

Behavioral Health

Key Community Health Needs Assessment Findings:

- Access to mental health care and substance use treatment is limited for all, worse for BIPOC and low-income individuals
- COVID-related stress: depression, anxiety, trauma, grief, economic factors
- Isolation for older adults and youth
- Suicide is higher than California’s average for all age groups
- Justice system issues: BIPOC individuals experience higher rates of incarceration (drivers: racism, jail in lieu of health care services)
- Rising drug overdose deaths among community members

Goal		Improve access to affordable, high-quality mental/behavioral health care services
Strategies	Anticipated Impact	
Support integrated mental health and substance use services/treatment for co-occurring mental illness and addiction. ^{26,27}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved access to mental/behavioral health programs and services • Increased proportion of community members served with effective mental/behavioral health services • Improved coordination of mental/behavioral health services • Improved mental/behavioral health among those served • Improved housing and economic security by addressing the behavioral health conditions that contribute to housing instability 	
Support screening and referral for mental/ behavioral health issues both at primary care visits and in emergency departments, and training for such screening when appropriate. ^{28,29,30}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved access to mental/behavioral health programs and services • Increased proportion of community members served with effective mental/behavioral health services 	
Support initiatives aimed at increasing the supply of diverse mental/behavioral health providers in community/safety net clinics. ^{31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,43}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased rate of mental/behavioral health providers per 100,000 community residents • Reduced attrition of mental/behavioral health providers • Increased diversity of mental/behavioral health providers 	
Support programs that assist individuals recovering from addiction to transition back into the community. ^{45,45}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced housing instability among individuals with mental illness/ substance addiction 	
Goal		Improve access to affordable, high-quality mental/behavioral health care services
Support programs that pair health professionals trained in mental/ behavioral health crisis response with law enforcement or other security professionals. ^{46,47,48,49}	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved outcomes of encounters between mentally ill individuals and law enforcement 	

Click [here](#) to view end notes.