

Bond BHCIP Round 2: Application Guidelines

Letters of Support

Applicants for Bond Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) Round 2: Unmet Needs funds are required to submit one or more letters of support (LOS), as outlined in the Request for Applications (RFA). Depending on the applicant, these may include letters from the following:

- **Director of the county behavioral health agency** where the project is located (*required* of city, nonprofit, for-profit, or tribal entities, with the exception of those projects on tribal land)
- Tribal board (required for all projects on tribal land; can be a tribal resolution)
- Local, state, or federal government officials in support of project
- Community members or organizations (this may include LOS corresponding to Form 7: Community Engagement)
- Applicant's board (required of all applicants, except those with projects on Tribal land)
- If the project is considered a regional collaboration, the applicant must provide an LOS from a county official or a Tribal representative from the collaborating county(ies) or Tribal entity(ies), as appropriate, detailing the collaboration.

All LOS submitted for a project for which Bond BHCIP Round 2: Unmet Needs funding is being sought should meet the following criteria:

- ☐ Is addressed to the applicant, with the subject line indicating support of the project.
 - ☐ Includes the name and title of the individual providing the letter.
 - ☐ Includes the date (no more than six months before the application submission date).
 - ☐ Relates to and indicates Bond BHCIP Round 2: Unmet Needs funding is being sought.
 - ☐ Indicates support for the project.
 - ☐ Clearly references the project for which the applicant is seeking funding.
 - ☐ Provides project details, such as the type of behavioral health facility that is being constructed and the type of services it will provide.
 - ☐ An LOS from the director of a county behavioral health agency is one that must indicate that the applicant commits to providing Medi-Cal behavioral health services once the
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financed facility's expansion or construction is complete. The LOS is still acceptable even if it does not state that a contract will be in place once construction is completed.

Note: Counties that are structured with two departments, one each for behavioral health and mental health, should provide an LOS from the director of the department overseeing the relevant proposed facility type(s).

The following should be included in letters of support, when possible:

- Whether the writer of the LOS will be working with the applicant and/or co-applicant to provide services or client referral programs.
- Whether the facility or program being funded with Bond BHCIP funds will address the State SB 43 mandate, Proposition 36, or the CARE Act
- Whether the LOS is from a state contractor that administers Medi-Cal benefits through local providers (e.g., Partnership Health Plan of California)
- If the LOS is from an association, whether the applicant or co-applicant is a member

The following **will not** be accepted in support of a Bond BHCIP Round 2: Unmet Needs application:

- A letter of support from an application for a prior round of BHCIP funding, including Bond BHCIP Round 1: Launch Ready.
- A letter of support that is dated more than six months before the date of application submission.
- A letter of support from an employee of a county behavioral health agency, rather than the director.
- Letters that do not specifically reference Bond BHCIP Round 2: Unmet Needs or the project for which the applicant is seeking funding.