



MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Name: Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting

Date: June 11, 2026

Time: Noon – 2 p.m.

Partnership Locations:

- 4605 Business Center Drive, Fairfield, CA 94534 (Conference Room A, B, C)
- 2525 Airpark Drive, Redding, CA 96001 (Airpark Conference Room)
- 1000 Fortress Street, Chico, CA 95973 (Feather River Conference Room)
- 1036 5th Street Suite E, Eureka, CA 95501 (Sue_meg Conference Room)
- 495 Tesconi Circle, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 (Santa Rosa Conference Room)
- 281 Nevada Street, Auburn, CA 95603 (Lincoln Conference Room)

Alternate Locations:

- Northeastern Rural Health Clinics – 1850 Spring Ridge Drive, Susanville, CA 96130
- Mountain View Skilled Nursing Facility – 1109 N Nagle Street, Alturas, CA 96101

Partnership HealthPlan Attendees: Amanda Peters, Andrew Gerber, Anthony Sackett, Caleb Davis, Ciara Rejefski, Cyress Mendiola, Dustin Lyda, Edna Villaseñor, Gabrielle Breshears, Greg Cafiero, Hannah O’Leary, Ileana Hernandez, Irem Conery, Jayme Bottke, Jennifer Forehand, Jessica Sandeno, Jill Blake, Jocelyn Hooper, Joel Schwartz, John Lemoine, Jose Puga, Katherine Barresi, Krystal Johnson, Leigha Andrews, Madison Clark, Marta Ford, Melissa Schumann, Michele Grupe, Dr. Mohamed Jalloh, Monika Brunkal, Onyi Okorie, Rebecca Stark, Ryan Ciulla, Shahrukh Chishty, Shantal Shamoiei, Sonja Bjork, Tara Logan, Urania De La O, Vicky Klakken, Wendi Davis;

Spanish Interpreters: Claudia Pastori, Evalyn Cabello; **Mandarin Interpreters:** Joyce Svitak, Zhen Hu

Virtual Committee Attendees: Catherine Collins, Jackie Berg

Committee Attendees: Amy Christensen, Angela Hoaglen, Belle Knight, Beverly Franklin, Eli Seigel, Ellen Payton, Eugene Korte, Guadalupe Alvarado, Harry Boggs, Isabell VanMerlin, Itha “Bev” Banghart, Jaime Yan Faurot, Jason Faurot, Jeanette Perez, Jennifer “Jenny” Bentrim, Lulu Zhang, Marcelo “Nunie” Matta, Margaret Sager, Marisol Duran-Garcia, Michael Strain, Nani Mingo, Perry Tripp, Raichael Stewart, Shaneata Bomkamp, Sol McNally, Susan Wagenaar, William “Bill” Remak

Absent Committee Members: Adrene Ryan, Annette Lack, Brion Burkett, Fanechka LaFitte, Harkirandish Kaur, Lee Walton, Paula Kahrau, Ursula Williams, Wendy Longwell

Agenda Topic / Speaker	Minutes	Action Item(s)
1) Welcome / Purpose of Meeting <i>Speaker: Gabrielle Breshears</i>	Gabrielle Breshears, Community Advisory Committee Coordinator, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone, reviewing the housekeeping rules, and requesting consent to record the meeting. With no objections raised, the meeting was recorded for accessibility purposes. She reminded attendees that the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) serves as a bridge between the health plan and the members by creating a forum to discuss common issues of interest and importance, ensuring that Partnership responds to the different kinds of health care needs for all members.	<i>None</i>
2) Introductions <i>Speakers: Gabrielle Breshears</i>	CAC members from all Partnership sites stated their names and the counties they represent, establishing that a quorum was present. Gabrielle Breshears, Community Advisory Committee Coordinator, provided a special introduction for new CAC members: Amy Christensen (Placer), Harkirandish Kaur (Sutter), Isabell VanMerlin (Butte), Paula Kahrau (Solano), Shaneata Bomkamp (Shasta), and Ursula Williams (Butte). She also introduced the Executive Team and the CAC Program Team.	<i>None</i>

