

Behavioral Health Centers of Excellence (COE): April Office Hours

**Focus: Overview of COE Approaches to Implementing
Evidence-Based Practices (EBP)**

April 16, 2026

Housekeeping

- » Today's Office Hours will be recorded for notetaking purposes and will not be shared publicly.
- » The slides will be posted to the Behavioral Health COE Resource Hub following the call.
- » Please submit questions in the Q&A function.

Resource Hub Update

The Behavioral Health COE Resource Hub is temporarily undergoing maintenance.

We are working to restore the site quickly to ensure you have continued access to EBP resources. While the site is down, COEs continue to be fully operational. Support and resources are still available via email.

Please email bhcoe.info@dhcs.ca.gov for support related to the Behavioral Health COE initiative.

Objectives

- » By the end of this Office Hour, county behavioral health plans (BHP) and behavioral health practitioners will gain a better understanding of the following:
 - The role of the Resource Center for Family-Focused Practices (RCFFP) at UC Davis as the COE for High Fidelity Wraparound (HFW).
 - How counties can leverage COEs to implement EBPs:
 - Clubhouse International: Clubhouse Services.
 - IPS Employment Center: Individual Placement and Support (IPS) Supported Employment.

Overview of COE Approaches to Implementing EBPs

COE Support for Evidence-Based Practices (EBP)

COEs to support following EBPs:

- » Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) and Forensic ACT (FACT)
- » Clubhouse Services
- » Coordinated Specialty Care (CSC) for First Episode Psychosis (FEP)
- » High Fidelity Wraparound (HFW)
- » Individual Placement and Support (IPS) Supported Employment*
- » Multisystemic Therapy (MST)
- » Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)
- » Functional Family Therapy (FFT)

- » **EBPs are central to California's goal** of expanding access to and strengthening the continuum of community-based behavioral health services for individuals living with significant behavioral health needs.
 - EBPs are key components of both the BHSA and BH-CONNECT.
- » **DHCS has established COEs** to support behavioral health practitioners and counties in implementing EBPs under both BHSA and BH-CONNECT. COEs:
 - **Supporting DHCS in developing requirements** on training, technical assistance, fidelity monitoring, and data collection for all EBPs.
 - **Provide training, technical assistance, and fidelity monitoring** to counties implementing EBPs under both initiatives.

High Fidelity Wraparound (HFW): Resource Center for Family-Focused Practice (RCFFP) at UC Davis



Draft HFW BHIN and Policy Manual Open for Public Comment

- » Additional information on training and technical assistance, fidelity monitoring, data collection requirements will be included in the updated Draft HFW BHIN and Draft Policy Manual.
 - **[DRAFT BHIN 26-XXX Medi-Cal Coverage for High Fidelity Wraparound \(HFW\) for Children and Youth](#)**
 - **[High Fidelity Wraparound \(HFW\) Policy Manual](#)**
- » Public comment period through May 1, 2026.
 - Feedback can be sent to BH-CONNECT@dhcs.ca.gov.
- » Counties should not wait for final guidance to engage with RCFFP.

HFW COE: RCFFP at UC Davis

» Core Team:

- Senior Director, RCFFP: Nancy Hafer, MS
- Director: Lia Bresciani
- Program Managers: Rebekah Cox and Daniel Buchanan
- Project Manager: Brunette Hairston
- Business Manager: Jenn Lowery

» Point of Contact:

- HFW COE Email Address: hfw-bhcoe@ucdavis.edu

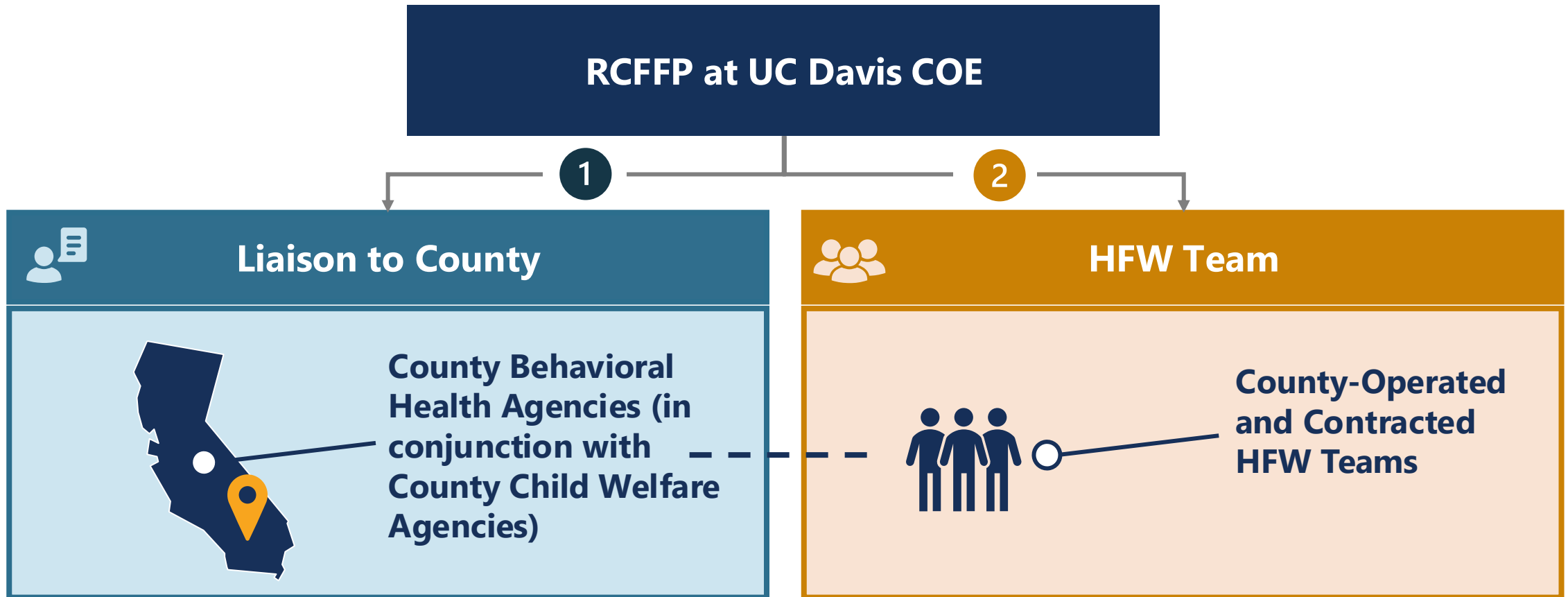
» Experience:

