



Monterey County Behavioral Health

Behavioral Health Transformation Integrated Plan Policy Overview

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

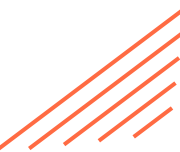


MONTEREY COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

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COUNTY OF MONTEREY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Introductions

Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Three-Year Integrated Plan (IP) Overview

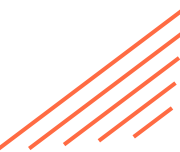
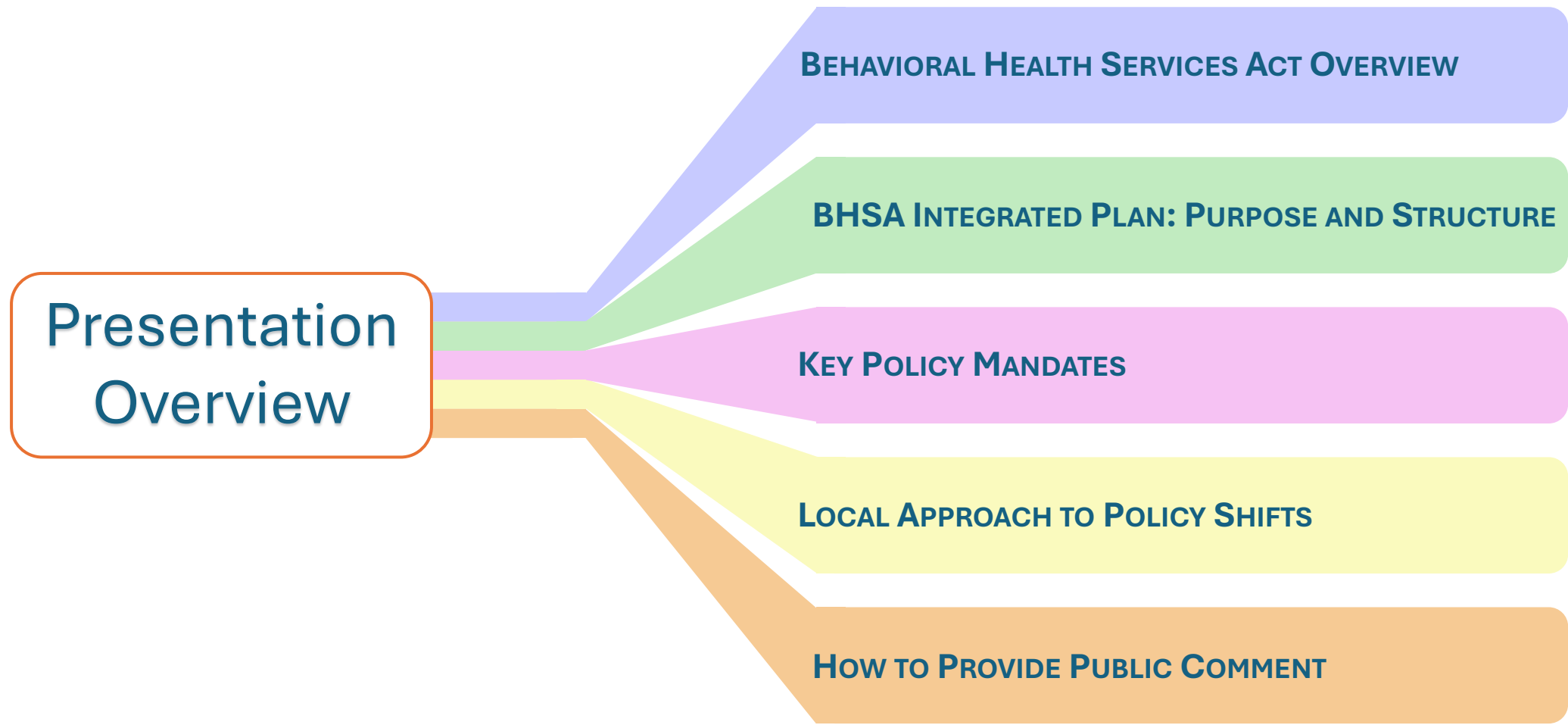
This presentation supports informed public comment by providing

- An overview of how the Integrated Plan is organized
- Key policy requirements established by the State
- How local decisions align within those requirements

Speakers: **Elsa Jimenez:** Director of Health Services
Melanie Rhodes: Behavioral Health Bureau Chief
Fabricio Chombo: Assistant Bureau Chief
Shannon C. Castro: BHSA Coordinator
Dustin Anderson: ThoughtLink

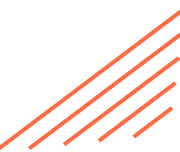


Presentation Overview





Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA)



Proposition 1

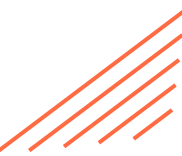
In March 2024, California voters passed Proposition 1, a two-bill package, to modernize the state's behavioral health care system.

