

Gov. Newsom's Priorities, CBHA Advocacy Day, and Legislation

Greetings behavioral health partners!

January has been an incredibly busy month for CBHA and for many others in the behavioral health arena. We are thrilled to be working hard on our legislative priorities including two budget proposals and a bill.

New Leadership, New Priorities

Governor Gavin Newsom has been inaugurated. Over the past few weeks, he has made appointments to key positions in his cabinet. Governor Newsom continues to discuss the importance of behavioral health and addressing homelessness. Click [here](#) to view CBHA and CBHDA's [joint press release](#) applauding Governor Newsom's budget priorities outlined during his January 10th address.

CBHA joined the [Behavioral Health Action](#)'s event with Senate pro Tempore Tony Atkins in December. During the event, Senator Atkins listened to the priorities of the organizations around the table including utilizing certified and non-licensed personnel to perform clinical services and addressing the substance use and mental health funding silos. CBHA looks forward to continued work with this diverse group of stakeholders!

2019 Policy Platform and Advocacy Day

We released our [Policy Platform](#) in early December. We look forward to partnering with allied organizations to actualize our policy priorities.

We also had a *very* successful Annual Advocacy Day at the Capitol! Over 20 members attended and participated in 37 visits to legislative offices. CBHA's presence was well received!

Legislation

Last month, we announced our partnership with CBHDA and Lady Gaga's [Born This Way Foundation](#) (BTWF) to co-sponsor a budget proposal that will provide funding for a school-based pilot program to train school personnel in Youth Mental Health First Aid. Assemblymember Dr. Joaquin Arambula will champion this proposal.

CBHA will also be joining with CBHDA and BTWF to sponsor a bill that will include Youth Mental Health First Aid training as an option for teachers to fulfill their credentialing requirements. Senator Dr. Richard Pan has agreed to author this legislation.

Our third proposal is the result of a collaboration between CBHA, the California Behavioral Health Planning Council (CBHPC) and the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT). Our groups have come together to brainstorm how we might address the behavioral health workforce crisis. Our proposal will create a funding source for workforce efforts across the state including several of the efforts that are illustrated in OSHPD's statutorily mandated five-year plan which will be released publicly in the coming months. We will be announcing the legislative champion in coming weeks!

We are excited about all the possibilities that exist in behavioral health this year and invite your continued support and partnership. Stay tuned for more information about our budget and legislative proposals, and feel free to contact our office with any questions about how your organization can be supportive.

In service,

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