Alameda CalAIM PATH Collaborative

June 27, 2025







2025 Aim and Drivers

By December 2025, the Collaborative will build provider capacity to deliver high-quality CalAIM services to eligible members, as evidenced by an increased proportion of enrollees with high-quality care plans in place and an increase in care coordination among CalAIM providers.

Ensure delivery of high quality
CalAIM services
through education and training on
CalAIM policies and program design

Enhance available resources and supports to help providers deliver CalAIM services to underutilizing Populations of Focus, including children and youth

Strengthen
relationships
between providers,
plans, & referral
partners to enable
efficient,
high-quality
referrals and strong
care coordination



Agenda

Time	Agenda Item		
10:00-10:10am	Welcome and Introductions		
10:10-10:25am	Policy Updates: Transitional Rent		
10:25-10:40am	Alameda County Health: Flex Pool Overview		
10:40-10:45am	Implementation Updates: Closed Loop Referrals		
10:45-11:15am	MCP Updates		
11:15-11:30am	Resources & Events Overview		
11:30am-12:00pm	Office Hours		



Housekeeping



Resources for Supporting Immigrant Communities



Health Care Providers and Immigration Enforcement: Know Your Rights, Know Your Patients' Rights



Alameda County Immigration
Legal Education Partnership
Resources and Hotline



Migrant Family Safety Plan Toolkit (English and Spanish)



May Recap

Thank you for joining us in May!

Agenda included:

- Policy Overview of Community Supports Revisions:
 - Volume 1 Revisions including Assisted Living Facility
 Transitions, Asthma Remediation, Community or home
 Transition Services, and Medically Tailored Meals/Medically
 Supportive Food
 - Volume 2 Revisions are housing focused, including Housing Transition Navigation Services, Transitional Rent, and more
- Policy Overview of Closed Loop Referrals and CLR Implementation

All materials are posted on our Resource Center.



DHCS Policy Updates: Transitional Rent



Housing Trio Updates: Effective Dates

Housing Transition Navigation Services	Volume 2 (pp. 25-30)	1/1/2026
Housing Deposits	Volume 2 (pp. 31-36)	1/1/2026
Housing Tenancy and Sustaining Services	Volume 2 (pp. 37-42)	1/1/2026
	Volume 2 (pp. 57-80)	7/1/2025 for MCPs that elect to launch at this time
NEW Transitional Rent		1/1/26 for all MCPs for the Behavioral Health Populations of Focus (POF) (and any other populations the MCP has elected to cover)



Transitional Rent: Service Definition

- Transitional Rent may be used to cover the following expenses:
 - Rental assistance in allowable settings
 - Storage fees, amenity fees, and landlord-paid utilities that are charged as part of the rent payment
- Transitional Rent can provide up to six months of support per demonstration. The six months do not have to be continuous.
- Members authorized for Transitional Rent must also be authorized for ECM



Transitional Rent: Implementation Timeline

- Starting July 1, 2025, MCPs have the option to launch coverage of Transitional Rent.
- Starting January 1, 2026, all MCPs are required to cover Transitional Rent for Members meeting the Behavioral Health Population of Focus.
- MCPs may also elect to cover one or more additional Populations of Focus, with DHCS approval.
- Coverage for Transitional Rent is approved through 2029.



Transitional Rent: Populations of Focus

1. Behavioral Health

- 2. Pregnant and postpartum
- 3. Transitioning out of an institutional or congregate residential setting
- 4. Transitioning out of a carceral setting
- 5. Transitioning out of interim housing
- 6. Transitioning out of recuperative care or short-term post-hospitalization housing
- 7. Transitioning out of foster care
- 8. Experiencing unsheltered homelessness



Transitional Rent: Eligibility Criteria

Eligible Members must meet all 3 criteria:

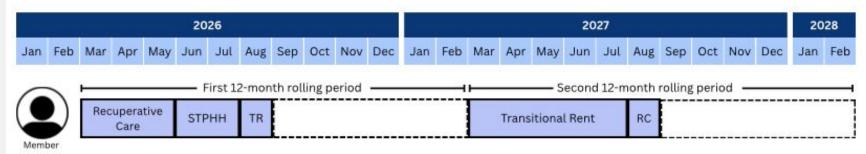
- 1. Clinical Risk Factor Requirement: Must have one or more of the following risk factors:
 - a. Meets access criteria for mental health services via SMHS, DMC, or DMC-ODS
 - b. Serious chronic physical condition
 - c. Physical, intellectual, or developmental disability
 - d. Pregnant up through 12-months postpartum
- 2. Social Risk Factor Requirement: Experiencing or at risk of homelessness
- 3. Meet one of the following additional criteria:
 - Transitioning Population (Transitioning from institutional, congregate residential, carceral, interim housing, recuperative care, short-term post hospitalization housing, or foster care settings)
 - b. Experiencing unsheltered homelessness
 - c. Eligible for Full-Service Partnership (FSP)



Global Cap on Room & Board Services

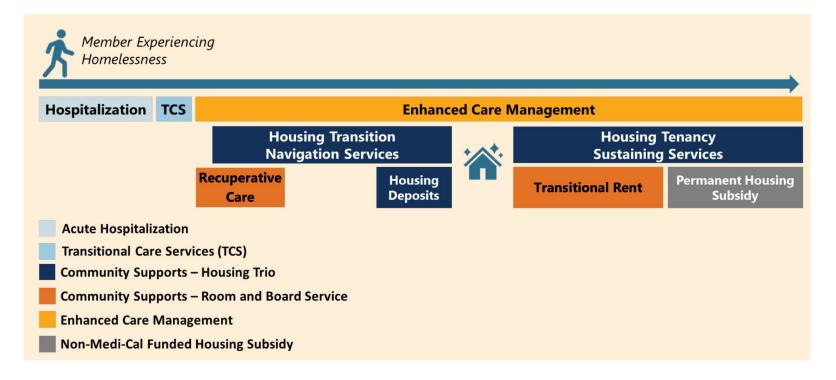
Members may access up to 6 months of Recuperative Care, Short-Term Post-Hospitalization Housing, and Transitional Rent within any 12-month period. However, Transitional Rent is limited to a total of 6 months over the entire 5-year demonstration period.

Example Member Journey:





Housing Community Supports and ECM Across a Member's Journey





Housing-Related Services

DHCS is broadening its housing-related services and supports, both within Medi-Cal (Transitional Rent), and beyond Medi-Cal (BH Transformation).

Medi-Cal Community Supports

- » Housing Transition Navigation Services
- » Housing Tenancy and Sustaining Services
- » Housing Deposits
- » Recuperative Care*
- » Short-Term Post-Hospitalization Housing*
- » Day Rehabilitation



Transitional Rent*

- » Includes coverage of up to six months of rent for members who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and meet certain additional eligibility criteria.
- **>> 7/1/25** Optional for MCPs to provide.
- » 1/1/26 Mandatory for MCPs to provide for select populations.

Behavioral Health Service Act (BHSA) Housing Interventions*

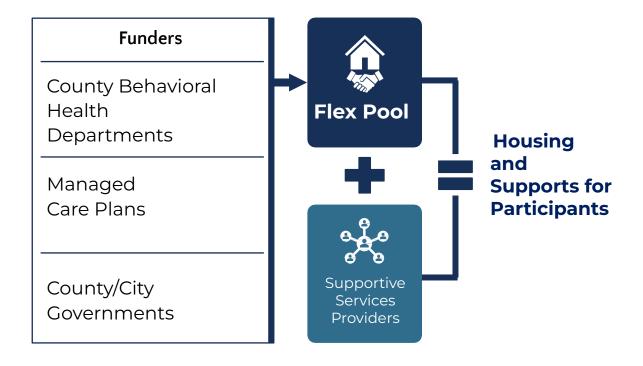
- » Counties will receive funding for Housing Interventions which will place and sustain individuals with significant BH needs in permanent and interim housing settings, including permanent supportive housing.
- » 7/1/26 Required for County Behavioral Health (BH) Departments.

