

AGENDA

BAY ARENAC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD OF DIRECTORS PERSONNEL & COMPENSATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, June 29, 2026 at 5:00 pm

Room 225, Behavioral Health Center, 201 Mulholland Street, Bay City, MI 48708

Committee Members:	Present	Excused	Absent	Committee Members:	Present	Excused	Absent	Others Present:
Patrick Conley, V Ch	_____	_____	_____	Carole O' Brien	_____	_____	_____	BABH: Jennifer Lasceski and Chris Pinter
Richard Byrne	_____	_____	_____	Vacant	_____	_____	_____	
Shelley King	_____	_____	_____	Patrick McFarland, Ex Off	_____	_____	_____	Legend: M-Motion; S-Support; MA-
Kathy Niemiec	_____	_____	_____	Robert Pawlak, Ex Off	_____	_____	_____	Motion Adopted; AB-Abstained

	Agenda Item	Discussion	Motion/Action
1.	Call to Order & Roll Call		
2.	Public Input (Maximum of 3 Minutes)		
3.	Nomination & Elections 3.1) Committee Chair 3.2) Committee Vice Chair		3.1) Consideration of nomination to elect _____ as Committee Chair 3.2) Consideration of nomination to elect _____ as Committee Vice Chair
4.	Unfinished Business 4.1) None		
5.	New Business 5.1) Personnel & Change Vacancy Reports from April 2026 – June 2026 5.2) 2026 Cultural Competency & Diversity Plan 5.3) Employee Handbook Revision – Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA)		5.1) No action necessary 5.2) Consideration of a motion to refer the 2026 Cultural Competency & Diversity Plan to the full Board for approval 5.3) Consideration of a motion to refer the Employee Handbook Revision to the ESTA to the full Board for approval

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Page 2 of 2

	5.4) BABH Holiday Schedule 5.5) 2027 Health Insurance & Benefit Discussion 5.6) Dashboard Review 5.7) Chief Executive Officer Evaluation 2026		5.4) No action necessary 5.5) No action necessary 5.6) No action necessary 5.7) Consideration of a motion to receive and file the 2026 CEO Evaluation
6.	Adjournment	M -	S - pm MA

**Bay-Arenac Behavioral Health
Personnel Change and Vacancy Report
April 2026**

New Hires

Name	Title	Program	Start Date	New Position (N) Replacement (R)
Aniya West	Residential Technician – Full-time 2 nd Shift	Specialty Care	04/06/2026 – GHC Training 04/16/2026 – Horizon Home	R
Angela Wend	Recipient Rights/Customer Services Specialist	Recipient Rights	04/27/2026	N

Transfers/Reclassification

Name	Position Previous/New	Program Prior/New	Effective Date

Departure

Name	Title	Program	Hire Date	Departure Date
Denise Hartman	Payroll Assistant	Finance	04/19/1999	03/18/2026
Amy Alexander	Access/Emergency Services Specialist – Casual	Primary Care	06/20/2022	03/25/2026

Posted Vacancies

Position	Program	Posting Date	New Position (N) Replacement (R) On Hold (H)
Psychologist (on-hold)	Psych Services	February 2023	H
Client Services Specialist – Arenac Center (1) (on-hold)	Arenac Center	May 2024	H
ES/Access Mobile Response Team Clinical Supervisor (on-hold)	Primary Care	May 2025	H
Mental Health Nurse – Community-based (on-hold)	Psychiatric Services	December 2025	H
Clinical Specialist or CSS – Crisis Stab/Mobile Response – 4P–12A (on-hold)	Primary Care	February 2023	H
Clinical Specialist – Outpatient Therapist (1)	Primary Care	February 2023	N
Access/Emergency Services Specialist – Casual	Primary Care	May 2023	R
Psychiatrist	Psychiatric Services	June 2023	R
Intake and Emergent Services Clinical Specialist	Arenac Center	July 2025	R
Residential Technician – FT 2 nd Shift (3)	Specialty Care	December 2025	R
Access/Emergency Services Specialist – FT (11A-9P) (1)	Primary Care	January 2026	R
Client Services Specialist – Children's	Primary Care	February 2026	R
Medical Assistant	Psychiatric Services	April 2026	R

**Bay-Arenac Behavioral Health
Personnel Change and Vacancy Report
May 2026**

New Hires

Name	Title	Program	Start Date	New Position (N) Replacement (R)
MicKayla Miller	Intensive Case Management Specialist – Adult MI	Primary Care	05/04/2026	N
Lawonda Jelks	Residential Technician – Full-time 2 nd Shift	Specialty Care	05/07/2026 – NEO/Training 05/20/2026 – Horizon Home	R
Andrew Luginbill	Clinical Specialist/Therapist – ACT	Primary Care	05/11/2026	R
Christal Newman	Client Services Specialist – Children's	Primary Care	05/18/2026	R
McKenzie Lott	Access/Emergency Services Specialist – Part-time	Primary Care	05/18/2026	R
Hailee Hamilton	Access/Emergency Services Specialist – Full-time	Primary Care	05/18/2026	R
Casey Williams	Medical Assistant	Psychiatric Services	05/27/2026	R
Laurie Low	Mental Health Nurse – ACT	Primary Care	05/27/2026	R

Transfers/Reclassification

Name	Position Previous/New	Program Previous/New	Effective Date
Nathaniel Slater	From: Residential Technician - Casual To: Residential Technician – Full-time 2 nd Shift	Both positions within Specialty Care	05/25/2026
Jameson Stamann	From: Residential Technician - Full-time 1 st Shift To: Residential Technician – Casual	Both positions within Specialty Care	05/31/2026

Departure

Name	Title	Program	Hire Date	Departure Date
Anfernee Brantley	Residential Technician – FT 3 rd Shift	Specialty Care	12/13/2021	04/28/2026
Donna Roznowski	Certified Medical Assistant	Psychiatric Services	03/10/2020	05/03/2026
Spencer Petrimoulx	Co-Op Secretary – Finance	Finance	08/25/2025	05/18/2026
Brooklyn Werner	Co-Op Secretary – Madison	Psychiatric Services	08/07/2025	05/21/2026
Jennifer Stone	Client Services Specialist – Adult DD	Specialty Care	08/12/2025	05/22/2026

Posted Vacancies

Position	Program	Posting Date	New Position (N) Replacement (R) On Hold (H)
Psychologist (on-hold)	Psych Services	February 2023	H
Client Services Specialist – Arenac Center (1) (on-hold)	Arenac Center	May 2024	H
ES/Access Mobile Response Team Clinical Supervisor (on-hold)	Primary Care	May 2025	H
Mental Health Nurse – Community-based (on-hold)	Psychiatric Services	December 2025	H
CSS – Crisis Stab/Mobile Response – 4P–12A	Primary Care	February 2023	R
Clinical Specialist – Outpatient Therapist (1)	Primary Care	February 2023	N
Access/Emergency Services Specialist – Casual	Primary Care	May 2023	R
Psychiatrist	Psychiatric Services	June 2023	R
Intake and Emergent Services Clinical Specialist	Arenac Center	July 2025	R
Residential Technician – Full-time 3 rd Shift (2) & FT 2 nd (1)	Specialty Care	April 2026	R
Client Services Specialist – Adult DD	Specialty Care	April 2026	R
Accounting Manager	Finance	May 2026	R

**Bay-Arenac Behavioral Health
Personnel Change and Vacancy Report
June 2026**

New Hires

Name	Title	Program	Start Date	New Position (N) Replacement (R)
Brandon Tilson	CSS – Crisis Stab/Mobile Response – 4P–12A	Primary Care	06/01/2026	N
Kelly Shelswell	Janitorial – Temporary, North Bay	Specialty Care	06/01/2026	R
Mariah Castillo	Client Services Specialist – Adult DD	Specialty Care	06/08/2026	R
MacKenzie Houseman	Intake and Emergent Services Clinical Specialist	Arenac Center	06/22/2026	R

Transfers/Reclassification

Name	Position Previous/New	Program Prior/New	Effective Date
Amy Musselman	From: Certified Peer Support Broker – Part-time To: Certified Peer Support Broker (Part-time) and Payroll Assistant – PT	Certified Peer within Primary Care Payroll Assistant within Finance	05/26/2026
Campbell Ayala	From: Co-op Secretary To: Temporary/Part-time Clerical Position	Both positions within Psychiatric Services	06/08/2026

Departure

Name	Title	Program	Hire Date	Departure Date
Vicki Atkinson	Secretary – Temporary, Casual	Recipient Rights	01/29/2026	05/22/2026
Kelly Shelswell	Janitorial – Temporary, North Bay	Specialty Care	06/01/2026	06/04/2026
James Rozeveld	Residential Technician – Part-time 3 rd Shift	Specialty Care	07/16/2024	06/11/2026

Posted Vacancies

Position	Program	Posting Date	New Position (N) Replacement (R) On Hold (H)
Psychologist (on-hold)	Psych Services	February 2023	H
Client Services Specialist – Arenac Center (1) (on-hold)	Arenac Center	May 2024	H
ES/Access Mobile Response Team Clinical Supervisor (on-hold)	Primary Care	May 2025	H
Mental Health Nurse – Community-based (on-hold)	Psychiatric Services	December 2025	H
Clinical Specialist – Outpatient Therapist (1)	Primary Care	February 2023	N
Access/Emergency Services Specialist – Casual	Primary Care	May 2023	R
Psychiatrist	Psychiatric Services	June 2023	R
Residential Technician – Full-time 2 nd (1)	Specialty Care	April 2026	R
Accounting Manager	Finance	May 2026	R
Medical Assistant	Psychiatric Services	June 2026	R



CULTURAL COMPETENCY AND DIVERSITY PLAN

~~2025~~2026

APPROVALS

Strategic Leadership Team: 6/17/25

Board of Directors: 7/17/25

Contents

Statement of Purpose.....	2
Definitions	2
Population Diversity and Culture	3
Community Composition.....	3
Population Size and Age	3
Gender Identification, Expression and Identity.....	5
Race/Ethnicity.....	76
Board of Directors and Personnel	86
Board of Directors	86
Executive Leadership	87
Employees	87
Service Population.....	97
Population of Areas Served by Language	97
Comparison of Community, Personnel and Persons Served	108
Recruitment.....	119
Board of Directors	119
Leadership	1140
Staff Employed	1240
Training.....	1240
Clinical Services and Accommodations	1312
Therapeutic Interactions	1312
Culture/Ethnicity	1312
Age.....	1413
Gender and Sexual Identity/Expression	1513
Military Background	1614
Spiritual Beliefs	1615
Availability of Accommodations	1715
Clinical Documents	1816
Public Relations	1917
Quality Improvement	2018
References and/or Legal Authority	2118
Attachment.....	2220
BABHA Equal Employment Opportunity Report (EEO-1 Reports – EEO-1 By Location).....	Error! Bookmark not defined.20

Statement of Purpose

As an organization, Bay-Arenac Behavioral Health Authority (BABHA) acknowledges and values diversity from the perspective that every individual has his/her own cultural background/ ethnicity which contributes to the life of the community and serves to support the Agency's mission. It is the intent and purpose of BABHA to offer effective and accessible behavioral health services to all persons living in Bay and Arenac Counties by staff who demonstrate cultural competence, recognize diversity, and recognize the need for accommodations for service delivery when necessary. Furthermore, BABHA understands and supports the need to recruit and maintain staff, in leadership, management, direct service, and support service positions, who reflect the cultural backgrounds and diversity of the communities served.

