

Design Parameters for PATH Funding to Support Implementation of Justice Involved Pre-Release Eligibility and Enrollment Processes

California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Justice-Involved Advisory Group

Thursday, March 24, 2022

10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Housekeeping Guidelines

In order to keep the Advisory Workgroup meeting focused, productive, and efficient:



Chat function will be disabled for all public participants; Advisory Group members are asked to only use chat functions to request technical support.



All participants will be muted throughout the course of the presentation.



Advisory Workgroup members should raise their hand if they have a question or comment during the designated discussion periods, and DHCS will facilitate conversation.



Members of the public should email questions and comments to CalAIMJusticeAdvisoryGroup@dhcs.ca.gov.

Advisory Group Key to Justice-Involved Initiatives Design

Overarching Objective

To solicit stakeholder input on policy and operational design of multiple justice-involved CalAIM initiatives.

Workgroup Logistics

- **When:** October 2021 – July 2023 (*slides from previous meetings available [here](#)*)
- **Where:** Virtually
- **Who:** Advisory Group members

Sub-Workgroups

DHCS will also facilitate sub-workgroups that will meet separately on specific topic areas that emerge from the Advisory Group meetings. Sub-workgroups will be comprised of individuals with relevant expertise, including those from the Advisory Group. Design recommendations discussed in the sub-workgroups will be shared with the full Advisory Group.

Current sub-workgroups include:

- Medi-Cal Pre-Release Application Process Workgroup
- 90-Day Services Pre-Release and Reentry Workgroup

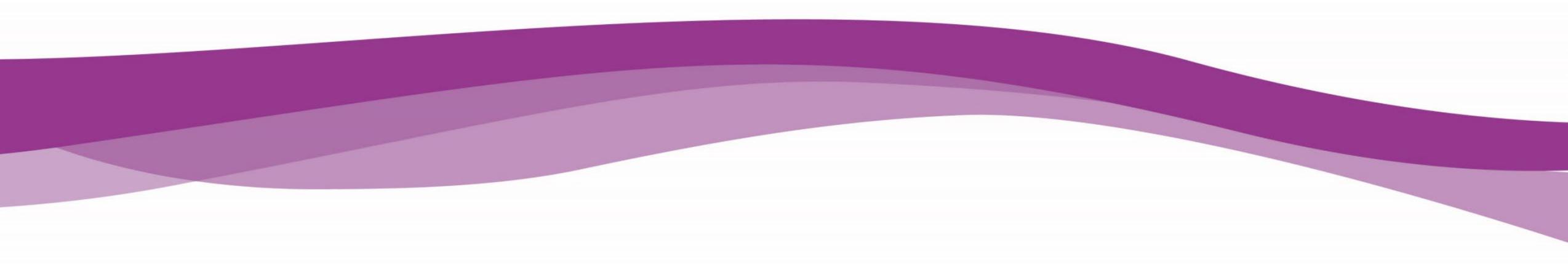
Please email CalAIMJusticeAdvisoryGroup@dhcs.ca.gov if you are interested in joining a sub-workgroup.



