



BHCIP Launch Ready and CCE Program Joint Pre-Application Consultation Process

The California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) require all applicants to engage in a pre-application consultation before submitting an application for grants from either the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) or the Community Care Expansion (CCE) program (see RFA Section 2.3). The consultation will allow the prospective applicant to discuss the proposed project, along with other applicable programmatic considerations, including those related to site acquisition, such as the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), permitting, land use and land entitlements, service coordination and services partnerships, and long-term financing approaches.

Advocates for Human Potential, Inc. (AHP), a consulting and research firm focused on improving health and human services systems, is serving as the administrative entity for both BHCIP and CCE. AHP assists state and local organizations to implement and evaluate a wide range of services focusing on mental health treatment and recovery, substance use disorder treatment and prevention, workforce development, homelessness, housing, long-term services and supports, and criminal justice.

Beginning in February 2022 and as part of the RFA process, AHP will provide a pre-application consultation and individual agency/county technical assistance (TA). In addition, AHP will offer ongoing general training and TA throughout the life of the project. Applicants are required to complete a pre-application consultation survey to determine their understanding of the RFA requirements prior to submitting their application. These include facility siting, permit and licensing requirements, construction plans and launch readiness, oversight and management, match requirements, and budgeting practices. In addition, applicants will be required to discuss how their proposed project meets local and/or regional gaps identified through an assessment, as well as how it addresses the state's priorities. An AHP implementation specialist will work with applicants to support them in these areas by connecting them with subject matter experts in real estate, financing, and programmatic best practices serving the prioritized or target population to bring targeted TA to applicants and grantees.

Applicants can access the pre-application consultation survey [online](#).