BABHA recognizes the scope of diversity including, but not necessarily limited to culture, age, cognitive state, physical functioning, spiritual beliefs, economic status, gender identity/expression, ethnicity, language, or sexual orientation, all of which contribute to an individual's uniqueness¹. In addition, the Agency's geographical areas encompass both rural and urban settings.

BABHA is committed to understanding, appreciating, and respecting differences and similarities in beliefs, values, and practices within and between cultures. As part of this commitment BABHA recognizes the importance of addressing the implicit biases of the organization and its personnel, to continue to move the organization forward with recognizing and respecting diversity.

BABHA complies with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations to promote the delivery of services in a competent manner to all enrollees, including those with limited English proficiency, diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds, and special communication needs.

The BABHA Cultural Competency and Diversity Plan is reviewed by senior leadership and consumer advisory groups at least annually and updated as necessary.² The plan is reviewed by the Personnel and Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors and approved by the full Board on an annual basis.

Definitions

Accommodations: Internal or external resources used to provide individuals meaningful access to services at no cost to them. Examples include, but are not limited to voice interpreters, augmentative communication specialists, interpreter/translation services, etc.

Brochure: Booklets providing easy to read information regarding behavioral conditions or treatments.

Cultural Competence: Cultural competence is defined as a set of congruent behaviors, attitudes, beliefs, practices and procedures that come together in a system, agency, or among professionals, to enable that system, agency, or those professionals to work effectively in cross-cultural situations. The word culture implies the integrated patterns of human behavior that include thoughts, communications, actions, customs, beliefs, values, and institutions of racial, ethnic, religious, or social groups. The word competence implies having the capacity to function within the context of culturally integrated patterns of human behavior defined by the group.

¹ Medicaid Managed Specialty Supports and Services Concurrent 1915 (b)/(c) Waiver Program FY20, section 4.5 (Cultural Competence)

² CARF Standards, Section 1.A. Leadership; standard 5.c&d.

Diversity: Diversity is defined as differences due to cognitive or physical ability, culture, ethnicity, religion, economic status, gender, age, or sexual orientation.

Gender Expression: External appearance of one's gender identity, usually expressed through behavior, clothing, hair style or voice, which may or may not conform to socially defined behaviors and characteristics typically associated with being either masculine or feminine³.

Gender Identity: One's innermost concept of self as male, female, a blend of both or neither; how individuals perceive themselves and what they call themselves. Gender identity may be the same or different than a gender assigned at birth⁴.

Implicit Bias: Implicit biases are unconscious associations, beliefs, and/or attitudes that affect our actions, decisions and understanding.

Large Print: Per 42CFR438.10, standard font on print materials must be no smaller than 12-point font.

Limited English Proficiency (LEP): The inability to speak, read, write, or understand English at a level that permits effective interaction with health care providers.

Taglines: Standardized statements providing information about how to access translation services, presented in various languages; used with non-English speaking or LEP individuals to help them request appropriate translation assistance.

Population Diversity and Culture

Community Composition

The US Census Bureau Annual Population Estimates and the 2023~~35~~ Demographic Profile⁵ data for Arenac and Bay Counties provides the following profile of the more than 11~~5~~7,000 people living in the coverage area for BABHA. The Census Bureau has resumed publishing updated population estimates for all counties each year. The data in this plan reflects the most current statistics available from the Census Bureau.

Population Size and Age⁶

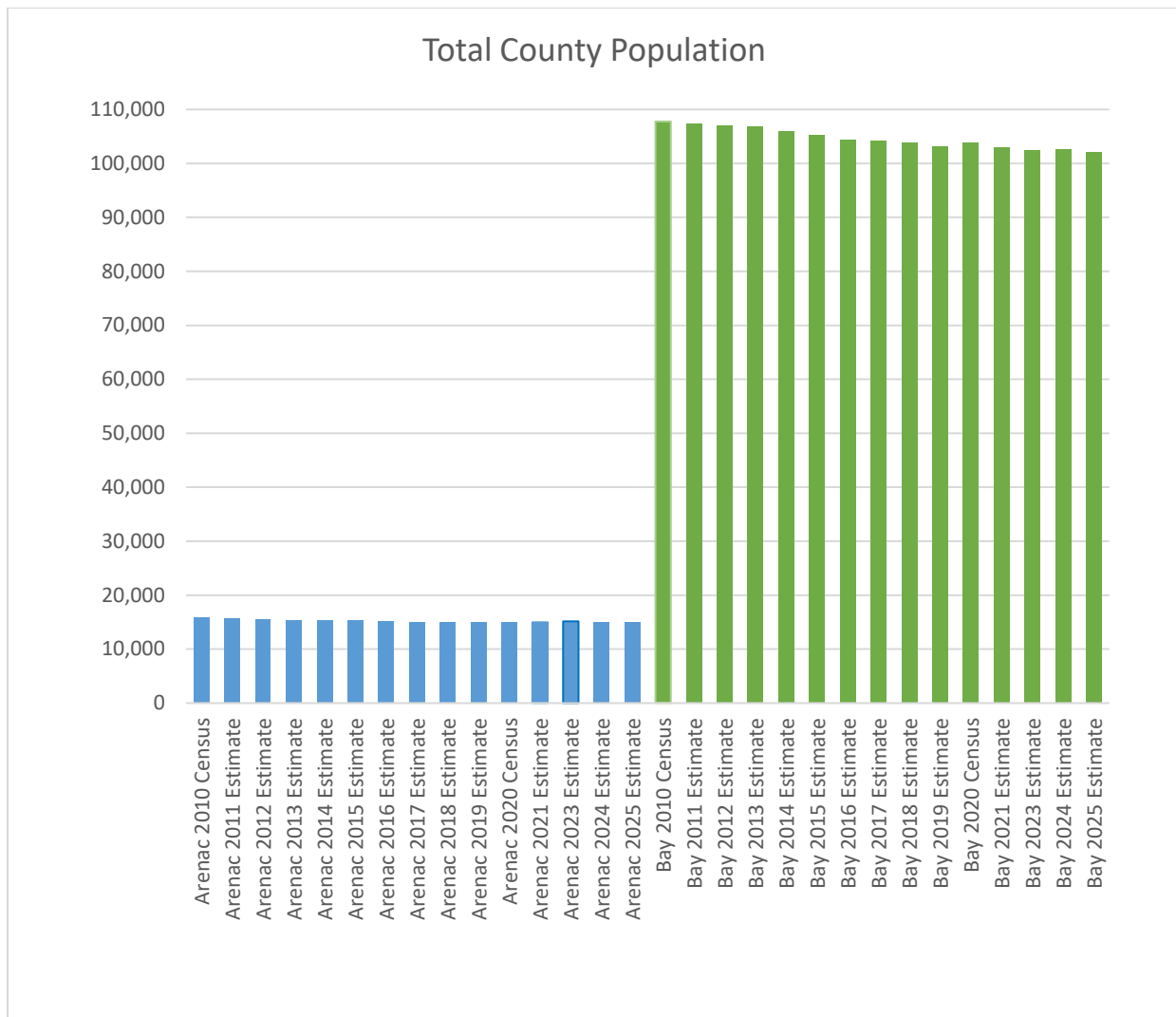
Over the past few years, the population for Arenac County has remained relatively flat, which is a change from the ~~The~~ downward trend in total population for Arenac County was experiencing. ~~continues; however~~ Bay County had a slight ~~decrease~~ rise in population over the past year. ~~Over the past four years, the median age in Arenac and Bay Counties has also remained flat. This is a variance for the~~ continues as previously the median age was rising-to rise, suggesting the populations in Arenac and Bay counties ~~will would~~ continue to decrease and as the population became are becoming older. However, as the median age has remained flat, so has the population.

³ Providing Inclusive Services and Care for LGBT People: A Guide for Health Care Staff; National LGBT Health Education Center

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ US Census Bureau: Quick Facts: Population Estimates; and American Community Survey: Annual Population Estimates

⁶ CARF Standards, Section 1.A. Leadership; standard 5.b(2)