Agenda

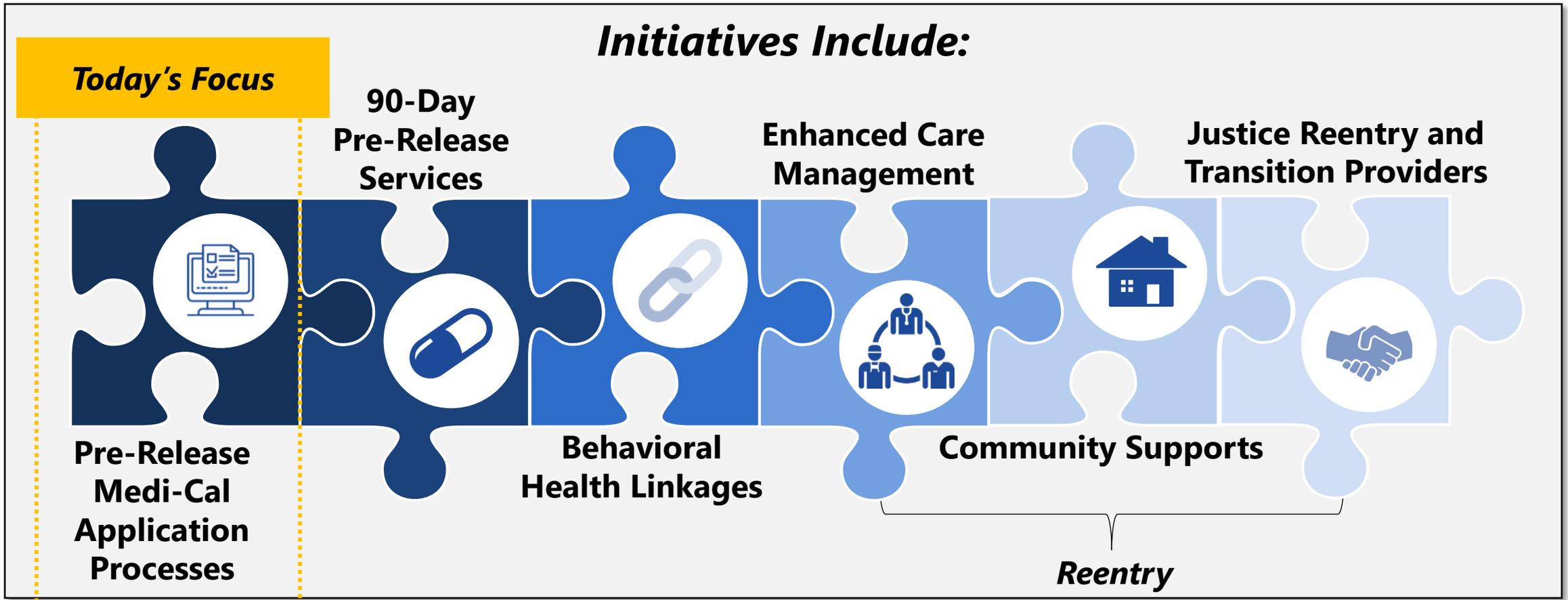
- » **Context/Background**
 - » Pre-Release Medi-Cal Enrollment
 - » PATH Overview
- » **Application Process, Funding Methodology, and Permissible Uses of Funding**
 - » Round 1
 - » Round 2
- » **Program Oversight & Monitoring**
- » **Timeline**
- » **Discussion**
- » **Next Steps**

Pre-Release Medi-Cal Enrollment Context



Reminder: CalAIM Initiatives to Support Justice-Involved Populations

CalAIM justice-involved initiatives support the justice-involved population by providing pre-release services, pre-release Medi-Cal enrollment, and connection with health care and social services in the community.

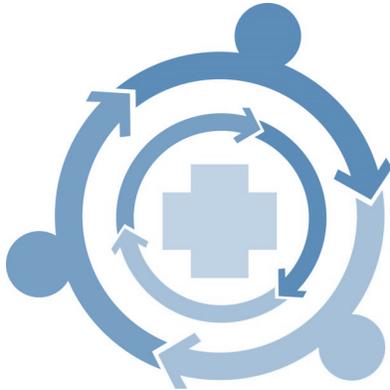


Today's meeting will focus on leveraging PATH funding to support implementation and operational strategies to stand up the pre-release Medi-Cal application processes

Pre-Release Medi-Cal Application Processes

California statute mandates all counties implement pre-release application processes in county jails and youth correctional facilities by January 1, 2023. Establishing pre-release Medi-Cal application processes is part of the state's vision to enhance the Medi-Cal health care delivery system for justice-involved populations.

Rationale



- » Pre-release application process will help ensure Medi-Cal coverage upon reentry into the community in order to facilitate access to needed Medi-Cal covered services and care.
- » The Medi-Cal pre-release enrollment process is foundational to the provision of Medi-Cal services in the 90 days pre-release.

