



# CARE

(Community  
Assistance,  
Recovery and  
Empowerment)  
Act

California Health & Human Services Agency  
*Person Centered. Equity Focused. Data Driven.*

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# Data Collection, Reporting & Evaluation Ad Hoc Group Meeting

## December 19, 2023

California Health & Human Services Agency

*Person Centered. Equity Focused. Data Driven.*



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# 1. Welcome and Introductions

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# Virtual Meeting Guidelines

- Meeting is being recorded
- Zoom captioning enabled

## Members

- Mute/Unmute works for members and policy partners.
- Stay ON MUTE when not speaking and use the “raise hand feature” if you have a question or comment.
- Please turn on your camera as you are comfortable

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC** will be invited to participate during public comment period

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# Data Collection, Reporting & Evaluation Ad Hoc Group Members

## **Co-Chairs**

- Keris Myrick
- Beau Hennemann

## **Special Advisor**

- Katherine Warburton

## **Facilitators (Desert Vista Consulting)**

- Karen Linkins
- Jennifer Brya
- Ruby Spies
- John Freeman

## **Members**

- Alison Morantz
- Amanda Geipe
- Dawn Williams
- Dr. Sharon Ishikawa
- Jennifer Hallman
- John Parker
- Kara Taguchi
- Matt Tuttle
- Robert Beattey
- Ruth Hollman
- Sean Evans
- Susan Wilson
- Tami Mariscal

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## 2. Recap Goals of this Ad Hoc Group

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# CARE ACT Working Group

- Working group began in early 2023 as a mechanism to **receive feedback from partners to support successful implementation** and help key constituents understand policy and program progress who can then **disseminate accurate information**.
- Meets quarterly during the implementation of the CARE Act through December 31, 2026.
- Representation from families, cities and counties, behavioral health providers, judges, legal counsel, peer organizations, disability rights and racial equity stakeholders, and housing and homelessness providers.
- Provide feedback on implementation activities including:
  - Annual report and evaluation plan, including data collection and reporting
  - TA/training for counties, volunteer supporters, legal counsel, judges, etc.
  - County implementation progress
  - Housing access
  - Other emerging issues

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# Ad Hoc Group Overview

- Three initial advisory Ad Hoc groups have been formed to address:
  1. Services and Supports
  2. Training, Technical Assistance, and Communication
  - 3. Data Collection, Reporting, and Evaluation**
- Each will have cross cutting perspectives from:
  - Peers, Families, Lived Experience
  - Racial Equity and Social Justice
  - Providers



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# Ad Hoc Group Purpose and Goal

## Data Reporting, Collection, and Evaluation

- Provide feedback on implementation activities including annual report and evaluation plan, and data collection and reporting
- Recommend additional types of outcomes to measure and track related to the effectiveness and impact of the CARE Act

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# Ad Hoc Group Operations

- Meetings of the Working Group and Ad Hoc groups shall be open to the public and subject to Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act requirements.
- Ad hoc groups met in October
  - Additional meetings in January, March, April, June, July, September, October, and December of 2024
  - CARE Act Working Group meets February 14<sup>th</sup>, May 15<sup>th</sup>, August 21<sup>st</sup>, and November 6<sup>th</sup> of 2024

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# Ad Hoc Group Approach

- Members will be respectful of each other's expertise and any differences of opinion.
- This is not an oversight or voting group. The goal is to generate ideas and solutions aimed at successful implementation of the CARE Act.
- Members are encouraged to be brief and brilliant. Keep the discussion moving to allow for new ideas from all group members.
- Members understand and acknowledge that CalHHS has a responsibility to implement the CARE Act as enacted in statute.
- Meeting agendas will be prepared and posted online in advance of a meeting. Members are encouraged to suggest agenda items.

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# Recap of October Meeting

- Introductions and Goals of Group
- Dr. Warburton presentation: “Why should we CARE?”
  - Early intervention is key, and too often absent
  - People are very, very sick
  - People are too often involved with the criminal justice system, homelessness, and not being served
  - The three-legged stool of medications, 24 hour coordinated services, and housing forms the foundation for recovery
- Serene Olin shared updates on the collection and reporting of CARE Act data
- Andy Potter shared that DHCS expects to have the independent evaluator under contract by the end of 2023, and that they expect to begin working with this subgroup on topics related to the evaluation at the January meeting.
- Minutes available on [CARE Act Working Group page](#)

