



# Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative 101

September 2, 2022



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# California Youth Need Support

From COVID-19 to climate change, from economic instability to insecurity around food, housing and basic needs, our young people today face challenges that are daunting and difficult to navigate. These challenges have created a major impact on the mental, emotional and behavioral health and well-being of our youth.

Young people face rising rates of anxiety, depression and other mental health issues, with children and youth of color, LGBTQ+ youth, low-income youth and underserved communities being disproportionately impacted. Many say they feel disconnected and overwhelmed. They want help to support their well-being, but stigmas around mental health and other challenges stand in the way. There are many factors involved, but the need and urgency are clear. Supporting the mental, emotional and behavioral well-being of California's young people is critical to their future and that of our state.

California's young people have shown incredible resilience. They have dealt with social isolation, trauma, stress and uncertainty while adapting to major changes in school and at home.

Our children and youth have expressed a strong desire to heal and find joy in their lives. To feel okay and find greater stability and normalcy. Yet many barriers stand in their way.

# California Youth Need Support (cont.)

The State of California has recognized the scale and urgency of these issues and has responded with historic investments, and the U.S. Surgeon General has said we're facing a youth mental health crisis. While the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated this crisis, it has been in the making for more than a decade.

Mental health issues are now the **leading cause of hospitalization** for children under 18 in California.<sup>1</sup>

The rate of suicide among Black youth in California **doubled** between 2014 and 2020.<sup>2</sup>

One in three California 7th and 9th graders, and nearly half of 11th graders experienced **chronic sadness**.<sup>3</sup>

66% of LGBT youth reported feeling so sad or hopeless they **stopped doing some usual activities**.<sup>4</sup>

# California's Master Plan for Kids' Mental Health:

## California's Master Plan for Kids' Mental Health

In August 2022, Governor Newsom announced California's Master Plan for Kids' Mental Health, an integrated multi-year effort uniting historic investments across disciplines to more holistically serve the state's diverse children, youth, and families.

- **CYBHI at the Core** of the Master Plan
- **Whole Child**, "All of the Above" Approach
- **\$4.7B so every Californian aged 0-25 has increased access** to mental health and substance use supports

## Additional investments and initiatives that are being implemented in coordination and collaboration with the CYBHI<sup>5</sup>.

- \$4.1B on a community schools' strategy to connect kids and families to essential services including health screenings, meals and more, as well as expanded learning opportunities
- \$5B on a Medi-Cal initiative, CalAIM, to better integrate health and behavioral health services for low-income kids and improve child health outcomes, including prevention
- \$1.4B to build the healthcare workforce that expands our capacity to meet the health needs of Californians, including children and families.
- Additional State budget investments in school-based behavioral health workforce, such as school counselors

# The Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative

The **Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI)** is a historic, five-year, \$4.4 billion initiative to reimagine and transform the way California supports children, youth and families.

## The initiative focuses on:

- Promoting mental, emotional and behavioral health and well-being.
- Prevention and providing services to support children and youth well-being.
- Providing services, support and screening to ALL children and youth for emerging and existing needs connected to mental, emotional and behavioral health and substance use.
- Addressing inequities for groups disproportionately impacted by mental health challenges and that face the greatest systemic barriers to well-being.

Built on a foundation of **equity** and **accessibility**, the CYBHI is designed to **meet young people and families where they are** to create an ecosystem that can help them **when, where and in the way they need it most.**

The initiative is managed by the California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS) working in partnership with CalHHS Departments, other state agencies, and a wide range of partners and stakeholders.

# Ecosystem of Support

When people think of mental, emotional and behavioral health and wellness, they may look first toward clinical and behavioral health providers. These providers play a critical role in caring for and addressing behavioral health needs, along with a larger field and system of institutions and organizations who make vital contributions toward improving the well-being of children and youth.

Schools, childcare providers, community-based organizations, social service agencies, parks, primary care physicians and many others also play essential roles in keeping young people feeling healthy, stable and safe. Together with clinical and behavioral health providers, they form a **larger “ecosystem”** that supports the mental, emotional and behavioral health and well-being of our children and youth.

**The CYBHI is not meant to replace this ecosystem, but to instead act as a catalyst to create greater alignment and integration of these systems of care; to strengthen and transform how this ecosystem functions and operates; to expand the capacity of the ecosystem; and to foster and build partnerships with institutions that are vital parts of this ecosystem.**

# Prevention and Early Intervention are Critical

Mental and behavioral health directly affects young people's ability to learn and succeed in school and beyond, yet many children and youth with behavioral health, mental health and substance use needs don't receive care. But strengthening preventive measures and early intervention can make all the difference.

