Health, Housing & Community Service Department
Behavioral Health Commission

Behavioral Health Commission

AGENDA

Regular Meeting
Thursday, November 19, 2026

Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Location: North Berkeley Senior Center
1901 Hearst St., Morning Glory Room, 2nd
Berkeley, CA 94703

All Agenda Items are for Discussion and Possible Action

This meeting will be conducted in a hybrid model with both in-person and virtual attendance. Attend this meeting remotely using Zoom https://cityofberkeley-info.zoomgov.com/j/1600369064 *.To request to speak, use the "raise hand" function in Zoom. To join by phone: Dial 1-669-254-5252 or 1-833-568-8864 (Toll Free) and enter Meeting ID: 160 036 9064. To provide public comment, Press *9 and wait to be recognized by the Chair. To submit a written communication for the public record, email jworks-wright@berkeleyca.gov.*

This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, Government Code Section54953. Any member of the public may attend this meeting, however, if you are feeling sick, please do not attend the meeting in person. Questions regarding this matter may be addressed to Secretary 510-981-7721 or jworks-wright@berkeleyca.gov.

Public Comment Policy*: Members of the public may speak on any items on the agenda and items not on the agenda during the initial Public Comment period. Members of the public may also comment on any item listed on the agenda as the item is taken up. Members of the public may not speak more than once on any given item. The Chair may limit public comment to 3 minutes or less.*

1. **Roll Call (1 min)**

2. **Preliminary Matters**
   - **a.** Action Item: Approval of November 19, 2026, meeting agenda
   - **b.** Public Comment (non-agenda items)
   - **c.** Action Item: Approval of October 22, 2026, meeting minutes

3. **Review, interview and motion for new applicant -Hamiliton Bohannon**

4. **Approval of the 2027 Commission Schedule**

5. **Discussion and planning of BHC long- and short-term goals - what do we want the commission to work toward for the next year** – Lisa Teague

6. **Mental Health Division Manager's Reports – provided by Jeff Buell**
   a. MH Division Manager Report
   b. Caseload Statistic November 2026

7. **Ad-Hoc committee reports**
   a. Data Notebook

8. **Discuss and vote to create additional ad-hoc groups**

9. **Adjournment**

Communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public record and will become part of the City's electronic records, which are accessible through the City's website. **Please note: Email addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required, but if included in any communication to a City board, commission or committee, will become part of the public record.** If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the secretary to the relevant board, commission or committee for further information. The Health, Housing and Community Services Department does not take a position as to the content.

Contact person: Jamie Works-Wright, Mental Health Commission Secretary (510) 981-7721 or Jworks-wright@berkeleyca.gov

Communication Access Information: This meeting is being held in a wheelchair accessible location. To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. ***Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting. Attendees at trainings are reminded that other attendees may be sensitive to various scents, whether natural or manufactured, in products and materials. Please help the City respect these needs.*** *Thank you.*

SB 343 Disclaimer

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the SB 343 Communications Binder located at the Adult Clinic at 2640 MLK Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 9470

Department of Health, Housing & Community Services Mental Health Commission

Behavioral Health Commission

Draft October Minutes

7:00 pm
North Berkeley SC 1901 Hearst

Regular Meeting
October 22, 2026

Members of the Public Present: Steven Tupper

Staff Present: Jamie Works-Wright, Jeff Buell, Princess Jenkins

1) **Call to Order at 7:11 pm – Acting Chair Lisa Teague**
   Commissioners Present: Maria Sol, Lisa Teague, Glenn Turner Patricia Fontana-Narell;
   Absent: Igor Tregub, Edward Opton Ian Hunt

2) **Preliminary Matters**
   a) **Approval of October 22, 2026, meeting agenda**
   M/S/C (Teague, Fontana-Narell) Motion to table #3 Review, interview and motion for new applicant, Hamilton Bohannon due to his illness.
   PASSED
   Ayes: Fontana-Narell, Sol, Teague, Turner, **Noes:** None; **Abstentions:** None; **Absent:** Hunt, Opton, Tregub

   Approval of October 22, 2026, meeting agenda

   M/S/C (Teague, Sol) Motion to approve the agenda with the changes to the #3 Review, interview and motion for new applicant, Hamilton Bohannon.
   PASSED
   Ayes: Fontana-Narell, Sol, Teague, Turner, **Noes:** None; **Abstentions:** None; **Absent:** Hunt, Opton, Tregub

   b. **Public Comment-** Three comments made

   c. **Approval of September 24, 2026, minutes**
   M/S/C (Teague, Fontana-Narell) Move that we approve the last month meeting minutes.
   PASSED
   Ayes: Fontana-Narell, Sol, Teague, Turner, **Noes:** None; **Abstentions:** None; **Absent:** Hunt, Opton, Tregub

3) **Review, interview and motion for new applicant -Hamiliton Bohannon – Tabled to next month**

4) **Discuss and vote for future agenda items including topics that would be useful/interesting and create a list of organizations that might be informative for the Behavioral Health Commission. – No Motion Made**

5) **Discussion and planning of BHC long- and short-term goals - what do we want the commission to work toward for the next year** – Lisa Teague

