

# HCS NEWS RELEASE

## CALIFORNIA AND SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY EXPAND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES WITH NEW CAMPUS

*Campus Will Serve 72,000 Individuals Annually*

**SACRAMENTO** — On September 10, 2025, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and San Joaquin County Behavioral Health Services Department celebrated the groundbreaking of the Be Well Campus, a new facility in French Camp that will expand access to mental health and substance use disorder treatment in the Central Valley. The campus will include 10 facility types, with 116 behavioral health treatment beds and 1,205 outpatient slots, enabling care for more than 72,000 individuals annually.

"This project represents a powerful example of California's commitment to building a behavioral health system that meets people where they are," said **DHCS Director Michelle Baass**. "Through the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program, we are investing in local infrastructure and helping communities expand access to care."

This transformative project is supported by more than \$149 million through the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (<https://infrastructure.buildingcalhhs.com/>) (BHCIP), including Round 5: Crisis and Behavioral Health Continuum (<https://infrastructure.buildingcalhhs.com/grantees/crisis-and-behavioral-health-continuum/>) and Bond BHCIP Round 1: Launch Ready (<https://www.gov.ca.gov/2025/05/12/governor-newsom-announces-billions-of-dollars-for-behavioral-health-treatment-facilities-and-services-for-seriously-ill-and-homeless-thanks-to-prop-1/>) (a conditional award made possible by the Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act), part of California's voter-approved reform to expand behavioral health care and housing. This project is one of several in California that will combine earlier BHCIP rounds with bond funds to support both immediate needs and long-term infrastructure.



***Be Well Campus Groundbreaking***

BHCIP is a key component of Mental Health for All (<https://www.mentalhealth.ca.gov/>), California's ongoing commitment to build a stronger and more equitable behavioral health system. With the passage of Proposition 1, even more behavioral health treatment facilities (<https://www.infrastructure.buildingcalhhs.com/grantees/bond-bhcip-rounds/>) will be funded and built in 2025 and 2026.

"We are pleased to see the Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act in action," said **DHCS Community Services Division Chief Marlies Perez**. "San Joaquin County is building a model that brings together multiple levels of care in one place, making it easier for people to get the care they need when they need it."



***Marlies Perez Speaks at the Be Well Campus Groundbreaking Event***

**INVESTING IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE CAPACITY:** More than 1.2 million adults in California live with a serious mental illness, and 1 in 10 residents meet the criteria for a substance use disorder. Additionally, shortages of behavioral health treatment sites contribute to rising rates of homelessness and incarceration among people with mental health disorders.

To address this, DHCS launched BHCIP to fund the construction, acquisition, and expansion of behavioral health facilities and mobile crisis services. Since 2021, the state has awarded more than \$2.2 billion through BHCIP Rounds 1–5, including \$430 million in Round 5 to expand crisis care statewide. California is investing billions more through Bond BHCIP to build long-term behavioral health and housing infrastructure. In May 2025, DHCS conditionally awarded \$3.3 billion through Bond BHCIP Round 1: Launch Ready to 121 projects across 42 counties, supporting 4,895 residential beds and 21,402 outpatient slots.

**WHAT'S NEXT:** The Be Well Campus project received a conditional award through Bond BHCIP Round 1: Launch Ready, and the next step is to finalize that funding. San Joaquin County will work with DHCS to complete a Program Funding Agreement, confirm matching funds and property ownership, and wrap up other required documentation before the award becomes final.

Meanwhile, DHCS is preparing to award more than \$800 million through Bond BHCIP Round 2: Unmet Needs (<https://infrastructure.buildingcalhhs.com/grantees/bond-bhcup-rounds/>). This round is open to eligible applicants statewide, with applications due on October 28, 2025, and awards expected in spring 2026.

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