- For more than two decades, RCFFP has worked with human service agencies and communities in California to sustain and build support for families through the California Department of Social Services (CDSS). As the COE, RCFFP will provide training, technical assistance, fidelity monitoring, and data collection for HFW statewide through the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) under BH-CONNECT and the BHSA.

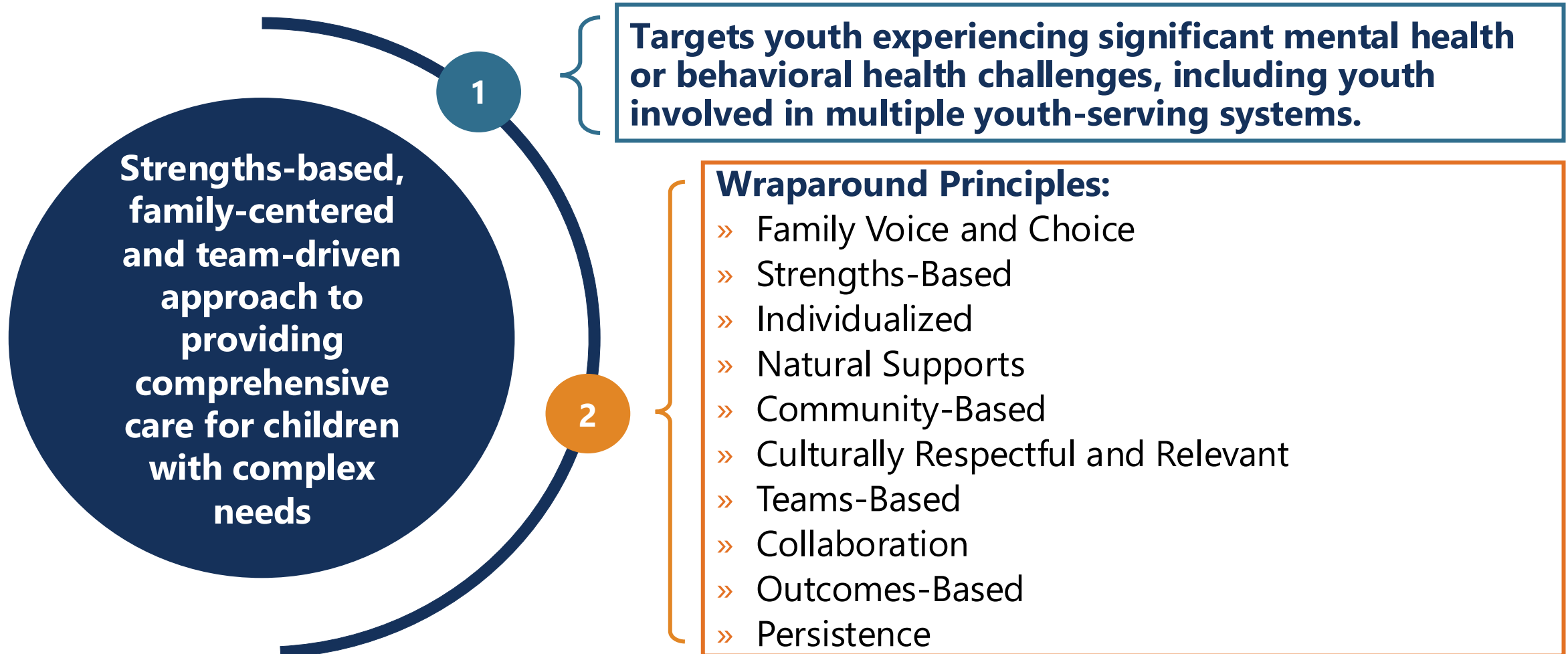


Link to RCFFP at UC Davis Webpage

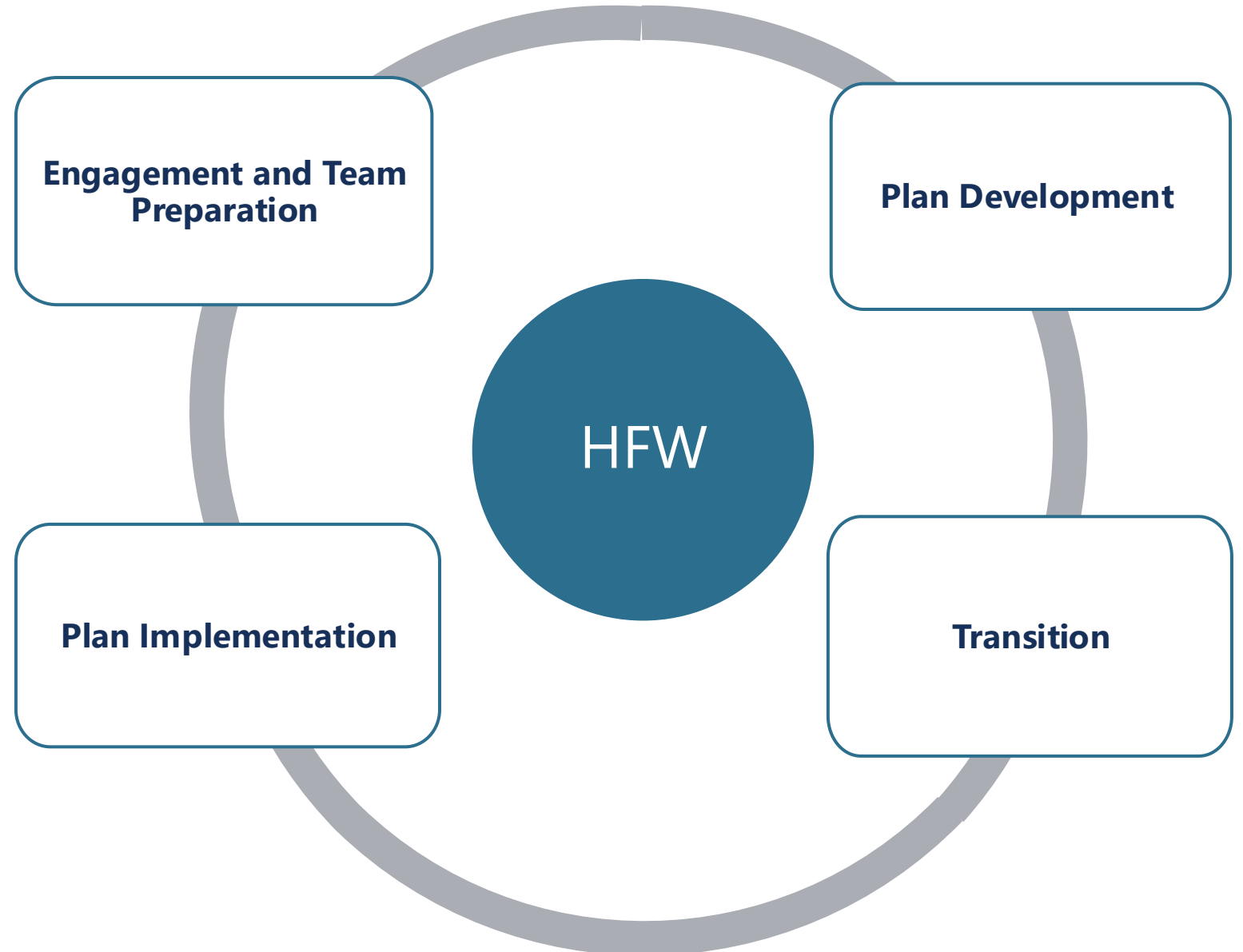
RCFFP at UC Davis Training & Technical Assistance Structure



California HFW Model and Target Population



The 10 Principles Guide 4 Phases



High Fidelity Wraparound (HFW) Initial County Consultation

County consultations are split into a two-part process.

1. RCFFP has started initial county consultations, covering the following topics:
 - Introduction to RCFFP as the COE under the BH-CONNECT and the BHSA.
 - Overview of the [California Wraparound Standards](#) and portal.
 - County-specific resources available to establish and/or expand EBP programs, including identifying existing county-operated or contracted practitioners.
 - County-specific questions or concerns related to HFW.

HFW Second County Consultation

2. After the public comment period ends for the HFW Policy Manual, a second county consultation will be scheduled covering the following topics:
 - County-specific implementation timelines under BHSA.
 - Staffing structure for the teams delivering HFW.
 - Training, technical assistance, fidelity monitoring, and data collection requirements for HFW.
 - Adaptations for small and rural counties/areas.

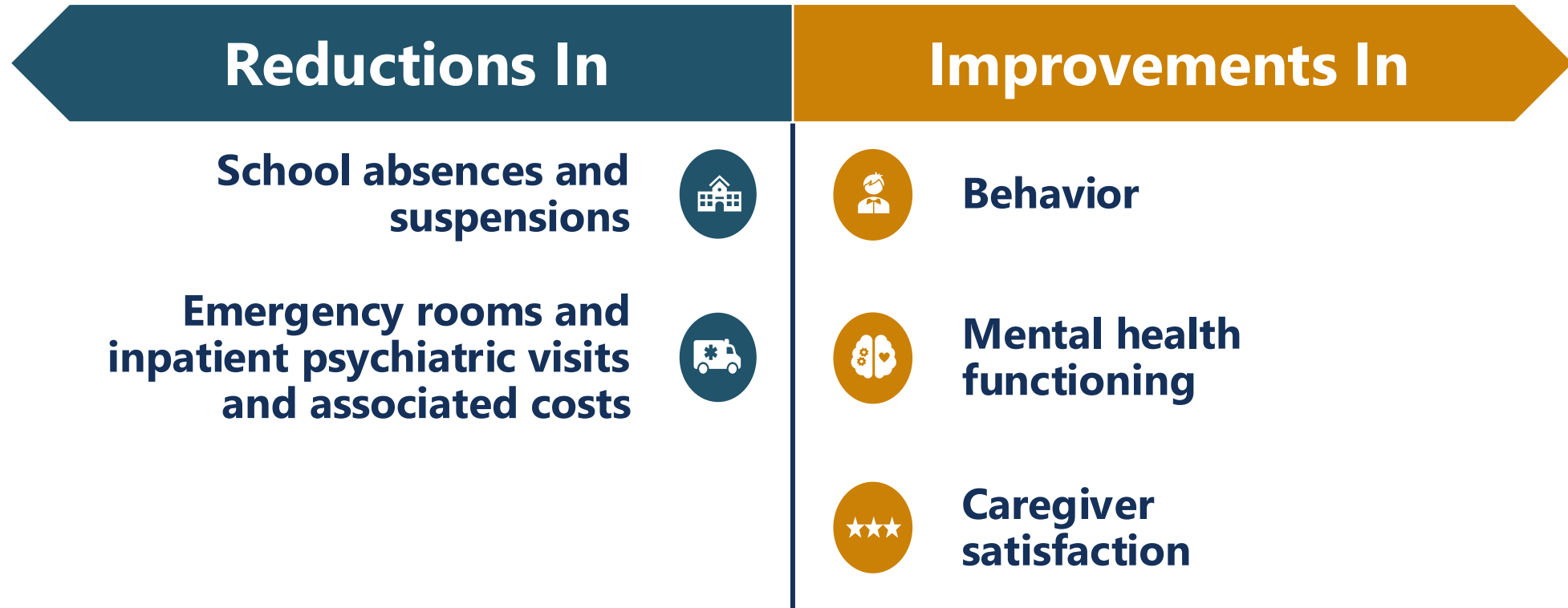
HFW Training & Technical Assistance Approach