   M/S/C (Teague, Sol) Motion to form an ad hoc committee formulated to discuss supportive housing temporary and permanent housing.
   PASSED
   Ayes: Fontana-Narell, Sol, Teague, Turner, **Noes: None; Abstentions: None; Absent:** Hunt, Opton, Tregub

6) **Discussion about Bonita House Closure – Patricia Fontana- Narell – No motion made**

7) **Discussion about the mission and purpose of this Commission regarding oversight of Behavioral Health Department programs, advocate for policies and program. - Fontana-Narell**

8) **Discuss possibly bringing a short BHC update to City Council once a month**
   M/S/C (Teague, Turner) Motion that the BHC make update to the City Council regarding a topic of our choice monthly.
   PASSED
   Ayes: Fontana-Narell, Sol, Teague, Turner, **Noes:** None; **Abstentions:** None; **Absent:** Hunt, Opton, Tregub

9) **Mental Health Division Manager's Reports – provided by Jeff Buell – No motion**
   a) MH Division Manager Report
   b) Caseload Statistic 2026

*Motion to extend the meeting by 5 minutes to end at 9:05
   M/S/C (Teague, Sol) Motion that the BHC make update to the City Council regarding a topic of our choice monthly.

10) **Ad-Hoc committee reports**
   a) Data Notebook

11) **Discuss and vote to create ad-hoc groups**

12) **Adjournment 9:05**
   M/S/C (Teague, Turner) Motion to adjourn the meeting
   PASSED
   Ayes: Fontana-Narell, Sol, Teague, Turner, **Noes:** None; **Abstentions:** None; **Absent:** Hunt, Opton, Tregub

Minutes submitted by: _____
Jamie Works-Wright, Commission Secretary

Applicant's Name_____

Mental Health Commissioner Applicant Criteria	Application	Interview
Interest - Demonstrates interest in community mental health services		
Commitment - Ready to commit to Commission duties; preparation & attendance at meetings; timely paperwork		
Diversity - Reflects the diversity of the community		
Cooperation - Able to constructively handle conflict & differences of opinion		
Welcoming - Willing and able to work alongside consumers , family members & diverse members		
Effective - Able to work with City staff, management & Berkeley & Albany City Councils		

2027 Commission Meeting Schedule

Please complete this form and email it to the
commission@berkeleyca.gov by: **Wednesday, January 6, 2027**

Name of Commission: ____Behavioral Health Commission_____

Commission Secretary:___Jamie Works-Wright_____

Example

Month	Meeting Day	Meeting Date	Time
February 2027	Wednesday	2/10/2027	7:00 pm

Month	Meeting Day	Meeting Date	Time
January 2027	4th Thursday	1/28/27	**7:00 PM**
February 2027	4th Thursday	2/25/27	**7:00 PM**
March 2027	4th Thursday	3/25/27	**7:00 PM**
April 2027	4th Thursday	4/22/27	**7:00 PM**
May 2027	4th Thursday	5/27/27	**7:00 PM**
June 2027	4th Thursday	6/24/27	**7:00 PM**
July 2027	4th Thursday	7/22/27	**7:00 PM**
August 2027	4th Thursday	8/26/27	**7:00 PM**
September 2027	4th Thursday	9/23/27	**7:00 PM**
October 2027	4th Thursday	10/28/27	**7:00 PM**
November 2027	3rd Thursday	11/18/27	**7:00 PM**
December 2027	3rd Thursday	12/16/27	**7:00 PM**

City Policy Regarding the Scheduling of City Meetings on All Significant Religious Holidays

Pursuant to Resolution No. 70,066-N.S., it is the policy of the City to avoid scheduling meetings of City Legislative Bodies (City Council, Policy Committees, Commissions, Task Forces) on religious holidays that incorporate significant work restrictions for common observance in the United States. City legislative bodies must avoid scheduling meetings on the religious holidays listed below.

Religion	Holiday	2027 Date(s)
Shinto	New Year	1/1/2027 thru 1/3/2027
Hindu	Makara Sankranti	1/14/2027
Cultural	Chinese New Year (Eve, Day, Lantern Festival)	2/5, 2/6, 2/20
Islam	Ramadan (Eve & First Night)	2/7/2027 thru 2/8/2027
Islam	Eid al-Fitr	3/9/2027 thru 3/10/2027
Cultural	Nowruz*	3/21/2027
Hindu	Holi	3/22/2027
Christian	Good Friday	3/26/2027
Christian	Easter Sunday	3/28/2027
Jewish	Passover Nights 1 & 2 (7*, 8*)	4/21 - 4/22 (4/28, 4/29)
Islam	Eid al-Adha	5/16/2027 thru 5/17/2027
Buddhist	Vesak	5/20/2027
Jewish	Shavuot*	6/10/2027 thru 6/12/2027
Shinto	Obon Ceremony*	8/13/2027 thru 8/15/2027
Jewish	Rosh Hashanah	10/1/2027 thru 10/3/2027
Hindu	Dussehra	10/9/2027
Jewish	Yom Kippur	10/10/2027 thru 10/11/2027
Jewish	Sukkot (1st Day)*	10/15/2027 thru 10/16/2027
Jewish	Shmini Atzeret/ Simchat Torah*	10/22/2027 thru 10/24/2027
Hindu	Diwali	10/29/2027
Baha'i Faith	Birth of Bab	10/30/2027
Baha'i Faith	Birth of Baha'u'llah	10/31/2027
Jewish	Chanukah (1st night)	12/24/2027
Christian	Christmas	12/25/2027
Cultural	Kwanzaa	12/26/2027 thru 1/1/2027
Jewish	Shabbat (Friday sunset to Saturday sunset)*	Weekly

