

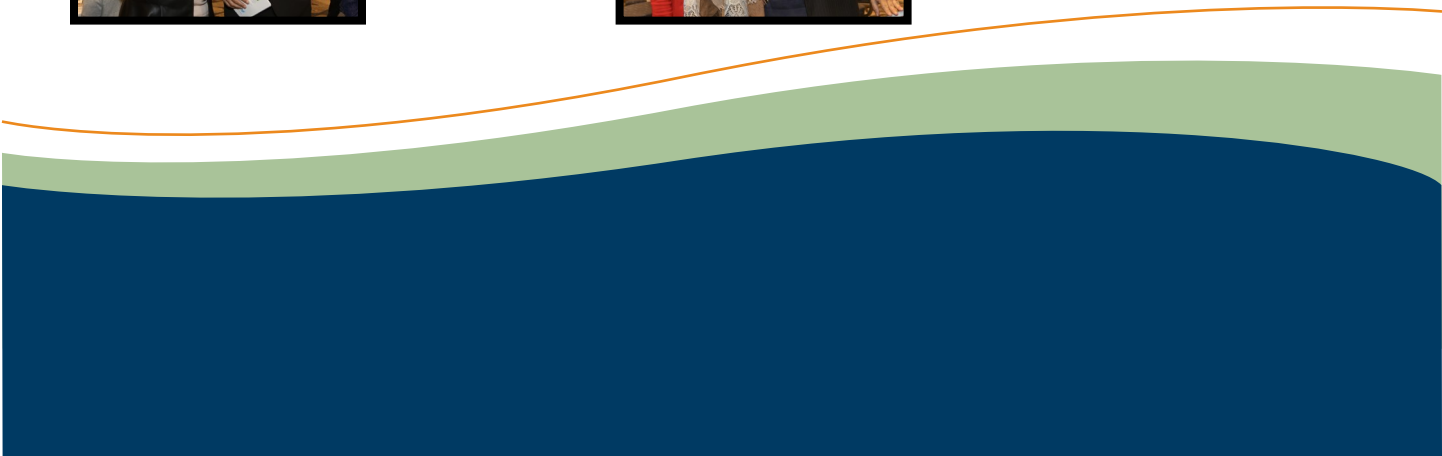


Association for Behavioral Healthcare



FY 2019 Annual Report





A Letter to Our Members

Dear ABH Colleague:

It is with great pride that we submit the Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Report for the Association for Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. and the Association for Behavioral Healthcare Foundation, Inc.

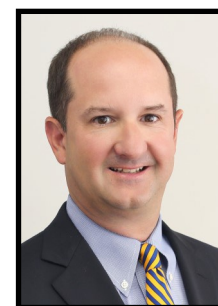
Over the course of the year, we worked closely with state policy makers and other stakeholders to ensure that the needs of individuals with significant behavioral health disorders were addressed, to advocate for adequate funding for behavioral health services, and to eliminate regulatory barriers.

While Fiscal Year 2020 and beyond will bring new challenges, we are confident that ABH remains well positioned to successfully represent our members in support of community-based behavioral healthcare. The collective strength of ABH is an important buffer for our members to the swirling change that is around us.

ABH is grateful for your ongoing support and looks forward to our work together in the years ahead.



*Diane Gould, Chair
Board of Directors*



*Vic DiGravio
President/CEO*



A Farewell

At the end of Fiscal Year 2019, we said a fond farewell to Vic DiGravio, ABH's President and CEO from 2007 to 2019. During his tenure at ABH, Vic successfully advocated for improved community behavioral health policy and funding. He was instrumental in the passage and implementation of *Chapter 257 of the Acts of 2008*, the historic act that reformed how the Commonwealth pays for essential social services for our most vulnerable residents in order to address more than 20 years of chronic underfunding of the human services system. Among his other accomplishments are the passage of *Chapter 258 of the Acts of 2014* which ensures greater access to substance use disorder treatment, enhances the safe use of controlled substances, and directs research to identify best practices in monitoring addiction treatment; legislation limiting insurance clawbacks to a twelve-month period; and mandating evaluation and management coverage for behavioral health providers.

While Vic accomplished much in the policy arena, we would be remiss if we did not also thank him for his friendship, wit and sage advice. It is safe to say that all who come in contact with Vic bear witness to his loyalty, integrity, work ethic, and his steadfast belief that we can make a difference in the lives of others.