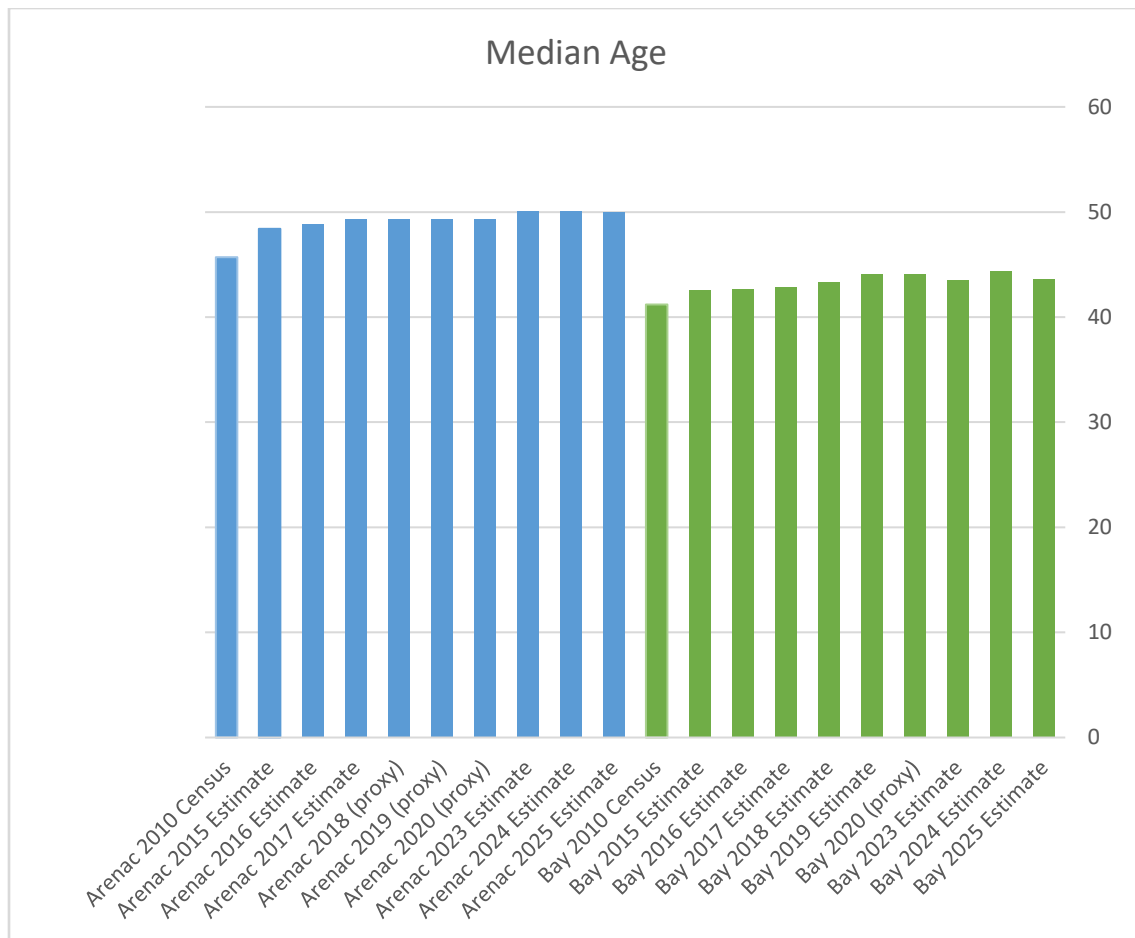


A World Health Organization article from October 18, 2024⁴⁵ states that the share of the population aged 60 years and older will increase from 1 billion in 2020 to 1.4 billion by 2030. By 2050, the world's population of people aged 60 years and older will double (2.1 billion). Between 2015 and 2050, the proportion of the world's population over 60 years will nearly double from 12% to 22%. Nearly 15% of adults age 50 and older have some type of mental health disorder.⁷ Given the nation's large aging population, the number of older adults with mental health disorders is expected to double by the year 2030. Approximately 14.1% of adults over age 67⁰ have a mental health condition, and older adults who have higher rates of depression and anxiety disorders. The Global Health Estimates 2021⁹ shows that globally, around a quarter-sixth of deaths from suicide (27.216.6%) are among people aged 67⁰ or over.⁸ The rate of suicide among older men is greater than the rate for older women.⁹ So cultural sensitivity and competency with older individuals is important to minimize barriers to treatment for people whose risk of poor health outcomes may be higher than other age groups.

⁷ National Institute of Mental Health. Mental Illness. Found on the internet at <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/statistics/mental-illness>

⁸ World Health Organization/Fact Sheets/Mental Health of Older Adults/2130 August 2025-October 2023

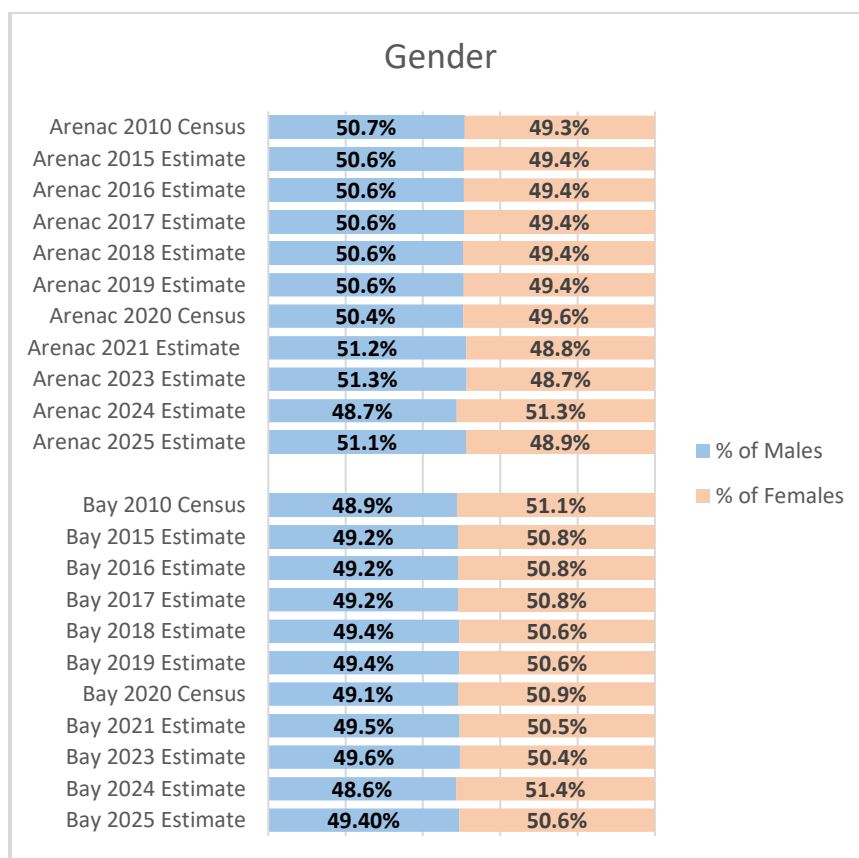
⁹ SAMHSA/Administration on Aging: Issue Brief 11: Older Americans Behavioral Health: Reaching Diverse Older Adult Populations and Engaging Them in Prevention Services and Early Interventions



Gender Identification, Expression and Identity¹⁰

Nominal change in the reported gender mix of the two counties has been noted.¹¹ Arenac County has shifted back to having ~~slightly more female residents than male~~ more male residents than female residents, ~~now matching the continued trend of~~ Bay County continues to have more female than male residents.

¹⁰ CARF Standards, Section 1.A. Leadership; standard 5.b(3) & (4).
¹¹ US Census Bureau; American Fact Finder: American Community Survey (ACS): Demographic and Housing Estimates



Beginning in July 2021, the US Census Bureau included questions regarding sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) on its Household Pulse Survey (HPS). According to an article by The Census Project¹² In January 2026, drastic changes occurred at the US Census Bureau and across the federal statistical system. Gender identity measures were removed from the relaunched version of the Household Pulse Survey (HPS), now known as Household Trends and Outlook Survey. As a result, we no longer have related data available for comparison purposes. According to the HPS, 8.0% of the respondents reported identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, and/or transgender and 4.2% reported in the “other” category. In Michigan, 7.1% adults over age 18 reported the identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgendered. The HPS reports that a larger share (38.2%) of LGBT respondents than non-LGBT respondents (16.1%) experienced depression for more than half of the days in the week. A higher share (21.3%) of LGBT respondents than non-LGBT respondents were Hispanic.¹³

Providing Inclusive Services and Care for LGBT[Q+] People: A Guide for Health Care Staff published by the National LGBT Health Education Center reports that people who identify as LGBT[Q+] are more likely to experience health issues due to the stigma and discrimination they experience including in health care settings. The Guide points to the following health disparities for people identifying as LGBT[Q+]:

- LGBT[Q+] youth are 2 to 3 times more likely to attempt suicide, and are more likely to be homeless (it is estimated that between 20% and 40% of all homeless youth are LGBT[Q+]);

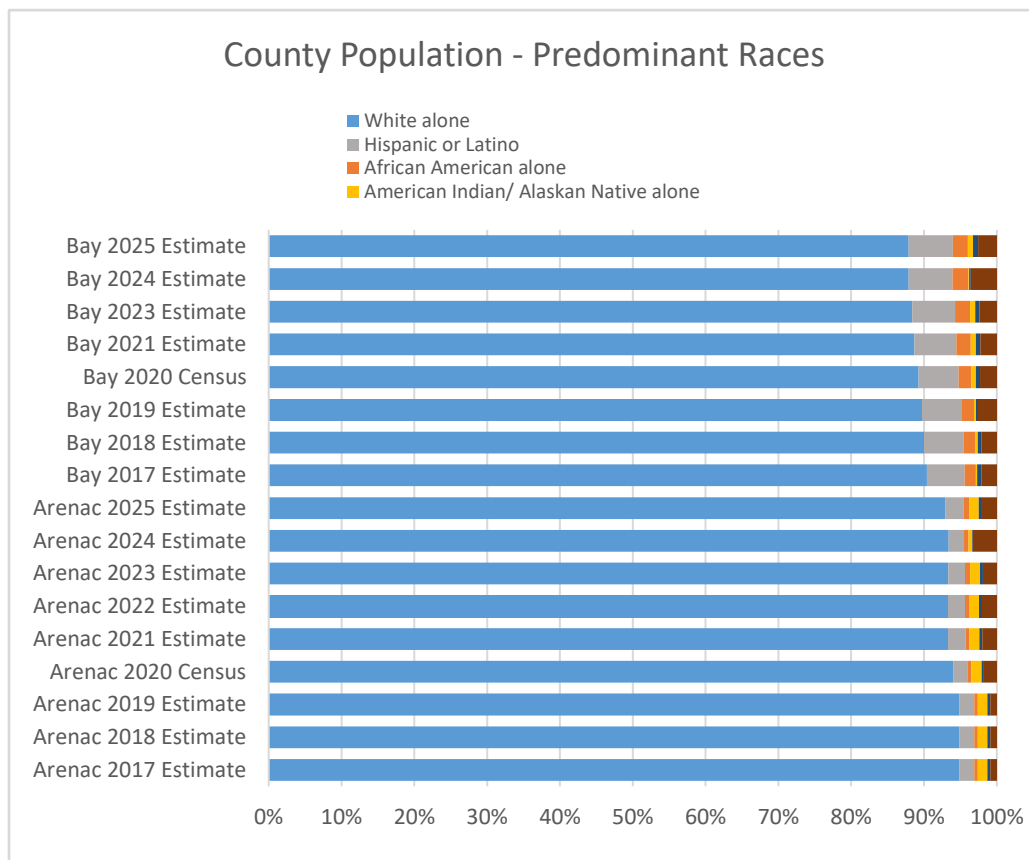
¹² The Census Project; STANDARD DEVIATIONS: LGBTQ Data at the Census Bureau: What’s Changed and Why It Matters 03/03/2026

¹³ Census Bureau; Household Pulse Survey; July 2021

- LGBT[Q+] people are much more likely to smoke than others; they also have higher rates of alcohol use, other drug use, depression, and anxiety;
- Transgender individuals experience a high prevalence of HIV and STDs, victimization, and suicide; and
- Elderly LGBT[Q+] individuals face additional barriers to health care because of isolation, diminished family supports, and reduced availability of social services.