**Half of all lifetime cases of diagnosable** mental illnesses begin by age 14, and 75% begin by age 24.<sup>6</sup>

Early detection of mental health concerns leads to **improved academic achievement and reduced disruptions** at school.<sup>7</sup>

**50% of youth** in the juvenile justice system have mental health needs.<sup>8</sup>

Children who receive **behavioral health care** integrated with pediatric primary care experience a significant reduction in behavioral problems and anxiety.<sup>9</sup>

**The CYBHI aims to make the strengthening of preventive measures and early intervention a core pillar of its approach to systems transformation.**



# Centering the Needs of Youth

The ecosystem supporting the mental, emotional and behavioral health of California young people and families is fragmented, and the burden of navigating it is placed on children, youth and families. The CYBHI aims to ensure that children and youth find the support they need when, where and in the way they need it. We will actively engage children, youth and families throughout every stage of the process, and their input will be incorporated into every phase of the initiative, from design to evaluation.

## **Some of the things young people have told us they want:**

- Support for mental health in their day-to-day environments.
- More visible and accessible mental health resources on school campuses.
- Support that is available online, accessible from anywhere and at any time.
- A greater focus on prevention, so they can access support before they are in crisis.
- Support they can afford from people who look like them, speak their language and understand their communities.
- Adults to check in without an agenda, really listen, and act on what they hear.
- Education, tools and autonomy to make their own informed decisions
- Safe spaces where they can be and share their authentic selves.
- Support for their whole family that also addresses non-clinical issues, such as housing, basic needs and social support.
- Non-clinical well-being support, such as school clubs, community building activities, green spaces, art, yoga or music.
- Ways to heal and find joy in their lives.

# Our Approach

Over the course of five years (2021-2026), the CYBHI seeks to:

- **Reimagine the ecosystem supporting youth emotional, mental, and behavioral health.** Deliver services and support that are equitable, appropriate, timely, sustainable and accessible.
- **Focus on prevention and early intervention to support well-being.** Support programs and services that help young people develop and maintain positive behavioral health and can intervene early when they need support with needs connected to mental, emotional and behavioral health and substance use.
- **Expand equitable access.** Create tools and processes designed to meet the diverse needs of youth and families, remove barriers to access and allow users to find help when, where and in the way they need it, from prevention to treatment and recovery.
- **Meet our kids where they are.** Facilitate partnerships with K-12 schools, college campuses, community-based organizations and other groups that are more accessible and trusted by children and youth to receive behavioral health, mental health and substance use services and support.
- **Scale effective ideas.** Identify and scale programs that are innovative, effective and increase cultural competence to meet the needs of diverse communities, so that our best approaches become the norm for all California children, youth and families.
- **Build a larger, more diverse and more skilled workforce.** Expand California's behavioral health workforce and ensure they have the language and cultural competency skills to better serve our state's diverse populations.
- **Catalyze alignment and coordination.** Break down silos between different parts of the behavioral health system that make it difficult for Californians to navigate and receive the support they need.
- **Raise awareness and reduce stigma.** Raise the behavioral health literacy of children, youth, and families - and those who support them - using culturally and linguistically appropriate outreach and campaigns.

# Managing the Work

Reimagining and transforming the way California provides services and support for behavioral health, mental health and substance use over a five-year period requires systems to work in concert to implement a wide range of strategies.

## Initiative Management

The California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS) is responsible for the overall management of the CYBHI, including stakeholder engagement, initiative design, goal-setting, coordination and collaboration across workstreams, communications and evaluation.

## Workstreams

The CYBHI's work has been divided into 14 separate workstreams. Each workstream is managed by a CalHHS department or office that has a deep connection to the issues the workstream addresses and the stakeholders it involves. These include:

- Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)
- Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI)
- Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC)
- California Department of Public Health (CDPH)
- Office of the California Surgeon General (OSG)

# Partnership and Engagement Overview

as of 7/20/22

The CYBHI is engaging young people, families and a broad range of cross sector stakeholders and partners. We are engaging in extensive outreach, interviews, working groups, design sessions and listening sessions to ensure that our work is shaped by their voices, insights, and experiences.

