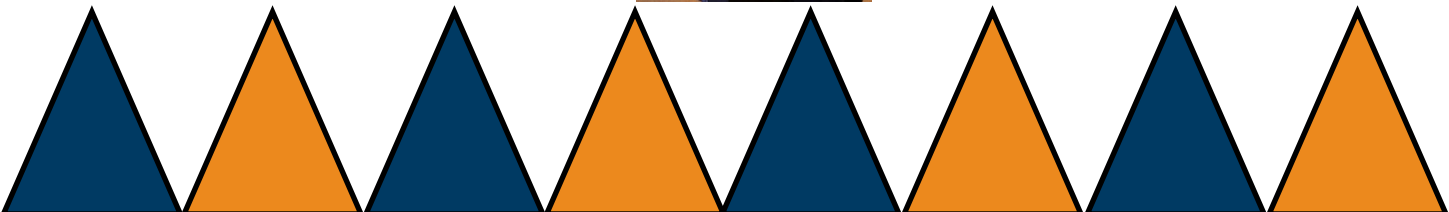




Association for Behavioral Healthcare

FY 2017
Annual Report

ABH



A Letter to our Members

Dear ABH Members:

We are proud to present to you the Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Report for the Association for Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. and the Association for Behavioral Healthcare Foundation, Inc. (ABH).

This year's annual report highlights some of our activities and accomplishments over the past year, including extensive work surrounding the 1115 waiver redesign, the FY 2018 budget, a national social media campaign opposing the elimination of the Affordable Care Act and cuts to Medicaid, public policy campaigns aimed at fighting the stigma associated with behavioral health conditions, and policy work related to the Medication Administration Program (MAP).

In FY 2017, we also focused on increasing our member engagement, something we know is essential to our success as an organization. We look forward to continuing that effort in the coming year through efforts such as our *All Politics is Local Campaign* and our extensive committee work.

We would like to thank you for your steadfast commitment to ABH. Our members are the bedrock of our organization and we look forward to continuing to work with you to promote and advocate for community-based mental health and addiction treatment services.

Thank you!

