

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Disparities Reduction Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, March 7, 2023, 4:30 – 5:30 PM

Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH)  
1911 Williams Drive, Training Room (first floor) • Oxnard, CA 93036

**IN-PERSON & REMOTELY VIA ZOOM**

**Zoom Participation**

The following information referenced below and at the end of the agenda is provided to you in support of your attending the upcoming BHAB General Meeting via Zoom:

**Join the Zoom meeting in the following way:**

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85994426151?pwd=T2NZNnRPZEpzTVdYSFZVSTFDeXAvZz09>

Meeting ID: 859 9442 6151

Password: 801048

Dial-In: 669-900-6833

**Under AB 2449 New Teleconferencing Rules:**

*The Ventura County Behavioral Health Advisory Board Disparities Reduction subcommittee may take action at the beginning of the meeting regarding requests for “Just Cause” or “Emergency” allowances provided that related Brown Act guidelines are met. (Guidelines are listed on the last page of this agenda.)*

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**Mission Statement: “Advocate for improved access to appropriate mental health services, substance use disorder services and co-occurring disorder services by working towards and advocating for eliminating disparities in service delivery to and access by underrepresented and underserved communities, including but not limited to those based on race, ethnicity, language, age, gender, disability, gender identity and sexual identity.”**

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call to determine Physical Quorum
- III. Roll Call of Members with Just Cause
  - a. State others present in the room over the age of 18
- IV. Requests for Emergency Circumstances – **ACTION** (Roll Call)
- V. Welcome and Introductions
- VI. Approval of the Agenda – **ACTION** (Roll Call)
- VII. Approval of the May 3, 2022, Minutes (tabled on July 19 due to lack of quorum vote) – **ACTION** (Roll Call)
- VIII. Approval of the July 19, 2022, Minutes (tabled on November 1 due to lack of quorum vote) – **ACTION** (Roll Call)
- IX. Approval of the November 1, 2022, Minutes – **ACTION** (Roll Call)
- X. Public Comments (3 min. per speaker)
- XI. Chair Comments (10 min.)
- XII. Presentation: Overview on Progress to Address Health Disparities – Cynthia Salas, Equity Services Manager – Office of Health Equity and Cultural Diversity (15 min.)
- XIII. New Business
  - A. Outreach Efforts to Increase Participation
  - B. Discuss Future Presentations

XIV. Adjourn

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023**

**Zoom Participation Information - continued**

**Please note the following important information related to supporting your participation in the upcoming meeting:**

1. The meeting will be recorded.
2. All participants are muted upon entry to minimize any unintended disruption of background sounds.
3. Zoom will initially start with a “**waiting room**” at the start of the meeting, you will be “admitted” into the waiting room.
4. Comments are taken in the order they are received in the queue/participant window. When it is your turn to make a comment, you will be asked to unmute yourself. **Public comments on agenda items can be made prior to or during consideration of agenda items and are limited to 3 minutes per speaker.** Public comment periods are limited to no more than (20) minutes total for all speakers. Comments can be shared in the following ways:
  - a. If you are joining the meeting via video/audio, you join the comment cue by clicking on the participant window at the bottom of the zoom screen and then click on the “**raise hand**” feature in that participant window.
  - b. If you are joining the meeting by telephone only, you join the comment cue by pressing \*9.
5. Comments will be taken in the order they are received and are allotted 3 minutes. At the end of the three minutes, you will be notified that the time has ended, be able to make a closing comment and then the mic will be opened to the next person.

**Brown Act “Just Cause” or “Member Emergency” Allowance Guidelines for Board Members:**

Requirements: A local board/commission member may participate remotely without posting their physical location on the agenda if all the following requirements are met:

1. Quorum at Physical Location - At least a quorum of the members of the board/commission participates in person from a singular physical location clearly identified in the agenda.
2. Public Access - (Both Remote and In-Person) The public may access the meeting through:
  - A two-way audiovisual platform or
  - A two-way telephonic service and a live webcasting of the meeting
  - In-Person Public Access to the physical location.

Circumstances: One of the following circumstances applies:

1. “**Just Cause**” - The member notifies the legislative body at the earliest opportunity possible, including at the start of a regular meeting, of their need to participate remotely for just cause, including a general description of the circumstances relating to their need to appear remotely at the given meeting. The

provisions of this clause shall not be used by any member of the legislative body for more than two meetings per calendar year. **or**

2. **“Emergency Circumstances”** - The member requests to participate in the meeting remotely due to emergency circumstances and the board/commission takes action to approve the request. The board/commission shall request a general description of the circumstances relating to the member’s need to appear remotely at the given meeting. A general description of an item generally need not exceed 20 words and shall not require the member to disclose any medical diagnosis or disability, or any personal medical information.

Procedures:

1. Member Request - A member shall make a request to participate remotely at a meeting pursuant to this clause as soon as possible. The member shall make a separate request for each meeting in which they seek to participate remotely.
2. Board/Commission Response - The board/commission may take action on a request to participate remotely at the earliest opportunity. If the request does not allow sufficient time to place proposed action on such a request on the posted agenda for the meeting for which the request is made, the legislative body may take action at the beginning of the meeting.
3. Disclosure - The member shall publicly disclose at the meeting before any action is taken, whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the remote location with the member, and the general nature of the member’s relationship with any such individuals.
4. BOTH Audio & Visual Participation - The member shall participate through both audio and visual technology.
5. Limits to Remote Participation - The provisions of this subdivision [of the Brown Act] shall not serve as a means for any member of a legislative body to participate in meetings of the legislative body solely by teleconference from a remote location for a period of more than three consecutive months or 20 percent of the regular meetings for the local agency within a calendar year, or more than two meetings if the legislative body regularly meets fewer than 10 times per calendar year.