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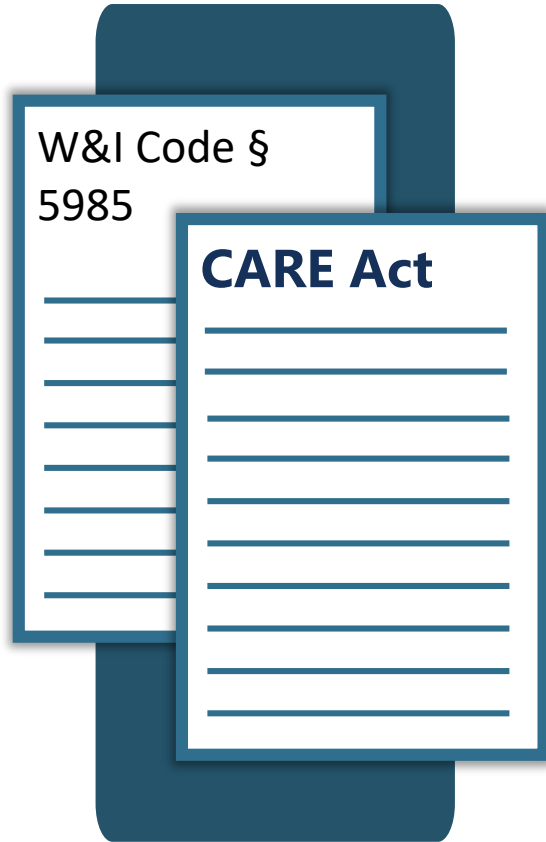
# **3. Discussion of Strategies and Q+A**

# Ad Hoc Working Group Meeting: CARE Act Data Dictionary Overview

December 19, 2023

Serene Olin, Health Management Associates

# Behavioral Health Information Notice 23-052



## **Purpose: Provide Guidance to Counties on Data Reporting Requirements**

- » DHCS is required to develop and publish an annual report. The report must include, at a minimum, the data and information listed in subdivisions (e) and (f) of W&I Code § 5985
- » **DHCS's Responsibility:** Provide technical assistance and consultation to support CARE Act implementation, including
  - A data dictionary to support consistent data collection
  - A data collection tool to facilitate reporting by Judicial Council and Counties
  - Ongoing technical assistance and consultation to County Behavioral Health Agencies
  - Quality assurance processes for data integrity
- » **County Behavioral Health Agencies Responsibility:** Provide data specified by DHCS related to CARE Act participants, services, and supports for use in the annual reports.

# CARE Act Data Dictionary



## Purpose

Supports County Behavioral Health Agencies and Judicial Council in data reporting requirements



## Definition

Communicates the structure and content of the data and provides meaningful descriptions for individually named data points. Includes detailed data specifications to guide standardized reporting.

