

CHHS Behavioral Health Taskforce

Meeting the Moment for Behavioral Health Questionnaire

While Californians demonstrate strength and resilience during these uncertain times, significant loss, grief, anxiety, isolation and loneliness is taking a toll. The growing demand for behavioral health care is met by an existing deeply strained behavioral health system. Further, the public health and fiscal crisis exposed existing deep injustices and inequities in access to quality behavioral health care. It is not possible for the existing infrastructure to successfully absorb the need. Multiple systems and partners, public and private, must play a role to ***Meet this Moment for Behavioral Health***.

As California continues its commitment to combating COVID-19, we must also take immediate steps to support recovery, wellness and healing. This is critical for those who are the most vulnerable and disenfranchised. California has confronted the pandemic with a focus on those most in need and through a lens of equity. This focus should remain but also ensure effective strategies buffer Californians from the negative outcomes associated with untreated behavioral health challenges.

Request for Feedback:

In preparation for the **March 9th BHTF** meeting please complete the following brief **questionnaire no later than March 3rd**. When responding to these questions, consider how California's commitment to equity and reducing disparities is being addressed. Please be succinct and inclusive. This information will be used to help structure the meeting and ground us in the work ahead. If you have any questions or want to discuss these questions further, please don't hesitate to contact me at Stephanie.Welch@chhs.ca.gov or (916) 549-5048.

Please complete this fillable form at your earliest convenience and no later than March 3rd and email it and any other materials of interest to Tran Duong at tran.duong@chhs.ca.gov

1. Name, title, organization or department
2. List by priority up to 3 challenges to the availability of behavioral health services due to the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting fiscal and social impacts. (*Challenges can be at the system, community and/or individual level*).
3. List by priority up to 3 significant challenges to increasing equity in access to and quality of behavioral health services for diverse constituencies. (*Challenges can be at the system, community and/or individual level*).

