

Overview of SBHC Financing

Inland Empire School Health Coalition
December 1, 2023



CALIFORNIA
SCHOOL-BASED
HEALTH ALLIANCE

Putting Health Care Where Kids Are

ONE TIME FUNDING SUSTAINABILITY

Community Schools

Mental Health Student
Services Act

COVID relief
funding

Children & Youth
Behavioral Health
Initiative

On-going funding

THE BASICS OF MEDI-CAL

Medicaid = provides health coverage to eligible low-income adults, children, pregnant women, elderly adults and people with disabilities. Funded jointly by states and the federal government.

☐ “Medi-Cal” in California



WHICH KIDS ARE ELIGIBLE?

Children 18 or younger: Family income is at or below 266% of federal poverty level (FPL) (i.e. \$69,692 for a family of four)

- For single adults, the income cut-off threshold is lower = 136% FPL

California-only Medi-Cal

Children and young adults under the age of 26 are eligible for Medi-Cal, regardless of immigration status

- Income eligibility still applies
- NEW Jan 2024 - All low-income immigrants qualify for Medi-Cal (all adults)

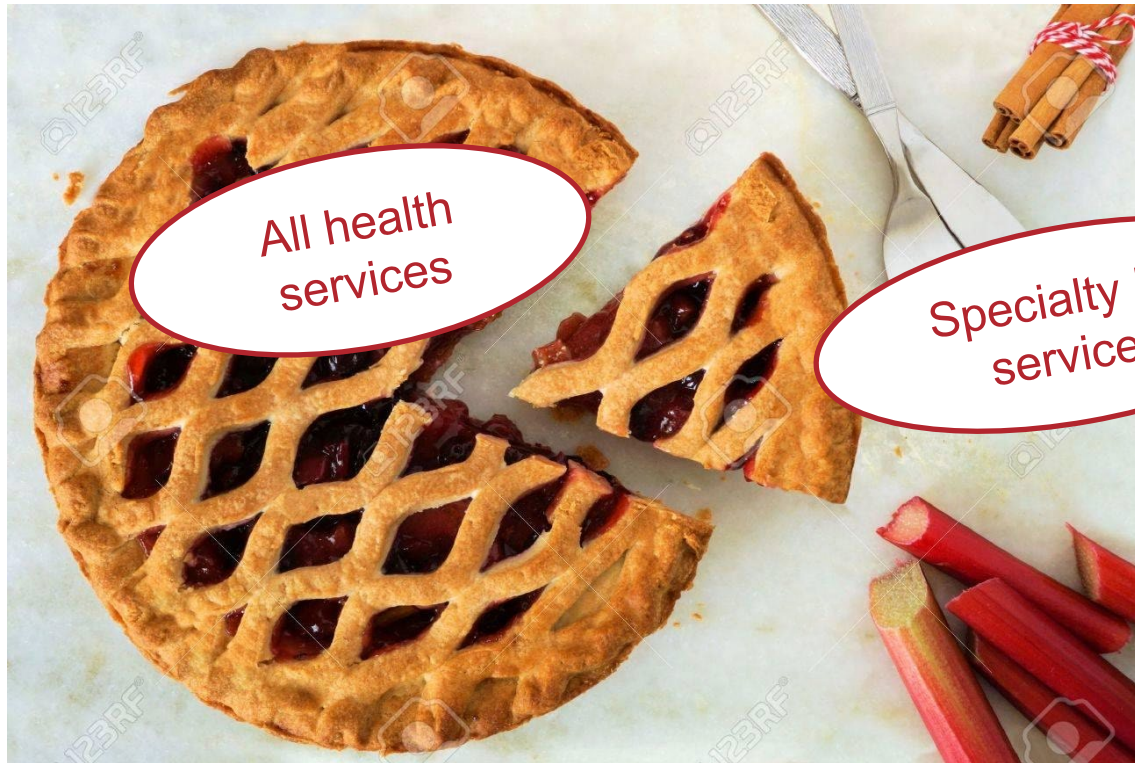
MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATION (MCOs)

- 1-7 health plans in each county
- Some are commercial health plans (i.e. Anthem, Kaiser, IEHP, Molina), some are run by the county (Partnership Health Plan, Contra Costa Health Plan)
- MCOs receive a per member per month (PMPM) payment from the state
- MCOs establish a network of contracted providers to “manage” health care for enrolled patients



COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH PLANS (MHPs)

- “carve-out” “specialty mental health services”
- ~~“EPSDT funding or services”~~

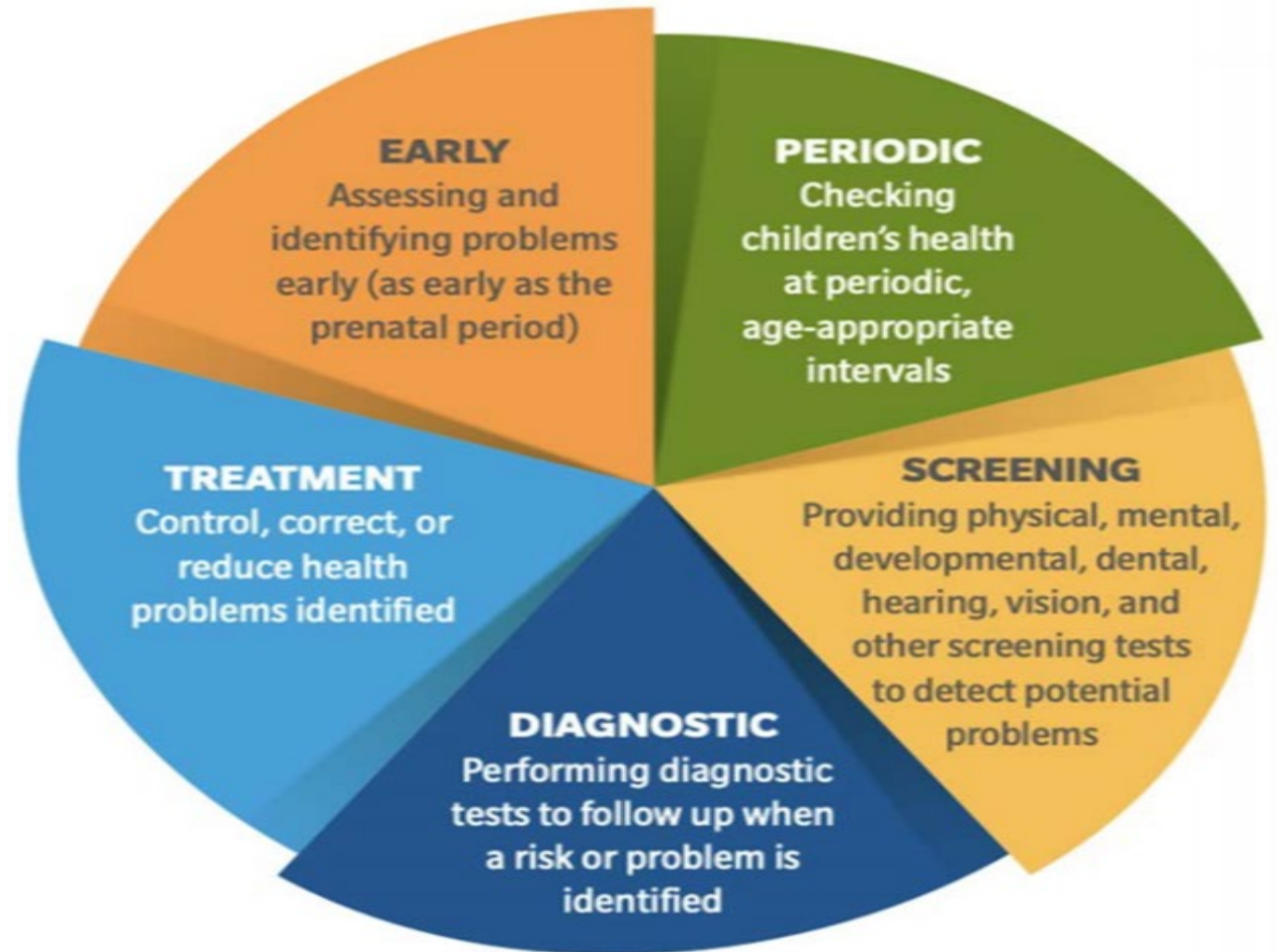


EPSDT *ENTITLEMENT*

Early and Periodic
Screening, Diagnostic and
Treatment

Set by federal law, with
state implementation

Not “funding”



Medi-Cal Delivery System

How are EPSDT benefits delivered in CA?

