

November 2025

PURPOSE: To inform our Stanislaus County staff, contractors, and general community of changes in programs, policies, or procedures at the local, State and Federal levels. QS Information Notices will be sent out monthly and posted on the Stanislaus County website.



GENERAL INFORMATION

BHIN 25-033 Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG) Annual Program Review

BHIN 25-033, issued on October 10th, 2025, outlines the review process for county MHBG funded programs for FY 2024-2025. DHCS will conduct a desk review of submitted evidence, followed by an on-site review. Stanislaus County is scheduled for a 2026 review and DHCS will reach out to us with further scheduling details and next steps.

BHIN 25-032 Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Annual Program Review

BHIN 25-032, issued on October 10th, 2025, outlines the MHSA Program Review Schedule for 2026 as well as the review process for county MHSA funded programs for FY 2024-2025. DHCS will first conduct a desk review of submitted evidence, followed by an on-site review. Stanislaus County is scheduled for the review to occur on April 21-23, 2026.

QUALITY SERVICES (QS) UPDATES

Provider Directory Changes

Starting November 1, 2025, you will no longer be required to submit Provider Directory update forms. Instead, provider information will be pulled directly from SmartCare to compile the directory.

What You Need to Know:

- **Notification:** You will still be notified each time a new version of the provider directory is available.
- **Review:** Programs are still expected to review their listed information for accuracy when the updated directory is shared.
- **Accuracy in SmartCare:** Since directory data will now be pulled directly from the information supplied in SmartCare, it is critical that all provider information is accurate and up to date.
- **Corrections:** If you notice any inaccuracies in the directory, please work with the IT department to get the information corrected in SmartCare.
- **Program changes:** If your program has any other changes, ie: address, phone number, Program NPI, etc., please also email bhrsmedi-calcerts@stanbhhs.org.

This is also a reminder that all programs are **required** to have all four versions (English, English Large Print, Spanish, and Spanish Large Print) of the most current Provider Directories available in the lobby for members to access. For additional information, please refer to email sent by QS on 10/27/2025.

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COMPLIANCE UPDATES

Protected Health Information (PHI) Reminder

When scheduling meetings in Outlook or Microsoft Teams, please do not include any PHI such as member names, medical record numbers (MRNs), or other identifiers in calendar appointments, meeting titles, or invites. These are not encrypted once sent out of the County network.

To remain compliant with HIPAA and County security standards:

- Use only initials or a general description (e.g., "Client Review Meeting") in Outlook or Teams calendar invites.
- If additional PHI must be shared, send it separately in an encrypted email to attendees and include only the minimum information necessary.
- PHI may continue to be used in SmartCare calendar appointments, as that system is encrypted and HIPAA-compliant.

For additional information, please refer to email sent by Cynthia Bocage on 10/15/2025.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING UPDATES

English and Spanish Resource Guides

English and Spanish Resource Guides Now Available:

The Workforce Development & Training Department is excited to share the launch of the English and Spanish Resource Guides, a valuable tool designed to support both staff and the community. These guides include up-to-date information on local services and support, available in both English and Spanish, to better serve our diverse population. Staff can use these guides during client interactions, referrals, or case planning to help connect individuals and families to the right resources. These guides are accessible online via QR code and are easy to use on mobile devices.

To access the guides, scan the QR codes below:

English Resource Guide



Spanish Resource Guide



If you have any questions related to QS Information Notices, contact Quality Services by:

- Email: QSEmail@stanbhers.org, PHONE: (209) 525-6043, or FAX: (209) 558-4324