



2023 PRIORITIES

The mission of the Connection Coalition is to educate and engage behavioral health community stakeholders on issues related to ACCESS to behavioral health services and supports; and promote Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

A. Medication:

1. Pricing Transparency
2. Monitor/Resolve the DHCS Pharmacy Clawback Issue
3. Oversight of [Pharmacy Benefit Managers](#)
4. Eliminate Psychotropic Prior-Authorization Requirement
5. Monitor implementation to ensure access to psychotropic medications

B. Continuity of Care

1. Promote standardization of client information to ensure access to that information across systems of support and treatment to ensure continuity of care (universal intake forms, standardized assessments, standardized data collection).

C. Parity: Ensure the enforcement of [SB 855](#) and [SB 225](#).

D. SB-988: Crisis Continuum – Support policies which create a comprehensive behavioral health crisis continuum, including:

1. Policies and efforts that ensure the effective operation of all 988 call centers.
2. Development and expansion of the crisis response system.
3. Increased services and supports to ensure that all individuals in crisis have access to appropriate services and supports in the least restrictive environment.

E. Workforce – Advocate for policies intended to preserve and increase the behavioral health workforce that advance Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

1. Workforce expansion to ensure that individuals who require services have access to those services.
2. Retention of the existing workforce (protect from burnout, ensure adequate pay, positive working conditions).
3. Promote peer employment throughout the behavioral health care workforce.

F. Housing: Promote policies that decrease the number of individuals with behavioral health conditions who are unhoused, including housing that includes comprehensive, voluntary services with a housing first approach.