**575**

organizations  
engaged, including:



**188**

government entities

**131**

providers of health care,  
education and social services

**30**

child, youth, and  
family organizations

**1,600**

registrants  
recorded for CYBHI  
public webinars



**257**

Stakeholder and expert  
interviews conducted

**25+**

roundtables and  
existing forums hosted  
or participated in



# Focus Areas



## Behavioral Health Ecosystem Infrastructure

Transform behavioral health infrastructure to ensure equitable access and ensure there is no wrong door for children, youth, and families.



## Workforce Training and Capacity

Create a diverse workforce reflective of California by expanding workforce recruitment and training, and increasing capacity for prevention, treatment and recovery across points of access and care.



## Coverage Architecture

Expand coverage and access to critical behavioral health services for ALL children and youth.



## Public Awareness

Raise awareness and engage communities and families to increase behavioral health literacy using culturally- and linguistically-appropriate campaigns.

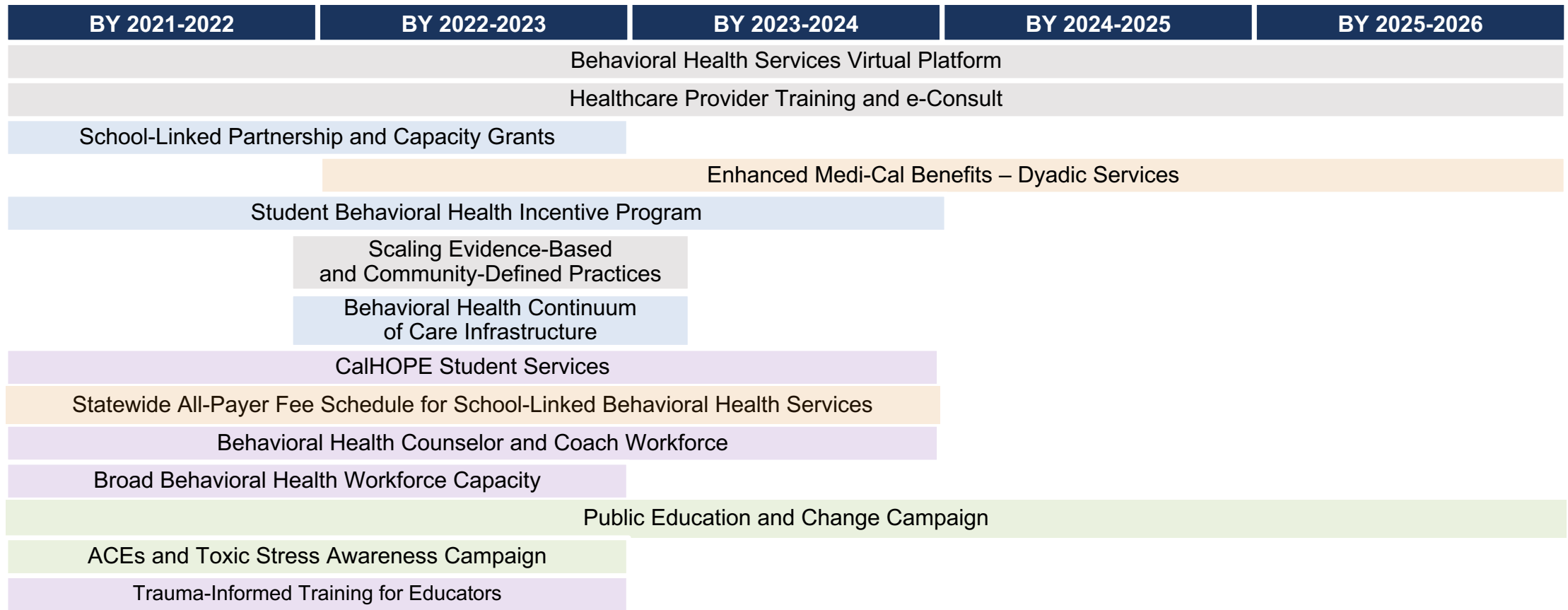
# Workstreams

Detailed information on the CYBHI's 14 workstreams can be found in [Appendix A](#).