Medi-Cal
Managed
Care Plans
(MCOs)

County
Mental
Health Plans
(MHPs)

School
Medicaid
Programs

- LEA Billing Option Program
- SMAA

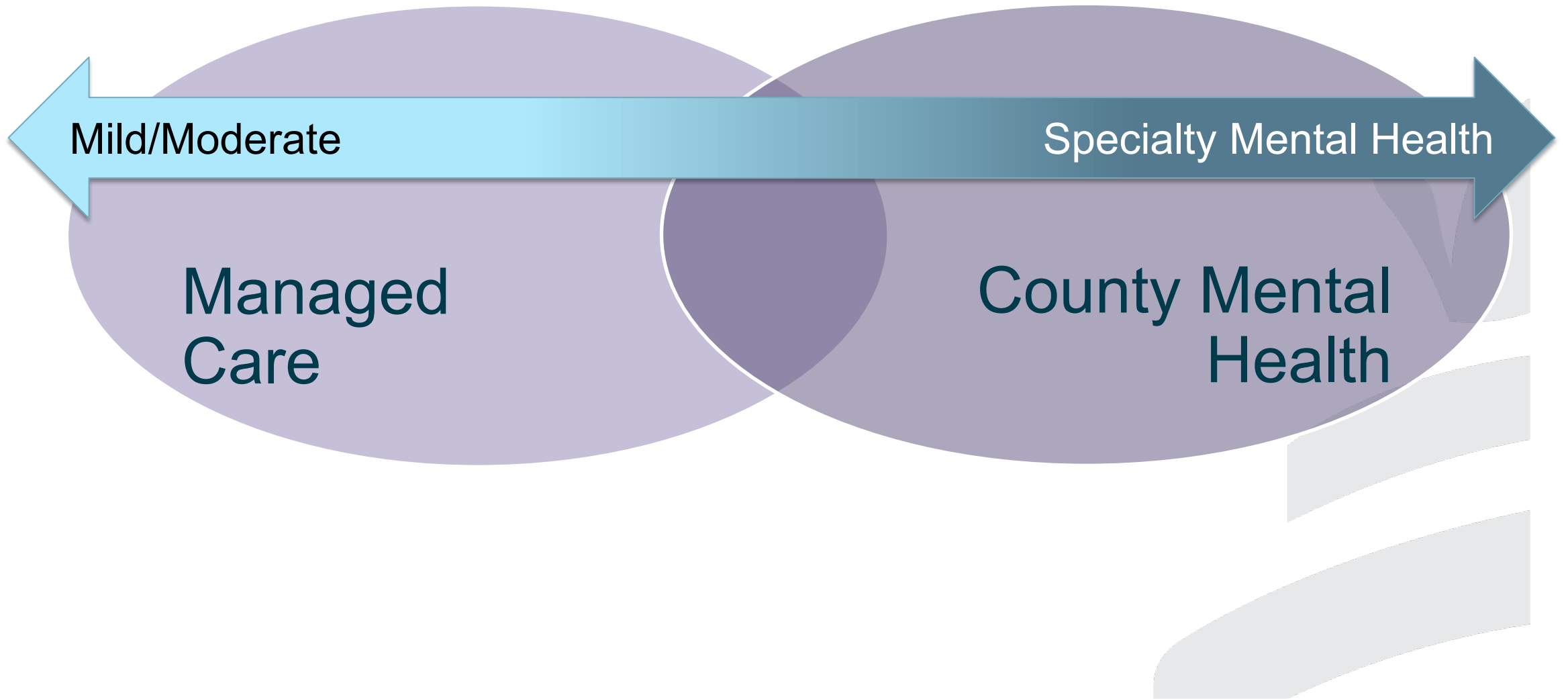
Denti-Cal

Drug Medi-Cal

Other Medicaid-funded programs support child/adolescent health:

- Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) program
- Family PACT

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH



Mild/Moderate

Specialty Mental Health

Managed
Care

County Mental
Health

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)

- Revenues from 1% income tax on millionaires; distributed directly to the counties
- MHSA-funded programs are intended to enhance, rather than replace, existing programs.
- 5 funding categories
 - Community Support Services
 - Prevention and Early Intervention
- County mental health programs must submit three-year plans and annual updates, with a listing of programs funded



Great for schools!