- » Training and technical assistance offerings available free-of-charge:
 - Every behavioral health practitioner delivering HFW under Medi-Cal or through a FSP program must complete training covering the evidence-based approaches and core principles, phases, and practices comprising the HFW service model. Each practitioner must also complete role-based training applicable to their position.
 - Behavioral health practitioners may begin delivering services on a HFW team prior to completing training, provided they complete required training within established timelines. After completing the Foundational Curriculum, each practitioner must complete 20 hours of continuing education annually.
 - Example trainings include Orientation to California HFW and HFW 101: Foundations of Fidelity.
- » For more specific training and technical assistance requirements, please reference the draft HFW Policy Manual.

Fidelity Designation, County Plan Approval, and Provider Certification Portal Submissions

- » Fidelity Designation for HFW in Medi-Cal and under BHSA builds on the family-based aftercare certification process through the California High Fidelity Wraparound County Plan Approval and Provider Certification Portal (“the Portal”).
- » The Portal includes two components for family-based aftercare certification: (1) a County Plan Approval submission completed jointly by Behavioral Health, Child Welfare, and Probation; and (2) a Provider Certification submission completed by each provider agency.
 - County Plans are due July 8, 2026.
 - Counties must contract with a certified provider for aftercare services (see [ACL 25-47/BHIN 25-027](#) for more information).
 - Counties should allow three months for review and feedback.
 - Questions specific to Aftercare should be directed to CDSS at WraparoundQuestions@dss.ca.gov and FFPSA@dhcs.ca.gov.
- » Resources:
 - HFW Approval and Certification: [Website and Resources](#)
 - Questions? Visit our [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
 - Office hours are available for both providers and counties ([register here](#)).

Expected Outcomes Based on Fidelity to the HFW Model



Sources: National Wraparound Initiative, Wraparound Basics: Frequently Asked Questions
Bruns, E. (2008). The evidence base and wraparound. In E. J. Bruns & J. S. Walker (Eds.), The resource guide to wraparound. Portland, OR: National Wraparound Initiative, Research and Training Center for Family Support and Children's Mental Health.

Questions for RCFFP?

A decorative graphic consisting of two overlapping wavy lines. The bottom line is a dark navy blue, and the top line is a teal color. They flow horizontally across the middle of the slide.



The Clubhouse Model: Foundations, Outcomes & Quality

Recovery through community, work, and belonging



Clubhouse
International

Creating Community:
Changing the World of Mental Health

What is a Clubhouse

More than a program, a Clubhouse is a **community**...

- A **community** of people committed to each other's success.
- A **community** where people with mental illness participate in their own recovery
- Members & staff working side-by-side. Participants are known as members, not clients or patients
- A holistic, **community-based** approach that complements clinical care
- *Belonging, purpose, and relationships are the foundation of recovery*



Thunderbird Clubhouse, Oklahoma



Clubhouse
International

Creating Community:
Changing the World of Mental Health

The Work-Ordered Day

- Structured around a typical business work day
- Members and staff work side-by-side in shared responsibility
- Work is real and meaningful
- Participation is voluntary
- Why it matters:
 - Builds Confidence and purpose
 - Strengthens relationships
 - Supports re-engagement in life



Phoenix Clubhouse
Hong Kong, SAR, PRC



Clubhouse Habataki,
Tokyo, Japan



Clubhouse
International

Creating Community:
Changing the World of Mental Health

Holistic Components: Employment, Education, Social Program, Community & Housing Supports,



- Creating opportunities for members to gain paid employment at the employer's place of business at the prevailing wage.
- Education supports for GED, college diploma, certificates, financial aid help.
- Evening, weekend, holiday event opportunities.
- Assistance with access to needed health care.
- Housing supports

Recovery is about building a life, not just managing symptoms.