SB326 – The Behavioral Health Services Act

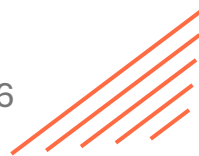
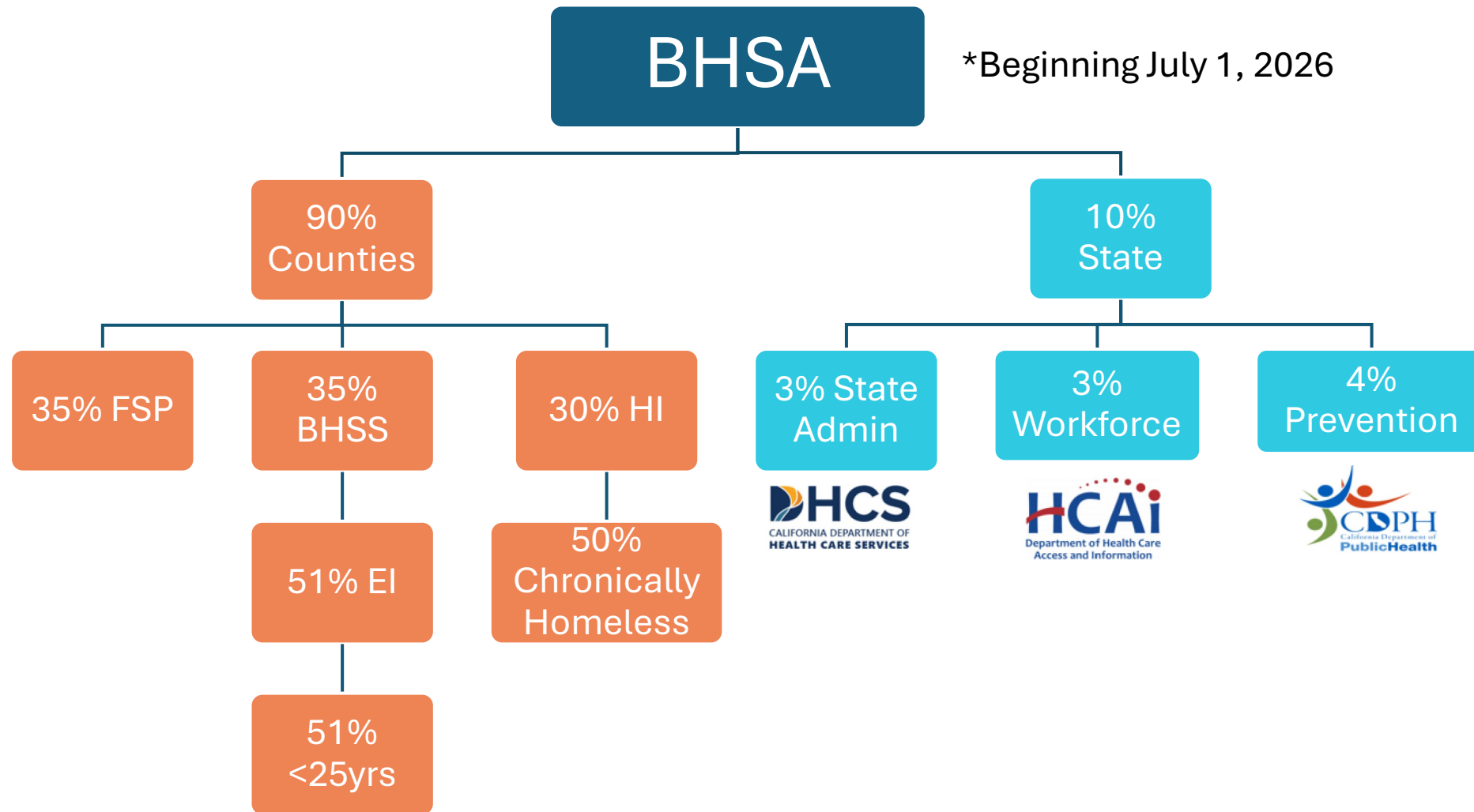
- Reforms behavioral health care funding to provide services to Californians with the most significant behavioral health needs
- Expands the behavioral health workforce to reflect and connect with California's diverse Population
- Focuses on outcomes, accountability, and equity
- **Redirects service, eligibility, and funding requirements across the system**

AB531 – Behavioral Health Bond

- Funds behavioral health treatment beds, supportive housing, and community sites
- Directs funding for housing to veterans with behavioral health needs



BHSA Funding Framework



BHSA Funding Components

- Full-Service Partnership (FSP) services provide intensive, team-based support to help people with serious mental health or substance use needs achieve their goals for recovery and independent living through flexible, 24/7 care that addresses both clinical and practical needs.

FSP



- Behavioral Health Services and Supports (BHSS) provide ongoing, recovery-oriented care to help people with behavioral health needs maintain wellness and stability through coordinated outpatient, community, and peer-based services that prevent crises and support recovery.

BHSS



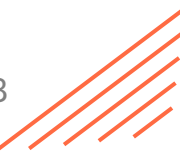
- Housing Interventions (HI) provide housing-focused services and supports to help people with behavioral health needs achieve stability and independence through rental assistance, tenancy support, and other resources that promote long-term housing success.