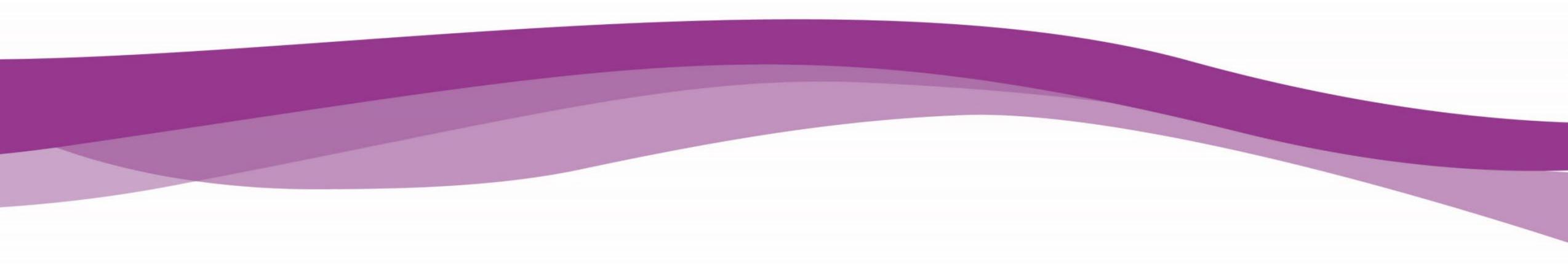
Statutory Context for Today's Discussion

2021 Amendments to the California Penal Code Section and Trailer Bill Mandate Implementation of Pre-Release Medi-Cal Application Process and the Provision of Pre-Release Services to Inmates.

- By January 1, 2023, the board of supervisors in each county, in consultation with the county sheriff, shall designate an entity or entities to assist both county jail inmates and juvenile inmates with the Medi-Cal application process; and
- No sooner than January 1, 2023, the State Department of Health Care Services, in consultation with counties, county sheriffs, probation departments, Medi-Cal managed care plans, and Medi-Cal behavioral health delivery systems, shall develop and implement a mandatory process by which county jails and county juvenile facilities coordinate with Medi-Cal managed care plans and Medi-Cal behavioral health delivery systems to facilitate continued behavioral health treatment in the community for county jail inmates and juvenile inmates who were receiving behavioral health services before their release.
- No sooner than January 1, 2023, a qualifying inmate of a public institution shall be eligible to receive targeted Medi-Cal services for 90 days, or the number of days approved in the CalAIM Terms and Conditions if fewer than 90 days, prior to the date they are released from a public institution, if otherwise eligible for those services.

**Today's
Focus**

PATH Context

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Providing Access and Transforming Health Supports (PATH) Overview

California's recently approved 1115 waiver demonstration renewal and amendment includes \$1.44 billion in expenditure authority for PATH to maintain, build, and scale the capacity necessary to ensure successful implementation of CalAIM.

PATH is comprised of two aligned programs.

PATH Program	High-Level Description
Justice-Involved Capacity Building ★	Funding to support collaborative planning as well as infrastructure and capacity needed to maintain and build pre-release enrollment and suspension processes and implement pre-release services to support implementation of the full suite of statewide CalAIM justice-involved initiatives in 2023.
Support for Implementation of ECM and Community Supports (ILOS)	Support for CalAIM implementation at the community level, and support to expand access to services that will enable the transition from Medi-Cal 2020 to CalAIM.

★ = Focus for today

PATH Background

Approved CalAIM 1115 waiver authorizes \$151 million for PATH Justice-Involved Capacity Building Program to support collaborative planning and IT investments intended to support implementation of justice-involved (JI) pre-release Medi-Cal application and suspension processes.

- » California statute requires all counties to implement pre-release Medi-Cal application processes by 1/1/2023 to ensure all eligible individuals who are released from correctional institutions receive timely access to Medi-Cal services.
- » Approved PATH funding will support correctional institutions, correctional agencies, and county departments of social services as they develop protocols and workflows, and implement IT system upgrades to support pre-release enrollment and suspension processes.