Sincerely,



Karin Jeffers, Chair
Board of Directors

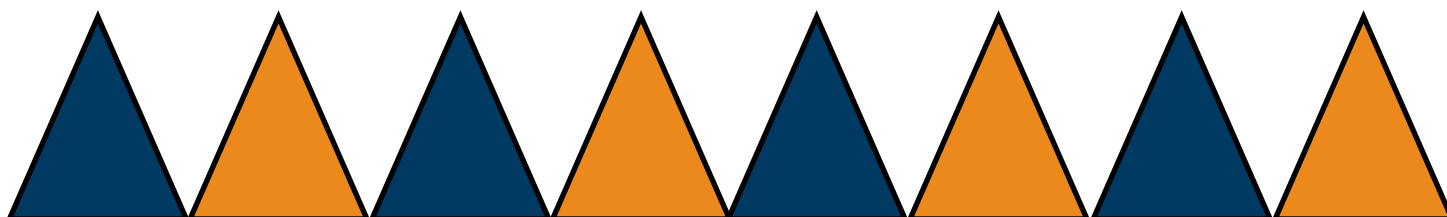
Vicker V. DiGravio III
President/CEO



Karin Jeffers, Chair
Board of Directors



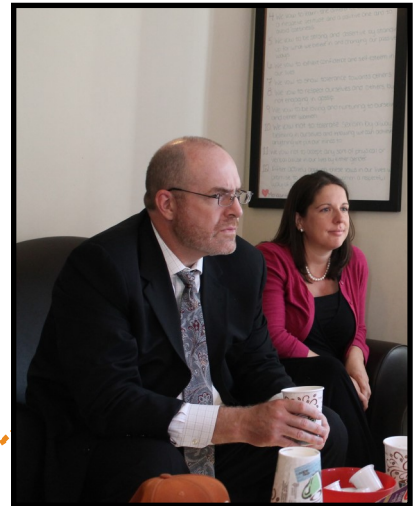
Vic DiGravio
President/CEO



Member Engagement

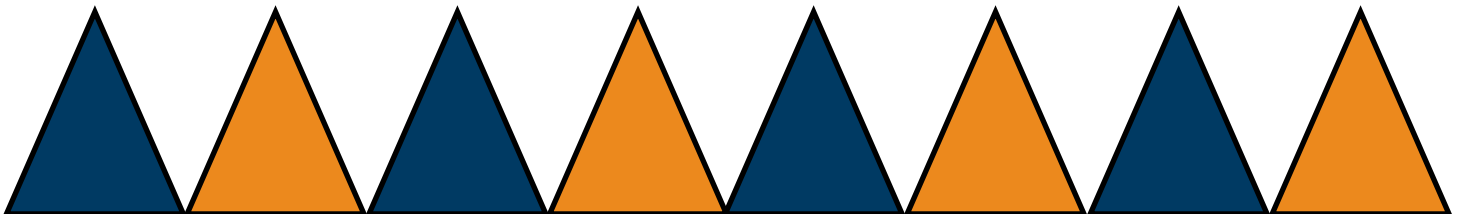
2,524

Direct face-to-face contacts with staff from ABH member organizations



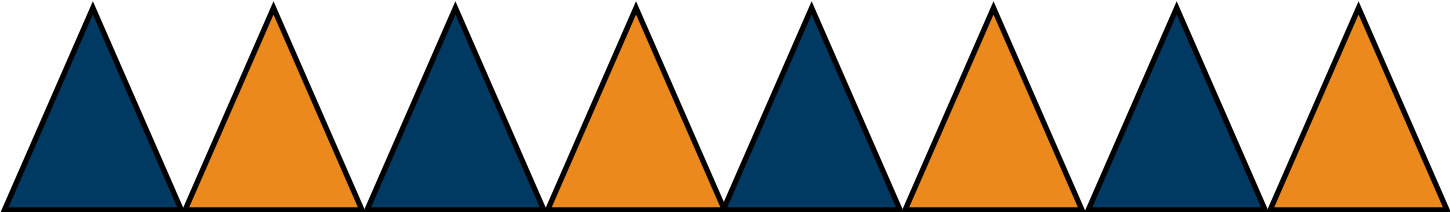
43

Site visits by ABH staff to member organizations



All Politics is Local

Guided by the belief that our members are the best policy advocates for the services they provide, we committed to a new effort to engage our members in legislative and policy advocacy.



Policy Advocacy

MassHealth 1115 Waiver

ABH focused extensively in FY 2017 on the Commonwealth's redesign and implementation of the 1115 waiver concerning accountable care.

1115 Waiver Education Initiatives:

- Collaborated with the Massachusetts Association for Mental Health (MAMH) with support from Health Management Associates (HMA) to provide a full-day training on the 1115 waiver and ACOs.
- Held a series of briefings for ABH members focusing on how the 1115 waiver redesign will impact ABH members and their relationships with payers, consumers and other health care providers.

Advocacy on behalf of our members with MassHealth

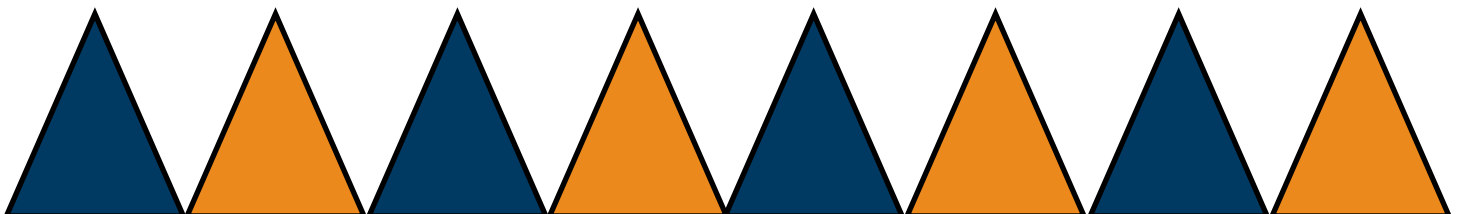
- Served on the Delivery System Reform Incentive Council (DSRIC), which is advising MassHealth on waiver implementation.
- Successfully advocated for the creation of a special advisory group to advise BSAS and MassHealth on issues around implementation of the substance use disorder portions of the waiver.

Medication Administration Program

ABH staff worked throughout the year to impact policy development related to the Medication Administration Program (MAP). This included working with DPH, DMH, DCF, and DDS staff to identify areas where MAP policies can be adjusted to reflect the challenges providers face in operationalizing mandates that are often antithetical to the concept of person-centered services and independent living.

