



## **CalAIM Behavioral Health Workgroup November 21, 2022 Meeting Summary**

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) hosted the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Behavioral Health Workgroup on November 21, 2022.

The meeting was attended by DHCS staff, [workgroup members](#), and members of the public. Devin McBrayer from Aurrera Health Group helped facilitate the meeting and Tyler Sadwith was the DHCS lead presenter.

The agenda included:

- The California Behavioral Health Community-Based Continuum (CalBH-CBC) Demonstration;
- The CalBH-CBC Demonstration approach;
- A workgroup discussion; and
- Public comment on the above topics.

The full agenda can be found on the [CalAIM Behavioral Health Workgroup Meetings](#) webpage.

### **Discussion Summary**

- The meeting began with a presentation from DHCS providing an overview of the meeting objectives and a summary of the [CalBH-CBC Demonstration](#) and [CalBH-CBC Demonstration Concept Paper](#). Below is a summary of the comments from the workgroup discussion:
  - Request for clarity on what Evidence Based Practices will be used.
  - Concerns about counties' abilities to implement all required programs in order to opt-in to the demonstration due to workforce shortages.
  - Recommendation that non-clinical engagement be included as a covered benefit.
  - Requests for a small-county strategy to implement the demonstration.
  - Requests for DHCS to consider wages that are competitive and meet living wage standards.
  - Request for clarity on where Health Plans will utilize block grants to pay for housing for those struggling with homelessness.
  - Request for clarity on how the CalBH-CBC and CalAIM BH data sharing networks relate to one another.
  - Recommendation for DHCS to consider utilizing pilot counties to test how to implement these services.

- Finally, members of the public were invited to comment. Below is a summary of public comment:
  - Recommendation to include integrated treatment as an Evidence-Based Practice.
  - Request for clarity on how counties can bill during the expansion of Enhanced Care Management.
  - Recommendation for Community Health Workers services to be provided outside of a clinical setting.
  - Recommendation to include Community Health Workers in the Center of Excellence.

**Next Steps for DHCS:**

- Information about the CalBH-CBC can be found on the [California Behavioral Health Community-Based Continuum Demonstration webpage](#).
- Information about upcoming webinars and other items related to the CalAIM BH initiatives can be found on the [Behavioral Health CalAIM Webpage](#).
- Stakeholders can submit comments on the concept paper to [CalBHCBC@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:CalBHCBC@dhcs.ca.gov) with the subject line "CalBH-CBC Demonstration" through January 13, 2023.