

**Association for
Behavioral Healthcare**

ABH

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2016





A Note to Our Members

Dear ABH Member:

It is with great pleasure that we present to you the Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Report for the Association for Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. and the Association for Behavioral Healthcare Foundation, Inc. (ABH).

The following pages will provide you with a glimpse of our work during Fiscal Year 2016. Over the course of the year, we celebrated many successes, including securing increased reimbursement rates for services, influencing the MassHealth redesign, and shaping the implementation of Caring Together.


We also continued to call attention to the harsh financial realities of the outpatient behavioral health system, advocated for sufficient behavioral health funding in the state budget, worked to influence both state and federal policy relative to mental health and addiction treatment services, and aided our members through regular member meetings and trainings and by providing operations support.

In the coming year, we will face new challenges, but know that we will be able to build off our successes in Fiscal Year 2016. We look forward to strengthening current relationships with key policymakers and forming new ones in order to advance the needs of our members.

As always, we are extremely grateful for the support of our membership. Your commitment to ABH energizes and empowers us to advocate on your behalf and to improve the behavioral health system across Massachusetts. We look forward to continuing to work with you in the coming year.

Thank you!

Sincerely,



Daniel Mumbauer
Chair, Board of Directors



Vicker V. DiGravio III
President/CEO



Daniel Mumbauer,
Chair
Board of Directors



Vic DiGravio
President/CEO

Increased Reimbursement Rates

\$26 million

8.1%

33%

24%

EOHHS and MassHealth committed to reallocating \$26 million per year for three years into increased rates for behavioral health services. \$23 million of that amount has been targeted to outpatient and diversionary services provided primarily by ABH members.

Providers of Children's Behavioral Health Initiative (CBHI) services received an across the board 8.1% increase applicable to all CBHI services, except services provided within Community Service Agencies (CSAs). CSAs had previously received a significant rate increase.

DPH-BSAS Residential Recovery Homes received a 33% per diem rate increase through the *Chapter 257* rate-setting process. The percent of purchase for this service also increased from 63% to 80%.

Governor Baker's administration promulgated new Clubhouse rates retroactive to January 1, 2016. For most clubhouses, this represented a 24% increase. The new rates were announced as part of a settlement of rate appeals filed in accordance with *Chapter 257*.

Outpatient Rates

As the outpatient behavioral health system continued to deteriorate, ABH embarked on a series of meetings with newspaper editorial boards across the state, including *The Boston Globe*, in order to shed light on the realities of outpatient behavioral healthcare in Massachusetts.



"In overhauling MassHealth, the state must recognize the importance of keeping the lights on at behavioral health outpatient clinics. If their capacity to offer services continues to diminish, more patients will end up in a hospital emergency room, or -- as too often is the case -- they will go without any treatment."

Boston Globe Editorial, June 11, 2016



Influencing State Policy

MassHealth Redesign

Over the course of FY 16, ABH worked to shape the ongoing MassHealth redesign. ABH and our members participated in eight workgroups established by MassHealth as it developed its Medicaid 1115 waiver extension submission. The waiver submission included a number of proposals for which ABH advocated:

- MassHealth's proposal to create Behavioral Health Community Partners to coordinate care for MassHealth members with significant behavioral health issues.
- A commitment to assign 25-30% of any Delivery System Reform Incentive Payments (DSRIP) directly to Community Partners.
- A significant expansion of substance use disorder services and funding.

Caring Together Implementation

ABH continued to work with the Providers' Council and the Children's League of Massachusetts on Caring Together implementation issues. We were extremely pleased that our work resulted in the discontinuation of the 'skinny' rate for providers of continuum services. In addition, the Commonwealth agreed to exempt STARR providers from requirements to comply with the state's Medication Administration Program (MAP).