OTHER PROGRAMS

Family PACT

- CA's Medicaid family planning program
- Eligibility: 200% FPL
 - Family income is not required for eligibility for youth, so many youth that are not income eligible for Medi-Cal can get services through Family PACT

Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP)

- Provides periodic health assessments and services
 - Think: physical health portion of EPSDT entitlements
- County CHDP Program Offices



More pie!

OTHER PROGRAMS

Minor Consent Medi-Cal

- Reimburse for sensitive services to minors

NEW: AB665 Passed! **equitable access to mental health care for all youth**

AB 665 aligns the standards of mental health care consent in California for all youth ages 12 and older.

Denti-Cal

- Dental services to Medi-Cal enrolled patients

Drug Medi-Cal

- County-run services for substance use early intervention and intensive services

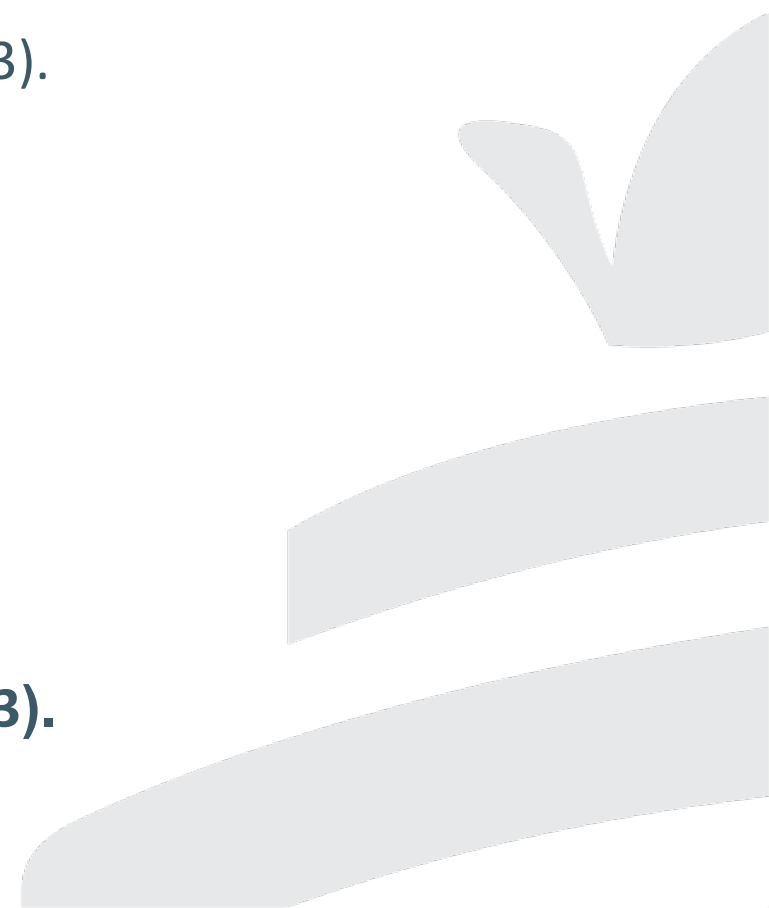


Children & Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) Workstreams

Funding	Overall Goal/Intent	Who can apply or access funds?	Timeline
Student Behavioral Health Incentive Program (SBHIP)	To increase access to preventive, early intervention and behavioral health services by school- affiliated behavioral health providers for TK-12 children	Medi-Cal managed care plans, building partnerships with LEAs/school districts/community partners.	2023 Program Implementation
School-Linked Partnership and Capacity Grants	Provide direct grants to support new services for individuals 25 years of age and younger through schools, providers in school, school-affiliated CBOs or school-based health centers . Supporting readiness for fee schedule. Support statewide school-linked fee schedule and behavioral health network of providers.	LEAs, higher ed, Health plans, CBOs, BH providers, County BH, Tribal entities	COEs will be distributing this \$ to districts in next few months, potentially
Evidence-Based & Community-Defined Practices Grants	To scale up EDP and CDEP that are based on robust evidence for effectiveness, impact on racial equity, and long-term sustainability 6 Rounds of Funding released in Phases	CBOs, BH providers, counties, MCPs, tribal entities	● Upcoming - Round 6 - Community Defined Practices
Certified Wellness Coach Workforce (BH Coach)	New certified position that is being created to increase state's overall capacity and grow a larger and more diverse behavioral health workforce.	LEAs and Community partners, health partners	First cohort trained in 2025
Statewide Multi-Payer Fee Schedule for School-Linked BH Services and Statewide BH School-Linked Provider Network	A school-linked statewide fee schedule for outpatient mental health and substance use disorder services provided to a student, up to 25 years old at or near a school-site. Build a statewide school-linked provider network of at-or near school-site behavioral health counselors.	MCPs, county BH plans and commercial plans will be required to reimburse for a pre-defined set of services regardless of payer status, in a school-linked setting	January 2024 first cohort pilot

