



Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program
and
Community Care Expansion Program
BH County and Tribal Planning Grants

Re-Release

Request for Applications
January 10, 2022

*A joint effort by
the California Department of Health Care Services and
the California Department of Social Services*



BACKGROUND

The Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) provides the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) funding to award competitive grants to qualified entities to construct, acquire, and rehabilitate real estate assets or to invest in mobile crisis infrastructure to expand the community continuum of behavioral health (BH) treatment resources. A portion of the funding is available for increased infrastructure targeted to children and youth 25 years of age and younger. Facilities may include short-term crisis stabilization, acute and subacute care, crisis residential, community-based mental health residential, substance use disorder residential, peer respite, mobile crisis, community and outpatient behavioral health services, and other longer-term treatment and rehabilitation options for persons with behavioral health disorders in the least restrictive and least costly setting. BH capacity expansion projects are to also consider the local impact of the numerous BH efforts in California, including the state initiatives to end homelessness, the California Advancing Innovation in Medi-Cal, Children and Youth BH Initiative, the Severely Mentally Ill and Severely Emotionally Disturbed waiver, Systems of Care for foster children and youth, and other significant BH initiatives. These funds will also be focused on expanding capacity for specialty mental health and substance use disorder services for all Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

DHCS was authorized through 2021 [legislation](#) to establish BHCIP and award \$2.2 billion to construct, acquire, and expand properties and invest in the mobile crisis infrastructure related to BH. In a partnership with Advocates for Human Potential, Inc. (AHP), these BHCIP funds are being released through six rounds targeting various gaps in the state's BH facility infrastructure (see Appendix A).

BHCIP is a joint effort with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Community of Care Expansion program (CCE). Established by [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 172](#) (Chapter 20, Statutes of 2021), CCE will provide \$805 million in funding for acquisition, construction, and rehabilitation to preserve and expand adult and senior care facilities that serve Social Security Income (SSI) applicants and recipients, including those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and people with behavioral health conditions. These combined infrastructure programs represent the largest such provision of resources for infrastructure in the state's history and an unprecedented opportunity to effect meaningful, sustainable change in California.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to collaborate at the local level to take advantage of the BHCIP and CCE opportunities when developing infrastructure efforts. Both grant efforts afford county and tribal entities the ability to expand the entire continuum of care for individuals with BH conditions. Technical assistance in plan development will include ideas regarding cross-system collaborations in an effort to build out the entire BH continuum of care at the local level.

BHCIP COUNTY AND TRIBAL PLANNING GRANT OPPORTUNITY

DHCS is issuing planning grants through this re-release of this Request for Applications (RFA) for county BH agencies and tribal entities to initiate and support planning efforts in their communities. This round of funding is intended to support preparation activities to plan for the acquisition and expansion of BH infrastructure throughout the state. Grants will be for up to \$150,000. **This re-release is open to behavioral health county agencies and tribal entities that have not previously been awarded a BHCIP County and Tribal Planning Grant.**



Technical assistance (TA) will be offered to applicants to answer questions about the RFA and application process, as well as made available to grantees throughout the planning period (March 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022).

BHCIP is seeking applicants who can successfully demonstrate an ability and intent to convene and engage with community stakeholders and system delivery partners who will assist in the planning process to address gaps in BH services on a county, tribal, or regional basis.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applications will be accepted only from California county BH agencies and tribal entities that have not been previously awarded a BHCIP Planning Grant. The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health and Los Angeles County Substance Abuse Prevention and Control qualify to apply for individual planning grants. Tribal entities may be either federally recognized Tribal 638s or urban clinics. Both counties and tribes are invited to apply with like entities, using a regional model, with one entity designated as the lead.

Important Dates and Information

Completed [application and budget](#) due:
February 28, 2022, 5:00 p.m. PT

[Recording of November 5, 2021, Informational webinar](#)

[Answers to Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Award announcements: March 2022

Project period: March 1, 2022-December 31, 2022

SCOPE OF WORK/FUNDING INFORMATION

Planning grantees will create an action plan with goals, objectives, and strategies for building BH facility capacity. Grantees are to review and prioritize local needs that are in alignment with priorities set by the state, drawing from new or existing needs assessment data. The action plan will identify and prioritize potential strategies and action steps to fill identified gaps, in preparation for applying for additional DHCS and CDSS infrastructure funding opportunities listed in Attachment A. In preparing an action plan, grantees should also consider future operational aspects of facilities, including program design, along with staffing and management protocols and procedures.