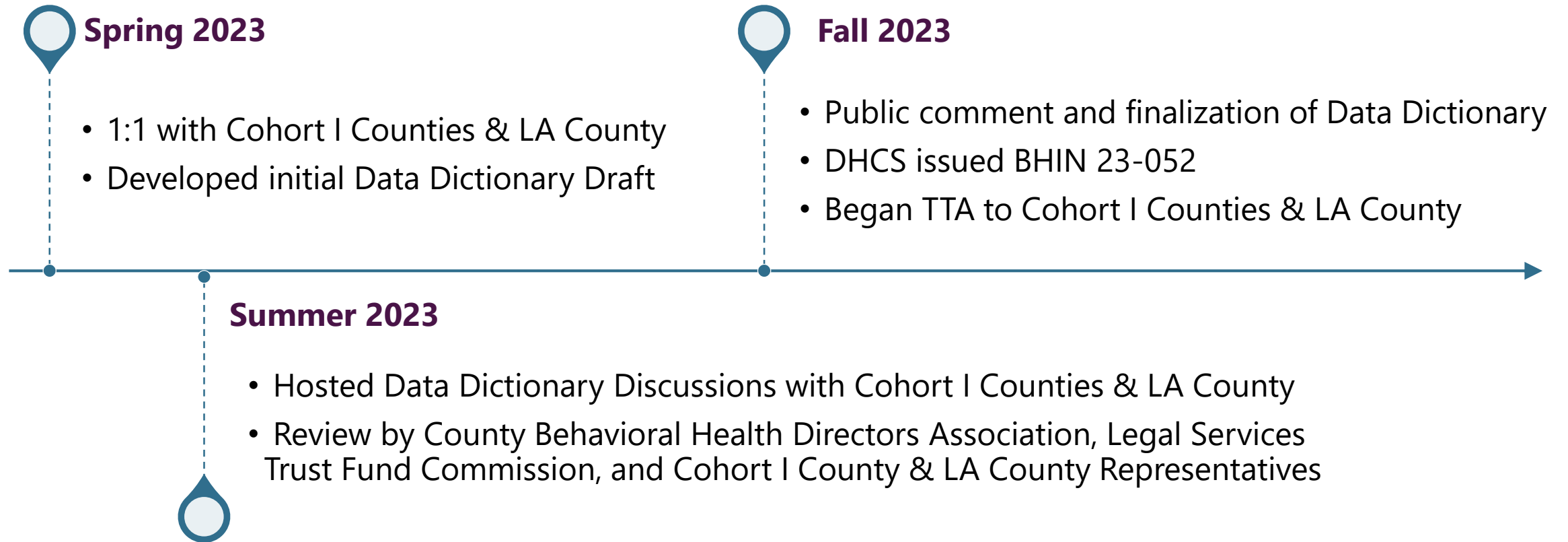


## Development

Each data point is defined using existing state dictionaries, where available. Definitions rely on industry standards, or evidence-informed typologies to fill in the gaps where state definitions do not exist for CARE terms.

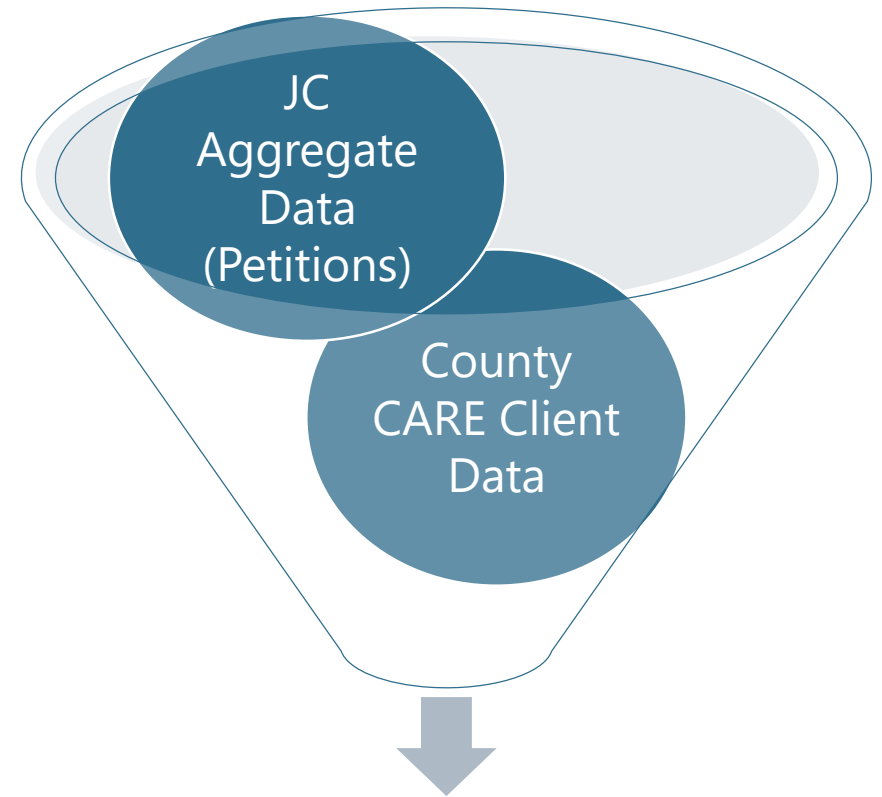


# Data Dictionary Timeline



# CARE Act Data Dictionary Overview

- » **Judicial Council** will capture **aggregated** trial court data on all petitioned respondents.\*
- » **County Behavioral Health (BH) Agencies** will capture respondent data at the **individual level** on:
  - Petitions initiated by County BH
  - Petitions when the court orders County BH to investigate and file a report

