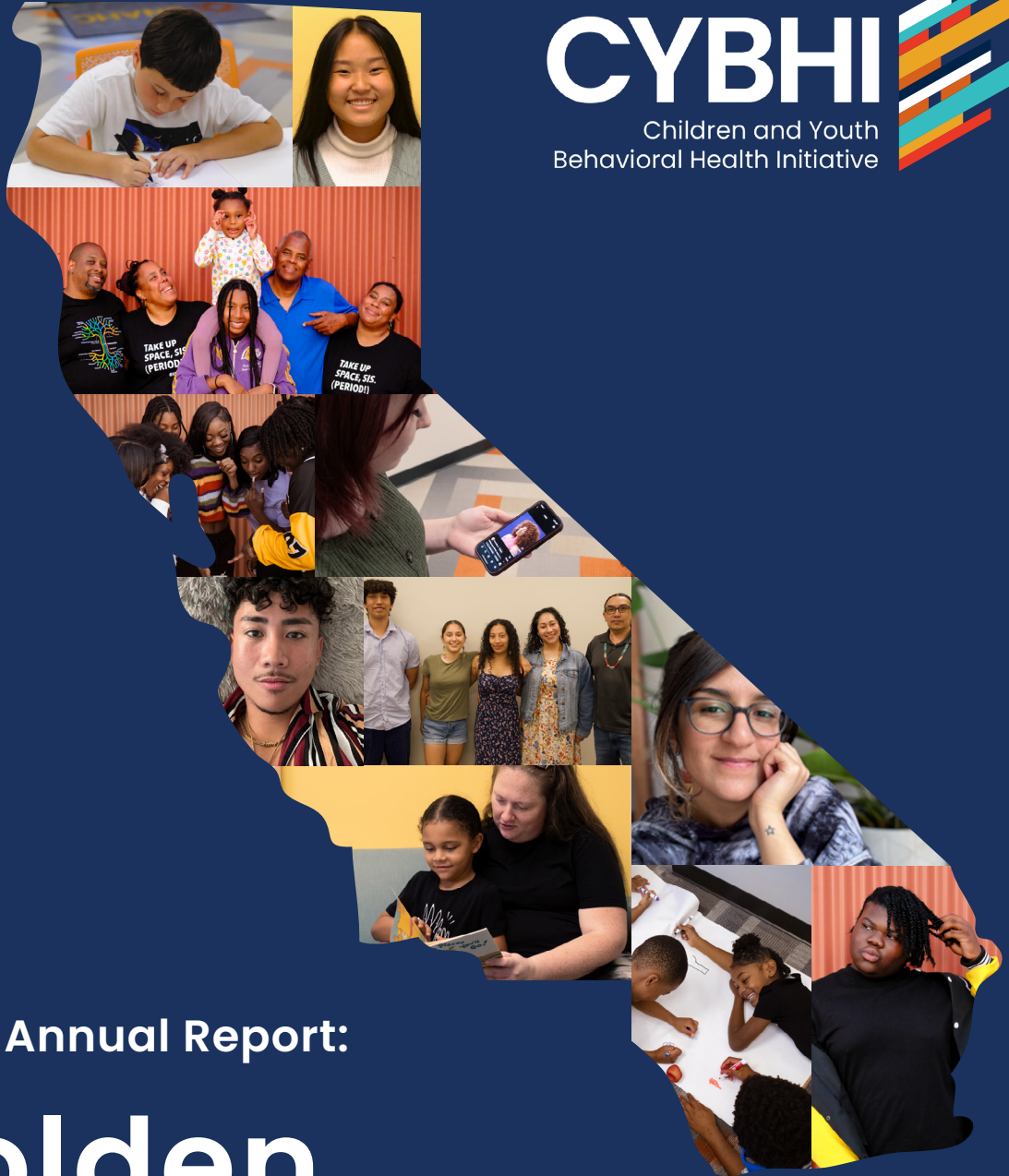


CYBHI
Children and Youth
Behavioral Health Initiative



2024 CYBHI Annual Report:

A Golden State of Mind

Table of Contents

Welcome	4
Executive Summary	5
Providing Services Where Lives are Lived	7
Homes and Communities:	
Scaling What Works	8
Youth Suicide Reporting and Crisis Response	9
Education Settings:	
Safe Spaces Trauma-Informed Training	10
CalHOPE Mindfulness, Resilience and Well-being Supports	11
Student Behavioral Health Incentive Program	12
School-Linked Partnership and Capacity Grants	13
CYBHI Fee Schedule Program	13
Transforming Together	15
Digital Spaces:	
Behavioral Health Virtual Services Platforms	16
Next-Generation Digital Therapeutics	17
Positive Parenting, Thriving Kids	18
Health Care Settings:	
Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program	19
California Child and Adolescent Mental Health Access Portal	21
Dyadic Services	22

Table of Contents

Invigorating the Behavioral Health Workforce	23
Youth Peer-to-Peer Support Program	24
Youth Mental Health Academy	25
Peer Personnel Training and Placement Program	26
Health Professions Pathways Program	26
Certified Wellness Coach Program	27
Community-Based Organization Behavioral Health Workforce Grant Program	29
Scholarships and Loan Repayment Programs	30
Public Behavioral Health Social Work Training and Fellowship Program	30
Justice System Involved Youth Training	31
Substance Use Disorder Earn and Learn Grant Program	31
Social Work Education Capacity Expansion	32
Psychiatric Education Capacity Expansion	33
Train New Trainers: Primary Care Psychiatry and Addiction Medicine	34
Elevating the Conversation	35
<i>Live Beyond: ACEs and Toxic Stress Awareness Campaign</i>	36
<i>Never a Bother: Youth Suicide Prevention Campaign</i>	37
<i>Take Space to Pause: Public Education Campaign</i>	39
A Brighter Future	40
Defining and Measuring Progress	41
Looking Ahead	42

The following report features photos of real California children, youth, and families and discusses implementation progress made in calendar year 2024, unless otherwise noted.

Welcome

To the Youth of California,

We, the Youth Fellows for the California's Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) — Mariah Dixon and Khoa-Nathan Ngo — write to celebrate our state's progress in creating an equitable and accessible behavioral health system for all. We joined this mission to ensure California's youth have access to the support we once needed. Mariah's experiences with homelessness and mental health struggles inspire her advocacy for Black youth, while Nathan's time in psychiatric incarceration and an underserved homeless shelter fuels his push for mental health reform.

The beating heart of CYBHI is youth and community participation.

Across the initiative, youth voices are not just heard — they drive change. Advisory groups, councils, and/or community-based organizations (CBOs) embody this commitment — campaigns like *Live Beyond* (raising awareness of ACEs/toxic stress), *Never A Bother* (suicide prevention), and *Take Space to Pause* (managing stress) resonate because they're created by and for young people.

Youth empowerment isn't just limited to work done behind the scenes.

Creating equity requires that we expand opportunities for people with lived experience to join us. We are proud of CYBHI's success in this. From our Youth Mental Health Academy, which trains high school students, to the creation of the Certified Wellness Coach profession, the support provided to those wanting to join the mental health workforce has never been more robust.

The CYBHI is just the beginning. Whether you're part of a state or local agency, a lead at a CBO, a concerned parent, or a young person looking to make a difference, we hope this report inspires you to join the movement. Together, we can seize this moment and create lasting change.

CYBHI Youth Fellows

Khoa-Nathan Ngo and Mariah Dixon



I've spent the past decade caring for youth in hospitals. I've seen first-hand how young people struggle with stress, depression, substance use, and other challenges. (I've also been so privileged to bear witness to the resilience, poise, and strength with which youth face adversity.) Many of these conditions are preventable, or at least manageable, by providing youth and families with the right type of support in the right place, by the right person, well before a crisis.

The progress captured in this year's Annual Report represents an attempt to do just that — to create services that support Californians where they live, work, study, and play. None of this would be possible without youth like Nathan and Mariah leading the way, backed by the many adults supporting the effort in personal and professional roles. I am grateful for all your support in this mission.

Moving forward together,

Dr. Sohil Sud
Director, CYBHI





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Launched in July 2021, California's Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) is a multi-year, multi-billion-dollar effort focused on improving the behavioral health and well-being of children, youth, and families. The initiative is the core of the [Master Plan for Kids' Mental Health](#), the State of California's historic investment to redefine the way our child- and family-serving systems take on these challenges so that our young people can thrive.