^{*}Can be used to cover room and board.



Encouragement of Flexible Housing Subsidy Pools ("Flex Pools")

DHCS is promoting Flex Pools as an effective model to streamline and simplify administering rental assistance and related housing supports.



Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool: Alameda County

Alameda County CalAIM PATH Collaborative June 27, 2025



Agenda

- 1. Alameda County Housing Goals
- Flexible Housing Subsidy Pools "Flex Pools"
- Alameda County Flex Pool Roles by Agency

Alameda County Housing Goals

Home Together System Needs

- In order to drastically reduce homelessness and racial inequities, the 5-year Home Together 2026 Community Plan calls for the **addition of more than 24,000 housing resources** in a variety of programs.
- The total estimated cost of operating this inventory over 5-years is \$2.5 billion (and \$731M annually for years 5 and beyond). This cost does not include capital development or the cost of additional operations such as prevention, street outreach, or administrative activities.

The total cost of scaling up shelter and housing inventory over 5-years to fully meet system needs is **\$2.5 billion**.

- \$430M for additional shelter
- \$1B for permanent supportive housing
- \$814M for dedicated affordable housing and shallow subsidies
- \$196M for rapid rehousing

Additional supportive housing units
New supportive housing units for older/frail adults
New dedicated affordable units or subsidies
New shallow subsidies
Additional rapid rehousing slots
Total units & subsidy slots

Housing Continuum

A Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool is a mechanism to help find **permanent** housing units and administer rental subsidies (referrals will go through coordinated entry)

Target Population

People in Unsheltered situations

People exiting hospital, jail, & other institutions

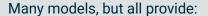
People living in vehicles

The working homeless



Interim Housing

1 day to 2 years



- A safe indoor place to temporarily live and recover from life on the streets
- High quality housing search that is resident centered
- Case management and/or direct connection to treatment
- Varying levels of services, with intensity depending on program focus



Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

Housed

Affordable Housing

Scattered-Site Subsidies

Market-rate housing

Shallow rent subsidies

Home-Sharing

Enhanced Problem Solving

Shelter

Navigation Center Residential Treatment Medical Respite Transitional Housing



Alameda County Flex Pool Goals

Create a flexible model to do what it takes to get housing

Identify scattered site units to house more people (towards overall goals)

 Build from existing infrastructure and help maximize new funding sources (BHSA, transitional rent, local tax measure, etc)

Approx Current: 1,000 Units
2026
Add 250+
1250+
Units
2027
Add 150+
1400+ Units
2028
Add 150+
1550+ Units



Flexible Housing Subsidy Pools

What is a Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool (Flex Pool)

A model for centrally administering and coordinating multiple streams of funding for rental subsidies and engaging landlords:

- Centralized unit acquisition:
 Find and contract for affordable
 and market rate units
- Rental Administration: Pay rental subsidies for approved households
- Administer flexible funding: incentives, housing deposits, unit holds, etc.

Benefits of a Flex Pool

- Consolidate existing mini-pools
- Aggregate and braid multiple funding streams
- Standard operating procedures
- Stronger relationships with landlords = more units

Why now?

- DHCS interest
- Transitional Rent
- BHSA requirements
- Measure W



Flex Pool Model and Key Roles

Funders

Funding Source A

Funding Source B

Funding Source C

Flex Pool Administration and Operation

Lead Entity: Plays the role of convener and 'system driver"—identifies, aggregates, and administers funding sources, likely also a funder, and contracts with the Operator

Operator: Responsible for keeping the day-to-day operations of the Flex Pool running smoothly and delivering excellent customer service to landlords, participants, and the Lead Entity







Housing and Supports for **Participants**

Landlord Y

Landlord Z

Example: Los Angeles County Flex Pool

- LA County's Flex Pool is **led by the Department of Health Services' Housing for Health (HFH) Division**, which coordinates and braids funding streams and has delegated authority to execute contract amendments with the contractor (initial 5-year contract with option for two five-year extensions).
- HFH contracts with Brilliant Corners to focus on the landlord and participant facing activities, like engaging property owners and tenants, identifying and securing units, and acting as a fiscal intermediary.
- Funders of the LA County's Flex Pool include:
 - LA county departments- DHS, DMH, others
 - Revenue from LA's Measure H
 - MCPs for Housing Deposits (and soon to deliver Transitional Rent); MCPs also contract with DHS's HFH for other housing-related Community Supports coordinated with the Flex Pool.