Race/Ethnicity¹⁴

The racial backgrounds of residents of Arenac and Bay Counties continue to be primarily white/Caucasian, with a notable presence of people of Hispanic/Latinx origin, or who are Black and of African American descent. It appears more people in BABHA's catchment area are reporting a mixed racial background. This trend may not increase the need for interpretative services, but sensitivity to the increasing diversity of racial heritage among local populations is important to include in annual cultural competence training for BABHA staff, particularly regarding people of Hispanic/Latinx origin and who are black with African American ethnicities.



¹⁴ CARF Standards, Section 1.A. Leadership; standard 5.b(1)

Board of Directors and Personnel¹⁵

Board of Directors

The BABHA Board of Directors includes two representatives from Arenac County and ten from Bay County, based upon the relative population size of the counties. This is a 5-1 proportion which is slightly higher than the 7-1 population ratio between the counties based on the 2020 US Census. [Four](#) ~~Six~~ board members are primary consumers (i.e., individuals who use BABHA or similar services) or family members of primary consumers (i.e., secondary consumers).

White	Non-White	Female	Male	Primary or Secondary Consumer	Non-Consumer
100%	0%	42 50%	58 0%	33%	67%

Executive Leadership

Organizational leadership at the Chief/ Director Level includes the Chief Executive Officer; Chief Financial Officer; Director of Human Resources; Director of Healthcare Accountability; four Directors of Integrated Care; and the Medical Director.

White	Non-White	Female	Male
89%	11%	78%	22%

Employees

Bay-Arenac Behavioral Health Authority (BABHA) is an equal employment opportunity employer. It is the policy of BABHA to recruit and select the best-qualified persons for employment. Recruitment and selection is conducted in such a manner to ensure open competition, provide equal employment opportunity, and to prohibit discrimination because of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, height, weight, marital or familial status, mental or physical disability or genetic information, or such other classifications protected by law or regulatory/accrediting bodies. BABHA gives preference to qualified eligible veterans in the filling of vacant positions, in accordance with the requirements of Michigan and Federal law.

BABHA seeks to encourage diversity in background and expertise among its staff and external providers to offer those who receive services with meaningful options to assist with their recovery. However, BABHA hiring practices adhere to state and federal requirements for maintaining neutrality regarding race, sex and other protected classifications. Public employers in Michigan, which includes BABHA, are precluded from establishing quotas to meet representational requirements for employees.¹⁶

¹⁵ CARF Standards, Section 1.A. Leadership; standard, 5.a(2&3).

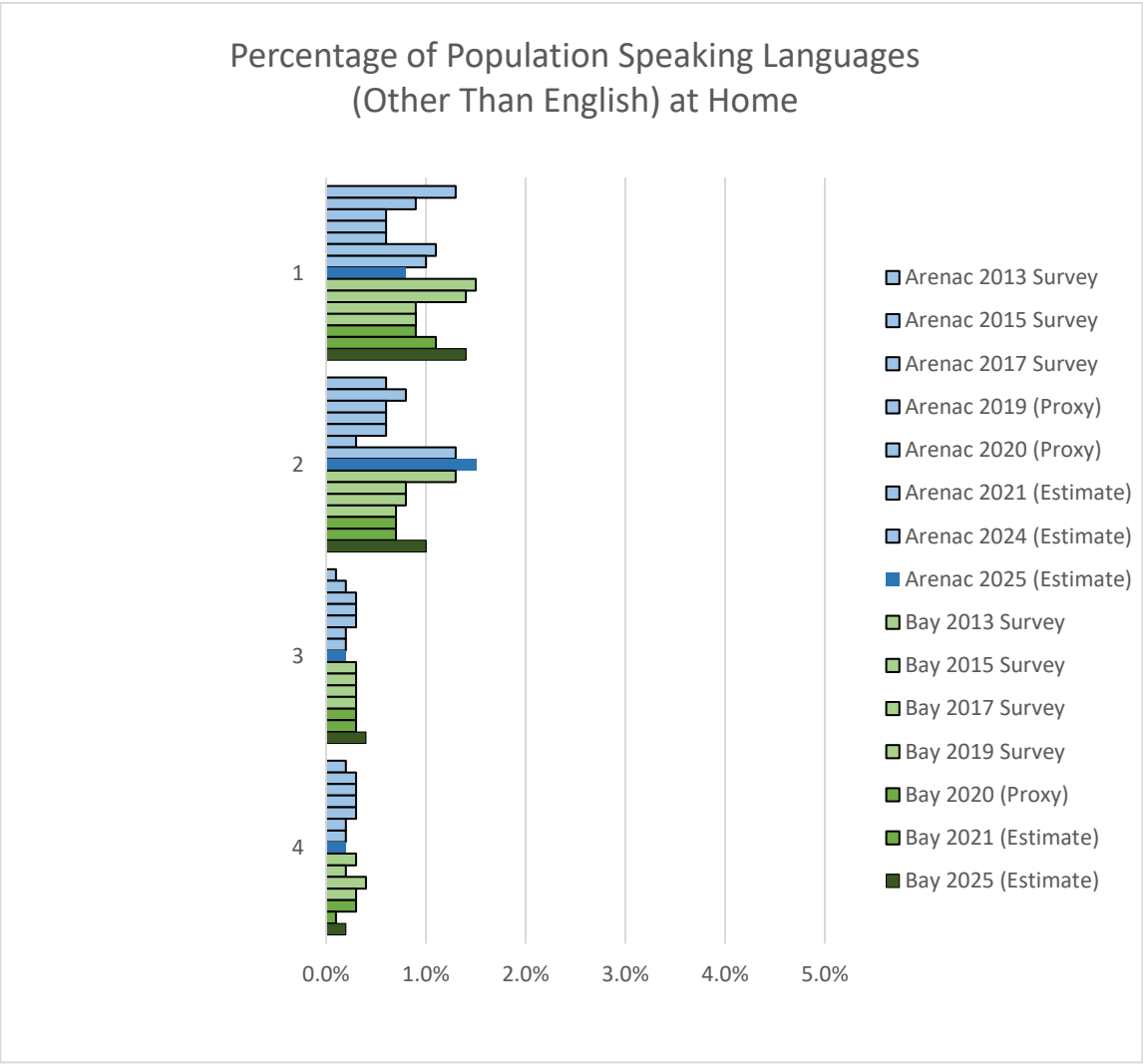
¹⁶ Michigan Constitution (Art. I, Sec. 26 Affirmative action programs.) indicates public employers may not utilize quotas or preferences in public employment; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act and the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment makes it unlawful for an employer (1) "to fail or refuse to hire or to discharge" any individual, or otherwise to racially discriminate against any individual "with respect to his compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment," or (2) "to limit, segregate, or classify," on grounds of race, "any employees or applicants for employment in any way which would deprive or tend to deprive any individual of employment opportunities or otherwise adversely affect his status as an employee . . ." 42 U.S.C. § 2000e-2(a). Courts have applied a strict scrutiny standard to invalidate non-remedial quotas, employment preferences, and other policies that require employers to take race into account in individualized employment actions. *Wygant v. Jackson Bd. of Ed.*, 476 U.S. 267 (1986).

Attached to this Plan Bay-Arenac Behavioral Health Authority’s Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO)-1 Report for calendar year 2024⁴⁵ showing the demographic mix of individuals employed by BABHA.

Service Population

Population of Areas Served by Language¹⁷

The United States Census shows the following Languages Spoken at Home population estimates for Arenac and Bay Counties.¹⁸ Less than 2% of the populations of Arenac and Bay Counties speak a language other than English. (Please note the US Census Bureau does not update this statistic every year for counties under a certain population size. Where data is not available for a given the most recent data published is carried forward as a proxy for the missing year.) The survey for 2024⁴⁵ has not been completed/updated for Bay County on the US Census, so the data for 2021 is the most updated.



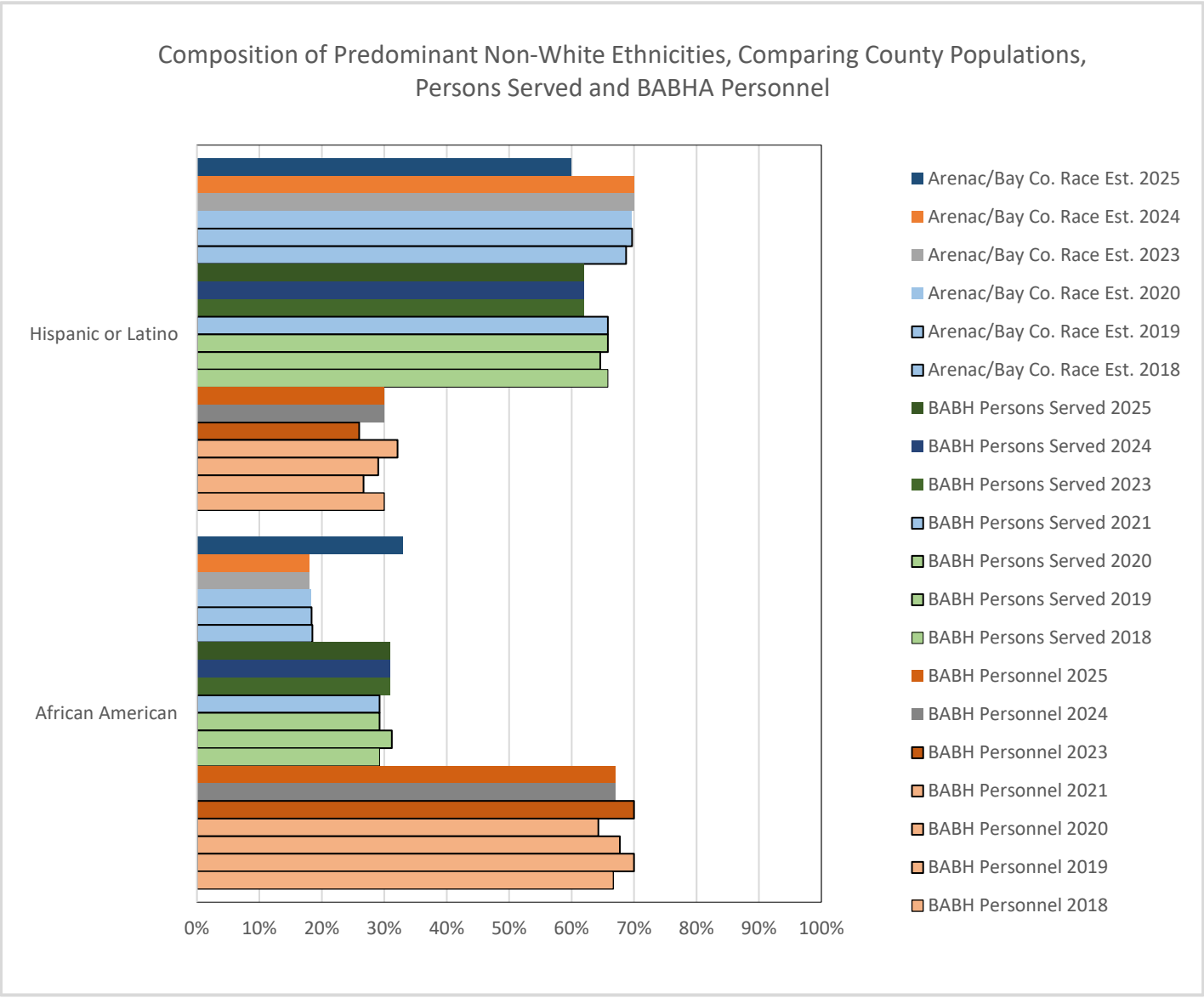
¹⁷ CARF Standards, Section 1.A. Leadership; standard,5. b (7)

¹⁸ United States Census: Quick Facts: Decennial Census: Language Spoken at Home; and American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates: Language Spoken at Home.