In addition, DHCS is currently seeking approval for \$410 million in additional funding for the PATH Justice-Involved Capacity Building Program to support planning and IT investments specifically related to the provision of pre-release and reentry services.

PATH Overview

\$151 million in initial PATH funding will be made available in two rounds.

Round 1

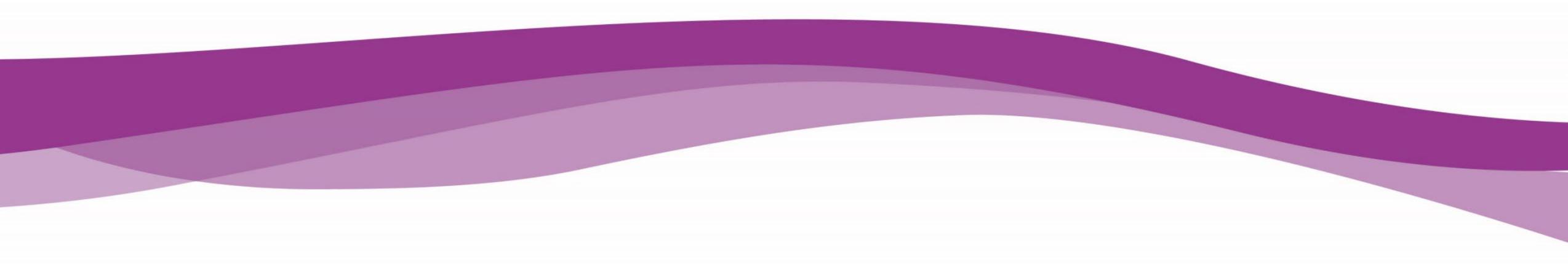
Provides small planning grants to Probation Offices, Sheriff's Offices, and CDCR to conduct planning with county social services departments, correctional institutions, Managed Care Plans (MCPs), and County Behavioral Health Agencies to understand protocols and processes as well as IT modifications that are needed to support pre-release enrollment and suspension processes

Round 2

Provides larger application-based grants to Probation Offices, Sheriff's Offices, CDCR, and departments of social services to support implementation/modification of pre-release application/suspension processes:

- County Probation offices and Sheriff's offices will be required to submit joint applications with local departments of social services
- Applications submitted by County Probation offices and Sheriff's offices must include a joint budget that describes funding needed by the local social services department in addition to the correctional agency
- PATH funding for changes to county social services department enrollment and eligibility systems and processes will only support activities that are not eligible for Medicaid Enterprise System or other administrative match funding from CMS

Round 1 Application Process, Funding Methodology, and Permissible Uses of Funding



Application Process

- » Qualified applicants include Sheriff's Offices, Probation Offices, and CDCR.
- » Probation Offices and Sheriff's Offices within a county may apply for funding jointly or independently.
- » DHCS will develop a standard application form that will collect the following information:
 - » Summary of correctional institutions within jurisdiction, incl. number of facilities and average daily census by facility
 - » Description of current pre-release enrollment/suspension and Medi-Cal screening processes
 - » Summary of IT capabilities including booking/management systems and EHR platforms
 - » Intended uses of funding
 - » Description of how correctional agency will engage with local department of social services to identify funding needs
 - » Description of how correctional agency will engage with local MCPs and County Behavioral Health Agency to ensure alignment with new pre-release enrollment and suspension, description should include MCP and County Behavioral Health Agency contact, summary of relationship, and proposed meeting cadence
 - » Signed letter of support from local department of social services (CDCR will be expected to obtain a letter of support from the County Welfare Directors Association [CWDA])
- » Applications will be reviewed and approved by DHCS.