HI

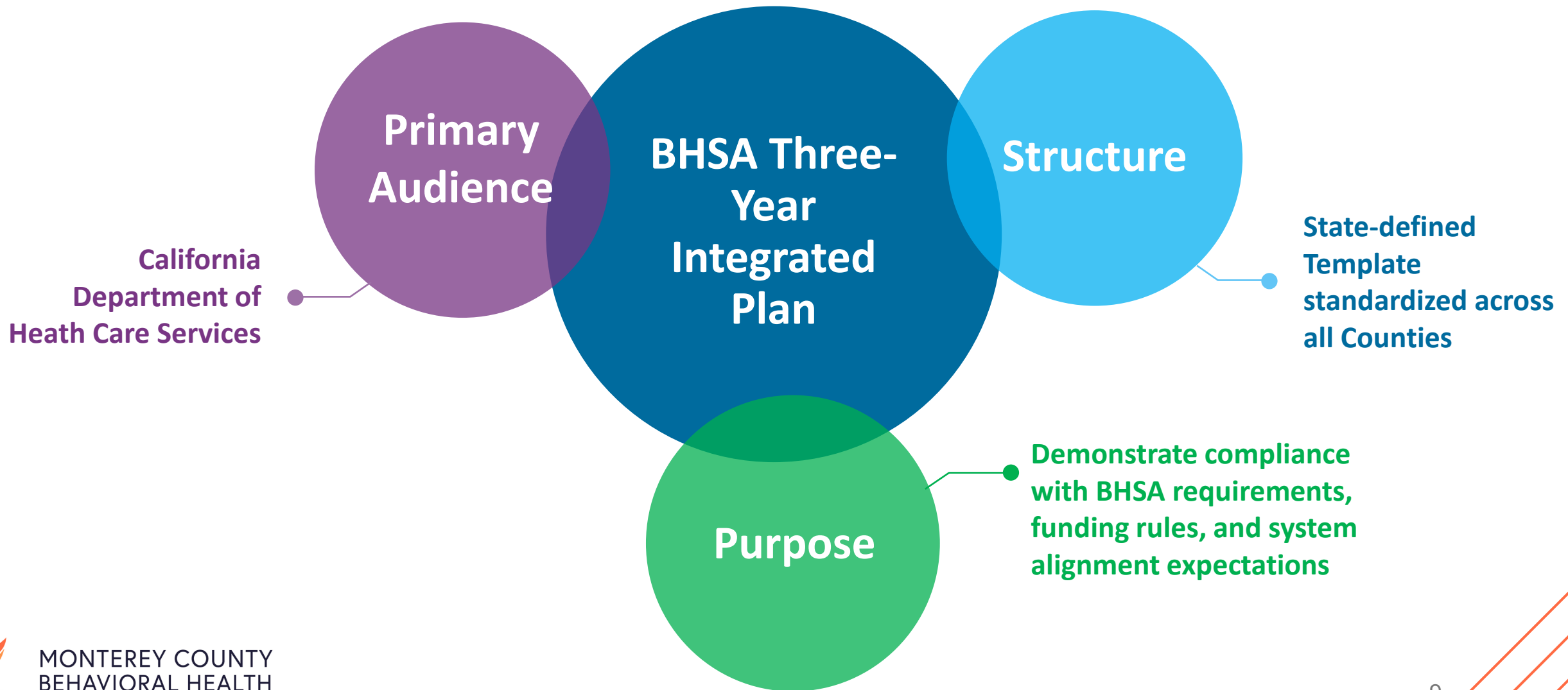




BHSA Three-Year Integrated Plan (IP)