All fully completed applications by a county BH agency or tribal entity, along with a budget (see Attachment B budget template), will be considered for funding. Specific information relating to planning grant requirements will be included in the grantee contract agreement. All awardees must meet all federal and state funding restrictions, report, and compliance requirements as determined by DHCS.

Application Questions

The following questions are included in the application, which can be accessed at the [BHCIP apply webpage](#). Please be prepared to respond to these when completing your online application and budget.

- Have you identified a project director? You will be asked to provide the name, organization, and contact information of the lead organization and individual point of contact.
- Have you conducted a county or tribal infrastructure needs assessment? If so, please describe. If not, please describe what data will be used to inform the planning process.



- What do you know about your BH infrastructure goals and priorities now? Please briefly describe them.
- What are your anticipated planning activities? Who are your stakeholders and potential delivery partners, and how will you involve them? Please briefly describe.
- How are you thinking of connecting BHCIP with CCE opportunities at the local level?
- What pre-development or other activities do you hope to complete as part of this planning grant?
- Are you applying as a single entity or regionally? If regionally, please describe the partnership.
- Do you envision using any specific subcontractors or consultants? If so, please describe their role(s).

Deliverable 1: Action Plan

The action plan is to be developed through a collaborative process that may include, but is not limited to, community stakeholder and partner input from all the following groups:

- County or tribal representatives (BH, health, public health, public safety partners, social services, child welfare, education, housing)
- Health care providers
- BH providers
- Community clinics and health centers
- Real estate developers
- Individuals and/or family members who have lived experience with BH conditions

Eligible Planning Costs

- Costs for staff or consultants to convene planning meetings, draft plan materials, conduct background research and infrastructure needs assessment(s), develop educational and outreach materials to assist with engaging stakeholders
- Supplies and materials
- Meeting costs to support plan development
- Travel or other costs to support stakeholder participation

Minimum Plan Elements

The following elements, at minimum, should be part of the plan that will be submitted as Deliverable 1:

- Identification of a project director/lead committed to leveraging resources and convening stakeholders



- An overall description of the applicant’s goals, time-oriented objectives, and strategies
- Description of the priority BHCIP and CCE infrastructure project(s) you intend to pursue, and the funding round(s) for which you are considering in applying
- A description of the infrastructure gaps and challenges or barriers to providing BH services and proposed strategies and solutions to address them utilizing DHCS’s Needs Assessment and other local information and data that illustrates or documents gaps and needs in the BH care continuum. To the extent possible, include statistics related to the estimated number in the county who are experiencing homelessness and/or have a serious mental illness, substance use disorder, and/or co-occurring disorder, and other state-identified priority populations provided by DHCS.
- An outline of partnerships for implementation of the action plan
- A staffing plan, with priority strategies focusing on recruiting and retaining diverse and multi-cultural staff, including those who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) to ensure culturally competent services to underserved communities.
- Required resources to undertake implementation of the action plan and steps to secure them

Deliverable 2: Pre-Development Activities

Upon completion of the action plan, grantees may use funds for indicated pre-development activities. Any funds left over from the planning grant after the action plan is completed may be invested in plan solidification, such as feasibility studies and additional tasks to further the county or tribe’s project plan. All additional planning and assessment that is accomplished with the balance of the grant funds is to be described in a brief report and shared with DHCS at the end of the grant.

Eligible Pre-Development Costs

Awarded funds are to support activities associated with planning for the construction, acquisition, or rehabilitation of BH facilities to increase the level of services available. Funding may be used for staff or subcontractors working directly on the project, including technical experts (architects, engineers, etc.) to assist with determining costs and feasibility of priority projects.

Funding may also support counties and tribes to develop the detailed design for the program, including quality and practice standards, which will inform the facility and staffing requirements. Additionally, planning grants may support the costs of community engagement and outreach to shape and obtain support for the new or expanded program.

Potential Funding Uses

- Identification of potential development sites
- Identification of buildings for rehabilitation or expansion
- Identification of potential developers and brokering relationships
- Identification and application for additional resources for capital, services, and operating costs



- Land/site development and other appropriate reviews
- Addressing local siting challenges
- Community and provider engagement via onsite and virtual meetings
- Pre-development costs, such as assessing the feasibility of the proposed capital project, legal fees, option fees (payments to obtain site control), architectural and engineering fees (for initial drawings and estimates), accounting fees, and other costs needed to verify the viability of a project.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

For individuals with disabilities, DHCS will provide assistive services such as reading or writing assistance, conversion of the RFA, questions/answers, RFA addenda, or other Administrative Notices in Braille, large print, audiocassette, or computer disk. To request copies of written materials in an alternate format, please use one of the following methods.

