

Behavioral Health Task Force Mission and Objectives

Mission Statement

To boldly plan for and help implement a behavioral health system that meets the diverse needs of ***all*** Californians with a specific focus on services for children, people experiencing or at risk of homelessness, and people with criminal justice involvement. This diverse set of public and private stakeholders, including patients and families, will bring together existing behavioral health focused workgroups from across State government to create the California 2025 Behavioral Health Plan.

Objectives

To create the California 2025 Behavioral Health Plan, the Task Force will:

- 1) Consider the current prevailing models of behavioral health care and funding, which include but are not limited to Realignment, Mental Health Services Act, criminal justice related funding, employer-funded and private health insurance, federal Medicaid matching funds, federal grants, and housing funds.
- 2) Determine where outcome data is already being collected throughout the state, define the highest priority outcomes, and consider how to hasten efforts to record, collect, and assess data with a specific focus on the three priority populations listed above.
- 3) Determine how California can build needed infrastructure to provide a full continuum of care that offers more services in the community rather than institutional settings.
- 4) Determine how California can build a behavioral health workforce sufficient to meet the needs of the state.
- 5) Determine what prevention and early intervention strategies should be part of the California 2025 Behavioral Health Plan.
- 6) Determine how the State can better support improved access to and quality of behavioral health services for people with private health insurance. These efforts include reviewing enforcement of federal and state parity laws and timely access standards.
- 7) Determine how to improve integration of behavioral health, primary, and other specialty care in community settings for individuals with mild to serious conditions throughout their life course.