Reimbursement of Recouped Payments

During the year, ABH staff successfully advocated for the creation of a process by MassHealth to allow providers to receive reimbursement for payments previously recouped by Managed Care Organizations (MCOs). ABH members have been reimbursed over \$100,000 to date through this initiative.

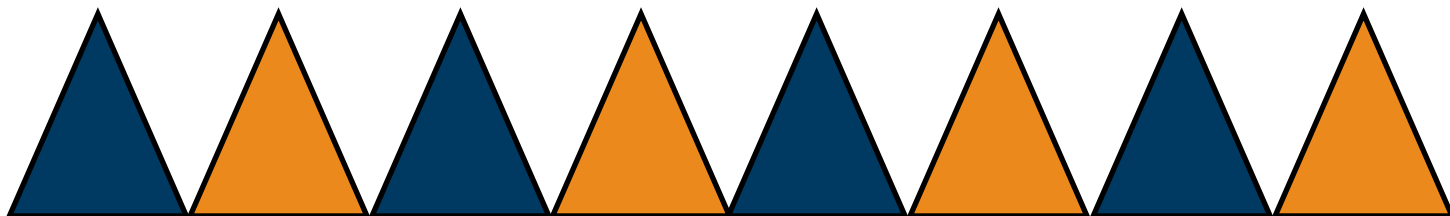


State Budget



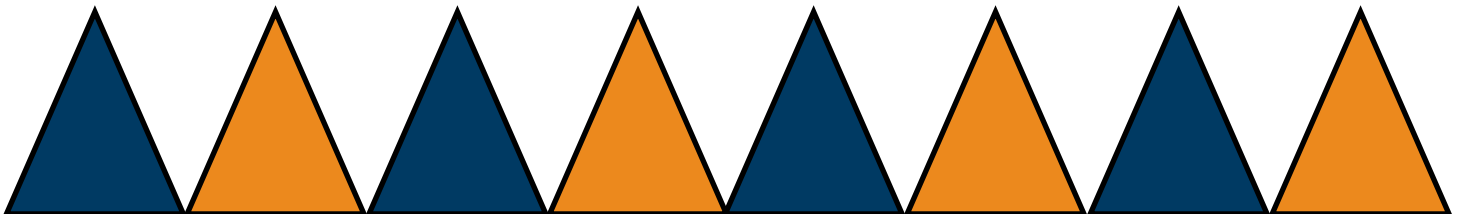
ABH staff work every year to ensure that behavioral health is adequately funded in the state budget. This year, the FY 2018 budget funded the Department of Mental Health at \$772.4 million, \$4.7 million over projected FY 2017 spending. In addition, the Bureau of Substance Addiction Services was funded at \$146 million, \$8.6 million above FY 2017 spending. This included new addiction funding directives, such as \$250,000 for the Massachusetts Access to Recovery (MA-ATR) program, \$250,000 to purchase Narcan for distribution to addiction treatment providers, and \$250,000 for addiction recovery centers. The Legislature also included \$35.6 million for the *Chapter 257* Rate Reserve Fund.

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



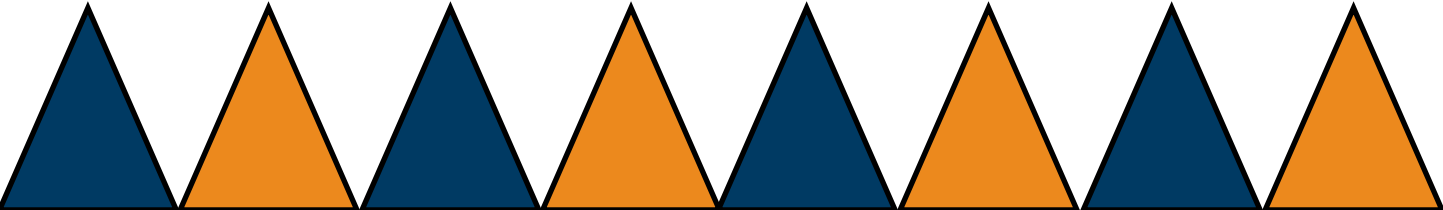
National Advocacy

The very real threat of repeal of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and the destruction of Medicaid by President Trump and Congress required ABH to engage in advocacy on the national level in an unprecedented way. To meet this threat, ABH implemented a national social media campaign in opposition to the elimination of the ACA and cuts to Medicaid. Using Facebook, ABH reached over 700,000 unique individuals in eleven key states urging them to call their Republican senators to oppose "Trump Care".