To achieve this goal, CYBHI is implementing 20 distinct workstreams and leveraging four core strategies:

- Centering children, youth, and families, and grounding in equity
- Investing in promotion, prevention, and public awareness
- Developing workforce capacity to support behavioral health
- Investing in infrastructure to better deliver services

Collectively, these strategies **provide services and supports where lives are lived** — including homes, communities, childcares, schools, colleges, digital spaces, and health care settings — **invigorate the behavioral health workforce**, and **elevate the conversation** around the importance of behavioral health care.

2024 was a year squarely focused on realizing this vision. To date, over 850 California organizations have been **awarded more than \$2 billion** to conduct more than **1,500 activities** that advance behavioral health supports and services across the state. Organizations representing the community, education, and health sectors came together and are building a more coordinated, youth-centered, prevention-oriented, and accessible behavioral health system.

Among other achievements in 2024, a new profession was codified (Certified Wellness Coaches), a new coverage mechanism was established (CYBHI Fee Schedule Program), two new digital services were introduced (Soluna and BrightLife Kids), and

three campaigns were launched by youth for youth so they know it is okay to *Take Space to Pause*, that they are *Never a Bother*, and that they can *Live Beyond* adverse childhood experiences.

The initiative is vast and complex, but the mission is simple: to improve child and youth behavioral health and well-being by increasing access to services and advancing system-level support and collaboration.

In coordination with other state efforts, CYBHI seeks to not only transform the behavioral health ecosystem but also position California as an inspiring example for the rest of the country of what is possible when we come together in service of our children.

This report provides an overview of progress-to-date in the design and implementation of each CYBHI workstream, as well as a snapshot of what to expect next year and beyond.

2024 HIGHLIGHTS

As of January 1, 2025

132K+

Persons using digital service platforms



300+

Districts onboarding into the fee schedule



4,900+

Individuals completed trauma-informed training



700+

Certified Wellness Coaches



1.3B+

Impressions* from public awareness campaigns



500+

New inpatient treatment beds

77K+

New treatment slots through construction projects

1K+

High school students participating in the youth mental health academy



\$2B+

Awarded to more than 850 organizations to conduct more than...

1,500

Activities advancing behavioral health supports

50K+

Individuals supported along a behavioral health career path



3K+

Primary care providers enrolled



Impressions are calculated as the total number of times content and messaging was displayed across a platform. May include duplicate views among individuals who have been exposed to the campaign assets across multiple platforms.
Last Revised 6-6-25. A former version of this report inaccurately reported the CYBHI public awareness campaigns garnered 1.3T impressions.

Providing Services Where Lives are Lived





Imagine needing support and driving or taking a bus an hour each way for your initial appointment, only to find out it wasn't the right fit. Right back to square one, or worse. Consider all the physical and mental energy and discipline it takes to get comfortable with asking for support in the first place – especially coming from a family that doesn't talk about mental health.

This is the reality for many Californians, although the scope and severity of challenges vary based on many factors, including income, identity, and geography.

The CYBHI is investing in resources to break down barriers to accessing mental health and substance use supports by bringing services to where Californians live, work, and play. This includes homes, communities, childcare providers, schools, colleges, health care settings, and online.

If we are to reimagine behavioral health support in a meaningful way, we must create options for individuals to access services in spaces that are safe, familiar, and comfortable.

Section Color Key

-  Homes and Communities
-  Education Settings
-  Digital Spaces
-  Health Care Settings

Scaling What Works

The Evidence-Based Practices and Community-Defined Evidence Practices (EBP/CDEP) Grant Program scales prevention, early intervention, and resiliency programs that provide culturally responsive and gender-affirming behavioral health care and supports to California's children, youth, and their families and caregivers.

Department: Department of Health Care Services

By the Numbers



The Program awarded **\$305M** to **481 entities** across five grant rounds:

Round 1

Parent and Caregiver Support Programs and Practices:

\$33M

of grants awarded across 67 orgs

Round 2

Trauma-Informed Programs and Practices:

\$99M

of grants awarded across 192 orgs

Round 3

Early Childhood Wraparound Services:

\$56M

of grants awarded across 54 orgs

Round 4

Youth-Driven Programs:

\$50M

of grants awarded across 69 orgs

Round 5

Early Intervention Programs and Practices:

\$67M

of grants awarded across 99 orgs



"One of the ways allcove stands out to me is by going against a lot of stereotypes and old-fashioned sayings. We're creating a movement for mental health, and we're showing that, with enough perseverance, this is something that can be accessible to anyone, regardless of their background."

Youth Members of allcove San Juan Capistrano's Youth Advisory Group
EBP Round 4 Recipient

“

At the beginning of the sessions, the [parent] shared [their] uncertainty about how to effectively support [their child] while also managing [other children] at home... By the end of the program, the [parent] felt more knowledgeable and confident in [their] parenting, enabling [them] to better support all [their] children with fairness, consistency, and positivity.”

First 5 Santa Cruz
EBP Round 1 Recipient

“

Youth-driven programs are an important community support because they are designed with, by, and for youth to help reduce stigma, embrace mental wellness, and increase community connection.”

Autumn Boylan from the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Office of Strategic Partnerships
On the power of youth involvement

Youth Suicide Reporting and Crisis Response

Purpose: The Youth Suicide Reporting and Crisis Response Pilot Program is developing systems to rapidly report and comprehensively respond to youth suicides and suicide attempts in school and community settings.

The pilot program strives to provide equitable, timely and culturally responsive services for youth, bolstering local suicide prevention and postvention strategies.



Department: California Department of Public Health

Funding: \$35 million



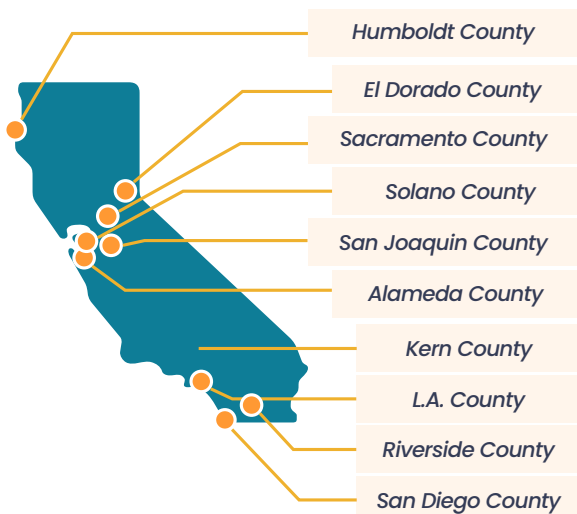
Ari Davis, violence prevention epidemiologist for the Alameda County Public Health Department, presenting before suicide prevention partners.

2024 Highlights



10 pilot counties have enhanced or developed **89 partnerships** across a wide range of sectors, including education, medical and behavioral health providers, law enforcement, and first responders and conducted **254 partner outreach and training events** such as workgroup meetings to develop infrastructure for staff training.

Participating Pilot Counties



“

Overall, the process has been quite illuminating. The coordinated mapping exercise wonderfully brings together constituents from across the county and uses the unique talents of our team... Collaborating is key. It has helped our burgeoning team solidify and work together... We have really appreciated the potential to understand the complexity of the existing system and to further develop services throughout Alameda County. The resulting system map promises to be an enduring instrument from which future planning and understanding can be built.”

Michael Huff
Alameda County Public Health Department

Safe Spaces Trauma-Informed Training

Safe Spaces is a free, online training designed to help individuals working with children and youth recognize and respond to signs of trauma and stress.



Purpose: Increase awareness on the impact of stress and trauma on health development and learning.

Department: Office of the California Surgeon General

Funding: \$1 Million



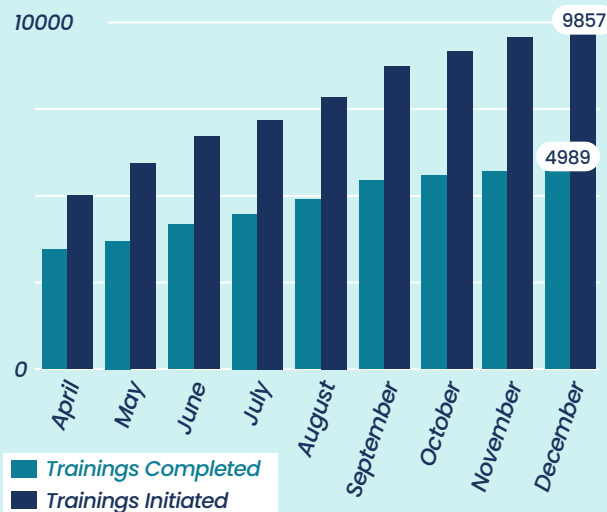
California Surgeon General Dr. Diana Ramos visits with students at Bend Elementary School in Tehama County while promoting the training.



