

## Leslie Napper Public Comment

My name is Leslie Napper. My pronouns are she/her/cis. I am a member of Sacramento County African American/Black/of African Descent Ad Hoc Committee, a group of community leaders in Sacramento County. This committee was originally organized by Behavioral Health Racial Equity Collaborative (BHREC). Our aim is supporting the mental health and well-being of African American/Black/of African Descent communities throughout Sacramento County. I am sharing links in chat.

- <https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Documents/BHREC/BHREC%20Racial%20Equity%20Action%20Plan%20Summary%20Report%208.3.21.pdf>
- <https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Pages/BHREC.aspx>
- <https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Documents/BHREC/BHREC%20Steering%20Committee%20Mtg%20Celebration%204.26.23%20final.pdf>

Our priorities include:

- Ensure that community input *[is provided regarding]* DBHS implementation of legislative policies, programmatic policies, and initiatives shaping Division of Behavioral Health Services policies relating to equity,
- Maintain an intersectional focus, and
- Increase and maintain DBHS' transparency and accountability to the *[AA/B/AD Ad Hoc]* Committee.

On behalf of the *[AA/B/AD Ad Hoc]* Committee, we would like to request a seat on the MHSA Steering Committee for the African American/Black/of African Descent Committee members, formerly known as the BHREC.

The African American/Black/of African Descent Committee would also like to co-design, with the MHSA Steering Committee, an updated BHSA stakeholder process that emphasizes authentic community engagement. Perhaps as a subcommittee or ad hoc committee of the MHSA Steering Committee.

We hope you will take this under consideration and add this to your August meeting agenda. We look forward to your response and welcome an invitation to share more with you.