

**Calendar Year (CY) 2023
Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health (CCJBH)
Project Portfolio**

Council Meetings

CCJBH staff research, coordinate and facilitate the Full Council and Workgroup meetings. Meeting topics for CY 2023 are listed below.

Full Council Meeting:

- Crisis Care Continuum
- CCJBH Data Project Showcase
- *May Special Session: LEP Contract Closeout*
- County CARE Act Implementation Plans
- CalAIM Justice-Involved Planning and Implementation Efforts
- CDCR Reentry

Juvenile Justice Workgroup:

- Restorative Justice
- RAND Presentation on Juvenile Justice Compendium and Toolkit
- Community Centers
- Overview of Legislative Report Recommendations

Diversion/Reentry Workgroup:

- CSG Diversion Report
- Behavioral Health Workforce Successful MHSA Forensic Programs
- Employment and SSI/SSDI
- Overview of Legislative Report Recommendations

CY 2023 Projects

In addition, CCJBH projects for each CY 2023 topic area are as follows:

Strengthening Treatment and Support Services

California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM)

CCJBH remains actively committed to supporting the DHCS' [CalAIM](#) initiative, a multi-year effort to improve the quality of life and health outcomes of the Medi-Cal population by implementing broad delivery system, program and payment reforms. Currently, CCJBH is supporting DHCS' CalAIM efforts by participating in the following DHCS CalAIM workgroups:

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| • DHCS CalAIM Behavioral Health Workgroup | • DHCS CalAIM Justice-Involved Workgroup |
| • DHCS CalAIM Children/Youth Workgroup | • DHCS CalAIM Justice-Involved Pre-Release Application Implementation Sub-Workgroup |
| • CalAIM Data Sharing Advisory Group Meeting | |

Additionally, CCJBH has updated the *Brief Overview of the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)' California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Proposals that*

Impact the Criminal Justice Population with new information that has been released on various CalAIM proposals and will share the updated document with stakeholders and post it to the CCJBH website, once approved. Additionally, CCJBH is in the process of creating an informational flyer for probation and parole departments, and other justice-system partners, to learn how to facilitate a referral to Enhanced Care Management (ECM) for individuals releasing from prison. This referral flyer will make justice system partners aware of the current CalAIM Populations of Focus for which many individuals releasing from jail/prison will currently qualify (i.e., seriously mentally ill / substance use disorder; homeless or at risk of homelessness and/or Medi-Cal high utilizer). CCJBH has also facilitated a partnership between LA Care and DAPO to begin initiating ECM referrals and will continue to monitor its success through CY 2023 in order to share best practices. **2023 Deliverable:** Update *Brief Overview of the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)' California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Proposals that Impact the Criminal Justice Population* and share with stakeholders. Create and disseminate *ECM Referral Process for Criminal Justice Partners* flyer.

Juvenile Justice Compendium and Implementation Toolkit

CCJBH established a Juvenile Justice Compendium and Toolkit Contract with the RAND Corporation on April 13, 2022, to provide a compilation (compendium) of information related to best practices and evidence-based programs that have been shown to be effective in serving justice involved youth who have serious behavioral health needs. The Evidence-Based and Emerging Practices and Programs Compendium is currently in development and will be completed in February 2023. Based on the information in the compendium, the contractor will develop a detailed System Capacity Development Toolkit that counties may use to develop the necessary infrastructure and capacity to provide treatment for behavioral (e.g., anger management, sexually abusive behavioral/have a sustained sex offense) and/or behavioral health conditions (i.e., mental health, trauma and/or substance use disorder), as well as interventions to address criminogenic risk and needs. The implementation toolkit will be completed in December 2023. The contractor will also provide a detailed training and technical assistance plan to assist counties in the implementation of the programs and practices detailed in the compendium and toolkit. The training plan will be completed in April 2024. **2023 Deliverable:** Evidence-Based and Emerging Practices and Programs Compendium.

Pre-Trial Diversion Training and Technical Assistance

Beginning in FY 2018-19, CCJBH received three years of funding to provide consultation to the DSH and California counties to develop, implement and operate pre-trial mental health diversion programs. CCJBH's contract with the Council on State Governments (CSG) Justice Center, which will end on June 30, 2023, has provided subject matter expert consultation and technical assistance to support county diversion planning and implementation. The CSG Justice Center developed a final report that summarized the effectiveness of existing mental health diversion policies and practices, and provided recommendations on what changes must be made (and how) in order to advance mental health diversion programs to ensure their success throughout California. The report is being finalized and will be posted to the

CCJBH website in early 2023, along with a presentation by the CSG Justice Center at CCJBH's February Diversion and Reentry Workgroup. **2023 Deliverable:** The CSG Justice Center's final report will be finalized and posted to the CCJBH website, once approved. The CSG Justice Center will present on the report findings and recommendations at CCJBH's February Diversion and Reentry Workgroup.

