

# DHCS' Behavioral Health Organizational Change

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) recently completed a departmental reorganization of our Behavioral Health (formerly known as Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder) functions. Specifically, as of July 1, 2019, the divisions under the former Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services, now known as Behavioral Health, reorganized and formed new divisions: Community Services and Licensing and Certification (under Behavioral Health); Medi-Cal Behavioral Health (under Health Care Programs); and Local Governmental Financing (under Health Care Programs' Health Care Financing). The purpose of the reorganization was to preserve the unique policy/program area of Behavioral Health while better integrating it with the Department's overall health care system to improve outcomes and increase efficiencies department-wide.

Over the last few months, as we've worked to advance the Administration's bold agenda to address complex social services problems such as homelessness with significant initiatives and investments in Medi-Cal Healthier California for All and Behavioral Health, it has become clear that additional organizational integration of DHCS' Behavioral Health functions would simplify departmental operations and improve programmatic outcomes. Therefore, effective immediately, Behavioral Health Deputy Director Kelly Pfeifer will report to Chief Deputy Director for Health Care Programs and State Medicaid Director Jacey Cooper. Additionally, the Medi-Cal Behavioral Health Division will move under Behavioral Health. Behavioral Health's Community Services Division and Licensing and Certification Division will continue to report to Dr. Pfeifer. These changes bring all behavioral health program functions together in support of our efforts to fully integrate the critical services they support into the larger health care system.

Attached is the current organizational chart reflecting these changes for reference. Together, we will build a healthy California for all.

**Department of Health Care Services**