

**Fiscal Year (FY) 2026/27-2028/29  
Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Integrated Plan (IP)  
SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS**

The 30-day Public comment period for the FY 2026/27-2028/29 BHSA IP was opened from February 27 through March 29, 2026. The following comments were received and included in the submitted Draft for review by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). At this time, no changes have been made to the Draft IP as it was originally posted for public review. Public comments received in writing, at the April 15, 2026 Public Hearing and Substantive Recommendations by the Behavioral Health Commission will be considered following completion of DHCS review. The final BHSA IP will be brought before the Board of Supervisors for approval on June 23, 2026 to include all comments and updates.

Please describe [stakeholder input](#) in the table below. Please add each stakeholder group into their own row in the table

**Stakeholder group that provided feedback**

Eligible adults and older adults (individuals with lived experience); Families of eligible children and youth, eligible adults, and eligible older adults (families with lived experience)

**Summarize the substantive revisions recommended this stakeholder during the comment period**

I wanted to give some feedback about the impact of NAMI El Dorado in our community. Their monthly newsletter provides lots of helpful information and lets me know about upcoming events in our community. NAMI facilitates many essential groups like Family Support Groups, Family to Family classes as well as individual support. Clubhouse El Dorado is a much needed and impactful part of NAMI El Dorado. I've witnessed lives not only changed but saved. I've seen members go from being fairly incapacitated to gaining employment and being homeless to being able to afford rent and a place to live. I ask that your [plan will support NAMI El Dorado and enable Clubhouse El Dorado to keep doing its wonderful job with those who so desperately need it.

**Stakeholder group that provided feedback**

Families of eligible children and youth, eligible adults, and eligible older adults (families with lived experience); Providers of mental health services and substance use disorder treatment services

**Summarize the substantive revisions recommended this stakeholder during the comment period**

The Plan is written to provide the public and stakeholders with the scope and direction our county is moving toward under the new changes in the BHSA. Comment: Too many acronyms and jargon "upstream, cross cutting strategies" for example, make reading this lengthy plan difficult, given the people you want to reach. The purpose is to ensure stakeholders have the opportunity to meaningfully and sufficiently participate. First, they have to understand it.

**Stakeholder group that provided feedback**

Families of eligible children and youth, eligible adults, and eligible older adults (families with lived experience); Providers of mental health services and substance use disorder treatment services

**Summarize the substantive revisions recommended this stakeholder during the comment period**

There is greater data in the Plan for areas within the Quality Improvement Plan information showing the County's desire and efforts to improve several areas that are below State measurement rates. Comment: More data needed on individual programs showing how programs are making progress in addressing areas of need and measurable objectives to set goals for improvement. Where is the data for programs began in 2024; Mobile Crisis Team, MHRC and Clubhouse? Why is this positive data not being utilized to move services further in the direction desired?

**Stakeholder group that provided feedback**

Families of eligible children and youth, eligible adults, and eligible older adults (families with lived experience); Providers of mental health services and substance use disorder treatment services

**Summarize the substantive revisions recommended this stakeholder during the comment period**

Most appreciated was the Supplemental Measure - Quality of Life. The County correctly identified this goal as a priority because it "directly influences engagement, trust, outcomes, across multiple domains including access to care and untreated Behavioral Health Conditions". Comment: It is disappointing that, while Quality of Life was recognized as an important if not essential measure , the very program that fosters, encourages and celebrates these strategies and has the data to support it, Clubhouse El Dorado, was left out of the Plan entirely.

### **Stakeholder group that provided feedback**

Families of eligible children and youth, eligible adults, and eligible older adults (families with lived experience); Providers of mental health services and substance use disorder treatment services

### **Summarize the substantive revisions recommended this stakeholder during the comment period**

Overall, I found the BHSA Integrated Plan lacking in addressing our County's Behavioral Health Needs. The State of California may approve the "boilerplate" answers to its format, but it does not meet the very real needs for the people it is meant to serve. It has no heart. \$24 Million may provide a renovated building and nicer PHF, and more offices, but I believe the individuals in our county affected by severe and persistent mental illness would rather have an accepting and supportive community with hope for a life of meaning and quality.

### **Stakeholder group that provided feedback**

Eligible adults and older adults (individuals with lived experience); Families of eligible children and youth, eligible adults, and eligible older adults (families with lived experience); Youths (individuals with lived experience) or youth mental health or substance use disorder organizations; Providers of mental health services and substance use disorder treatment services; Community-based organizations serving culturally and linguistically diverse constituents; People with lived experience of homelessness