"The flexibility of the Safe Spaces training honors the fact that anyone who regularly interacts with youth has the unique opportunity to build relationships and reshape critical interactions with those who may be overwhelmed or struggling."

Heidi Mendenhall
Executive Director,
First 5 Tehama

Safe Spaces Metrics 2024



2024 Highlights

Nearly **5,000 individuals** have completed the Safe Spaces training.

Continuing Education Credit made available for certain health care providers who take the training.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond joined the California Surgeon General Dr. Diana Ramos to [endorse the training](#).

CalHOPE Mindfulness, Resilience, and Well-being Supports

Purpose: Support the adoption of and the equitable access to mindfulness, resilience and well-being resources for teachers, youth, and caregivers, and continue promotion of social-emotional learning supports for educators.

Department: Department of Health Care Services

Funding: \$75 million

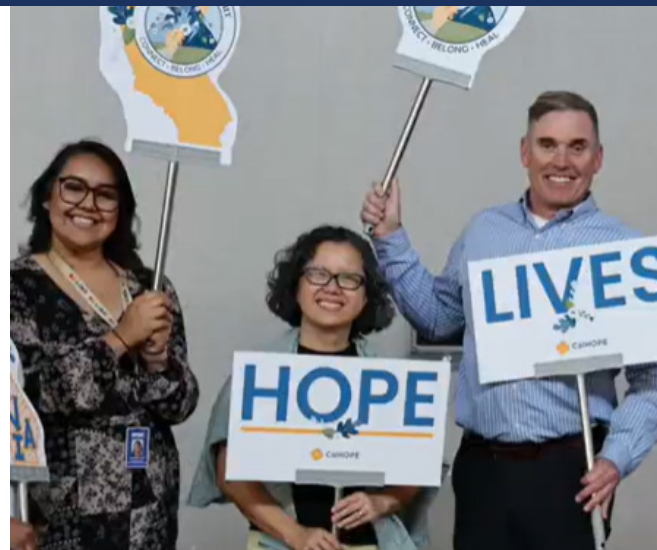
2024 Highlights

Engaged Education Community through Statewide Training Events:



- **January 2024:** Expanded Learning Staff (virtual)
- **March 2024:** School-based Clinicians, Counselors and Classroom Teachers (virtual)
- **April 2024:** Statewide SEL Community of Practice
- **May 2024:** Inaugural 2024 SEL & Wellness Summit with an attendance of 750+ Supported Frontline Staff through Specialized Trainings
- **June 2024:** Principals and School Leaders (virtual)

1,800 schools are using a no-cost tool to rapidly assess well-being of students and adults, made possible through a partnership with Kelvin Education.



From Left to Right: Dominique Parker, Mai Xi Lee, and Brent Malicote from the Sacramento County Office of Education.

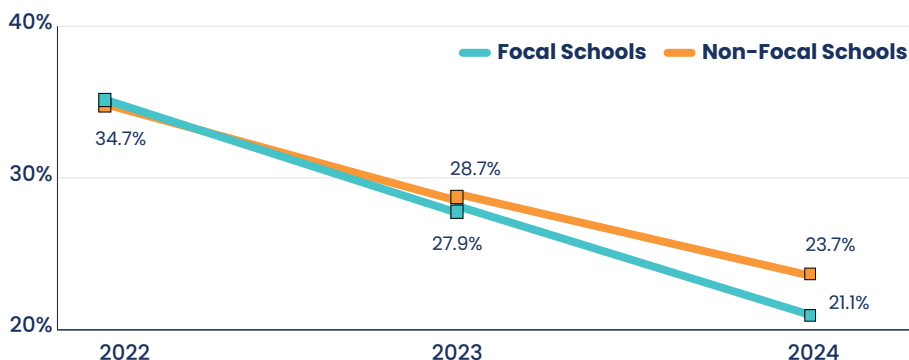
"The SEL and Wellness Summit offered an opportunity for County Offices of Education and their Focal Schools to come together and share the positive impact they've had on their communities with educators across California. CalHOPE Student Support revolves around the theme of partnerships, and this Summit put that work on full display!"

Brent Malicote, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, SCOE

"I LOVED the student poets/spoken word performance. It made me realize how much more we need to focus on student voice and empowering our youth to love themselves, their identities, and their wants and needs!"

Attendee from Inaugural 2024 SEL & Wellness Summit

Chronic Absenteeism in Title I Schools



Focal Schools: Schools serving as hubs for social and emotional learning and innovation.

Student Behavioral Health Incentive Program

Department: Department of Health Care Services

Funding: \$389 million in incentive payments to Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans over a three-year period.

With support from Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans, **147 targeted interventions** were implemented in school settings, with at least one intervention occurring in all **58 counties**.

Amount and type of projects:

44	Developing or expanding wellness programs	5	Providing culturally appropriate interventions
5	Increasing access to telehealth services	3	Providing technical assistance for contracting for services
10	Enhancing behavioral health screenings and referrals	24	Expanding the school-based workforce
3	Implementing suicide prevention strategies	9	Establishing care teams to conduct outreach, engagement, and home visits
6	Improving substance use disorder services	13	Improving technology infrastructure for services
21	Expanding capacity for Medi-Cal services for students	4	Providing parenting and family services for students

“The SBHIP has allowed us to staff a full-time mental health therapist at each of our school sites. This is an expansion over last year, where we had to share therapists between sites. This has had a profound impact on our therapeutic services. Our highest-risk students can now receive support on a year-over-year basis with the same caring adult. Also, we have also been able to coordinate services at the school site with stable staffing.”

Student Behavioral Health Incentive Program (SBHIP) Participant, Contra Costa County

“At King Middle School, students visit wellness centers consistently to connect with peers and hang out at lunch time. The wellness center is a valuable resource for middle school students. It is a safe space to visit during the school day for social-emotional support, relaxation techniques, or to connect with a caring adult.”

SBHIP Participant, Hayward Unified School District, Alameda County

School-Linked Partnership and Capacity Grants

Purpose: To provide County Offices of Education (COEs) and Local Education Agencies (LEAs), as well as institutes of higher education (IHEs), with critical resources to build infrastructure and partnerships and achieve a long-term and sustainable funding model for student behavioral health services. These one-time grants aim to increase operational readiness to engage in the CYBHI Fee Schedule program through activities such as Medical enrollment, building service delivery and billing infrastructure, establishing data collection and documentation processes, and supporting collective impact efforts.

Department: Department of Health Care Services

Funding: \$400 Million



All 58 County Offices of Education have submitted an Implementation Plan in which many have prioritized investing in data collection systems and the hiring and developing of sustainable staffing model in order to build readiness for the fee schedule.”

Sacramento and Santa Clara County
Offices of Education

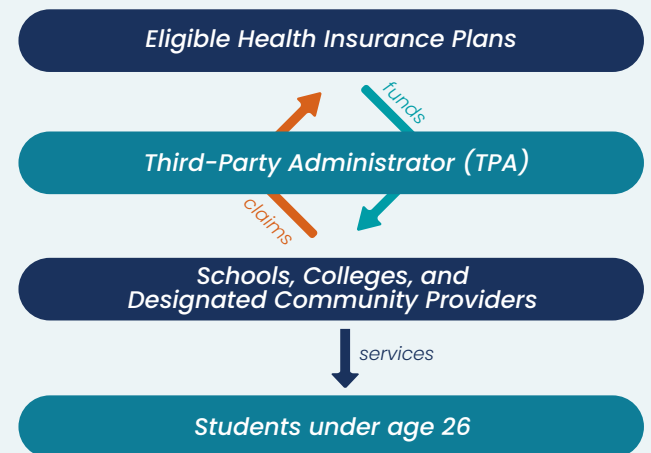
CYBHI Fee Schedule Program

Purpose: The [CYBHI Fee Schedule Program](#) increases access to school-linked behavioral health services. The program establishes a sustainable reimbursement source from Managed Care Plans, commercial health insurance, and disability insurers. Covered services include outpatient mental health or substance use disorder services for students under 26 years of age. The Fee Schedule creates a more approachable billing model for Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) and public Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs), eases burdens related to contracting, rate negotiation, and navigation across delivery systems, and reduces uncertainty around students’ health insurance coverage.