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3) Approval of the March 2026 Meeting Minutes <i>Speaker: Melissa Schumann</i>	The March 2026 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.	<i>Vote: Raichael Stewart</i> voted to approve the minutes. <i>Ellen Payton</i> and <i>Perry Tripp</i> also voted to approve the minutes. <i>Result: Motion Passed, March 2026 Meeting minutes approved.</i>
4) March 2026 CAC Meeting Follow-Up <i>Speaker: Melissa Schumann</i>	Melissa Schumann, Manager of Member Services , confirmed that all follow-up items from the March 2026 CAC Meeting have been completed and are available for review in the agenda packets.	None
5) Report on Board Meeting <i>Speaker: Nunie Matta and Belle Knight</i>	Gabrielle Breshears, Community Advisory Committee Coordinator, recognized the current Community Board Representatives, Belle Knight, Brion Burkett, and Marcelo “Nunie” Matta, and thanked them for their feedback, hard work, and dedication since their terms began. She stated that the current term will end in June 2026, with the new term beginning in August 2026. Gabrielle also announced that the new Community Board Representatives will be formally introduced at the September 2026 CAC meeting, where they will provide their first Report on the Board Meeting. Marcelo “Nunie” Matta, Yolo County Representative, welcomed new members and shared reflections from the recent board retreat. He spoke about current challenges facing state health services, including funding cuts, and acknowledged the uncertainty this creates for members. He expressed appreciation for Partnership and the team, noting a sense of	None

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Report on Board Meeting Continued	optimism despite these challenges. He also thanked fellow Community Board Representatives, Belle Knight and Brion Burkett for their service, and shared that Partnership makes him feel valued and cared for. Belle Knight, Shasta County Representative, expressed her appreciation to Partnership for the opportunity to serve on the board over the past two years and noted that the experience has been very rewarding.	
6) Partnership Update <i>Speaker: Sonja Bjork</i>	Sonja Bjork, Chief Executive Officer, provided Partnership HealthPlan of California updates. Sonja reflected on the recent annual board retreat, where this year's topic centered on the member experience. She highlighted Belle Knight's participation on a panel, where she candidly shared personal experiences navigating the health care system, offering valuable insight into real challenges members face. Sonja also acknowledged the meaningful contributions of Marcelo "Nunie" Matta and Belle Knight, and Brion Burkett during their time on the board, thanking them for their engagement, thoughtful input, and willingness to share openly. Sonja advised that preparations are underway for upcoming Medi-Cal changes, including the "Community Engagement" rule, which introduces work requirements and is expected to begin on January 1, 2027. Sonja reported that approximately 65% of members are already meeting these requirements and highlighted the "Keep Your Medi-Cal" campaign to support member awareness. Concerns were raised about outreach to vulnerable populations, including individuals experiencing homelessness, those with limited English proficiency, and members with health conditions that may prevent them from meeting requirements. She explained that exemptions will be available for eligible individuals.	Sonja Bjork advised that the communications team will follow up on exploring partnerships with libraries to support outreach efforts.

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Partnership Update Continued	Sonja addressed concerns about fraud, waste, and abuse (FWA) in Medi-Cal and explained how Partnership works to prevent and respond to these issues. She explained that reports may come from members who notice concerns and contact Member Services, as well as through internal review of claims data to identify unusual patterns. She explained that Partnership investigates suspected cases and refers findings to state or federal agencies when appropriate. She added that data tools, including pattern analysis, may be used to help identify potential issues. She emphasized that Partnership is committed to protecting public funds and supporting providers who deliver appropriate care. Sonja opened the floor to the committee for feedback and questions. William “Bill” Remak, Sonoma County Representative, asked how upcoming redetermination requirements may impact individuals with long-term or lifelong conditions who were previously determined eligible and not subject to ongoing redetermination. He requested additional information on how eligibility rules may apply to this population at a future meeting. Sonja responded that individuals with long-term or life-long conditions are not expected to be subject to work requirements, and their eligibility category is not expected to change. However, she noted that there may be more frequent redeterminations overall and emphasized the importance of contacting Member Services if any unexpected notices are received so that issues can be reviewed and escalated if needed. Public Comment: A member of the public referenced the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in identifying potential discrepancies and asked whether there is human intervention before provider payments are paused for suspected FWA. Sonja responded that Partnership does not rely solely on AI when identifying potential FWA. She emphasized that	

