



## Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health

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# CCJBH May 2021 Newsletter

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## May is Mental Health Awareness Month!

### CCJBH Special Events

May 19, Lived Experience Project Spotlight

May 26, County Behavioral Health Services

See our CCJBH website for more information and [registration](#).

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### CCJBH 2021 Project Updates



#### Senate Bill 369 Update

The Governor's veto of SB 369 required the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and the Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health (CCJBH) to "engage with stakeholders, evaluate the barriers of reentry and determine what steps need to be taken to overcome those barriers." A draft SB 369 Barriers Table was developed based on a

review of published literature and consultation with internal and external subject matter experts. Stakeholders participated in eight meetings and provided input on the [SB 369 Barriers Table](#), which was recently presented at CCJBH's April 30<sup>th</sup> Full Council meeting. Overall, the stakeholder process confirmed that individuals transitioning from incarceration frequently have multiple, complex needs that must be addressed through cross-system collaboration. A report based on the SB 369 Barriers Table is currently under development and will be shared for stakeholder review in early June. A final Council vote to approve the table is tentatively scheduled for June 24, 2021.

## **Public Health Meets Public Safety**

Public Health Meets Public Safety (PHMPS) is a two-year project done in consultation with the Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center. The project aims to reduce the number of adults and young people with behavioral health needs in California's justice system by marshaling data to inform policy decisions. Building on existing state and local data integration efforts, CSG will develop resources that support state, local, and community leaders in this shared goal. As part of the research process and outreach support from the Lived Experience Project (LEP) contractors, CSG has facilitated two focus groups with individuals with lived experience. Feedback provided during these focus groups will help inform areas of focus for the project. In addition, CSG has developed a dashboard for publicly available data that can be used to better understand the intersection of justice & behavioral health. We encourage you all to explore the data dashboard, which can be found on our [CCJBH website](#).



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## **Announcements, Resources, Articles, and Studies**

### **Mental Health Diversion Request for Proposal (RFP)**

To support CCJBH efforts in the area of mental health diversion, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR)/California Correctional Health Care Services (CCHCS) has released [RFP #SD20-00020](#), inviting proposals from qualified contractors to establish recommendations to enhance, expand and/or sustain local (county) capacity for mental health

diversion policies that support the adoption of best practices statewide. The contractor will be expected to identify program and fiscal strategies that mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency and will be expected to engage in a variety of technical assistance activities to advance efforts to build or improve local-level systems and capacity to effectively implement mental health diversion. Collectively, this insight/information captured by the contractor will culminate into a final report to CCJBH that reflects recommendations on which mental health diversion policies and practices should continue, and why, as well as what changes must be made, and how, in order to maximize the chances for mental health diversion to be successful in California. To learn more, including how to apply, please click [here](#).

### **Behavioral Health Action Coalition Report**

The Behavioral Health Action is a coalition of over 50 organizations including hospitals, health care providers, the criminal justice system, labor, local government, not-for-profit organizations, and businesses. The report outlines a vision for behavioral health care, guiding principles to ensure the vision best serves those in need, and a description of a recommended standard of community-based behavioral health care that should be available to all Californians. To read the full [report](#) and learn more about the work the coalition has done, visit their [website](#).

### **CalAIM**

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) continues to develop its [California Advancing & Innovating Medi-Cal](#) (CalAIM) initiative. Key components of the CalAIM proposal applicable to those who are involved with the justice system include enhanced care management, including the provision of limited Medi-Cal services 30 days prior to release from jail/prison, in lieu of services, as well as mandatory pre-release Medi-Cal enrollment and facilitated referral to community-based behavioral health services for individuals released from jails. DHCS plans to submit the waiver to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in July 2021.

### **CHCF Health Care Leadership Program**

Applications are open until June 16, 2021, for the California Health Care Foundation's Health Care Leadership Program, administered by Healthforce Center at the University of California, San Francisco. The two-year, part-time program is widely recognized as a transformative experience, helping clinicians of all disciplines better lead change in turbulent times. This program represents a deep and ongoing investment by the California Health Care Foundation. This opportunity is suitable for clinically trained health care professionals with at least five years of leadership experience who live and work in California. The focus this year will be on behavioral health clinicians, safety net providers, Black and Latinx providers, and clinicians in Southern California. For more information and to access the application visit their [website](#).

### **Housing is Key: CA COVID-19 Rent Relief Program**

The program provides assistance with unpaid rent for low-income Californians. Landlords who participate in the program can be reimbursed for 80% of an eligible renter's unpaid rent, contingent on an agreement to waive the remaining 20%. To qualify renters must have experienced financial hardship due to COVID-19 and demonstrate housing instability. To learn more about the terms of eligibility and to access the program application, visit the Housing is Key [website](#).

