

## Workforce and Employment Committee Agenda

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

DoubleTree Hilton Hotel Santa Ana - Orange County Airport

201 East MacArthur Blvd Santa Ana, CA 92707

Ballroom B

[Zoom link](#)

Meeting ID: 893 0598 3591 Passcode: WEC2023

Join by phone: 1-669-900-6833 Passcode: 9467575

1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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|----------------|--|--------------|
| <b>1:30 pm</b> | <b>Welcome and Introductions</b><br><i>Vera Calloway, Chairperson and All Members</i>  |              |
| <b>1:35 am</b> | <b>Approve April 2023 Draft Meeting Minutes</b><br><i>Vera Calloway, Chairperson and All Members</i>   | <b>Tab 1</b> |
| <b>1:40 pm</b> | <b>CBHPC Workgroups Update</b><br><i>Vera Calloway, Chairperson and All Members</i>  | <b>Tab 2</b> |
| <b>1:45 pm</b> | <b>2020-2025 Workforce Education and Training (WET)<br/>Five Year Plan and HCAI Behavioral Health Updates</b><br><i>Michael Andrijich Grants Management Section of Health Care<br/>Workforce Development Division (HWDD), Department of Health<br/>Care Access and Information (HCAI)<br/>Clinton Ramstad, Grants Management Divison of HWDD, HCAI</i> | <b>Tab 3</b> |
| <b>2:00 pm</b> | <b>Public Comment</b>  |              |
| <b>2:05 pm</b> | <b>Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Certification Updates</b><br><i>Lucero Robles, LCSW, Director, Quality Assurance and<br/>Compliance, California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA)<br/>Alexandria Simpson, Medi-Cal Behavioral Health Division, California<br/>Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)</i>                               | <b>Tab 4</b> |
| <b>2:25 pm</b> | <b>Public Comment</b>  |              |
| <b>2:30 pm</b> | <b>Planning of Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Certification<br/>White Paper</b><br><i>Vera Calloway, Chairperson and All Members</i>   | <b>Tab 5</b> |
| <b>3:10 pm</b> | <b>Public Comment</b>  |              |
| <b>3:15 pm</b> | <b>Break</b>   |              |
| <b>3:30 pm</b> | <b>Los Angeles Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise<br/>(LA:RISE) Presentation</b><br><i>Elizabeth Macias, LA:RISE Program Manager, Economic Workforce</i>  | <b>Tab 6</b> |

*Development Department (EWDD), City of Los Angeles  
Reena De Asis, Senior Program Manager, Government Partnerships  
& Policy, REDF*

<b>4:00 pm</b>	<b>Public Comment</b>	
<b>4:05 pm</b>	<b>Update WEC Work Plan for 2023-2024</b> <i>Vera Calloway, Chairperson and All Members</i>	<b>Tab 7</b>
<b>4:50 pm</b>	<b>Public Comment</b>	
<b>4:55 pm</b>	<b>Wrap up/Next Steps</b> <i>Vera Calloway, Chairperson and All Members</i>	
<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>	

*The scheduled times on the agenda are estimates and subject to change.*

**Workforce and Employment Committee Members**

**Chairperson:** Vera Calloway **Chair-elect:** Christine Frey

**Members:** Deborah Pitts, Dale Mueller, Walter Shwe, Arden Tucker, Liz Oseguera, John Black, Jessica Grove, Cindy Wang

**WET Steering Committee Members:** Le Ondra Clark Harvey, Robb Layne, Simon Vue, Kristin Dempsey, Janet Frank, Olivia Loewy, E. Maxwell Davis, Robert McCarron, Kathryn Kietzman, Chad Costello, John Drebing, Heidi Strunk, Marcellus Brookshaw

**Staff:** Ashneek Nanua, Justin Boese, Eva Smith

**TAB 1**

**California Behavioral Health Planning Council  
Workforce and Employment Committee  
Wednesday, June 14, 2023**

**Agenda Item:** Approve April 2023 Draft Meeting Minutes

**Enclosures:** April 2023 Draft WEC Meeting Minutes

**Background/Description:**

Committee members will review and approve the draft meeting minutes for the April 2023 Quarterly Meeting.

## **Workforce and Employment Committee**

### **Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)**

April 19, 2023

**Committee Members present:** Vera Calloway – Chairperson, John Black, Walter Shwe, Deborah Pitts, Arden Tucker, Dale Mueller, Cindy Wang

**WET Steering Committee Members Present:** Janet Frank, John Drebing

**Presenters:** Lucero Robles, Alexandria Simpson, Michael Andrijich, Clinton Ramstad, Samuel Casale, Laura Luna, Angelita Diaz-Akahori, Carla Cross, Jeremy Wilson

**Staff present:** Ashneek Nanua, Justin Boese, Eva Smith, Jenny Bayardo

**Meeting Commenced at 1:30 p.m.**

#### **Item #1      Approve January 2023 Draft Meeting Minutes**

The Workforce and Employment Committee (WEC) reviewed the January 2023 Draft Meeting Minutes. The minutes were approved by the committee with no edits.

#### **Action/Resolution**

The January 2023 WEC Meeting Minutes are approved.

#### **Responsible for Action-Due Date**

N/A

#### **Item #2      Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Certification Updates**

Lucero Robles, Director of Quality Assurance and Compliance for the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA), and Alexandria Simpson from the Medi-Cal Behavioral Health Policy Division at the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) presented updates on the Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Certification Benefit followed by a Q & A session with committee members. Lucero first reviewed the roles of CalMHSA as the certifying entity and then shared a snapshot of applicants for certification including demographics by employment, age, race/ethnicity, language, county, and lived experience. CalMHSA has processed over 3,500 applications and 814 of these applicants have received certification. Lucero shared the following updates:

- The grandparenting application deadline was extended through June 30, 2023.
- CalMHSA received subject matter expert and community input on the areas of specialization and core competencies for each specialization, with Request for Proposals (RFP) released to add training providers in areas of specialization.

- A one-hour, self-paced supervisor training based on SAMHSA's best practice guidelines is now available at no cost.
- CalMHSA is accepting applications beginning in March 2023 for new training providers to deliver the 80-hour training for core competencies for providers who meet all requirements. The application has a \$300 non-refundable fee.