**Clubhouse
International**

Creating Community:
Changing the World of Mental Health



SEVAC Clubhouse, India



Alrami Clubhouse, Kazakhstan



DeWaterhuevel Clubhouse Amsterdam



Mosaic Clubhouse, England

Our Vision

A world where people with mental illness recover and are an integral part of society

Our Mission

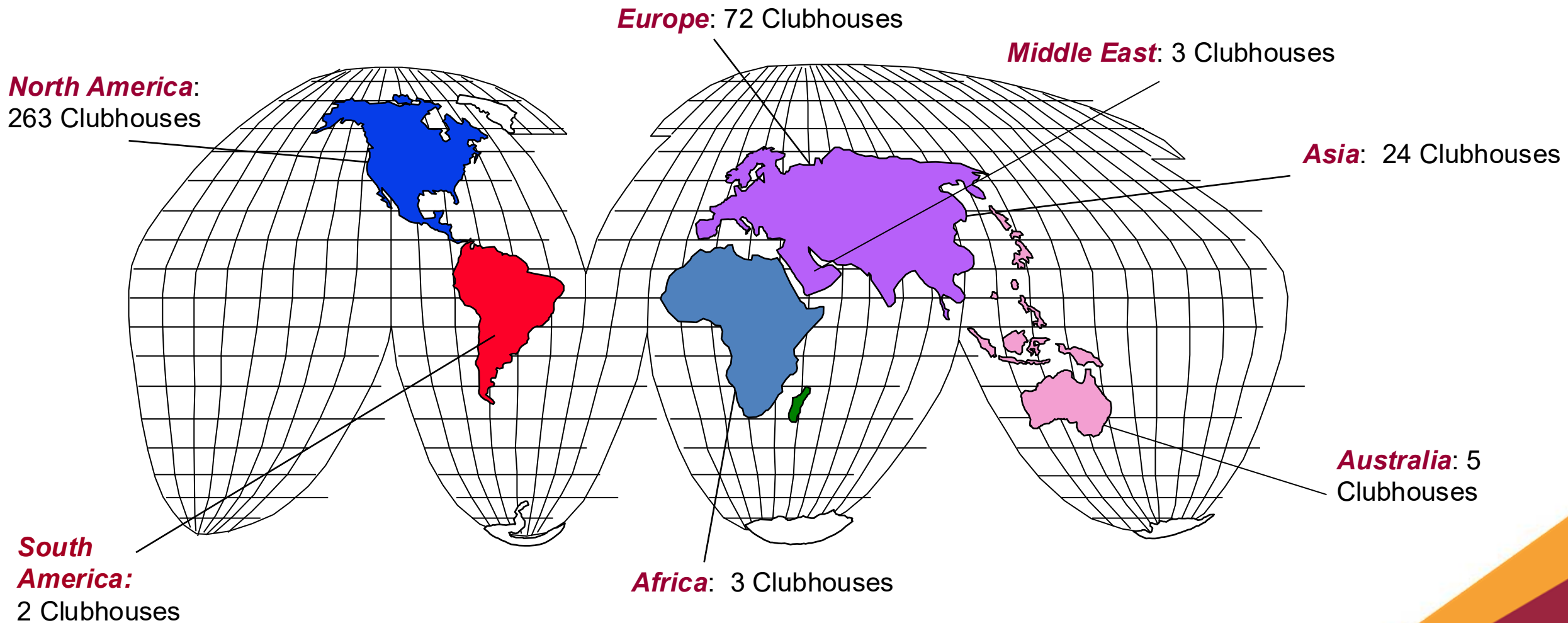
Ending social and economic isolation for people with mental illness by growing the number and quality of Clubhouse rehabilitation programs worldwide

Clubhouse International



Clubhouse
International

Creating Community:
Changing the World of Mental Health



Today there 370+ member Clubhouses in 31 countries, 36 US states + Washington, DC and currently more than 40 new Clubhouse Start-up Groups

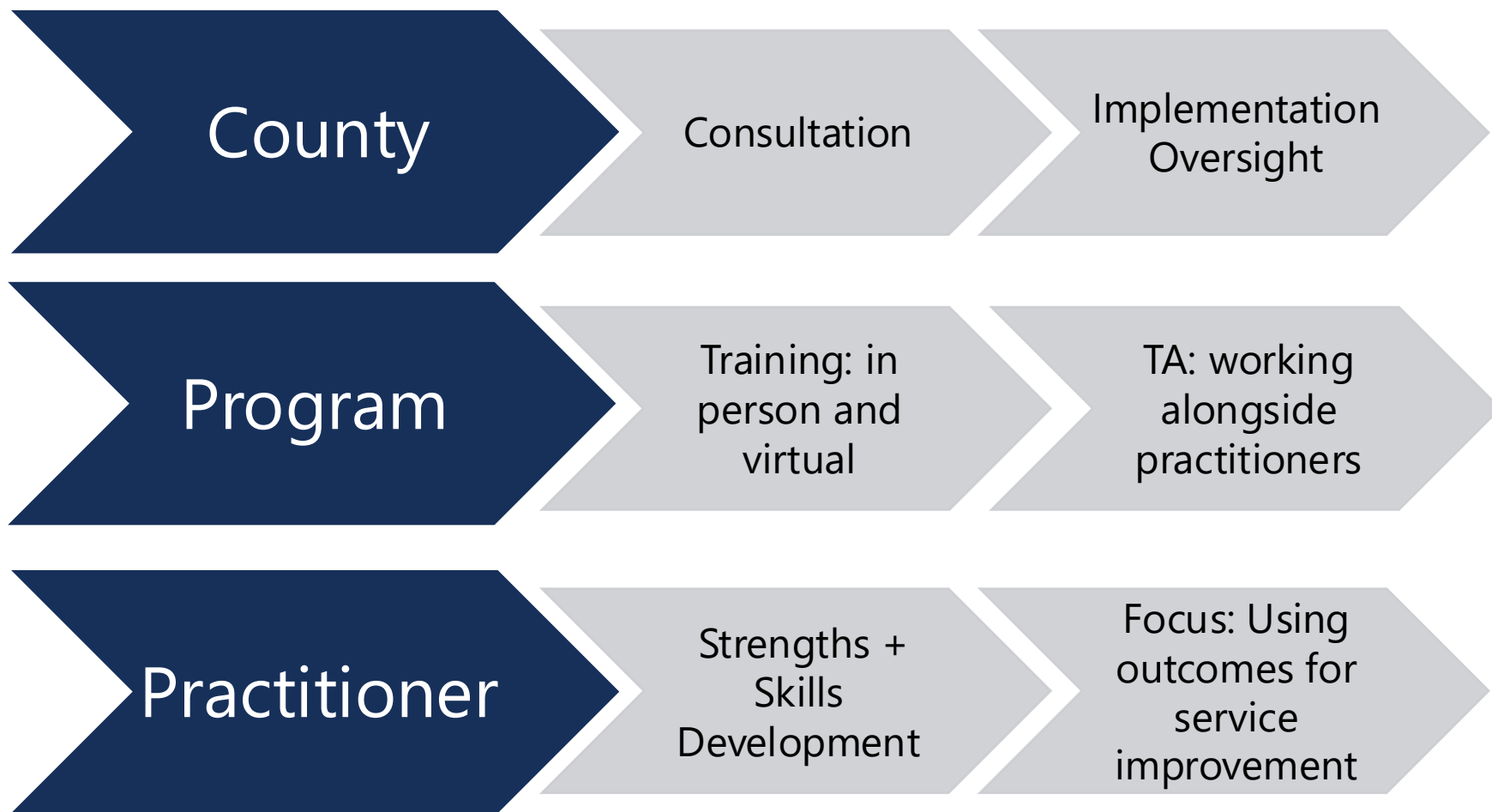
Questions for Clubhouse International?

