

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY

Subject

Comprehensive Health and Social
Services System

**Policy
Number**

E-10

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Purpose

To establish a policy that guides the ongoing planning and delivery of a comprehensive health and social service system.

Background

On June 24, 1997 (47), the Board of Supervisors adopted guiding principles to guide the development of the basic organization and structure of the Health and Human Services Agency (Agency). These initial guiding principles became the basis for Article XV of the Administrative Code when the Board of Supervisors adopted it on September 30, 1997 (2) to formally establish the Agency. Article XV created an Agency that integrated the responsibilities and the programs of the previously separate County Departments of Health and Social Services; Area Agency on Aging; Commission on Children, Youth and Families; Veterans Service Office; and, optionally, the Public Administrator/Public Guardian. Additionally, in 2017 the Agency was formally recognized under State law as an integrated and comprehensive health and human services system to allow for even greater flexibility between programs.

Article XV further requires that the Agency's Director administer Agency programs through the principal subdivisions and geographic service regions. It also states that the Agency's services are to be provided in a manner that integrates service administration and delivery, and assures the efficiency, effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of these services.

Policy

It is the policy of the Board of Supervisors that, in accordance with County Administrative Code Article XV:

1. Health, housing, and human services will be directed at realizing safe, healthy, thriving communities throughout San Diego County for all residents, in line with the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision.
2. Services will be those essential to making people's lives safer, healthier and self-sufficient, in support of the County's vision for a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all.
3. All program and service activities will be aligned to the County and the Health and Human Services Agency Strategic Plans and be outcome-based.
4. Programs will operate with fiscal responsibility and integrity.

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5. Innovation and continuous improvement that is data-informed and evidence-based will be fostered to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of services.
6. Services will be customer-focused, equitable, and culturally responsive.
7. Programs and services will be sustainable and responsive to a changing environment.
8. The County will seek to leverage opportunities with its community partners to better serve county residents.
9. Employees will be supported and encouraged to reach their full potential.

Sunset Date

This policy shall be reviewed for continuance by 12-31-29.

Board Actions

2-19-80 (69)
4-20-82 (60)
11-13-84 (7)
2-19-85 (68)
3-1-88 (91)
4-08-08 (6)
12-09-08 (33)
12-15-15 (11)

CAO Reference

Health and Human Services Agency