Engagement with External Stakeholders

ABH is proud of our work with external stakeholders. Our partnerships with these organizations are core to our work on behalf of our members.



Fighting the Stigma

~~“Methadone Mile”~~ ABH worked to fight the stigma associated with Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for addiction.

...Methadone is a lifesaving medication used to treat individuals who struggle with a chronic disease that is treatable. Medication-assisted treatments, such as methadone, bridge the biological and behavioral components of addiction. Research shows that a combination of medication and behavioral therapies can help sustain recovery.

And these medications help reduce mortality while patients begin recovery.

We urge the Herald to stop using this derogatory term that denigrates a neighborhood and feeds a stigma associated with substance-use disorders.

—Vic DiGravio, June 8, 2017

Excerpt from a Letter to the Editor objecting to the *Boston Herald's* Use of “Methadone Mile” terminology.

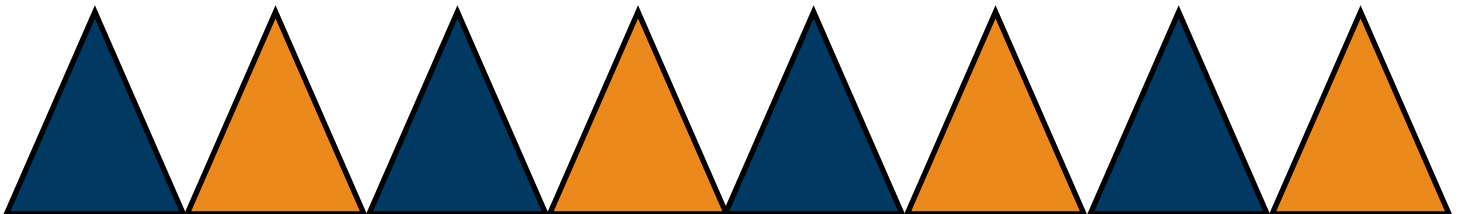
...It is unfortunate that the Globe continues to use language that stigmatizes individuals who are in the area taking steps to recover from substance use disorders.

Eliminating stigma requires vigilance in communicating about behavioral health disorders. Lazy terms such as “Methadone Mile” negatively brand an entire neighborhood. Describing men and women as “addicts” reduces them to their health struggles.

Words matter. We need to stop using language that diminishes and separates this neighborhood and that dehumanizes individuals with mental health and addiction disorders.

—Vic DiGravio, June 24, 2017

Excerpt from a Letter to the Editor objecting to the *Boston Globe's* Use of “Methadone Mile” terminology.

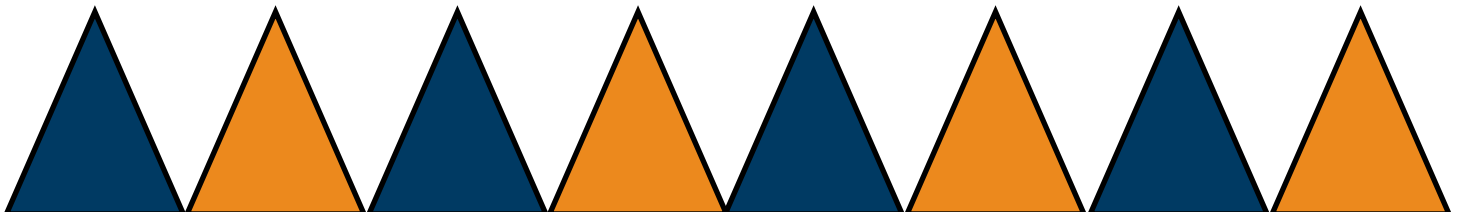
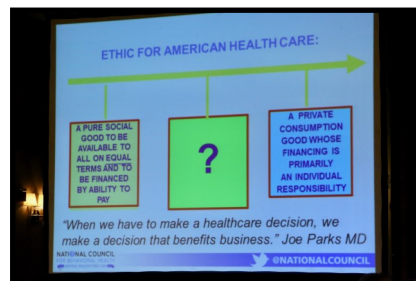