** Meetings not prohibited, but avoid scheduling meetings if possible*

2027 CITY CALENDAR

JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

FEBRUARY

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

MARCH

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

MAY

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

JUNE

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

JULY

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

AUGUST

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

OCTOBER

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	20
31						

NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

HOLIDAYS OBSERVANCES	VTO	PAY DAY		NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION	
01/01 New Year's Day	01/08	01/07	07/09	01/04	07/06
01/18 Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday	02/11	01/22	07/23	01/19 (Tuesday)	07/19
02/12 Lincoln's Birthday	03/12	02/05	08/06	02/01	08/02
02/15 Washington's Birthday	03/30	02/19	08/20	02/16 (Tuesday)	08/16
03/31 Farmworkers Day - **Obs 03/29**	03/31	03/05	09/03	03/01	08/30
05/19 Malcolm X's Birthday - **Obs 5/17**	04/01	03/19	09/17	03/15	09/13
05/31 Memorial Day	04/02	04/02	10/01	03/30 (Tuesday)	09/27
06/19 Juneteenth - **Obs 6/18**	04/09	04/16	10/15	04/12	10/12 (Tuesday)
07/04 Independence Day - **Obs 7/5**	05/14	04/30	10/29	04/26	10/25
09/06 Labor Day	06/11	05/13	11/12	05/10	11/08
10/11 Indigenous Peoples' Day		05/28	11/24	05/24 (Tuesday)	11/22
11/11 Veterans Day		06/10	12/10	06/07	12/06
11/25-26 Thanksgiving Day/Day After		06/25	12/23	06/21	12/20
12/25 Christmas Day - **Obs 12/24**					

Observed Holidays | Pay Day | VTO | New Employee Orientation | # First Day of Pay Period

Office of the City Manager

REVISED
AGENDA MATERIAL
for Supplemental Packet 2

Meeting Date: **June 30, 2026**

Item Number: **47**

Item Description: **Voluntary Time Off Program for Fiscal Year 2027**

Submitted by: **Maricar Dupaya, Budget Manager**
City Manager's Office

The information report is revised to reflect additional dates to the VTO Program for FY 2027. During the adoption of the FY 2027- FY 2028 biennial budget, the Mayor's Budget recommendation added 11 additional VTO days for FY 2027. This was intended to generate approximately $87,000 in General Fund savings to help fund priority programs and projects, as well as to restore positions in FY 2027.

Original Information Report:
As a citywide cost-saving measure, the City Manager is designating 16 days of Voluntary Time Off (VTO) in Fiscal Year 2027 (July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027) and authorizing certain City offices and non-essential services to temporarily close for those days.

Date (2026)	Day	Date (2027)	Day
July 10	Friday	January 8	Friday
August 14	Friday	February 11**	Thursday
September 11	Friday	March 12	Friday
October 9	Friday	April 9	Friday
November 3*	Tuesday	May 14	Friday
December 11	Friday	June 11	Friday
December 28	Monday		
December 29	Tuesday		

Date (2026)	Day	Date (2027)	Day
December 30	Wednesday		
December 31	Thursday		
	10 days (2026)		**6 days (2027)**

* *VTO day in November is moved to Tuesday, November 3 due to 2026 Election Day.*
** *Please note that Friday, February 12, 2027, is observed Lincoln's Birthday.*

Revised Information Report:
As a citywide cost-saving measure, the City Manager is designating 27 days of Voluntary Time Off (VTO) in Fiscal Year 2027 (July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027) and authorizing certain City offices and non-essential services to temporarily close for those days

Date (2026)	Day	Date (2027)	Day
July 10	Friday	January 8	Friday
August 14	Friday	February 11**	Thursday
September 11	Friday	March 12	Friday
October 9	Friday	March 30***	Tuesday
November 3*	Tuesday	March 31***	Wednesday
November 23***	Monday	April 1***	Thursday
November 24***	Tuesday	April 2***	Friday
November 25***	Wednesday	April 9	Friday
December 11	Friday	May 14	Friday
December 21***	Monday	June 11	Friday
December 22***	Tuesday		
December 23***	Wednesday		
December 24***	Thursday		
December 28	Monday		
December 29	Tuesday		
December 30	Wednesday		
December 31	Thursday		
	17 days (2026)		**10 days (2027)**

*. * VTO day in November is moved to Tuesday, November 3 due to 2026 Election Day.*
*** Please note that Friday, February 12, 2027, is observed Lincoln's Birthday.*
**** Additional 11 days of VTO in FY 2027 as per Mayor's Budget Recommendation during the FY 2027-FY2028 Biennial Budget adoption.*

Office of the City Manager

INFORMATION CALENDAR
June 30, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Paul Buddenhagen, City Manager

Submitted by: Maricar Dupaya, Budget Manager

Subject: Voluntary Time Off Program for Fiscal Year 2027

INTRODUCTION

As a citywide cost-saving measure, the City Manager is designating 27 days of Voluntary Time Off (VTO) in Fiscal Year 2027 (July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027) and authorizing certain City offices and non-essential services to temporarily close for those days.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The originally proposed 16 VTO days follow a schedule like Fiscal Year 2026, with City offices generally closing on every second Friday, with additional days during the last week of December 2026 (December 28 - December 31).