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Partnership Update Continued	staff conduct a full review and investigation before any action is taken, including contacting providers to better understand any concerns or billing issues. Public Comment: A member of the public suggested using libraries as a location for community outreach related to the “Keep Your Medi-Cal” campaign, noting that libraries are commonly used by individuals experiencing homelessness and could serve as a place to share information and resources. Sonja thanked the member of the public for the suggestion, noting that it was a strong idea added that the communications team will follow up on working with libraries to support outreach efforts. Jason Faurot, Marin County Representative, asked if redetermination exemptions are applied to the household or to each individual. Sonja responded that exemptions are determined at the individual level, with some household factors, such as income, also considered. She acknowledged the process can be confusing and encouraged members to reach out with any questions or concerns. Jaime Yan Faurot, Marin County Representative, provided feedback about inconsistencies in how information is provided across counties and community-based clinics and asked whether a standardized checklist or guidance tool could be developed to help ensure accuracy and improve navigation of the health care system. Sonja acknowledged Jaime’s advice of a checklist, noting that counties are working hard to maintain Medi-Cal enrollment and are awaiting state guidance. She emphasized the importance of clear communication and discussed efforts to fund community organizations to assist members with navigating the process. She added that the checklist was a strong idea and may be explored further as part of ongoing efforts.	

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Partnership Update Continued	Perry Tripp, Mendocino County Representative, asked if Partnership has a fraud unit that members can contact to report FWA. He also suggested, in addition to libraries, Partnership should also consider utilizing foodbanks as community outreach for the “Keep your Medi-Cal” campaign as well as social media such as TikTok. Sonja thanked Perry for his suggestions and advised that Partnerships Communications team is noting his feedback. She then confirmed that Partnership does have a fraud unit and to report any suspicions of FWA, to contact Member Services at (800) 863-4155. Raichael Stewart, Nevada County Representative, shared that her redetermination is handled through the state rather than the county. Sonja acknowledged that there are multiple pathways and advised members to contact Member Services if they receive confusing communications, noting that this feedback can help Partnership improve outreach materials. Ellen Payton, Lassen County Representative, asked whether the Medi-Cal disability exemption form related to work requirements was available yet, sharing concerns for a neighbor who may qualify but has received information about work requirements. Sonja clarified that the form has not been released yet and is still in development. She explained that the notice may have been related to SNAP (CalFresh) work requirements, which are already in effect. Sonja encouraged members to complete CalFresh requirements to avoid loss of benefits. Sonja thanked committee members for their input and encouraged them to share ideas or questions with staff following the meeting. She emphasized that member feedback is valued and will be shared at future meetings.	

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7) Partnership Website Implementation Update <i>Speaker: Dustin Lyda</i>	Dustin Lyda, Director of Communications and Government Affairs, provided an update on Partnership's new website. Dustin stated that the new website would include vibrant images, reflecting Partnership's diverse membership, an interactive search bar to help users find information more easily, allowing members to find exactly what they are looking for, and prioritizing compatibility on mobile devices. Dustin also reflected on the feedback captured in the March 2026 CAC Meeting Minutes and the accessibility discussion, noting features such as readable font sizes, strong color contrast, and alternate text for images. Dustin referred the committee to a feedback form included in their packets to get input, but also gathered live feedback on one of the questions: • What would you like to have included in the website? Jennifer "Jenny" Bentrim, Humboldt County Representative, asked if the new website would allow for members to upload documentation related to transportation reimbursement. Dustin confirmed that this is something that has been looked into but has not yet been determined if this will be an available feature. Wendi Davis, Chief Operating Officer, advised that the Kinetik Transportation App is in the process of being updated to support the uploading of documents. William "Bill" Remak, Sonoma County Representative, asked how the new Partnership website would be supported across all browsers and operating systems. Dustin explained that this is something that is	<i>Wendi Davis advised that an update regarding the Kinetik Transportation App will be reported at the September 2026 CAC Meeting.</i> <i>Gabrielle Breshears will provide Dustin Lyda with Isabell VanMerlin's contact information to support testing of the chatbot feature during development of the new Partnership website.</i>