Trainings

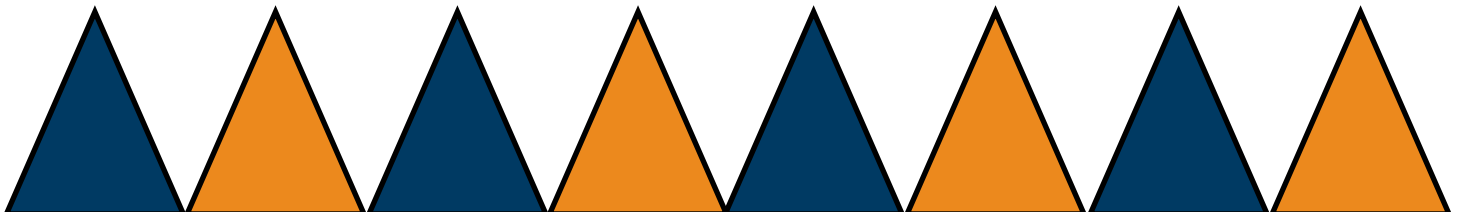
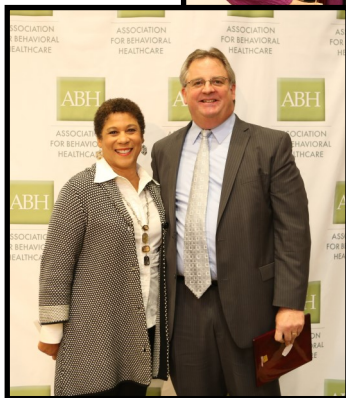
ABH prides itself on ensuring that its members are up-to-date on new developments within the behavioral health field. Relevant trainings and member meetings keep members abreast of trends and provide networking opportunities.

Below is a list of topic areas on which ABH sponsored trainings during FY17:

- Contract Negotiation
- MassHealth Transportation
- Marijuana in the Workforce
- Sexual Health and Behavioral Health
- Behavioral Healthcare and Criminal Justice
- Loan Forgiveness for Program Staff



Salute to Excellence



Salute to Excellence

In October, we celebrated the accomplishments of our **2016 Salute to Excellence Awardees**. Their work is, quite simply, awe inspiring, and we are grateful for the opportunity to honor them.

2016 Salute to Excellence Awardees

Carl B. Cutchins Award for Children's Behavioral Health

Anthony Irsfeld, Community Healthlink

Francis O'Brien Award for Addiction Services

Frederick Newton, Hope House Addiction Services

Elizabeth Funk Emerging Leader Award

Lisa Blanchard, Spectrum Health Systems, Inc.

Excellence in Best Practices

Meg Mastriana (posthumously), Behavioral Health Network, Inc.

Excellence in Program Leadership

Denise Galvagni, The Brien Center
Joanna Bell, Walker, Inc.

Excellence in Administration & Finance

Tom Durling, The Home for Little Wanderers

Special Recognition

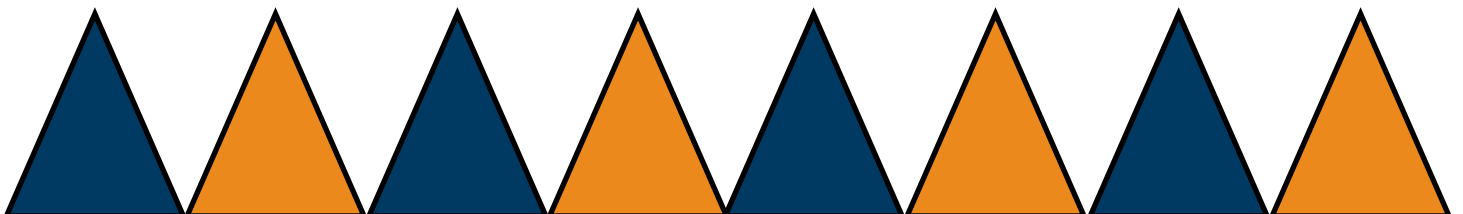
Adrienne Cassidy, Advocates, Inc.

Lifetime Achievement Award

Deborah Reuman, Justice Resource Institute (JRI)

Unsung Hero Award

Judy Girard, Lahey Health Behavioral Services



ABH Committees

ABH's committees are a cornerstone of the organization; they identify pertinent policy and programmatic issues and, in turn, play an essential role in setting ABH's agenda. Most committees are open to all members—from CEOs to front-line staff. ABH committees embody our creed that member engagement is a key tenant of success.

ABH's 19 committees consist of three categories: Policy and Systems, Mental Health Services, and Addiction Treatment Services. A full list of committees, including detailed descriptions, is available at www.ABHmass.org.