Departments: Department of Health Care Services and Department of Managed Health Care

Funding: \$10 million

Fee Schedule Overview*



*Simplified for illustrative purposes.



"The fee schedule is an exceptional model of braided programs versus just braided funding because we're looking at all of the different ways we can support that child through private services and district services. It would have been really easy for the state to come and say to the districts, 'here is this pot of money, go do what you can in order to serve children,' but that's not what they did. They actually tried to braid the two systems together and make something that is sustainable over the long-term and will actually be able to demonstrate that it meets the needs of the kids it's intended to serve."

Wendi Aghily, E. D.
Chief, Pupil Services & Special Education
Mt. Diablo Unified School District (Cohort Two)



By the Numbers

December 2023:

First Cohort of
46 LEAs
 begins development
 of workflows and
 service models.



January 2024:

Carelon Behavioral
 Health selected
 to serve as the
 state's third-party
 administrator.

July 2024:

**92 LEAs
 and
 4 IHEs**

join Cohort 2;
 anticipate submitting
 claims in early 2025.

September 2024:

**159 LEAs
 and
 3 IHEs**

join Cohort 3;
 anticipate submitting
 claims in 2025.

December 2024:

First claims for
 service submitted
 and received
 reimbursement.



CYBHI Fee Schedule Cohort 1, 2, and 3 Participants represent



83%

(48) of CA counties

>45%

(>2.7M) of CA students

>64%

(>1.8M) of low-income students*

*based on eligibility for Free and Reduced
 Price Meals (FRPM)

Transforming Together

Purpose: Supported by the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, Transforming Together (T2) brings together a cross-sector Collaborative Leadership Working Group to align and integrate systems efforts for a re-imagined, youth-centered behavioral health ecosystem. Work is conducted in close partnership with California Department of Education’s California Community Schools Partnership Program (CCSPP) and piloted in four demonstration counties.

Department: California Health & Human Services Agency

Funding: \$3.5 million

The T2 project translates vision into practice in four distinct ways

1

Advancing equitable access by breaking down silos to build coordinated systems that center youth and families.

2

Maximizing impact of historic California system-transformation investments.

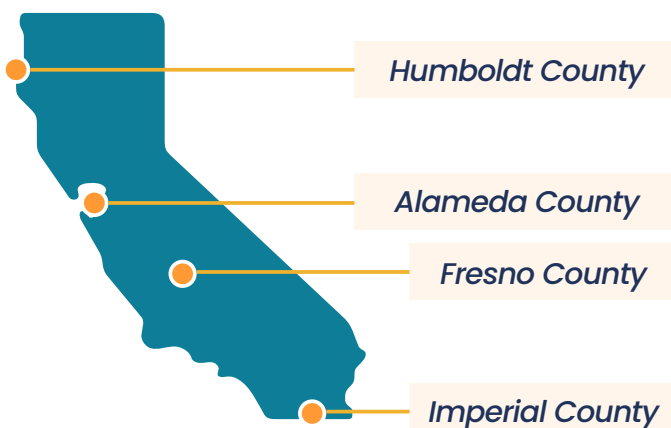
3

Identifying and memorializing flexible, scalable practices of selected demonstration sites.

4

Networking existing and planned technical assistance associated with historic California system transformation investments.

T2 Demonstration Counties



“T2 is providing us with the platform and language to work toward true integration of children and youth access to mental health and wellness. Through this work, we can engage the leaders of state initiatives and share our experiences as counties implementing steps toward improvement. It is essential to be explicit with the actionable steps we can take to reimagine mental health service delivery and continue to strengthen collaborative opportunities for the benefit of our communities.”

Peter Stoll, Ph.D.,
Humboldt County
Office of Education

Behavioral Health Virtual Services Platforms

Purpose: In partnership with Brightline and Kooth US, California launched two online applications to support the needs of kids and young adults: BrightLife Kids is for parents or caregivers and kids 0-12 years old. Soluna is for teens and young adults ages 13-25.

The web- and app-based platforms offers all California residents, regardless of insurance coverage, free one-on-one support with live qualified behavioral health coaches in English and Spanish, a library of multimedia resources, wellness exercises, and peer communities moderated by trained behavioral health professionals to ensure the appropriateness of content and the safety of all users.

These platforms complement existing services offered by health plans, counties, and schools by providing additional care options and resources for parents and caregivers, children, youth, and young adults in California.

Department: Department of Health Care Services

Amount: \$532.7 million

2024 Highlights

- Soluna and BrightLife Kids provided in-app support to over

over 132K

children and youth and their caregivers, including over

24K coaching sessions.

- Californians in every county used these services, and

56%

of those who used these platforms lived in **underserved communities.**

BrightLife Kids
A CalHOPE program by Brightline

"BrightLife Kids is an incredible resource for families. We were relieved when we were connected with a professional to advise us on how to respond to typical toddler behaviors. The strategies our coach recommended have helped us communicate more effectively with our young toddler and it's made all the difference."

California Parent/Caregiver

soluna
a CalHOPE Program by Kooth

"[Soluna] has made a safe environment for me to talk about my problems and has given me many different coping skills for when I'm feeling depressed."

California Youth

"A thing that really sets [Soluna] apart from a lot of other apps in this category is the coaching; and for me, that helps me the most. Speaking to a coach or an expert is definitely different than speaking to somebody that is just a friend."

California Youth

Next-Generation Digital Therapeutics

In partnership with the Child Mind Institute (CMI), Next-Generation Digital Therapeutics (NGDT) is a research initiative focused on developing innovative digital tools to improve behavioral health services and supports for children, youth, families, and clinicians.

Purpose: Key objectives are to develop:

- Augmented reality (AR)-based therapeutic interventions.
- Biometric-informed tools.
- Democratizing digital therapeutic development.

Department: Department of Health Care Services

Funding: \$75 Million

Timeline: Launched in 2024 (MindLogger) and throughout 2025 (Mirror, Kandoo)



Digital tools coming online:



Mirror



MindLogger



Mirror

a digital journaling tool designed to enhance mental wellness among teens.

MindLogger

an open-source platform for developing, testing, and administering digital therapeutics that incorporate assessments, interventions, and educational resources that can be delivered via smartphone or tablet.

Kandoo

a map-based augmented reality game that delivers evidence-based behavioral activation treatments targeting youth depression.

Survey insights from youth, caregivers, clinicians and researchers, focus groups with youth ages 13-21, and expert panels made up of researchers and clinicians are guiding the development of the tools.

Positive Parenting, Thriving Kids

Developed in partnership with the Child Mind Institute, [Positive Parenting, Thriving Kids](#) is a series of free videos and print resources with practical, evidence-based information and skills to address some of the most common parenting challenges.

Positive Parenting Thriving Kids

Videos explore topics including building positive, healthy relationships, building healthy self-esteem, parent/caregiver self-care and more.

Department: Department of Health Care Services

Timeline: Launched in April 2024



Mother/child duo featured in the video series.

Story Spotlight



[Featured on Good Morning America](#)

2024 Highlights

675K+

visitors to the website
(of which 85% were
from California)



115K+

total video views



18K+

downloads
of videos and
learning guides



Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program

Purpose: Part of a broader program with several funding rounds, Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) Round 4 was funded by the CYBHI and targets individuals age 25 and younger—including pregnant and postpartum women—investing in physical infrastructure that fosters a spectrum of services for children and youth—from wellness centers to crisis stabilization units—and nurtures inclusive, accessible, and supportive environments so that all Californian children, youth, and their families can thrive.

Department: Department of Health Care Services

Funding: \$480.5 million



Amber Williams, CEO of Janus of Santa Cruz, speaks about a new facility that will address critical gaps in mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) treatment

2024 Highlights

52 children and youth-focused projects funded to:

- **Support 509** new residential/inpatient treatment beds.
- **Serve 76,977** individuals annually in an outpatient setting.

Of the 52 projects, **1** began construction in 2023, **30** began in 2024, and **21** will begin in 2025.

BHCIP Round 4-funded projects are **anticipated to complete construction by 2027.**



The Department of Health Care Services joined Riverside University Health System on June 12 to celebrate the groundbreaking of a new behavioral health and physical health care campus called the Wellness Village.