**DEFINITIONS:**

**“Emergency circumstances”**: A physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person.

**“Just cause”** means any of the following:

1. A childcare or caregiving need (for a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner) that requires the member to participate remotely.
2. A contagious illness prevents the member from attending the meeting in person.
3. A need related to defined physical or mental disability that is not otherwise accommodated for.
4. Traveling while on official business of the Brown Act Bode or another state or local agency.
5. Just Cause is limited to two instances per calendar year.

For additional information, see pages 4+ of the Brown Act Guide: [calbhbc.org/brown-act](http://calbhbc.org/brown-act)



V E N T U R A C O U N T Y

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**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

A Department of Ventura County Health Care Agency



VENTURA COUNTY  
**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**  
A Department of Ventura County Health Care Agency

June 22, 2021

# CULTURAL COMPETENCY PLAN

## Moving from Updated to Living Document

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**Cynthia Salas**

Office of Health Equity and Cultural Diversity

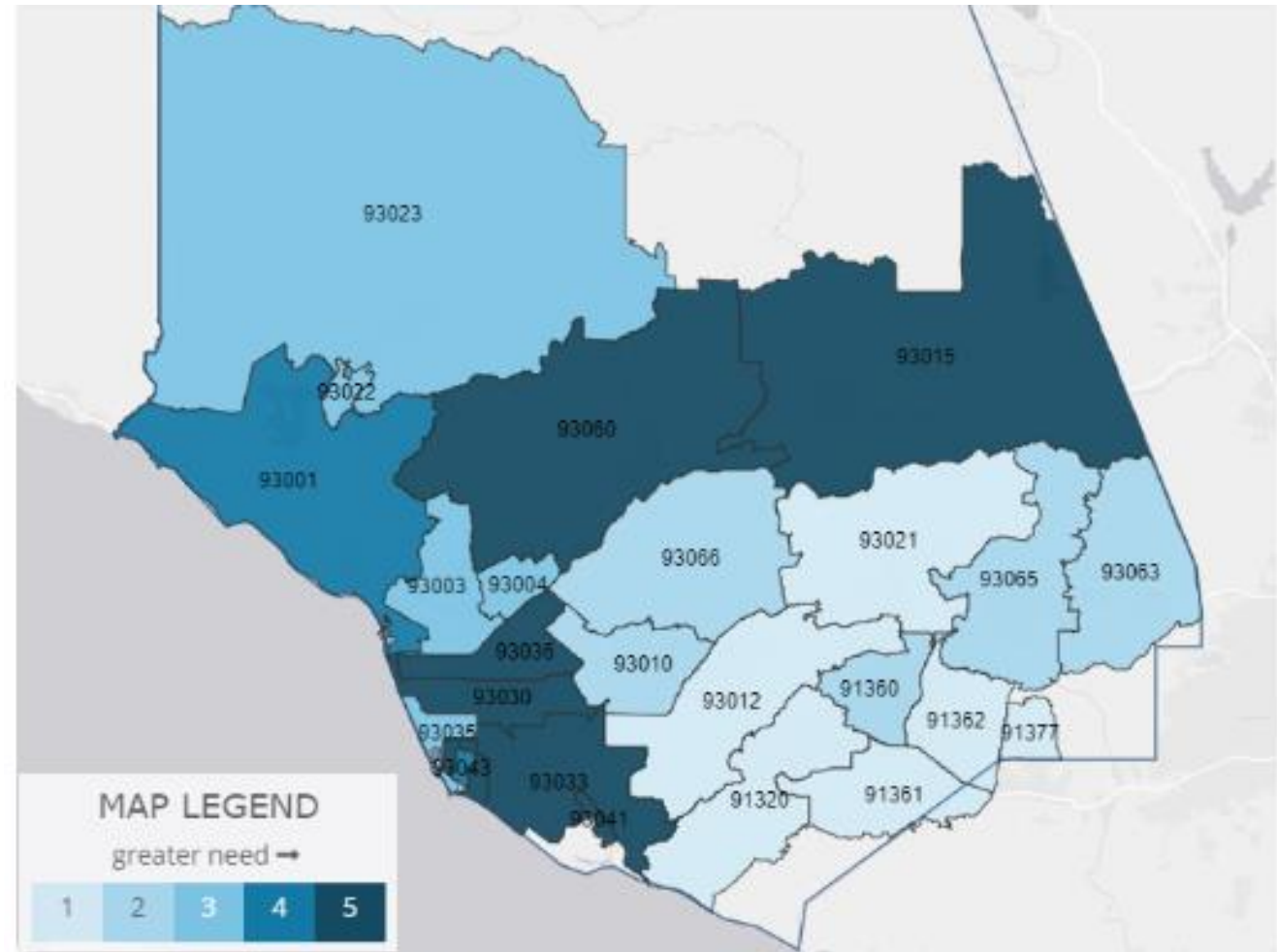
# HEALTH EQUITY INDEX, VENTURA COUNTY, 2021

Areas within the county that have the highest socioeconomic needs have a lower average life expectancy than the Ventura County average of 81.4 years.

- Oxnard (93030, 93033 and 93036)
- Santa Paula (93060)
- Fillmore (93015)

Areas with lower socioeconomic needs have life expectancies of 84+ years

- Oak Park (93777)
- Thousand Oaks/Westlake (91361 and 91362)



Source: Health Matters in Ventura County

# Department Efforts and Discussion

- Logrando Bienestar Pilot
- Community Walk Through
- Community Training
- Department Workforce
- Community Planning Process
- Office of Health Equity and Cultural Diversity Efforts
- Other Efforts

# Thank you

Cynthia Salas –Equity Services Manager  
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