Alexandria Simpson then shared Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist updates from DHCS and requested insights on federal requirements for rendering providers to submit claims using unique provider identifiers. DHCS will propose guidance to ensure unlicensed providers comply with federal requirements. Alexandria stated that this is a precursor and informal discussion and stakeholders will have an opportunity to provide feedback via a Behavioral Health Information Notice (BHIN) in late Summer 2023.

DHCS is required to use the Transformed Medicaid Statistical Information System (TMSIS) to share information with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Data reported through TMSIS must include a provider number such as a National Provider Identifier (NPI) for a rendering provider and must also submit a billing provider. There is currently no guidance for peers, Community Health Workers, and other qualified providers to have an NPI so rendering Medi-Cal providers must have a unique provider identifier from the state in order to be compliant with federal requirements. The goal is to create a standardized and streamlined approach to create clear requirements for unlicensed providers to render services under Medi-Cal in order to meet federal requirements and accurately bill Medicaid for these services, as well as provide CMS and DHCS with data to track how non-traditional providers render services.

Committee members engaged presenters in a Q & A session regarding the NPI number, peer versus non-peer training providers, and concerns about the preferred qualifications for Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialists, as well as challenges with eligibility for peer organizations who have trained peers for several years. Committee members also brought up questions and concerns about various linguistic and disability supports for certification.

### **Action/Resolution**

The WEC will continue to track and provide input for Senate Bill 803 implementation.

### **Responsible for Action-Due Date**

Ashneek Nanua, Vera Calloway – Ongoing

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### **Item #3      Public Comment**

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Monica Caffey asked if organizations wanting to apply for the areas of specialization must submit a separate application for each specialization. She asked why there was only a 21-day application period for the initial RFP for training providers and inquired what element are included in the cost for the \$300 provider application. Monica stated

that there were previously 21 training providers approved by CalMHSA to implement the training and asked how there are now 22 providers approved after the deadline. She asked if CalMHSA is doing any analysis to ensure that vendors in all counties are being considered for the peer training opportunities because there will be gaps if there is not appropriate representation across counties. Lucero Robles responded to Monica's questions.

Andrea Wagner, California Association of Mental Health Peer-Run Organizations (CAMHPRO), stated that part of the input for CalMHSA included CAMHPRO's listening sessions for the areas of specialization. CAMHPRO also conducts monthly SB 803 101 training sessions as CAMHPRO is a training and technical advisor for SB 803 implementation. She invited DHCS to be involved with the SB 803 101 training and keep lines of communication open. Andrea asked DHCS when the test and study guide will be available in other languages. Alexandria Simpson responded to Andrea.

Stephanie Ramos, Cal Voices and California Association of Peer Professionals, expressed challenges for individuals who do not have a social security number holding up the process of individuals obtaining an National Provider Identifier number. Stephanie identified that another challenge is that the NPI number does not follow the individual when they change places of employment. Alexandria Simpson responded to Stephanie's statements.

Elizabeth R. Stone asked what changes were made to the updated template for the Peer Support Specialist areas of specialization. Elizabeth expressed there is a major difference between peers in peer-directed organizations versus peers in clinical organizations. She encouraged the presenters to differentiate between the two when approaching the NPI guidance and policy.

#### **Action/Resolution**

N/A

#### **Responsible for Action-Due Date**

N/A

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### **Item #4      HCAI Overview of Behavioral Health Programs and Grants**

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Michael Andrijich and Clinton Ramstad from the Grants Management Section of the Health Care Workforce Development Division at the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI), presented on HCAI behavioral health workforce programs. Topics included the Regional Partnership Grant Programs, Psychiatric Education Capacity Expansion (PECE) Grant Programs, Community-Based Organization (CBO)

Behavioral Health Workforce Program, Scholarship and Loan Repayment Programs, Health Professions Career Opportunity Program (HPCOP) including the grant award amounts and application cycles for each program. HCAI also announced the Golden State Social Opportunities Program and Behavioral Health Scholarship Program which will launch in May 2023. The presenters provided resources for HCAI's programs including an eligibility tool that applicants may use to determine if they are eligible for the grants they apply for.

Upon conclusion of the update, the committee engaged the presenters in a Q & A session. The committee engaged in topics such as Occupational Therapy coverage in Allied Health Scholarship Programs and Behavioral Health Scholarship Program.

### **Action/Resolution**

The WEC will invite HCAI representatives to subsequent committee meetings to provide updates on their behavioral health programs and 2020-2025 WET Plan.

### **Responsible for Action-Due Date**

Ashneek Nanua, Vera Calloway – June 2023

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### **Item #5      Public Comment**

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Imani Lucas, CEO of United and Guided, asked for assistance on finding the HCAI behavioral health programs to determine what grants his organization is eligible for. United and Guided is a small CBO with 5 employees who would like to assist their peers in educational direction and career path.

Stephanie Ramos stated that HCAI is in the early stages of their process of developing certification for Community Health Workers and Promotores. She went on to state that the individuals who are interested in and would qualify for these positions can overlap with individuals also seeking certification as a Peer Support Specialist. Stephanie asked that WEC and HCAI consider cross-certification for these individuals. Many of the pieces of training and qualifications are similar and cross-certification would allow a person to pursue multiple opportunities without having to go through separate 80-hour trainings with the same information.

Katy Sommerfeld, California Association of Mental Health Peer-Run Organizations (CAMHPRO), asked if HCAI may consider a recovery model training in the grant programs as well as training on how providers may work more efficiently and effectively together in multi-disciplinary teams especially for areas of specialization. She shared her experience in direct service and peer roles and expressed that she would have been a better-rounded provider if she understood both sides. She then asked HCAI to

consider that future RFPs include a component that builds bridges on these teams. Katy also asked about the deadline for the Peer Personnel grant.

Elizabeth R. Stone asked for clarification on what the Allied Health Scholarship Program included. HCAI stated that the list of eligible professions is on the HCAI website.