Workforce Training and Capacity		Behavioral Health Ecosystem Infrastructure		Coverage Architecture	Public Awareness
Behavioral Health Counselor and Coach Workforce (HCAI)	CalHOPE Student Services (DHCS)	School-Linked Partnership and Capacity Grants (DHCS)	Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (DHCS)	Enhanced Medi-Cal Benefits – Dyadic Services (DHCS)	Public Education and Change Campaigns (CDPH)
Broad Behavioral Health Workforce Capacity (HCAI)	Trauma-informed Training for Educators (OSG)	Student Behavioral Health Incentive Program (DHCS)			
Behavioral Health Virtual Services Platform (DHCS)				Statewide All-Payer Fee Schedule for School-Linked Behavioral Health Services (DHCS/DMHC)	ACEs and Toxic Stress Awareness Campaign (OSG)
Healthcare Provider Training and e-Consult (DHCS)					
Scaling Evidence-Based and Community-Defined Practices (DHCS)					

# Combined Workstream Timelines

The CYBHI's 14 workstreams move on different timelines. Some work in parallel, while others work in sequence, building on each other to create system-wide change.



# Addressing Urgent and Emergent Needs: 2022-23 Additional State Budget Investments

While we work to ensure the CYBHI will have a meaningful impact on outcomes for children and youth in the long-term, Governor Newsom and the Legislature recognize the urgency of the mental health crisis facing children and youth today. In response to these concerns and building on prior investments, the 2022-23 State Budget includes \$290 million<sup>10</sup> in one-time General Fund investments over three-years to address youth behavioral health urgent and emergent issues, including:

## **Children and Youth Wellbeing, Resilience, Parent Support Programs**

Grants Program, DHCS (\$75 million)

## **Youth Suicide Reporting and Crisis Response**

Pilot Program, CDPH (\$50 million)

## **Children and Youth Suicide Prevention**

Grants and Outreach Campaign, CDPH (\$40 million)

## **Early Talents**

Workforce Development Pipeline Program, HCAI (\$25 million)

## **Parent Support and Training Videos**

DHCS (\$15 million)

## **Leverage Emerging Technologies to Develop Next Generation Digital Supports**

DHCS (\$75 million)

## **Youth Peer-to-Peer support program**

Development and Promotion, DHCS (\$10 million)



# Stay Engaged

We welcome input on the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative. To provide thoughts or comments or to sign up to receive regular updates, please email [CYBHI@chhs.ca.gov](mailto:CYBHI@chhs.ca.gov).

**To engage on workstream-specific topics, please use the following contact information and resources:**

- Department of Health Care Services:
  - Contact information for questions/feedback: [CYBHI@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:CYBHI@dhcs.ca.gov)
  - [Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative webpage](#)
  - [Student Behavioral Health Incentive Program \(SHIP\) webpage](#)
  - [Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program \(BHCIP\) webpage](#)
  - [CalHOPE Student Support webpage](#)
- Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI): [CYBHI@hcai.ca.gov](mailto:CYBHI@hcai.ca.gov)
- Department of Managed Health Care: [CYBHI@dmhc.ca.gov](mailto:CYBHI@dmhc.ca.gov)
- California Department of Public Health: [CYBHI@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:CYBHI@cdph.ca.gov)
- Office of the California Surgeon General: [OSGinfo@osg.ca.gov](mailto:OSGinfo@osg.ca.gov)

# Endnotes

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10. 2022-2023 California State Budget. <https://www.ebudget.ca.gov/FullBudgetSummary.pdf>.

# Appendix A: **Workstreams**

# Initiative Management

**Engage stakeholders, integrate departmental efforts and manage the design, direction, launch, ongoing support and evaluation of the CYBHI.**

**Managed by:** California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS)

**Goals:**

- Engage stakeholders to inform the design and direction of the CYBHI.
- Drive initiative-level outcome setting, collaboration across departments and workstreams, initiative management, initiative-level stakeholder engagement, communications and evaluation of progress against outcomes.
- Support the overall coordination and integration of cross-department efforts while providing subject matter expertise.

**Funding:** \$50 million

**Timeline:** Budget Years 2022 - 2026

**Ongoing Activities (as of 7/11/22):**

- Setting up project management infrastructure and managing ongoing efforts.
- Soliciting and synthesizing input from stakeholders – including youth, parents, and those with professional experience - on aspirations and outcomes.
- Defining initiative-wide outcome and measures.
- Defining evaluation approach for CYBHI; selecting and onboarding evaluation partner.
- Creating and convening Equity Working Group, Behavioral Health Ecosystem Expert Working Group and Prevention and Wellness Working Group.
- Drafting ecosystem working paper.
- Hosting initiative-wide community engagement sessions.
- Conducting ongoing work to operationalize governance and risk models.