ABH also worked diligently on a number of other policy areas, including:

- Implementation of *Chapter 258 of the Acts of 2014*
- Children's Behavioral Health Initiative
- Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics
- Emergency Department Boarding

State Budget

ABH staff works every year to ensure that behavioral health is adequately funded in the state budget. This year, the Legislature included \$36.2 million for the *Chapter 257* Rate Reserve Fund in its FY 2017 budget. In addition, both the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services and the Department of Mental Health were funded at levels that maintain existing services, including funding for rate increases mandated by *Chapter 257*.

A detailed analysis of the FY 2017 budget can be found at www.ABHmass.org.



Engagement at the Federal Level



ABH continued to work with the National Council for Behavioral Health in FY 16. Over 40 ABH members traveled to Washington, D.C. to participate in the National Council's annual Hill Day. ABH members met with Senator Warren and Senator Markey, as well as Congressman Keating, Congressman Kennedy, Congressman Moulton, and Congresswoman Clark to ask them to support the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act, as well as expansion of behavioral health IT funding and the expansion of the certified community behavioral health clinic program.



ABH Committees

ABH's committees fall into three categories: Policy and Systems, Mental Health Services, and Addiction Treatment Services. Our committees play an essential role setting ABH's agenda as they identify pertinent policy and programmatic issues to be addressed by ABH. Participation on most committees is open to all members -- from CEOs to front line staff.

A full list of committees is available at www.ABHmass.org.



What members are saying about ABH's committees:

I love the camaraderie between agencies.

[Provides the] opportunity to discuss issues impacting providers in a safe and supportive environment.

Our chair is brilliant. Topics are timely and well researched.

Professional, yet friendly atmosphere.

Substantive content.

Excellent, timely and very helpful and relevant information. The group is very open and supportive.

The information across agencies is invaluable.

Salute to Excellence



Each year at our Salute to Excellence, ABH is proud to honor individuals who have made amazing contributions to the field of behavioral healthcare.



Trainings

Throughout the year, ABH hosts trainings and other meetings for members. These events allow members to network and keep up-to-date on new developments within the behavioral health field.

Just a few of our meetings and trainings:

- Middle Management Academy
- The Future of MassHealth and Community Behavioral Health
- ICD-10, DSM-5 and Coding and Billing for Behavioral Health Services
- Why Community-Based Behavioral Health Matters in an Era of Accountable Care



Great opportunity to network.

Great event. Well-organized. Solid presenter.



Member Engagement

2,222

In FY 2016, ABH staff had 2,222 face to face contacts with staff from our member organizations.



59

ABH staff also visited 59 member organizations for site visits.



Operations Support



At ABH, we pride ourselves in our work in supporting the operations of our member organizations. This work, while not as high profile as some of our advocacy initiatives, is extremely important to the daily operations of our members.

- The ICD-10/DSM-5 Subcommittee guided efforts to support ABH members in the successful implementation of this change.
- ABH produced our 3rd edition of the ABH Salary Survey.
- ABH worked with the Department of Public Health on the creation of a MAP Advisory Committee.
- We partnered with MassHealth to identify a procedure to retroactively pay outstanding claims dating back to 2013. 90% of outstanding claims were paid.
- We successfully advocated with MassHealth for regulatory changes to allow certain nurse prescribers to qualify for federal meaningful use incentive payments for Electronic Health Records (EHRs).