### **Summarize the substantive revisions recommended this stakeholder during the comment period**

We respectfully request your support for Clubhouse El Dorado, a proven, community-based program serving adults living with serious mental illness. The California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) officially recognizes Clubhouses as inclusive spaces where members with serious mental illness or substance use disorders work alongside staff as equals to build skills and support recovery. And in the less than two years we've been in operation with your support, we've developed our Clubhouse into a thriving space with 300 plus members, an average daily attendance of 20-25, meeting county and state goals to help members build skills and grow in their recovery. While we are applying for other funding streams including becoming Medi-Cal certified and a Managed Care provider, as well as soliciting philanthropic donations, these will not cover the entire cost of the Clubhouse program. We therefore urge you to reconsider funding our Clubhouse. Failing to support the Clubhouse could result in a loss of the vital services that meet many goals

of DCHS and your BHSA plan. After meeting with staff from California Department of Health Care services on 3/12/26, we wanted to clarify several important considerations regarding BH-Connect participation. First, opting into the Clubhouse evidence-based practice does not create a mandate to adopt any other model or service. Second, participation is flexible, and the County may opt out at any time. Third, there is no indication that this funding will be interrupted, providing a stable opportunity to invest in services that deliver long-term outcomes. Finally, BH Connect funding allows the county to receive matching funds for 50% of its investment. We have made a careful study of the BHSA plan, and maintain that the BHSA plan does include Clubhouse services in its purview. In this email, we demonstrate how our Clubhouse meets the ideals presented in your plan, and how our Clubhouse is a valuable community partner to help you attain the goals of the plan. Under California's Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) a Clubhouse serves as an evidence-based, community-based environment designed to fulfill several core service categories. The Core BHSA Services fulfilled by Clubhouses include Supported Employment & Vocational Services, Social Connection and Peer Support, Housing Navigation and Stability, Educational Assistance, Outreach and Engagement, and Resource Navigation. Our Clubhouse also plays a strategic role in the BHSA to achieve statewide goals by Reducing Recidivism, providing Early Intervention, providing Cost Effective Care, and providing Full Service Partnership-aligned "personal service coordination." A primary goal of the BHSA is to improve Social Connection and Peer Support. Clubhouses fulfill this through structured socialization, mentorship, and recreational activities during evenings, weekends, and holidays. Members have spent 23,000+ hours at the Clubhouse and have participated in social activities on evenings and weekends. On page 175 of your plan you display 14 Statewide Behavioral Health Goals. Among those 14, our Clubhouse supports access to care, quality of life, social connection, engagement in school, and engagement in work. Page 142 of your plan states that you are choosing to opt out of Supported Employment and Vocational Services. You state there's a limited need. Three hundred plus Clubhouse members demonstrate that there very much is a need, and we meet that need with our "Work-Ordered Days" and transitional employment programs that have so far helped members gain job skills, confidence, and autonomous employment. Ninety-four resumes have been completed, and members have participated in 100 interviews, securing 92 jobs. Educational Assistance is defined as support for members to complete their education or access community-based educational resources. Since opening our doors, 44 of our members have pursued or are pursuing their formal education. On pages 34, 104, 116, 121 of your plan you cite Housing Navigation services that you provide or plan to provide. While our Clubhouse is not a residential facility, we provide critical support in housing navigation and help members secure and sustain safe, affordable housing. Since opening our doors we have helped 66 members obtain secure housing, and we maintain close relationships with them so as to continue supporting them on their recovery journey. Outreach and Engagement: Clubhouses act as "natural gathering places" that help engage unserved individuals,

including those at risk of homelessness or justice involvement, by offering a safe setting and basic necessities. The recovery oriented services described on page 106-7 of the FSP are exactly the holistic support our Clubhouse provides. The Clubhouse is a peer support environment, where members get one-on-one support, integrate into the community, and develop wellness and self-management practices. As part of basic necessities, in the past year, our Clubhouse has provided 8000+ breakfasts, lunches, and take home dinners (prepared by members) to those members experiencing food insecurity. Resource Navigation is defined as assistance with securing benefits such as SSI and SSDI, as well as coordinating access to medical and psychiatric services. Since opening our doors, we have supported 273 linkages to these and other community resources. Counties have the option to include Clubhouse services in their BH-CONNECT initiatives and integrated three-year plans to meet statewide goals such as: Reducing Recidivism, Early Intervention, and providing Cost-Effective Care with Full Service Partnership-aligned personal service coordination. By addressing social isolation and unemployment, Clubhouses are a key strategy for reducing justice system involvement. Our Clubhouse provides Early Intervention by targeting at-risk populations, including youth and those with emerging behavioral health needs, to prevent long-term disability. Finally, the Clubhouse model is recognized as a high-value investment, often costing one-third to one-half of traditional clinical models. The Clubhouse provides FSP-aligned “personal service coordination” to our members who may or may not be in the FSP program. Our members don’t have to wait days or even weeks for an appointment to meet an urgent need – the Clubhouse is open from 9am - 5pm Monday through Friday. Members can reach staff as needed. Some of the life enhancing skills our members have developed in the time we’ve been open include Food service, Hospitality, Public Speaking, Media development, Writing, Researching, Job Searching, Resume writing, Job Interviewing, Appropriate Dressing for job interviews, Self-advocating with providers, Medication Management, Wellness maintenance, Effective communication, Mindfulness practices, and Participation in SUDs Recovery Activities. Once again, we urge your continued support of Clubhouse El Dorado, which serves critical needs in our community and has become a model that neighboring counties are inspired to emulate. Thank you for your leadership and commitment to improving mental health outcomes in El Dorado County. We welcome the opportunity to meet with you or your staff to discuss how Clubhouse El Dorado can support the success of your El Dorado County Behavioral Health services and goals.