During the adoption of the FY 2027- FY 2028 biennial budget, the Mayor's Budget Recommendation added 11 additional VTO days for FY 2027. This was intended to generate approximately $87,000 in General Fund savings to help fund priority programs and projects, as well as to restore positions in FY 2027.

The proposed VTO days are as follows:

Date (2026)	Day	Date (2027)	Day
July 10	Friday	January 8	Friday
August 14	Friday	February 11**	Thursday
September 11	Friday	March 12	Friday
October 9	Friday	March 30***	Tuesday
November 3*	Tuesday	March 31***	Wednesday
November 23***	Monday	April 1***	Thursday
November 24***	Tuesday	April 2***	Friday
November 25***	Wednesday	April 9	Friday

Date (2026)	Day	Date (2027)	Day
December 11	Friday	May 14	Friday
December 21***	Monday	June 11	Friday
December 22***	Tuesday		
December 23***	Wednesday		
December 24***	Thursday		
December 28	Monday		
December 29	Tuesday		
December 30	Wednesday		
December 31	Thursday		
	17 days (2026)		**10 days (2027)**

** VTO day in November is moved to Tuesday, November 3 due to 2026 Election Day.*
*** Please note that Friday, February 12, 2027, is observed Lincoln's Birthday.*
**** Additional 11 days of VTO in FY 2027 as per Mayor's Budget Recommendation during the FY 2027-FY2028 Biennial Budget adoption.*

The purpose of VTO days is to generate savings to help balance the budget. The program is projected to achieve savings of $450,971 on an all-funds basis in Fiscal Year 2026. Since FY 2021, the actual savings per VTO day have been lower than in prior fiscal years, primarily due to the closure of City facilities and the implementation of remote work arrangements. Although a hybrid work schedule for City employees remains in place, the program continues to provide meaningful cost savings and is recommended for continuation in Fiscal Year 2027.

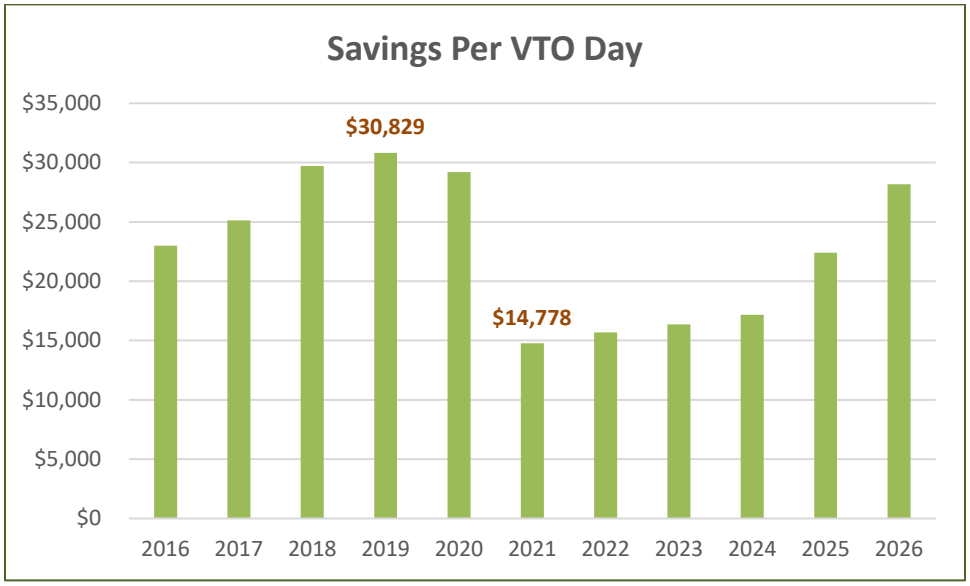
Voluntary Time Off Salary Savings

Fiscal Year	Number of VTO Days	Base Salary Savings	Savings Per VTO Day
2016	16	$367,821	$22,989
2017	16	$402,070	$25,129
2018	16	$475,400	$29,713
2019	17	$524,086	$30,829
2020	16	$467,108	$29,194
2021	17	$251,229	$14,778
2022	16	$251,148	$15,697
2023	16	$261,628	$16,352
2024	16	$274,582	$17,161
2025	16	$358,389	$22,399
2026	16	*$450,971	$28,186

*Annualized projection

The VTO program is recommended to continue in Fiscal Year 2027 and will be reevaluated later to determine whether the VTO program will also be implemented in Fiscal Year 2028.

As shown in the chart below, the average savings per VTO day within the last decade ranged from $14,800 to $30,800.