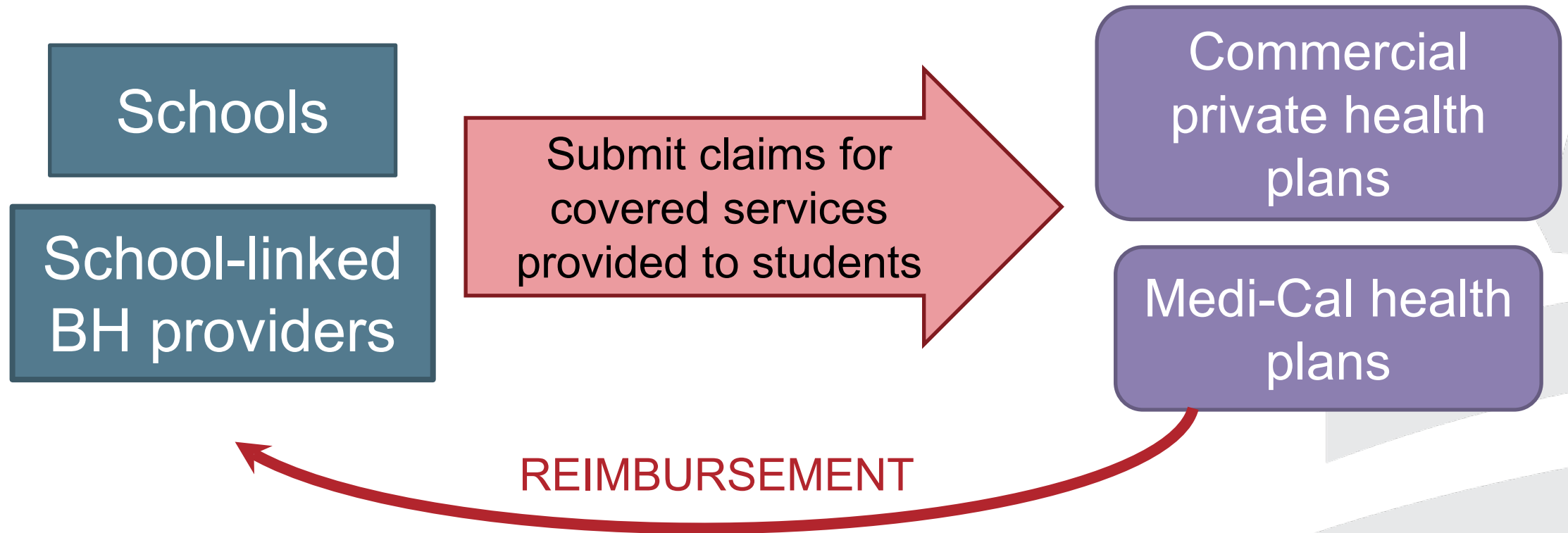
CYBHI

Evidence-Based and Community Defined Practices

- Round 1: Parent/caregiver support programs and practices (December 2022).
 - Round 2: Trauma-informed programs and practices (January 2023).
 - Round 3: Early childhood wraparound services (February 2023).
 - Round 4: Youth-driven programs (Summer 2023).
 - Round 5: Early intervention programs and practices (Oct 2023).
 - **Round 6: Community-defined programs and practices (Late 2023).**
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STATEWIDE MULTI-PAYER FEE SCHEDULE

- Establishes a set of school-based behavioral health services that all health plans must reimburse for.