Proud of our Members



ABH Member Organizations

Fiscal Year 2016 Organizational Members

Acadia Healthcare * Adcare Educational Institute * Addiction Treatment Center of New England * Advocates, Inc. * Alternatives Unlimited, Inc. * Amesbury Psychological Center, Inc. * The Arc of South Norfolk * BAMSI * Bay Cove Human Services * Bay State Community Services, Inc. * Behavioral Health Network, Inc. * Boston Alcohol and Substance Abuse Programs, Inc. * Boston Healthcare for the Homeless * Boston Public Health Commission * The Bridge of Central Massachusetts, Inc. * Bridgewell * The Brien Center * Brookline Community Mental Health Center * Cambridge Health Alliance * Cape Cod Healthcare Centers for Behavioral Health * Casa Esperanza * Catholic Charities Family Counseling and Guidance Center * Center for Human Development * Child and Family Services, Inc. * Children's Friend, Inc. * Children's Friend and Family Services, Inc. * Children's Services of Roxbury * Clinical and Support Options, Inc. * Community Counseling of Bristol County, Inc. * Community Healthlink * Community Services Institute * Community Substance Abuse Centers * Cutchins Programs for Children and Families * Dimock Community Health Center * The Edinburg Center * Eliot Community Human Services * Family Service Association * Family Service of Greater Boston * Fellowship Health Resources, Inc. (FHR) * Fenway Health * Gandara Center * Gosnold on Cape Cod * High Point Treatment Center * The Home for Little Wanderers * Hope House Addiction Services * Institute for Health and Recovery * Jewish Family and Children's Services (JF&CS) * Judge Baker Children's Center * Justice Resource Institute (JRI) * The Key Program, Inc. * Lahey Health Behavioral Services * Lowell Community Health Center, Inc. * Lowell House, Inc. * LUK, Inc. * Martha's Vineyard Community Services * Mental Health Association of Greater Lowell, Inc. * Middlesex Human Service Agency, Inc. * M.S.P.C.C. * New Life Counseling and Wellness Center, Inc. * NFI Massachusetts, Inc. * North Charles, Inc. * North Cottage Program, Inc. * The Northeast Center for Youth and Families * North Suffolk Mental Health Association, Inc. * Old Colony YMCA * Phoenix Houses of New England * Pine Street Inn * Riverside Community Care * ServiceNet * South Middlesex Opportunity Council, Inc. (SMOC) * South Bay Community Services * South End Community Health Center * South Shore Mental Health * Spectrum Health Systems, Inc. * SSTAR * Steppingstone, Inc. * Toward Independent Living and Learning, TILL, Inc. * Victory Programs, Inc. * Vinfen * Volunteers of America of Massachusetts, Inc. * Walker, Inc. * Wayside Youth & Family Support Network * Youth Opportunities Upheld, Inc. * Youth Villages

Fiscal Year 2016 Associate Members

AAFCPA (Alexander Aronson Finning CPAs) * AdvantEdge * Advocates for Human Potential * Caregiver Homes of Massachusetts * Donald Siddell, MSW * The Echo Group * eHana * Hlnext, LLC * Hirsch, Roberts and Weinstein * Marsh & McLennan Agency * PsyTech Solutions, Inc. * Qualifacts Systems * Screening for Mental Health, Inc. * SMART Management * STM Technology * USI Insurance Services * William James College

ABH Board of Directors

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Karin Jeffers, Vice Chair, President/CEO, Clinical and Support Options, Inc.
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Vic DiGravio, President/CEO, ABH

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Daurice Cox, President/CEO, Bay State Community Services, Inc.
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Daniel Nakamoto, Executive Director & CEO, Mental Health Association of Greater Lowell, Inc.
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Kevin Norton, President, Lahey Health Behavioral Services
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Andy Pond, President/CEO, Justice Resource Institute (JRI)
Carla Saccone, President/CEO, Children's Friend and Family Services
Anne Sampaio, Executive Director, Child and Family Services, Inc.
Jonathan Scott, President, Victory Programs, Inc.
Philip Shea, President/CEO, Community Counseling of Bristol County, Inc.
Harry Shulman, President/CEO, South Shore Mental Health
William Sprague, CEO, Bay Cove Human Services
Emily Stewart, Executive Director, Casa Esperanza
Susan Stubbs, President/CEO, ServiceNet
Katherine Wilson, President/CEO, Behavioral Health Network, Inc.

ABH Staff



Vic DiGravio, President/CEO

Constance Peters, Vice President for Addiction Services

Lydia Conley, Vice President for Mental Health

Amanda Gilman, Senior Director of Public Policy & Research

Kristen Archibald, Director of Children's Behavioral Health & Member Services

Ellen Caliendo, Business Manager

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