Funding Methodology

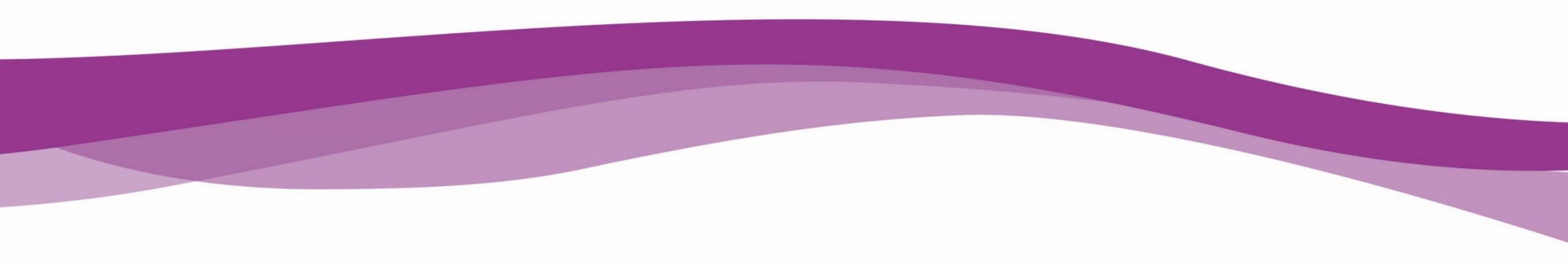
- » Sheriff's Offices and Probation Offices may receive \$50K for the first correctional facility in their jurisdiction and an additional \$25K for every additional correctional facility, up to \$400K.
 - For example, a Sheriff's Office with 1 jail in its jurisdiction can receive \$50K; 2 jails can receive \$75K; 3 jails can receive \$100K; and so on, up to a maximum of \$400K

- » CDCR may receive up to \$10K per correctional facility.

Permissible Uses of Funding

- » Funding is intended to support planning among correctional agencies, local correctional institutions, and county social services departments to identify processes, protocols, and IT modifications that need to be implemented to support pre-release enrollment and suspension processes.
- » Sheriff's Offices and Probation Offices will conduct collaborative planning with local county departments of social services to understand needs related to implementation of pre-release enrollment and suspension processes.
- » CDCR will work with CWDA and individual county departments of social services as needed to identify opportunities to modify current pre-release enrollment processes to align with best practices established by DHCS.
- » Correctional agencies may pass through funding to correctional institutions, county social services departments, and other entities as needed to support planning activities.
- » Examples of funding uses include but are not limited to:
 - Facilitating meetings and collaborative planning sessions between correctional institutions and county social services departments
 - Hiring vendors or consultants to help identify operational gaps that need to be addressed in order to implement pre-release enrollment and suspension processes
 - Support for staff time devoted to planning, meeting facilitation, and development of applications for Funding Round 2

Round 2 Application Process, Funding Methodology, and Permissible Uses of Funding



Application Process (Slide 1/2)

- » Qualified applicants include Sheriff's Offices, Probation Offices, CDCR, and county social service departments.
- » Sheriff's Offices and Probation Offices must submit a joint application with the county social service department
 - » Joint applications will include separate budgets for the Sheriff's Office / Probation Office and county social services department
 - » Sheriff's Offices/Probation Offices and County social services departments may not apply for funding independently
- » CDCR may apply for funding independently with a letter of support from the County Welfare Directors Association (CWDA).

Application Process (Slide 2/2)

- » DHCS will develop a standard application form that will collect the following information:
 - Amount of funding requested including a detailed budget and justification for why funds are needed
 - Detailed description of modifications that need to be made to current IT systems to align with state mandate including estimated costs associated with any modifications or upgrades
 - Description of modifications that need to be made to current processes in order to align with CalAIM requirements
 - Plan to support collaboration with county social services departments, community-based organizations, or other correctional agencies facilitating Medi-Cal application and suspension processes
 - Plan to support collaboration with local MCPs and County Behavioral Health Agencies to ensure alignment and understanding of new pre-release enrollment and suspension processes, including letters of support from local county behavioral health agency and at least one MCP
 - Steps that will be taken to align pre-release enrollment processes with best practices established by DHCS for delivery of services in the 90 days prior to release
 - Description of Release of Information and other client consent documents that need to be developed to support enrollment and suspension processes
 - Description of sustainability plan
- » Applications will be reviewed by PATH Third Party Administrator (TPA) which will recommend applications for funding to DHCSs

