

BHSA Racial Equity Scorecard

Ventura County



Score: 24/45

Ventura County's BHSA Integrated Plan demonstrates strong foundational commitments to community-based crisis care, CBO partnerships, and building a culturally and linguistically competent workforce. The County can build on this foundation by articulating its language access strategy within the plan, documenting how programs will work to close identified disparities by race and ethnicity, and documenting how community feedback led to substantive changes to the plan. The county should also develop a strategy to preserve service access for all Californians regardless of insurance coverage or immigration status.

Projected FY 2026-27 BHSA State Funding:

\$63,700,000

Projected FY 2026-27 BHSA Spending by Category:

Behavioral Health Services & Supports

\$22,295,000

Full Service Partnerships

\$22,295,000

Housing

\$19,110,000

Total FY 2025-26 MHSA State Funding Received:

Ventura County's most recent MHSA Annual Update does not include a specific figure for MHSA State Funding received in FY 2025-26.

Domain	Strengths	Opportunities	Score
1. Community Engagement	➤ Collaborated closely with diverse CBOs serving BIPOC, immigrant, and refugee communities ➤ Engaged ethnic news media outlets for broader outreach	➤ In future plan revisions, explicitly document specific policy or programmatic changes implemented in direct response to community feedback	5/6
2. Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Workforce	➤ Identifies critical needs for multicultural and bilingual staff, particularly Spanish and Mixteco speakers ➤ Prioritizes programs aimed at increasing bilingual clinicians, Community Health Workers (CHWs), and Peer Support Specialists	➤ Establish concrete, quantifiable metrics to track progress towards establishing a culturally and linguistically responsive workforce ➤ Formally incorporate CHWs as a core component of the county's overall strategy to eliminate health disparities	3/5

Domain	Strengths	Opportunities	Score
3. Language Access	➤ Ventura County possesses an existing, robust standalone Cultural Competency Plan that could serve as the foundation for the Integrated Plan's language access strategy, and should be leveraged	➤ Explicitly incorporate and embed the Cultural Competency Plan directly into future plan updates	0/5
4. Racially Equitable Behavioral Health Services and Supports Strategy	➤ Includes disparity-reduction strategies across program areas ➤ Partners with organizations surveying and serving LGBTQ+, BIPOC, immigrant, and refugee communities. ➤ Adopts a recognized Community-Defined Evidence-Based Practice (CDEP)	➤ Develop targeted strategies and culturally tailored support within Housing First and housing intervention programs specifically for BIPOC, immigrant, and refugee populations	8/10
5. Funding Equity	➤ Establishes a clear plan braiding local, state, and federal funding sources ➤ Maintains some programs supporting uninsured and underinsured individuals	➤ Formulate a cohesive, county-wide strategy to ensure equitable access to all behavioral health services regardless of immigration status	2/3
6. Community-Based Care Approaches	➤ BHSA-funded crisis response strategies operate independently of law enforcement ➤ Investments in institutional care focus on building capacity to step down institutionalized individuals into community-based settings ➤ Invests in non-institutional care models, including Crisis Stabilization Units	➤ Identify specific strategies to reduce institutionalization disparities impacting BIPOC community members	3/4

Domain	Strengths	Opportunities	Score
7. Promoting Racial Equity and Addressing Racial Disparities	➤ Identifies disparities by race and ethnicity for all six statewide goals	➤ Further disaggregate data to provide a disparities analysis by language ➤ Explicitly connect observed racial disparity data to dedicated programs, services, and strategic partnerships specifically designed to eliminate those identified gaps	3/12

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

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