**Action/Resolution**

N/A

**Responsible for Action-Due Date**

N/A

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**Item #6      2020-2025 Workforce Education and Training (WET) Plan  
Regional Partnership Panel Presentations**

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Representatives from each of the five Regional Partnership (RP) from the 2020-2025 Workforce Education and Training (WET) Five-Year Plan presented on their region: Superior, Los Angeles, Southern, Bay Area, and Central. Each representative provided an overview of their program, and discussed the best practices and challenges of their programs as well as respond to the standardized questions that the WEC provided to the presenters. Committee members engaged in a Q & A session upon conclusion of the presentations. In the Q & A, presenters discussed opportunities for workforce shortages via funding, expanded telehealth options, and Peer Support Specialists, and challenges in the delayed onboarding process and competitive process amongst organizations for county providers and staff, as well as challenges with telehealth.

**Action/Resolution**

The WEC will continue to track programs in the 2020-2025 WET Plan.

**Responsible for Action-Due Date**

Ashneek Nanua, Vera Calloway – Ongoing

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**Item #7      Public Comment**

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Theresa Comstock, Executive Director of the California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions, stated that priority areas of her organization for 2023 include workforce and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). She expressed that there are areas of Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) that the Planning Council may want to look closely at while advising HCAI on the WET Five-Year Plan in terms of incorporating community-defined evidence practices (CDEPs) into training and organizations that provide community-defined CDEPs in workforce development. It can help to reach out



to community-based organizations to do not yet provide mental health services but could do so and contract these organizations with the counties.

Stephanie Ramos stated that a point of consideration is to prioritize individuals with lower incomes, who often come from Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities, for scholarships. Stephanie said it can be helpful to provide workshops to assist individuals in the scholarship application process.

#### **Action/Resolution**

N/A

#### **Responsible for Action-Due Date**

N/A

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#### **Item #8    Update Re: Request for Occupational Therapists to be Licensed Mental Health Professionals (LMHPs) and Licensed Practitioners of the Healing Arts (LPHAs)**

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In November 2022, WEC staff wrote a letter on behalf of the committee to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) requesting Occupational Therapists (OTs) be considered LMHPs in the Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS) system and LPHAs in the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System. The committee has advocated for this for several years, and wrote a [letter](#) requesting OTs to be licensed persons in the Home and Community Based Services Waiver (September 2019).

Deborah Pitts expressed that her state association and DHCS continue to have conversations on this request. She shared that there is no current plan to do a release of information on the decision but DHCS is currently looking at what regulatory and legislative language changes would be required to identify OTs as LMHPs in the SMHS system and LPHAs in DMC-ODS. Deborah indicated that it would take a year or more before any regulatory language is available, and her association asked DHCS to release a Behavioral Health Information Notice (BHIN) to waive the restriction for the time-frame for the requirements so that implementation may occur sooner but the BHIN is not an option at this time.

#### **Action/Resolution**

WEC staff will continue to track status updates in regards to CBHPC's request for Occupational Therapists to be considered LMHPs and LPHAs and provide an update when available.

#### **Responsible for Action-Due Date**

Ashneek Nanua, Vera Calloway, Deborah Pitts – Ongoing

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**Item #9      Discussion Re: WEC Participation in CBHPC Workgroups**

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Vera Calloway, Chairperson, stated that there are now three CBHPC workgroups: Reducing Disparities, Children and Youth, and Substance Use Disorders. Vera shared that the Council's Executive Committee is hoping that the workgroups have at least one committee members attend each workgroup and report information from the workgroups to the committee. Vera Calloway is the representative for the Reducing Disparities Workgroup. She invited committee members to reach out to her if they are interested in participating and representing the other workgroups, as the Substance Use Disorder Workgroup and Children and Youth Workgroups still need a WEC representative.

**Action/Resolution**

The WEC will identify representatives for the Children and Youth Workgroup and Substance Use Disorder Workgroup.

**Responsible for Action-Due Date**

Ashneek Nanua, Vera Calloway– Ongoing

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**Item #9      Wrap Up/Next Steps**

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Vera Calloway stated that this meeting covered all elements of the WEC Work Plan. She expressed a desire to craft a white paper for the Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Certification for next steps.

**Action/Resolution**

WEC staff will work with the WEC Officer team to determine next steps for the June 2023 Quarterly Meeting.

**Responsible for Action-Due Date**

Ashneek Nanua, Vera Calloway – June 2023

**TAB 2**

**California Behavioral Health Planning Council  
Workforce and Employment Committee  
Wednesday, June 14, 2023**

**Agenda Item:** CBHPC Workgroups Update

**Enclosures:** None

**How This Agenda Item Relates to Council Mission**

*To review, evaluate and advocate for an accessible and effective behavioral health system.*

This agenda item provides the opportunity for the Workforce and Employment Committee to coordinate the activities of the CBHPC workgroups in accordance with the WEC Work Plan.

**Background/Description:**

CBHPC's Executive Committee would like to ensure that that the Planning Council's workgroups are integrated into the work of all of the committees. The WEC will select a representative for the Children and Youth Workgroup and Substance Use Disorder Workgroup. Committee members who attended each workgroup will report on discussions held during each workgroup meeting to identify any points of collaboration with WEC activities and Work Plan items.

CBHPC workgroups:

- **Reducing Disparities Workgroup**
  - Representative: Vera Calloway
- **Children and Youth Workgroup**
  - Representative: TBD
- **Substance Use Disorder Workgroup**
  - Representative: TBD

**TAB 3**

**California Behavioral Health Planning Council  
Workforce and Employment Committee  
Wednesday, June 14, 2023**

**Agenda Item:** 2020-2025 Workforce Education and Training (WET) Five-Year Plan and HCAI Behavioral Health Programs Update

**Enclosures:** HCAI Workforce Programs Update: May 2023  
[HCAI Behavioral Health Programs Webpage](#)

**How This Agenda Item Relates to Council Mission**

*To review, evaluate and advocate for an accessible and effective behavioral health system.*

This agenda item provides the Council members with information regarding the implementation of the 2020-2025 Workforce Education and Training (WET) Five-Year Plan, which will help the Council members fulfill their duty to oversee plan implementation.