MHSA Forensic-Focused Programs/Projects Compilation

In 2022, CCJBH staff reviewed all Fiscal Year 2020-23 county MHSA Community Services and Supports Plans and Annual Updates to identify any justice-related MHSA programs and services being implemented in California, including those that leverage peer support services given the importance of peers in engaging and supporting the BH/JI population as they navigate public systems. CCJBH compiled this information into a draft reference document, which includes a statewide summary of MHSA-funded forensic and peer programs, and provides an inventory of these programs by county. Once final, this reference document will be posted to the CCJBH website as a resource for stakeholders who work on efforts related to serving the needs of the BH/JI population. **2023 Deliverable:** Reference document: *Inventory of Forensic-Related and Peer Programs excerpted from the FY 2020-23 Mental Health Services Act County Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plans and Annual Updates.*

Housing/Homelessness

California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH; formerly the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council¹)

CCJBH, along with CDCR's Division of Adult Parole Operations (DAPO), is assigned to provide "key staff" support to the CDCR Secretary, who is a statutorily appointed Cal ICH Councilmember. CCJBH works with DAPO and the CDCR Division of Adult Programs (DRP) to provide quarterly reports on the progress of CDCR's commitments that are specified in Cal ICH's [Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness in California](#).

2023 Deliverable: Quarterly Cal ICH Action Plan updates.

Workforce

Health Care Access and Information (HCAI)

To build capacity for prevention, treatment, and recovery services, HCAI is working to expand the behavioral health workforce, including augmenting existing HCAI loan repayment, scholarship, and stipend programs, building out the SUD workforce, and investing in BH counselors and coaches. CCJBH is providing subject matter expertise to support HCAI's workforce effort to ensure the BH/JI population benefits from these investments. **2023 Deliverable:** Ongoing participation and feedback to HCAI, as requested.

¹ On September 29, 2021, Governor Newsom signed [AB 1220](#) into law, which renamed the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council to now be called the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH), and restructured CalICH to include the CDCR Secretary (among other new appointees).

Justice-Involved Peer Support Specialists

CCJBH believes that the use Justice Involved Peer Support (JIPS) Specialists can be of significant benefit to individuals who are justice-involved and have a mental health and/or SUD. JIPS Specialists are individuals who have lived experience with behavioral health conditions and are, or have been, involved with the justice system. Efforts to date have included meeting with experts from various states and research into where successful JIPS efforts are implemented throughout the counties. Additionally, CCJBH staff continue to participate in CalMHSA's Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialty Advisory Committee meetings, and have provided information to CalMHSA outlining feedback on the Justice-Involved Peer Support Specialty eligibility requirements and core competencies. CCJBH will continue to offer support to CalMHSA through consultation and by sharing feedback received from stakeholders and specifically individuals with lived experience. **2023 Deliverable:** Ongoing participation and feedback to CalMHSA, as requested.

Data

Medi-Cal Utilization Project (MCUP)

In FY 2016-17, CCJBH received ongoing funding to establish the CDCR/DHCS Medi-Cal Utilization Project (MCUP). Leveraging the Statewide Inter-Agency Data Exchange Agreement, data sharing between CDCR and DHCS was re-authorized in CY 2021, and reporting for the CDCR/DHCS MCUP was conducted for individuals released in Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-19. Data analyses indicate that, even though the majority of individuals transitioning from CDCR facilities are enrolled onto Medi-Cal within one year of release, Medi-Cal beneficiaries transitioning from incarceration with identified behavioral health needs are not utilizing or engaging in behavioral health services at expected rates across all Medi-Cal behavioral health delivery systems, and especially for SUD services. In 2023, CCJBH will provide updated Medi-Cal enrollment rates and mental health and substance use disorder services utilization trends for individuals released from CDCR in FY 2019-20, compare Medi-Cal enrollment rates and service utilization between different demographic groups, and compare Medi-Cal enrollment rates and service utilization of the BH/JI population's to those of the general Medi-Cal population. **2023 Deliverable:** FY 2019-20 MCUP brief report.

Public Health Meets Public Safety

[Public Health Meets Public Safety](#) (PHMPS) was a two-year project conducted through a contract with the CSG Justice Center that ended December 31, 2022. The project utilized data to track, monitor and ultimately reduce, the number of adults and young people with behavioral health needs in California's justice system by marshaling data to inform policy decisions. The CSG Justice Center developed an [Open Datasets Inventory](#) that serves as a compilation of current publicly available data related to the justice and behavioral health systems. Additionally, the CSG Justice Center conceptualized and documented an overarching, ideal data reporting framework and developed a data dashboard using available data that will be published to CCJBH's website for use by a variety of BH/JI stakeholders to inform their policy- and decision-making. The finalized data visualization will

be posted to the CCJBH website in summer 2023. **2023 Deliverable:** Once final/approved, the data visualization will be posted to the CCJBH website and shared with stakeholders. CCJBH is also seeking funding to expand data reporting to cover all relevant domains and will seek opportunities to work with system partners and researchers to produce briefs and fact sheets using the incorporated data.