We wish Vic the best of luck in all his future endeavors, and we thank him for his tireless dedication to ABH.



Meetings and Trainings



ABH's Annual meeting, regular Association meetings and its myriad of professional trainings throughout the year offer the opportunity for ABH members to hear from state and federal policymakers as well as other leaders in the field. At the same time, the meetings provide staff from our member organizations the opportunity to meet and network with colleagues from other ABH member organizations.



ABH's 2018 Salute to Excellence Award Winners

Each October we gather together to celebrate the accomplishments of the amazing individuals who work for our member organizations. Our Salute to Excellence is, quite possibly, our favorite day of the year and we were honored to salute our awardees:

Carl B. Cutchins Award for Children's Behavioral Health

Tyrone J. Williams, M.D.

Riverside Community Care, Inc.

Francis O'Brien Award for Addiction Services

Jennifer Michaels, M.D.

The Brien Center for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

Elizabeth Funk Emerging Leader Award

Bethany Connolly

YOU, Inc.

Special Recognition Award

Anne Pelletier Parker

Advocates, Inc.



ABH's 2018 Salute to Excellence Award Winners

Excellence in Administration & Finance

Marta B. Reece

Bay State Community Services, Inc.

Catherine Pietrzak

Lahey Health Behavioral Services



Excellence in Best Practices

Faith Frazier

BAMSI

Felicia Heywood

The Home for Little Wanderers



Excellence in Outcomes

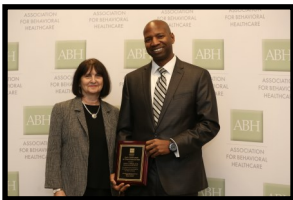
Ariane Krumholz

Clinical and Support Options, Inc.

Excellence in Program Leadership

Heather Ness

Vinfen



All Politics is Local



Much of our advocacy success is related directly to the high level of engagement our members have with their local elected officials. ABH continued to emphasize the importance of local engagement in FY 2019 through our All Politics is Local Initiative.



Again, this year, ABH challenged our member organizations to host a site visit with every legislator that represents its catchment area.



This year we were pleased to honor **Y.O.U., Inc.** as our *2019 All Politics is Local Champion* for hosting the most legislative site visits.



In addition, the following members hosted at least five legislative visits over the course of the year:

Bridgewell

Child & Family Services

Habit Opco—Boston

LUK, Inc.

North Suffolk Mental Health

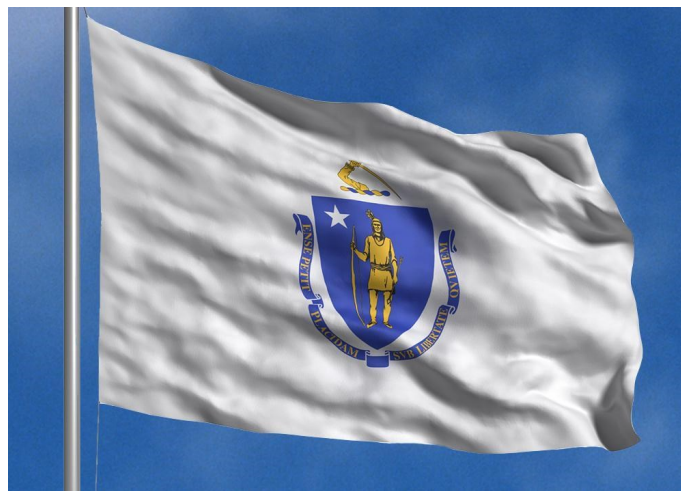
Y.O.U., Inc.



Policy Advocacy

ABH staff and its members have been at the forefront of behavioral health policy changes over the past year and strive to ensure that policies are developed and implemented to best serve the behavioral health community. The state's behavioral health system is in a constant state of change. ABH works diligently to keep members abreast of any and all changes and to monitor implementation of these policy and systems changes.

Over the course of the two-year legislative session, ABH files bills on behalf of our members, monitors the status of hundreds of bills, testifies on bills of importance to ABH members and keeps members updated on developments. ABH also works to ensure fair and adequate rates for behavioral health services.



FY 2020 Budget

The House and Senate budget for Fiscal Year 2020 reflected a strong commitment to increasing funding for behavioral health services that are desperately needed by individuals and families throughout the Commonwealth. The Legislature increased state spending for addiction prevention and treatment and for mental health programs that impact the lives of countless Massachusetts residents. They also appropriated new money to support the behavioral health workforce and to establish an important anti-stigma campaign.

