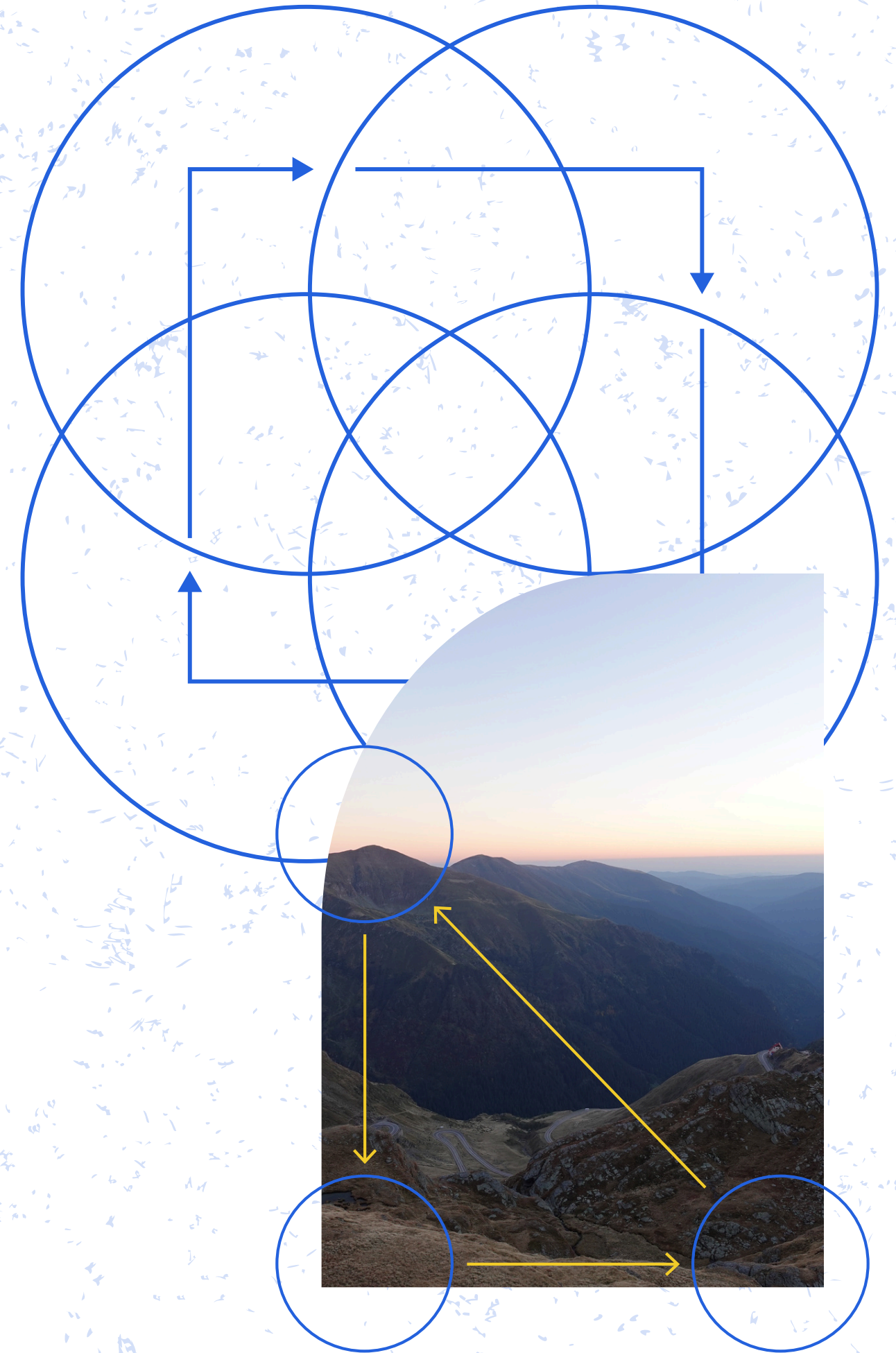


Behavioral Health Services Act

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Welcome to the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA)

Formerly Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)

Proposition 1

Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act (AB 531)

Authorizes \$6.4 billion to build or develop behavioral health housing and treatment facilities.

Behavioral Health Services Act (SB 326)

Aims to improve and expand behavioral health services and housing interventions for individuals with severe mental illness/ emotional disorders (SMI/SED), & substance use disorders (SUD).

