



## 2020 CAC Organizations



## ***The California Access Coalition:***

The California Access Coalition (CAC) is a 501 (c) 3 tax exempt non-profit corporation. The Organization was established in 1996 by its Founder/First Executive Director Rusty Selix. A primary goal of the California Access Coalition is to eliminate barriers that keep Californians from accessing medication and behavioral health care through:

1. Increasing behavioral health literacy for policy makers.
2. Reducing the barriers to access imposed by both public and private payers.
3. Ensuring access to effective medications and services that reduce the burden of living with behavioral health issues.

## ***Mission:***

The mission of the California Access Coalition is to educate policy makers and the public about patient access to medication and behavioral health care by convening behavioral health stakeholders to advocate for patient-centered policies.

## ***Members***

For more than two decades, the California Access Coalition has provided a forum for advocacy and discussion among leading behavioral health care organizations. The membership consists of nonprofit and for profit behavioral health organizations, patient advocacy groups, state agency/department representatives, and pharmaceutical companies. The coalition educates policy makers and stakeholders on the importance of patient access to medication and behavioral health services.

## ***Key Accomplishments:***

- Sponsored legislation to expand the Medi-Cal formulary to include new antidepressant and anti-psychotic medications.
- Partnered with sheriffs to create legislation to establish the Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction Grant Program (MIOCR) to divert individuals from jails and to provide follow-up behavioral care for formerly incarcerated individuals.
- Key stakeholders in the public relations campaign in support of then Assemblymember Darrell Steinberg's AB 34 which created pilot programs for homeless individuals.

## **For more information about the California Access Coalition, contact:**

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