In addition, the legislature adopted crucial language that limits behavioral health insurance clawbacks. This current practice is a significant financial and administrative burden for those providing services. Limiting the time period when insurers can take back provider payments for services rendered in good faith is a game changer for behavioral health providers.

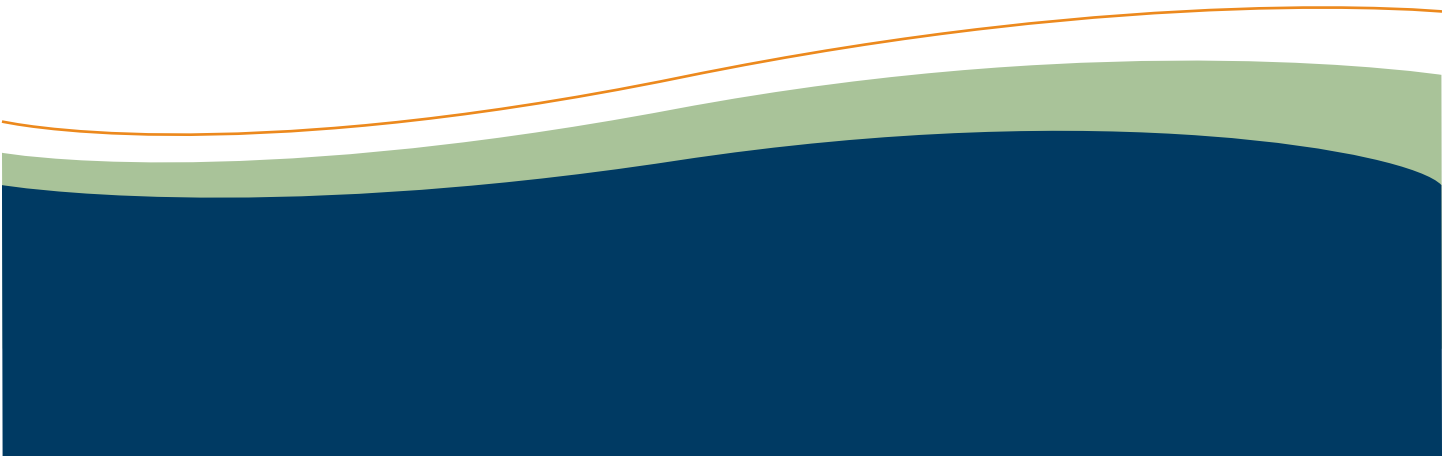
The FY20 budget includes the following highlights, containing many ABH priorities:

- ABH's priority legislation limiting insurance clawbacks to a twelve-month period was signed into law. Payers who clawback money will be required to furnish a written explanation of the reason for the denial and what documentation is needed to pay the claim.
- DMH is funded at approximately \$891.8 million. The Adult Community Services line item (5046-0000) is funded at \$490.4 million, approximately \$1.2 million over projected FY19 spending. The Children and Adolescent Services line item (5042-5000) is funded at \$93.9 million.
- DHCD Rental Subsidies for DMH Clients line item (7004-9033) was funded at \$7.5 million, compared to \$6.5 million in FY19.





FY 2020 Budget

- BSAS is funded at \$162,749,348. It includes an increase of \$7 million over projected FY19 spending levels, and nearly \$14.1 million greater than was proposed under the Governor's House 1 proposal.
 - The FY20 GAA includes \$10 million in new funding for the delivery of medication assisted treatment in County Correctional facilities.
 - The Division of Professional Licensure (7006-0040) is funded at \$5.7 million, including language requiring that \$400,000 to be expended to address backlogs in licensure application processing for behavioral health professionals.
 - The budget creates a Behavioral Health Outreach, Access, and Support Trust Fund (1595-4512). It is funded at \$10 million, with \$500,000 dedicated to an anti-stigma public awareness campaign and \$2 million for a loan forgiveness for mental health professionals.
 - MassHealth includes funding nearly identical to the House and Senate proposals. MassHealth covers 1.9 million residents and accounts for approximately 38% of the FY20 budget.
 - The Chapter 257 Rate Reserve (1599-6903) is funded at \$20.5 million for FY20.
 - The final budget also included \$5 million to promote various harm reduction efforts (4512-0206), including "pilot programming to advance the creation of new supportive places for treatment and related observation", as recommended by the Harm Reduction Commission. The Commission was established by section 100 of Chapter 208 of the Acts of 2018. Specific initiatives funded within this line item include:
 - ◆ \$1.5 million to increase the availability of sterile and safe injection equipment and syringe disposal;
 - ◆ \$150,000 for a pilot program to provide access to fentanyl testing strips or similar equipment; and,
 - ◆ \$300,000 to increase the availability to naloxone rescue kits prior to discharge from an emergency department after treatment for an opioid overdose.
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Federal Policy