“This clinic and youth wellness campus will provide much-needed support to youth who continue to struggle with life’s stresses. We are eager to expand our continuum of care to serve children and youth with a wide spectrum of needs.”

Rob Weiss
Executive Director, Mentis

2024 Milestones

Groundbreakings of New Behavioral Health Facilities

- **June 2024:** [Safe Passages](#) – Community Wellness and Prevention Center
- **June 2024:** [Center for Human Services](#) – Center for Human Services Outpatient Behavioral Health Center
- **June 2024:** [Riverside University Health System](#) – Wellness Village
- **June 2024:** [Encompass Community Services](#) – Sí Se Puede Behavioral Health Center
- **July 2024:** [Mentis](#) – Napa Valley Youth Wellness Campus
- **July 2024:** [Sierra Vista Child and Family Services](#) – Community Wellness Family Resource Center
- **September 2024:** [Janus of Santa Cruz](#) – Expanding Perinatal Access to Substance Use Treatment

California Child and Adolescent Mental Health Access Portal

Purpose: In partnership with the University of California, San Francisco, the California Child and Adolescent Mental Health Access Portal (Cal-MAP) connects pediatricians, primary care physicians, other outpatient physicians and school-based health centers to licensed behavioral health professionals, including child psychiatrists, to receive no-cost consultation, education, resource navigation, and guidance for providing behavioral health care to children and youth ages 0-25.

Department: Department of Health Care Services

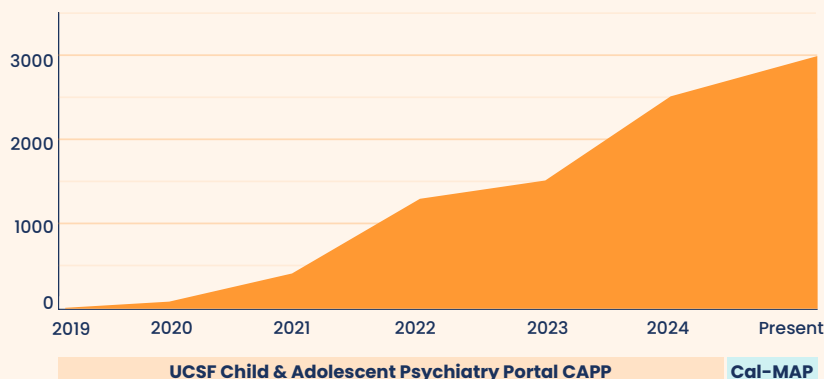
Funding: \$60.1 million

Timeline: December 2023 – June 2027



Cal-MAP

Care Providers Using Cal-MAP (cumulative)



2024 Highlights

Cumulative number of registered care providers:

2900+



Registered care providers in 2024: **500+**

Consultations completed in 2024: **1600+**

Unique patients receiving consultations in 2024: **~800**



"The program has been an absolute godsend. Advice has been on-point, clearly stated, and given in a timely fashion. The return call from the psychiatrist is very quick and is always followed by a written consult note. One of my favorite parts of the service is that I am never made to feel ignorant or off-base in my thinking. Everyone has been so supportive. I have learned so much and my patients' psychiatric care has dramatically improved."

California Primary Care Provider

"Love this resource. Our patients have to wait months for an open appointment with psychiatry and that is a long time to be suffering with undertreated mental illness. It affects kids' well-being from school, relationships, families, sense of self, and friendships. Seeing kids find improvement in their mental health is amazing!"

California Primary Care Provider

Dyadic Services

Dyadic services are a family-and-caregiver-focused model of care intended to address developmental and behavioral health conditions of children and includes services provided to parent(s)/caregiver(s) (known as a “dyad”).

Purpose: These services help improve access to preventive care, increase rates of immunization completion, and enhance coordination of care, child social-emotional health and safety, developmentally appropriate parenting, and maternal mental health. Examples include:

- Behavioral health visits
- Access to community supports services
- Psychoeducational services
- Family training and counseling for child development

Department: Department of Health Care Services



Milestones

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) added dyadic services as a benefit effective January 1, 2023. Dyadic services are available to Medi-Cal members in fee-for-service and through managed care plans.

On January 6, 2025, the federal Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services approved [California's State Plan Amendment 23-0010](#), which authorizes an Alternative Payment Methodology (APM) for Federally Qualified Health Centers and Rural Health Clinics and a supplemental payment for Tribal Health Programs for the provision of eligible dyadic services. DHCS is hopeful that this new APM will offer incentive to provide dyadic services as part of or on the same day as an otherwise billable visit.

Next Steps

DHCS is evaluating available claims and encounter data and conducting a survey to better understand overall utilization of dyadic services and opportunities for increasing provider awareness and member uptake.



“Programs like Dyadic Care offer hope. They integrate supports into existing systems that families already trust and receive care, offering greater access to services in a strength-based, destigmatized setting. For example, providing support for parents’ stressors during a baby’s early years during pediatric well child visits may eliminate the need for parents to seek services elsewhere — therefore alleviating time pressure from their already busy schedules so they can focus where it matters most.”

Kate Margolis, PhD

UCSF Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics

Founding Director, UCSF Center for Advancing Dyadic Care in Pediatrics

Invigorating the Behavioral Health Workforce

Simply put, there are not enough trained professionals supporting children and youth facing mental health and substance use challenges. Further, not all Californian communities find themselves represented in their care providers.

Youth have been clear: Give me mental health support from someone who looks like and talks like me – someone who understands my identities and my story. Don't ask me to do the emotional labor to constantly explain myself or my experiences. Youth expressed the desire to receive behavioral health care from providers who not only looked like them but explicitly understood them.

That's why a key strategy of the CYBHI is focused on building a bigger, better, and reimagined behavioral workforce team that not only increases the number of individuals youth can turn to for support, but seeks to ensure these individuals reflect the diversity and beauty of California, with a goal of ensuring all Californians have access to equitable, affordable, and quality behavioral health care.

Each of the following programs supports building the behavioral health workforce of tomorrow.

Youth Peer-to-Peer Support Program

Peer support is an important, youth-driven, culturally responsive strategy for supporting young people's behavioral health. Through the Youth Peer-to-Peer Support Program, eight high schools have been awarded funding launch or expand peer-to-peer support models, from which best practices will be identified and ultimately shared statewide.

Department: Department of Health Care Services

Funding: \$10 million

Timeline: DHCS and The Children's Partnership announced the [eight awarded](#) high schools on October 8, 2024.

"I'm thrilled to partner with the Department of Health Care Services to [invest in the vision](#) of these eight diverse school communities and the young people in them, who will have the training and resources to be active participants in youth mental health well-being."

Raven Jones

*Director of Peer-to-Peer Mental Health,
The Children's Partnership*

Spotlights

Mission Hills High School in San Marcos is investing in a peer support mentorship program that will have students enroll in a dual enrollment college course co-taught by a California State University, San Marcos, professor, a school counselor, and a teacher. This unique course structure will offer students both college credits and high school credits, with peer support mentors earning field experience hours while working in the student-led wellness center.

Oakland Technical High School is investing in their mental health and wellness youth peer support program, Empower, which offers a transformative journey for their students by engaging 9th and 10th grade students to apply to become youth mental health trainees.



Milestones

Eight high schools were chosen to be pilot sites for the Youth Peer-to-Peer Support Program

*Da Vinci RISE High School
(El Segundo, CA; 198 students)*

*Mission Hills High School
(San Marcos, CA; 2,854 students)*

*El Cerrito High School
(El Cerrito, CA; 1,570 students)*

*Nevada Union High School
(Grass Valley, CA; 1,531 students)*

*Oakland Technical High School
(Oakland, CA; 1,800 students)*

*Serrano High School
(Phelan, CA; 2,116 students)*

*Sierra High School
(San Bernardino, CA; 477 students)*

*Antioch High School
(Antioch, CA; 1,960 students)*

Youth Mental Health Academy

Purpose: In partnership with the Child Mind Institute, the Youth Mental Health Academy (YMHA) is a 14-month program that provides high school students with mental health education, mentorship, and internships. The program aims to increase diversity in mental health careers by training underrepresented students, empowering them to become future leaders in mental health services.

Department: Health Care Access and Information

Funding: \$25 million

Timeline:

- **Summer 2023** – Pilot Cohort of **152 students** in Los Angeles participated in Classroom Learning Academy
- **School Year** – Participants attend monthly workshops and receive mentored support
- **Summer 2024** – **118 students (75%)** from Pilot Cohort participated in paid internships with clinical, research, and community organizations
- **Summer 2024** – Second Cohort of **905 students** participated in Classroom Learning Academy in San Diego, Los Angeles, and San Francisco Bay Area.