# Phases of the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative

## What is our vision?

### Set Goals and Stand-Up Infrastructure

Setting overall vision, initiative-level goals and standing up performance infrastructure.

## How do we get there?

### Develop Detailed Plans and Design Future State

Developing a robust plan, with clear accountability for design and delivery; sourcing ideas and designing the future state.

## Let's get to work!

### Deliver and Accelerate Impact

Launching a full-scale effort to drive, accelerate and sustain impact.

# Behavioral Health Virtual Services Platform



Workforce Training and Capacity



Behavioral Health Ecosystem Infrastructure

**Implement a virtual platform for behavioral health services to deliver educational content and be integrated with screening, clinic-based care and app-based support services.**

**CYBHI Focus Areas:** Workforce Training and Capacity, Behavioral Health Ecosystem Infrastructure

**Managed by:** Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)

## Goals:

- Launch a Behavioral Health Virtual Services Platform for all children, youth and families in California regardless of payer.
- Support delivery of equitable, appropriate, and timely behavioral health services and supports from prevention to treatment to recovery.
- Drive statewide adoption of the platform.

**Funding:** \$632.7 million

**Timeline:** Budget Years 2022 - 2026

## Activities (as of 7/28/22):

- Completed an extensive market scan/landscape analysis.
- Convened an expert panel think tank comprised of multi-disciplinary state and national experts, as well as youth and parents/caregivers, to inform features of the platform, identify “user journeys”, understand interdependencies and determine opportunities for collaborative partnerships. 7 Think Tanks completed between April and July.
- Conducted numerous stakeholder engagements including youth focus groups, key informant interviews, and several public events (e.g., monthly public webinars).
- Issued a Request for Information to inform platform design and obtain input from potential vendors

## Milestones:

- Q4, 2022: Solicitation of services.
- January 1, 2024: Initial platform launch.

# Healthcare Provider Training and e-Consult



Workforce Training and Capacity



Behavioral Health Ecosystem Infrastructure

**Launch e-Consult system allowing pediatricians, primary care physicians and other providers to access consultation support from behavioral health professionals.**

**CYBHI Focus Areas:** Workforce Training and Capacity, Behavioral Health Ecosystem Infrastructure

**Managed by:** Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)

## Goals:

- Create and launch e-Consult for primary care and other non-behavioral health professionals who can expand their capabilities through accessing asynchronous and/or real time consultation support from behavioral health professionals.
- Provide training on resources and use of virtual services platform and e-Consult to pediatric, primary care, and other health providers.

**Funding:** \$167 million

**Timeline:** Budget Years 2022 - 2026

## Activities (as of 7/28/22):

- Engaging experts and stakeholders to identify and operationalize the features of the platform, including e-Consult
- July 2022: Request for Information to solicit input from potential vendors, including e-Consult

## Milestones:

- January 1, 2024: Launch e-Consult with Behavioral Health Services Virtual Platform.

# Scaling Evidence-Based and Community-Defined Practices



Workforce Training and Capacity



Behavioral Health Ecosystem Infrastructure

**Support statewide scale and adoption of evidence-based and community-defined practices proven to improve outcomes for children and youth with or at high risk for mental health conditions.**

**CYBHI Focus Areas:** Workforce Training and Capacity, Behavioral Health Ecosystem Infrastructure

**Managed by:** Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)

**Goals:**

- With input from stakeholders and educational partners, select a limited number of evidence-based practices and/or community-defined practices to scale statewide based on robust evidence of effectiveness, impact on racial equity and sustainability.
- Grants will be administered through a third-party grant administrator and grantees required to share standardized data in a statewide behavioral health dashboard.

**Funding:** \$429 million

**Timeline:** Budget Years 2022 - 2023

**Activities (as of 7/11/22):**

- Engaged stakeholders and educational partners to solicit input on best practices that could be scaled.
- Held 5 Think Tank sessions and 3 public Workgroup meetings, regularly engaged ~30 Think Tank members and ~35 Workgroup members.
- From stakeholder input, generated list of potential EBPs and CDPs for consideration in grant portfolio.
- Solicited stakeholder input to develop and refine potential EBP and CDP selection criteria

**Milestones:**

- September 1, 2022: Preliminary scope of granting program defined.
- December 1, 2022: Grants open.