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California Individual Placement and Support (IPS)

APPROACH, UPDATE, CHALLENGES, AND SUCCESSES
Center of Excellence (COE)

IPS Approach



Training & Technical Assistance

Training Types

In person
Virtual
Didactic
Online Course
Field-based
Webinar Library
Manuals
Skills Videos
By Peers

Topics

IPS Principles
Fidelity Scale
Employer Relationships
Co-occurring D/O
Career Profile
Job Supports
Legal Impacted
Engagement & Re-engagement
Support for Education

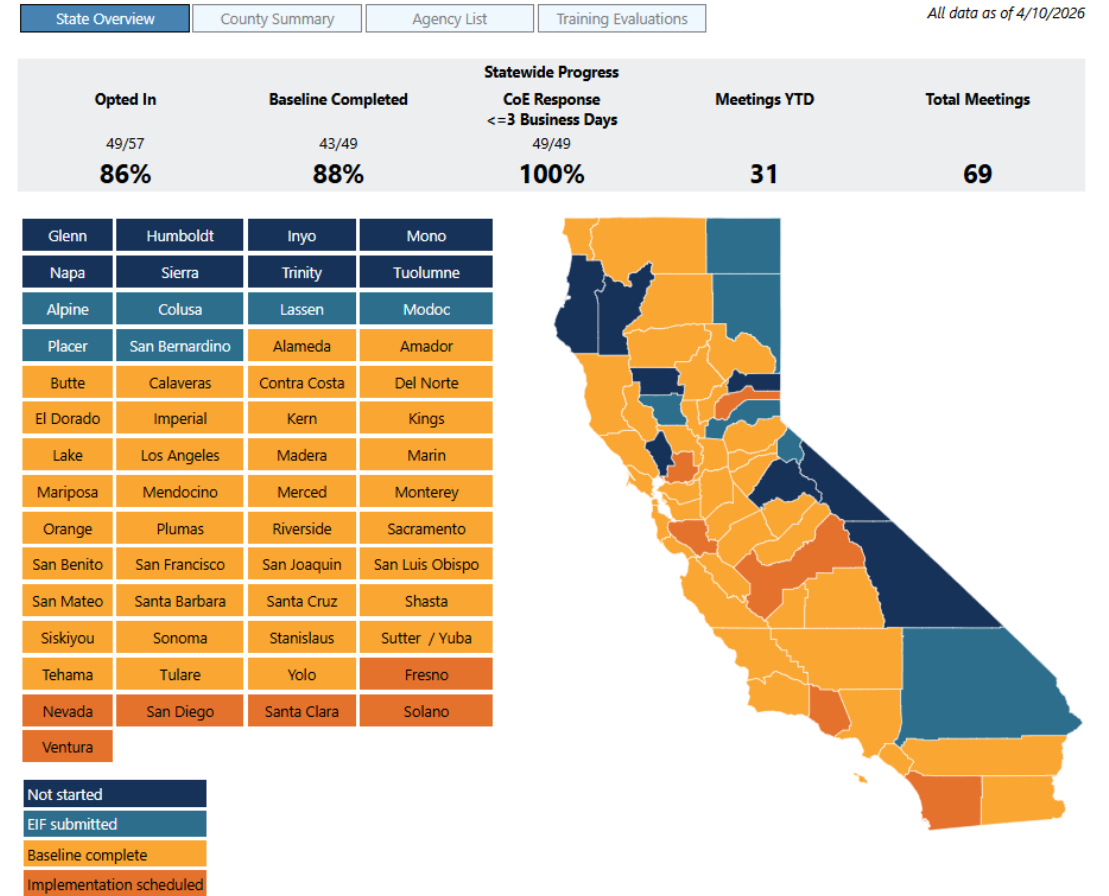
Who Receives Training & Technical Assistance

IPS Specialists
IPS Supervisor
Agency Administrators
Mental Health Clinicians
DOR (as interested)
County (as interested)

IPS Update

Early Progress

- » 49 EIFs.
- » 44 County Meetings.
- » 23 Program Interviews.
- » 8 Program IPS Kick-off Trainings.
- » Up to 76 IPS programs FY 2026/2027 and potential increase the following year.
- » Monthly webinars, office hours, IPS specialist calls and IPS supervisor calls (open to all).