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Partnership Website Implementation Update Continued	on the accessibility checklist, ensuring the website will be compatible across all platforms and browsers. Public Comment: A member of the public suggested offering workshops in community spaces, such as libraries, to support individuals who may not know how to use or have difficulty using electronic tools. Dustin thanked the member of the public for the suggestion and noted it as an opportunity to incorporate this type of community engagement. Public Comment: A member of the public requested that Partnership include a link on the new website to help members seeking Medi-Cal information better understand county Health and Human Services systems and connect with appropriate resources. Isabell VanMerlin, Butte County Representative, asked whether a chatbot would be included in the new website. She also provided feedback about the mobile-first design, noting that she prefers using a desktop and does not like to rely on her mobile device. Dustin responded to her question about the chatbot and asked if she would be interested in testing the feature during development; Isabell responded that she would. Harry Boggs, Nevada County Representative, referenced a discussion from a previous CAC meeting about adding a chatbot feature to the website and suggested expanding it in the future to include access to legal or advocacy support for members seeking more immediate assistance. He noted that this type of enhancement may be more feasible in a later phase of development. Sonja Bjork, Chief Executive Officer, acknowledged his advice and shared that the idea will be considered further as development continues.	

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Partnership Website Implementation Update Continued	Marcelo “Nunie” Matta, Yolo County Representative, advised that alternate text for images would be very helpful for him and others, noting it would improve accessibility for individuals with visual or other challenges. He also recommended involving individuals with similar experiences in testing the website to help identify areas for improvement. Dustin thanked Nunie for his input and noted his recommendations. He shared that user testing, including focus groups with an emphasis on accessibility, is part of the project plan. Jeanette Perez, Solano County Representative, suggested Partnership create informational videos to place in waiting rooms at doctors’ offices for members to learn more about Partnership and eventually, Medicare. Dustin thanked Jeanette for the suggestion and expressed support for developing informational videos for waiting rooms. He noted that while Partnership has used slideshows in the past, video would be a valuable addition and that materials are designed to be accessible and shareable with partner organizations. Susan Wagenaar, Colusa County Representative, asked about future opportunities for social engagement through the website from a health and wellness perspective. She inquired about features such as podcasts, audio links within articles, and AI health tools, and emphasized interest in a more interactive and engaging user experience. Dustin thanked Susan for her suggestions and acknowledged that Partnership is exploring different ways people prefer to receive information. Dustin directed the committee to their survey forms to provide additional feedback and recommendations for the new Partnership website.	

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8) Cultural & Linguistics (C&L) Evaluation <i>Speaker: Hannah O'Leary</i>	Hannah O'Leary, Manager of Population Health, presented the Cultural & Linguistics Evaluation. Hannah presented some of the C&L Program findings including that there are over 32 languages spoken by Partnership members, with the top languages being: English, Spanish, Russian, Punjabi, and Tagalog. She also highlighted that all CAC meetings in 2025 met quorum and that all planned agenda items were discussed. Hannah then reviewed progress on eight (8) program goals, noting that six (6) out of eight (8) were met. Marcelo “Nunie” Matta, Yolo County Representative, asked how Partnership determines whether goals are met. Hannah explained that multiple internal teams track progress throughout the measurement period, and at the end, Partnership determines if each goal was achieved. Perry Tripp, Mendocino County Representative, asked why the goal related to improving timely prenatal visit rates for the American Indian/Alaska Native member population was not included in the future work plan, while another unmet goal, increasing bilingual Member Service Representative staff, remains. He noted the importance of this goal given its relevance to the Native American community. Sonja Bjork, Chief Executive Officer, asked Perry if he would like to see continued work on the prenatal goal, and Perry confirmed he would. He then asked about the reasons the bilingual staffing goal was not met, including whether outreach and engagement efforts were effectively reaching the community. Ryan Ciulla, Manager of Member Services, explained that Member Services is continuing to make progress toward	None

