

MEMO: Coordination Table findings relevant to Governance Structure decision making
Prevention Services Task Force | Prepared: September 20, 2022

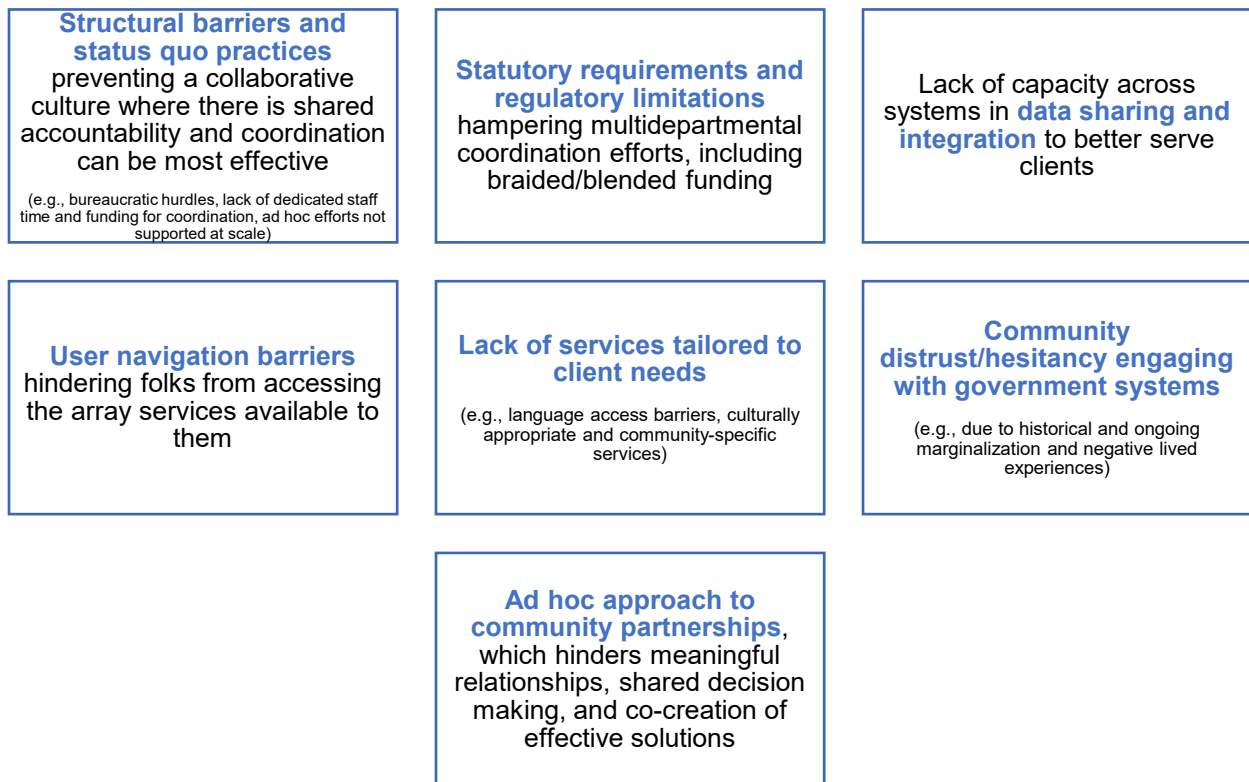
Purpose: This memo summarizes issues raised by members during Coordination Table meetings (8/18, 9/15) that may be useful and relevant to the Framework Table and Task Force as they prepare governance structure recommendations for LA County’s Prevention and Promotion services.

Background

- The Coordination Table is currently identifying **Operational Barriers** to coordinated service delivery across County prevention services, as well as recommendations to address these issues to be delivered in the Task Force’s Board Report.
- Many of these Operational Barriers are directly relevant to governance structure decisions, while others may also need to be resolved via other avenues (e.g., external policy change, complementary initiatives beyond prevention)
- Coordination table membership includes several County staff, service providers, and community members with lived expertise, especially those who hold experience leading multidepartmental initiatives and collaboration across prevention and community-facing services.

Operational Barriers: Areas of Focus (Preliminary)

Currently, the Coordination Table has identified the following major categories for Operational Barriers and corresponding recommendations, including potential pilot programs and policy opportunities.



Findings and Considerations Relevant to Governance Structure

As members discussed challenges and solutions to the areas of focus, they suggested several functions and considerations needed to effectuate a comprehensive community-based prevention services delivery system. These in-progress ideas are listed below, but have yet to be officially or formally approved by the table:

Coordinating functions that must be appropriately aligned and resourced across relevant entities to address existing barriers (non-exhaustive):

- Clarified authority and responsibility to coordinate funding and facilitate braided and blended funding – but must also include strategic approach to identify and maximize funding sources and ensure long-term sustainability of prevention and promotion funds across County services
- Data sharing and integration oversight, including responsible use of predictive analytics and alignment/collaboration with state and federal data stakeholders
- Coordinated management to support community stakeholders and sustain County investments in supporting communities:
 - Countywide approach with dedicated funding to compensate Community Members with Lived Expertise involved in policy and program development
 - Countywide approach with dedicated staffing for language access, including translation and interpretation and culturally appropriate communication
 - Countywide approach to partner with community-based service providers (who are already providing holistic services) and facilitate a pipeline for multisystem navigators and other County prevention staff
- Coordinated approach and support for departments to conduct federal, state, and local policy advocacy focused on prevention and promotion (including high level direction, funding, and specific policy changes relating to issues like regulation, forms, and data collection)

Additional Overarching Considerations

- Recommendations must also include dedicated funding and staff time *within departments* to support multidepartment collaboration (e.g., to account for staff/funding needed for technological implementation, braided funding efforts, additional workloads), not only for the coordinating entity.
- In response to some of these issues, multiple members (but not all) mentioned the concept of a “superagency” or strong coordinating body, especially to facilitate accountability, bring departments together, and be responsible for effective collaboration; however, members urge the Framework Table and Task Force to think seriously about the ramifications of more centralized power and authority and ultimately what makes the most sense for LA County.

(Note: while no conclusive vote was taken and members weighed various options, table members appeared to coalesce around and agree that the issues above deserve elevated consideration during governance structure decision making. Simultaneously, the Coordination Table is currently developing immediate action recommendations that can be taken to address operational barriers under existing systems and structures (e.g., data integration through CIO’s InfoHub, piloting initiatives to blend Title IV-E and MediCal funds, priority funding needs identified by community members, etc.).)