Chelsea Kelleher
Senior Policy Consultant

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Chelsea Kelleher is a Senior Policy Consultant with Harbage Consulting, where she works on projects related to behavioral health integration across California.

Prior to joining Harbage, Chelsea served as a Senior Policy Analyst at the National Governors Association in the Health Division, where she also focused on behavioral health, and policies related to opioids in particular. Chelsea assisted state leaders in developing and implementing strategies for the prevention and treatment of opioid use disorder. Specific projects included convening leaders to draft statewide plans for addressing opioid use; improving access to medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for justice-involved populations in prisons and jails and upon re-entry; and creating harm reduction programs to reduce the spread of infectious diseases related to drug use. Additionally, Chelsea worked on projects related to high-cost, high-need populations in Medicaid, and co-authored a publication on important metrics for measuring the success of programs serving this population. Finally, Chelsea was a go-to expert on the team for matters related to health information sharing and privacy restrictions, such as HIPAA, 42 CFR Part 2, and state privacy laws.

Before working at NGA, Chelsea served as a research assistant at the American Institutes for Research, where she worked on an evaluation of a federal program to improve adoption of electronic health records among primary care providers, as well as conducting studies of citizen engagement models for health care decision making. Chelsea was also a research assistant at the UC Berkeley Center for the Advanced Study of Aging Services, where she studied new models for assisting older adults aging in place.

Chelsea holds a BA in Political Science from the University of the Pacific and an MPP from the Goldman School of Public Policy at UC Berkeley. In her free time she enjoys hiking, running, and finding new places to travel and explore.

At the intersection of health care policy, politics and communications.