Comparison of Community, Personnel and Persons Served¹⁹

The ethnicity of persons served in Arenac and Bay Counties continues to be primarily white, which aligns with population statistics. The primary non-white ethnicities reported by people served by BABHA are of Hispanic/Latinx Origin, African American or Black, and Other Race. However, individuals reporting Asian ethnicities and membership in indigenous peoples are increasingly represented over time.

The graph below compares the key ethnic population groups in Arenac and Bay Counties from US Census population estimates as compared to the ethnicities of those who are obtaining services through BABHA, as well as the mix of personnel employed by BABHA:



BABHA serves proportionately more individuals of Hispanic or Latinx heritage than are represented among BABHA personnel. The trend continues to widen, and this disparity warrants consideration by BABHA leadership to ensure

¹⁹ CARF Standards, Section 1.A. Leadership; standard 5a.

adequate cultural competency among personnel for this population. Conversely, BABHA has more staff of African/American heritage than among persons served.

Although the population statistics are relatively low for the presence of indigenous peoples in Arenac and Bay counties, the central area of Michigan has an active tribal presence. The Saganing Tribe has tribal land in Arenac County and a small community of indigenous people. Since many indigenous people suffer from trauma, substance use disorders, mental health issues, homelessness, and poverty, even though the Saganing Tribe has its own health services, BABHA is cognizant of the need to engage with the Tribe to support its efforts²⁰.

Overall diversity will continue to be an area of attention for BABHA leadership, but BABHA practices must continue to adhere to state and federal requirements for maintaining neutrality regarding protected classifications.

Recruitment²¹

Board of Directors

BABHA abides by the Michigan Mental Health Code and the local processes utilized by the Bay County Board of Commissioners and the Arenac County Board of Commissioners for the selection of Board members. The Arenac and Bay Boards of Commissioners appoint individuals to the BABHA Board of Directors according to the terms and qualifications specified in state law. The Chief Executive Officer of BABHA and/or designee, and the chairperson, or his/her designee, of the Bay and Arenac County Board of Commissioners communicate on at least an annual basis each January or February, or in the event of an unexpected vacancy, prior to formal appointment to coordinate this process. In addition, both counties have also publicized vacancies on local websites and/or press releases.

To increase community awareness of pending Board vacancies (and to increase the potential for more diversity among applicants) BABHA may inform staff and the community via:

- Interoffice e-mail and through community e-mail distribution list
- Internal staff meetings, consumer advisory council meetings, and meetings with our provider community
- Public service announcements and reports to county government
- BABHA Intranet [and social media presence](#)

Leadership

As warranted, BABHA utilizes expanded search methods for key leadership positions as they become available in order to reach the most qualified and culturally diverse applicant pool. This expanded search may include:

- Advertising in large metropolitan locations within the state of Michigan and outside of Michigan (as needed) based on the level of expertise required
- Engagement of a professional recruitment firm
- Advertising on web-based recruitment sites
- Advertising in identified trade journals or other non-traditional publications/websites
- Advertising with trade associations specific to position sought

While BABHA values diversity and makes every effort to recruit staff in all levels of the Agency that is representative of the community served, the ultimate hiring decision will be based on hiring the best qualified person for the position.

²⁰ SAMHSA: Culturally Competent Treatment of Native Americans

²¹ CARF Standards, Section 1.A. Leadership; standard 5a (2&3).

Staff Employed

BABHA hiring practices strive to ensure that staff reflect the cultural diversity of the community and maintain high standards for education and competence for new hires. BABHA will hire the best-qualified candidates and will monitor the diversity of its service areas through various methods of community assessment, such as: census data, staff demographics, utilization data from the files of individuals enrolled in services, and data from community agencies, and community organizations.

Methods to recruit will include (but are not limited to):

- A regular cycle of advertising on popular web-based recruitment sites, University and trade associations, job boards, ~~and Michigan Talent Bank~~
- Employment ads which may target both mid-sized and larger metropolitan areas; recruitment fairs at area universities and/or trade associations to recruit from a diverse pool of potential applicants for all positions.

Action Step 1: Explore forums to recruit a more diverse group of employees focusing on Hispanic sources and utilize in our efforts to increase, stabilize, and maintain adequate staffing and representative of our communities.
Person/Group Responsible and Target Dates: Director of Human Resources: Jennifer Lasceski by 9/2025 6

Training:

The Staff Development Center, as part of the Human Resources Department, has developed standards for cultural competence and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) training for all staff. In addition, BABHA maintains a Training Plan that is reviewed and revised on a bi-annual basis.

New staff receive training on cultural competence and LEP policies and procedures during orientation. Annually, all staff receive updated training on cultural competence. BABHA updates the training content from year to year to address a different aspect of culture, with the core information and definitions remaining the same from year to year. In 2022 a resource folder was created to maintain materials that have been used in previous years to enhance the Cultural Competence and LEP training. There are professional articles, PowerPoints, videos, etc. that may be helpful with clinical practice. BABHA staff continue to receive online training by completing a course entitled “Overcoming Your Own Unconscious Bias” and this course is completed as part of the New Employee Orientation Curriculum.

BABHA convened a specialized two-part training event in 2022. The part-one training was titled “Implicit Bias” focusing on understanding implicit bias and the impact it has on individuals, communities, organizations, and systems. Part two of the training was titled “Beyond Implicit Bias” addressing engagement in self-exploration and application. This was particularly helpful for all staff as nearly all licensed health care professionals in Michigan are required to receive implicit bias training for their next renewals. BABHA provides information regarding training opportunities on Implicit Bias through Relias Learning and community resources. BABHA will also approach the Saganing Tribe to see if they have training resources to increase staff understanding of local Indigenous Peoples.

In addition, staff are educated regarding LEP-related policies and procedures as they are created or revised. BABHA maintains documentation of training that includes the staff person’s name and the dates of training. The components of the training include:

- An overview of the LEP policies and procedures
- An overview of cultural competency policies and procedures
- Overall awareness of cultural competency and diversity issues, including but not limited to: ethnic/racial backgrounds, gender expression and identity, culture, sexual orientation, age, socioeconomic/education status, physical capacity, spiritual/religious beliefs, regional perspectives, and multi-cultural influences.

The goal of training is to ensure that staff have the understanding and skills to work effectively in cross-cultural situations and with people who have LEP, enhance the ability of staff to comprehend and incorporate the cultural diversity of the community in which services are provided, and to provide services in the most effective and meaningful manner possible to meet the needs of the people we serve. As a result, training is:

- Supported by BABHA and its Board of Directors
- Reflective of the culture and diversity in the community and within BABHA
- Reflective of staff-identified training needs
- Provided annually during Staff Development Days

Cultural competence and LEP are measured by (not an inclusive listing):

- Post-testing during Staff Development Days
- Responses on consumer satisfaction surveys
- Results of consumer focus groups or dialogues with consumer advisory councils

Language is included in employee job descriptions addressing sensitivity to trauma and maintaining a focus on individual recovery. Both principles are congruent with a culturally sensitive approach to service delivery.

Clinical Services and Accommodations

Therapeutic Interactions

Through its training efforts, BABHA expects all personnel to demonstrate sensitivity and consciousness of their own assumptions and potential bias in their interactions with the individuals we serve. The following are additional considerations for therapeutic interactions with selected sub-populations:

Culture/Ethnicity²²

BABHA's preferred language when addressing the needs of groups of people with different culture backgrounds or ethnicities (unless otherwise specified by persons served or the local community), will be African American or Black, Indigenous Peoples (for people of Native American, Alaskan, Hawaiian and other ancestral heritages), Hispanic/Latinx, Asian, White and Other Races. BABHA will seek to use these terms when population level descriptors are necessary for website materials and other documents. However, BABHA may need to use other terms to avoid mis-representing data from source materials such as US Census Bureau population statistics and MDHHS-defined demographic categories for persons served.

Awareness of potential cultural differences between staff or people served who are Hispanic/Latinx origin and/or Black and those who are not is important given the demographics of Arenac and Bay Counties. Although both population groups represent individuals with diverse backgrounds, the following expectations may be present:

²² CARF Standards, Section 1.A. Leadership; standard, 5.b(1)

For Individuals of Hispanic or Latinx Heritage²³:

- Appropriate deference toward others based on age, economic status; not disrespecting males by challenging traditional masculine roles.
- That the relationship is formal at least at first; and the counselor will be seen as an authority figure and should be appropriately dressed.
- That earning trust takes time, and that once developed, the counselor may be treated as family, which may warrant extra monitoring of professional boundaries.
- Respecting pride of self, family, and nationality.
- ~~That~~ Understanding religious or spiritual beliefs are important and can have an influence on mental health.

For Individuals Who are Black and/or of African American Heritage²⁴:

- Avoiding misinterpretation of differences in self-expression; studies report instances of over-treatment due to miscommunications during assessment of service needs and symptoms.
- Respecting the importance of spirituality as a source of comfort, coping and support.
- Understanding that private and family concerns may not be shared readily with an outside person such as a counselor and that trust must be earned.
- Respecting generational authority and the influence of the family on personal decision making.
- Not assuming an understanding of the social realities of the person's life experiences.

