

CBHA Recognizes Pride Month and Provides Legislative Updates

Greetings Colleagues!

Happy Pride Month! In 2009, President Obama declared the month of June as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month. This month, also recognized by the United Kingdom and Canada, is an annual observance of LGBTQ history and the history of the gay rights and related civil rights movements. CBHA recognizes our myriad member organizations and our partner organizations in the behavioral health community that provide services to individuals who represent the LGBTQ community.

CBHA Sponsored Proposals Update

CBHA continues to work collaboratively with many allied behavioral health partners as we head into the last few months of the Legislative Session. Here is an update of our budget and legislative proposals:

Senate Bill 428: Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) Update

CBHA continues to lead the coalition of co-sponsors including: CBHDA, Children Now, and Lady Gaga's Born This Way Foundation as we advocate for the passage of [SB 428](#). The bill was recently heard in the [Assembly Education Committee](#) where it received unanimous support from the members of the Committee. We are grateful for the testimony provided by Andrea Zimmerman from [Wellness Together](#) and Rimmi Hundal from the [Tri-City Mental Health](#).

The bill is now headed to its second policy committee, the Assembly Health Committee. If you would like to join the 240 plus supporters of the bill, please [contact Simon Vue at the CBHA offices](#).

Workforce Budget Proposal

Many of you have been following CBHA's advocacy efforts for budget funding for OSHPD's Five-Year Plan. We have worked seamlessly with the California Behavioral Health Planning Council (CBHPC) and the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT) to co-sponsor a proposal to fund the plan with \$70 million General Fund dollars. We were thrilled when we learned that the May Revise proposed \$100 million to fund the plan.

The final legislative negotiations indicate that the proposal will be funded as follows:

- \$35 million General Fund
- \$25 million Mental Health Services Act funds
- Counties will match 33 percent of these funds

We are grateful to have been a key stakeholder in OSHPD's creation of the Plan, and proud to advocate for funding to impact the behavioral health workforce shortage that our state is facing. Many thanks again to CBHPA and CAMFT for their amazing support throughout the budget season.

New Master Plan for Aging

The Governor recently announced that he will be creating a [Master Plan for Aging](#). Secretary Ghaly convened a stakeholder conference call where he provided comments about the Plan. The goal of the Plan is to examine how California should face the growing challenge around long term services and supports. During the call, CBHA staff highlighted the role our providers play in serving the behavioral health needs of older adults.

Some stakeholders are advocating for an “Aging Czar” similar to Tom Insel’s position as an adviser on mental health to the Governor. There has been no update on the Governor’s plan to appoint an individual to this post.

Health and Human Services staff reported that a Cabinet level workgroup on aging will be convened. There will also be a stakeholder advisory committee with two sub-groups- one on research and one on long term services and support. The Plan will be published by October 2020.

CBHA and the California Access Coalition (CAC)

Many of you have been active participants of the CAC. CBHA assumed management of this group and is proud of the direction of the CAC. Earlier this month, we hosted two amazing guest speakers at our meeting: Tom Insel, the Special Adviser on Mental Health to the Governor, and Sara van Geertruyden from the [Partnership to Improve Patient Care](#). [Members of the CAC](#) enjoy a bi-monthly newsletter with relevant information about the intersection of behavioral health and the pharmaceutical industry. For more information about the CAC, please [contact Simon at the CBHA office](#).

We look forward to continuing working with our colleagues and thank you for your support of our efforts.

In Service,

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CBHA