

# Behavioral Health Services COVID Update

Department of Health Services
Behavioral Health Services

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## Behavioral Health Services Are Essential

- Converted to telephone and video telehealth
- In person services continue when necessary
  - Inpatient
  - Crisis Residential
  - Urgent Care
  - CSU
  - SUD Residential Treatment



#### Medi-Cal Flexibilities

- Telephone and video telehealth can bill Medi-Cal
- Document why signatures are not available
- Rate adjustments



## Project Roomkey

- Homeless Isolation sites for individuals with COVID or in at-risk populations
  - Trailers
  - Motels
  - Shelters
  - Encampments



## Behavioral Health Impacts

- Community needs
- Decreases in revenue
  - 1991 Realignment
  - 2011 Realignment
  - MHSA
  - Federal Financial Participation
- Increase in Medi-Cal beneficiaries



## Behavioral Health Impacts

- Support for providers
- Purchase technology for video telehealth
- Crisis utilization



#### **Budget Conversations**

- Decrease budget for Medi-Cal services:
  - For every \$1 M in cuts, have to cut \$2 M in programs due to Medi-Cal funds
- Increase revenue for MHSA services with Medi-Cal funds:
  - Cut the cost to the County in half and maintain more services



#### What We All Can Do

- May is Mental Health Month
- Stay Connected: Reach out to 3 people each day
- Support each other
- Get the word out that services are available