# Broad Behavioral Health Workforce Capacity



Workforce Training and Capacity

**Build and expand culturally and linguistically competent workforce, education and training.**

**CYBHI Focus Area:** Workforce Training and Capacity

**Managed by:** Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI)

**Goals:**

- Improve access to and quality of behavioral health services by increasing the number of behavioral health professionals and evolving their training to better meet children and youth needs.
- Cross-cutting strategies include apprenticeship models, training to serve justice- and system-involved youth, building of the behavioral health workforce pipeline and the substance use disorder workforce.

**Funding:** \$426.75 million

**Timeline:** Calendar Year 2021-2022; Budget Year 2022-2023

**Activities (as of 7/11/22):**

- Funded UC Irvine Train New Trainers Primary Care Psychiatry Fellowship.
- Launched psychiatry capacity expansion grant funding application.
- Launched BH workforce pipeline grant funding application.
- Completed Peer Personnel expansion grant funding cycle.
- Initiated SUD stakeholder engagement.
- Revised and finalized funding decisions for social worker workforce, with initial focus on contract with CalSWEC.
- Determined Earn and Learn program evaluation strategy and next steps, particularly as it relates to SUD workforce.

**Milestones:**

- May - Fall 2022: Release peer personnel, psychiatry education capacity, scholarship, loan repayment program application cycles (including substance use disorder providers). Release first social work award cycles
- 2023: Administer new substance use disorder workforce programs.

# Behavioral Health Counselor and Coach Workforce



Workforce Training and Capacity

**Develop a multi-year plan to launch and implement a behavioral health coach or counselor system by which students can receive in-person and/or virtual one-on-one and group supports.**

**CYBHI Focus Area:** Workforce Training and Capacity

**Managed by:** Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI)

**Goals:**

- Augment the behavioral health workforce and increase availability of behavioral health services for youth by creating a new role.
- Using a multi-year plan, launch and implement a behavioral health coach system by which students would be able to receive in-person and / or virtual one-on-one and group supports.

**Funding:** \$338.25 million

**Timeline:** Calendar Year 2021-2022; Budget Years 2023 - 2024

**Activities (as of 7/11/22):**

- Continue stakeholder engagement via interviews and focus groups to identify needs and understand major pain points.
- Prepared preliminary summary of potential design options for BH coach role
- Conducted multiple rounds of stakeholder workshops and interviews
- Developing multi-year implementation outline, with initial focus on potential funding options

**Milestones:**

- Summer 2022: Release career ladder and framework for behavioral health coaches and counselors.
- 2023: Administer first award cycle for behavioral health coach training curriculum development.



# CalHOPE Student Services

**Support communities of practice in all 58 County Offices of Education to enhance Social Emotional Learning Environments; engage youth as partners in contributing to positive, supportive learning environment.**

**CYBHI Focus Area:** Workforce Training and Capacity

**Managed by:** Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)

**Goals:**

- Support communities of practice in all 58 County Offices of Education to enhance Social Emotional Learning Environments by identifying and sharing best practices to support youth in transitioning between distance and in-person classes.

**Funding:** \$45 million

**Timeline:** Budget years 2022 - 2024

**Activities (as of 7/11/22):**

- Working to put contract in place to support this work.
- The CalHOPE SEL website has launched to support the Communities of Practice- [www.calhopesel.org](http://www.calhopesel.org)
- The final Community of Practice meeting of the school year was held on 5/18 with over 90 participants representing 58 counties.

**Milestones:**

- January - June 2022: Contracts being put in place with Sacramento COEs and youth partner organization; Promotion of video / co-curricular tools for schools.
- July 2022 - June 2024: CalHOPE Student support in full motion.



# Trauma-Informed Training for Educators

**Provide ongoing training to childcare providers, educators and school personnel on trauma-informed care.**

**CYBHI Focus Area:** Workforce Training and Capacity

**Managed by:** Office of the California Surgeon General (OSG)

**Goals:**

- Enable early childcare providers, educators, and school personnel to:
  - Recognize the mechanisms and risks of ACEs / toxic stress.
  - Respond appropriately. Intervene early.
  - Provide buffering support that can assist in averting the long-term harms of trauma and adversity exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Funding:** \$1 million

**Timeline:** Budget year 2022 - 2024

**Activities (as of 7/22/22):**

- Recruiting panel of subject matter experts.
- Expert interviews in process
- Contract with WestEd has been fully executed and kickoff meeting held.