While we take pride in our committees, we are also happy to know that our members find them relevant and useful. Below is some of the feedback we have received from committee participants.

"I enjoy the non-judgmental atmosphere."

"Informative, structured, relevant."

"Opportunity for frank and open discussion; and, to learn from others."

"Opportunity to share ideas, brainstorm and receive support from other Quality Managers."

"Able to raise questions and discuss issues openly."

"All participants have equal opportunity to share their agency experience related to any topic and it is great to know that many of us share similar challenges."

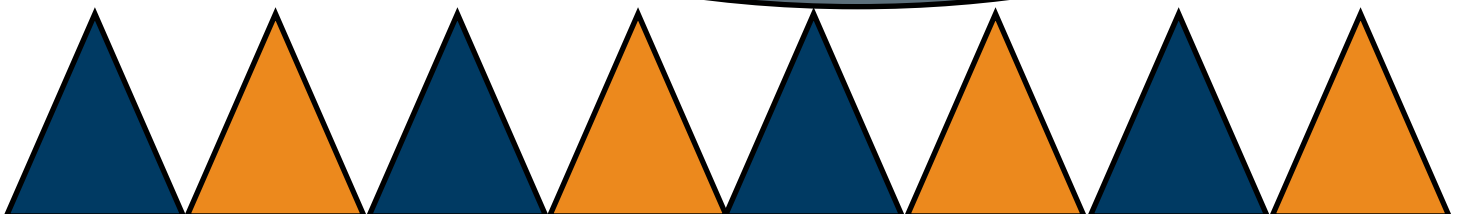
"Getting together with other OTP managers is very helpful."

"Mission and intent are excellent."

"Topics are excellent and RELEVANT. Facilitators are excellent—credible and knowledgeable."

"Gives insight into how other facilities handle situations."

"Opportunities for individual agencies to get support from each other."



ABH Member Organizations

Acadia Healthcare/Habit OPCO
Adcare Educational Institute, Inc.
Addiction Treatment Center of New England, Inc.
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 Program
Boston Public Health Commission
The Bridge of Central Massachusetts, Inc.
Bridgewell
The Brien Center for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
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, Inc.
Child & Family Services, Inc.
Children's Friend, Inc.
Children's Services of Roxbury
Clinical and Support Options, Inc.
Community Counseling of Bristol County, Inc.
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
Fenway Health
FHR
Gandara Center
Gosnold on Cape Cod
High Point Treatment Center
The Home for Little Wanderers
Hope House Addiction Services

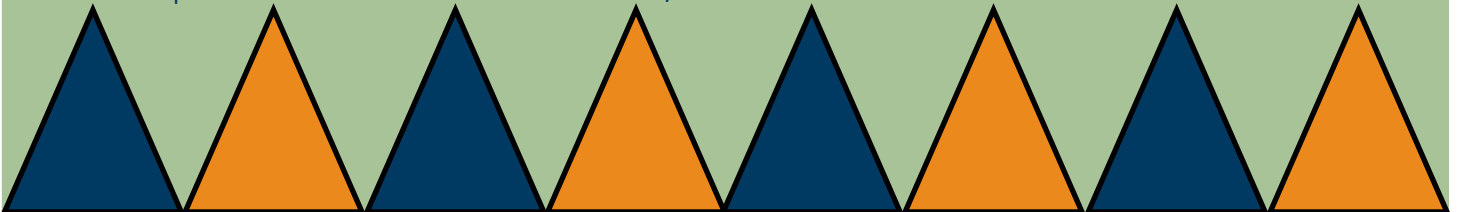
Institute for Health and Recovery
Italian Home for Children, Inc.
Jewish Family and Children's Services (JF&CS)
Judge Baker Children's Center
Justice Resource Institute (JRI)
The KEY Program, Inc.
Lahey Health Behavioral Services
Lowell Community Health Center, Inc.
Lowell House, Inc.
LUK, Inc.
Martha's Vineyard Community Services
Mental Health Association
MHA of Greater Lowell
Middlesex Human Service Agency, Inc.
New Life Counseling & 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, Inc.
Pine Street Inn
Riverside Community Care
ServiceNet
South Middlesex Opportunity Council, Inc. (SMOC)
South Bay Community Services
South End Community Health
South Shore Mental Health
Spectrum Health Systems, Inc.
SSTAR
Steppingstone, Incorporated
Toward Independent Living and Learning, TILL, Inc.
Trauma and Family Integration (TFI, Inc.)
UMass Memorial Community Healthlink, Inc.
Veterans Inc.
Victory Programs, Inc.
Vinfen
Volunteers of America of Massachusetts, Inc.
Walker, Inc.
Wayside Youth & Family Support Network
YOU, Inc.
Youth Villages of Massachusetts and New Hampshire