Reasonable Accommodation Requests

Email address: BHCIP@dhcs.ca.gov

Subject: Reasonable Accommodations – BHCIP County/Tribal Planning Grant

Fax: 916-440-5230

(TTY) California Relay Telephone Number: 1-800-735-2929

FUNDING INFORMATION

Applicants are required to submit a budget to assist DHCS in establishing reasonableness of the final amount awarded. Applicants are encouraged to use the template in Attachment B to create a budget and will be asked to insert the budget figures as part of the online application process. All items budgeted must be inclusive of all costs, including taxes and fees, in U.S. dollars.

Funding restrictions

The following will *not* be funded:

- Debt retirement
- Operational deficits
- Partisan activities
- Religious organizations for explicit religious activities
- Activities that exclusively benefit the members of sectarian or religious organizations
- Indirect costs



PROJECT TIMELINE

Applications are due February 28, 2022. Award announcements will be made by March 2022, and contracts will cover activities for the period March 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Grantees will be required to submit one brief interim report and a final report, to include brief summaries of progress and expenditures.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Technical assistance (TA) will be provided to answer questions about the RFA and application process. Please email your questions to the BHCIP team at BHCIP@dhcs.ca.gov by February 21 at 5:00 p.m. PT. Once grants are awarded, additional TA will be available to all grantees to support planning activities.

Resources to Assist in the Application Process

- ♣ In addition to the information provided in this RFA, visit the [BHCIP website](#) for background information, [answers to frequently asked questions](#), and a [recording](#) and [slides](#) of the informational webinar.
- ♣ For more information about BHCIP, visit the [DHCS BHCIP webpage](#).
- ♣ For additional questions, email BHCIP@dhcs.ca.gov. All questions must be received by February 21, at 5:00 p.m. PT.

For information related to funding for adult and senior care facility acquisition, rehabilitation, or construction, see Attachment A.



Attachment A

BHCIP PROPOSED FUNDING ROUNDS

BHCIP grants are being offered in a series of six funding rounds between now and December 2022. Together, the rounds will target a number of gaps in California's BH facility infrastructure; in each round, entities will be invited to apply for funds to address these gaps. Stakeholder engagement will be encouraged for the duration of each grant program. Rounds will remain open until all funds are awarded.

- Round 1: Mobile Crisis \$150M (July 2021)
- Round 2: Planning Grants \$8M (November 2021)
- Round 3: Launch Ready \$585M (January 2022)
- Round 4: Children and Youth \$460M (August 2022)
- Round 5: Addressing Gaps #1 \$462M (October 2022)
- Round 6: Addressing Gaps #2 \$460M (December 2022)

Potential Eligible Facility Types for funding rounds

- Behavioral health wellness centers
- Short-term crisis stabilization
- Acute and subacute care
- Crisis residential
- Community-based mental health residential
- SUD residential
- Community and outpatient
- Other clinically enriched longer-term treatment and rehabilitation options for persons with BH disorders in the least restrictive and least costly setting

CCE PROPOSED FUNDING CYCLE

An RFA will be issued in January 2022 through the CCE program. Grants will be awarded to counties and tribes for the acquisition, rehabilitation, or construction of adult and senior care facilities in a single round of funding. The goal of the CCE program is to expand and preserve these facilities that serve people experiencing homelessness, as well as stabilize existing settings that serve people at risk of homelessness or unnecessary institutionalization. Funds will be prioritized for the creation of new and expanded settings but may also be used to fund capital investment and rehabilitation costs for existing settings at risk of closure. Applicants will be required to demonstrate commitments to supportive services to assist with the stability of those placed in assisted living settings.



Total funding for CCE is \$805,000,000; the amount that will be awarded through the RFA is in development.



Attachment B

BH County and Tribal Planning Grant Application



Please complete this online application and budget worksheet. Prepare your response by using the templates in the RFA before submitting online. When you're ready to complete the [online application and budget worksheet](#) to enter your information. You may close your online application and return to it later from the same computer; your entry will have been saved. You may also move backward in the document and change your responses before submitting. No edits can be made after you have submitted the application.