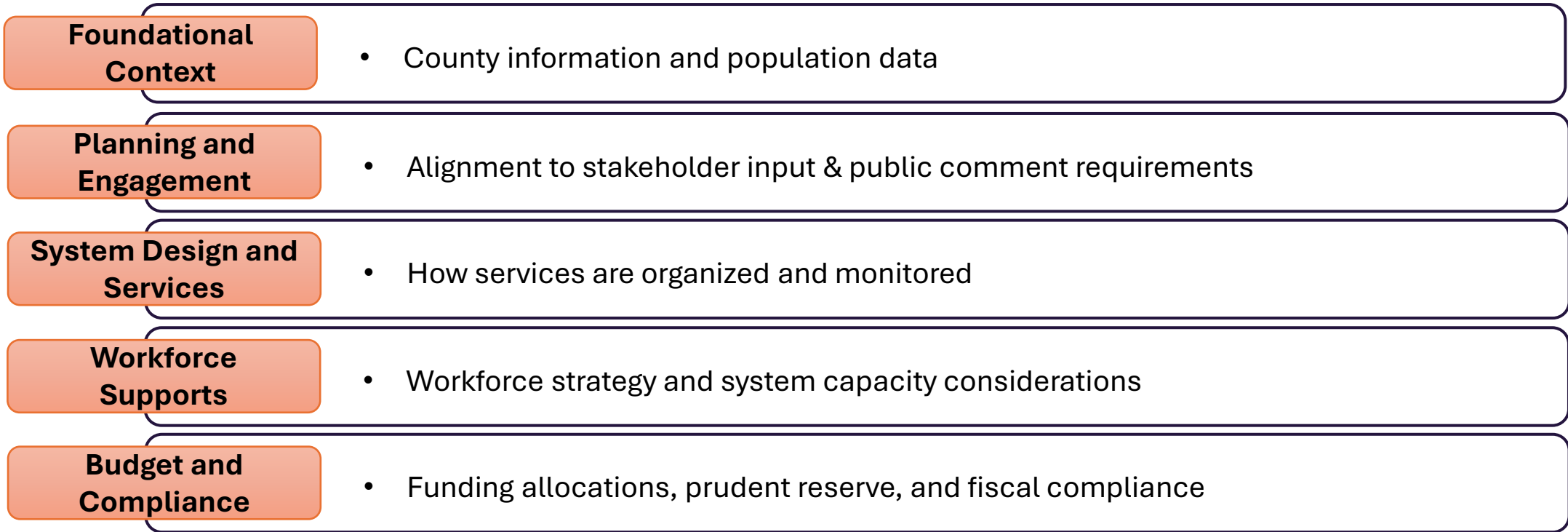
BHSA Integrated Plan



BHSA Integrated Plan



The BHSI Integrated Plan is system-wide planning and accountability tool and not just a list of programs. Think of it as a map of the county’s behavioral health system.



BHSA Integrated Plan Approach

This Plan reflects policy and system-level decisions made within State requirements. It is not a fully specified implementation plan.