For Individuals Who are members of Indigenous Populations²⁵:

- Be particularly sensitive to the presence of multi-generational trauma.²⁶
- Consider the value of traditional (versus Western) practices such as talking circles, storytelling, and spiritual guidance.
- Take a holistic approach to mental health interventions.

~~The trainings~~ BABHA is planning to explore trainings regarding on how to define treatment interventions for families/ individuals and the use of multicultural treatment planning strategies should assist staff with maximizing their competencies in the above areas. Training on Implicit Bias has been incorporated into the annual training requirements for all staff. In addition, licensed master's level social workers are required to complete extra training.

Age²⁷

BABHA encourages staff to consider the following strategies to increase engagement when working with older adults:

- Using nonjudgmental motivational approaches and avoiding stigmatizing terms.
- Empowering decision-making; not discounting ability due to age, physical health or living situation.
- Not assuming a frame of reference for the experience of counseling.

²³ Moitinho, E., Garzon, F., Freyre, F., & Davila, Z. (2015, September). Best Practices for Counseling Hispanic/Latino Clients. Presentation at the American Association of Christian Counseling World Conference, Nashville, TN.

²⁴ Josepha Campinha-Bacote, PhD, MAR, PMHCNS- BC, CTN, FAAN, Urologic Nursing, January-February 2009; A Culturally Competent Model of Care for African Americans.

²⁵ SAMHSA: Culturally Competent Treatment of Native Americans

²⁶ Expanding the Circle: Decreasing American Indian Mental Health Disparities Through Culturally Competent Teaching About American Indian Mental Health; Mays, et.al, 2009, NIH Public Access Author Manuscript

²⁷ CARF Standards, Section 1.A. Leadership; standard 5.b(2).

- Working with older adults in the setting they prefer (e.g., primary care, senior center, home).²⁸

In both Bay and Arenac counties, BABHA provides Senior Outreach services, which is an outpatient therapy services provided in the home for individuals who are over the age of 62 and who have difficulty attending community-based appointments. The current utilization pattern of the Senior Outreach program is ~~75~~94% Bay County and ~~25~~6% Arenac County. BABHA also provides Nursing Home monitoring, for individuals admitted to a long-term care nursing facility and who have been diagnosed with a serious mental illness. Nursing Home monitoring is provided by a case manager, and the level of monitoring is determined by the individual, the case manager, and the nursing facility. These services are identified via the OBRA assessment process and approved by MDHHS OBRA department.

Gender and Sexual Identity/Expression²⁹

When working with individuals Identifying as LGBTQ+, staff may want to consider the following practices³⁰:

- Use the terms that people use to describe themselves and their partners.
- Do not use words that assume people have an opposite sex partner or spouse, or that they have two opposite sex parents.
- Avoid using pronouns and terms that indicate a gender unless you are certain of the patient's gender identity and/or their preferred pronouns.
- When names or gender do not match insurance or medical records, ask, "Could your chart be under a different name?" Avoid asking a person what their "real" name is.
- Be aware that there are a wide range of sexual and gender identities and expressions, and that these can change over time. Some people do not have a fixed gender identity, and present as different genders on different days.
- Avoid showing disapproval or surprise, including through body language and facial expressions.

BABHA ~~has started engaging~~ continues to engage with community groups such as Great Lakes Bay Pride (GLBP), which is a LGBTQ+ advocacy group, and Parents & Friends of Lesbians, Gays, Bi-Sexual and Transgendered People (PFLAG), which is a referral source regarding how BABHA can increase its sensitivity. In addition, ~~Scott Ellis from~~ GLBP provided informational materials and a glossary specific to the LGBTQ+ community. BABHA will also explore inviting the group to conduct a review of BABHA sites and make recommendations for potential improvements such as the addition of signage that are readily identifiable as welcoming and engaged with this community. GLBP also has an MI Two Spirit and Indigiqueer Coalition to support LGBTQ+ indigenous people.

~~Action Step 1: BABH will complete a review of consumer handouts and brochures to check for gender neutral terminology. BABHA is shifting the terminology in its documents to use the gender-neutral term "Latinx" instead of "Latina" or "Latino" to remove non-gender-neutral terminology.~~

~~Person/Group Responsible and Target Date: Completed.~~

Action Step 2: The potential population of people identifying as LGBTQ+ and the behavioral health risk factors identified with this population, warrant attention by BABHA, as well as building/ensuring staff competency in this area. BABHA has reached out to an organization with expertise in the needs of people identifying as LGBTQ+. BABHA

²⁸ SAMHSA/Administration on Aging: Issue Brief 11: Older Americans Behavioral Health: Reaching Diverse Older Adult Populations and Engaging Them in Prevention Services and Early Interventions; page 3

²⁹ CARF Standards, Section 1.A. Leadership; standard 5.b(3&4).

³⁰ Providing Inclusive Services and Care for LGBT People: A Guide for Health Care Staff; National LGBT Health Education Center

will continue working with local organizations to assure our processes and practices support a competent and welcoming environment.

Person/Group Responsible and Target Date: SLT/ Ongoing

Chief Executive Officer and SLT: Will review the recommendations of the Organizational Assessment and develop next steps by 12/2026.

Director of Human Resources: To schedule the Assessment and facilitate the development of a workgroup to assist with the Organizational Assessment by 9/2026.

Military Background

The US Census Bureau indicates that 1,195 1,024 people residing in Arenac County and 6,218 people 7,621 in Bay County are veterans. Although perhaps not typically considered a cultural group, the various branches of the military have their own organizational cultures with strong behavioral norms and shared experiences. The potentially traumatic nature of these experiences is well-known to impact psychological and emotional well-being. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has increased its attention on the unique ~~need~~ needs of veterans in the past decade. Mid-State Health Network has a Veteran's Navigator to assist veterans with accessing resources including behavioral health treatment. In addition, Bay County has a dedicated Veteran's Affairs department and shares a Veteran's Navigator with Saginaw County. The Veteran's Navigator services are available to anyone in Bay or Arenac County (via MSHN) who are either a veteran or the immediate family member of a veteran. Increased sensitivity to the needs of this population will continue to be explored by BABHA and resources will be sought out to educate staff on when working with them.

Action Step 3: The potentially traumatic nature of these experiences, the impact on psychological and emotional well-being, and the prevalence of suicidal ideation and behavioral health risk factors warrant attention by BABHA, as well as building/ensuring staff competency in this area. BABHA will continue to support trainings with local organization with expertise in the needs of veterans population, as well as veteran/military cultural competence training.

Person/Group Responsible and Target Date: FY24: BABHA supported staff participation in a MSHN hosted training: Building Trust by Building Understandings: Military and Veteran Culture. This training occurred on July 31, 2024.

FY25: BABHA will continue to explore training opportunities related to Military and Veteran Culture.

FY26: BABHA will continue to explore other community resources for Veterans including the Bay County Veteran's Foundation and expanded links to the Saginaw VA Medical Center.

Spiritual Beliefs³¹

BABHA ~~is has a~~ commitment to clinical excellence and comprehensive care that embraces each individual's physical, spiritual, emotional, and social needs. BABHA trains staff ~~on in~~ topics such as the spiritual care of those we serve. Individuals who seek spiritual care come from many faith traditions and have a broad range of questions and concerns.

³¹ CARF Standards, Section 1.A. Leadership; standard 5.b (5).

BABHA will honor requests for printed, recorded, or visual material essential to or related to treatment by spiritual means. Treatment by spiritual means includes the rights of recipients and their legal representatives to refuse medications or other treatment on spiritual grounds that predate the current allegations of mental illness or disability, unless the legal representative or the provider has been empowered by a court to consent to or provide treatment or the recipient poses a risk of harm to self or others and treatment is essential to prevent physical injury. ~~Treatment by spiritual means includes the right of recipients and their legal representatives to refuse medication or other treatment on spiritual grounds that predate the current allegations of mental illness or disability. y, uUnless the person has a legal representative, or the provider has been empowered by a court to consent to or provide treatment and has done so. Or the a recipient poses a risk of harm to him to self self, herself, or others and treatment is essential to prevent physical injury.~~ BABHA will not honor requests for the use of mechanical devices or organic or chemical compounds that which are physically harmful, nor will it engage in any activity that is inconsistent with court ordered custody.

Availability of Accommodations

BABHA uses various means to ensure interpreter services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and able to be scheduled ahead of time or without notice. Interpreters are provided for those individuals who speak a language other than English, or for those with hearing impairments who use sign language to communicate upon request. Interpreter services are provided at no expense to persons served. Other accommodations BABHA ensures are available to individuals receiving services serves include augmentative communication specialists (those who specialize in supplemental or compensatoryional ways to communicate for those with severe expressive communication issues), voice interpreters, and interpreter/translation services, etc.

BABHA ensures that interpreters and bilingual staff can demonstrate bilingual proficiency, receive training that includes the skills and ethics of interpreting, and demonstrate knowledge, in both languages, of the terms and concepts relevant to clinical or non-clinical encounters.

Recipient Rights training is mandatory for all interpreters. Contracted interpreters sign an agreement regarding the confidentiality of treatment.

With the exception of an emergency, an interpreter is not allowed to be a family member of the person served and under no circumstances can an interpreter be a child. Family or friends are not considered adequate substitutes, in part because they usually lack these abilities; however, the basic premises of Person-Centered Planning prevail. If individuals ask that an adult family member or friend interpret for them, their desire must be honored, however, BABHA confirms that the family member is interpreting accurately. Health and safety issues may be a basis for refusing an individual's request for a family member to interpret.

The Consumer Handbook (Your Guide to Services) and BABHA Provider and primary informational written brochures (such as advance directive brochures, Recipient Rights posters, Customer Service posters, etc.) are available hard-copy at all sites and on the BABHA website [www.babha.org] for individuals served, their family members/legally responsible parties, staff/students/volunteers, and visitors:

- In understandable English at the sixth-grade reading level
- In Spanish (either written or verbally translated)
- Other languages as needed (either written or verbally translated)
- Verbally read or translated onto CDs or another electronic/virtual and easily accessible format for individuals with sight impairment or individuals with literacy limitations. The readings/translations are available in understandable English, Spanish, and other languages as needed/requested.

Taglines in tThe top 15 languages spoken in Michigan are have 'taglines' posted at BABHA sites open to the public to ~~that~~ inform individuals with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) about of the availability of language assistance services. The taglines are also included in the local choice provider directory, in and other materials as required by the PIHP-CMHSP contract, and on the BABHA website.