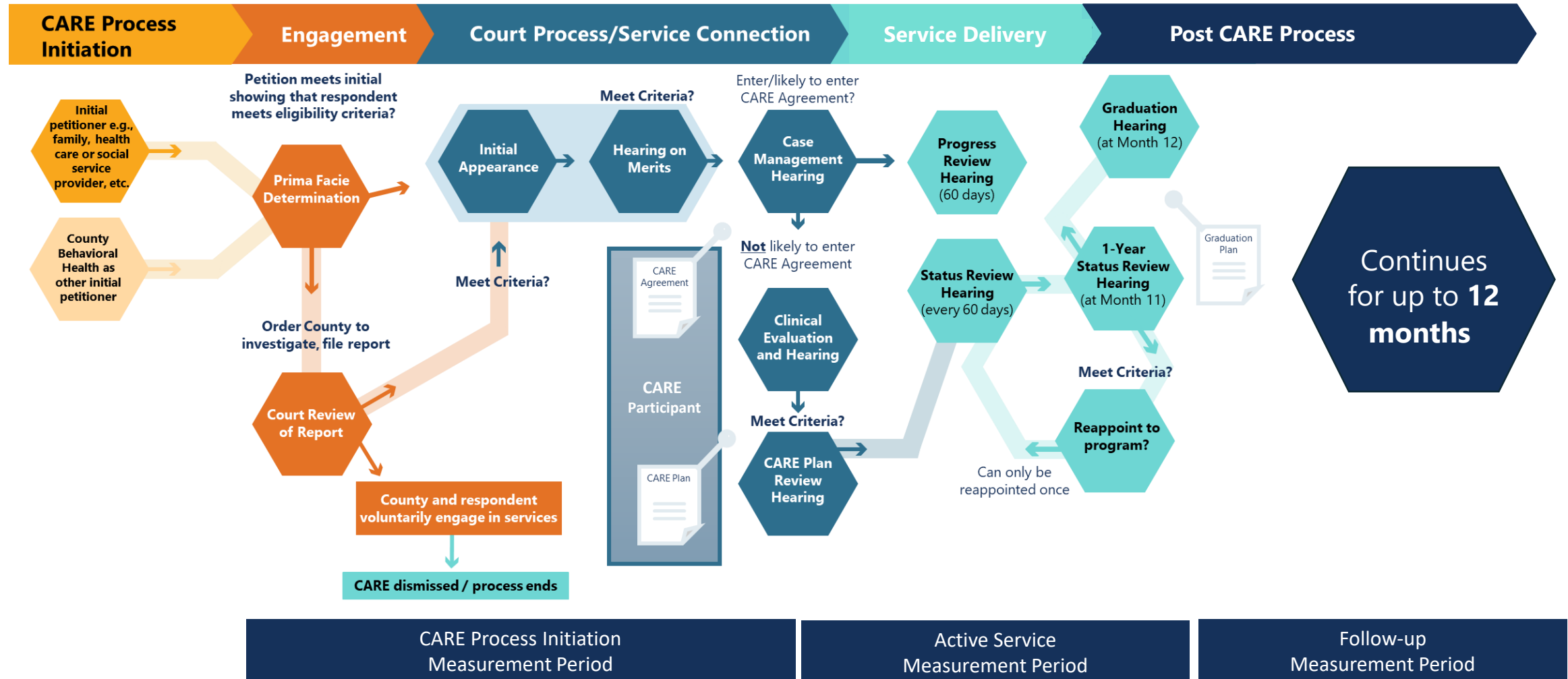


*\*Respondent = legal term for individual for whom a petition has been filed*

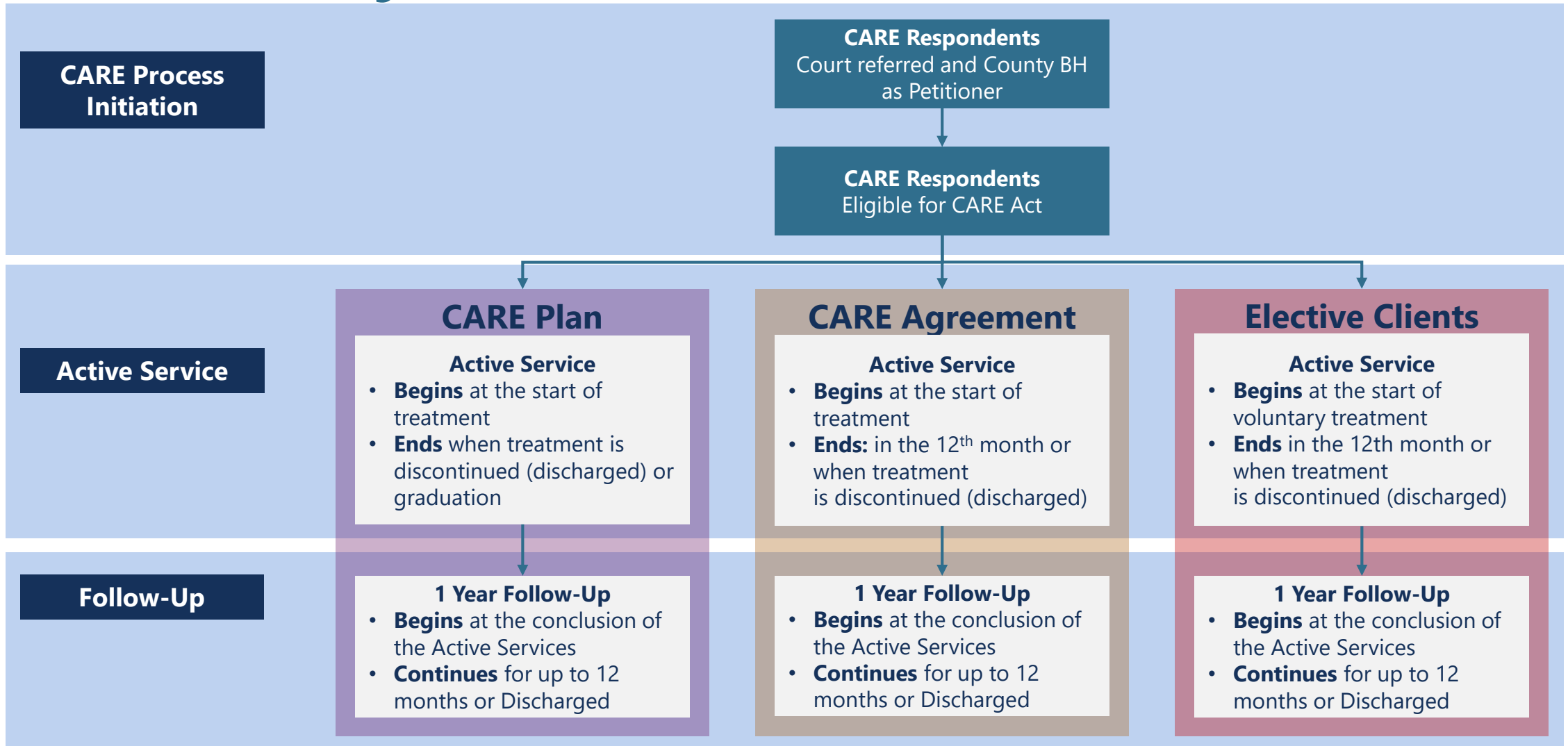
# County BH Data Collection

- » If petitions result in the individual receiving services/supports, county BH must provide data on **three CARE pathways over time**:
  - Clients with a CARE plan
  - Clients with a CARE agreement
  - Elective Clients
- » “**Elective clients**” are individuals that meet an initial determination of eligibility (i.e., prima facie) and then voluntarily accept county services. Because they accept services *before* a CARE agreement/plan is created, the petition will be dismissed by the court.
- » **CARE participants** and **elective clients** are collectively referred to as “**clients**” in the CARE Act Data Dictionary.

