



**Bakersfield-Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative
CA-604 Policy and Statement to Advance Recovery**

Purpose

The Bakersfield-Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative (BKRHC), Continuum of Care CA-604, is committed to advancing recovery, housing stability, and self-sufficiency for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, including those with mental health and substance use disorders (SUD). The CoC recognizes that access to appropriate treatment, recovery supports, housing, health care, employment, and other supportive services can strengthen long-term housing stability and individual well-being.

Policy Statement

CA-604 promotes a coordinated homeless response system that connects individuals to behavioral health and SUD treatment and recovery services based on their individual needs. CoC providers coordinate with Kern Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (KernBHRS), Managed Care Plans, health care providers, SUD treatment providers, law enforcement and first responders, shelters, street outreach teams, and other community partners to facilitate access to appropriate care.

Through Coordinated Entry (CES), street outreach, shelters, and housing programs, individuals are connected through referrals and warm handoffs to available services, including outpatient and intensive outpatient treatment, residential treatment, Narcotic Treatment Programs, mental health services, crisis intervention, primary health care, peer and recovery supports, employment and income assistance, and other mainstream resources.

CA-604 supports community-based approaches that reduce barriers to treatment and bring services directly to individuals experiencing homelessness. These resources include KernBHRS programs such as Assertive Community Treatment (ACT), field-based outreach and engagement, mobile crisis services, and Mobile Clinic with Street Psychiatry, as well as the SUD Access Line and Bakersfield Recovery Station.

The CoC also recognizes the role of recovery-focused and sober living environments within the broader continuum of housing options. BKRHC maintains a designated **sober living representative seat on its Governing Board** to incorporate recovery housing expertise into CoC planning, strengthen partnerships with recovery providers, and encourage participation and development of eligible recovery-focused housing opportunities. CA-604 will continue strengthening coordination among housing, treatment, recovery, health care, and supportive service systems so that individuals experiencing homelessness have meaningful opportunities to engage in recovery, increase income and self-sufficiency, obtain permanent housing, and achieve long-term stability.

Governing Board Adoption

The BKRHC Governing Board adopts this Policy and Statement to Advance Recovery and affirms CA-604's commitment to advancing treatment, recovery, self-sufficiency, housing stability, and coordinated access to supportive services.

Steve Peterson, Chair
BKRHC Governing Board
Continuum of Care CA-604

Date: 09/28/2026