2025 Goals

In the 2019 CCJBH Annual Legislative Report, the Council established the following four system-level policy goals to improve outcomes by 2025.

Goal #1: The prevalence rate of mental illness and Substance Use Disorders (SUD) in jails and prisons should be similar, if not equal to, the prevalence rate of mental illness and SUD in the community.

Goal #2: Community-based services, particularly residential, are robust enough to meet demand starting with ensuring that those with multiple needs are not left behind due to their numerous and complex challenges.

Goal #3: Through consistent dedication to workforce development, quality education and training, and on-going technical assistance to an array of service providers and partners, Californians benefit from professionals having core competencies that provide effective integrated correctional and behavioral health services to achieve recovery and reduced recidivism.

Goal #4: Through state leadership to support data-driven practices and policy-making among criminal justice and behavioral health systems, continuity of care and desired public safety and health outcomes improve significantly.

In 2021, CCJBH developed initial operational definitions for Goals #1, 2 and 4 (i.e., a methodology to define and measure the 2025 Policy Goals) that will continue to be refined through Councilmember and stakeholder input. In 2022, CCJBH identified two key systems to track the metrics in Goal #3 (county behavioral health provider workforce growth trends through DHCS's publicly reported Network Adequacy Certification Reports and workforce survey items from the SB 678 Evidence-Based Practices Annual Assessments).

2023 Deliverable: CCJBH will continue work to identify robust metrics for Goal #3.

Incompetent to Stand Trial Data Analyses

In order to support and inform the discussions about the growing number of individuals who become Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST) in California, CCJBH and DOJ are collaborating to identify strategies to improve the quality and availability of DOJ's IST Data, which will also benefit other entities that use (or plan to use) IST data (e.g., Judicial Council, Mental Health Oversight and Accountability Commission, Department of State Hospitals).

2023 Deliverable: CCJBH is developing a Project Charter to guide the cross-agency team discussions and will continue facilitating meetings and discussions.

Community Involvement

Lived Experience Projects

CCJBH currently has two projects funded by the MHSA that focus on individuals with lived experience in the behavioral health and criminal justice systems

- CSUS Lived Experience Project: Behavioral Health Services Utilization Beneficiary and Provider Listening Sessions – More than eight of every ten Medi-Cal enrolled individuals released from incarceration in California have addiction/substance use or mental health needs – yet far fewer receive Medi-Cal services for those needs. To understand the reason behind these patterns and advocate for changes to better serve the behavioral health and justice involved (BH/JI) population, California State University at Sacramento (CSUS) is supporting CCJBH by facilitating a series of listening sessions to hear from individuals with behavioral health conditions who are justice involved, as well as providers who serve the BH/JI population. CSUS, in collaboration with local community-based partners, will host regional in-person listening sessions from February to April 2023, with the goal of hearing from a range of perspectives on this topic. The sessions aim to gather feedback on why BH/JI population does or does not use behavioral health services, particularly Medi-Cal services. **2023 Deliverable:** Using the information gathered from individuals with lived experience in the behavioral health and justice system, CSUS, in collaboration with CCJBH, will develop a report that will inform recommendations for system and program changes that could better service the BH/JI populations and increase their participation in Medi-Cal programs.
- Regional Lived Experience Project Contracts – Beginning in 2020, CCJBH entered into contracts with the Anti-Recidivism Coalition, Cal Voices, Los Angeles Regional Reentry Partnership and Transitions Clinic Network to increase local and State advocacy capacity of those with BH/JI lived experience, expand education and training opportunities, promote organizational and community awareness, and improve collaborative efforts and partners at the regional/local level. **2023 Deliverable:** Deliverables are ongoing through August 30, 2023, and tailored to each contractor's unique project. CCJBH staff will identify if any deliverables would be useful for broader dissemination.

Request for Proposals (RFPs) for New MHSA-Funded CCJBH Contracts

CCJBH receives an ongoing annual Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) allocation and will be establishing three year contracts with this funding that will cover Fiscal Years 2023-26. As such, CCJBH will be developing new RFPs for upcoming years to establish new contracts in summer 2023. **2023 Deliverable:** Requests for Proposals and executed contracts.

Education

Special Webinars

CCJBH recognizes *May is Mental Health Awareness Month* and *September's Suicide Prevention Awareness Month* and *Recovery Awareness Month* by hosting weekly "Lunch-and-Learn" webinars from noon to 1 PM throughout the months of May and September, along with resources disseminated weekly via the CCJBH listserv.