- Phone interpreter services for nearly all languages spoken in North America are is available ~~on a 24 hour~~ hours a day, /7 days a week basis through a contracted service, Voices for Health.
- Michigan Relay or TTY, or similar adaptive devices are is available for callers with hearing impairments.
- Face-to-Face interpreter services for nearly all languages (including sign language) are available 24 hours a day, /7 days a week. BABHA Customer Service staff provide necessary resources for persons with LEP requesting services.
- Support and Emergency Services staff utilize BABHA resources when needing accommodations for services are needed.

Physical access to clinical services is guided by specifications set forth by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Leader dogs and certified service animals are permitted at have access to all clinic sites with their owners. BABHA has private bathrooms at most sites for individuals people who may desire accommodation, such as those a person who prefers a gender-neutral bathroom. BABHA will continue to monitor and evaluate the potential need for additional private bathrooms.

Clinical Documents

The electronic health record used by BABHA, called 'Phoenix', includes a field in the consumer demographics section that captures each person's primary language, their communication preference and whether an interpreter is needed. Information regarding vision and hearing challenges, as well as adaptive and assistive devices used, is collected during the access screening and eligibility determination process and updated no less than annually.

Forms requiring the signature of the person receiving services (consent to treatment, release of information, ability to pay, etc.) and other vital documents (anything to which individuals must respond) are in language that is understandable to them or are read to them by an interpreter. For BABHA, the most likely translation need is English to Spanish.

All informational materials are provided in a manner and format that is easily understood and written at the reading level required by the State of Michigan, unless state or federal requirements dictate specific language or terms be used. It is understood that some necessary information, such as diagnosis, medication and conditions, may not meet this criterion.

Clinical assessments clearly identify an individual's strengths, needs, abilities, and preferences including but not limited to: religious/spiritual considerations, veteran status, educational status, socioeconomic needs, language used, gender identity and expression, and the cultural impact of treatment.

Although BABHA is limited in its reporting of gender by state and federal data definitions and must use only legal names of persons served for purposes of state reporting, the clinical record includes a field for reporting a preferred name, which can accommodate non-legal name changes during gender transitions. Previously, Ddemographic, guardian/parent and contact information fields are configured to support the collection of contact information for same sex parents and partners. Fields were recently also added to collect information about Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation, assuming the person served chooses to share this information. The gender field was also changed to Gender Assigned at Birth. The clinical assessment includes sections to address gender, sexual orientation and gender expression, as well as cultural, spiritual and religious considerations. However, MDHHS is in the process of transitioning

[the mental health reporting component of their system from BH-TEDS \(Behavioral Health Treatment Episode Data Set\) to MHCLD \(Mental Health Client Level Data\) and with that change BABHA Leadership will have to determine what data elements that were established in the BH-TEDS will continue to be collected in Phoenix that are no longer being reported to MDHHS through the MHCLD.](#)

[Action Step 1: BABHA will determine what data elements will continue to be collected in Phoenix that are no longer required for state reporting.](#)

[Person/Group Responsible and Target Date: SLT, Extended SLT, Leadership by September 30, 2026.](#)

Person-Centered developed Individual/Family Plans of Service (POS) will reflect individual strengths, needs, abilities and preferences in treatment goals, objectives, and interventions. Service plans will also be developed consistent with principles of self-determination, recovery and trauma-informed care. This will ensure the plan developed is consistent with the preferences of the person receiving services including familial, cultural, gender, spiritual and socio-emotional considerations.

Public Relations

Our agency shares Mental Health related materials as available through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the Community Mental Health Association of Michigan, the National Association of County Behavioral Health Directors, the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, the National Council for Mental Wellbeing and other advocacy and behavioral health organizations. We periodically forward information to local media outlets on mental health and anti-stigma topics on a regular basis or respond to request for information.

BABHA uses our current website, www.babha.org, and our Facebook page as a tool to relay information to all stakeholders. Our website includes information in written format that explains our services, outlines state and local resources, advocacy organizations, information on disabilities, and explanations on best practices. The website is updated with on-going community information, as well as information related to the services that are available to individuals within the counties we serve. Our Facebook page includes more current information for those who are connected to social media and includes information on legislation, events, and anti-stigma messages.

[Action Step 1: BABHA will explore options available through web designers to ensure our BABHA website meets Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act – Digital Accessibility which requires web content is perceivable, operable, understandable, and robust \(POUR principles\), typically requiring compliance with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\) 2.1 Level AA.](#)

[Person/Group Responsible and Target Date: IS Department by July 31, 2026.](#)

[Action Step 2: BABHA will complete a review of the contents of the BABHA website are updated and assign appropriate designees to review content routinely to ensure content is current, user-friendly, and accurate for all stakeholders.](#)

[Person/Group Responsible and Target Date: Strategic Leadership Team by September 30, 2026.](#)

[Action Step 3: BABHA will evaluate and implement strategies to maintain accessible, up-to-date brochures \(electronic and paper versions\) as well as resource materials that support individuals served and their families in understanding diagnoses, treatment options, and available community services.](#)

[Person/Group Responsible and Target Date: Strategic Leadership Team and IS Department by 09/30/2026](#)

Brochures (and any other materials deemed appropriate,) are distributed upon request and will be available on the BABHA website. ~~to and maintained at the following (not an inclusive list):~~

~~Community and Senior Centers, through the Division on Aging~~

- ~~▪—Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)~~
- ~~▪—Social Security Administration~~
- ~~▪—Community Health Fairs and other related events~~
- ~~▪—Physicians' offices/groups~~
- ~~▪—Schools~~
- ~~▪—Early childhood programs~~
- ~~▪—Law Enforcement Agencies and Court Programs~~
- ~~▪—Community agencies providing resources for basic needs items and other relevant community-based organizations through the Bay County Prevention Network, Bay Human Services Collaborative Council, and Arenac Human Services Multi-Purpose Collaborative Body~~

BABHA staff are involved in collaborative efforts (as appropriate) with community resources such as: Department of Human Services, Bay County Public Health, Great Lakes Bay Health Center, Social Security, community groups, churches, clubs, etc. These have expanded in recent years in response to the nationwide opioid epidemic to include Families Against Narcotics, Hope versus Handcuffs and other recovery-based initiatives to support the community. A listing of community organizational relationships is attached to the BABHA Strategic Plan each year.

BABHA will also identify opportunities to continue to strengthen relationships with community organizations representing the interests of diverse groups such as people of Hispanic/Latinx origin and Indigenous populations. BABHA reached out to the local Saganing Tribe in 2022 as an introduction and provided contact information for any consultative services that may assist their members in the area.

Action Step 4: BABHA will continue to pursue memorandums of understanding with community organizations representing the interests of diverse groups such as people of Hispanic/Latinx origin and Indigenous populations, such as the Saganing Tribe.

Person/Group Responsible and Target Date: Chief Executive Officer; December 2025

Quality Improvement:

BABHA will support the effectiveness of its cultural competency, diversity, and language proficiency efforts through:

- Periodic evaluation through on-site reviews of the current cultural and linguistic competencies of service providers to make sure they accurately reflect the diversity of service areas to ensure they are accurately and adequately meeting cultural expectation standards
 - Standards include, but not limited to: demonstrating an ongoing commitment to linguistic and cultural competence that ensures access and meaningful participation for all people in the service area; includes acceptance and respect for the cultural values, beliefs, and practices in the community; demonstrates the ability to apply an understanding of the relationships of language and culture to the delivery of supports and services

- Annual monitoring for outcomes, including information on consumer grievances related to LEP, cultural competency, and Recipient Rights concerns
- Monitoring, on an ongoing basis, ways to improve the cultural competence of staff and stakeholders through survey results, training opportunities, feedback from community presentations, and collaboration with community workgroups and/or committees
- Monitoring, on an ongoing basis, the stakeholder suggestion box process which captures the concerns of persons served, staff, and stakeholders
- Utilizing feedback and suggestions from the agency's consumer councils
- Identification of barriers and other potential areas requiring action plans
- Consumer satisfaction surveys are used to assess agency performance and identify areas of strengths and development needs
- BABHA Primary Network Operations Quality Management Committee meets regularly to monitor, assess, and respond to issues noted in data monitoring, consumer satisfaction surveys and councils, standing committees, as well as those brought forth by stakeholders

References and/or Legal Authority

1. Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Medicaid Managed Specialty Supports and Services Concurrent 1915(b)/(c) Waiver program, Part II, Section 4.5
2. MDHHS/Community Mental Health Services Program (CMHSP) Managed Mental Health Supports and Services Contract, Part II, Section 3.3
3. Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Pub.L101-336
4. Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Section 1557.
5. Guidance Memorandum, January 29, 1998, Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination – Persons with Limited-English Proficiency
6. LEP Press Release, HHS News, US Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, 8/30/00
7. Federal Register, Volume 67, No. 115, part 438.206 – Availability of Services.
8. Policy Guidance, Title VI Prohibition against National Origin Discrimination as it Affects Persons with Limited English Proficiency
9. Mid-State Health Network Customer/Consumer Service and Information Accessibility/ Limited English Proficiency policies

BABHA Equal Employment Opportunity Reports (EEO-1 Reports - EEO-1 By Location)
as of 12/31/2025

Section D - EMPLOYMENT DATA															
Number of Employees															
Race/Ethnicity															
Job Categories	Hispanic or Latino		Not Hispanic or Latino												
			Male							Female					
	Male	Female	White	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	Asian	American Indian or Alaska Native	Two or more races	White	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	Asian	American Indian or Alaska Native	Two or more races	Total A-N
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	
1.1 Exec/Senr Officials & Mgr	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	9
1.2 First/Mid Officials & Mgr	0	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	23	0	0	0	0	0	30
2 Professionals	2	2	15	0	0	0	0	1	102	5	0	0	0	4	131
5 Admin Supp Workers	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	36	0	0	1	1	0	43
8 Laborers and Helpers	1	1	13	4	0	0	0	3	30	4	0	0	0	5	61
10 Total	3	7	37	5	0	0	0	4	198	9	0	1	1	9	274
11 Previous Reported Totals	2	7	40	6	0	0	0	2	205	14	0	1	0	9	286

1. Date(s) of Payroll period used 01/01/2025 Thru 12/31/2025

2. Does Establishment Employ Apprentices? Y

EARNED TIME OFF

22.1 Earned Time Off (ETO)

Earned Time Off (ETO) is provided to all eligible full-time employees of BABHA. ETO is a combined paid leave benefit to be utilized for vacation, and personal leave. (Please refer to the Section 22.11 Earned Sick Time Act for paid sick leave time.) Planned use of ETO is encouraged to assist employees with balancing work and home life. ETO is to be pre-approved by the supervisor whenever possible. The excessive use of unplanned ETO may impact an employee's ability to schedule vacations or take other planned time off.

