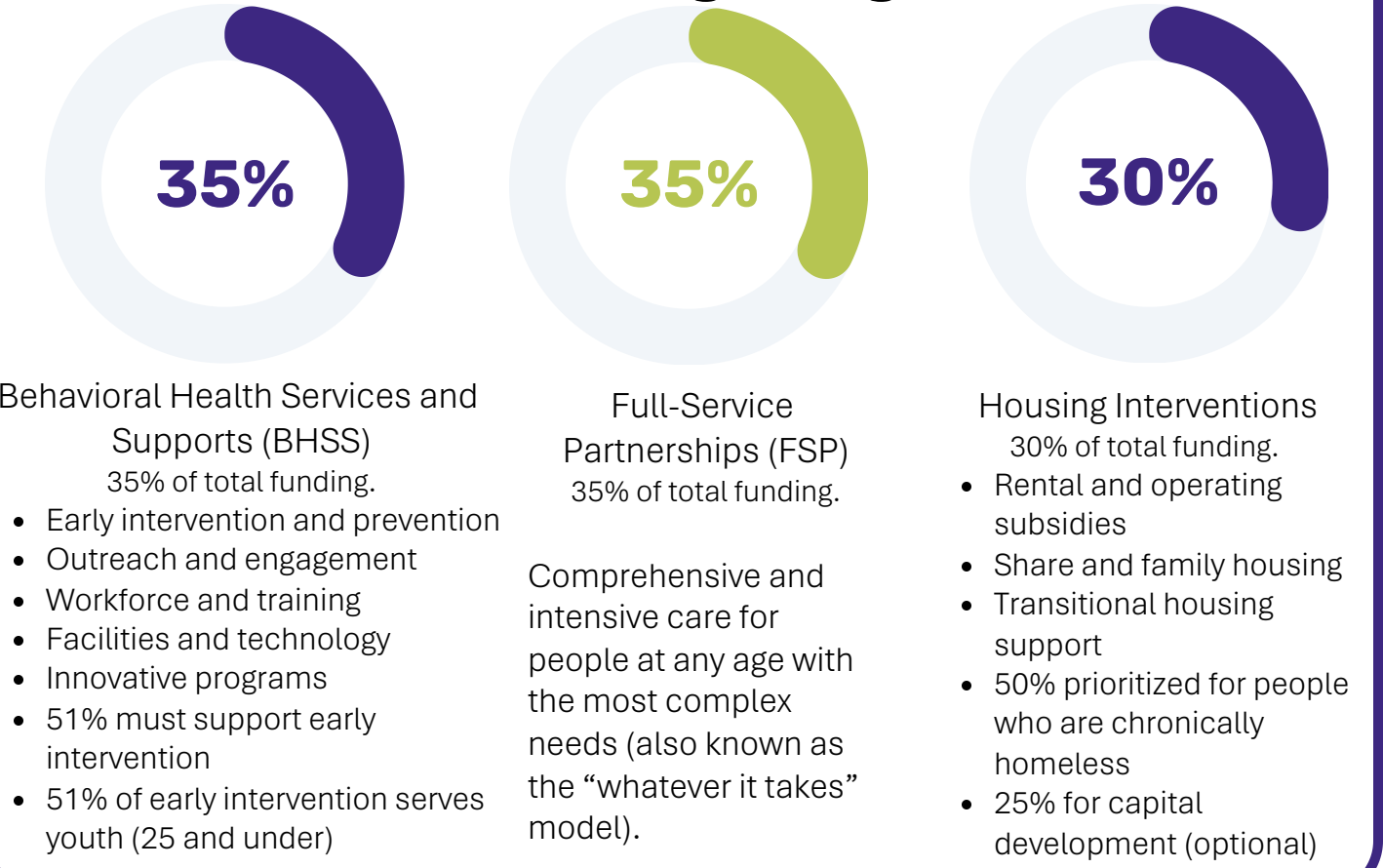




Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA)

Approved by California voters in 2024, BHSA is part of the largest change to California’s behavioral health funding system since 2004, supporting programs in Alameda County.

BHSA Funding Categories



Main Areas of Change



Expanded Target Population
BHSA expands the target population to include individuals with substance use and co-occurring behavioral health disorders, which previously could not access these funds.



Focus on Housing
BHSA emphasizes housing, treatment services, and measurable outcomes. 30% of BHSA dollars must be spent on Housing Interventions for vulnerable groups.



Accountability & Transparency
BHSA brings stronger reporting and accountability requirements to better track how funds are spent and what results programs are achieving through a new dashboard.



Community Planning Process (CPP)
BHSA expands stakeholder requirements. Alameda County conducts listening sessions and surveys to ensure programs align with community needs. Feedback is incorporated into the BHSA Integrated Plan.

How to Access Alameda County Behavioral Health Services

Many people are not aware of the behavioral health resources available in Alameda County. If you or someone you know needs support, we encourage you to visit our website at www.acbhcs.org or www.acbhcsa.org or call 1 (800) 491-9099 to learn more about services and how to access care.

MHSA vs. BHSA (Quick Overview)



Focus

MHSA: Focused mainly on mental health needs.

BHSA: Covers mental health, substance use, and co-occurring conditions.



Funding

MHSA: Used multiple funding components (CSS, PEI, INN, WET, CFTN).

BHSA: Uses three categories with set percentages: BHSS (35%), FSP (35%), and Housing Interventions (30%).



Housing

MHSA: Supported housing but didn't require specific funding levels.

BHSA: Requires 30% of funding to go toward housing supports.



Youth Services

MHSA: Included youth services without fixed targets.

BHSA: Requires that 51% of early intervention funds support youth ages 25 and under.



Accountability

MHSA: Had standard county reporting.

BHSA: Adds stronger accountability and a statewide dashboard.



Community Input

MHSA: Included community input but with fewer requirements.

BHSA: Expands community planning and stakeholder engagement.

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