**WEC Work Plan:** This agenda item corresponds to WEC Work Plan Objective 1.1:

**Objective 1.1:** Review and make recommendations to the full Council regarding approval of HCAI WET Plan:

- Engage in regular dialogue and collaborating with the WET Steering Committee.
- Maintain an open line of communication with HCAI via CBHPC Council staff in order to advise HCAI on education and training policy development and provide oversight for education and training plan development.
- Participate in statewide HCAI stakeholder engagement process.
- Build the Council's understanding of state-level workforce initiatives and their successes and challenges.

**Background/Description:**

The Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) is statutorily required to coordinate with CBHPC for the planning and oversight of the 2020-2025 Workforce Education and Training (WET) Five-Year Plan. The Council reviewed and approved the plan during the January 2019 Quarterly Meeting. Representatives from the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) will provide an update on the 2020-2025 WET Five-Year Plan as well as HCAI's behavioral health workforce programs.

*Please contact WEC staff at [Ashneek.Nanua@cbhpc.dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:Ashneek.Nanua@cbhpc.dhcs.ca.gov) for copies of the presentation materials.*

**The Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI)** administers programs that improve access to health care in underserved areas of California. The programs support students and graduates with scholarships, loan repayment, and educational training programs that show a commitment to increasing the number of healthcare providers serving the underserved. HCAI also acts as the State's Primary Care Office (PCO), State Office of Rural Health (SORH), and liaison to the Health Services and Resources Administration (HRSA).

### **IN THIS ISSUE:**

- Public Meetings
- Important Dates
- Grant Programs
- Loan Repayment and Scholarship Programs
- Primary Care Office (PCO) and State Office of Rural Health (SORH) Programs
- HCAI Careers

### **May is Mental Health Awareness Month**

Mental Health Awareness Month raises awareness of the emotional, and mental well-being of children, families, and communities. Mental Health Month gives all of us an opportunity to celebrate the tremendous strides California has made and continues to make in promoting mental health and increasing the public's knowledge that effective services and supports are available. California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS) announced a social media toolkit to raise awareness about Children's Mental Health as part of May Mental Health Awareness Month. Governor Newsom highlighted the importance of children's mental health and the extensive work and investments underway in California to address it in this [recent proclamation](#). To view the tool kit, visit [CalHHS May Mental Health Awareness Month Toolkit 2023](#). For more information visit, [CalHHS](#).

### **PUBLIC MEETINGS:**

The California Health Workforce Education and Training Council ([Council](#)) is responsible for helping HCAI coordinate statewide education and training strategies to develop a health workforce that meets California's health care needs. For more information, visit our [public meetings](#) site.

Next meeting: June 7, 2023

### **HCAI Program Eligibility Tool**

HCAI has developed an online eligibility tool for students, healthcare professionals, and organizations to quickly see what HCAI programs they may be eligible to apply for. To determine your eligibility, visit [Funding Eligibility](#).

### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

**May 15, 2023** - Behavioral Health Scholarship Application Opens

**May 15, 2023** - Golden State Social Opportunities Scholarship Application Opens

**May 15, 2023** - HRSA, Rural Health Care Coordination Program Application Closes

**May 31, 2023** - Webinar: Behavioral Health Scholarship Program

**May 31, 2023** - Webinar: Golden State Social Opportunities Scholarship Program

**June 7, 2023** - California Health Workforce Education and Training Council Meeting

### **GRANT PROGRAMS:**

#### **Community Health Workers/Promotores/Representatives (CHW/P/R) Stakeholder Engagement**

HCAI is working with the community to develop statewide training and state certificate requirements. The first draft CHW/P/R certification model will be presented to stakeholders for feedback. HCAI's stakeholder engagement process will be holding additional online CHW/P/R information sessions from May 24-26, 2023. For registration and more information, visit [Community Health Workers/Promotores/Representatives](#).

#### **Loan Repayment and Scholarship Program**

##### Scholarship Application Cycles

The 2023 scholarship application cycles closed on February 24, 2023. Award announcements were made in April 2023.

- [Associate Degree Nursing Scholarship Program](#)
- [Bachelor of Science Nursing Scholarship Program](#)
- [Licensed Vocational Nurse to Associate Degree Nursing Scholarship Program](#)
- [Vocational Nurse Scholarship Program](#)

#### **Behavioral Health Scholarship Program (BHSP)**

BHSP aims to increase the number of appropriately trained allied and advanced behavioral health professionals providing direct patient care in California. There are also scholarships available for individuals pursuing behavioral health careers in reproductive health settings. The BHSP application cycle opens on May 15, 2023, and closes on August 15, 2023.

An informational webinar will be held on May 31, 2023, from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. This webinar will include information regarding eligibility and how to apply. Click [here](#) to register. For more information visit, [Behavioral Health Scholarship Program](#).

### **Golden State Social Opportunities Program (GSSOP)**

GSSOP aims to increase the number of licensed behavioral health professionals providing direct care in California. This scholarship gives priority to those who have experienced foster care and/or homelessness, as well as Community-Based Organization employees. The GSSOP application cycle opens on May 15, 2023, and closes on August 15, 2023.

An informational webinar will be held on May 31, 2023, from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm. This webinar will include information regarding eligibility and how to apply. Click [here](#) to register. For more information visit, [Golden State Social Opportunities Program](#).

### **Train New Trainers (TNT) Primary Care Psychiatry (PCP) Fellowship Scholarship**

The TNT PCP Fellowship Scholarship supports students accepted into the year-long clinical education program for primary care providers who wish to receive advanced training in primary care psychiatry.

The TNT PCP Fellowship Scholarship application opened on April 7, 2023, and closes on October 27, 2023. For more information visit, [Train New Trainers Primary Care Psychiatry Fellowship Scholarship](#).

### **Reproductive Health Access Initiative**

#### **Clinical Infrastructure/Workforce Development**

HCAI launched two reproductive health scholarship programs: the [Advanced Practice Healthcare Scholarship Program](#) and [Allied Healthcare Scholarship Program](#). The application cycles closed on February 24, 2023. Award announcements were made in April 2023.

