

California Behavioral Health Planning Council
Performance Outcomes Committee
April 14, 2026

Committee Members Present:

Noel O’Neill, Chairperson

Karen Baylor

Catherine Moore

Liz Oseguera

Uma Zykofsky

Lanita Mims-Beal

Don Morrison

Susan Wilson

Invited External Partners Present:

Theresa Comstock, CA Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards/Commissions

Samantha Spangler, Behavioral Health Data Project

Staff Present:

Justin Boese

Linda Dickerson

Jenny Bayardo

Item #1: Welcome and Introductions

The committee meeting began at 2:00 p.m.

Noel O’Neill welcomed all committee members and guests. A quorum was established with 8 out of 8 members present.

Item #2: Review Meeting Minutes

The Committee reviewed and accepted the January 2026 meeting minutes with no edits requested.

Item #3: Wellness and Recovery Center Webinar Debrief

Noel O’Neill led a debrief of the webinar on Wellness and Recover Centers that was held on March 15, 2026. The 70-minute webinar event was facilitated by Noel. The three speakers were Susan Wilson, Chad Costello, and Don Morrison. During the webinar, Susan presented findings and recommendations from the 2025 Data Notebook Overview Report on Wellness and Recover Centers. Then Chad shared

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recommendations from the California Association of Social Rehabilitation Agency (CASRA) report on Wellness Centers. Don provided program level perspective, sharing his observations from running the Sutter-Yuba Wellness and Recovery Center, following by a question and answer session.

The event reached 80 attendees at its peak, which was an increase from the webinar on homelessness the committee held in December 2025. The webinar group and committee members agreed the event was a success. Lanita Mims-Beal said the webinar was very informative for attendees. The committee plans to continue to host educational webinars to share findings and recommendations from the annual Data Notebook reports.

Item #4: Nomination of Committee Chair-Elect

The committee discussed nominations for the role of committee Chair-Elect. Noel O'Neill explained that he will finish his 2-year term as the committee Chairperson at the end of 2026. Don Morrison was originally nominated and confirmed as the committee Chair-Elect and stepped down from the role after the end of 2025 due to conflicting time obligations. The newly nominated chair-elect will begin their term as committee chairperson in January 2027.

Action Item: A motion was made by Catherine Moore to nominate Liz Oseguera as the committee Chair-Elect. Lanita Mims-Beal Seconded the motion. Staff took a roll call vote, and the motion passed. The nomination will be submitted to the Council's Officer Team for appointment.

Item #5: Behavioral Health Services for Foster Youth Panel

The committee received presentations from a panel of speakers on the topic of behavioral health services for foster youth.

The purpose of the panel was to educate the committee on the foster youth system for the 2026 Data Notebook. The panelists included:

- Diana Boyer, Managing Director of Research and Policy Development, County Welfare Directors Association of California
- Adrienne Shilton, Senior Vice President of Public Policy and Strategy, California Alliance of Child and Family Services
- Elizabeth Oseguera, Council Member, Director of Public Policy for the California

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Alliance of Child and Family Services

- Elissa Feld, Director of Policy, California Behavioral Health Directors Association
- Jodie Langs, Senior Policy Analyst, California Behavioral Health Directors Association

Jodie Langs began with a presentation on High Fidelity Wraparound (HFW) implementation. She provided an overview of the intersections between High Fidelity Wrap, and the foster care/ child county welfare wraparound services. She said that High Fidelity Wraparound services have already been covered statewide, but now counties will be required to include it as a part of their Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Full Service Partnership (FSP) programs. These HFW programs must adhere to service requirements outlined in forthcoming Medi-Cal guidance.

Jodie explained how HFW is funded through the foster care rate structure, where money from the Immediate Needs Program is used as the non-federal share of Medi-Cal covered HFW. She concluded by sharing the timeline for High Fidelity Wraparound implementation. After the Department of Health Care Services releases the final Behavioral Health Information Notice (BHIN) and HFW Medi-Cal Policy Manual, the program will go live in July 2026. The new Foster Care Tiered Rate Structure will be launched in July 2027.

Next, Diana Boyer provided perspective from the County Welfare Directors Association of California. Diana shared concerns about the use of the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment as a primary tool in determining the needs of foster youth. She explained that county welfare has been participating in interagency teams ever since Assembly Bill 2083 established a trauma-informed system of care for foster youth, which requires counties to establish a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between various local entities serving children and youth in foster care. However, Diana said that there are still challenges in bringing the various systems and agencies together, and the welfare departments don't have as deep of an understanding of the behavioral health side of things. Lastly, she expressed concerns that the new tiered rate structure does not adequately support providers or residential services.

Liz Osequera then presented on the details of High Fidelity Wraparound implementation and how it will connect with the Wraparound Immediate Needs (WIN) program in child welfare system. She began with an overview of the California Alliance of Child and Family Services, including their membership and goals. Liz provided an overview of the High Fidelity Wraparound process, the monthly rate structure, and Medi-Cal coverage of HFW based on the recent draft BHIN.

Then she shared the Alliance's advocacy priorities, which include:

- Increase rates within the tiered rate structure to reduce reliance on Wraparound Immediate Needs funds, to ensure sustainability and preserve capacity.

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- Allow complimentary assessments to the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths assessment.
- Strengthen the Third-Party Administrator (TPA) model for tiered rate structure, wraparound immediate needs, and high fidelity wraparound coordination. This would help facilitate the flow of funding and support other various elements of the system.

Item #6: 2026 Data Notebook Survey Development

Each year, the Council releases a Data Notebook to the local mental/behavioral health boards and commissions to complete with their perspectives on focused areas of the public behavioral health system. The topic for the 2026 Data Notebook is Behavioral Health Services for Foster Youth in the Public Behavioral Health System. Noel O’Neill presented the committee with draft survey questions for the 2026 Data Notebook. The committee went through each of the questions and members provided feedback.

Noel said that edits to the document will be made based on their feedback. Committee leadership and staff will meet to finalize a draft of the survey questions. Linda Dickerson will work on writing the introduction and background material for the Data Notebook. When both parts are completed, they will be combined into the final 2026 Data Notebook document. Noel said the goal was to have the committee review and approve the document during the June 2026 meeting so it could be distributed to counties shortly after.

Item #7: Behavioral Health Transformation Quality and Equity Advisory Committee (QEAC) Updates

Noel O’Neill told the committee that there was no time left to discuss updates from the Behavioral Health Transformation Quality and Equity Advisory Committee. He said that the updates would be included in the agenda for the June 2026 quarterly meeting.

Item #8: Next Steps and Planning for Future Activities

Noel O’Neill and the committee members identified some next steps and agenda items

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for the June 2026 meeting. These next steps include:

- Review and approve the 2026 Data Notebook Survey on behavioral health services for foster youth, with the goal of distributing it to counties shortly after the June 2026 quarterly meeting.
- Invite local presenters to speak to the committee on foster youth services.
- Receive updates on the Behavioral Health Transformation Quality and Equity Advisory Committee (QEAC).
- Begin brainstorming topics for the 2027 Data Notebook.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00pm.