

Sacramento County Behavioral Health Commission Adult Prevention & Treatment Committee

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Time

Monday, May 11, 2026
6:00 PM – 07:30 PM

Meeting Location

700 H Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Hearing Room #2

Meeting Invitees

- BHC APTC Members
- BHC APTC System Partners
- General Public

Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) Adult Prevention & Treatment Committee (APTC) Members Attendance

Present: Melinda Avey, Laura Bemis, Sydney Bice, John Durbin, Emily Halcon, Bradley Lueth

Absent: Donald Scherschlight and Tyler Welter

BHC County Staff/Liaisons Attendance

Present: Erica Cambern, Pamela Hawkins, and Allison Williams

Welcome and Introductions

Presenter: John Durbin, Chair

Meeting Logistics

Roll Call & Declaration of Quorum

- Chair John Durbin called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.
- Roll call was conducted; quorum was declared.
- Remote attendance: None
- April 2026 Meeting Minutes Approval: Minutes were generated and maintained by Behavioral Health Services staff as required by Article VI, Section 4, of the bylaws. No corrections were requested; minutes were deemed accurate and approved.

1. Public Comment on Matters Not on the Posted Agenda

Participants: Members of the Public

Public Comment

- No public comment.

2. Overview of Homeless System and Services

Presenter: Emily Halcon, Director, Department of Homeless Services and Housing (DHS)

Presentation/Discussion Item

Summary of Presentation

Emily Halcon, DHS Director, provided a comprehensive overview of homeless and housing services within Sacramento County. Key points included:

- Key indicators for homelessness including the lack of access to affordable housing. Older adults (ages 55 and older) currently make up the largest population experiencing homelessness. The Sacramento Point-in-Time Count for 2026 will be publicly released on Wednesday, May 13, 2026.
- Investments in homelessness services including the types of roles/responsibilities of counties,

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cities (and county in unincorporated areas), and community-based organizations.

- County efforts to address homelessness including encampment outreach teams, shelter and interim housing programs, prevention and re-housing efforts, and housing development. Both opportunities and challenges were also discussed.
- The [DHS website](#) includes client stories and data.
- Additional resources available on the BHC APTC meetings webpage: Sacramento County Homeless and Housing Services Presentation, Homeless Services and Housing Acronym Glossary, Homeless Services and Housing Terms Glossary, Timeline of Key Homeless Policies and Initiatives, DHS Sacramento County Homeless Services and Outreach 2026, and 2026 Drop-In Location & Water Flyer.

Commissioner Discussion and Key Points

- Commissioner expressed interest in learning more about homelessness outreach efforts.
- Commissioner inquired about ways to support individuals who are temporarily housed, receiving SSI, and may not be motivated to find ways to sustain their housing independently (e.g., obtaining employment). An emphasis was placed on empowering individuals to think ahead for how they can best meet their own housing needs.
- Commissioner expressed interest in learning about any long-term housing solutions that may be available through state legislation or through new or existing partnerships with community-based organizations.

Public Comment

- Public Comment 1: A system partner expressed interest in discussing solutions to address the lack of access to affordable housing.
- Public Comment 2: A system partner shared that it would be helpful to learn ways to support individuals with SUD treatment needs who also have complex medical needs requiring long-term medical care support and/or who are unable to independently care for their activities of daily living. The importance of supporting individuals with addressing housing barriers such as through employment support was also highlighted.
- Public Comment 3: A system partner recommended exploring opportunities to address the increased number of older adults experiencing homelessness for the first time or who are aging in homelessness.

3. Chair Report/Announcements

Presenter: John Durbin, Chair

Discussion Item

Summary of Discussion

- Commissioners attended a recent training provided by the California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions (CALBHB/C) and encouraged others to attend a future training if interested. Additional information can be found on the CALBHB/C website at <https://www.calbhbc.org/>.

Public Comment

- No public comment.

