



EL DORADO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION OVERVIEW 2026: 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY: **JIM ABRAM, CHAIRMAN**

PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON: **APRIL 7, 2026**

EL DORADO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION

PURPOSE/OBJECTIVE OF COMMISSION

Purpose and Role

- The Behavioral Health Commission is established under Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) 5604.
- WIC 5604.2 states the Commission's duties to "Review and evaluate the community's mental health needs, services, facilities, and special problems."
- The Commission serves in an advisory role to the Board of Supervisors.
- The Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) Bylaws were updated and approved by the Board of Supervisors on February 11, 2025. (Resolution 019-2025.)
- BHC Bylaws Article IV. The Behavioral Health Commission shall "Review and evaluate behavioral health needs, services, facilities and special problems in any facility within the county or jurisdiction where mental health or substance use disorder evaluations services are being provided."

Objectives

- Review and advise on any county agreements entered into pursuant to California WIC Section 5650 (Performance Contract.)
- Advise the Board of Supervisors and the El Dorado County Behavioral Health Director as to any aspect of the local behavioral health program.
- Review and approve the procedures used to ensure citizen and professional involvement at all stages of the planning process as specified in California WIC Section 5651.
- Review each qualified applicant for the position of Behavioral Health Director, and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. The Commission shall be included in the selection process prior to the vote of the Board of Supervisors.

EL DORADO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION

MEMBERSHIP

2025 Membership

- Jim Abram—Commission Chair
- Greg Ferrero—Board of Supervisors Representative
- Norma Santiago—Vice Chair (South Lake Tahoe)
 - John Taylor—Vice Chair (West Sope)
 - Dr. Stephen Clavere—Secretary
 - Kathryn Hamilton—Commissioner
 - Deanna Santana—Commissioner
 - Sophia Sumimoto—Commissioner
 - Amelia Leo-Fraze—Commissioner
 - Kieran Smith—Commissioner

2026 Membership

- Jim Abram-Chair
- Greg Ferrero—Board of Supervisors Representatives
- Norma Santiago—Vice Chair (South Lake Tahoe)
 - Deanna Santana—Vice Chair (West Slope)
 - Kieran Smith—Secretary
 - Dr. Stephen Clavere—Commissioner

EL DORADO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION

2025 PRESENTATIONS AND UPDATES

MONTH	PRESENTATION(S) / UPDATES
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Behavioral Health Transformation (BHT) & Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) progress report. Presentation on Children’s Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS) payment reform & provider rate development methodology.
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review/Discussion of Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Fiscal Year 2023/24 Outcomes Report. Presentation on Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS).
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Hearing of El Dorado County Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Plan FY25/26 Annual Update. BH Commission MHSA FY25/26 Annual Update Ad Hoc Committee Report Out & BH Commission recommended substantive recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. Presentation by BH staff on the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) plans development progress.
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation of the Behavioral Health Commission 2024 Annual Report by Jim Abram, Commission chair, to the BHC for approval for presentation to the Board of Supervisors.
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proclamation read; BOS adopted on May 13, 2025, naming May as “Mental Health Awareness Month”. Presentation on Mobile Crisis Unit.
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation on the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) grant as well as the Service, Outreach, Access, and Response (SOAR) Project.

CONTINUE 

EL DORADO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION

2025 PRESENTATIONS AND UPDATES ((CONTINUED))

MONTH	PRESENTATION(S) / UPDATES
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review/Discussion of MHSA Plan FY25/26 Update as adopted by the Board of Supervisors on June 17, 2025. • Presentation/Discussion regarding the upcoming planning process for the BHSA FY26/27-28/29 Integrated Plan in accordance with WIC Section 5651. • Presentation on initiatives and requirements relative to and affecting the Behavioral Health Division in the past 2-3 years. • Discussion on revisions of the monthly BH Director's Report.
August	(No Meeting)
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Behavioral Health (BH) System Improvement Plan (SIP). • Review/Discussion on Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Integrated Plan (IP) program.
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by the Data Notebook Ad Hoc committee to the BHC on the completed Data Notebook. • Presentation by Behavioral Health staff on Crisis Residential Treatment. • Update on the Behavioral Health System Improvement Plan (SIP).
November	(No Meeting)
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of 2026 Commission Officers. • Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) 2025 Community Planning Process (CPP) Ad hoc Committee update on meetings to date. • Presentation by Behavioral Health Division staff and contracted service providers on Children's Specialty Mental Health Services in El Dorado County.

EL DORADO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION

2025 AD HOC COMMITTEES

- Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Fiscal Year 25/26 Plan Update Review.
- 2026 Data Notebook Review and Completion Ad Hoc Committee.
- Ad Hoc Nominating Committee for 2026 Commission officers.
- Ad Hoc Committee to Engage in the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Community Planning Process (CPP) and Provide Updates.

EL DORADO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION

CHALLENGES

- Behavioral Health Division (BHD) staffing vacancies.
- Impact of Proposition 1, Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) on deliverable Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services.
- Need for transitional housing.
- Commission membership—filling vacant positions.
- Commission membership meeting Welfare Institutions Code 5604 requirements.

EL DORADO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION

REVIEW OF GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

- The Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) is mandated by **Welfare Institutions Code 5604**. The Commission's duties are specifically stated in **WIC 5604.2**.
- The **Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) By-laws** incorporate the requirements specified in **WIC 5604.2**.
- The Behavioral Health Commission By-laws were updated/revised and approved by the Board of Supervisors on February 11, 2025.
- The **Ralph M. Brown Act-Government Code 54950** revised/effective January 1, 2025-January 1, 2030.
- **El Dorado County Board, Committee and Commission Handbook**.

EL DORADO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION

UPCOMING GOALS/WORKPLAN

- Hold monthly public Behavioral Health Commission meetings.
- Continue to review and evaluate behavioral health and substance use disorder services in El Dorado County.
- Hold educational presentations of Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) updates of required Behavioral Health Division (BHD) programs and their delivery of services to consumers.
- Work collaboratively with the Behavioral Health Division (BHD) on reviewing and evaluating services delivered to consumers.