



LBHC Membership Eligibility Criteria and Application

Members are organizations and/or corporations, and their designated representatives, interested in the provision of behavioral health care and human services. Organizations interested in becoming a member of the Latino Behavioral Health Coalition shall:

- Represent a local, state, constituency and/or possess a national focus/outlook
- Interest and ability to support and promote policy decisions made by the Coalition amongst its membership/constituency
- Have recognized leadership, commitment and/or focused interest in behavioral health care and human services.

Five organizations founded and have traditionally sustained LBHC. In addition to contributing significant dues (usually a minimum of \$1,500 annually in dues), representatives of these organizations have had seats on the corporate Board of Directors. Beginning from the adoption of these policies, however, Board service will not automatically go to specific founding organizations. Instead, board members will be elected by the Board of Directors according to their willingness and ability to serve and commitment to LBHC's mission. The process for nominating members to the Board of Directors is described below.

Organizations interested in joining the Coalition do so by contacting the Executive Director and the Board of Directors considers membership by a case-by-case basis. Prospective members should make initial contact with Co-Chair of the Coalition at info@lbhcphila.org. A written request from the chief elected officer or staff officer of the prospective member organization and approved by the appropriate governing body (board or executive committee) shall be submitted to the Chair(s) of the Coalition. Approval by the Board is required for acceptance.

All Members have one organizational vote on all matters before the Coalition. All Member Organizations are invited to appoint representatives to serve on standing Workgroups (Advocacy, Communications and Quality), which also meet monthly, or bi-monthly.

Membership Dues

Membership dues are necessary in order to pay for the ongoing fixed and discretionary costs of the Coalition, a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization incorporated in Pennsylvania. Fixed costs include:

- Professional/administrative costs of running a non-profit, staff salaries of the Executive Director and the Coalition Manager and potentially others as needed, staff travel, accounting fees, insurance, conference calls, website updating and maintenance, and any other expenses approved by the Board.
- Coalition Membership dues are based on a sliding scale, based on the Member organization's Annual Operating Budget (minimum dues in 2021 was \$1,500). The Fees are reviewed annually and approved by the Board. Dues notices are sent out in December of each year and are due within 30 days.

Member Benefits/Communications

The Executive Director and/or the Coalition Manager will manage regular communications and information sharing among Coalition members. The Coalition can expect to share and receive regular communications regarding:

- Opportunities to represent the behavioral health care and human services care community in Philadelphia with the state, federal government and various agencies, other regulatory agencies and bodies, and other external organizations.
- Opportunities to collaborate and work together to advance mutual goals.
- Opportunities to be nominated to local, state, national panels on behalf of the field.
- Updates on the Coalition's legislative, regulatory, policy and community activities.
- Initiatives, drafts and proposed collaborative activities in the behavioral health care and human services arena.

- Full Coalition conference calls are scheduled for the third Thursday of the month at 2 PM ET.
- Workgroup membership is voluntary: these include the Membership Committee, Fundraising Committee, Events Committee, and Community Relations Committee (Advocacy Workgroup), which meet periodically.

Termination of Membership

Any member of the Organization may terminate his/her own membership by filing a written resignation with the secretary. An organizational member that does not pay their membership dues by June 1 and/or participate in at least three scheduled corporate activities in a twelve-month period may have their Membership terminated, excluding cases of illness or and any other extenuating exception approved by the Board of Directors.

Reinstatement of Membership

Any organization/individual that has resigned and is requesting membership with the Organization may do so in writing (email is acceptable). Those individuals who have had their membership terminated may write a letter requesting to be reinstated to be approved by the Board of Directors.

Transfer of Membership

Membership in the Organization of the Organization is neither transferable nor assignable to another Organization. Individuals representing their organization will change accordingly and the Coalition will be notified in writing (email) of any changes to organizational representation.