Built Within a Defined State Framework

Compliance-Focused to Reduce Risk

Stability-Focused During System Transition

Iterative Development Under Evolving Guidance

Informed by Stakeholder Engagement

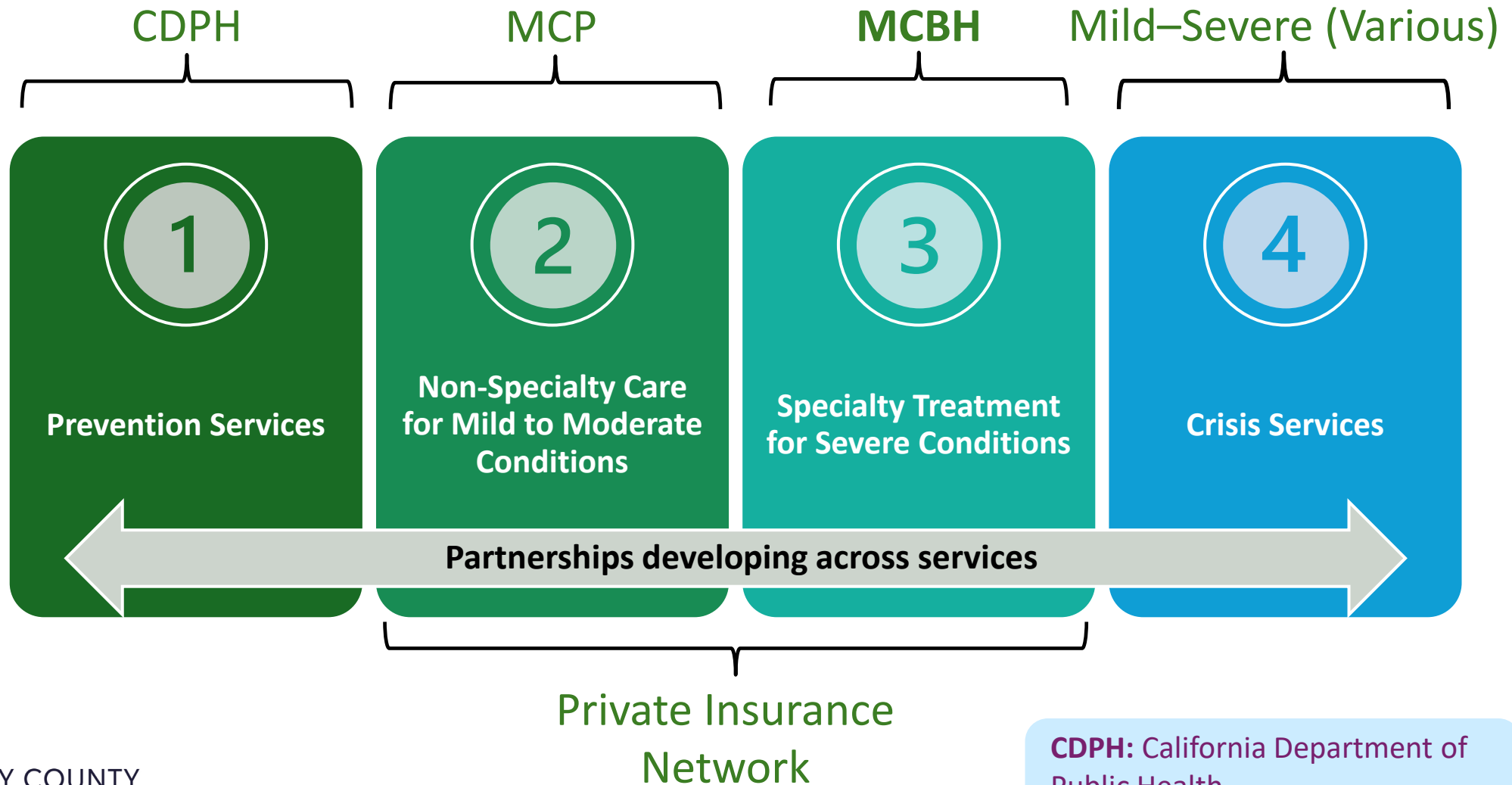




Key Policy Decisions



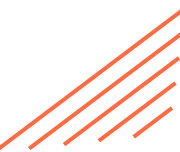
#1: Narrowed Service and Population Eligibility



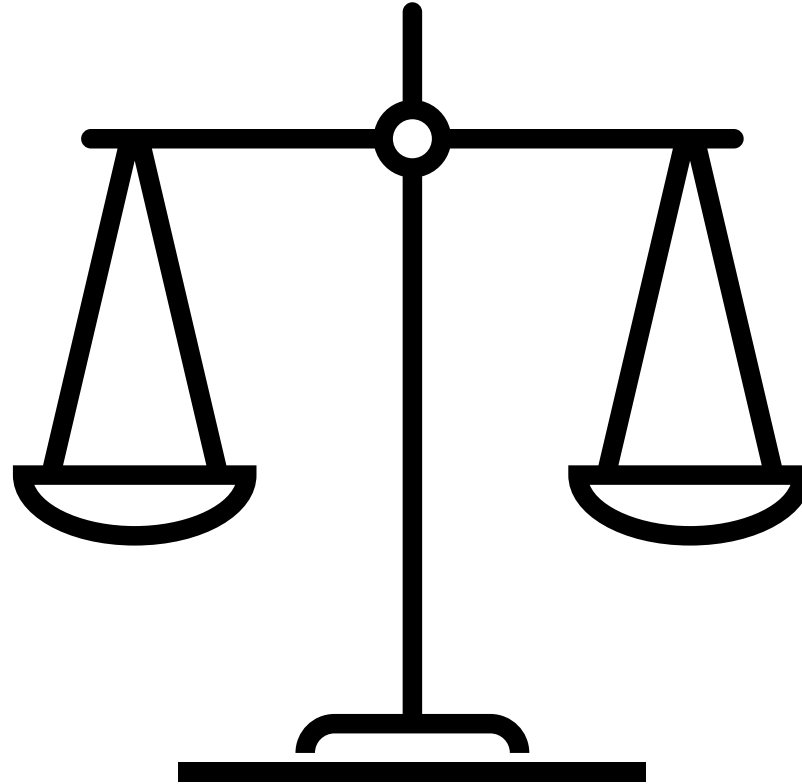
#1: Narrowed Service and Population Eligibility

	Who the County Serves	Who MCPs Serve	Who Commercial Plans Serve
Who Qualifies for Services	<p>Medi-Cal beneficiaries with SMI, SED, SUD* resulting in significant functional impairment</p> <p>Safety Net Provider</p>	<p>Medi-Cal beneficiaries with mild-to-moderate conditions and minimal functional impairment</p>	<p>Individuals w/ commercial or employee-sponsored insurance, based on plan criteria (may include mild-severe conditions)</p>
Who Providers Care	<p>County Behavioral Health staff or County-contracted programs</p>	<p>Behavioral health providers in the MCP network</p>	<p>Private or in-network behavioral health providers</p>
How Care is Accessed	<p>24/7 Access Line, County clinics, or crisis/referral entry</p>	<p>Primary care referral or MCP behavioral health network</p>	<p>Member portal or in-network provider referral</p>

MCP: Managed Care Plan
SMI: Serious Mental Illness
SED: Serious Emotional Disturbance
SUD: Substance Use Disorder



#1: Narrowed Service and Population Eligibility



Priority: Meeting State requirements by directing resources to BHSA-eligible populations

Priority: Supporting alternative funding pathways for prevention and NSMHS providers

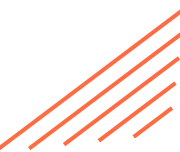
Requires MCBH to align services and funding to eligibility requirements while assessing and managing impacts as they emerge across the broader system of care.

