

BHSA Racial Equity Scorecard

San Diego County



Score: 27/45

San Diego County's integrated plan reflects a thoughtful approach to community engagement, and includes several elements that reflect direct community feedback. The county has also identified racial disparities in all of the six statewide priority goals, along with strategies to help close these disparities. The county should build on this initial blueprint by continuing to engage with communities during implementation, strengthening language access provisions, and monitoring investments in acute care settings to ensure that they ultimately result in more people accessing community-based care in the least restrictive setting possible.

Projected FY 2026-27 BHSA State Funding:

\$274,608,974.74

Projected FY 2026-27 BHSA Spending by Category:

Behavioral Health Services & Supports

\$96,113,141.16

Full Service Partnerships

\$96,113,141.16

Housing

\$82,382,692.42

Total FY 2025-26 MHSA State Funding Received:

\$229,817,544

Domain	Strengths	Opportunities	Score
1. Community Engagement	➤ Used a wide range of strategies, including community engagement sessions, direct engagement with partner CBOs serving diverse communities, and community health worker outreach to gather feedback from BIPOC, immigrant, and refugee communities ➤ Identified specific plan decisions that were informed by community feedback, such as the inclusion of a social connectedness goal and the transfer of extra funding into the Behavioral Health Services and Support funding category	➤ Continue regular engagement with community members throughout implementation to provide updates and gather feedback to inform future year plan updates	6/6

Domain	Strengths	Opportunities	Score
2. Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Workforce	➤ Specifically identifies the need for peer support specialists and names strategies focused on improving the supply of culturally and linguistically responsive providers, including peers and community health workers ➤ Community Health Workers play a key role in neighborhood-level engagement	➤ Include defined metrics to assess progress toward building a more diverse and representative workforce	4/5
3. Language Access	➤ Includes specific measures to hold providers accountable to maintaining language access ➤ Although not referenced in its Integrated Plan, San Diego County has a foundation for language access in behavioral health, reflected in its robust Cultural Competence Plan, which could be leveraged in its integrated plan	➤ Establish a documented translation process for written materials, including a community review process ➤ Create dedicated funding to ensure language access strategies are sustainable ➤ Although not referenced in its Integrated Plan, San Diego County has a foundation for language access in behavioral health, reflected in its robust 2024-2025 Cultural Competence Plan, which could be leveraged in its integrated plan	1/5
4. Racially Equitable Behavioral Health Services and Supports Strategy	➤ Includes a community-defined evidence practice in its early intervention programs to provide culturally appropriate services to individuals from San Diego tribal communities	➤ Identify specific strategies to reduce racial and linguistic disparities in all behavioral health services and supports program areas ➤ Establish more partnerships with CBOs to provide culturally relevant services that can improve outcomes for underserved or inappropriately served populations	4/10

Domain	Strengths	Opportunities	Score
5. Funding Equity	➤ Clear effort to braid other funding sources to ensure efficient use of BHSA funds	➤ Identify specific strategies to ensure uninsured residents who lose coverage due to new Medi-Cal eligibility restrictions can continue to access service regardless of immigration status	2/3
6. Community-Based Care Approaches	➤ Plan includes investments in voluntary, community-based care delivered independently of law enforcement, as well as in-patient care focused on stepping patients appropriately into outpatient services ➤ Identifies specific institutionalization disparities impacting BIPOC communities, as well as strategies to help reduce these disparities	➤ Develop a strategy to reduce institutionalization that is primarily focused on outpatient, community-based care ➤ Develop a strategy for crisis response that does not involve law enforcement officers ➤ Ensure necessary investments into inpatient and institutional care result in more patients ultimately being connected to community-based, outpatient care in the least restrictive setting possible	0/4
7. Promoting Racial Equity and Addressing Racial Disparities	➤ Identifies specific disparities by race/ethnicity for measures associated with all six priority statewide goals ➤ All six goals have specific disparities reduction strategies	➤ Expand disparities reduction efforts to also encompass language disparities for all six priority statewide goals	10/12

The BHSA Racial Equity Scorecard Project evaluates county Integrated Plans across key behavioral health equity priorities.

For more information, visit
www.CPEHN.org/BHSAscorecards



**California Pan-Ethnic
HEALTH NETWORK**