Participants from the Second Cohort of the Youth Mental Health Academy



27

total
training sites



98%

increased
understanding
of mental health
careers



76%

“very likely” or
“definitely” planning
to pursue a mental
health career



155

near-peer
mentors
supported
participants

“

Parent and child, when they don't align, mental health suffers, a troubling sign. More so for girls, in this case, their struggles show, they need embrace.”

Quote from “The Bright Side of Being Blue: How Latinos Teens Feel Hue”

Youth Mental Health Academy students Genesis Quiroz, Giselle Rocha, Myriam Gonzalez, Elaine Picado, and Rachel Orozco received a Creative Presentation Award for their capstone project, “The Bright Side of Being Blue: How Latinos Teens feel Hue,” which explored gender norms and their impact on Latinos’ behavioral health. See more [YMHA capstone projects](#).

Peer Personnel Training and Placement Program

The Peer Personnel Training and Placement Program provides grants to train, place, and support individuals who have lived behavioral health experience as Peer Support Specialists.

Purpose: The program aims to expand California's behavioral health workforce by training peer personnel to support clients and families, emphasizing lived experience and mental health recovery.

Department: Health Care Access and Information

Funding: \$8.5 million

[Learn more about
Peer Personnel](#)



2024 By the Numbers

9
organizations awarded
\$8.6 million



Photo Source: NAMI California
(Peer Personnel awardee)



Health Professions Pathways Program

The Health Professions Pathways Program (HPPP) provides grants for pipeline programs, internships, fellowships, and scholarships to underrepresented individuals pursuing health careers.

Funding: \$16 million

[Learn more about Health
Professions Pathways Program](#)



2024 By the Numbers

11
organizations awarded
**\$12.7
million**



“

Having these paid opportunities helps so many students from first generation and low-income families overcome a huge barrier on the pre-med path.”

Sienna Martinez Harris
Program Coordinator for the Health Equity
Summer Internship and CEO of the MiMentor
Student Board

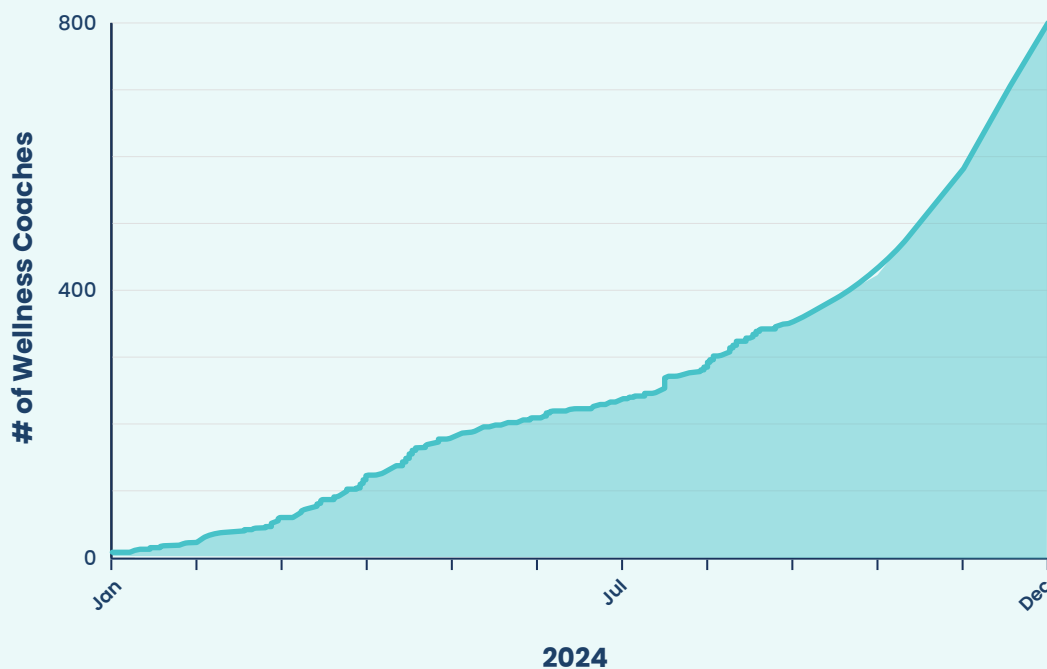
Certified Wellness Coach Program

Purpose: The Certified Wellness Coach (CWC) Program adds career opportunities for qualified individuals from diverse backgrounds with associate or bachelor's degrees to specialize in behavioral health. Under the supervision of qualified professionals, coaches provide important support to children and youth. The CWC profession is also designed to be a stepping stone to future career opportunities, such that the coaches of today might continue their professional journey and become the clinicians and counselors of tomorrow.

The program leads to certification of individuals to provide pre-clinical services supporting youth behavioral health and well-being in California.

Department: Health Care Access and Information

Funding: \$278 million



“

I like to believe that many of the families and students that I work with are someday going to look back and say, 'That person made me feel better.' Or, 'That person met me where I was at.' 'That person recognized how I felt.' 'That person listened to me.' Having this kind of role, I get to be that person, the person that made a difference.”

Kirsten Ratliff
Certified Wellness Coach



As a School Based Mental Health Clinician, it can be difficult for me to meet all of the needs of the students, families, and schools that I am working with. Being able to work with a Wellness Coach and develop a plan for service delivery where they can assist with things like teaching coping skills or emotional communication skills, provide parenting classes, and teaching interventions to others working with the student is extremely helpful in ensuring those we are serving have their mental health needs met in a comprehensive and thoughtful manner.”

Jebediah Hall, LMFT
Wellness Coach Supervisor
Tehama County Department of Education



700+ Wellness Coaches

Certified in 2024



\$125 million

awarded to 64 school-based and school-linked organizations to support employment of over 1,700 Wellness Coaches for a 2-year grant period.



202 Scholarships

totaling \$5.5 million for students enrolled or accepted in an eligible degree program with plans to become a Certified Wellness Coach.



Community-Based Organization Behavioral Health Workforce Grant Program

Purpose: The Community-Based Organization (CBO) Behavioral Health Workforce Grant Program supports CBOs to recruit and retain behavioral health personnel and provide loan repayments, scholarships, and stipends to staff. The goal is to recruit, retain, and train the behavioral health workforce within CBOs across California, supporting populations in community.

Department: Health Care Access and Information

Funding: \$116.6 million



Penny Lane Centers, in my humble opinion, is a heart-driven organization. Training and coaches bring out the best in each other and define who you are as an individual and employee. I earned my loan repayment award last year; it was a heartfelt moment validating and acknowledging the struggle and the sink-or-swimming feeling I've endured for so many years. It felt like a lifeline that allowed me to take a deep breath, hold it, and regain control of life."

Ricardo Melendrez

Marriage and Family Therapist, Penny Lane's North Hills Office

Penny Lane Centers was one of the CBO's awarded a four-year [\\$3.5M grant](#) (Awarded in April of 2023)



Ricardo Melendrez – Marriage and Family Therapist, Penny Lane's North Hills Office and recipient of a loan repayment award.

2024 By the Numbers



\$774K

for staff scholarships

\$1.5M

for staff stipends

\$19.1M

for staff loan repayments

\$604K

for staff recruitment bonuses

\$7.4M

for staff retention bonuses

**More than 116 CBO's
awarded**

Scholarships and Loan Repayment Programs

Purpose: Scholarship and loan repayment programs that provide students seeking a career in behavioral health with financial support in exchange for direct patient service to a medically underserved community upon completion of their education.

Department: Health Care Access and Information



Types of Scholarships



Behavioral Health Scholarship Program

A scholarship program for students enrolled or accepted in an eligible behavioral health program.

- 23/24: **462 awards** totaling **\$10M**
- 24/25: **342 awards** totaling **\$8.5M**



California State Loan Repayment Program

A program that assists with the repayment of qualified educational loans for eligible primary health care professionals.

- 23/24: **231 awards** totaling **\$8.5M**

Public Behavioral Health Social Work Training and Fellowship Program

Purpose: Provides funding to support MSW students and graduates prepared to work in the public sector.