Associate Members

AAFCPA (Alexander Aronson Finning CPAs)
AdvantEdge
Advocates for Human Potential
Caregiver Homes of Massachusetts
Donald Siddell, MSW
The Echo Group

eHana
Hirsch, Roberts, and Weinstein
Marsh & McLennan Agency
Netsmart
PsyTech Solutions, Inc.
Qualifacts Systems

Specialized Health Management, Inc.
STM Technology
USI Insurance Services
Victory Human Services
William James College



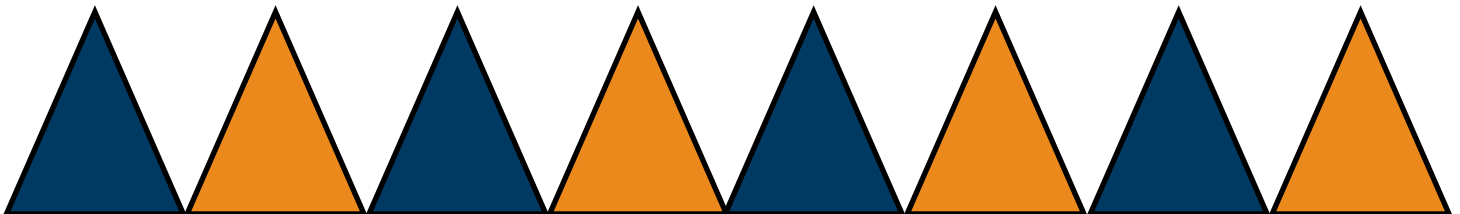
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Diane Gould, Vice Chair, President/CEO, Advocates, Inc.
Bruce Bird, Treasurer, President/CEO, Vinfen Corporation
Norma Finkelstein, Clerk, Executive Director, Institute for Health & Recovery
Vic DiGravio, President/CEO, ABH

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Daurice Cox, President/CEO, Baystate Community Services
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Henry East-Trou, Executive Director, Gandara Mental Health Center
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Steven Hahn, President/CEO, NFI Massachusetts
Gary Houle, Executive Director, North Charles, Inc.
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Christine Macbeth, President/CEO, The Brien Center for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
Eric Masi, President/CEO, Wayside Youth & Family Support Network
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Jackie Moore, CEO, North Suffolk Mental Health Association
Daniel Mumbauer, President/CEO, High Point Treatment Center
Daniel Nakamoto, Executive Director & CEO, MHA of Greater Lowell
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Frank Sacco, President/CEO, Community Services Institute
Anne Sampaio, Executive Director, Child and Family Services, Inc.
Philip Shea, President/CEO, Community Counseling of Bristol County, Inc.
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

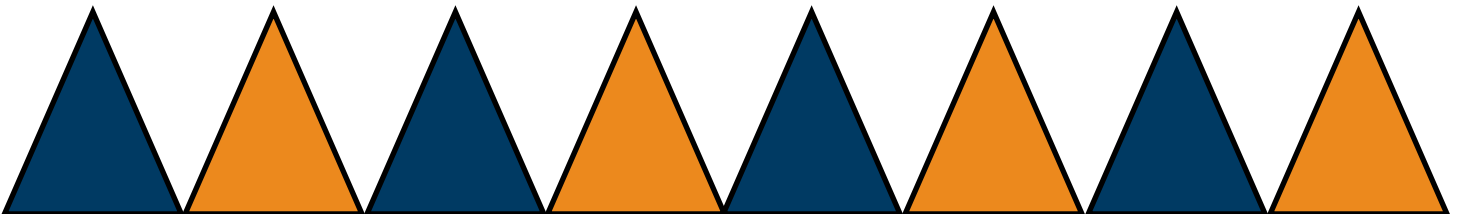
Lydia Conley, Vice President for Mental Health

Amanda Gilman, Senior Director of Public Policy & Research

Megan Thompson, Director of Children's Behavioral Health & Member Services

Rosemary Santini, Administrative Assistant

Ellen Caliendo, Business Manager





ABH

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