Challenges and COE Responses

County Challenges:

- » Exemption for small counties.
- » Overwhelmed with EBP implementation.
- » Confusion about where to start.
- » Lack of information about IPS.
- » Transition from other models to IPS is difficult.
- » Concerns about competitive employment for some people.
- » Concerns that business community will resist.

COE Strategies:

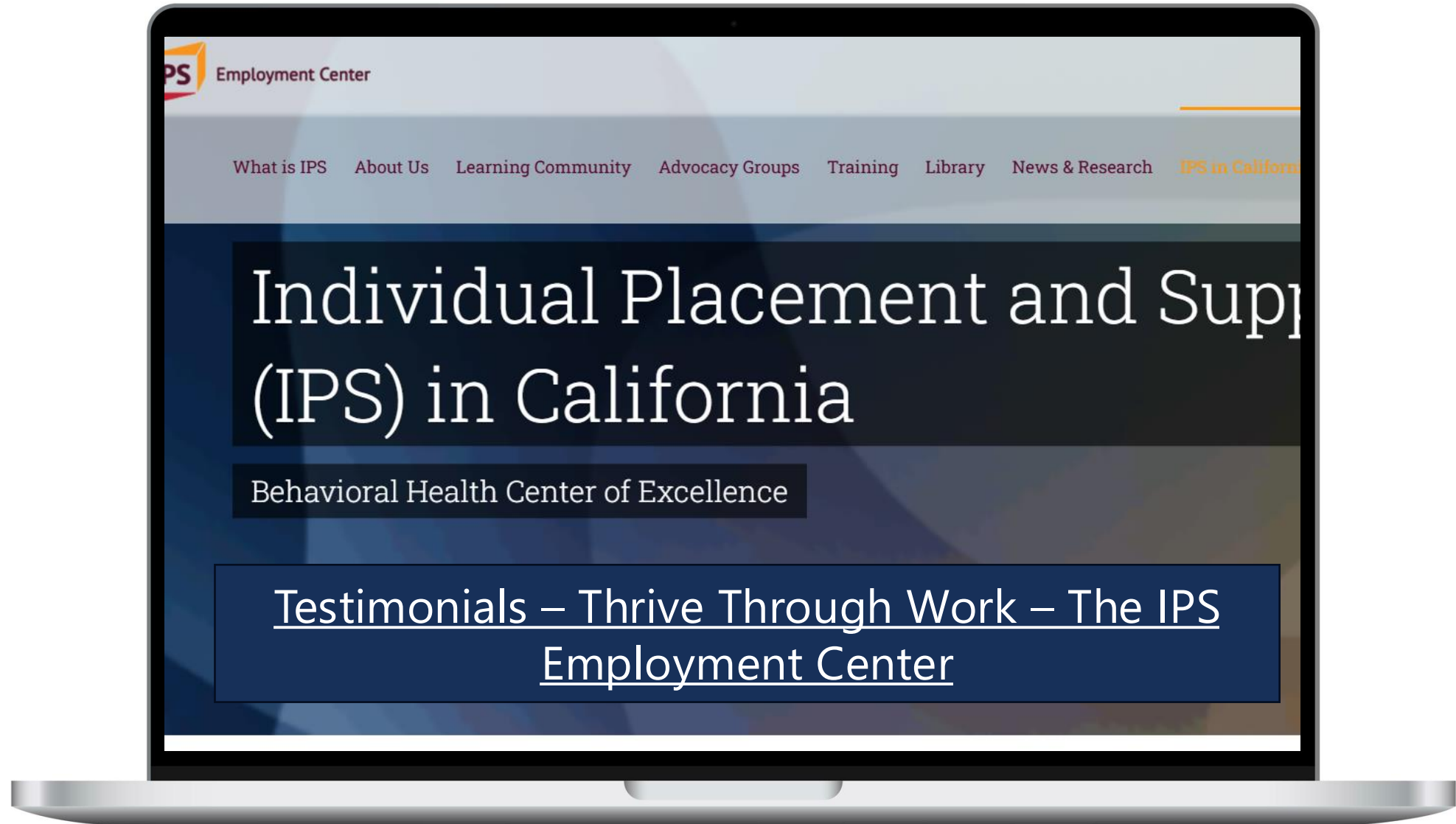
- » Reach out and respond to requests.
- » Listen, share examples, identify steps.
- » Advise best practices.
- » Point to resources.
- » Identify a champion.
- » Share new ideas.
- » Share hope: "This can work and you're going to love it!"

Good News

- » Job attainment by clients
- » IPS programs in place
- » Rural opt-in
- » Growing interest in bundled rates → program sustainability
- » Partnership building with stakeholders
- » Support is helping agencies/counties
- » Talent in agencies/counties



IPSworks.org → IPS in California



Questions for IPS Employment Center?



