



Champions for Behavioral Health Care

The County Behavioral Health Directors Association of California (CBHDA) is a nonprofit advocacy association representing the behavioral health directors from each of California's 58 counties, as well as two cities (Berkeley and Tri-City).

We believe **everyone should have access to quality behavioral health care**. Through our **advocacy, lobbying and education efforts**, we promote the reduction of individual and community problems related to unaddressed behavioral health issues.

We regularly **bring together behavioral health professionals** to discuss ways we can inform public policy and **improve the delivery of behavioral health services**. And we support efforts to help the **most vulnerable among us** – children with serious emotional challenges, adults with serious mental disorders, and people living with substance use disorders.

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Our Advocacy Areas

- We defend adequate state and federal funding for our member counties, so that they are able to provide crucial behavioral health services.
- We support workforce development investments to address a significant shortage of public behavioral health professionals in California.
- We lobby for important legislative change. We are focused on five policy areas:
 1. **Substance Use Disorder Issues**
 2. **Children and Youth**
 3. **Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)**
 4. **Housing and Homelessness**
 5. **Criminal Justice**

What we've championed

- We served as a **principle source of information** on mental health for legislators, stakeholders and the media.
- We publish an annual **Legislative Score Card** that grades assembly members, senators and the governor on their response to legislation effecting behavioral health.
- We host an annual **Behavioral Health Policy Forum** to bring together stakeholders from across California to share information, network, and help inform our advocacy direction.
- We have supported and authored policy that puts **peer support workers** at the forefront of the recovery process.
- We helped advocate for and design the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (**DMC-ODS**) **waiver pilot program**, which allows participating counties to offer a comprehensive, coordinated continuum of substance use disorder care.
- We led the implementation of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' "**final rule.**"



How are services funded in California?

The county behavioral health care system uses the following funds to provide care and support:

Federal Financial Participation (FFP) – Federal Medicaid matching funds make up the largest share of funding.

Prop. 63 Provides a Substantial Share – Prop. 63 of 2004 (Mental Health Services Act) created a 1% tax on personal income over \$1 million to expand mental health services. Approximately 1/10 of one percent of taxpayers are impacted by the tax.

1991 and 2011 Realignment Funds – Together, these two funding streams provide a major source of county matching funds for Medi-Cal specialty mental health, substance use disorder services, inpatient care and involuntary psychiatric care. These funds come from sales taxes and vehicle licensing fees.

Federal Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant – Counties use the block grant funds for prevention, treatment, recovery support and other services to supplement Medicaid, Medicare and private insurance services.