HCAI opened the following program cycles on May 1, 2023.

- [Bachelor of Science Nursing Loan Repayment Program](#)
- [Licensed Mental Health Services Provider Education Program](#)
- [Licensed Vocational Nurse Loan Repayment Program](#)
- [Steven M. Thompson Physician Corps Loan Repayment Program](#)

## TAB 4

**California Behavioral Health Planning Council  
Workforce and Employment Committee  
Wednesday, June 14, 2023**

**Agenda Item:** Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Certification Updates

**Enclosures:** None

**How This Agenda Item Relates to Council Mission**

*To review, evaluate and advocate for an accessible and effective behavioral health system.*

This agenda item provides committee members with updates regarding the implementation of Peer Support Specialist Certification from the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) and the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). The WEC will use this information to advocate best practices and policies for Peer Support Specialists working in the public behavioral health system.

**WEC Work Plan:** This agenda item corresponds to WEC Work Plan Objective 1.5:

**Objective 1.5:** Support building the workforce of individuals with lived behavioral health experience through advocacy and recommendations for the statewide certification, training, and Medicaid reimbursement for Peer Support Specialists, including the promotion of equitable opportunities for career growth. This includes collaborating with other CBHPC committees to support Peer Certification efforts.

**Background/Description:**

The California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) and the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) will provide updates on their activities for the implementation of the Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Certification Benefit.

**About CalMHSA:** *The California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) is the certifying entity, responsible for certification, examination, and enforcement of professional standards for Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialists in California. All applicants seeking certification are required to pass an exam and ensure that any individual holding a certification has meet the minimum educational requirements. CalMHSA investigates consumer complaints and imposes disciplinary actions against an individual who violates the Code of Ethics.*

**Additional Resources:**

[Senate Bill 803 – Bill Text](#)

[DHCS Peer Support Services Webpage](#)

[CalMHSA Peer Certification Webpage](#) and [CA Peer Certification Website](#)



## TAB 5

**California Behavioral Health Planning Council  
Workforce and Employment Committee  
Wednesday, June 14, 2023**

**Agenda Item:** Planning of Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Certification White Paper

**Enclosures:** [Peer Certification: What Are We Waiting For? \(2015 Report\)](#)

**How This Agenda Item Relates to Council Mission**

*To review, evaluate and advocate for an accessible and effective behavioral health system.*

This agenda item provides committee members with the opportunity to plan the creation of a Peer Support Specialist Certification white paper. The WEC will use the white paper to advocate best practices and policies for Peer Support Specialists working in the public behavioral health system (PBHS) to leverage and strengthen the PBHS workforce.

**WEC Work Plan:** This agenda item corresponds to WEC Work Plan Objective 1.5:

**Objective 1.5:** Support building the workforce of individuals with lived behavioral health experience through advocacy and recommendations for the statewide certification, training, and Medicaid reimbursement for Peer Support Specialists, including the promotion of equitable opportunities for career growth. This includes collaborating with other CBHPC committees to support Peer Certification efforts.

**Background/Description:**

The WEC is interested in creating a white paper regarding the Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Benefit. Committee members will engage in a planning process that includes but is not limited to a discussion about the following items:

- Contents/components of the paper
- Process to develop the paper
  - Information gathering, consultation with peer organizations, assembling the paper, review and evaluation, etc.
- A list of standardized questions for different peer organization groups to address at subsequent quarterly meetings
- The timeline
- Roles assignments, as needed

**California Behavioral Health Planning Council  
Workforce and Employment Committee  
Wednesday, June 14, 2023**

**Agenda Item:** Los Angeles Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise (LA:RISE) Presentation

**Enclosures:** [LA:RISE Frequently Asked Questions Program Overview & Partners \(Page 2\)](#)

[LA:RISE April 2023 Progress Report](#)

LA:RISE Partner Profiles (PDF)

[LA:RISE Client Flyer \(PDF\)](#)

REDF Information Sheet (PDF)

**How This Agenda Item Relates to Council Mission**

*To review, evaluate and advocate for an accessible and effective behavioral health system.*

This agenda item provides the WEC with information on the social enterprise model in the City of Los Angeles. Committee members will have the opportunity to engage in discussion and strategize advocacy efforts to increase the value of employment in behavioral health recovery services.

**WEC Work Plan:** This agenda item corresponds to Work Plan Objective 1.3 and 2.1:

- **Objective 1.3:** Build the Council's understanding of County specific workforce development initiatives and their successes and challenges.
- **Objective 2.1:** Expand Council's knowledge in order to build and make available a current inventory of employment and education support services available to mental health and substance use disorder consumers in each of California's counties. Such inventory must consider limitations created by unequal access or opportunities due to social inequities.

**Background/Description:**

The WEC expressed interest to increase the value of employment in behavioral health recovery services. The WEC has engaged various counties and programs with the goal to evaluate the strengths and limitations of each employment model.

Elizabeth Macias from the Economic Workforce Development Department (EWDD) in the City of Los Angeles, and Reena De Asis, Senior Program Manager of Government Partnerships and Policy at REDF will present the LA:RISE Social Enterprise model to the committee. Committee members will use this information to evaluate the current landscape of employment initiatives for individuals with behavioral health conditions.

*Please contact WEC staff at [Ashneek.Nanua@cbhpc.dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:Ashneek.Nanua@cbhpc.dhcs.ca.gov) for copies of the presentation materials.*

### **About LA:RISE**

[LA:RISE](#) is an innovative, collaborative partnership that unites the City and County of Los Angeles' Workforce Development System with non-profit social enterprises and for-profit employers in order to help men and women with high barriers to employment get good jobs and stay employed.

LA:RISE is building a pathway from unemployment, to transitional employment, to permanent work for youth or individuals who have been previously homeless or incarcerated. Funded initially by the Department of Labor through a Workforce Innovation Fund grant, thanks to its early success, LA:RISE is now funded locally by a City of LA General Fund allocation, LA County Measure H, and workforce funding.