In Fiscal Year 2026, staff considered the impact that the VTO days had on City services. It was determined that the VTO days were, in general, not having a significant detrimental effect on the City's ability to provide quality services. Potential inconveniences to residents were mitigated in several ways, including keeping the 311 Customer Call Center open on VTO days, adjusting due dates for fines, and posting clear signs in advance of closure dates.

BACKGROUND

The concept for a VTO program was proposed in 2004 by the labor unions representing non-sworn employees as an alternative to a mandatory closure of City offices ("furloughs") and staff layoffs. The VTO program designates certain days City offices are closed to the public while allowing staff to take paid or unpaid leave or voluntarily report to work. The VTO closures have permitted staff to reduce their vacation leave balances and eliminate the costly past practice of buying back vacation leave balances, which in turn has allowed the City to reduce its cost to pay out accrued vacation leave upon an employee's separation from employment.

Likewise, the City Council approved a recommendation that designates any Statewide Election, including Primary and Special Statewide Elections, as VTO days[1]. Election Day occurs on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each even-numbered year, with the corresponding Primary Day occurring on the Tuesday after the first Monday of March.

Service Impacts: The VTO program has generated minimal complaints from the public regarding the office closures and reduced services because many key services remain open to the public, while other services can be provided on a callback basis.

During VTO days, customer service counters at the Finance Customer Service Center and Permit Service Center are closed to the public. When Customer Service Center offices are closed, customers may access the drop box which is located outside 1947 Center building. Customers are redirected to access the drop box through signage to the Rent Board Office at 2125 Milvia Street on VTO days in the last week of December. When the Permit Service Center is closed, building inspection services continue to be available to the public when City approvals are required for time-sensitive projects. The permit mailbox has been configured to accept emails from applicants on VTO days including applications for all types of building-related permits. In addition, Permit Service Center cashiers work most of the VTO days to return customer calls and process payments. The City will continue to notify the public of City VTO closure dates through public noticing, the press, voicemail messages, and signage.

The Voluntary Time Off Program for Fiscal Year 2027 is a Strategic Plan Priority, advancing our goal to provide an efficient and financially healthy City government.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

VTO days may reduce vehicle miles traveled associated with City employees' work commute. Otherwise, there are no identifiable environmental and climate effects or opportunities associated with the subject of this report.

POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

We are continuing the VTO program in Fiscal Year 2027. However, the City Manager will reassess the economic impact as well as the cost benefit to the public of continuing these temporary closures of City offices for Fiscal Year 2028.

[1] https://records.cityofberkeley.info/PublicAccess/api/Document/AfIClpxxSiesVU%C3%81UeV6uHvDcSM347Ko0EvBQfWOAcMZctkvZVLhegoOT5Gsbt38OjQY6FVXdfzeliGPO5gabOg4=/

FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Cost savings are achieved on an annual basis from the VTO program. Since Fiscal Year 2016, annual cost savings ranging from $251,000 to $524,000 have been achieved from the VTO program.

CONTACT PERSON

Janelle Rodriguez, Director of Human Resources, 981-6800
Maricar Dupaya, Budget Manager, 981-7000

Health Housing and
Community Services Department
Mental Health Division

MEMORANDUM

To: Behavioral Health Commission
From: Jeffrey Buell, Mental Health Division Manager
Date: 11/10/2026
Subject: Mental Health Manager Report

Behavioral Health Services Report

Alameda County has changed the software used to access Yellowfin, which holds the County's ongoing client data. Since this change, the system is not consistently accessible. Also note that fiscal fields continue to not be updated in this template. Commissioners may seek to meet again with the Division Manager and Health, Housing, and Community Services (HHCS) Fiscal Services Manager to discuss helpful data and structure for future service reports (Initial meeting on 11/18/24).

Information Requested by Behavioral Health Commission

No questions from Commissioners during this period

Mental Health Division Updates

Policy and Funding

- Future of Medi-Cal in California: The Commission envisioning California's next 10 years of Medi-Cal services brings together healthcare leaders from around the state to discuss the changes and trends that will impact services and how to create a sustainable plan moving forward. Final recommendations and 10 year roadmap are expected in early 2027. Themes include:
  - Strengthening of behavioral health workforce and their financing (including peer support specialist integration and multi-lingual workers)
  - Clarifying statewide behavioral health benefits
  - Expanding the role and accountability of Managed Care Plans (such as Kaiser and Alameda Alliance in our jurisdiction)
  - Addressing funding gaps
  - Regional Models

