

# California **CARE ACT**

New legislation allows family members and others to petition the Court in Riverside County to order behavioral health treatment.



## **What is the CARE Act?**

- The CARE Act is a new state law that allows the court to order community-based mental health treatment for those with severe mental health disorders.
- Voluntary treatment, with or without a CARE Plan, is always preferred and is encouraged throughout the CARE Act process.
- The program prioritizes self-autonomy and civil liberties, providing free legal representation to individuals subject to a petition. Forced medication is not part of the program, and individuals are not penalized for non-compliance.
- The CARE Act is designed to help divert individuals from entering into more restrictive conservatorships or incarceration



## **Who qualifies for the CARE Act Program?**

- Eligible residents are those diagnosed with schizophrenia or other psychotic disorders who need supervision to safely live in the community.
- Eligible participants must be 18 years of age or older



## **How can I refer my loved one to the CARE Act Program?**

- Anyone can call for more information about the CARE Act and referrals, including family, county, and community-based social service providers.
- For more info on the CARE Act program and eligibility, call 800-499-3008 or visit <https://www.ruhealth.org/behavioral-health/care-act>.

**CALL THE CARES LINE**

**800-499-3008**