



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

SACRAMENTO COUNTY

Date: May 3rd, 2023

**Sacramento County Board of Supervisors
700 H Street, Suite 2450
Sacramento, CA 95814**

**To: Sacramento County Board of Supervisors
Re: Support for MHB "Recommendations to Address Behavioral Health Workforce Crisis"**

Honorable Supervisors:

On behalf of the Behavioral Health Youth Advisory Board, we would like to express our support for the Mental Health Board Children's System of Care Committee's "Recommendations to Address Behavioral Health Workforce Crisis". These recommendations greatly align with our vision for mental health resource accessibility and sustainability.

Increasing compensation for BHS Mental Health Counselors is imperative to beginning to address the behavioral health workforce crisis. Compensation may attract mental health counselors to our region, and flexible work schedules will increase the likeliness of retainment. The Behavioral Health Youth Advisory Board believes in promoting equity and accountability.

The County must hold themselves accountable to finding solutions to the behavioral health workforce crisis. Implementing solutions allows for more equitable access to behavioral health resources, for "it is important to note that the gap between need and access is wider among some populations." The Behavioral Health Youth Advisory Board is committed to being a proactive and collaborative partner to the Mental Health Board and commend the Children's System of Care Committee for their practical, evidence-based recommendations.

Sincerely,

Jordan Kaitapu

Audrey Nunez

Savanna Karume

Ria Srivastava

Natonya Kharat

Jai'Lyn White



SACRAMENTO COUNTY