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Cultural & Linguistics (C&L) Evaluation Continued	bilingual staffing levels. He noted that staff must complete testing to be certified as bilingual before being counted in this category. He also that internal staff movement has impacted progress, as some team members have transitioned into other roles. Cyress Mendiola, Associate Director of Member Services, added that department growth, including the creation of the Member Engagement Unit, led to some MSRs transitioning into new roles, which also contributed to the change in staffing levels. Public Comment: A member of the public shared that it is possible to increase prenatal visits and that he agrees with Perry Tripp, Mendocino County Representative, that it should be added back to the goal list for 2026.	
9) Healthy Kids Growing Together Program <i>Speaker: Monika Brunkal</i>	Monika Brunkall, Associate Director of Population Health, was scheduled to present an overview of the Healthy Kids Growing Together Program; however, this presentation has been rescheduled and will be provided at the September 2026 CAC meeting.	<i>None</i>
10) Community Reinvestment Update <i>Speaker: Dr. Mohamed Jalloh</i>	Dr. Mohamed Jalloh, Director of Health Equity, explained the purpose of Community Reinvestment and noted that the state is requiring all health plans to reinvest a portion of their income back into their local communities. Dr. Jalloh shared that the state has established a model requiring plans to reinvest a percentage of net profits, including a base amount of approximately 5%, with the potential for an additional 7.5% tied to quality performance measures. Dr. Jalloh added that Partnership anticipates investing over \$10 million in community reinvestment funds. He also outlined five key areas where funds may be allocated:	<i>Dr. Jalloh to connect Sol McNally and Marcelo “Nunie” Matta with appropriate leaders to support sharing input on future Community Reinvestment opportunities.</i>

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Community Reinvestment Update Continued	• Neighborhood And Built Environment • Healthcare Workforce • Well-Being For Priority Populations • Local Community Support • Improved Health Outcomes Sol McNally, Solano County Representative, asked whether Community Reinvestment funds would support residential programs. Dr. Jalloh responded that current project recommendations are primarily focused on supporting the healthcare workforce and addressing social drivers of health. He noted that Community Reinvestment is a year-to-year effort and encouraged sharing ideas for future funding cycles, including potential residential or housing-related initiatives. Marcelo “Nunie” Matta, Yolo County Representative, suggested providing support services for individuals with mobility challenges, including assistance with transportation for daily needs. Dr. Jalloh acknowledged the suggestion and emphasized that Community Reinvestment is intended to support community-identified needs, including services for individuals with mobility challenges. William “Bill” Remak, Sonoma County Representative, raised questions about whether Community Reinvestment funds could support programs such as In-Home Support Services (IHSS) and expressed concern about limitations on administrative funding, noting the importance of supporting efforts that improve service delivery and community health. Dr. Jalloh clarified that funds are not intended for general administrative use but acknowledged the feedback for consideration.	

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Community Reinvestment Update Continued	Public Comment: A member of the public emphasized the importance of prevention and encouraged Partnership to focus on helping people stay healthy, not just treating illness. The member also noted recent funding cuts and suggested using Community Reinvestment to support prevention efforts. Dr. Jalloh acknowledged the comment and noted that Community Reinvestment is intended to support upstream efforts that address social drivers of health, rather than focusing on individual projects or administrative costs. Susan Wagenaar, Colusa County Representative, asked about expanding collaboration to include more community organizations. She noted that smaller nonprofits working with individuals experiencing homelessness face challenges accessing funding and emphasized the importance of including organizations with lived experience. Dr. Jalloh acknowledged the comment and noted that Partnership supports community-based organizations through a variety of programs beyond Community Reinvestment. He recognized challenges in current funding structures and noted that this feedback can be provided to the state and considered in future grant opportunities. Jennifer “Jenny” Bentrim, Humboldt County Representative, expressed concern about funds being used for administrative purposes and emphasized the importance of supporting proven, community-based projects. She suggested setting clear expectations for how funds are used, including timelines, accountability measures, and demonstrated impact. Dr. Jalloh acknowledged the concern and noted that Partnership is already reviewing proposed projects and anticipates that those focused primarily on staffing or administrative costs may not be approved. He emphasized that funds are intended to support community-based efforts.	

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12) Open Forum <i>Speaker: All</i>	All members of the committee and members of the public may address the committee on any non-agenda items of interest to the public that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the committee.	<i>None</i>
13) Next Meeting	September 10, 2026 Noon – 2 p.m.	

Acronyms Used in Minutes	
CAC	Community Advisory Committee
FWA	Fraud, Waste, and Abuse
AI	Artificial Intelligence
C&L	Cultural and Linguistics
MSR	Member Services Representative
IHSS	In-Home Support Services