**Milestones:**

- Spring 2022: Contract for training development signed
- Summer 2022: Anticipated first convening with subject matter expert review panel
- Summer 2023: Training available to early childcare providers, educators and school personnel
- Summer 2023-Summer 2024: Evaluation

# School-Linked Partnership and Capacity Grants



Behavioral Health Ecosystem  
Infrastructure

**Build infrastructure, partnerships and capacity to increase the number of students receiving preventive and early-intervention behavioral health services.**

**CYBHI Focus Area:** Behavioral Health Ecosystem Infrastructure

**Managed by:** Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)

**Goals:**

- Provide direct grants to support new services for individuals 25 years of age and younger through schools, providers in school, school-affiliated CBOs or school-based health centers.
- Support statewide school-linked fee schedule and behavioral health network of providers.

**Funding:** \$550 million

**Timeline:** Budget year 2022 - 2023

**Activities (as of 7/11/22):**

- Completed 8 Listening Tours.
- Engaged ~350 educational partners and stakeholders (including youth).
- Collected insights from stakeholders to inform landscape of BH needs across early education, K – 12, and higher education settings.
- Stakeholders generated ideas for improving school-linked BH services with grant funding at or near school settings.

**Milestones:**

- September - December 2022: Release grant funding opportunity and open application period.

# Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program



Behavioral Health Ecosystem  
Infrastructure

**Help youth in every part of California access the care they need without delay and, wherever possible, without having to leave their home county, by building up sites where they can receive mental health and substance use disorder services and care.**

**CYBHI Focus Area:** Behavioral Health Ecosystem Infrastructure

**Managed by:** Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)

## **Goals:**

- Dedicate funding from state Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program to support children and youth.
- Build up sites where youth across California can receive mental health and substance use disorder services and care without delay and, wherever possible, without leaving their home county.
- Issue grants to support implementation of behavioral health infrastructure by counties, tribal entities, non-profit entities, for-profit entities and other entities, based on gap and capacity analysis.
- Grants may be used to add child/adolescent beds to existing facilities, or to set up new facilities or new crisis mobile services, with a strong focus on social model, residential settings as an alternative to institutional settings.

**Funding:** \$480.5 million (specific to children and youth)

**Timeline:** Budget year 2022 - 2023

## **Activities (as of 7/11/22):**

- Informing grant-making through understanding the current California behavioral health landscape.
- Released RFA for grants to fund infrastructure projects targeted at children and youth.

## **Milestones:**

- January 2022: Behavioral health assessment report released.
- June 2022: Request for Applications release (children and youth).

# Student Behavioral Health Incentive Program



Behavioral Health Ecosystem  
Infrastructure

**Provide incentive payments for Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans (MCPs) to build infrastructure, partnerships and capacity statewide for school behavioral health services.**

**CYBHI Focus Area:** Behavioral Health Ecosystem Infrastructure

**Managed by:** Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)

**Goals:**

- Make incentive payments to qualifying Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans (MCP) that meet predefined goals and metrics associated with targeted interventions that increase access to preventive, early intervention and behavioral health services by school-affiliated behavioral health providers for K-12 children in schools.
- Develop interventions, goals and metrics to determine eligibility to receive incentive payments in consultation with the State Department of Education, Medi-Cal managed care plans, county behavioral health departments, local education agencies and other affected stakeholders.

**Funding:** \$388.99 million

**Timeline:** Budget years 2022 - 2025

**Activities (as of 7/11/22):**

- Stakeholder engagement and education through technical assistance.
- MCP assessment/gap analysis with technical assistance to support engagement between local education agencies, counties and MCPs.
- Started conducting a comprehensive review of 19 Project Plans submitted on an accelerated basis for 5 counties and by 8 MCPs.

**Milestones:**

- January 2022: Program implementation.
- October 2022 - December 2024: Implementation of interventions and incentive payments released.



# Enhanced Medi-Cal Benefits – Dyadic Services



Coverage Architecture

**Implement dyadic services in Medi-Cal, based on the HealthySteps model of care.**

**CYBHI Focus Area:** Coverage Architecture

**Managed by:** Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)

**Goals:**

- Implement dyadic services in Medi-Cal that provide support and care for children and their caregivers simultaneously, in a holistic way. Based on the HealthySteps model of care, which provides integrated behavioral care where pediatric mental health professionals are available to address developmental and behavioral health concerns and families are screened for behavioral health problems together.
- Add Dyadic Behavioral Health Visits for coverage as well as make slight modifications to existing Medi-Cal benefits.