Applications must be submitted no later than February 28, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. PT.

For questions regarding this application, budget, and its submission, please email BHCIP@dhcs.ca.gov. If you are having any technical difficulties with your online application and require technical assistance, please contact webevents@ahpnet.com.

Section 1: Applicant Information

Information	
Agency or Tribal Entity Name	
Street Address	
City, State, ZIP	
Email Address	
Telephone Number	
Website	
Lead Authorized Representative	
Name (First and Last)	
Title	
Email Address	
Telephone Number	
Applicant Tax ID #	
DUNS #	
Project Director (indicate if different from Lead Authorized Representative)	
Name (First and Last)	
Agency or Tribal Entity Name	
Email Address	
Telephone Number	



Section 2: Team Information

TEAM

Are you applying as a single entity or regionally? Single Entity Regional

If applying regionally, please describe the partnership.

COLLABORATION

What are your anticipated planning activities? Who are your stakeholders and potential service delivery partners, and how will you involve them? Please briefly describe.



Section 3: Planning and Goals

BH INFRASTRUCTURE GOALS

Please briefly describe your behavioral health infrastructure goals and priorities.

POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

What are your three desired outcomes from participation in this planning grant? Please briefly describe.

PLANNING ACTIVITIES

What are your anticipated planning activities? Who are your stakeholders and how will you involve them? Please briefly describe.



Section 4: Priorities and Activities

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Have you conducted a county or tribal infrastructure needs assessment? Yes No

If yes, please describe. If not, describe what data will be used to inform the planning process.

PRE-DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

What pre-development or other activities do you hope to complete as part of this planning grant?



Section 5: Itemized Budget

Submit a completed budget and provide a budget justification with projected planning costs. Please insert your text descriptions in the first column and include the total budget amount in the second column of each section.

Quarter 1 Budget

	Budget Narrative Description Quarter 1: March 1- June 30, 2022	Quarter 1 Budget
I. Personnel (Annual Salary, job title, FTE) 1. 2. 3.		
II. Payroll taxes, benefits, etc.		
III. Subcontractor costs, consultant fees, role, and FTE (% time) 1. 2 3.		
IV. Other Direct Expenses Events Travel* (Learning Collaboratives, etc.) Miscellaneous Other (please specify)		
Total 1st Quarter:		



Quarter 2 Budget

	Budget Narrative Description Quarter 2: July 1 – September 30, 2022	Quarter 2 Budget
I. Personnel (Annual Salary, job title, FTE) 1. 2. 3.		
II. Payroll taxes, benefits, etc.		
III. Subcontractor costs, consultant fees, role, and FTE (% time) 1. 2. 3.		
IV. Other Direct Expenses Events Travel* (Learning Collaboratives, etc.) Miscellaneous Other (please specify)		
Total 2nd Quarter:		



Quarter 3 Budget

	Budget Narrative Description Quarter 3: October 1 – December 31, 2022	Quarter 3 Budget
I. Personnel (Annual Salary, job title, FTE) 1. 2. 3.		
II. Payroll taxes, benefits, etc.		
III. Subcontractor costs, consultant fees, role, and FTE (% time) 1. 2. 3.		
IV. Other Direct Expenses Events Travel* (Learning Collaboratives, etc.) Miscellaneous Other (please specify)		
Total 3rd Quarter:		



Planning Grant Full Year Budget – March 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Full Year
I. Personnel (Salary, job title, FTE)				
II. Payroll taxes, benefits, etc.				
III. Subcontractor costs, consultant fees, role, and FTE (% time)				
IV. Other Direct Expenses				
Total Year Request:				



Section 6: Questionnaire

1. Is your organization or entity considering applying for a grant from one of the other BHCIP funding rounds?

yes

no

If yes, which round(s) are you considering?

2. Is your organization or entity considering applying for a Department of Social Services Community Care Expansion grant (CCE)?

yes

no

3. Are you interested in technical assistance (TA) as part of this grant funding?

yes

no

If yes, what in areas would you be interested in receiving assistance?

My application is complete, and I understand that clicking the submit button below this question will close the application form.

yes

Thank You!

Thank you for completing the BHCIP County and Tribal Planning Grant Online Application! An email confirmation has been sent to the lead agency contact's email address listed in the application. If you have any questions, please contact BHCIP@dhcs.ca.gov.