NSMHS: Non-Specialty Mental Health Services



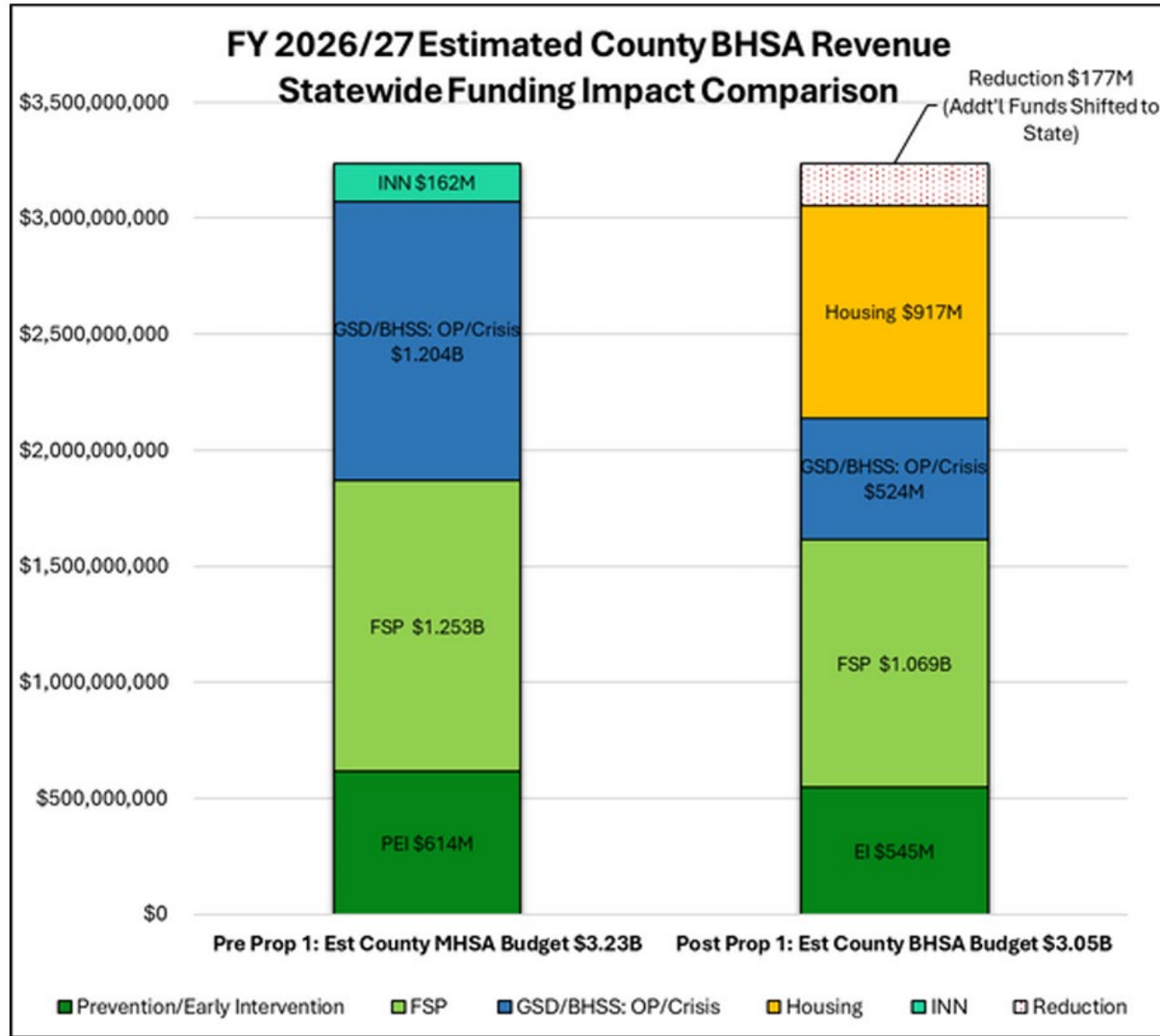
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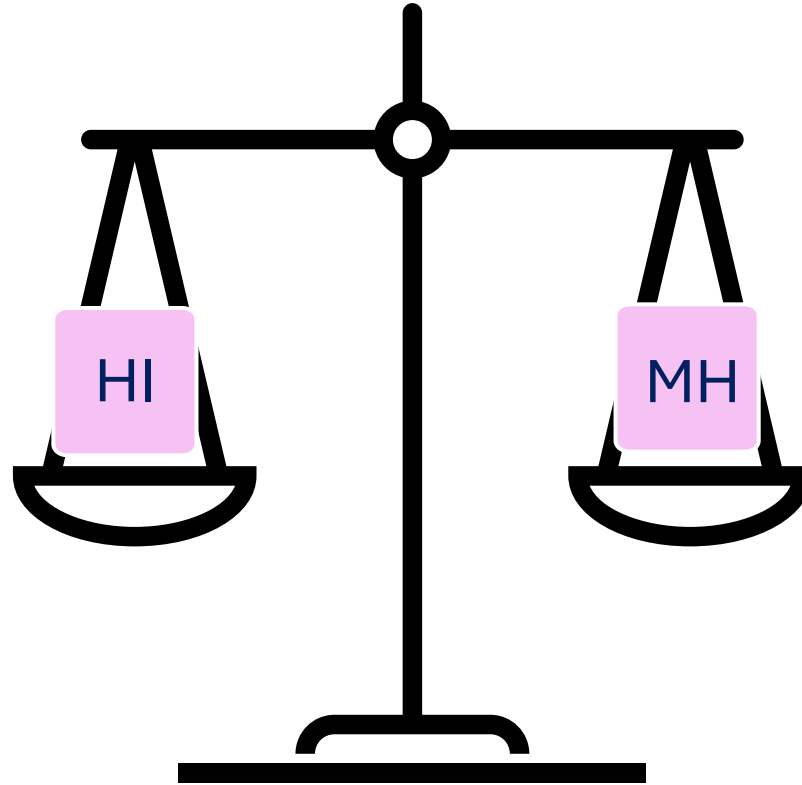
#2: Required Allocations

