
Behavioral Health Licensing Work Group

Presented to House Behavioral Health Committee Hearing
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Office of Governor Kate Brown
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Background

The work group was established to identify barriers to behavioral health licensing and to examine possible solutions, especially with respect to the recruitment and retention of people of color within the behavioral health workforce.

Work Group Membership

Representative Sanchez, House District 43, Chair

Representative Moore-Green, House District 19

AFSCME

Behavioral Health Advocate

Behavioral Health Providers

Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC)

Board of Licensed Social Workers

Mental Health Regulatory Agency (MHRA)

Office of Governor Kate Brown

Oregon Health Authority

Teachers Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC)

Work Group Topics

- Licensed Health Care Workforce diversity overview
 - Behavioral Health Education
 - Barriers to and Resources for Behavioral Health Education
 - Overview of Licensing Hours
 - Behavioral Health provider salaries
 - Additional Barriers
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Ongoing work

- Recruiting people to enter the behavioral health and substance use disorder field, especially people of color
 - Lack of capacity of educational institutions to train behavioral health and SUD providers
 - Barriers to licensure: criminal background, portability of out of state or international training
 - Opportunity costs of supervision hours
 - Retaining the behavioral health workforce: low reimbursement, private insurance coverage for behavioral health, high caseload, high acuity
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Thank You.