Following the passage of Proposition 1 in March 2024, MHSA will officially be renamed the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) starting January 1, 2025. This change reflects a broader focus that includes both mental health and substance use services and places greater emphasis on housing and care for individuals experiencing homelessness or serious behavioral health needs.

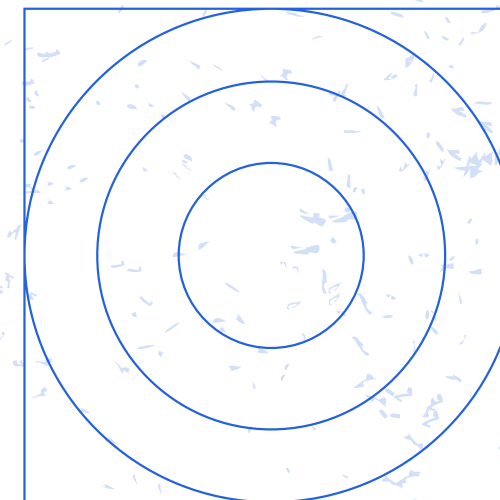
MHSA to BHSA Transformation

The Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) is the first major structural reform of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) since it was passed in 2004. The MHSA imposed a 1 percent tax on personal income over \$1 million. Counties receive these funds monthly to provide community-based mental health services. The MHSA was designed to serve individuals with serious mental illness (SMI) and individuals that may be at risk of developing serious mental health conditions. The MHSA created a broad continuum of prevention, early intervention, innovative programs, services, and infrastructure, technology, and training elements. MHSA has been a crucial resource to increase access to mental health services for all eligible populations.

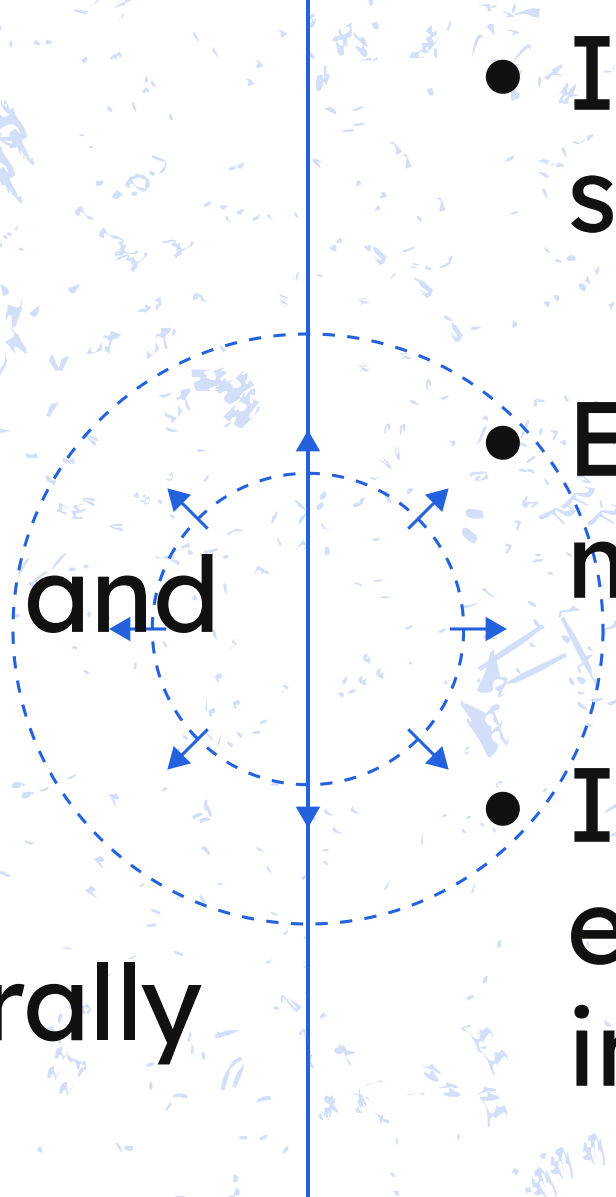
The reforms within the BHSA expand the types of behavioral health supports available to Californians who are eligible for services and are in need by focusing on historical gaps and emerging policy priorities.

Redefining spending categories. BHSA categories include:

- Housing Interventions (30%)
- Full-Service Partnerships (35%)
- Behavioral Health Services and Supports (35%)



BHSA Goals:

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- Expand access to mental health and substance use services
 - Strengthening prevention and early intervention efforts
 - Promote equity and culturally responsive care
- Integrate mental health and substance use treatment
 - Engage communities in meaningful planning
 - Improve outcomes through evaluation and quality improvement



How to get involved with BHSA?