BHSA establishes fixed funding components and required percentages (Housing Interventions, Full Service Partnerships, Behavioral Health Services and Supports) Counties must reorganize investments within these constraints



#2: Required Allocations

Priority: Meeting required investments in Housing Interventions



Priority: Sustaining behavioral health services that support housing stability

Requires MCBH to meet housing funding requirements while managing impacts on the behavioral health service system.

MCBH requested a 7% shift from Housing Interventions to Behavioral Health Services and Supports to help maintain service capacity.

#3: Coordination & Connection



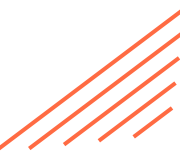
Counties must work with Local Health Jurisdictions (LHJs) and Managed Care Plans (MCPs) on community health planning processes



Counties must use data from MCPs and LHJs to inform the Integrated Plan

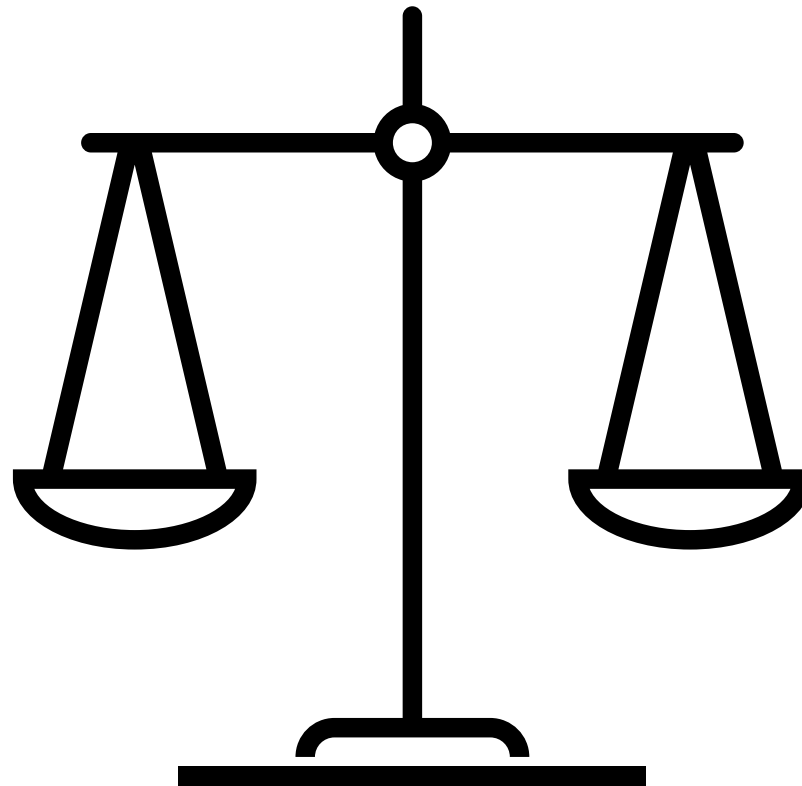


Counties must coordinate engagement efforts with broader community processes where possible



#3: Coordination & Connection

Priority:
Strengthening
coordination across
behavioral health,
healthcare, and
housing partners



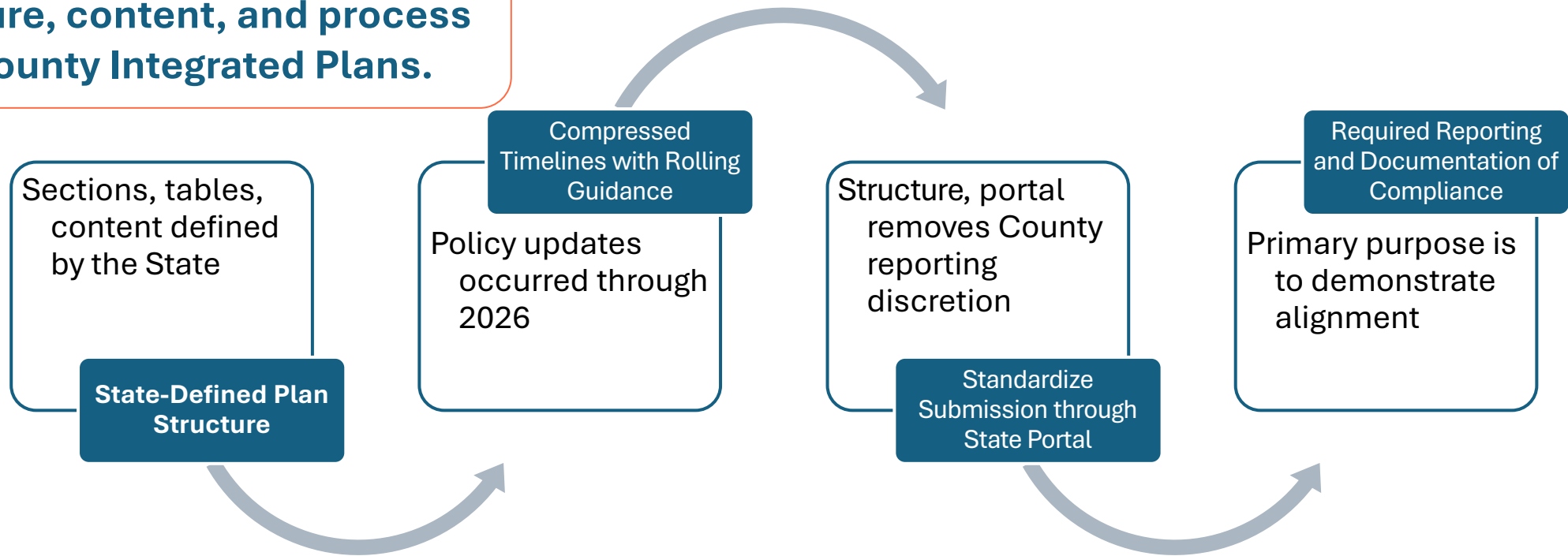
Priority: Operating
within separate
authorities, funding
streams, and
decision-making
structures

