

# BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT

Three-Year Integrated Plan Executive Summary  
(FY 2026-2029)



## A Strategic Realignment of Behavioral Health Services

The Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) shifts California’s behavioral health system from program-based planning to outcome-driven system alignment. In response, **Los Angeles County is restructuring its behavioral health system to meet new state requirements and focus on shared outcome goals.** The County will prioritize:

- Focusing on individuals with the most complex needs
- Strengthening community-based care
- Improving housing and justice coordination
- Expanding early intervention
- Monitoring and reducing disparities

These changes are designed to better serve individuals facing complex and interconnected challenges.

### What is Changing?

Many individuals served experience overlapping challenges including:

- Homelessness
- Justice involvement
- Serious mental illness
- Substance use disorders
- Systemic inequities

To address these interconnected needs, BHSA shifts funding and planning from individual programs to measurable system-wide outcomes, **realigning services to prioritize people with the most complex needs** while strengthening community-based care and coordination across housing, justice, and health systems.

### Los Angeles County Snapshot

Each year, Los Angeles County provides behavioral health services to more than:

**117,900 Adults**

Specialty Mental Health Services

**29,800 Adults**

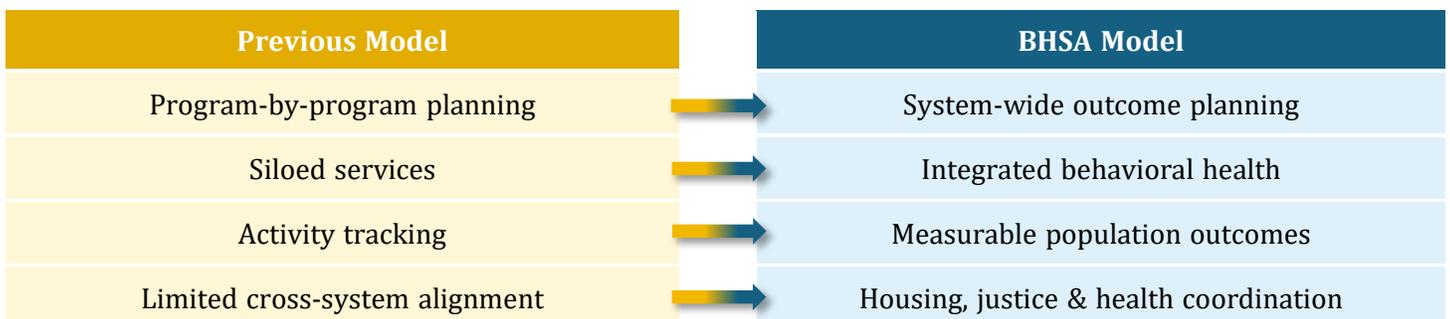
Drug Medi-Cal or Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System

**85,700 Children & Youth**

Specialty Mental Health Services

**2,092 Children & Youth**

Drug Medi-Cal or Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System



## Six Statewide Priority Goals

Los Angeles County aligned its Integrated Plan to six statewide goals:

### 1. Increase Access to Care

*Strengthen community-based entry pathways and continuity of care.*

### 2. Reduce Homelessness

*Support housing stability for individuals with behavioral health needs.*

### 3. Reduce Institutionalization

*Strengthen community-based alternatives and transitions from inpatient care.*

### 4. Reduce Justice Involvement

*Support diversion and reentry coordination.*

### 5. Reduce Removal of Children from Home

*Strengthen family-centered behavioral health services.*

### 6. Reduce Untreated Behavioral Health Conditions

*Improve early identification and follow-up after crisis events.*

## Cross-Cutting Focus

Across all goals, the County will emphasize:

					
Early intervention and prevention	Field-based and community-centered care	Housing linked to behavioral health services	Diversion from institutional and justice systems	Workforce development	Data-driven monitoring of disparities

## What Residents May Notice

Over time, residents may experience:

 Stronger Full Service Partnership teams

 Increased outreach in community settings

 Improved housing and treatment coordination

 More consistent follow-up after crisis response

 Clearer reporting on system performance

## What Comes Next



### Phase 1: Approval & Public Review (Early 2026)

- Public comment period
- Behavioral Health Board review
- Board of Supervisors approval
- Final submission to the State



### Phase 2: Implementation (July 1<sup>st</sup> 2026 – onwards)

- Phased funding realignment
- Refinement of service models
- Workforce transition and training
- Data and reporting infrastructure alignment
- Continued stakeholder engagement
- Monitoring of disparities and performance



## Closing



The BHSA Integrated Plan represents an important step toward a more accessible, coordinated, and accountable behavioral health system in Los Angeles County.

Developed through a required public engagement process, the Plan aligns funding and services around statewide goals focused on improving outcomes for residents. As implementation moves forward, the County will continue refining its approach based on performance data, state guidance, and community feedback.



### Key Takeaway

Los Angeles County is working to create a more connected behavioral health system that expands access to care, strengthens community support, and improves outcomes for residents.



*Los Angeles County is home to nearly 10 million residents and operates the largest county public mental health system in the United States.*



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
**DEPARTMENT OF  
MENTAL HEALTH**  
hope. recovery. wellbeing.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
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