

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION QUALITY AND EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (120 minutes)

Meeting Format: Virtual

Presenters:

- » **Marlies Perez**, Community Services Division Chief and BHT Project Executive
- » **Palav Babaria**, Deputy Director & Chief Quality and Medical Officer, Quality and Population Health Management
- » **Anna Naify**, Consulting Psychologist, BHT Quality and Equity Workstream Lead

Special Guest: Joaquin Jordan

Number of Public Attendees Present: 47

Number of Committee Members Present: 25 including 1 committee member designee

Materials: <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/BHT/Documents/BHT-Quality-and-Equity-Advisory-Committee-Kickoff-Meeting.pdf>

Committee Membership Roll Call:

- » Albert Senella; Present
- » Amie Miller; Present
- » Brenda Grealish; Present
- » Catherine Teare; Present
- » Elissa Feld; Present
- » Elizabeth Oseguera; Not Present
- » Elizabeth Bromley; Present
- » Jei Africa; Present
- » Julie Siebert; Present
- » Kara Taguchi; Present
- » Karen Larsen; Present

- » Kenna Chic; Present
- » Kimberly Lewis; Present
- » Kiran Savage-Sangwan; Present
- » Kirsten Barlow; Present
- » Le Ondra Clark Harvey; Present
- » Lisa Davis; Present
- » Lishaun Francis; Present
- » Lynn Thull; Present
- » Marina Tolou-Shams; Present
- » Mark Bontrager; Present
- » Melissa Martin-Mollard; Present
- » Nanette Star; Not Present; Designee Present
- » Noel J. O'Neill; Not Present
- » Samantha Spangler; Present
- » Theresa Comstock; Present
- » Tom Insel; Not Present

Agenda:

- » Welcome and Opening Remarks from DHCS Leadership
- » Joaquin's Lived Experience
- » Introductions
- » Quality and Equity Advisory Committee Overview
- » Behavioral Health Transformation Overview
- » Behavioral Health Transformation Quality and Equity Strategy
 - Proposed Statewide Behavioral Health Goals
 - Phased Approach and Implementation of the BHT Quality and Equity Strategy
- » Next Steps

- » Q&A

Summary of the Behavioral Health Transformation Quality and Equity Advisory Committee Meeting

Introduction and Welcome

- » Palav Babaria (Chief Quality and Medical Officer, DHCS) opened the meeting, emphasizing the importance of grounding work in the lived experiences of members. She highlighted the need for a holistic approach that considers the diverse backgrounds and experiences of the population served.
- » Marlies Perez (Community Services Division Chief and BHT Project Executive) expressed gratitude to the participants for their time and contributions. She reiterated the significance of the committee's work in shaping the future of behavioral health services.

Keynote by Joaquin Jordan

- » Joaquin Jordan shared his personal journey from addiction and incarceration to recovery. He stressed the critical role of early intervention and the inclusion of family in treatment models.
- » Jordan highlighted the need for person-centered, trauma-informed care, which acknowledges the individual's history and experiences, fostering a supportive environment for recovery.

Committee Introductions

- » Members introduced themselves, sharing their roles and expertise. They discussed their hopes for the committee's work and their "superpowers" related to data and measurement in behavioral health.
- » This segment underscored the diverse expertise present in the committee.

Behavioral Health Transformation (BHT) Overview

- » Palav Babaria provided an overview of the vision for BHT, focusing on improving access to behavioral health services, reducing disparities, and integrating fragmented systems. She emphasized the need for a population health approach to proactively address behavioral health needs.

- » The vision includes creating a seamless system where behavioral health services are easily accessible and equitable for all members of the community.

Goals and Measures

- » Palav Babaria and Anna Naify discussed the proposed statewide population health behavioral health goals.
- » The committee was asked to provide feedback on these goals and suggest any missing elements.

Data and Measurement Strategy

- » Anna Naify explained the phased approach to the measurement of quality and equity. The strategy begins with utilizing publicly available data and progresses towards the use of individual-level data in the future.
- » Emphasis was placed on the importance of leveraging existing data sources and minimizing administrative burden. The approach aims to create a culture of continuous improvement.

Committee Feedback and Discussion

- » Members provided feedback on the proposed goals, emphasizing the need for:
 - Early intervention and prevention to address issues before they escalate.
 - Culturally sensitive and equitable care to ensure all community members receive appropriate services.
 - Integration of various data sources to create a comprehensive view of behavioral health.
 - Clear accountability and monitoring frameworks to track progress and ensure goals are met.
- » Specific suggestions included focusing on quality of life, social connection, and engagement in meaningful activities, embedding health equity in all goals, separating engagement in school and work, considering components of quality like person-centered, trauma-informed care, highlighting the importance of holistic well-being.

Next Steps

- » The technical subcommittee will meet twice a month to delve into the specifics of measurement. This subcommittee will initially focus on the selection of publicly available measures related to the behavioral health goals.
- » The QEAC will reconvene quarterly to review progress and provide further input. These meetings will serve as checkpoints to ensure the initiative stays on track and adapts to any emerging needs or challenges.

Closing Remarks

- » Palav Babaria and Marlies Perez thanked the committee for their valuable input. They emphasized the importance of continued collaboration.
- » The meeting concluded with a call to action, encouraging members to stay engaged and committed to the transformative work ahead.

Key Takeaways

- » The meeting set the stage for a collaborative effort to transform behavioral health services in California.
- » Emphasis was placed on early intervention, equity, and a holistic, data-driven approach to improving behavioral health outcomes.
- » The committee's feedback will be crucial in shaping ambitious and achievable goals and measures for improving California's public behavioral health system.