

**California Behavioral Health Planning Council
Housing and Homelessness Committee
Work Plan 2025 - 2026**

GOAL 1

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

Objective #1: Assess the availability of housing resources for individuals across the lifespan and review how state and federal laws and regulations create barriers to housing access or contribute to homelessness.

Target Audience: Counties, stakeholders, Legislature

Activities:

- Review and evaluate housing resources and funding for individuals with substance use disorders (SUD), children, transition-age youth (TAY), foster youth, adults, and older adults.
- Identify state and federal laws and regulations that impede matters contributing to housing and homelessness issues.
 - Coordinated Entry challenges
 - Housing First policy implications
 - Federal Policy implications
- Identify and recommend housing models tailored to specific populations, including but not limited to:
 - Housing that allows adult children to reside with parents
 - Integrated housing for older adults with health services
 - Housing for individuals exiting foster care
 - Sober living environments for individuals with SUDs
 - Recovery housing programs
 - HomeShare Programs
- Identify staffing challenges within housing programs, including recruitment and retention strategies, cultural competence, and approaches to fostering sustainable and supportive work environments.
- Assess mechanisms for ensuring accountability and quality in supportive services provided within housing programs.
- Share resources of information with the public to promote awareness and transparency.
- Track performance outcomes of various housing initiatives.

Objective #2: Strengthen partnerships and advocacy efforts to influence housing and homelessness policy for individuals with serious mental illness and substance use disorders.

Target Audience: Legislators, advocacy organizations, counties, community-based organizations, and other key stakeholders.

Activities:

- Monitor and analyze housing and homelessness-related legislation that impacts individuals with serious mental illness and substance use disorders.
- Identify advocacy opportunities in collaboration with stakeholders to advance equitable housing and homelessness policies.

Timeline: December 2025 – ongoing

GOAL 2

Contribute to the Development of Regulations for Housing Initiatives for Persons with Serious Mental Illness and Substance Use Disorders

Objective: Provide input and recommendations on the development and implementation of housing regulations

Target Audience: Counties, stakeholders, Legislature

Activities:

- Identify and review housing funding initiatives on the horizon and in development stages to identify opportunities to provide input.
 - Behavioral Health Bridge Housing
 - CA Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness
 - Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA)
 - Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act (BHIBA)
- Identify new housing initiatives that may provide an opportunity for Adult Residential Facilities (ARF) and Residential Care for the Elderly (RCFE) funding.
- Collaborate with stakeholders and provide stakeholder feedback.
- Develop written input and recommendations.

Timeline: December 2025 – ongoing