Funding: \$33.7 million

2024 By the Numbers

192

educational stipends to MSW students (UC Berkeley)

440

education stipends to MSW students (SJSU)

210

fellowships to MSW graduates (SJSU)

Justice System Involved Youth Training

In partnership with the California Alliance of Child and Family Services Catalyst Center, the [Open Doors Project](#) trains non-medical, non-clinical personnel to identify and respond to substance use and behavioral health concerns in youth.

Purpose: The program aims to equip adults working with youth, with an emphasis on justice-system involved youth, to engage in real conversations about substance use, addressing the rising overdose crisis.

Department: Health Care Access and Information

Funding: \$9 million



What advice would you give to adults who are working with youth struggling with behavioral health and substance use?

“Be patient, build rapport, let them talk to you when they are ready.”

Sabrina Abong
Open Doors Project,
Youth Advisor

Substance Use Disorder Earn and Learn Grant Program

Grant opportunity that provides funding to organizations who provide education and paid job experience for students earning their Substance Use Disorder Counselor certification.

Purpose: To develop a more culturally competent and diverse SUD workforce to serve Californians.

Department: Health Care Access and Information

Funding: \$23 million

“The Rural and Tribal Substance Use Disorder Earn and Learn program has been very helpful for me and my family. The support from this program has given me the ability to pursue the work that I love.”

Louis Christiansen
Program participant
Waterfront Recovery Services, Eureka, CA

2024 By the Numbers

Grants awarded to 6 organizations with 11 training sites in 9 counties, including:

Fresno	Mendocino
Shasta	San Luis Obispo
San Benito	Humboldt
Los Angeles (3 sites)	San Diego
Sacramento	

242 students admitted to the program

15 students certified to-date

44 students offered full-time employment

Social Work Education Capacity Expansion

The Social Work Education Capacity Expansion (SWECE) program provides funding to expand Master of Social Work programs, increasing student slots for those pursuing behavioral health careers focused on serving underserved groups.

Purpose: The SWECE program aims to address behavioral health workforce shortages by recruiting diverse students, expanding training opportunities, and enhancing culturally competent care in underserved communities, especially for youth and families.

Department: Health Care Access and Information

Funding: \$20 Million

Enrollment was expanded for 2023–24 by:



191%

for three-year programs with 290 new slots



255%

for two-year programs with 1,241 new slots



243%

for one-year programs with 225 new slots



22

schools utilized expansion award funds in 2024



“

The HCAI funding has been transformative, enabling our students to directly serve children and youth in underserved communities. One recipient shared how this support has given them the opportunity to make a meaningful impact, expressing gratitude for the chance to contribute to the well-being of these young people. With this funding, they feel honored and privileged to work towards positive change, addressing critical needs and supporting the future of our communities.”

Kimberly R Freeman, PhD, MSW

*Executive Associate Chair, MSW Program Director, and Professor
Department of Social Work and Social Ecology
Loma Linda University, School of Behavioral Health*

[Learn more about HCAI's Scholarship Grant at Loma Linda University](#)

Psychiatric Education Capacity Expansion

Through two programs, California is expanding opportunities to receive training and serve in psychiatric roles.

Purpose: The Psychiatric Education Capacity Expansion (PECE) program funds the growth of psychiatry residency and fellowship training to address behavioral health shortages and serve underserved populations, focusing on children, youth, and at-risk individuals.

The Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) Training Program provides grants for education, clinical training, and curriculum development in new or expanded PMHNP training programs to increase the number of trained PMHNPs serving children, youth, and underserved groups.

Department: Health Care Access and Information

Funding: \$55 million

2024 By the Numbers

Training was expanded to include:

46

new Psychiatry
Resident positions
(38 in 2023-24, 8 in
2024-25)

14

new Addiction
Psychiatry Fellowship
positions (6 in 2023-
24, 8 in 2024-25)

21

new Child and
Adolescent Psychiatry
Fellowships positions
(13 in 2023-24, 8 in
2024-25)

64

new Psychiatric
Mental Health Nurse
Practitioner training
positions (14 in 2023-
24, 50 in 2024-25)



“

When we enroll more students, then we have the ability to recruit faculty. And as we do so, we look for faculty that come from diverse and culturally unique backgrounds. So, we're now able to hire faculty that speak various languages and better represent the community they serve.”

Trish Williams-Forde

PMHNP Program Director at Charles Drew University

Train New Trainers: Primary Care Psychiatry and Addiction Medicine

Administered at UC Irvine, the Train-New-Trainers (TNT) program offers year-long fellowship training for primary care providers to improve expertise, knowledge, and comfort-level in specialized primary care psychiatry (known as TNT PCP) and addiction medicine (known as TNT PC-TEAM). Through CYBHI, scholarships were made available for providers in medically underserved areas to participate in this program.

Department: Health Care Access and Information

Funding: \$28.6 million

2024 By the Numbers

208 providers

received scholarships totaling
\$3.2 million for primary care psychiatry

136 providers

received scholarships totaling
\$2.1 million for training and education
in addiction medicine



I'm able to talk to people in a way that I feel is more therapeutic. It's so hard to see a psychiatrist and it's so hard to get with a therapist and this program gives you the tools to be that mediation."

NP Nicolette Haug

On her transformative journey with program



We've been able to compare the medical practice patterns of our graduates in the Train New Trainers (TNT) Primary Care Psychiatry fellowship program with those who did not go through our program. We found a significant decreased use of opioids for the treatment of chronic pain among TNT graduates. We also found that those who went through the TNT program were much more likely to detect depression and use antidepressants earlier, relative to those who did not go through our program."

Dr. Robert McCarron, Director, UC Irvine TNT Primary Care Fellowships



Story Spotlight

Dr. Singleton, one of the TNT fellows, went from combat physician in the Navy to mental health advocate supporting some of his community's most vulnerable patients. Watch to hear his inspiring story and find out why his patients are his therapy.

 [Watch Dr. Singleton's Journey in Mental Health Care](#)



Elevating the Conversation

Knowledge isn't just power, it can be a powerful antidote to overcoming the stigma which often makes it harder to face struggles and seek help. Increasing public awareness and changing behaviors through education is a key strategy of the CYBHI.

With the language to understand why experiences in childhood may be impacting mental and physical health through the *Live Beyond ACEs* Campaign, healing can begin.

When youth interact with the *Never a Bother* Youth Suicide Prevention Campaign, it normalizes help-seeking behavior and begins to prevent crises before they happen.

When we *Take Space to Pause*, we can learn more about what's happening when our bodies are stressed and what we can do to restore ourselves.

Read more about the CYBHI's public awareness campaigns and the far-reaching impacts across the state.

Live Beyond: ACEs and Toxic Stress Awareness Campaign

The *Live Beyond* campaign is raising awareness and understanding of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), toxic stress, and their potential negative impacts.



Purpose: Help youth and young adults across California with resources and strategies to manage toxic stress, heal from adversity, and end cycles of trauma.

Department: Office of the California Surgeon General

Funding: \$24 Million



Alaqua Cox, star of Marvel's *Echo*, met with native youth ambassadors from the Live Beyond Campaign at the Next Gen Tribal Youth Leadership Conference in November 2024.

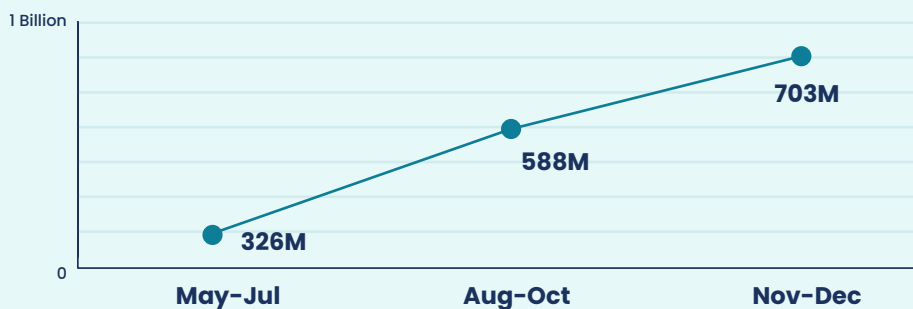
2024 Highlights

The *Live Beyond* campaign engaged with four tribal youth ambassadors and consulted with six tribal organizations to ensure the campaign messages and resources better resonated with tribal communities throughout California.

The campaign made meaningful connections by partnering with **The Drew League**, an LA-based pro-am basketball league which resulted in 1.8 million impressions within two and a half months.