### **About REDF**

[REDF](#) invests in businesses that reveal and reinforce the talent of people breaking through barriers to employment. Despite the drive to succeed, millions of Americans remain sidelined from access and opportunity. REDF works to ensure that we no longer miss out on this untapped talent by investing in and driving demand for employment social enterprises. Because when these businesses succeed, doors are opened to stability, economic mobility, and possibility.

[REDF LA:RISE Webpage](#)

Please contact WEC staff at [Ashneek.Nanua@cbhpc.dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:Ashneek.Nanua@cbhpc.dhcs.ca.gov) for copies of the presentation materials.



## LA:RISE 8.0 SOCIAL ENTERPRISE PROFILES

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<i>Description</i>	The mission of the Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC) is to change lives and create safe, healthy communities by providing a support and advocacy network for and by formerly incarcerated men and women. To accomplish this mission, ARC advocates for fair policies in the juvenile and criminal justice systems and provides a supportive network and reentry services to formerly incarcerated individuals.
<i>Districts/Area:</i>	City Council District: 14 County Supervisor District:1 Service Planning Area: 4
<i>Social enterprise(s)</i>	Pre-apprenticeship training course in Building and Construction Trades
<i>Target Population</i>	Re-entry
<i>Industry/Positions:</i>	Construction
<i>Transitional Duration:</i>	12 weeks



## Center for Employment Opportunities

<i>Description</i>	Center for Employment Opportunities is a national organization that provides life skills education, transitional work experience, placement services, and post-placement support to previously incarcerated individuals. CEO puts crews of employees to work on grounds-keeping and road maintenance projects for municipal agencies. Currently operating in 24 sites across the country, CEO's vision is that anyone with a recent criminal history who wants to work has the preparation and support needed to find a job and to stay connected to the labor force.
<i>Districts/Area:</i>	City Council District: 14, County Supervisor District: 3, Service Planning Area: 2
<i>Social enterprise(s)</i>	Crew-based maintenance and labor services for primarily public sector customers
<i>Target Population</i>	Exclusively Reentry
<i>Industry/Positions:</i>	Caltrans Highway Landscaping Maintenance, Department of Beaches and Harbors (Restroom maintenance)
<i>Transitional Duration:</i>	Up to 6 months, but moves at individual's pace, not a cohort model.



<i>Description</i>	The Center for Living and Learning provides a range of services for individuals looking to re-enter the workforce. Individuals looking to rebuild their lives after incarceration, substance abuse treatment, or homelessness face numerous barriers to re-integration into our society and economy. To help overcome these barriers, CLL provides several services, including apprenticeships, job readiness preparation, employment support services and health services.
<i>Districts/Area</i>	City Council District: 6, County Supervisor District: 3, Service Planning Area: 2
<i>Social enterprise(s)</i>	"All About You" Answering Service
<i>Target Population</i>	Reentry, co-occurring homelessness, parents receiving welfare benefits
<i>Industry/Positions:</i>	Call Center positions
<i>Transitional Duration:</i>	9 months
<i>Why we wanted to join LA:RISE</i>	CLL recognizes that by focusing on the population served, the needs are great and that case management is integral component that has previously been unfunded. LA:RISE provides the opportunity to increase the level of services and partner with local reputable agencies.
<i>What we bring to the table:</i>	CLL brings 18 years of experience in providing paid job training to the population and understands the needs and perspective of both the employer and the clients.



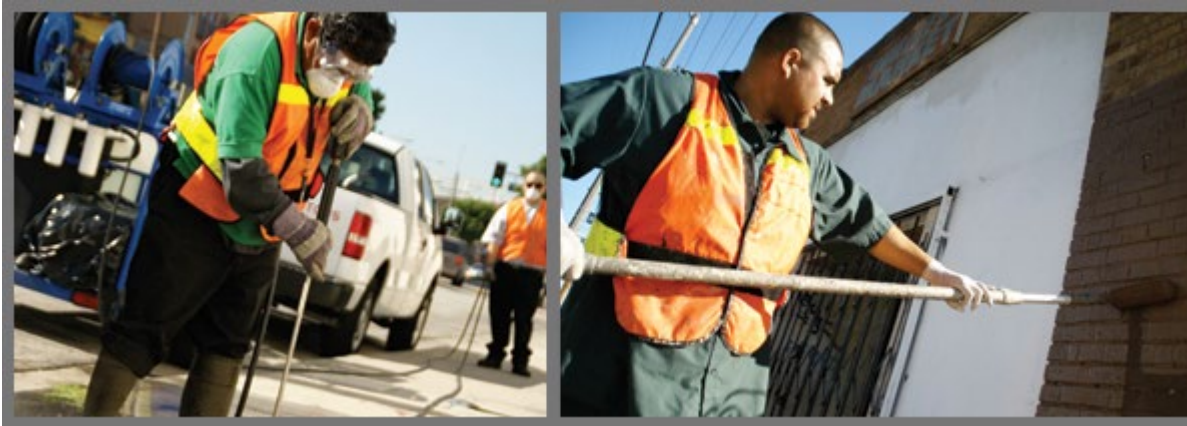


<i>Description</i>	Chrysalis, based in Los Angeles and Orange County, is dedicated to creating a pathway to self-sufficiency for homeless and low-income individuals by providing the resources and support needed to find and retain employment. Since 1991, Chrysalis has offered paid, transitional jobs through its two, in-house social enterprise businesses: Chrysalis Works, a street maintenance company and Chrysalis Staffing, a temporary staffing business and in 2016 launched Chrysalis Roads, a highway maintenance program for individuals on probation or parole.
<i>Districts/Area</i>	Downtown Los Angeles - City Council District: 14, County Supervisor District: 1, Service Planning Area: 4 San Fernando Valley – City Council District: 7, County Supervisor District: 3, Service Planning Area: 2 Santa Monica – City Council District: N/A, County Supervisor District: 3, Service Planning Area: 5
<i>Social enterprise(s)</i>	Chrysalis Works, Chrysalis Staffing, Chrysalis Roads
<i>Target Population</i>	Homeless, Reentry, Low-income Individuals
<i>Industry/Positions:</i>	Crew-based maintenance and labor services, and temporary staffing
<i>Transitional Duration:</i>	4-12+ months, depending on social enterprise