SCHOOL MEDI-CAL

- **Partial** reimbursement program for local education agencies (LEA)
- LEA Billing Option: started in 1993, to support Healthy Start Programs
- All Medi-Cal eligible students; SPA 15-021

LEA
Billing
Option

Local Education Agency
Billing Option Program

Covered services include
psychology, counseling, and
psychosocial assessments

SMAA

School-Based Medi-Cal
Administrative Activities

Outreach, Medi-Cal
enrollment, policy and
planning

LEA BOP - ELIGIBLE SERVICES

- Audiology Services
- **Health and Mental Health Evaluation and Education Assessments**
- Medical Transportation
- **Nursing Services**
- Nutritional Services
- Occupational Therapy
- Orientation and Mobility
 - Physical Therapy
 - **Psychology and Counseling**
 - School Health Aide Services
 - Speech Therapy
 - Targeted Case Management
 - Respiratory Therapy
 - **EPSDT Screenings**



THERE IS A TENSION IN CA'S MEDI-CAL "SYSTEM"

Health care should be managed and coordinated (usually through a primary care provider)

Reduce all barriers to children and youth accessing prevention and treatment services.



School Funding

ERMHS

Educationally related
mental health services

State and federal restricted
funds to SELPAs

Special education students

Mental health services
identified in a student's
IEP

LEA Billing Option

Local Education Agency
Billing Option Program

Reimbursement program
for schools

Medi-Cal eligible students

Covered services include
psychology, counseling,
and psychosocial
assessments

School Funding cont.

LCFF

Local Control Funding Formula

Per student funding for public schools; districts must submit funding plans that demonstrate how funds will be used to support students

All K-12 students; targeted funding for low income, foster youth, or English-Language Learners.

LCFF funds almost every service provided by public schools; funds can be used to support school mental health infrastructure and services

ESSA

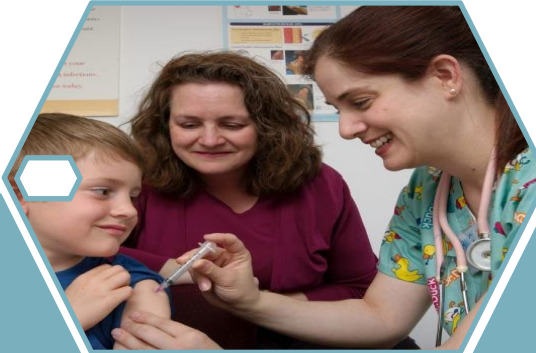
Every Student Succeeds Act

Title I – similar to NCLB
Title IV – consolidated 49 separate grant programs into flexible block grant

Schoolwide programs where 40% of students are low-income

Very flexible – counseling, school climate, bullying/violence prevention, training for staff

OKAY... FINE... WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR SBHCS?



Some are Medi-Cal managed care providers

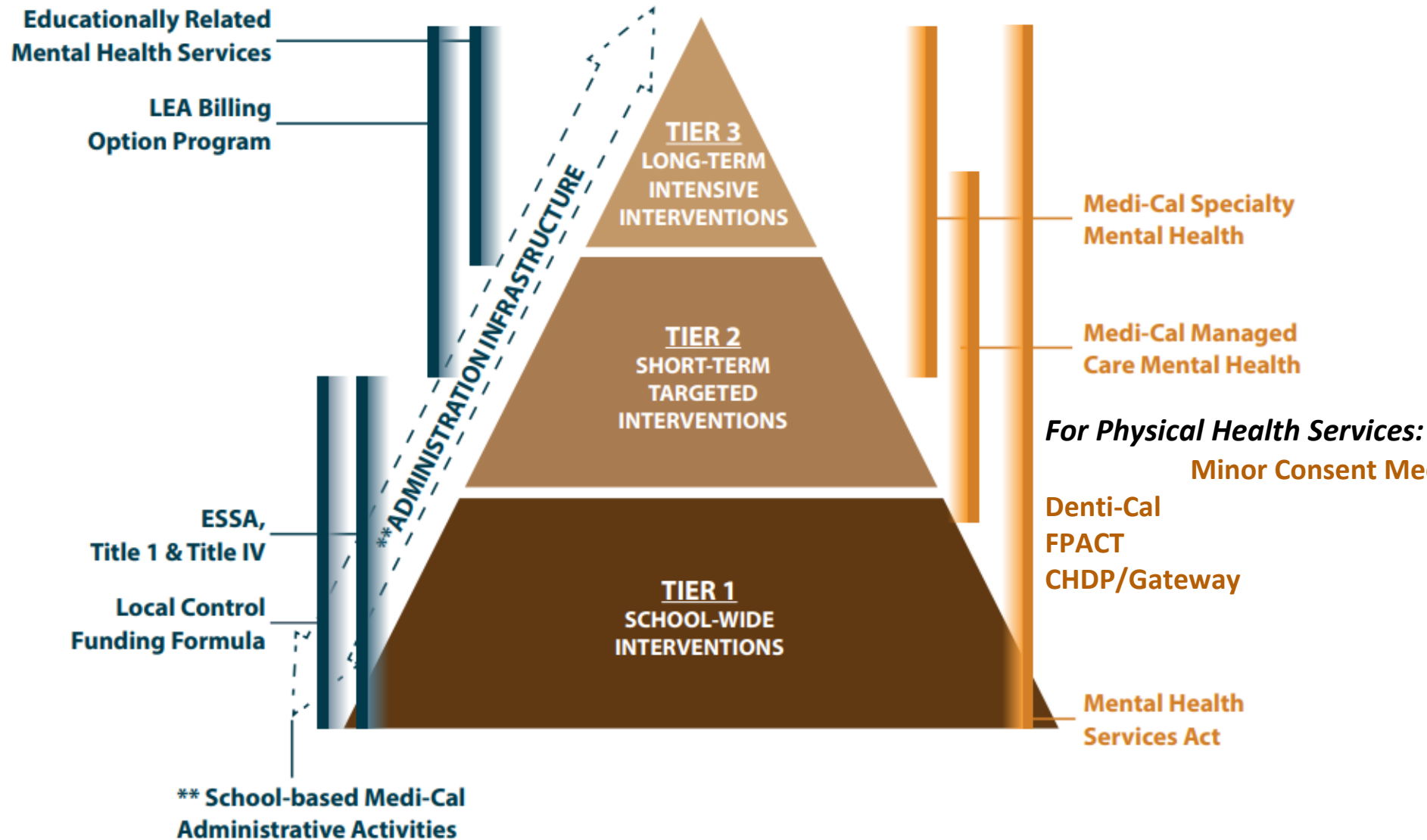
Some deliver care through fragmented Medi-Cal programs