- Proposition 40: This measure was intended to provide temporary relief for state health care funding in order to reduce the impact of federal cuts to Medi-Cal, mental health care, and substance use disorder (SUD) treatment. Prop 40 has been declared to not pass during this recent election and will not be offsetting funding reductions that resulted from H.R.1, also known as the “One Big Beautiful Bill.” The state and Counties continue to prepare for these impending fiscal losses, starting in 2027. It is expected that 1.3-3.4 million Californians could lose Medi-Cal coverage due to funding reductions, stricter eligibility barriers and requirements. Even individuals with serious conditions who would qualify for exemptions from these new requirements will likely lose access to early intervention and preventive care that had existed previously.
- Since January of 2025, numbers of children enrolled nationally in Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California) and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) have steadily dropped across all states. Through August of 2026, the decline has been by 6.7% (2.56 million children) for these safety net health insurance programs. From January 2025 through May 2026, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) has seen a similar decline of 15.7% (1.6 million children) from available comparable data from 26 states. These declines are happening as the H.R.1. funding reductions have been phasing in and are expected to add more barriers and reduce resources for these programs. States are now required to pay into the SNAP program, and rates of payment are based upon state enrollment error rates. This incentivizes states to add more layers of bureaucracy, thereby reducing their financial burden by decreasing possible errors in granting benefits to residents.
- Berkeley Measures U (infrastructure bond) and V (sales tax): these measures appear to be passing required vote thresholds and will respectively raise funding for infrastructure projects and emergency/parks services. The City has faced deferred maintenance and necessary infrastructure repairs for years, and Measure U is designed to provide funding to complete a number of these projects. The City was still facing a structural $10 million annual shortfall (down from $30 million) and, without the passage of Measure V, was planning to cut fire, police, and parks positions and programs. Measure V was not intended to provide any funding for behavioral health programs or staffing.

Programs and Services

- Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) plan and contracted services: With the new BHSA three-year plan approved and in place, contracted services from BHSA are going through RFP and contracting processes. Implementation of AB 339 this year has also added more steps and time to these contracting processes, as local unions must be notified and allowed time to intercede before work that could be performed by union members is allocated to contract agencies. Since the previous Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) had differing structure and requirements from the new BHSA rules, a number of services and programs have necessarily been ended, transformed, or delayed by these processes.

- BHSA has also resulted in new requirements for services and service team models. Full-Service Partnership teams are required to follow specific state mandated models and requirements when providing care to the vulnerable and underserved behavioral health populations to whom Berkeley is contracted to serve. These transformations of service teams are expected to phase in for the next three years, starting July of 2026 and completing in 2029. In that time, state guidance and requirements are expected to continue rolling out to jurisdictions as these systems transform.

Adult Services	Intended Ratio of staff to clients	Clinical Staff Positions Filled	# of clients open this month	Average Monthly System Cost Previous 12 Months	Fiscal Year 2026 (July '26-June '27) Demographics as of October 2026
Adult, Older Adult and TAY Full-Service Partnership (AFSP) (Highest level outpatient clinical case management and treatment)	1-10 for clinical staff.	3 Clinicians, 3 Non-Licensed Clinician, 1 Clinical Supervisor	67	$53,731	Clients: 65 Asian:2 Black or African American: 31 Hispanic or Latino: 2 Other: 1 Unknown: 3 White: 26 Male Gender ID: 42 Female: 20 He/Him:1 Unknown/No Available: 2 Heterosexual/Straight: 50 Unknown/Not Available: 11 Bisexual: 1 Gay: 1 Lesbian: 1 Prefer Not to Answer: 1
Adult FSP Psychiatry (October Stats)	1-100	0.35 FTE	53		
AFSP FY21 Mental Health Division Estimated Budgeted Personnel Costs, including Psychiatry and Medical Staff (FY22 not yet available)				$2,037,600	
Homeless Full-Service Partnership (HFSP) (Highest level outpatient clinical case management and treatment)	1-8 for clinical staff	4 Non-Licensed Clinician, 1 Clinical Supervisor	34	$35,533	Clients: 35 Asian: 1 Black or African American: 18 Hispanic or Latino: 1 Unknown: 1 White: 14 Male Gender ID: 22 Female: 10 Unknown/Not Available: 2 She/Her:1 Heterosexual/Straight: 28 Unknown/Not Available: 4 Bisexual: 3 Prefer Not To Answer/Declined to State:

HFPS Psychiatry (October Stats)	1-100	0.15 FTE	25		
HFSP FY22 Mental Health Division Estimated Budgeted Personnel Costs, including Psychiatry and Medical Staff (FY22 not yet available)			TBD		
Comprehensive Community Treatment (CCT) **(High level outpatient clinical case management and treatment)**	1-20	6 Licensed Clinicians 1 Non-Licensed Clinicians 1 Senior Behavioral Health Clinician 1 Clinical Supervisor	154	$20,308	Clients: 154 Alaska Native or American Indian: 1 Asian: 8 Black or African American: 62 Hispanic or Latino: 7 Other: 4 Pacific Islander: 3 Unknown: 9 White: 60 Female Gender ID: 71 Male: 68 He/Him: 5 She/Her: 3 Other Additional Gender Category: 5 Gender Queer: 1 Prefer not to Answer/Decline to State: 1 Heterosexual/Straight: 112 Unknown/Not Available: 17 Gay: 3 Bisexual: 9 Lesbian: 3 Other Additional Sexual Orientation: 4 Prefer not to answer/decline to state: 4 Queer: 1 Prefer not to answer: 1
CCT Psychiatry (October Stats)	1-200	0.75 FTE	98		
CCT FY21 Mental Health Division Estimated Budgeted Personnel Costs, including Psychiatry and Medical Staff (FY22 not yet available)			$2,617,010		
Focus on Independence Team (FIT) **(Lower level of care, only for individuals previously on FSP or CCT)**	1-20 Team Lead, 1-50 Post Masters Clinical 1-30 Non-Degreed Clinical	2 Non-Licensed Clinician 1 1 Clinical Supervisor	72	$9,529	Clients: 70 Asian: 7 Black or African American: 24 Hispanic or Latino: 4 White: 35 Male Gender Identity: 40