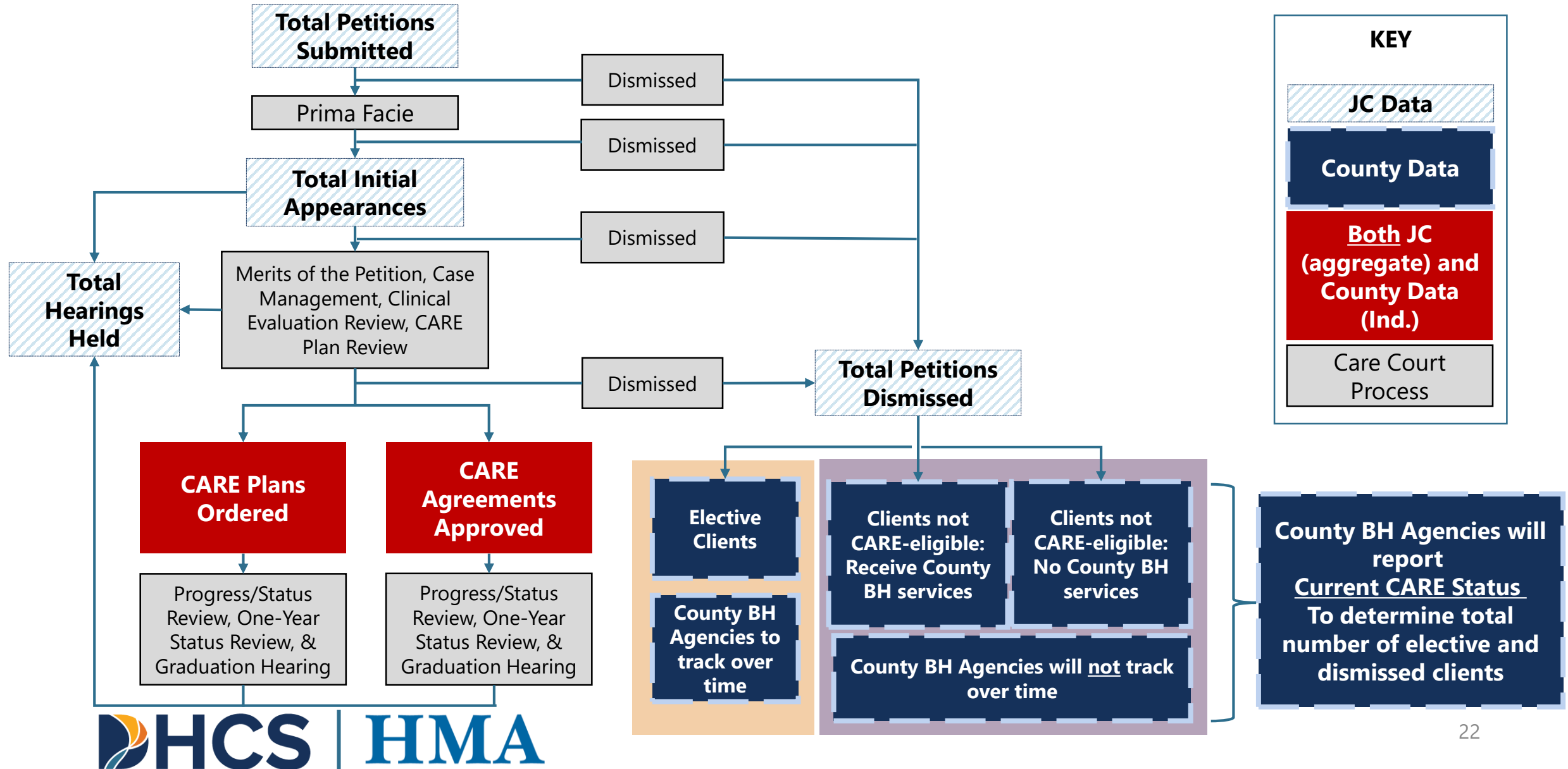
# CARE Process Flow + County Behavioral Health Measurement Periods



# County BH Data Measurement Periods



# CARE Court and County BH Data: Intersection



# Continuous Quality Improvement

- » DHCS established an internal **Data Governance Workgroup** to oversee continuous quality improvement of the CARE Act data collection and reporting.
- » The Workgroup will:
  - Review data collection progress
  - Review and analyze feedback
  - Identify and track emerging trends in utilization of CARE Court and County BH services

# Data Collection and Reporting Resources

Data Collection  
FAQs

Data Dictionary  
County Data  
Flowchart

Data Dictionary  
Summary Table

BHIN and Data  
Dictionary

Data Quality  
Assurance Checklist  
Coming Soon!



# Questions



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# Early Learnings from Cohort 1 Counties

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# 4. Public Comment

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# Public Comment

Public Comment will be taken on any item on the agenda

There are 2 ways to make comments:

1. Raise hand on zoom to speak. If joining by call-in, press \*9 on the phone.
2. We encourage email comment to [CAREAct@chhs.ca.gov](mailto:CAREAct@chhs.ca.gov)

**NOTE:** members of the public who use translating technology will be given **additional time** .

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# **5. Meeting Wrap Up and Next Steps**

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# Information and Communication Tools

- [Data Dictionary BH Information Notice No.: 23-052](#) and Enclosure: [Data Dictionary Version 1-0](#)
- [CARE Act Resource Center](#)
- [CalHHS CARE Act website](#)
  - CARE Act Quarterly Updates ([Quarter 3](#), [Quarter 2](#), [Quarter 1](#))
  - [Information for Petitioners Site](#) and 1-Page [Information Flyer for Petitioners](#)
- [CARE Act Working Group Site](#)
- [Department of Health Care Services \(DHCS\) CARE Act Website](#)
- [Judicial Council of California \(JCC\) CARE Act Website](#) (court forms and more)

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# Next Steps

- CARE Act Working Group meets February 14<sup>th</sup>
- Ad hoc groups meet next in January
  - Training, Technical Assistance, and Communication
  - Data Collection, Reporting, and Evaluation
  - Services and Supports Ad Hoc Group

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**6. Adjourn and  
Thank you!**





# Thank you!

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