



County of Fresno

ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

FRESNO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD PUBLIC HEARING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT INTEGRATED PLAN

Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at 3:30pm

Betty Rodriguez Library
3040 N. Cedar Ave Fresno, CA 93703

Minutes

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</u>	<u>MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC</u>
Brooke Frost Angel Lopez Elizabeth Kus Mary Lou Brauti-Minkler Debbie Xiong Kyle Pennington Blanca Meyer Samira Maldonado Gobinder Pandher Marcus Fuller Mackenzie Watts	Emma Rasmussen <i>Deputy Director</i> Ahmad Bahrami Alicia Corona Jeannette Dominguez	Rachel Moreno Butch Taylor Joshua Huerta Gia Lee M. Zamora Carolyn Evans Grupert Singh Quentina Johnson Darell Hamilton Amina Flores-Becker Karina Hernandez Leah Zubiarte Alicia Townsend
<u>BOARD OF SUPERVISORS</u> Supervisor Luis Chavez – absent Yahaira Figueroa Chief of Staff - present		
<u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u> David Thorne		

I. Welcome

BHB Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 3:31 PM. And gave the floor to Department of Behavioral Health Division Manager Ahmad Bahrami to officially begin the Behavioral Health Services Act Integrated Plan Public Hearing.

II. Public Hearing – Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Integrated Plan

Presentation by the Department of Behavioral Health

The Public Hearing for the BHSA Integrated Plan was hosted by the Behavioral Health Board (BHB) during their main monthly BHB meeting and the information on the BHSA Integrated Plan was presented by the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH). The purpose of the Public Hearing

is to ensure transparency and allow the community the opportunity to provide feedback and have comments recorded.

The information presented describes the draft of the Integrated Plan that will be submitted by Fresno County to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). This information began by highlighting some of the differences between the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) and the BHSA.

MHSA	BHSA
- A specific plan on how allocated dollars will be utilized on programs and services - Community driven to find areas of need and Identify gaps	- Overarching plan for entire county not limited to BHSA funds - Prescriptive in what to focus on such as what data to use and populations to pull from

Summary of Plan

With BHSA the state will take 5% of dollars off the top. Priorities set by the state must include housing, individuals unhoused or at risk of homelessness, most severely ill individuals with behavioral health needs and the requirement of using evidence-based practices with a much greater integration of substance use disorder (SUD) treatment. Very specific funding allocation that is structured and standardized.

As a requirement Counties must focus on seven goals. For Fresno County these goals include:

- Increasing access in addressing untreated behavioral health issues
- Reducing justice involvement
- Reducing Institutionalization
- Reducing removal from home
- Homelessness
- Individuals at risk of homelessness with severe mental health and SUD
- Engagement to work

Overall budget has not been figured due to a few different contributing factors. Will be forthcoming. DHCS does not approve all County plans, although they do review them and provide feedback for revisions prior to each County submitting plan to their local Board of Supervisors (BOS) for approval.

Recent Revisions can be found at <https://www.fresnocountyca.gov/Departments/Behavioral-Health/Care-and-Services/Get-Involved/Behavioral-Health-Services-Act>

The Fresno County BHSA Integrated Plan is set on Calendar with the BOS for June 16th. The Plan is Due to DHCS by June 30th.

III. Public Comment

- BHB Chair comment was to share how the definition of integrated plan was understood by her differently than by the state. She wanted people to understand that this integrated plan is specifically for the Department of Behavioral Health. While her definition of integration encompasses everyone including, different county departments and medical managed care plans. Her recommendation and request to the county BOS is to have better communication between DBH and the managed care plans to the public. She received a recommendation to attend the upcoming California Behavioral Health Oversight and Accountability Committee meeting on June 18th and is requesting support from other BHB members. This meeting may be attended remotely. She is also seeking contact information for DHCS. She plans to communicate her concern to our local BOS BHB member requesting advocacy. She would like to see an overarching integrated plan.

IV. Adjourn Public Hearing

4:06 p.m.

