



## **Announcing Behavioral Health Justice Intervention Services (BHJIS) grant award to launch the Sacramento *Community Health and Justice Project***

ONTRACK Program Resources is proud to announce it has been awarded a *Behavioral Health Justice Intervention Services (BHJIS)* grant to launch the *Community Health and Justice Project (CHJP)*. CHJP will transform the way Sacramento's criminal justice, behavioral health and community stakeholders work together in order to map a strategy to reduce Black/African Americans (Black) disproportionality and disparities.<sup>1</sup>

A system change plan to improve outcomes for Black people involved in the Sacramento criminal justice and behavioral health systems will be collaboratively developed through the *Collective Impact* approach which brings people together in a structured way to achieve social change. *Collective Impact* strategically creates a network of community members, organizations, and institutions who advance equity by learning together, aligning, and integrating their actions to achieve population and systems level change.<sup>2</sup>

CHJP *Collective Impact* will include a steering committee and work groups consisting of Sacramento Black community stakeholders (with lived experience with criminal justice and behavioral health issues) and local agency partners (i.e., Behavioral Health Services, Police, Probation, Sheriff, Public Defenders, Mayor's Office, etc.). The BHJIS grant includes funding to compensate Black community members with lived experience for their participation as subject matter experts in the *Collective Impact* decision-making process. Additionally, ONTRACK will conduct focus groups and key informant interviews, agency utilization data collection and analysis specific to Black people that has not been previously synthesized in Sacramento County; provide trainings; conduct community outreach and stigma reducing communications; and engage in other broader community engagement methods.

CHJP will leverage and build upon ONTRACK's *MHSOAC Sacramento Black Community Mental Health and Criminal Justice Real Talk* event that took place in fall 2021 ([www.getontrack.org/realtalk](http://www.getontrack.org/realtalk)).

The BHJIS grant program provides funding through 02/14/23 from the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and is administered by Advocates for Human Potential, Inc. (AHP) ([www.co-responding.buildingcalhhs.com](http://www.co-responding.buildingcalhhs.com)).



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<sup>1</sup> **Disproportionality:** The percentage of a certain racial or ethnic group as compared to the percentage of the same group in a system. For example, Blacks/African Americans in Sacramento County make up approximately 10% of the overall population but more than 20% of public behavioral health and 30% of criminal justice systems involved populations.

**Disparity:** Unequal treatment when comparing a racial or ethnic minority to a non-minority. This can be observed in many forms including decision points, treatment, services, resources, or the likelihood of being arrested, admitted to detention, admitted to facilities and voluntary agencies, and in care. <https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/recc/disparity.php>

<sup>2</sup> <https://collectiveimpactforum.org/what-is-collective-impact>