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4. Behavioral Health Services (BHS) Updates

Presenters:

Discussion Item

Pamela Hawkins, Health Program Manager

Allison Williams, Health Program Manager

Summary of Discussion

- SUPT Updates:
 - The Letters of Interest (LOI) No. SUPT/073 Peer-Led Integrated Recovery & Housing (PIRH) Pilot Program was released on May 11, 2026. The Program will prioritize referrals from the Sacramento County District Attorney's Chronic Offender Rehabilitation Effort Program. The deadline to express interest is Monday 18, 2026 at 5:00pm.
 - Early Discharge Prevention Training and SUPT Lower Barrier Care Training Part 2 for providers are projected to be available in Fiscal Year 2026/27.
 - Please join us for our annual Fentanyl & Beyond: A Community Response Summit, scheduled for May 12, 2026, from 9:00am to 4:00pm at the Citrus Heights Event Center (6300 Fountain Square Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95621).
 - In April 2026, a total of 39 Brief Questionnaire for Initial Placement (BQUIPs) were completed at Community Outreach Recovery Empowerment (CORE) sites by SUPT Senior Mental Health Counselors (SMHCs). SMHCs supported 248 encounters with potential members and staff to help people with getting into treatment.
 - SUPT Perinatal Program is now scheduled to launch in mid-July 2026 due to building structure permitting needs.
 - Per the federal government's executive order and outlined within the Dear Colleague Letter from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Fentanyl, Xylazine, or Medetomidine test strips can no longer be purchased or distributed using federal funds.
- Mental Health Updates:
 - On April 14, 2026, BHS members moved into 16 units at Sequoia Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) bringing the total PSH count to 514 units.
 - A survey was conducted for the naming of the new Full Service Partnership (FSP) and the final recommendation is currently with BHS leadership.
 - Enhanced Community Health Worker workforce is continuing to expand from 3 to 11 staff members across outpatient programs.
 - BHS is continuing to provide training and support to providers in preparation for the upcoming Behavioral Health Services Act changes effective July 1, 2026.

Commissioner Comment

- Commissioner inquired about the average length of stay in SUPT Residential Treatment. Members enter treatment at different levels of care depending on the American Society of Addiction Medicine assessment. On average, a typical stay is between 75 to 80 days.

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Public Comment

- Public Comment 1: A system partner asked for clarification about the purchasing and distribution of test strips. The federal government's executive order was reshared and it was confirmed that Programs are still able to distribute Narcan.

5. System Partner Updates

Presenters: BHC APTC System Partners

Discussion Item

Summary of Discussion

- River City Recovery Center requested continued opportunities for collaboration with mental health providers as this was helpful in the past. The organization promoted the annual September Recovery Happens event at the State Capitol and also extended an invitation for all to attend their organization's annual Recovery Happens BBQ held that same week.

Public Comment

- No public comment.

6. Future Agenda Items

Presenter: John Durbin, Chair

Discussion Item

Summary of Discussion

- The next meeting on June 8, 2026, will be held at 7001-A East Parkway, Conference Room 1, Sacramento, CA 95823. During the meeting, there will be a presentation by the District Attorney's office about the work of the Elder Death Review Team.
- The meeting scheduled for July 13, 2026 will include a lived experience panel discussion.
- The meeting scheduled for August 10, 2026 will include collaboration between mental health and SUPT Providers to continue behavioral health system integration efforts.

Public Comment

- No public comment.

Adjournment

Presenter: John Durbin, Chair

Meeting Logistics

- Chair John Durbin adjourned the meeting at 7:30PM.

Recurring Meeting Schedule: Second Monday of each month, 06:00PM – 07:30PM (unless specified otherwise).

For more information regarding the Sacramento County Behavioral Health Commission, please visit our website at [Behavioral Health Commission](#). If you plan to attend a meeting and need to arrange for an interpreter or a reasonable accommodation, please contact Gail Brosnan prior to the scheduled meeting at (916) 709-1653 or at BrosnanG@saccounty.gov.