# COALITION FOR RESPONSIBLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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<i>Description</i>	Coalition for Responsible Community Development (CRCD) is a youth-centered community development corporation serving South LA's Vernon-Central neighborhood. CRCD provides housing, education, and jobs for low-income youth and adults, as well as economic development and business assistance. CRCD launched its first program, CRCD Enterprises, a decade ago, and today has three lines of business — painting, facilities maintenance, and urban infrastructure—that generate employment for South LA residents.
<i>Districts/Area</i>	City Council District: 9, County Supervisor District: 2, Service Planning Area: 6
<i>Social enterprise(s)</i>	CRCD Enterprises
<i>Target Population</i>	18 and up
<i>Industry/Positions:</i>	Painting, Facilities maintenance, and Urban Infrastructure
<i>Transitional Duration:</i>	3-4 Months



DOWNTOWN **WOMEN'S** CENTER  
Every woman housed

<i>Description</i>	MADE by DWC is a product and retail social enterprise created by the Downtown Women's Center to break the cycles of chronic unemployment and homelessness by empowering women to discover talents and develop skills through vocational opportunities, and generate economic and social capital to support workforce development programs. DWC's social enterprise include Handmade, a line of unique products designed and produced by the women; a CAFÉ & Gift Boutique providing coffee, tea, fresh fare; and a Resale Boutique with women's apparel and accessories. Participants receive intensive job-readiness, training, and transitional employment opportunities within retail and production environments.
<i>Districts/Area</i>	City Council District: 14, County Supervisor District: 1, Service Planning Area: 4
<i>Social enterprise(s)</i>	Made by DWC, -Café, Gift Boutique
<i>Target Population</i>	Homeless Women
<i>Industry/Positions:</i>	Retail, Food Service, Art, Administration
<i>Transitional Duration:</i>	4 months



<i>Description</i>	Transforming lives through the power of work, Goodwill Southern California (GSC) as one of the world's leading non-profit brands, we maintain a large network of businesses, community partners and government agencies that help us match qualified talent with employers looking to hire. Last year we placed thousands of individuals in employment throughout Southern California and our specialty is preparing and placing those with the most significant disabilities and vocational challenges, including veterans, the homeless, ex-offenders, mature workers and at-risk youth. Each year, GSC prepares and places thousands of individuals into sustainable employment through programs and services offered at three campuses, Career Resource Centers, WorkSource Centers, and Deaf, Youth and Veteran Employment Programs throughout Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties. GSC supports its mission with proceeds generated from 81 stores and 46 attended donation centers.
<i>District/Area:</i>	City Council District: 1, County Supervisor District: 1, Service Planning Area: 4
<i>Social enterprise(s)</i>	Goodwill Retail Stores, Donation Centers, Janitorial contract services and LA City Homeless Help Desk
<i>Target Population</i>	Low income individuals, Individuals w/ disabilities, Opportunity Youth, Veterans
<i>Industry/Positions:</i>	Retail, Janitorial, Customer Service
<i>Transitional Duration:</i>	3 months

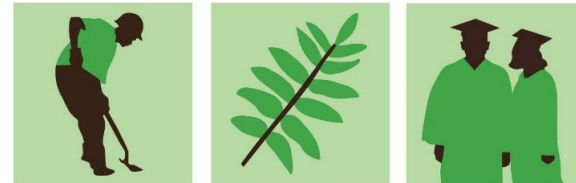


<i>Description</i>	<p>The GRID Alternatives Greater Los Angeles (GLA) office opened in 2007 and serves Los Angeles, Orange and Ventura Counties. What we do is simple - using a volunteer model, we install solar electric systems for families in underserved communities at no-cost. Our impact however, is tremendous.</p> <p>Through this simple act, we are able to provide families a long-term solution to high energy bills, and offer community members hands-on experience that can help them obtain employment in the rapidly growing solar industry, all while producing clean energy and reducing carbon emissions.</p> <p>Here in Los Angeles we work with a wide variety of partners to accomplish our unique triple bottom line of people, planet, employment. We partner with local municipalities, corporations and foundations to provide the systems; businesses and community and technical colleges to provide job training; and nonprofit organizations, affordable housing providers, and other community organizations to reach the families we serve.</p>
<i>Social enterprise(s)</i>	GRID Alternatives Los Angeles
<i>Worksite Location</i>	1338 S. Flower St. Los Angeles, CA 90015
<i>Target Population</i>	Opportunity Youth, Military Veterans, Formerly Incarcerated
<i>Industry/Positions:</i>	Renewable Energy, Solar
<i>Transitional Duration:</i>	3 months



<i>Description</i>	Homeboy Industries' Job Training Program combines on-the-job learning with comprehensive services and unconditional support. Each year we welcome thousands of former gang members and previously incarcerated men and women learn hard and soft skills to transform their lives. Whether joining our 18-month employment and re-entry program or seeking discrete services such as tattoo removal or substance abuse resources. Our clients are embraced by a community of kinship and offered a variety of free wraparound services to facilitate healing and growth.
<i>Districts/Area:</i>	County of Los Angeles
<i>Social enterprise(s)</i>	Homeboy Bakery, Homegirl Café, Homegirl Catering, Homeboy Recycling
<i>Target Population</i>	Formerly Gang Involved & Previously Incarcerated
<i>Services</i>	Art Academy, Tattoo Removal, Workforce Development, Solar Panel Training, Education Services, Mental Health Services, Domestic Violence, Legal Services, Case Management, Substance Abuse, Youth Re-Entry and Diversion
<i>Industry/Positions:</i>	Food Service, Retail, Janitorial, Electronics Recycling, General Office
<i>Transitional Duration:</i>	12-18 months