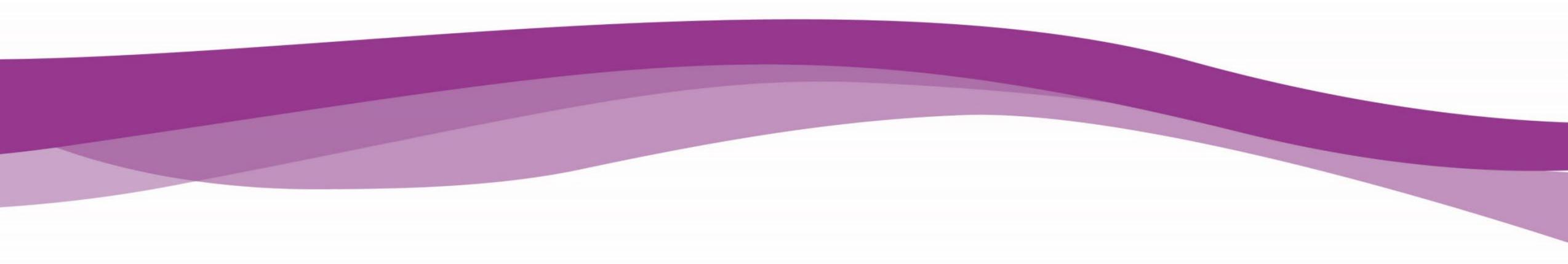
Funding Methodology

- » Round 2 applications will include a specific funding request and justification for requested funding.
- » The maximum amount of funding that an applicant may apply for will be determined by the type of applicant and the number of correctional institutions within their jurisdiction.
- » Sheriff's Offices may receive up to \$500K per adult jail.
- » Probation Offices may receive up to \$250K per youth correctional facility.
- » CDCR may receive up to \$100K per prison.
- » County social services departments may receive up to \$150K per adult jail and youth correctional facility within their county.
- » Unspent funds from Round 1 may be rolled over to Round 2.
- » DHCS will develop guardrails to ensure that the amount of funding awarded to applicants is appropriate given the size of correctional institutions within an applicant's jurisdiction.

Permissible Uses of Funding

- » Funding is intended to support development of processes and protocols as well as IT modifications identified during Round 1 that are needed to support implementation of pre-release enrollment and suspension processes.
- » County social service departments may only use PATH funding to support E&E implementation activities that are not eligible for administrative or MES matching funds from CMS.
- » Examples of funding uses include but are not limited to:
 - Facilitating collaborative planning activities between correctional institutions, county social service departments, and other stakeholders
 - Modifying or upgrading IT systems to support electronic Medi-Cal application submission and suspension processes, or necessary data linkages between correctional institutions and county social service departments
 - Hiring consultants to provide technical assistance or develop protocols / process flows
 - **Initial costs** associated with recruitment, onboarding, and training for staff who will support pre-release enrollment and suspension processes
 - Staff time devoted to development of processes/protocols or collaborative planning with other stakeholders
 - Support for staff time or technical assistance needed to modify existing pre-release enrollment and suspension processes to align with best practices established by DHCS
 - Testing enrollment and suspension systems and processes to ensure launch readiness