Most SBHCs serve high Medi-Cal populations

Different providers leverage different Medi-Cal programs



FUNDING MODEL



CYBHI funding can support services at all 3 tiers, and can be accessed either by education or health partners. RFPs starting to be released now.

Education Funding	Federal Medicaid	“Flexible”	Specific students	About
Educationally-Related Mental Health Services			✓	Federal and state special education funds for mental health in an IEP
LEA Billing Option Program	✓		✓	Optional programs that cover federal share (about 50%) of costs to provide health services to students with Medi-Cal
School-Based Medi-Cal Administrative Activities	✓		✓	
Every Student Succeeds Act		✓		Federal funding for public schools
Local Control Funding Formula		✓		State funding for public schools

Health Care Funding	Federal Medicaid	“Flexible”	Specific students	About
Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health	✓		✓	Through county mental health plans, new guidance expands access to program without a mental health diagnosis
Medi-Cal Managed Care Mental Health and Physical Health	✓		✓	Provided through Medi-Cal managed care health plans
Mental Health Services Act		✓		AKA Prop 63, funds nearly 25% of public mental health system

Health Care Funding	Federal Medicaid	“Flexible”	Specific students	About
Family PACT			✓	State program that provides family planning services
Denti-Cal	✓		✓	Comprehensive preventative and restorative dental benefits
Minor Consent MediCal	✓		✓	limited services - mental health, family planning & sexual reproductive health care
Gateway/CHDP	✓		✓	Temporary MediCal that serves as entry point for ongoing coverage through MediCal

Overview of all Third Party Billing Options for all services & by type of SBHC

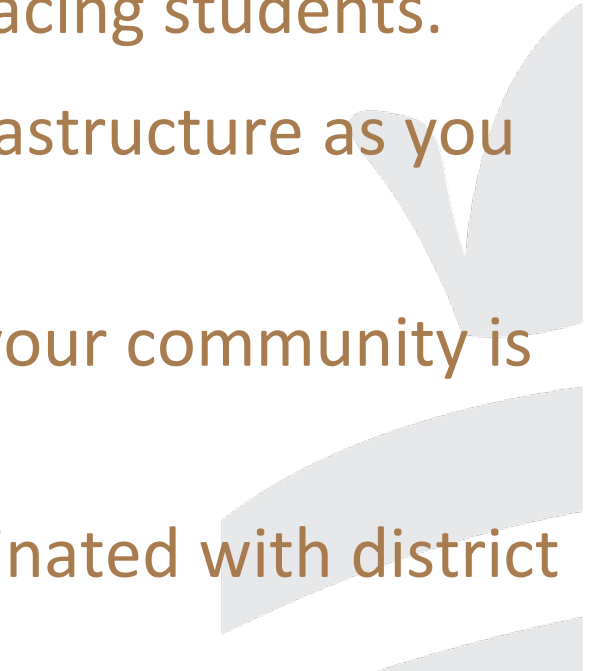
Program	Community Health Centers	Hospitals	Public Health Departments	School Districts	Mental Health CBOs
Medi-Cal Managed Care	✓	✓	Rarely		
Minor Consent Medi-Cal	✓	✓	Depends		✓
Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health Services	✓ In some cases	✓ In some cases		✓ In some cases	✓
Denti-Cal	✓	✓			