					Female: 26 She/Her: 2 He/Him: 1 Intersex: 1 Transgender: Heterosexual/Straight: 64 Unknown/Not Available: 5 Prefer Not To Answer/Declined: 1 Gay:
FIT Psychiatry (October Stats)	1-200	.25	61		
FIT FY21 Mental Health Division Estimated Budgeted Personnel Costs, including Psychiatry and Medical Staff (FY22 not yet available)			$900,451		

Family, Youth and Children's Services	**Intended Ratio of staff to clients**	**Clinical Staff Positions Filled**	**# of clients open this month**	**Average Monthly System Cost Last 12 months**	**Fiscal Year 2026 (July '26-June '27) Demographics as of October2026**
Children's Full-Service Partnership (CFSP)	1-8	1 Senior Behavioral Health Clinician 1 Non-Licensed Clinician	14	$20,742	Clients: 14 Alaska Native/American Indian: 1 Asian: 1 Black or African American: 5 Hispanic or Latino: 2 Other: 2 Unknown: White: 3 Male Gender ID: 5 Female: 7 Other Additional Gender Category: 1 Unknown/Not Available: 7 Heterosexual/Straight: 4 Bisexual: 1 Gay: 1 Pansexual: 1
CFSP Psychiatry (October Stats)	1-100	0.05			
CFSP FY21 Mental Health Division Estimated Budgeted Personnel Costs (FY22 not yet available)			$489,235		
Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment Prevention (EPSDT) /Educationally Related Mental Health	1-20	2 Non-Licensed Clinicians, 1 Clinical Supervisor	27	$10.967	Clients: 23 Alaska Native: Asian: Black or African American: 14

Services (ERMHS)					Hispanic or Latino: 3 Other: 2 Pacific Islander: Unknown: 2 White: 2 Female Gender ID: 6 Male: 15 Other Additional Gender ID: Unknown/Not Available: 1 Prefer Not to Answer/Decline to state: 1 Heterosexual/Straight: 15 Unknown/Not Available: 8 Other Additional Sexual Orientation: Bisexual: Pansexual:
ERMHS/EPSDT Psychiatry (October Stats)	1-100	0.15			
EPSDT/ERMHS FY21 Mental Health Division Estimated Budgeted Personnel Costs (FY22 not yet available)			$1,062,409		
High School Health Center and Berkeley Technological Academy (HSHC)	1-6 Clinician (majority of time spent on crisis counseling)	1 Clinicians, 1 Clinical Supervisor	Drop-in:12 Externally referred: 20 Ongoing tx: 45 Groups: 0 Offered/ 0 Provided		N/A
HSHC FY21 Mental Health Division Estimated Budgeted Personnel Costs (FY22 not yet available)			$396,106		

Not reflected in above chart is Early Childhood Consultation, Wellness and Recovery Programming, or Family Support.
In demographics, other/unknown is used both when a client indicates that they are multi-racial and when demographic info is not known.

*Average System Costs come from Yellowfin, and per ACBH include all costs to mental health programs, sub-acute residential programs, hospitals, and jail mental health costs.

Works-Wright, Jamie

From: Works-Wright, Jamie
Sent: Monday, November 9, 2026 2:10 PM
To: Works-Wright, Jamie
Subject: FW: Invitation | January 22 & 23, 2027 CALBHB/C Meeting/Training - Please Share!

Hello Commissioners,

Please see the information below. Please plan to attend

Thank you for your time.

Jamie Works-Wright
Consumer Liaison & Mental Health Commission Secretary
City of Berkeley
2640 MLK Jr. Way
Berkeley, CA 94704
JWorks-Wright@berkeleyca.gov
Office: 510-981-7721 ext. 7721
Cell #: 510-423-8365

From: CAL BHBC <cal@calbhbc.com>
Sent: Monday, November 9, 2026 1:39 PM
Subject: Invitation | January 22 & 23, 2027 CALBHB/C Meeting/Training - Please Share!

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Registration | PDF

California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions

CALBHB/C Quarterly Meeting *and* Training - *Open Statewide*
Hybrid: Zoom / In-Person (San Diego)*

Friday, January 22nd, 1:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Saturday, January 23rd, 9 am - 12 pm

Registration is open to all local behavioral health board/commission members & staff.

There is no fee to register

Please Register at: www.calbhbc.org/registration

Meeting | Friday, January 22nd, 1:30 pm - 5:30 pm

- CA Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards/Commissions (CALBHB/C)
- CA Behavioral Health Planning Council (CBHPC) Update
- Commission for Behavioral Health (CBH) Update
- Peer Provider Specialist Presentation
- *Issue-Based Discussion - All are welcome to comment (briefly) on local challenges & successes.*

Training | Saturday, January 23rd, 9 am - 12 pm

- How to be an Effective Behavioral Health Board/Commission Training
- Chair & Admin Liaison Training (All are welcome to attend!)

* In-Person Registrants:
Expenses: CALBHB/C will pay travel-related expenses for one behavioral health board/commission member per county in the **Southern** and **Los Angeles Regions**** (but all are welcome to attend.)