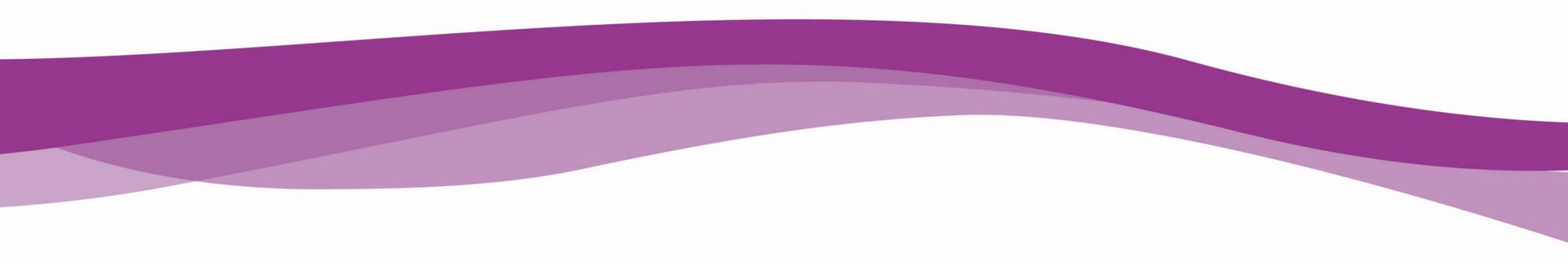
Program Oversight & Monitoring

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Program Oversight and Monitoring

- » Funding recipients will be required to submit progress reports in a manner/frequency determined by DHCS .
- » DHCS will develop a standardized progress report template.
- » Progress reports will describe:
 - » How funds have been spent to date
 - » Anticipated uses of remaining funds
 - » Progress developing pre-release eligibility and enrollment processes and protocols
 - » Successes and challenges experienced by entity
 - » Other information requested by DHCS
- » Failure to submit progress reports or include required information may preclude entity from receiving additional PATH funding.
- » Funding recipients will be expected to complete an attestation of system readiness following completion of Round 2 activities.
- » DHCS may conduct spot audits to ensure funds are spent on permissible uses and are documented and reported appropriately.
- » Entities will be required to attest that funding will not duplicate or supplant other funding sources.

Timeline

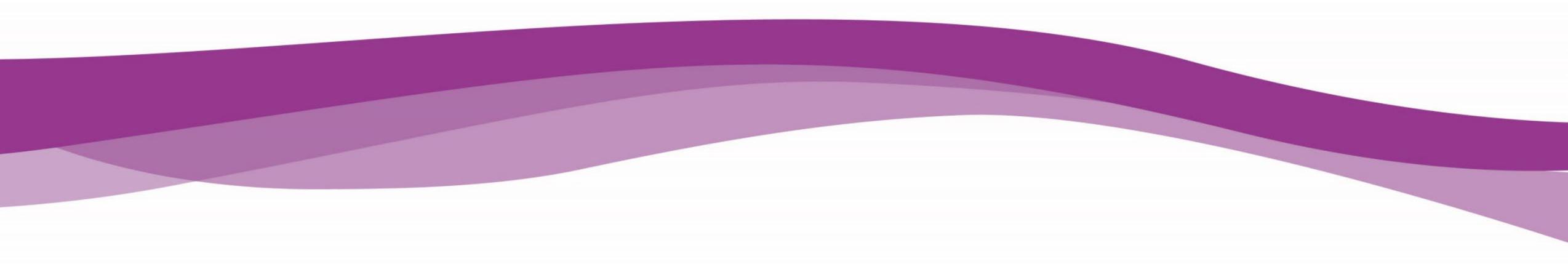
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Draft Timeline - 2022

