



**Don Kingdon**

Principal, Behavioral Health  
Policy

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**Don Kingdon** is Harbage Consulting's Principal of Behavioral Health Policy. He is a licensed clinical psychologist and has worked in the private and public sectors providing mental health treatment and policy development for more than 20 years. Don leads the firm's work to assist states, counties, and local mental health and substance abuse treatment agencies in implementing policies designed to more effectively coordinate physical and mental health care.

Before joining Harbage Consulting in 2014, Don spent seven years as the deputy director of the California Mental Health Directors Association (CMHDA) where he provided policy direction and legislative and administrative advocacy for mental health and alcohol and drug treatment issues at the county, state, and federal levels. In that role, Don provided policy and technical support for the development of California's "Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System" pilot program as well as California's larger "Bridge to Reform" demonstration, which was approved in 2010 and included the Medi-Cal mental health coverage expansion to managed care. He provides implementation policy and technical support to the state, managed care plans, and counties regarding policy and fiscal aspects of the waivers, as well as the forensic mental health, information technology and exchange aspects of the behavioral health system as a whole.

Don has extensive experience working to advance mental health parity through legislation and the judicial system. He participated in the design and implementation of the voter-approved Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) including providing policy and technical assistance to the Department of Mental Health and the counties. He assisted in the development of legislation to amend the MHSA as well as development of the services and fiscal provisions necessary to implement the Act from a federal, state and county perspective. He participated in the state- and county-convened workgroups that designed and implemented 2011 Public Safety and Behavioral Health Realignment, providing fiscal and policy expertise and review of the enabling legislation.

Don served as a member of the California Administrative Office of the Courts Mental Health Task Force providing policy guidance on court disposition and treatment procedures for involuntary detention, trial competency, and not guilty by reason of insanity pleas. He provided advice to California Senate Pro Tem Steinberg and staff related to the development of amendments to California's involuntary treatment and conservatorship statutes and participated in the California state task force on the development of recommended changes to the process for competency restoration at the state and county levels.