Program	Community Health Centers	Hospitals	Public Health Departments	School Districts	Mental Health CBOs
LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option (LEA BOP)				✓	
School-Based Medi-Cal Administrative Activities			¹	✓ LEA MAA	
Presumptive Eligibility Medi-Cal for Pregnant Women (PE4PW)	✓	✓	✓		
Family PACT	✓	✓	✓		
Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP)	✓ Comprehensive Care Providers	✓ Comprehensive Care Providers	✓ Depends on health department	✓ Health Assessment Only Providers	
Private Insurance	✓	✓	Rarely		Rarely

WHAT YOU CAN BE DO TO MAXIMIZE THESE NEW STATE INVESTMENTS

- ✓ Reach out to your Medi-Cal managed care plans about **SBHIP**.
- ✓ Ask your COE if they are partnering with Medi-Cal managed care plans on the **Student Behavioral Health Incentive Program**.
- ✓ Most county BH departments received [MHSSA grants](#), which explicitly incentivize counties to partner with schools. Look up what's happening in your county.
- ✓ Check with your LEA. Are you participating in **school Medicaid programs (LEA BOP/SMAA)** ? Are you leveraging the program for school mental health?
- ✓ Reach out to partners to apply together for **CYBHI** funds
- ✓ Reach out to LEA re: launch of Multi-payer fee schedule

STRATEGIES & NEXT STEPS:- FOR SCHOOLS

1. Know your population of free and reduced lunch (similar to Medi-Cal).
 2. Assess your current services and gaps. Create a mental health profile that communicates the needs and access issues facing students.
 3. Do your homework! Commit to building your infrastructure as you reach out to potential partners.
 4. Identify potential partner organizations. Who in your community is also serving your students?
 5. Think through how outside services will be coordinated with district services.
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RESOURCE LIST (ALL SERVICES)

SBHCs Maximizing Third Party Reimbursement

www.schoolhealthcenters.org/third-party-reimbursement

Navigating the Promise of SBHCs - A Guide for Health Care Leaders

www.schoolhealthcenters.org/sbhcs-for-health-care-leaders

School District Financing for School-Based Health Centers

www.schoolhealthcenters.org/district-financing



RESOURCE LIST (MENTAL HEALTH)

How LEAs and Partners Can Braid New Funding to Support School-Based Health Centers

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tJjcsk8DDNBNpzqyesX_rYleDeR8TuI PHP-tGMNH8sA/edit

Public Funding for School-Based Mental Health Programs

www.schoolhealthcenters.org/funding-school-mental-health

Sustaining & Growing Behavioral Health Services at SBHCs run by

FQHCs www.schoolhealthcenters.org/sustaining-behavioral-health

LOTS OF OTHER GREAT RESOURCES

[Meeting the Moment: Understanding EPSDT in CA and Addressing Mental Health Needs](#) (CA Children's Trust)

[Medicaid Family Planning Programs: Case Studies of Six States After ACA Implementation](#) (Kaiser Family Foundation)

[Mental Health in California: Understanding Prevalence, System Connections, Service Delivery, and Funding](#) (CA Budget & Policy Center)

[Medi-Cal Managed Care: A Primer to Inform Youth Mental Health](#) (CA Children's Trust)

[Millions of Children in Medi-Cal Are Not Receiving Preventive Health Services](#) (CA State Auditor)

[Informational Hearing: Improving the Medi-Cal Mental Health Delivery System](#) (Assembly & Senate Health Committees)

STAY CONNECTED



schoolhealthcenters.org



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Gracias

謝謝

Thank you

Cảm ơn

Salamat

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