**Funding:** \$745.08 million

**Timeline:** Budget years 2023 - 2026

**Activities (as of 7/11/22):**

- Defining modifications to Medi-Cal benefits to implement the dyadic services benefit.

**Milestones:**

- January 2023: Dyadic services benefit in Medi-Cal.





# Statewide All-Payer Fee Schedule for School-linked Behavioral Health Services

**Develop and maintain a school-linked statewide fee schedule for outpatient mental health and substance use disorder services and provider network of at-or-near school-site behavioral health counselors.**

**CYBHI Focus Area:** Coverage Architecture

**Managed by:** Department of Health Care Services (DHCS),  
Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC)

**Goals:**

- Develop and maintain a school-linked statewide fee schedule for outpatient mental health and substance use disorder services provided for a student (25 years or younger) at or near a school-site .
- Build a statewide school-linked provider network of at-or-near school-site behavioral health counselors.

**Timeline:** BY 2021 - BY 2024

**Activities (as of 7/11/22):**

- Conducted further stakeholder engagements with Medi-Cal managed care plans, commercial plans, county behavioral health departments and other stakeholders, and other stakeholders.
- Developing a comprehensive list of questions and areas of concerns for plans to be addressed in guidance from DHCS, DMHC and California Department of Insurance (CDI).
- Executed Listening Tour Sessions to include K-12 and for Higher education (Universities and Community Colleges).
- Determining scope of services to be provided at schools and reimbursement amounts in the statewide fee schedule.

**Milestones:**

- December 2023: Issue initial guidance and publish fee schedule.
- January 2024: Deadline for fee schedule to be in place. Implement Behavioral Health network and fee structure, begin enforcement of guidance for commercial plans.

# Public Education and Change Campaigns

**Raise the behavioral health literacy of all Californians to normalize and support the prevention and early intervention of mental health and substance use challenges.**

**CYBHI Focus Area:** Public Awareness

**Managed by:** California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

**Goals:**

- Normalize and support the prevention of and early intervention with mental health and substance use challenges.
- Teach Californians how to recognize the early signs and symptoms of distress and where to turn to ask for help.
- Empower children and youth to take charge of their mental health and wellness.
- Tackle disparities and inequities by empowering diverse communities to develop culturally and linguistically appropriate tools to break down the stigma associated with behavioral health conditions and increase help-seeking behavior.

**Funding:** \$100 million

**Timeline:** Budget years 2022 - 2026

**Activities (as of 7/11/22):**

- Convened Brain Trust of national and CA experts on Behavioral Health.
- Set parameters for meaningful stakeholder engagement throughout all aspects of campaigns development.

**Milestones:**

- Spring 2022: Create subject-matter experts workgroup to develop stakeholder engagement plan.
- Fall 2022: Engage stakeholders and community partners.
- Spring 2023: Release RFP.
- Fall 2023: Award and launch campaign.

# ACEs and Toxic Stress Awareness Campaign



**Raise awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and toxic stress.**

**CYBHI Focus Area:** Public Awareness

**Managed by:** Office of the California Surgeon General (OSG)

**Goals:**

- Increase awareness of ACEs and toxic stress, emphasizing that toxic stress is a treatable health condition and there are resources available for screening, treatment and prevention.
- Share practical strategies for how parents and caregivers can support children who are experiencing stress and adversity — by helping them cope in ways that can turn off their stress response systems.
- Primarily target economically disadvantaged, LGBTQ+ and rural communities, communities of color, immigrants, refugee and justice- and welfare-involved youth. Secondary targets include the health care community, educators, legislators and other decision-makers.

**Funding:** \$24 million

**Timeline:** Budget year 2022 – 2023

**Activities (as of 7/11/22):**

- Collaborated with First 5 to ensure alignment across campaigns.
- Joined First 5 focus group message-testing efforts throughout March.
- Released RFP for the ACEs and toxic stress public awareness campaign.

**Milestones:**

- September 2022: Announce intent to award contract.
- October 2022: Award contract.
- Fall 2022: Form subject-matter expert workgroup to inform campaign development.
- Summer-Fall 2022: Engage with partners and clinicians to build awareness of the upcoming ACEs campaign and encourage them to take the free ACEs training for screening and treating patients for ACEs and toxic stress.
- Winter/Spring 2023: Campaign launch.