



**In-Person Community Forum  
February 12, 2025  
Westchester Training Room**



**Focus: MHSA Reform and Updates**

Total Meeting Attendance	14
Total Survey Responses	9
Total Completion Rate	64%



Age Group:		Sexual Orientation:	
0-15	0	Straight/Heterosexual	8
16-25	0	Gay or Lesbian	1
26-59	7	Questioning or Unsure	0
60 or Older	2	Queer	0
Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	5	Asexual	0
<b>Gender assigned at birth:</b>		Bisexual	0
Male	2	Pansexual	0
Female	6	Another Sexual Orientation	0
Intersex	0	Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	5
Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	6	<b>Race:</b>	
<b>Gender Currently Identified with:</b>		Asian	0
Male (Cis Male)	2	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0
Female (Cis Female)	6	Black/African American	0
Transgender/other	0	Latino/Hispanic	1
Genderqueer	0	Tribal/Native American	0
Non-Binary	0	White/Caucasian	6
Genderfluid	0	Two or More Races: Indian & Hispanic (2)	1
Questioning or Unsure	0	Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	6
Other Gender Identity	0	<b>Ethnicity:</b>	
Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	6	African	0
<b>Disability:</b>		Asian Indian/South Asian	0
Vision	0	Cambodian	0
Hearing, or Difficulty Understanding	0	Chinese	0
Mental/Cognitive (excludes behavioral)	2	Eastern European	0
Mobility/Physical	0	Korean	0
Chronic Medical Illness	2	Middle Eastern	0
None	2	Vietnamese	0
Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	8	European	3
<b>Veteran Status:</b>		Filipino	0
Yes, I Am a Veteran	1	Japanese	0
No, I Am Not a Veteran	8	Caribbean	0
Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	5	Central American	1
<b>Primary Language:</b>		Mexican/Mexican American/Chicano	0
Only English	8	Puerto Rican	0
Only Spanish	0	South American	0
Both English and Spanish	1	Two or More Ethnicities (see below)	1
Another Language (Hindi)	0	Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	9
Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	5	<i>Two or More: Eastern European &amp; Mexican</i>	

<b>*Group/Category</b>		<b>*Population you feel is most unserved/underserved in the above-mentioned community</b>	
Client/Consumer/Person with Mental Illness	2	Children/Families	2
Family Member of a Client or Person with Mental Illness	2	Transitional Aged Youth (16-25)	1
KernBHRS Staff	4	Older Adults	4
Law Enforcement	0	Homeless or At Risk of Homelessness	2
Veteran Services	0	Those in Rural Kern Areas	2
Senior Services	0	Veterans	2
Education/Schools	0	Those with Substance Use Disorders	1
Community Member	0	Latino/Hispanic	2
County Agency Staff (Not KernBHRS Staff)	0	Asian/Pacific Islander	0
Behavioral Health Provider (Not KernBHRS Staff)	3	Black/African American	0
Medical Care Provider	0	American Indian / Alaska Native	0
Other	0	LGBTQ+	1
Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	6	Other	0
<i>Describe others: n/a</i>		Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	7
<b>*Region of the County you are most involved</b>		<b>*Please indicate the types of services or programs that would be appropriate to service the above-mentioned population</b>	
Arvin/Lamont	0	Prevention	2
Bakersfield	8	Early Intervention	2
Delano/McFarland	0	Outreach for Recognizing the Early Signs of Mental Illness	4
California City/Mojave/Rosamond	0	Stigma and Discrimination Reduction	1
Wasco/Shafter	0	Access and Linkage to Care	2
Buttonwillow/Lost Hills	0	Peer-Based Services	4
Oildale	1	Intensive Outpatient Treatment	2
Kern River Valley	0	Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	6
Tehachapi	0	<b>How did you learn about this public forum?</b>	
Ridgecrest	0	Flyer	1
Taft	0	From a friend or family member	0
Frazier Park/Mountain Communities	0	From a co-worker/colleague	3
Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	6	Social media	0
*Participants may select more than one answer to survey questions.		Email/Text invitation	2
		Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	8

Do you have any questions, comments, or concerns?	
Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	13
Answered	1
1. I am confused about the money part of it all.	