Weekly E-Newsletter

CCJBH disseminates a weekly e-newsletter via a listserv that includes over 1,000 stakeholders representing diverse populations across California (e.g., behavioral health and criminal justice system partners, advocates, other individuals interested in CCJBH's efforts). The newsletter includes CCJBH project updates, announcements, Full Council and Workgroup Meeting dates, and upcoming events related to the BH/JI population. CCJBH's newsletter also shares information and updates on efforts related to the BH/JI population that are underway by other system partners, highlights job opening to increase the BH/JI workforce and informs BH/JI stakeholders of statewide and national resources for funding opportunities and training sessions.

Celebrating CCJBH's 20th Anniversary

To continue the celebration of CCJBH's 20th Anniversary, CCJBH are in the process of creating a 20th Anniversary Reflections Video. CCJBH staff interviewed past and present Councilmembers and Executive Officers, as well as a number of key stakeholders who have influenced CCJBH over the year, to compile a three-part video series consisting of *past, present, and future* videos to highlight CCJBH accomplishments. **2023 Deliverable:** CCJBH staff expect to have the video completed in spring 2023, and will share the completed product with Councilmembers and post it to the CCJBH website, once approved.

Reinstating the Annual Best Practices Awards

In December 2015, CCJBH (formerly COMIO) convened a workgroup to discuss the purpose of the Best Practices Awards to determine if the process of honoring programs was aligned with that purpose. The workgroup determined that, in selecting model programs to receive a Best Practices Award, programs must exemplify recommendations CCJBH has made, and that the presentation of an award presents an opportunity to raise awareness about the kinds of programs that should be replicated, especially if awards can be issued in a venue that can engage key stakeholders and decision-makers. In January 2022, CCJBH Councilmembers voted to reinstate the "Best Practices Awards" to highlight agencies/programs that are using evidence-based best practices to improve the systems that serve the BH/JI population. CCJBH staff are developing a guide outlining the policies and procedures for the best practices award and will bring the completed guide to Councilmembers for a vote. **2023 Deliverable:** Final documentation specifying the new award process.

Annual Legislative Report

CCJBH is required to “file with the Legislature, not later than December 31 of each year, a report that shall provide details of the council’s activities during the preceding year. The report shall include recommendations for improving the cost-effectiveness of mental health and criminal justice programs.”

Legislative Tracking

CCJBH tracks legislation of interest in 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 view our [Legislative Update](#).

California Budget Summaries

To ensure Councilmembers and stakeholders have efficient access to the California budget information relevant to the BH/JI population CCJBH continues to produce budget summaries after the release of the Governor’s Proposed Budget, the May Revision, and the Enacted Budget. Specifically, the relevant categories included in these budget summaries are for Health and Human Services, Housing and Homelessness, Judicial Branch, and Criminal Justice. The previous budget summaries can be found on the [CCJBH’s projects page](#), under Budget Summary.

Diversion, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

CCJBH works to address structural racism and disparities by recognizing that California’s behavioral health system has not been designed with an equity lens. CCJBH staff continue to maintain efforts towards ensuring diversity, equity and inclusion in the development of policies, council practices and day to day engagement with stakeholders. Through participation in the CDCR/CCHCS Government Alliance for Race and Equity (GARE) Ambassador Program, CCJBH advocates for the development of policies and practices aimed at building strategic and meaningful DEI. The CCJBH GARE Ambassador attends training sessions directed at embracing and identifying the unique strengths, talents and contributions of the staff, Council, stakeholders and individuals with experience from both the behavioral health and justice (BH/JI) systems.

Ad Hoc Assignments/Projects

CCJBH also receives unplanned and/or ad hoc projects. One recent example of such efforts is the feedback CCJBH provided to DHCS on the California Behavioral Health Community-Based Continuum Demonstration proposal.

Special Topics of Interest

To ensure coordination with other system partners, CCJBH staff attend stakeholder meetings, which include, but are not limited to:

- Board of State and Community Corrections
- CalHHS Behavioral Health Task Force
- CalMHSA Advisory Group Meetings
- Department of State Hospitals Diversion Program

- Office of Youth and Community Restoration Committee
- Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative
- DHCS Behavioral Health Stakeholder Advisory Committee
- MHSA Partners Forum
- Stepping Up

In addition, CCJBH staff meet regularly with the following entities:

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| • BSCC | • CBHPC | • Managed Care Plan Associations |
| • CAADPE | • CHA | • MHSOAC |
| • CACFS | • CPOC | • OYCR |
| • CalHPS | • CSSA | • Steinberg Institute |
| • Cal ICH | • DAPO | • Third Sector |
| • CBHDA | • DHCS | |

CCJBH staff also work annually to develop content for the spring Words 2 Deeds Track for the Forensic Mental Health Association Conference.