In the first year (2015), the LA County Flex Pool housed 171 individuals

In 2024, the LA County Flex Pool housed **2,468** individuals,, a **cumulative total of 14,372** Brilliant Corner's LA County Flex Pool Website

Alameda County Flex Pool Roles by Agency

AC Health as Flex Pool Lead Entity

- Existing programs and contracts providing rental assistance
- Experience braiding multiple funding streams for sustainability
- Ability to aggregate multiple funding streams
 - General Fund/Measure W
 - MHSA/BHSA (existing source for rental subsidies)
 - HHAP (existing source for rental subsidies)
 - HDAP (existing source for rental subsidies)
 - Transitional Rent implementation starting January 1, 2026
- Experience as intermediary for CalAIM Community Supports
- Relationships with housing contractors and homeless system of care



Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool Proposed Roles

Managed Care Plans: Alameda Alliance for Health, Kaiser Permanente

- Contract with AC Health for Transitional Rent for members
- Participate in planning and implementation workgroup

Other Initial Funders

 Alameda County Health-Behavioral Health, Housing and Homelessness Services

Lead Entity: Alameda County Health (Housing and Homelessness Services + Behavioral Health Department)

- Coordinate referrals through Coordinated Entry to non-profit operator based on funding stream eligibility
- Coordinate, aggregate and braid funding streams
- Contract with Non-profit Operator (tbd)
- Facilitate authorization requests, billing/claiming for Transitional Rent including streamlined provisional authorizations for Behavioral Health Population of Focus

Operator

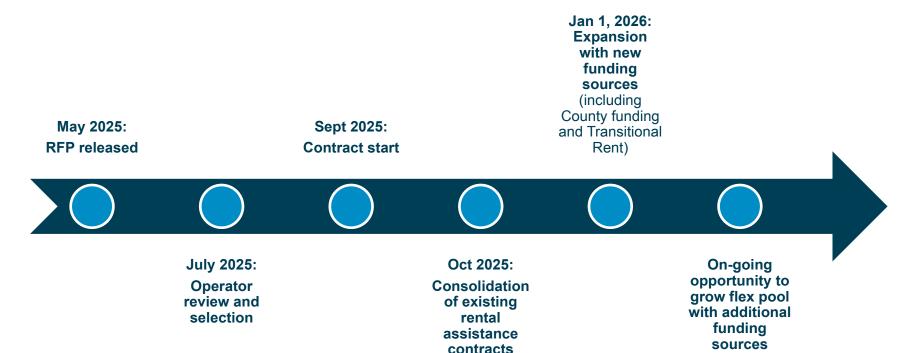
(Proposals currently under review)

- Connect people to housing
- Administer rental subsidies
- Identify, secure, and maintain rental units across Alameda County appropriate for the target populations
- Coordinate with supportive services providers

Funding

Referrals

Alameda County Flex Pool: Implementation Timeline







Questions?



Closed-Loop Referrals



Closed-Loop Referrals Implementation Guidance

- In early 2025, DHCS released Closed-Loop Implementation (CLR) Guidance applicable to Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans and contracted providers
- Go-Live date for CLR implementation is July 1, 2025
- For now, requirements only apply to ECM and Community Supports, not other Medi-Cal services
- Updates to the guidance were released in early May, and changes were primarily clarifications





Closed-Loop Referral Services and Phasing

Initial CLR
requirements go
live on July 1, 2025
and will apply to
ECM (all POFs) and
13 Community
Supports.*

*Sobering Centers are not included because services are often delivered in real-time and authorized after provision of care. ECM and Community Supports are the initial services for CLR requirements because:

- Both services are critical for Medi-Cal's highest need Members.
- The MCP plays a pivotal role in the "referral loop" by authorizing services and assigning the Member to a Network Provider.
- Data is already regularly shared between Providers, MCPs and DHCS. CLR requirements build on existing data sharing pathways without overburdening Providers.