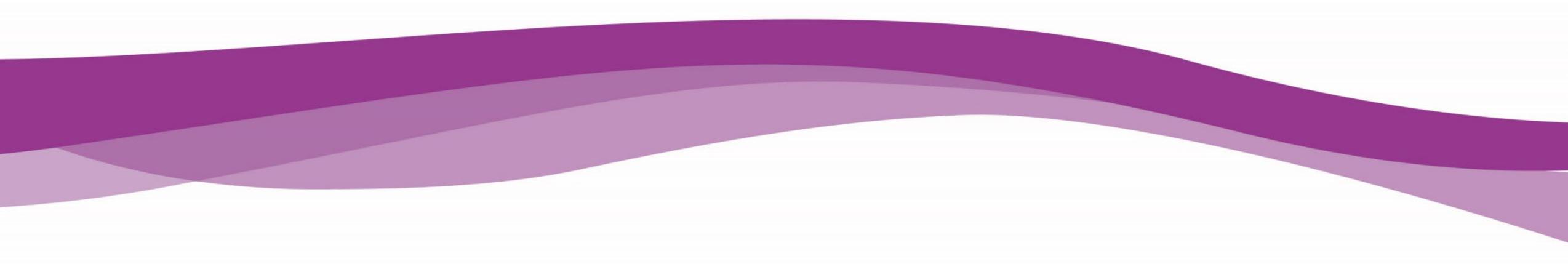
	Round 1 Activity
	Round 2 Activity

Activity	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Develop and Release Round 1 Guidance Document											
Develop and Release Round 1 Application											
Round 1 Applications Due											
Round 1 Awards Made											
Develop and Release Round 2 Guidance Document and Application Form											
Round 2 Rolling Application Period											
Round 2 Awards Made											

Discussion

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Next Steps

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Next Steps and Looking Ahead

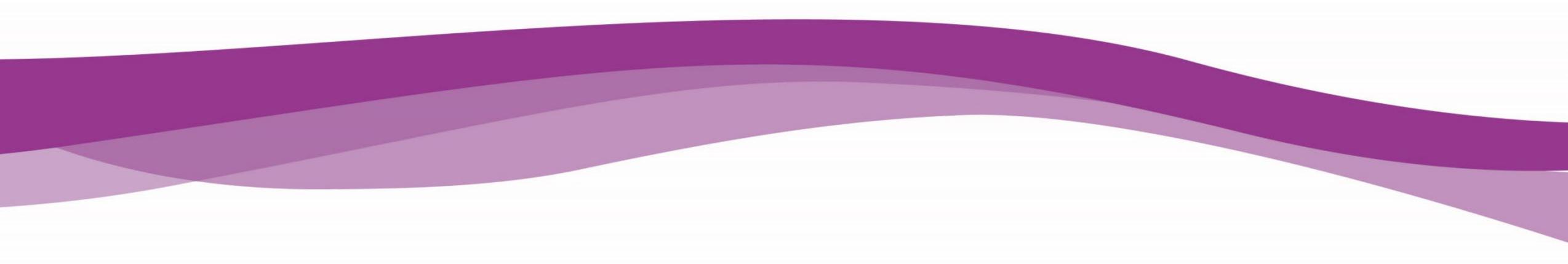
- » **Advisory Group members to share pressing issues, feedback, and comments**

- » **Upcoming meetings :**
 - May 26 from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm
 - July 28 from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm

Thank you

Please send questions and comments to
CalAIMJusticeAdvisoryGroup@dhcs.ca.gov

Appendix

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CalAIM Justice-Involved Advisory Workgroup Charter

Workgroup meetings will provide a mechanism for direct communication and problem solving with DHCS and initiative implementers. Members are asked to bring a collaborative, pragmatic, and solution-oriented mindset.

Objectives

The Advisory Workgroup will:

- ✓ Offer regular input on key policy and implementation issues to support the launch and ongoing success of CalAIM
- ✓ Review and provide feedback on select decisions and documents before broad distribution
- ✓ Evaluate select high-priority issues spanning all CalAIM initiatives

Expectations

Advisory Workgroup members have been selected for their expertise, and will be expected to:

- ✓ Consistently attend and actively participate in meetings
- ✓ Review materials in advance of each meeting and provide input when requested
- ✓ Keep statements respectful, constructive, relevant to the agenda topic, and brief
- ✓ Be solutions-oriented, offering alternatives or suggested revisions where possible
- ✓ Represent their cross-sector perspective, but not advocate on behalf of their sector

Meeting Preparation

DHCS will help Advisory Workgroup members prepare for meetings by:

- ✓ Circulating agendas, minutes, and pre-decisional materials for review in advance of meetings
- ✓ Conducting outreach to the Advisory Work before/after meetings to solicit additional input
- ✓ Post materials on the CalAIM Justice-Involved Advisory Group webpage after meetings

Note: Members are invited to take materials back to your organizations, but are asked to refrain from wider dissemination of material beyond your immediate organizations prior to finalization by DHCS.

Decisions on CalAIM design and implementation are made at the sole discretion of DHCS.