



CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AGENCIES

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The MolinaCares Accord Awards CBHA \$200,000 in Funding to Support 988 Crisis Call Centers

Sacramento, Calif. - In July 2022, there will be a new number to call if someone is having a mental health emergency. Last year, Congress passed innovative and historic legislation designating 988 as the new three-digit emergency number for mental health crises nationwide. The activation of 988 will transform our state's mental health crisis system by connecting people to life-saving interventions and providing an alternative to 911. Last month, the California Council of Community Behavioral Health Agencies (CBHA), the Steinburg Institute, and Kennedy Forum worked with CBHA members and crisis center operators *Didi Hirsch, WellSpace Health, Kings View, Buckelew, and Felton Institute* to create a proposal to garner immediate funding, which the Newsom Administration approved for a \$20 million investment.

CBHA is excited to share that The **MolinaCares Accord is including CBHA in the California Equity and Accessibility Initiative**. Established by Molina Healthcare, MolinaCares oversees a community investment platform created to improve the health and well-being of disadvantaged populations by funding meaningful, measurable, and innovative programs and solutions that improve health, life, and living in local communities. MolinaCares launched its California Equity and Accessibility Initiative with an initial \$1.6 million to advance health equity throughout the state. The \$200,000 grant awarded to CBHA will support training for staff at the 13 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Call Centers in California *to assist them as they prepare to take calls from the new 9-8-8 phone number.*

"The California Council of Community Behavioral Health Agencies (CBHA) is so thankful to MolinaCares for partnering with us to support the new 988 line once activated in July of 2022. Expanding the reach of 988 and supporting critical solutions to mental health crises is key to the health of our state. The funds will help make it possible for call centers across California to provide lifesaving support," said Le Ondra Clark Harvey, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer of CBHA.

"We are pleased to partner with CBHA with a grant for a suicide and crisis prevention line program," said Abbie Totten, President of Molina Healthcare of California. "These resources will help fund a critical program to create training for call centers throughout the state in support of 988 crisis lines. Partnerships like these reinforce our commitment to building stronger communities and improving health outcomes for our most vulnerable populations."

CBHA is committed to continuing to work with the Newsom Administration and allied organizations like MolinaCares to support the program to allow this life-saving work to continue.



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[California Council of Community Behavioral Health Agencies](#) is a statewide association of county funded non-profit community agencies dedicated to the proposition that the people of California deserve a rational, comprehensive, community-based behavioral health system that is adequately funded to serve all those in need of services. We are their voice at the Capitol and with state agencies, and work to ensure that state and county programs support integrated services for children, youth, adults and the elderly with services including physical health, behavioral health, housing, social services, education, substance abuse services and vocational rehabilitation.

Established by Molina Healthcare, Inc., The [MolinaCares Accord](#) oversees a community investment platform created to improve the health and well-being of disadvantaged populations by funding meaningful, measurable, and innovative programs and solutions that improve health, life, and living in local communities. The MolinaCares Accord funds such measures through The Molina Healthcare Charitable Foundation, a 501(c)(3) established in 2020 by Molina Healthcare, Inc.

Molina Healthcare of California has been providing government-funded care for over 40 years. The Company serves members through Medi-Cal, Medicare, Medicare-Medicaid (Duals) and Covered California (Marketplace). Molina's service areas include Sacramento, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside, San Diego, Orange County, and Imperial counties. Through its locally operated health plans, Molina Healthcare, Inc., a FORTUNE 500 company, served approximately 4.7 million members as of June 30, 2021. For more information about Molina Healthcare of California, visit [MolinaHealthcare.com](#).