

Implementing CalAIM for Justice-Involved Individuals with Behavioral Health Needs

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Level

Introductory

Track

Clinical

CE

CPA/BBS/BRN/CJER

Bio

David Panush, CalHPS President, brings 35 years of state government experience, including 30 years working in the State Legislature serving 5 Presidents Pro Tempore. Most recently he was the External Affairs Director for Covered California, serving as a member of the core senior Offender and Crime Reduction Act (MIOCR) and obtaining state funding for collaborative courts.

As President of California Health Policy Strategies, LLC, David has extensive experience on projects that relate to health care, behavioral health, and the criminal justice system. This includes the Reentry Health Project for the California Health Care Foundation, sustaining innovative programs for justice-involved individuals with behavioral health needs for the state Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) and expanding medication assisted treatment for the justice-involved in Los Angeles County for the Los Angeles County Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee. David is currently engaged with Alameda County on implementation of CalAIM for the justice-involved population.

Scott Coffin, CEO, Alameda Alliance for Health. Prior to joining the Alliance, Scott served as the Executive Director for Anthem Blue Cross, Northern CA and oversaw the operations for over 500,000 Medi-Cal members in 18 urban and rural counties in Northern California. He founded the DeSante Group LLC, a health care consulting firm that delivered Medicaid integration services to senior leaders at state health agencies, health plans, hospitals and physician groups. He has also held leadership positions with the Health Plan of San Joaquin, Blue Shield of California, Sutter Health Hospitals and Vision Service Plan. Scott earned his degree in business administration at California State University in San Bernardino and continued his professional development and education at Dartmouth College Tuck School of Business.

Liz Benton, ACSW, California Health Policy Strategies, Researcher. For the last six years, Liz has provided direct mental health and substance use services throughout the greater Sacramento Region. She is currently a medical social worker at Sutter Medical Center, Sacramento.

Liz has experience working with an interdisciplinary team to provide counseling in an outpatient Medication Assisted Treatment program for individuals suffering from substance use disorders via Wellpath. She collaborated with county Drug Court and probation representatives regularly. Liz also delivered mental health services funded by the Mental Health Service Act for Medicaid recipients through a community-based organization, Turning Point Community Programs Inc. She assisted individuals transitioning out of jail, psychiatric hospitals, and homelessness by providing intensive case management and crisis-oriented intervention. Liz also briefly served as the Mental Health Court Liaison for this community-based agency in Placer County, thus gaining more field-based understanding of the unique challenges facing county courts, jails, and health delivery services.

Liz also interned with the City of Sacramento Police Department and Marshall Medical Center in Placerville. In addition to direct service, Liz worked as a research associate for the California Rural Indian Health Board, and as a research associate contracted through University of California, Davis for the Department of State Hospitals. She received her Master's in Social Work (MSW) from California State University, Sacramento, and holds a Master of Arts in Psychology from San Diego State University.

Narrative

CalAIM is California's new Medi-Cal initiative to address the medical and behavioral health needs of the most complex, costly and hard-to-reach populations. CalAIM is a game changer for justice-involved adults and juveniles that are a specific population of focus and will be eligible for new benefits like enhanced care management and services that address social determinants of health. This presentation will provide an overview of CalAIM, how it will be implemented for individuals with behavioral needs and how it can transform the adult and juvenile justice system. This presentation will also include discussion of an innovative best practice that embeds mental health clinicians in public defender offices to facilitate community treatment interventions as an alternative to incarceration.

Learning Objectives

1. Identify and apply three implementation strategies related to CalAIM with focus on justice-involved individuals with behavioral health needs
2. Assess existing programs that serve this population to determine new opportunities under CalAIM to leverage state and federal resources for sustaining programs
3. Apply three best practices related to the use of embedded mental health clinicians in public defender offices to facilitate alternatives to incarceration for individuals with behavioral health needs