ANNOUNCEMENTS	
<b>Kern County Emergency Alert System – Ready Kern</b> Visit <a href="http://www.ReadyKern.com">www.ReadyKern.com</a> to sign up for emergency notification.	<b>Psychiatric Health Facilities Update</b> New PHF for Adults and Minors located at 718 Workman Street and 702 Workman Street
<b>BAIHP Sponsored Event – 2025 Calendar</b> For any questions, please send a message to <a href="mailto:BAIHPcommunity@BakersfieldAIHP.org">BAIHPcommunity@BakersfieldAIHP.org</a>	<b>Prepare U</b> Contact MHSa Team at <a href="mailto:MHSATeam@kernbhhs.org">MHSATeam@kernbhhs.org</a> for more information
<b>Would you like to participate in our Cultural Competence Resource Committee?</b> For more information, please contact <a href="mailto:CulturalCompetence@KernBHRS.org">CulturalCompetence@KernBHRS.org</a>	<b>MHSa Annual Report FY 2025-2026 Timeline</b> Contact MHSa Team at <a href="mailto:MHSATeam@kernbhhs.org">MHSATeam@kernbhhs.org</a> for more information
<b>Help those in Crisis – Volunteer Recruitment</b> For more information contact Cassie Deras-Coker at (661)332-7479 or <a href="mailto:CDeras-Coker@kernbhhs.org">CDeras-Coker@kernbhhs.org</a>	<b>Navigating KernBHRS Website</b> Visit our website to see MHSa reports and provide feedback for the upcoming Annual Report. <a href="https://www.kernbhhs.org/home-bhr">https://www.kernbhhs.org/home-bhr</a>

**MHSa & Behavioral Health Transformation Education**

**Presenter:** Tia Flores, Program Specialist

**Description:** Flores presented the MHSa origins and how the 5 funding streams work to improve mental health outcomes. Flores provided an update on Behavioral Health Transformation (BHT) / Prop 1

**Questions from the Audience after the presentation:**

- 1. **Q:** Will funding be cut for CFLC when the transition begins?  
**A:** (Bailey) Although we will begin contracting Clarvida, the location and services will remain intact and the overall funding will not be cut, just put into different funding buckets. 30% of overall funding will go to housing so there are some changes to come but the programming level will remain the same.

2. **Q:** What is the reason for contracting out?

**A:** (Flores) This is our way of being proactive and preparing for the transition.

3. **Q:** Is the cut of funding coming from the state or is it federal?

**A:** (Bailey) It's not being cut, it's being redistributed. In terms of CFLC, those services will remain, and they will continue to be a priority for us here at Kern BHRS.

**C:** Lynn Course from the audience has offered to get back to our audience members with more specific details about how the funding will be changing due to Prop 1.

## Listening Session

**Presentation:** Listening Session

**Presenter:** Tia Flores, MHSA Program Specialist

**Description:** Flores opened to facilitate the listening session

**Questions from the Audience after the presentation:** No questions were recorded for this section.

## MHSA Stakeholder Feedback Forms Received

- "Try taking stakeholders to get together and make more money for all the buckets to keep money in all buckets new and originals."
- "Thank you for providing such important information"

## CPPP Incentive Program

The MHSA/CPPP Incentive Program started on December 1, 2021. This incentive program offers a \$20 gift card for consumers/clients, their families, and other MHSA program participants.

To qualify for the MHSA/CPPP Incentive Program, interested consumers/clients, family members, and other MHSA program participants must pre-register to attend the MHSA Community Forum. Upon pre-registration, MHSA staff will ensure that those who pre-register know the location of the meeting (for In-Person meetings) or have reliable access to Zoom (for Virtual meetings).

During the MHSA Community Forum, MHSA staff will confirm attendance. Then, approximately within one business day, the \$20 gift card will be mailed to the address they provided during pre-registration.

CPPP Incentive Program will be discontinued effective August 21, 2024.

## Action Steps

Kern Behavioral Health and Recovery Services will continue its commitment to inform, engage, take feedback, and reach out to its communities. This will be achieved through the collaborative efforts of offering MHSA-funded programs and services in partnership with community organizations and contract service providers throughout Kern County.

MHSA recorded a total of **14** attendees during this presentation; the total excludes MHSA Coordination team members and presenters.

In this meeting, MHSA provided an overview of the ongoing Behavioral Health Transformation update. This transformation is a collective effort, and MHSA will continue to provide updates as information is received.

During the Stakeholder meeting, we had no voting items.

MHSA will:

**General**

We will continue to provide education and updates on legislative and policy changes regarding MHSA funding and how that impacts the programs and services provided to Kern County residents.

Investigate ways of gaining stakeholder feedback and participation (giveaways, treats, etc.) during the next meetings.

Continue researching ways of gaining more clients/families and public participation during stakeholder meetings.

No further action steps.