation – An Overview of Renewed Hope

**Enclosure:** None

### **How This Agenda Item Relates to Council Mission**

*To review, evaluate and advocate for an accessible and effective behavioral health system.*

This agenda item provides committee members with information about a new transitional housing program in Sacramento County for justice-involved adults who are experiencing homelessness or housing instability. Identification of best practices and models funded by the public behavioral health system is part of the scope of work of the Housing and Homelessness Committee.

This item also supports the Council's 2026 focus on the justice-involved populations in the public behavioral health system. The Committee continues to highlight and advocate for programs that help people achieve long-term recovery and housing stability.

### **Background/Description:**

Renewed Hope, a transitional housing program designed to support justice-involved adults as they transition back into the community, will present an overview of the services they provide.

Renewed Hope is a 57-unit facility located in Sacramento and operated by Hope Cooperative. The site opened in May 2025 and provides furnished private housing, wraparound behavioral health services, and on-site supports that help residents stabilize, begin or continue their recovery, and transition to permanent housing. Early outcomes show that residents are already progressing toward independent living.

Renewed Hope is made possible through partnerships with Sacramento County Behavioral Health Services, Anthem Blue Cross, HealthNet, Kaiser Permanente, and Molina Healthcare, and supported by a Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) grant.

### **About Hope Cooperative**

Hope Cooperative (aka TLCS) is a non-profit psychosocial rehabilitation agency that moves people from a life of instability to connection and self-sufficiency through a

combination of permanent supportive housing, mental health services, substance use rehabilitation, and life skills in Sacramento and Yolo County. For more than 40 years, Hope Cooperative has operated as a client-driven organization, dedicated to providing whole person care using a person-centered approach for those who are homeless, living with mental health challenges and/or co-occurring substance use disorders.

Hope Cooperative provides housing and essential services to more than 10,000 individuals each year. With a team of over 350 dedicated employees, the organization works to strengthen communities by delivering culturally sensitive services that help people achieve self-sufficiency. Many staff members bring lived expertise to their roles, drawing on personal experience to support clients throughout their recovery journeys. The agency offers a comprehensive range of supports and services designed to address both the immediate and long-term needs of those they serve.

**Additional Resources:**

[Hope Cooperative's Website](#)

[Sacramento County News Release – Renewed Hope](#)

[Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Program](#)

## California Behavioral Health Planning Council Housing and Homelessness Committee

**Thursday, April 16, 2026**

**Agenda Item:** AMI Housing Presentation – An Overview of The Harbor

**Enclosure:** None

**How This Agenda Item Relates to Council Mission**

*To review, evaluate and advocate for an accessible and effective behavioral health system.*

This agenda item provides committee members with information about a unique program model in Placer County that serves individuals who await placement in residential treatment programs and those who exit residential treatment programs to a lower level of care. Identification of best practices and models funded by the public behavioral health system is part of the scope of work of the Housing and Homelessness Committee.

This item supports the Council's 2026 focus on the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA). California's homelessness response emphasizes Housing First and includes support for Recovery Housing under the BHSA. The Committee continues to highlight and advocate for programs that help people achieve long-term recovery and stability.

**Background/Description:**

Committee members will hear a presentation from Dr. Marjan Soltani, LMFT, PsyD, Director of Sun Rose Apartments at AMI Housing, and Shaneka Hampton, a Peer Support Specialist at The Harbor.

The Harbor is a new 16-bed peer respite program in Placer County, funded through the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) and the American Rescue Plan Act. Operated by AMI Housing, Inc., the program provides a safe, supportive, home-like environment for adults who need a place to stay while waiting for residential treatment or transitioning out of inpatient care.

The Harbor offers a range of services to support recovery and ensure a safe and efficient discharge back into the community:

- Ongoing assessments of behavioral and physical health needs.
- Case management and crisis management.
- Trauma-informed individual and group counseling.
- Peer supportive services.

- Connections to cultural supports and services.
- Other referral services.

AMI Housing is a California 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation that provides housing, employment, and life skills programs to unhoused residents of Placer & Nevada County. AMI Housing also manages and operates Nevada County Housing Development Corporation. Its mission is to house and support the most vulnerable residents of the Sierra Region.

**Presenters’ Biographies:**

My name is Shaneka Hampton, and I am a dedicated Peer Support Specialist at Harbor Recovery House. With three and a half years of service with Peer Work, I bring compassion, lived experience, and unwavering commitment to the individuals I support each day. After more than 20 years in retail management, I decided to transition into the substance use counseling field, where I will complete my schooling next year. Inspired by my personal experiences growing up around substance use, I felt a call to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others navigating their recovery journey.



I am passionate about providing encouragement, understanding, and hope. I believe that even small moments of connection, whether supporting someone during a difficult day or simply bringing a smile to their face, can create a powerful change. My dedication, empathy, and positive spirit make me a valued member of the Harbor Recovery Team.



My name is Marjan Soltani. I am a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and clinical director with a doctorate in psychology, bringing extensive experience in clinical leadership and direct patient care across higher levels of treatment. My work has focused on intensive outpatient and structured care settings, where I have provided individual and group therapy, clinical supervision, treatment planning, and case management grounded in evidence-based and ethical practice.

As a director, I have overseen clinical operations, supported multidisciplinary teams, and guided clinicians through supervision, training, and professional development. I prioritize program integrity, regulatory compliance, and clear clinical standards while fostering a supportive and sustainable work environment for staff.

As a clinician, I practice from a trauma-informed and culturally responsive framework, with an emphasis on thoughtful assessment, individualized treatment planning, and collaborative care. I regularly work with clients navigating complex trauma, mood

disorders, and significant life transitions, and I view clarity, boundaries, and accountability as core components of effective treatment.

Across both leadership and clinical roles, my focus is on building organized, clinically sound treatment environments that support meaningful client outcomes while also promoting clinician growth and professional development.

**Additional Resources:**

[AMI Housing Website](#)

[DHCS News Release: The Harbor](#)

## California Behavioral Health Planning Council Housing and Homelessness Committee

Thursday, April 16, 2026

**Agenda Item:** Presentation Debrief and Discussion

### **How This Agenda Item Relates to Council Mission**

*To review, evaluate and advocate for an accessible and effective behavioral health system.*

This agenda item allows the Housing and Homelessness Committee to debrief and discuss key insights from the presentations by Hope Cooperative and AMI Housing. The discussion will help guide and identify action items to inform policy recommendations that improve housing access and behavioral health outcomes for individuals with serious mental illness and substance use disorders.

This agenda item supports the Council's 2026 focus on the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA). The Committee will utilize this information to advocate for more effective policies that support individuals with behavioral health needs.

This discussion also aligns with Committee Work Plan Goal 1.

- **Goal 1:** Advocate for Equitable Access to Housing for Persons with Serious Mental Illness Across the Lifespan

### **Background/ Description:**

Committee members will review today's presentations and discuss next steps. Members may identify areas that require further research, set advocacy priorities, and propose action items.