Requires MCBH to participate in coordination across systems while operating within distinct roles, responsibilities, and funding structures.



#4: Standardized, State Driven Reporting

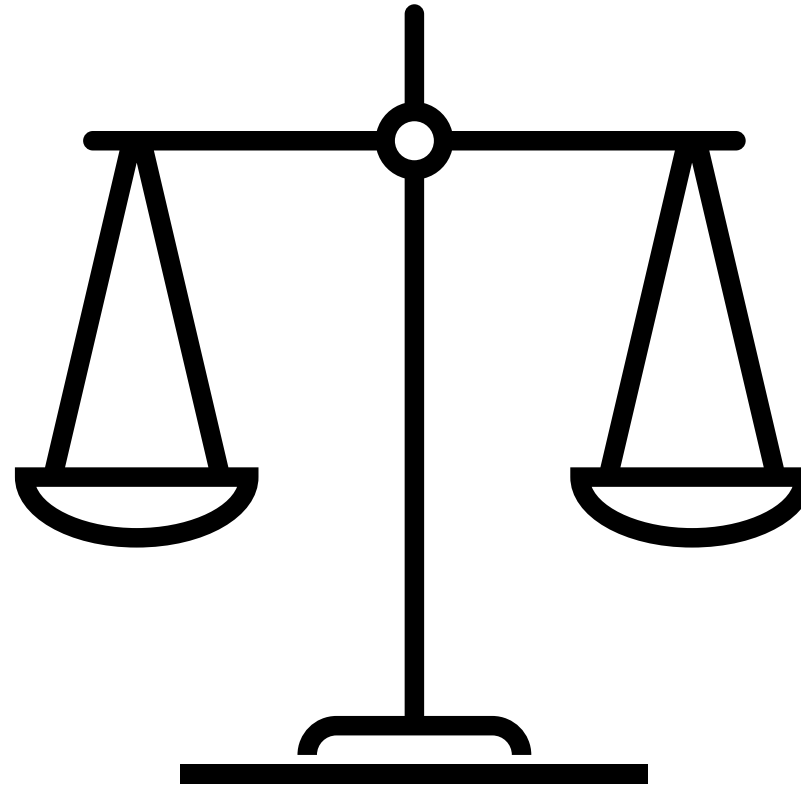
BHSA establishes a standardized structure, content, and process for county Integrated Plans.



The Integrated Plan is a standardized reporting document designed to demonstrate compliance with State requirements.

#4: Standardized, State Driven Reporting

Priority: Meeting State-defined planning and reporting requirements and timelines



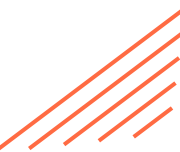
Priority: Communicating local system complexity and maintaining implementation flexibility

Requires MCBH to reflect compliance with new statutory mandates while leaving room for greater coordination over the three-year Plan period



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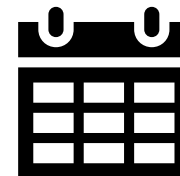
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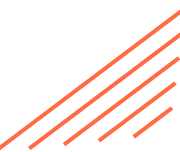
Public Comment Period

April 3, 2026, through May 18, 2026



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How to Provide Public Comment

1. **Visit the County of Monterey's website to review the Integrated Plan and its appendices, available in English and Spanish.**
2. **Submit comments by 5pm on May 18 via email, US mail, or by hand delivery to:**
 - BHSA@countyofmonterey.gov
 - The County of Monterey Health Department, Behavioral Health Administration,
 - Attn: BHSA Public Comments, 1270 Natividad Road, Salinas, CA 93906.



We encourage you to share this message with colleagues, friends, family, and other Monterey County residents interested in behavioral health and substance use disorder services.