### **Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES)**

A national public awareness campaign focused on Adverse Childhood Experiences (Aces) launched May 13, 2021. California Surgeon General Dr. Nadine Burke Harris, who serves as an advisor for the campaign, is helping spread the word. The campaign, *The Story of Your Number*, seeks to take the science of ACEs and toxic stress out of the journals and into mainstream society in the hopes of empowering individuals through knowledge. Visit [www.NumberStory.org](http://www.NumberStory.org) to learn more. Please also:

- Follow the campaign on social media using [@MyNumberStory](#) and #NumberStory #MyNumberStory to follow the conversation.
- Reference the [Social Toolkit](#) to show your support and spread the word on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.
- Check out the Washington Post article about the new campaign published Saturday, May 15.

This campaign is a critical step forward in efforts to change the way society responds to the harmful impacts of ACEs and toxic stress.

### **Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council Action Plan**

The Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) adopted an action plan in March 2021 for addressing homelessness in California. HCFC's mission is to develop policies and to identify and coordinate resources, benefits, and services to prevent homelessness. The development and adoption of this [Action Plan](#) for preventing and ending homelessness in California is a significant step forward for the HCFC and for the State of California. This Plan represents a commitment to action-oriented coordination across State agencies and programs and deeper collaboration with public and private partners in communities, in pursuit of a future in which homelessness in California is a rare experience, prevented whenever possible, and is a brief and one-time experience when it cannot be prevented. The Action Plan will drive progress across five distinct but interrelated and complementary Action Areas, inclusive of the full range of actions necessary to prevent and end homelessness:

1. Strengthening our system to better prevent and end homelessness in California
2. Equitably addressing the health, safety, and services needs of Californians experiencing unsheltered homelessness
3. Expanding communities' capacity to provide safe and effective sheltering and interim housing
4. Expanding and ensuring equitable access to permanent housing in our communities
5. Preventing Californians from experiencing the crisis of homelessness

For more information regarding this action plan and the effort of HCFC please refer to [www.bcsb.ca.gov/hcfc](http://www.bcsb.ca.gov/hcfc).

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## 2021 CCJBH Meeting Dates

### CCJBH Council Meetings

The Council is tasked with several statutory goals including:

- Investigating, identifying, and promoting cost-effective strategies that prevent adults and juveniles with behavioral health needs from becoming incarcerated;
- Identifying incentives for state and local justice and health programs to adopt such approaches;
- Reporting activities to the Legislature; and
- Providing recommendations for improving the cost-effectiveness of existing behavioral health and criminal justice programs.

**The Council meetings for Calendar Year 2021 are listed below:**

#### Full Council Meetings

<b>July 30 (Friday)</b>	<b>2:00 PM – 4:30 PM</b>
<b>October 29 (Friday)</b>	<b>2:00 PM – 4:30 PM</b>
<b>December 10 (Friday)</b>	<b>Time TBD</b>

#### Juvenile Justice Workgroup

<b>June 25 (Friday)</b>	<b>1:00 PM – 3:00 PM</b>
<b>September 10 (Friday)</b>	<b>1:00 – 3:00 PM</b>
<b>November 12 (Friday)</b>	<b>1:00 – 3:00 PM</b>

## Diversion/Reentry Workgroup

June 18 (Friday)	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
September 17 (Friday)	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
November 19 (Friday)	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

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## Legislative Updates

CCJBH tracks legislation of interest to our mission to promote early intervention, access to effective treatments, a planned re-entry and the preservation of public safety. For a complete list of the legislation tracked by CCJBH this year, please [visit our website](#).

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## Upcoming Webinars

### [Evaluating the Impact of Behavioral Health Diversion Programs](#)

**When:** June 2, 2021, 1 PM (75 minutes)

**Description:** CCJBH is offering additional training for counties who have implemented behavioral health diversion services. The content shall provide the foundation for answering the question: “*Is the behavioral health diversion program having the intended impact?*” The focus shall be on evaluating impact outcomes, including metrics related to both treatment/clinical outcomes and public safety outcomes.

**Who Should Participate:** The intended audience includes behavioral health administrators and behavioral health treatment providers.

### [2021 Health Equity Summit](#)

**When:** June 10-11, 2021

**Description:** The 2021 Health Equity Summit provides an opportunity to learn more about the importance of health equity, traditional and indigenous healing practices, and problem-solving through community engagement from keynote speakers Corrina Gould and Stacey Abrams.

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**In case you missed it...**

The [19th Annual Legislative Report](#) is posted on our website. The legislative report outlines the work completed by CCJBH last year, including current projects and future goals.

[Email us](#) to join our mailing list to stay on top of current CCJBH projects and to receive reminders on and registration for upcoming Council meetings and events!