Hotel Room-Block Deadline - Please notify us regarding lodging needs by December 15th (info@calbhbc.com) (CALBHB/C will pay the hotel directly for guests on our rooming list.)

Registration Deadline: *In-person* attendees, please register by January 14th, 2027.

Location information is provided through registration confirmations to attendees.

Southern Region: Imperial*, Kern, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego***, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura***, and Tri-City (Pomona, Claremont, La Verne); Los Angeles Region: County of Los Angeles***
***In counties with CALBHB/C Governing Board Members, CALBHB/C will pay expenses for an additional member.

www.calbhbc.org email: info@calbhbc.com facebook/CALBHBC

Works-Wright, Jamie

From: Works-Wright, Jamie
Sent: Thursday, November 5, 2026 10:35 AM
To: Works-Wright, Jamie
Subject: FW: November 2026 Newsletter | CALBHB/C

Hello Commissioners,

Please see the information below.

Thank you for your time.

Jamie Works-Wright
Consumer Liaison & Mental Health Commission Secretary
City of Berkeley
2640 MLK Jr. Way
Berkeley, CA 94704
JWorks-Wright@berkeleyca.gov
Office: 510-981-7721 ext. 7721
Cell #: 510-423-8365

From: CAL BHBC <cal@calbhbc.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 4, 2026 4:17 PM
Subject: November 2026 Newsletter | CALBHB/C

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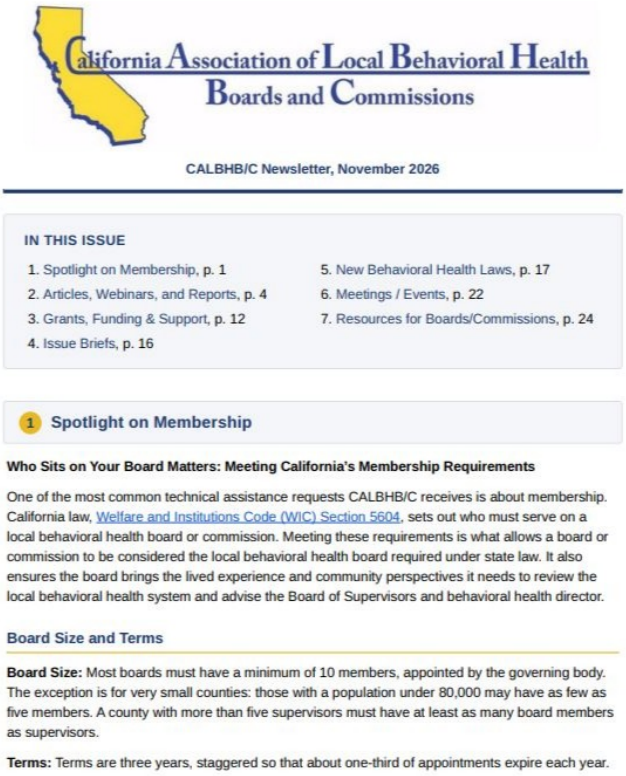
California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions

Link to Newsletter

Key Trainings & Resources:

-
-
- Training
-
-
-
- Resources
-
-
-
- Handbook
-

Thank you! Whether you are a local board or commission member, behavioral health agency staff, a local community member and/or provider or agency that intersects with behavioral health, thank you for serving on or supporting the work of California's 59 local behavioral health boards and commissions!



California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions

CALBHB/C Newsletter, November 2026

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1 Spotlight on Membership

Who Sits on Your Board Matters: Meeting California's Membership Requirements

One of the most common technical assistance requests CALBHB/C receives is about membership. California law, Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 5604, sets out who must serve on a local behavioral health board or commission. Meeting these requirements is what allows a board or commission to be considered the local behavioral health board required under state law. It also ensures the board brings the lived experience and community perspectives it needs to review the local behavioral health system and advise the Board of Supervisors and behavioral health director.

Board Size and Terms

Board Size: Most boards must have a minimum of 10 members, appointed by the governing body. The exception is for very small counties: those with a population under 80,000 may have as few as five members. A county with more than five supervisors must have at least as many board members as supervisors.

Terms: Terms are three years, staggered so that about one-third of appointments expire each year.

The California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards/Commissions (CALBHB/C) supports the work of CA's 59 local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions.

www.calbhbc.org

Works-Wright, Jamie

From: Works-Wright, Jamie
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2026 1:40 PM
To: Ajay Krishnan; Edward Opton (eopton1@gmail.com); Glenn Turner; Ian Hunt; Lisa Teague; Maria Sol (megamom.ms@gmail.com); Patricia; Tregub, Igor
Subject: BHC agenda for November

Hello Commissioners,

We will be meeting on the 3rd Thursday of November 19th. Please send any agenda items you would like to discuss by **Friday, November 6th** and any items you want in the packet by **November 9th.**

Thank you for your time.

Jamie Works-Wright
Consumer Liaison & Mental Health Commission Secretary
City of Berkeley
2640 MLK Jr. Way
Berkeley, CA 94704
JWorks-Wright@berkeleyca.gov
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Cell #: 510-423-8365