



Behavioral Health Department

Alameda County Health

Categorized Areas of Community Need in Alameda County

System Needs

1. Access, Coordination and Navigation to Services to Mental Health or Substance Use Services

This category captures the needs of diverse cultures and identities such as race/ethnicity, language, LGBTQIA+, veteran status and age related to accessing mental health and substance use services, including community knowledge and education, language capacity, and successful connection to services after an emergency.

2. Behavioral Health Workforce

This category captures the needs related to recruiting, developing, supporting and maintaining a sufficient multilingual clinical and peer workforce.

3. Crisis Services

This category captures needs related to mental health and substance use crisis response with an emphasis on non-law enforcement response, community-based supports, early assessment of suicide risk, and stabilization during and after a crisis.

4. Housing Interventions

This category captures the housing needs for individuals living with behavioral health challenges ranging from housing interventions and support needed to maintain housing.

5. Substance Use Disorder Prevention and Treatment Services

This category captures the increasing need for substance use services and support that are *accessible, integrated and coordinated* with mental health services.

6. Community Violence and Trauma

This category captures gun violence, domestic violence, human trafficking, gang violence, immigration trauma, poverty, pervasive racism and homophobia, family conflict and stress, school safety and bullying, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Population Needs

7. Needs of Children (ages 0-5), Youth (ages 6-15), Transitional Age Youth (ages 16-25)

This category captures mental health and substance use challenges for school to transition-age youth, it also includes specific needs of children 0-5 and their families, respite services, ongoing increased suicide rates, youth runaways, juvenile justice involvement, human trafficking, gang violence, lack of support on how to access services, needs of LGBTQ+, pervasive racism, needs of bi-cultural children, lack of training on the part of schools for students with MH challenges.

continued

Population Needs

8. Needs of Adults (ages 25-59), Older Adults (ages 60 and over)

This category captures mental health and substance use challenges for adults and older adults including social isolation, depression, complex chronic health issues (including Alzheimer's and dementia), general poor mental health outcomes for those living with a severe mental illness, suicide rates, alternatives to incarceration, pervasive racism, LGBTQ+, immigration stress, gun violence, elder abuse, traumatic impact of social unrest-fear.

9. Needs of Family Members

This category captures the ongoing stress, frustration and isolation family members can feel in taking care of their loved ones including navigation issues, need for 24/7 access to inpatient and outpatient psychiatry services, suicide prevention, caregiving support, and other related trauma services.

10. Needs of Disability Community

This category addresses the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, focusing on providing resources and support required to achieve lives of quality and satisfaction.

11. Needs of Veterans

This category captures the mental health and housing needs of Veterans: Alameda County has the 4th highest number of homeless veterans, and 2nd highest of unsheltered homeless veterans in California. Veterans have a higher rate of poor mental health, high suicide rates, mental health stigma, lack of navigation support, lack of veteran support groups and social isolation.

12. Needs of the Re-entry Community

This category addresses the needs of both Adults and Youth in the Re-entry Community.

Summary of Areas

Access, Coordination and Navigation to Services

Behavioral Health Workforce

Crisis Services

Housing Interventions

Substance Use Disorder Prevention and Treatment Services

Community Violence and Trauma

Needs of Children (ages 0-5), Youth (ages 6-15), Transitional Age Youth (ages 16-25)

Needs of Adults (ages 25-59), Older Adults (ages 60 and over)

Needs of Family Members

Needs of the Disability Community

Needs of Veterans

Needs of the Re-entry Community