22.2 Rate of Accrual

Full-time employees currently accrue Earned Time Off (ETO) at the following rate, provided, however, the employee's combination of hours worked and used banked ETO result in at least all scheduled hours being covered. Regular full-time employees working less than forty-(40) hours per week accrue ETO on a pro-rated basis provided, the employee's combination of hours worked and used banked ETO result in at least a pro-rated amount of paid days similar to that of a 40 hour a week employee. Eligible employees who were previously, but no longer, subject to a negotiated CBA shall accrue ETO at the following rate effective January 1, 2020 based on eligible years of service with BABH, as approved by the BABH Board of Directors.

Employees may be eligible to accrue ETO as follows:

First Year	160 hours (20 days)
Years 2-9	232 hours (29 days)
10 or more Years	264 hours (33 days)

22.3 Accumulation of ETO

Accumulation of ETO is limited; that is, the amount carried forward may not exceed eight hundred forty (840) hours. Hours above this amount will be forfeited and are not compensable.

When an employee's continuous length of service reaches a point entitling him/her to the next higher rate of ETO accrual, earning at the new ETO rate will begin with the payroll period that includes his/her date of employment.

Employees shall receive ETO on the basis of their normal work week and at the rate of pay prevailing at the time the ETO is taken.

The amount of ETO available for use is available to view in the time and attendance system.

22.4 Probationary Period

Probationary employees shall accrue ETO as outlined in "Rate of Accrual" above.

22.5 Temporary

Temporary employees shall not be entitled to ETO.

22.6 Separation

Currently, upon retirement, death, layoff, or voluntary resignation, eligible employees shall be compensated for any accrued ETO hours at the rate prevailing on the employee's last working day. Effective October 1, 2018, eligible employees will receive payout of 50% of accrued ETO at voluntary separation (non-retirement) as long as 30 day written notice of resignation is received. Eligible employees retiring under the terms and conditions of Bay-Arenac Behavioral Health and the Bay County Employees' Retirement System, layoff or death will receive 100% payout of accrued ETO. Payment of ETO upon voluntary resignation or retirement is further contingent upon the employee's return of all agency property issued to, or in the possession of the employee, including, but not limited to, keys, ID badge, computer equipment, cell phone, etc. ETO is not authorized once notice of resignation is made unless pre-approved prior to notice of resignation. Employees who are discharged are not eligible for payout of accrued ETO. Terminal ETO shall not be added to an employee's length of service.

Failure to return all agency issued property at the time of separation will be considered theft and will be reported to the local police department.

22.7 Holiday

If an observed holiday falls within an employee's ETO, it shall not be counted as an ETO day unless the employee was scheduled to work on a holiday.

22.8 Leave of Absence

ETO shall not accrue during periods of leave of absence.

22.9 ETO Schedules

ETO schedules for employees shall be developed and approved by his/her Supervisor. Each supervisor shall schedule ETO over as wide a period as possible in order to maintain required services. Employees are to seek written pre-approval from their immediate supervisor prior to scheduling time off. ETO may be taken in increments of one-quarter (1/4) hour with advance approval of the supervisor. (Banked ETO must be utilized prior to requesting leave without pay.) ETO requests are not guaranteed and may be denied based on program need and/or outstanding work assignments.

Employees who request leave without pay must submit their request, including reasons for the request, through the chain of command to the Chief Executive Officer for approval. Denial of the request and/or the use of leave without pay due to poor attendance will subject the employee to disciplinary action as referenced within this handbook.

22.10 Verification of Illness

- a) Eligible employees may utilize ETO due to illness if the employee has exhausted ESTA hours or does not have accrued ESTA available.
- b) In the absence of available ESTA, ETO may be used for injury or illness of an employee or a member of his/her immediate family that necessitates his/her absence from work. Immediate family is defined in the ESTA and FMLA sections of the Employee Handbook. ETO may also be utilized for appointments with doctors, dentists, or other recognized practitioners to the extent of time required to complete such appointments in the absence of available ESTA.
- c) Employees returning to work from an illness or leave of absence of more than three (3) days may be required by his/her department head to submit a statement from his/her physician qualifying his/her ability to work or to verify the illness.

22.11 Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA)

Effective February 21, 2025 all employees, including full-time, part-time, seasonal, and temporary workers are eligible to accrue paid sick time. Employees will accrue one (1) hour of paid sick, time for every 30 hours worked. Current employees may begin using their accrued paid sick time as it accrues. Employees hired after February 21, 2025 may not begin using their accrued sick time until the one hundred twentieth (120) calendar day after commencing their employment with BABH.

- a. Employees who are exempt from the overtime pay requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 USC 213(a)(1), are assumed to work forty (40) hours per week unless the employee's normal work week is less than forty (40) hours, in which case earned sick leave time accrues based upon that normal work week.
- b. When requesting the use of sick time, employees should provide sufficient information for the employer to determine whether the leave meets the eligible uses of the ESTA.
- c. Sick time can be used in increments of one-quarter (1/4) hour.
- d. Employees can use earned sick time for any of the following reasons:
 1. The employee's mental or physical illness, injury or health condition; medical diagnosis, care or treatment of the employee's mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition; or preventative medical care for the employee.
 2. For the employee's family member's mental or physical illness, injury, or health condition; medical diagnosis, care or treatment of the employee's family members' mental or physical illness, injury or health condition; or preventive medical care for a family member of the employee.
 3. If the employee or the employee's family member is a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault, for medical care or psychological or other counseling for physical or psychological injury or disability; to obtain services from a victim services organization; to relocate due to domestic violence or sexual assault; to obtain legal services; or to participate in any civil or criminal proceedings related to or resulting from the domestic violence or sexual assault.
 4. For meetings at a child's school or place of care related to the child's health or disability, or the effects of domestic violence or sexual assault on the child; or
 5. For the closure of the employee's place of business by order of a public official due to a public health emergency; for an employee's need to care for a child whose school or place of care has been closed by order of a public official due to a public health emergency; or when it has been determined by the health authorities having jurisdiction or by a health care provider that the employee's or employee's family member's presence in the community would jeopardize the health of others because of the employee's or family member's exposure to a communicable disease, whether or not the employee or family member has actually contracted the communicable disease.

- e. For the purposes of this policy, “family member” includes all the following:
 - 1. Biological, adopted or foster child, stepchild, or legal ward, a child of a domestic partner, or a child to whom the employee stands in loco parentis.
 - 2. Biological parent, foster parent, stepparent, or adoptive parent or a legal guardian of an employee or an employee’s spouse or domestic partner or a person who stood in loco parentis when the employee was a minor child.
 - 3. A person to whom the employee is legally married under the laws of any state or a domestic partner.
 - 4. A grand parent.
 - 5. A grandchild.
 - 6. A biological, foster or adopted sibling.
 - 7. Any other individual related by blood or affinity whose close association with the employee is the equivalent of a family relationship.
- f. For earned sick leave of more than three consecutive days, the employer may require reasonable documentation that the earned sick leave has been used for a permissible purpose. Upon request, the employee must provide this documentation within fifteen (15) days of the request.
 - 1. Employer required documentation should not include a description of the illness or details of the violence.
 - a. Documentation signed by a health care professional indicating that earned sick time is necessary is reasonable documentation for purposes of this subsection. Documentation providing details of the nature of the illness is not required.
 - b. In cases of domestic violence or sexual assault, one of the following types of documentation selected by the employee shall be considered reasonable documentation:
 - i. a police report indicating that the employee or the employee’s family member was a victim of domestic violence or sexual assault;
 - ii. a signed statement from a victim and witness advocate affirming that the employee or employee’s family member is receiving services from a victim services organization; or
 - iii. a court document indicating that the employee or employee’s family member is involved in legal action related to domestic violence or sexual assault.
 - 2. If the employer requires documentation, the employer is responsible for paying

all out-of-pocket expenses the employee incurs in obtaining the documentation.

3. Commencement of use of sick time will not be delayed while awaiting documentation.
 - e. A maximum of 72 hours of unused, accrued paid sick time will be carried over into the next benefit year without a maximum. In addition, only a maximum of 72 hours of accrued sick time can be used in a calendar year (January 1st – December 31st). Sick time will be paid at the employee's regular rate of pay. If any employee is paid for sick leave which is subsequently denied, the overpayment may, as permitted by law, be deducted from the employee's next paycheck and/or future paychecks.
 - f. All unused, accrued sick time will be forfeited at the time of separation (unless the employee is reinstated within 2 months).
 - g. The use of paid sick leave must be approved by the employee's supervisor. Employees are asked to provide notice no more than 7 days in advance but no less than one hour before your scheduled start time, if they are aware of the need to use sick time if the absence is foreseeable. If the need for sick time is not foreseeable, notification should occur as soon as reasonably practicable. If the employee's absence due to illness or injury exceeds the amount of accrued paid sick leave, the employee must seek and obtain approval for other leave such as Family Medical Leave or ETO.
 - h. Employees will not be penalized or retaliated against in any way for requesting or using accrued paid sick time for the purposes designated above. Retaliatory actions against an employee for requesting or using paid sick leave time is prohibited. If an employee believes that the Employer has violated this Policy, that employee may file a complaint with the Labor and Economic Opportunity.

August 2026

BABHA Board of Directors

August 2026							September 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
30	31												

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jul 26	27	28	29	30	31	Aug 1
2	3	4	5 5:00pm Special Facilities & Safety Committee	6 5:00pm Corporate Compliance Committee	7	8
9	10 5:00pm Recipient Rights Advisory & Appeals Committee	11	12 5:00pm Finance Committee	13 5:00pm Program Committee	14	15
16	17 5:00pm Audit Committee	18	19	20 5:00pm REGULAR BOARD MEETING (Arenac Center, 1000 W. Cedar Street,	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	Sep 1	2	3	4	5

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September 2026

BABHA Board of Directors

September 2026							October 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
6	7	1	2	3	4	5	4	5	6	7	1	2	3
13	14	8	9	10	11	12	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
20	21	15	16	17	18	19	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
27	28	22	23	24	25	26	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Aug 30	31	Sep 1	2	3 5:00pm Facilities & Safety Committee	4	5
6	7 Labor Day/BABH Offices Closed 5:00pm Recipient Rights Advisory & Appeals Committee	8	9 5:00pm Finance Committee	10 5:00pm Program Committee	11	12
13	14 5:00pm Audit Committee	15	16	17 5:00pm REGULAR BOARD MEETING	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	Oct 1	2	3