Community Feedback



BHSA Community Program Planning Process:

BHSA requires counties to look at their whole behavioral health system of care through a formal Community Program Planning Process (CPPP). The CPPP supports the county of Riverside's goal to involve communities in meaningful conversations and decision-making about local behavioral health services to ensure programs reflect their unique needs and voices.

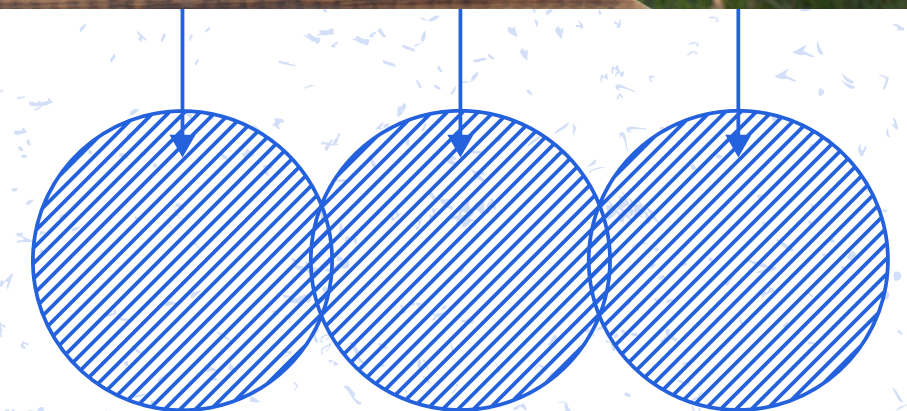
BHSA's CPP process includes enhanced community engagement efforts intended to bring together a broad range of voices to provide input on mental health and substance use services, policies, program planning, implementation, budget allocation, and others.

Counties are required to engage with specific stakeholder groups as part of the CPP.

Stakeholder Engagement Should Include:

The goal of the CPP is to identify unmet needs, service gaps, and the best ways to meet the diverse mental health needs of our community.

The CPP includes the following year-round activities, which create a continuous cycle of feedback and improvement:





Stakeholder Input & Recommendations: We invite community members, local organizations, and other stakeholders to share their input and recommendations.



Integrated Plan/Annual Update Draft: The feedback gathered helps shape the department's BHSA Integrated Plans and Annual Updates.



Public Postings, Public Hearings, & Approval: Once a proposed Plan/Update is drafted, it's posted publicly for additional input. A public hearing is held at the end of a Public Comment period. The input received is vital to ensuring stakeholders' perspectives are incorporated into service planning and reflected in updates presented to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors for review and approval.



Implementation & Monitoring: Once approved, the plan is submitted to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) by June 30, and implementation begins July 1. Stakeholder engagement will continue throughout the year to monitor what's working and where things can be improved.

The insights gained from community feedback help refine future plans and make sure that behavioral health support in our county continues to evolve to meet the needs of our Riverside county residents.

When does the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) take effect?

BHSA will take effect beginning Jan. 1, 2025. However, changes won't take effect until July 2026.

See Resources for a timeline created by the California Department of Healthcare Services (DHCS). Please note, the timeline is subject to change by the state.

Will BHSA provide counties more money?

No, the funds come from the same 1% tax on millionaires, which can fluctuate year-to-year.

Counties will receive less money, because the state is keeping 10% to fund state population-based prevention, workforce and administration costs. Under MHSA, currently, the state keeps 5% for administration.

What will happen to current MHSA-funded programs?

Riverside County hopes not to discontinue any programs, but administrators are still unsure of the impact until the state provides further guidance. Riverside County will share updates as staff receives them. The most significant change is that prevention funds will be administered by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). At this time, it is unknown how CDPH will manage the funds.

Current programs that use prevention funds are:

- Suicide Prevention
- Mental Health Destigmatization
- Adverse Childhood Experiences - ACEs
- Positive Parenting Program
- IMPACT



How will services change? Will any services be cut?

Mental health services through Medi-Cal or Partnership insurance will not change.

At this time, Riverside County is waiting on guidance and policies from the state to determine what MHSA programs and services can continue to be funded through BHSA.

What is a “Housing Intervention?”

A housing intervention is housing assistance and supportive services that help youth, adults and older adults achieve housing stability. Eligible individuals must be living with Serious Mental Illness (SMI) and/or Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless.