



**What is the Arizona Council?** The Arizona Council of Human Service Providers has been a statewide voice for behavioral health, child welfare, and juvenile justice providers since 1986. As a statewide trade association, we represent the interests of human service agencies by providing legislative and administrative advocacy on a local, state, and national level. The Arizona Council is a membership driven organization with active participation from members throughout the state.

### **Adopted Legislative Agenda for 2020**

Support legislation for funding a single statewide 211 Community Information and Referral line

Support continuation funding for behavioral health services in schools

Support restoration of the Housing Trust Fund

Support syringe access legislation

Support legislation to ensure ease of colocation of physical and behavioral health services

Support legislation related to access to behavioral health care

Monitor Ad Hoc Committee on Healthcare Workforce Data

Monitor legislation regarding Professional Licensing Boards

Monitor state regulatory activity regarding behavioral health and child welfare service

Monitor state and federal legislation that could impact Medicaid, Medicare, and KidsCare funding

Monitor state and federal opioid related legislation and policy related to access to treatment and use of evidence based practices

Monitor state and federal policy, budgets, and funding allocations for mental health, substance use disorder, and child welfare programs, and essential service programs for low income families like nutrition assistance, public benefits, and housing



## Behavioral Health and Access to Care

SB1523: Mental Health Omnibus (Brophy McGee) and HB2764: Mental Health Omnibus (Weninger): These mirror bills make numerous changes to state law to reflect compliance with federal mental health parity laws, creates the Suicide Fatality Review Team, establishes a Mental Health Parity Advisory committee at the Department of Insurance, and expands access to care in schools for children with commercial insurance.

SB1570: Outpatient Treatment Centers; Behavioral Health (Brophy McGee): This bill allows employees of licensed outpatient behavioral health center to provide services in exempt health care provider offices (primary care settings) with a written agreement between the two entities.

SB1573: Behavioral Health Professionals; Unauthorized Practice (Brophy McGee): This bill clarifies that those individuals who are not licensed by the BBHE and practice or attempt to practice or hold themselves out as a trained behavioral health professional are guilty of a class 2 misdemeanor.

SB1390: Behavioral Health; Rates; Study; Appropriation (Carter): This bill appropriates money to AHCCCS for an independent actuarial study of outpatient behavioral health rates completed by July 2021.

HB2608: Overdose; Disease Prevention; Programs (Rivero): This bill allows jurisdictions to establish and operate overdose and disease prevention programs that include syringe exchange and disposal, access to naloxone, and referrals to treatment services. Exempts employees, volunteers, and participants from prosecution for possession of syringes, needles, and other injection supplies.

SB1290: Maternal Mental Health Advisory Committee (Carter): Establishes an advisory committee to recommend improvements to screening and treatment of maternal mental health disorders.

HB2608: Overdose; Disease Prevention; Programs (Rivero): This bill allows jurisdictions to establish and operate overdose and disease prevention programs that include syringe exchange and disposal, access to naloxone, and referrals to treatment services. Exempts employees, volunteers, and participants from prosecution for possession of syringes, needles, and other injection supplies.

HB2632: AHCCCS; Eligibility (Blackman) and SB1371: AHCCCS; Eligibility (Brophy McGee): As part of the Affordable Care Act, young people aging out of foster care are categorically eligible for AHCCCS until age 26. This bill will ensure that foster youth are able to seamlessly continue AHCCCS enrollment by reducing administrative barriers to coverage.