

CPAG Meeting Notes

April 29, 2026

Attendees

CPAG Members:

- Aaron Ortiz (La Familia)
- Aneeka Chaudhry (AC Health, Co-Chair)
- George Ayala (AC Health, representing Public Health)
- Jamie Almanza (BACS)
- Jonathan Russell (AC Health, H&H)
- Dr. Kathleen Clanon (AC Health)
- Nate Miley (BOS District 4, Co-Chair)
- Dr. Noha Aboelata (Roots)
- Rebecca Rozen (Hospital Council)
- Toni Panetta (Alameda Health Consortium)
- Valerie Gallo (Behavioral Health Collaborative)
- Vanessa Baker (AC Health, representing Behavioral Health)
- Vanessa Davis (Kaiser Permanente)

Other Participants:

- Adrianna Furuzawa (Felton Institute)
- Agnes Cho (BOS District 5)
- Alex Boskovic (BOS District 2)
- Alexandria Moore (Alameda Alliance for Health)
- Aliza Kazmi (BOS District 5)
- Carolina Guzman (AC Health)
- Chris Cara (Filipino Advocates)
- Daniel Johnson (Davis Street Community Center)
- Dr. Peter Curie (Alameda Alliance for Health)
- Elizabeth Taing (AC Health)
- Erin Armstrong (BOS District 4)
- Hang Mosier (SAHA)
- Hanna Ortiz (La Familia)
- Jeannette Rodriguez (AC Health)



- Joe Greeres (ACCMA)
- Jovan Yglecias (La Familia)
- Kerry Landry (Facilitator)
- Kimberley Tsang (AC Health)
- Kimia Pakdaman (AC Health)
- Laura Grossman-Hicks (Alameda Alliance for Health)
- Leigh Brennela (SHHA)
- Lisa Erickson (AC Health)
- Liz Varela (Building Future)
- Malissa Vance (Alameda Alliance for Health)
- Moiser Hang (SAHA)
- Noah Gallo (AC Health)
- Pegah Shahmirzadi (AC Health)
- Robert Philips (Baywell Health)
- RoseMarie Laguna (PEERS)
- Ryan Hughes (BOS District 3)
- Sequoia Hall (Roots)
- Stacy Hill (AC Health)
- Tracy Hazelton (ACBH)
- Vivian Wan (Abode)

Summary Notes

Debrief of 4/28/26 Special Board Session

- In addition to gaps resulting from HR1 and Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA), Alameda County is facing an estimated \$90M funding gap.
- As a reminder, Measure W's funds expire in November 2030 and are appropriated as such:
 - 80% to Homelessness
 - 20% to Essential Services Fund (approximately \$34M total)
 - An earlier request from AC Health was \$120M to cover gaps in services, so this shows the big difference between available funds and the needs

- On 4/28/26, the Board had a special session to review the Essential Services Fund (ESF) request from multiple County agencies. AC Health included a request for \$20M per year for two years. The following was requested:
 - HealthPAC network stabilization and expansion
 - One-year BHSA bridge to mitigate impacts of cuts
 - Broad agreement that 1-year bridge funding is helpful to:
 - Stabilize providers
 - Allow time for transition planning and identifying sustainable funding
 - Expectations for providers:
 - Develop sustainability plans.
 - Identify alternate funding sources and budget scenarios.
 - ACH wants to:
 - Track progress and outcomes during this period
 - Medi-Cal outreach and health promotion
 - LGBTQ+ supports
 - Medi-Cal retention strategies
- At next Health Committee meeting on 5/11/26, the Board and AC Health will discuss plans for the ESF in more detail.

BHSA (Behavioral Health Services Act) Constraints

- Any behavioral health funding must go through the BHSA Integrated Plan.
- If funding decisions change after June 30 (deadline for BHSA Integrated Plan), adjustments will need to go through public comment process.
- Strict reporting and compliance requirements limit flexibility.

CDPH's Prevention Framework

- Shift toward a population health model for BH:
 - Focus on community-level interventions rather than individual services.
- Priorities:
 - Suicide prevention
 - Opioid overdose prevention
- Alignment with CDPH Prevention Framework and ACH priority populations.
- Funding uncertainty:



- State may fund limited planning capacity (e.g., one position per county).
- Emphasis on coalitions and community-led approaches.

Presentation by Alameda County Office of Education – Jody Talkington

- 12 school districts (LEAs) have signed billing agreements
- 6 school districts currently live (actively billing)
- Training
 - 4 planned learning sessions (2025–2026)
 - For community-based organizations (CBOs)
 - 4 CBO orientation sessions already completed
 - 0 CBOs fully onboarded yet (still in preparation phase)
- Revenue & Payments
 - Estimated \$35–\$45 per service revenue flowing back to schools
 - Revenue initially low due to:
 - Data integration delays
 - System setup and onboarding requirements
 - Multiple data systems being integrated (e.g., student data, foster system)

Discussion

- Concerns around:
 - Slow speed of contracting with AC Health
 - Loss of specialty mental health provider status.
 - Barriers to billing Medi-Cal (e.g., system access like SmartCare).
- Providers would like:
 - Written assurances of funding (especially those impacted by BHSA cuts).
 - Faster contracting mechanisms (e.g., conditional clauses, amendments).
 - Improved cash flow timing.
- It would be great if County could explore alternative contracting methods to reduce admin burden
 - County will need to consult with the County Administrator’s Office (CAO) and legal counsel
- State will not reduce BHSA funding if counties use Measure W funds for BH services.
- How does Behavioral Health Department determine network adequacy



- What overlaps are there between Managed Care Plans and Behavioral Health providers and how can we improve coordination?
- Another funding opportunity -- Innovation Partnership Fund:
 - ~\$20M statewide.
 - Organizations encouraged to apply.
 - Letters of support available from Behavioral Health Department