**LA CONSERVATION CORPS**

*Transforming Youth. Enhancing Communities.*

<i>Description</i>	The LA Conservation Corps is a youth, workforce development agency that provides paid work experience in environmentally-focused projects as well as high school education to opportunity youth, ages 18-24 years old. In addition to vocational and educational experience, youth receive professional development skills, case management, scholarships, and assistance with job placement.
<i>Districts/Area:</i>	City Council District: 9, County Supervisor District: 1, Service Planning Area: 6
<i>Social enterprise(s)</i>	Green Career Pathways
<i>Target Population</i>	Opportunity Youth
<i>Industry/Positions:</i>	Land Management, Energy, Construction, Manufacturing/Transportation, Zero Waste
<i>Transitional Duration:</i>	12-24 months



## LOS ANGELES LGBT CENTER®

### CULINARY ARTS

<i>Description</i>	<p>The Los Angeles LGBT Center social enterprise includes an intergenerational culinary training program, a coffee shop, and a catering operation.</p> <p>At the core, a commercial teaching kitchen produces fresh and nutritious meals for youth and senior residents and members. Overseen by our executive chef instructor, the kitchen is staffed with students completing a 300-hour culinary training program. Graduating up to 100 students a year, the program provides the foundation of required culinary skills for students to secure jobs and pursue meaningful careers in the hospitality industry. Opening in late 2019, the Center's coffee shop located on Santa Monica boulevard will offer grab and go meals, pastries, and a full espresso bar. As the social enterprise matures, catering operations will be expanded to service the Center's many event spaces.</p>
<i>Districts/Area:</i>	LA City 4 <sup>th</sup> District and LA County 3 <sup>rd</sup> District
<i>Social enterprise(s)</i>	Los Angeles LGBT Center
<i>Target Population</i>	LGBT youth touched by homelessness, LGBT seniors
<i>Industry/Positions:</i>	Culinary student, prep Cook/Dishwasher, Cook, Barista (Q4 2019), Café Cashier/Server (Q4 2019)
<i>Transitional Duration:</i>	3 Months



**NEW EARTH**

<i>Description</i>	<p>New Earth provides youth with mentor-based creative arts and educational programs including poetry, music production, gardening, and fitness. New Earth currently serves 700 young people per week who are incarcerated in Los Angeles County detention facilities and placement homes and in the Orange County Juvenile Hall.</p> <p>Upon release from incarceration, young people join the New Earth Arts &amp; Leadership center in Culver City, CA where they receive career training, jobs, a fully accredited High School education program, mentorship, case management, nature expeditions, arts programming and wrap-around services that help them re-enter their communities with all the support and nurturing they need to make a successful transition.</p>
<i>Districts/Area:</i>	City Council District: 11, County Supervisor District: 2, Service Planning Area: 5
<i>Social enterprise(s)</i>	Digital program, Staffing
<i>Target Population</i>	Opportunity Youth (Criminally Justice involved)
<i>Industry/Positions:</i>	Online Customer Service, Film Reels, Transcription Services, Graphic Design, Social Media, Film Editing, Coding, Web Design, Digital Claims
<i>Transitional Duration:</i>	6 months
<i>Why we wanted to join LA:RISE</i>	We want to be a part of a powerful network of social enterprises in LA that are doing great work. New Earth wants to share our expertise and exchange knowledge with other social enterprises with similar missions in the LA area.
<i>What we bring to the table:</i>	We bring expertise in working with at-risk and formally incarcerated youth and their unique needs in employment training and education.





<b>Description</b>	YWCA Greater Los Angeles and Xerox of Southern California have partnered strategically to offer the YWCA Greater Los Angeles Digital Learning Academy. This social enterprise venture for YWCA Greater Los Angeles will be located at the Hollywood Studio Club, a building with a rich history that has been operated by the YWCA Greater Los Angeles since 1926. This fully equipped, digital print shop includes the necessary tools to offer an employment path through which students can become digital craftsmen and features customized curriculum based on Xerox's "School to Career" program.
<b>Districts/Area:</b>	City Council District: 13, County Supervisor District: 3, Service Planning Area: 4
<b>Social enterprise(s)</b>	<i>Digital Learning Academy Print Center</i>
<b>Target Population</b>	<i>Unemployed, Underemployed, High School Graduates, Foster Youth, Veterans</i>
<b>Industry/Positions:</b>	<i>Print Operator, Project Management, Office Administration, Customer Services, Sales, 3D Operators, Graphics Assistant</i>
<b>Transitional Duration:</b>	<i>12 months</i>
<b>Why we wanted to join LA:RISE</b>	<i>LA RISE is aligned with the YWCA GLA goals to increase sustained employment for job seekers with significant barriers to employment and to provide personal and support services building employment skills among today's youth.</i>
<b>What we bring to the table:</b>	<i>The YWCA brings a proven ability to meet community needs and is evidenced by its 120 + years track record of continuous operations. Services provided have included the provision of safe, affordable housing; Child Development; Senior Engagement, Sexual Assault Crisis &amp; Prevention Services and Workforce Development for the benefit of low-income families, and individual youth, adults, and seniors.</i>

## TAB 7

**California Behavioral Health Planning Council  
Workforce and Employment Committee  
Wednesday, June 14, 2022**

**Agenda Item:** Update WEC Work Plan for 2023-2024

**Enclosures:** [Workforce and Employment Committee 2022-2023 Work Plan](#)

**How This Agenda Item Relates to Council Mission**

*To review, evaluate and advocate for an accessible and effective behavioral health system.*

The Work Plan is an instrument to guide and monitor the Workforce and Employment Committee activities in its efforts to uphold its duties within the framework of the Planning Council.

**Background/Description:**

The purpose of the Work Plan is to establish the objectives and goals of the WEC, as well as to map out the necessary tasks to accomplish those goals. Committee members will review and update the committee Work Plan in order to fulfill and prioritize activities for the 2023-2024 calendar years.

The WEC may consider the following topics for the 2023-24 Work Plan (*please note that this is not an all-inclusive list*):

- How to report out the information received regarding the 2020-2025 Workforce Education and Training (WET) Plan Regional Partnerships
- How to evaluate and report on the strengths and limitations of employment models (Individual Placement and Supports, Social Enterprise, Clubhouse)
- Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Certification White Paper
- How to involve the WEC in the California Alliance for Children and Families (CACF) and County Behavioral Health Directors Association (CBHDA) behavioral health workforce initiatives and reports