**Have a question or want to learn more?
Send us an email. We're here to help.
Email us at: IPS.BHCOE@nyspi.columbia.edu**

Open Q&A

Reminders

Reminder: Engagement Initiation Forms (EIF)

- » County behavioral health agencies that are wanting to learn more about the EBP, how the COE can support EBP implementation in the county, or are ready to initiate a consultation with one or more COEs should fill out the [Engagement Initiation Form \(EIF\)](#).
 - COEs will work with counties on county-specific needs and implementation considerations. **EIFs are not binding and can be rescinded at any time if a county determines they are not ready to formally engage with a COE.**
- » As a reminder, all training and technical assistance, fidelity assessments/monitoring, and certifications/accreditations provided by DHCS COEs are offered **AT NO COST** to counties or county-operated or contracted providers.
- » All counties should have submitted a form for each BHSA EBP (i.e., ACT, FACT, IPS, and CSC) **by March 31, 2026**, to ensure consultation by June 30, 2026.*

*State law permits counties with a population of less than 200,000 to request exemptions from offering ACT, FACT, and/or IPS in their Full Service Partnership (FSP) programs under the BHSA. More information is available in the BHSA Policy Manual. While counties that receive FSP EBP exemptions are not required to meet any of the training, technical assistance, fidelity monitoring, and data collection requirements established in this manual for the respective EBPs, they are strongly encouraged to participate in the trainings and technical assistance offered by the COEs.

2026 Monthly Office Hours

May



- » Date: Thursday, May 21
- » Time: 1 – 2 p.m. PST
- » [May 2026 Office Hours Registration Link](#)

June



- » Date: Thursday, June 18
- » Time: 1 – 2 p.m. PST
- » [June 2026 Office Hours Registration Link](#)

July



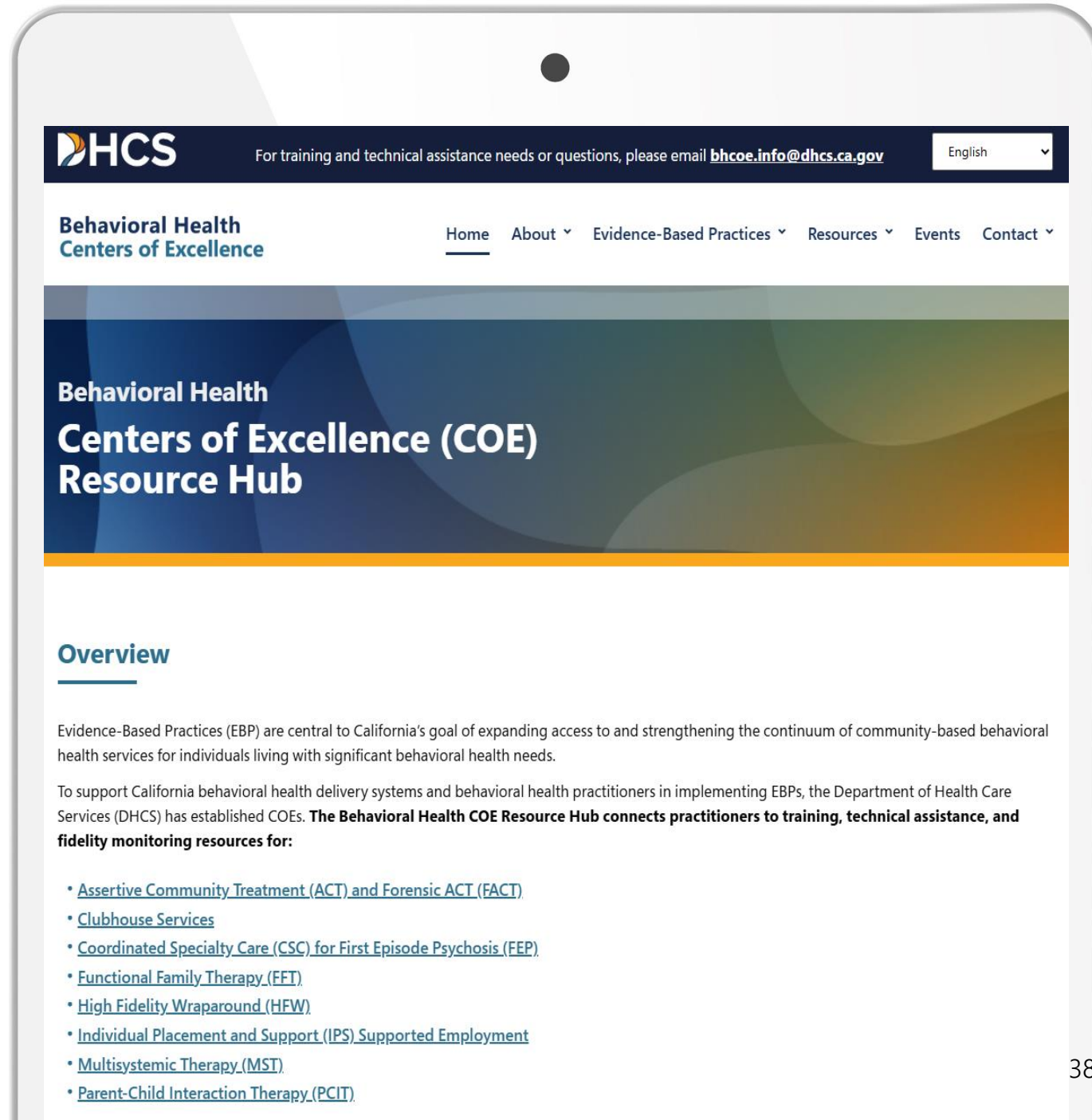
- » Date: Thursday, July 16
- » Time: 1 – 2 p.m. PST
- » [July 2026 Office Hours Registration Link](#)

Behavioral Health COE Resource Hub

Get connected to trainings,
technical assistance, and
fidelity monitoring resources:

- » [Behavioral Health COE Resource Hub](#)
- » [Join the newsletter](#)
- » [BH COE Questions & Feedback Form](#)
- » Ask questions:
bhcoe.info@dhcs.ca.gov

The information included in this pres



Thank you for attending!

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The information included in this presentation may be pre-decisional, draft, and subject to change.