What to Expect from CLR Requirements

Members

- Receive notice from their MCP when the service is authorized.
- Receive support from MCPs to identify other services or providers if rereferral is needed.

ECM / Community Supports Providers

- Submit 3 new data elements to MCPs via the Return Transmission File each month.

Ex: Referral Status, Date of Referral Status
Update, Reason for Referral Closure

Referring Entities

- Receive notices from MCPs when the service is authorized and referral is closed.
- If not authorized, MCPs include why.
- MCPs include referral closure reason.



MCP Updates





Closed Loop Referral

At Alameda Alliance for Health



Closed Loop Referrals

A. Tracking **B. Supporting** C. Monitoring Minimum Data Elements Requirements for Notifying Roles & Responsibilities Members & Referring **Data Timeliness** a) MCP Monitoring of Entities **CLRs** MCP Systems for CLRs Supporting Pending & Reb) DHCS Monitoring of System Compliance with Referrals **CLRs** Other Data Sharing Roles & Responsibilities Requirements Roles & Responsibilities





- The Alliance is responsible for coordinating efforts to support referral navigation and to make sure members (or their guardians) are aware referrals are placed on their behalf.
- The Alliance will use the data collected to identify individual CLRs that have been open for extended periods of time with Referral Status updates from the Service Provider and must take actions to follow up with the Service Provider to support Member outreach and engagement in the services they need.

Closed Loop Referrals – Referral Status



Status Options	Example Application to ECM Referral	Example Application to Community Supports Referral
Pending	Provider received the referral but has not yet reviewed or taken action on the referral	Provider received the referral but has not yet taken action on the referral
Accepted	ECM Provider received the referral and intends to outreach for services but has not yet initiated outreach	Community Supports provider received the referral and intends to outreach for services but has not yet initiated outreach
Outreach Initiated	Provider received the referral and initiated outreach and is in active outreach with the Member	Provider received the referral and initiated outreach and is in active outreach with the member
Referral Loop Closed	Provider closed the referral loop using one of the Reason Codes	Provider closed the referral loop using one of the Reason Codes
Declined	Provider received the referral but has declined the referral (e.g., ECM Provider is at capacity)	Provider received the referral but has declined the referral (e.g., Community Support Provider is at capacity)

Closed Loop Referrals – Referral Loop Closure Options



Status Options	Example Application to ECM Referral	Example Application to Community Supports Referral
Services Received	Member received their first billable ECM service, excluding outreach services.	Member received their first billable Community Support service
Service Provider Declined	ECM referral was denied by the ECM Provider	Community Supports referral was denied by the Community Supports Provider
Unable to Reach Member	ECM Provider was unable to reach the member after multiple attempts	Community Supports Provider was unable to reach the member after multiple attempts
Member No Longer Eligible for Services	Member is no longer eligible for ECM (e.g., due to member enrolling in another plan)	Member is not longer eligible for Community Supports (e.g., due to member incarceration)
Member No Longer Needs Services or Declines	Member states they no longer require ECM services	Member states they do not wish to receive Community Supports services
Other	Member referral loop is closed for a reason not listed above	Member referral is closed for a reason not listed above

https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/CalAIM/Documents/WIP-CLR-Implementation-Guidance.pdf



Closed Loop Referrals – continued

- The information in the previous tables is not available to the Alliance unless the ECM or Community Supports provider informs the plan of this information. (Therefore, it is not part of the authorization)
- Once the Alliance is informed of this information via the RTF, the Alliance will mail out letters to inform others (including, but not limited to: referring entities, member, etc.) of the 'Referral Status'.
- Go-Live, 7/1/25

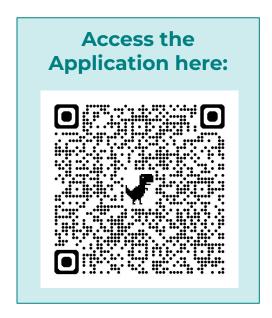


Updates, Events, & Resources



Medi-Cal Voices and Vision Council Application

The Voices and Vision Council offers a dedicated space for Medi-Cal members, MCPs, providers, community-based organizations, and state partners that work with Medi-Cal members to provide direct input to the DHCS executive leadership team regarding Medi-Cal program policies, programs, and implementation.