This meeting is open to the public under the Ralph M. Brown Act.

Fresno County 2026-2029 Integrated Plan (Draft pending DHCS review)-

<https://www.fresnocountyca.gov/files/sharedassets/county/v/1/behavioral-health/mhsa/fresno-county-2026-2029-integrated-plan-revised.pdf>

Fresno County's BHSA 2026 - 2029 Integrated Plan Report Back Session (video)-

<https://youtu.be/vxywNAtvcsw?si=9i-sEnRS4AhHRa9s>



Behavioral Health Services Act Integrated Plan

Fresno County Department of
Behavioral Health

WHERE
Hope &
HEALING
UNITE

Find
Mental
Health
Support



DEPARTMENT of
BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH

May 20, 2026



Department of
Behavioral Health

Our Mission, Vision, and Goals

Vision:

- Health and well-being for our community

Mission:

- DBH, in partnership with our diverse community, is dedicated to providing quality culturally responsive behavioral health services to promote wellness, recovery, and resiliency for individuals and families in our community

Goals - Quadruple Aim:

- Deliver quality care
- Maximize resources while focusing on efficiency
- Provide an excellent care experience
- Promote workforce well-being



Behavioral Health Services Act Integrated Plan Public Hearing



Department of
Behavioral Health

Mental Health Services Act vs Behavioral Health Services Act

- MHSA vs BHSA
- New process
- More prescriptive process
- New BHSA requirements



BHSA Plan Summary

What is required under BHSA

- New priorities
 - Housing, evidence-based practices, focus on most severely ill, etc.
- Systemwide plan
- Greater mental health and substance use integration



BHSA Funding

- Set percentages
 - 35% Full-Service Partnership (FSP)
 - 35% Behavioral Health Service and Supports
 - 30% Housing
- Limited on movement of funds
- Specific allocation and uses



BHSA Community Planning Process

- Engaged all required stakeholders
- The planning process was on-going throughout the year
 - Very similar to what Fresno has been doing
- Slowed with pending DHSC information
- Conducted BHSA presentations, meetings, public forums, surveys, and key informant interviews
- Plan submitted 3.30.26. Notices/posting 4.3.2026
- Have posted state revisions and questions, and posted Fresno's responses



BHSA Mandates

- Required addition of Evidence Based Practices (EBP)s
 - ACT/FACT IPS CSC-FEP HFW
- Assertive Field Based Initiation for Substance Use
- Focus on early intervention and children
- Housing targets
- Integration of substance use and mental health
- Data informed/driven and outcomes
- Addressing disparities



BHSA and Behavioral Health Transformation Goals

- Behavioral Health Transformation (BHT) are 14 statewide population wellness goals
- Counties will focus on seven
- Six are mandated, seventh selected based on data: Engagement in Work
 - All programs must tie to a BHT goal/and BHT goals have specific measures or data to be used
- Countywide goals not limited to the system of care
- Managed Care Plans (MCP) have three BHT goals, and local goals align with Fresno's seven goals



BHSA Plan total

- Total projected BHSA budget for fiscal year 2026/2027: \$105,235,966.00
- DBH budget for fiscal year 2026/2027 being developed.



California Department of Healthcare Services (DHCS) Review

- All drafts have to be reviewed by DHCS.
- All plans due no later than March 30, 2026.
- State has 30-day to review.
- If any recommendations (counties have 15 total days to respond).
 - Received April 20, 2026.
- County submitted the revisions on May 5, 2026.



DHCS Review

- Summary of DHCS Revisions
 - Need for more information on Assertive Field Based Initiation
 - Clarification on SUD allocation
 - SUD housing
 - Budget template sheet/formulas
 - Post emergency department follow up
- DHCS added additional questions on CARE Act, after return of draft and days before revisions were due.



BHSA Next Steps

- Complete the Plan Review by DHCS
- Complete the Public Comment
- Submit plan to BOS for final approval (target date 6.16.2026)
- Submit the plan to DHCS by June 30, 2026.



Questions or Public Comment

