

# CYBHI

Children and Youth  
Behavioral Health Initiative



## July 2023 Update



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# A Message from CYBHI Director Melissa Stafford Jones

July is [National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month](#). It's an opportunity to highlight the mental health disparities faced by Black communities, indigenous communities and communities of color; the inequities they experience in accessing quality care; and the need for our behavioral health system to be more culturally responsive, linguistically accessible and representative of the people it serves.

The [Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative \(CYBHI\)](#) is working to transform our systems to address these kinds of inequities by embracing ideas that work. From announcing the first set of grants from the [Evidence-Based and Community-Defined Evidence Practices \(EBP and CDEP\) Grant Program](#) to launching a new [webinar series](#) sharing information on new tools, resources and practices to support student mental health and wellbeing, we're identifying, sharing and scaling successful practices that create better outcomes for all Californians.

Shared values and collaboration make transformation possible. I saw this first-hand at the **Cross-Sector Collaboration for Children and Youth Behavioral Health in East Kern County**, co-hosted by CYBHI and Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office. Local, county and state agencies came together to improve student behavioral health, integrating their efforts and exploring how they can use tools and resources from CYBHI and the state's Community Schools investments.

I also want to highlight Governor Newsom's [recent \\$47 million commitment](#) to create green spaces in California schools. Along with protecting our kids from extreme heat, these spaces can serve as accessible spaces to belong, create, and connect to the outdoors, a key call to action made by young people, families and communities in the CYBHI's [Youth at the Center Report](#).

The work of CYBHI is made possible by the incredible creativity, resourcefulness and commitment of our partners across sectors in every part of the state. Thank you for sharing your ideas and efforts to better serve California children, youth and families.

In Partnership,

Melissa Stafford Jones  
Director, Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative

## Current Funding Opportunities

### **Scholarship - Behavioral Health Scholarship Program (HCAI)**

**Application due by 3 p.m., August 15, 2023.**

Applications are open for the Behavioral Health Scholarship Program, which aims to increase the number of appropriately trained allied and advanced behavioral health professionals providing direct patient care and support individuals pursuing behavioral health careers in reproductive health settings. Information is available on HCAI's Behavioral Health Scholarship Program [webpage](#).

### **Repayment - California State Loan Repayment Program (HCAI)**

**Application due by 3 p.m., September 15, 2023.**

Applications are open for the California State Loan Repayment Program, which is focused on increasing the number of mental/behavioral health providers, primary care physicians, dentists, dental hygienists, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives and pharmacists practicing in federally designated [California Health Professional Shortage Areas](#). Information on eligibility and how to apply can be found on the [California State Loan Repayment Program webpage](#).

## Spotlights

### **California Awards \$30.5 Million to Support Caregivers & Meet Kids' Mental Health Needs**

On July 6, 2023, the State of California announced \$30.5 million in grants to 63 organizations to help develop and scale evidence-based and community-defined practices (EBP & CDEP) supporting family caregivers. Overseen by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and funded through CYBHI, the \$429 million EBP & CDEP Grant Program seeks to identify and scale successful practices that improve access to critical youth behavioral health interventions — including prevention, early intervention and resiliency/recovery — with a specific focus on children and youth who are Black, indigenous, people of color and/or LGBTQ+. ([Click Here to View](#))

## Stories From the Field: Helping Parents to Help Kids

Our schools are vital community resources, going beyond academics to help meet a wide range of needs for our children. But to effectively support young people, they also have to meet the needs of the adults in their lives. In this month's composite Story From the Field from the Social Changery, discover how one Northern California school helped create healthier environments for their students by supporting the mental health needs of their parents and caregivers. ([Click Here to View](#))

## California Surgeon General Launches New Trauma-Informed Training

On July 12, the Office of the California Surgeon General (OSG) launched a new trauma-informed training designed to help educators, school personnel and early care providers respond to trauma and stress in children. [Safe Spaces: Foundations of Trauma-Informed Practice for Educational and Care Settings](#) was developed in collaboration with experts in education, youth mental health and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) research. The training is free, accessible online and available in English and Spanish. [Access the partner toolkit.](#)

## Updates

- [Youth Are the Key to Reimagining California's Approach to Mental Health](#) by Youth Advocate & Advisor Kassy Poles and CalHHS Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly (Capitol Weekly)

## Upcoming Meetings and Participation Opportunities

### **August 9, 2023 – 2-4:30 p.m. – Webinar for LEAs/COEs, BH Providers and Plans and Community Partners – Safe Spaces: Trauma Informed Training for Educators**

Learn about new, free resources school districts can leverage to train educators and school staff with tangible strategies for supporting students and creating trauma-informed spaces. This webinar is presented as part of CYBHI's *Leveraging and Aligning Opportunities to Advance and Sustain School Mental Health* series. To attend, please visit the [registration page](#).

**August 30, 2023 – 2-4:30 p.m. – Webinar for LEAs/COEs, BH Providers and Plans and Community Partners – CYBHI Fee Schedule and Partnership Capacity Grants: Part 1**

Find out about a new opportunity for schools to receive increased sustainable funding to support student mental health and wellness services, working together with cross-sector partners. This webinar is presented as part of CYBHI's *Leveraging and Aligning Opportunities to Advance and Sustain School Mental Health* series. Registration information will be available on [CYBHI's Events & Funding Opportunities Webpage](#).

## Stay Engaged

CYBHI welcomes all input. To learn more about the CYBHI and to sign up to receive regular updates and engagement opportunities, please visit the [CYBHI webpage](#).

To contact CYBHI or engage on workstream-specific topics, please visit our [Contact Us page](#).

## [View Past Updates & Webinars](#)

## About the CYBHI

The [Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative \(CYBHI\)](#) is a five-year, \$4.7 billion initiative that is transforming the way California supports children, youth and families. Built on a foundation of equity and accessibility, the CYBHI works to reimagine a more integrated, youth-centered system that meets the needs of all young people, particularly those who face the greatest systemic barriers to wellness. The initiative's goal is to enable California kids to find support for their mental health and substance use needs where, when and in the way they need it most. The initiative's efforts are created for and by young people and families. Together with partners across sectors and systems, we are meeting young people where they are – such as schools, college campuses and other learning environments – to provide access to mental health and substance use services and supports.