



7/15/25 CPAG Meeting 6 Q&A

1. How can people join the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) planning meetings?

Please feel free to reach out to bhsa@acgov.org to inquire about Behavioral Health Department BHSA planning efforts and to reach our BHSA team with any questions.

2. What is the change in LPS disability definition?

Senate Bill 43 amends the definition of “Gravely disabled” which now means (changes in **bold**) a condition in which a person: as a result of a mental health disorder, impairment by chronic alcoholism, **severe substance use disorder, or a co-occurring mental health disorder and severe substance use disorder**, is unable to provide for their basic personal needs for food, clothing, shelter, **personal safety, or necessary medical care**.

3. How can we account for the fact that, without prevention, we are increasing need for higher-cost services down the line?

The impact of changes under Proposition 1 are not yet known. ACBHD will track outcomes related, but not limited to, the changes to prevention services under Proposition 1. We recognize that any change to prevention services will also impact care delivery across the behavioral health continuum. As a result, the Department will also monitor changes relative to system partnerships, referral networks, and access.

4. Behavioral Health and Housing are intertwined. How can we prevent a situation where we are reducing our impact by seeing them as separate?

Housing and Homelessness Services (H&H) and Behavioral Health Department (BHD) have been in close collaboration for Mental Health Services Act set-aside permanent housing units, licensed community care sites, services, and shelter opportunities for several years. Most recently, BHD and H&H have jointly implemented Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) for the provision of interim housing, and supportive solutions to connect to long-term housing. Moving forward, further planning and coordination efforts will be undertaken in planning for BHSA, including development of a Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool. Collectively, both BHD and H&H are in recognition of the population of individuals served within the systems of care (Homelessness Response and Behavioral Health).



5. How much of planning discussions are about sustaining existing service capacity versus adding to capacity versus reducing some services to start new services?

Planning discussions are underway, inclusive of assessing both sustainability and expansion of new services.