DHCS Community Supports Cost Report



9 out of 12 Community Supports are already demonstrating cost effectiveness within the study period. » Members who used at least one of the Housing Trio Community Supports (which includes Housing Transition Navigation Services, Housing Deposits, and Housing Tenancy and Sustaining Services) had reduced inpatient (24.3%) and emergency department use (13.2%) in the six months that followed receipt of the service(s).

The recently published <u>DHCS Community Annual Report</u> highlights the cost-effectiveness of Community Supports and their impact on reducing ED visits, hospitalizations, and long-term care



DHCS Community Supports Report

Respite Services: 61.3% Cost Reduction

Personal Care and Homemaker Services: 58.4% Cost Reduction

Housing Deposits: 31.6% Cost Reduction



Children & Youth Cross-County Meeting Recap

Participating Counties: Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, Santa Clara, & San Mateo

Discussion topics included:

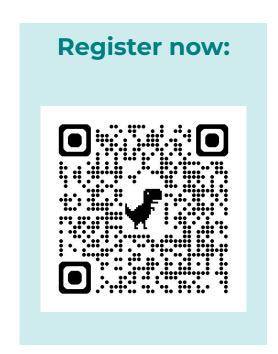
- Assessment Practices
- Trauma-Informed Training
 - Resources:
 - SF Family Services Alliance
 - Wellbeing for LA Learning Center
 - A Better Way
 - TDU Training
- Advancing Birth Equity
- Immigration-Related Challenges
 - Resource: Safe & Sound Family Safety Toolkit



Children and Youth Workgroup

Tuesday, July 15, 2025 11:00am - 12:00pm On Zoom

The Alameda Children and Youth Workgroup addresses implementation barriers for ECM and Community Supports for children and youth. Meetings also include relevant DHCS and MCP updates as well as Children and Youth provider best practices, spotlight presentations, and success stories.





Register for Upcoming Training

Foundations of Harm Reduction

July 9 | On Zoom

10:00am - 12:00pm



Register here:



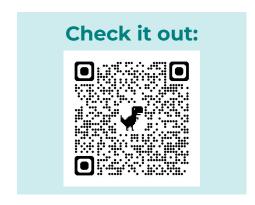
Email <u>TDU@ucsf.edu</u> with any questions.

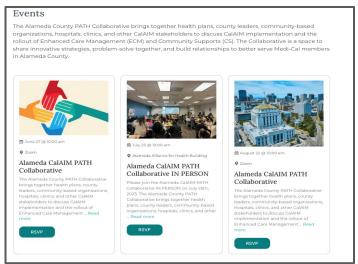


Resource Center Refresh

Our Resource Center has a new look and format for clearer resource and event access. Check out the new *Past Materials Page* for all recordings and slide decks of collaborative meetings since January 2024!

3 PAST MEETING MATERIALS







Poll

Please share your feedback about today's meeting!

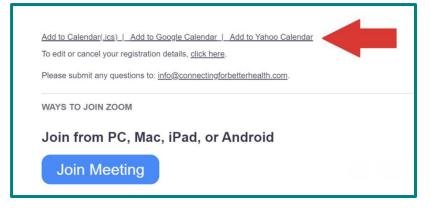


2025 Collaborative Schedule

Join us on Fridays in 2025!



Register today to add the meetings to your calendar!



Meeting Calendar

July 25 (In-person)

August 22

September 26

October 24 (In-person)

November 21 (Third Friday)

December 12 (Second Friday)



See you in person in July!

July 25, 2025

10:00am - 12:00pm

Alameda Alliance for Health Building

Peer Networking and Motivational Interviewing Training



Thank you for attending!