Live Beyond has sponsored and/or participated in more than **20 community events** to engage with youth and further promote *Live Beyond's* messages of community, healing and hope.

Cumulative Campaign Impressions



From May through September, individuals clicked on campaign ads to learn more at rates 2x higher than industry benchmarks.

"It is important to show that young people are not alone and that there is a reason for what they are feeling and experiencing, both mentally and physically."

Participant

UCAAN Youth and Young Adult Council Listening Session

Never a Bother: Youth Suicide Prevention Campaign

Co-created by youth, the *Never a Bother* Campaign reminds youth and young adults experiencing thoughts of suicide that they're never a bother when reaching out to friends, trusted adults, counselors, and other types of support (such as the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline).

Purpose: The goal of the [Never a Bother](#) campaign is to reduce suicide ideation, attempts, and deaths by increasing awareness and utilization of resources, services, and supports among California youth up to age 25, who are disproportionately impacted by suicide.



Department: California Department of Public Health

Funding: \$40 million

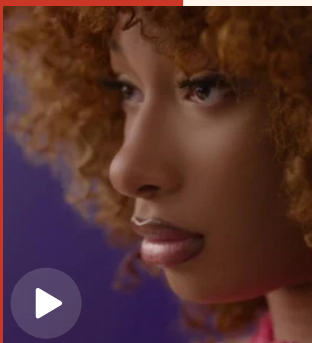


A youth involved in the *Never a Bother* campaign shares messages of healing at the 2024 Youth Suicide Prevention Program convening.

2024 Highlights

726M total media campaign impressions through January 1, 2025.

Gold medal for 2024 Best Overall Social Marketing from the Social Marketing Association of North America, in a competition exclusively devoted to behavioral and social change marketing.



On **World Mental Health Day 2024**, *Never a Bother* announced a partnership with Grammy Award-winning artist, philanthropist, and mental health advocate, Megan Thee Stallion.

“

It took me a long time to be comfortable talking about my mental health. Asking for help doesn't make me weak. Asking for help actually built my strength... Going to get the help gave me the tools to be stronger. So I just definitely want to talk to the Hotties and let them know it's OK to ask for help... Hotties, you are never a bother.”

Megan Thee Stallion

The media campaign is paired with 33 community-based organizations (CBO) and Tribal grantee partners across the State who work to amplify messages within their communities and implement local youth suicide prevention programming. More than 47,000 interactions occurred with youth and caregivers across 1,600 local engagement activities led by grantee partners from July 2023 to June 2024.

[Learn more about Youth Suicide Prevention Grantees](#)

Grantee Engagement Activity Areas:



Teaching coping and problem-solving skills



Media campaign activities



Stigma reduction and support strategies



Training youth gatekeepers

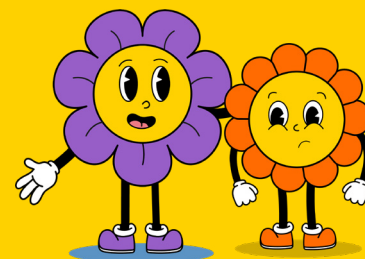


Healthy peer-norms

“

My son died by suicide weeks ago, and Liberty Towers has played a huge role in supporting my family and my son's friends. I found immediate ways to begin healing by speaking with the youth who are a part of the *Never a Bother* program. In addition to speaking with the youth, Liberty Towers / Impact Sac staff gave us sound practical advice to help navigate us through messaging and advocacy. We have found ways for my family to become advocates so that others know they are never a bother.”

Mother of youth program participant with grantee, Liberty Towers



“

Knowing there is a campaign out there dedicated to providing resources, to providing people that will listen to you and help others in your life, gives me so much hope, and that's the biggest way that I can describe this campaign, is hope. I really hope this can be the platform that provides the bridge for people who need those resources, and I'm very proud of all the work we've done and all the support that we've received.”

Selina Mendez (she/her)
Never a Bother Youth Advisory Board Member



Take Space to Pause: Public Education Campaign

Take Space to Pause is a mental health stigma-reduction campaign that motivates California teens to take help-seeking actions before mental health challenges become more serious.

Purpose: Promotes mental health equity through a stigma-free, multilingual campaign that empowers five priority populations — Black/African American, Asian/Pacific Islander, Latino, Native American/Alaskan Native, and LGBTQ+ — to access vital resources. The campaign also focuses on transitional-age youth, individuals with disabilities, justice and foster-impacted youth, and those in rural areas.

Department: California Department of Public Health

Funding: \$74.6 Million



Youth involved in the *Take Space to Pause* Campaign celebrate the launch in Los Angeles in December 2024

Statewide Engagement & Local Investment:



Since launch in November 2024, the statewide campaign has produced 10 creative videos and received approximately 1 million impressions.



CDPH also awarded \$25 million to 28 community-based and Tribal organizations, sparking impactful community-driven initiatives.



The Indian Health Council (IHC) — which champions Native wellness, offering culturally centered healthcare to nine tribal communities for over 50 years — is building Generation Indigenous (Gen-I) to engage youth through mini-campaign videos on mental health and life on the reservation. This lays the groundwork for a youth leadership group and a series of targeted campaigns designed to meet the diverse needs of Tribal communities. [Watch the highlight video to experience the impact.](#)



Being involved in this work has shifted how I view mental health. I now consider the unique circumstances each person faces, rather than seeing mental health challenges under one umbrella. This experience has given me the insight and tools to discuss mental health more openly in my community."

Anaya Rana
CYBHI Youth Co-Lab Member

This CYBHI Youth Co-Lab (YCL) is empowering young leaders to co-create impactful campaigns. YCL members — which includes 12 youth (ages 14-25) and 2 youth leaders (ages 21-25) — are partnering with CDPH to co-design the campaign to drive mental health awareness and social change. The YCL will ensure that the unique voices, needs, and ideas held by California's youth are integrated into all aspects.



[Watch their journey in our member-made video](#)

A Brighter Future

This is a marathon and a sprint.

California is leaning in and transforming the way we support children, youth, and families. In 2024, the CYBHI services, supports, and campaigns directly impacted many Californians.

As we continue ahead, CYBHI will focus on continued implementation, measuring impact, and planning for the next phase of support for Californians where they live, work, and play, with youth leading every step of the way.



Defining and Measuring Progress

CYBHI is evaluating its efforts to better understand and share the impact of California's broad investment in the children and youth behavioral health ecosystem. The evaluation is grounded in the strategies being employed, the environmental settings in which CYBHI activities are occurring, and the outcomes that California hopes to achieve.

Lead: California Health & Human Services Agency, in partnership with Mathematica supported by Health Management Associates, James Bell Associates, and the University of California, Los Angeles Prevention Center of Excellence.

Timeline: November 2022 – June 2026

Evaluation Approach

Assessing:

4 core strategies

- Centering children, youth, and families
- Investing in promotion, prevention, and public awareness
- Developing workforce capacity to support behavioral health
- Investing in infrastructure to support service delivery



4 settings of change

- Homes and communities
- Health care settings
- Digital spaces
- Educational Settings



3 major outcomes

- Behavioral health and well-being
- Access and experience with services and supports
- System-level supports and collaboration



The evaluation assesses the CYBHI's progress toward its goal of building a reimagined behavioral health ecosystem for California children and youth. **Through data-driven approaches and community engagement, the evaluation intends to support the sustainability of CYBHI.**

Looking Ahead

CYBHI seeks to transform behavioral health services supports children, youth, and families. The work is guided by prioritizing youth perspectives and creating supports in the ways and places they are needed most.

Looking ahead, keeping youth at the center remains the priority. We achieve this through effective program implementation, evaluating existing efforts, and always seeking to do better.

In 2025, we look forward to expanding the reach of newly available services and supports; offering additional training, internships, and scholarships for individuals aspiring to join the behavioral health workforce; evaluating our efforts; and much more.

As aspects of the initiative sunset in the coming years, California continues to prioritize support for our youth. This is occurring through many burgeoning initiatives, including the Behavioral Health Services Act, California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM), Miles Hall Lifeline Act, and the Behavioral Health Community-Based Organized Networks of Equitable Care and Treatment (BH-CONNECT) Demonstration, among others. Active engagement from all of California's diverse and vibrant communities is important as these initiatives take form.

Thank you for taking the time to review this report, and more importantly, for all that you do for the youth in your community. We look forward to continued partnership as we move ahead in service to an even brighter future for the Golden State.