ABH works closely with the National Council for Behavioral Health. ABH participated in the National Council's Annual Capitol Hill Day in September. There, ABH members met with members of the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation to discuss behavioral health funding and policy priorities. Members also attended briefings and received the latest policy analysis from experts in the field.



ABH Committees

ABH's committees are a cornerstone of our organization and most are open to all members—from front-line staff to CEOs. They play an essential role in setting ABH's agenda and they identify pertinent issues to be addressed by ABH staff.

ABH Systems Committees

- Billing Rules, Regulations and Policy Committee
- Corporate Compliance Committee
- E-Health Committee
- Human Resources Committee
- Quality and Outcomes Committee



ABH Behavioral Health Services Committees

- Acute Treatment Services (ATS/Detox) Committee
- Children's Behavioral Health Initiative (CBHI) Committee
- Children's Services Committee
- Clinical Stabilization Services/Transitional Support Services (CSS/TSS) Committee
- Co-Occurring Enhanced Residential Rehabilitation Services (RSS) Committee
- Adult Community & Clinical Supports (ACCS) Policy Committee
- Driver Alcohol Education/Second Offender Aftercare (DAE/SOA) Committee
- Opioid Treatment Program Committee
- Outpatient Committee
- Psychiatric Day Treatment (PDT)/Partial Hospitalization Committee
- Recovery Committee for Residential Services Committee
- Structured Outpatient Addiction Program Committee





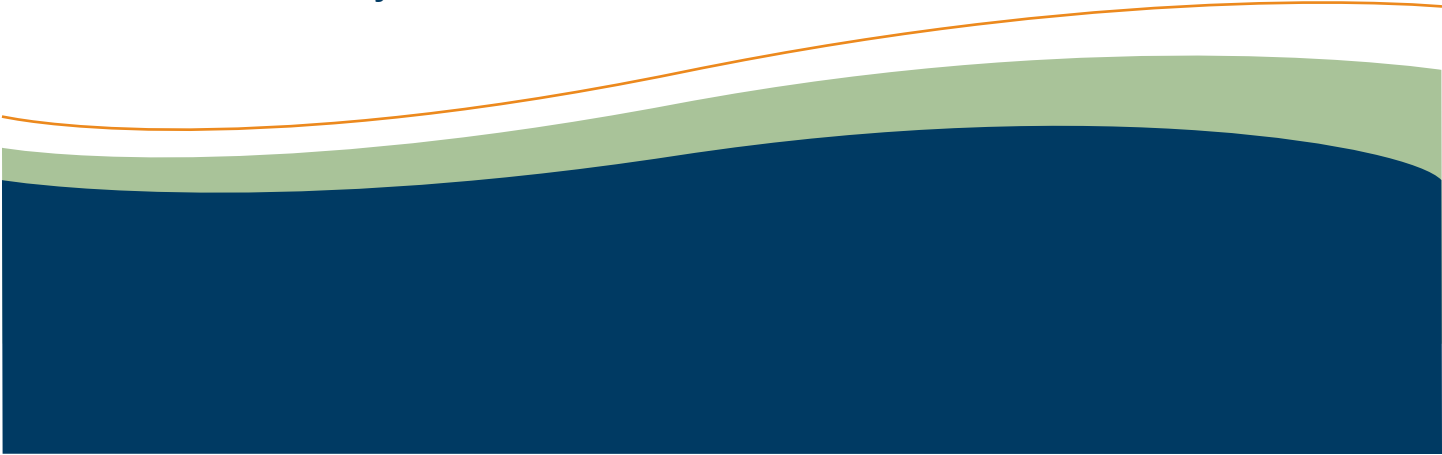
ABH Board of Directors

Officers

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Ken Bates, Treasurer, President/CEO, Open Sky
Nancy Paull, Clerk, CEO, SSTAR
Vic DiGravio, President/CEO, ABH, Inc.

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Steven Hahn, President/CEO, NFI Massachusetts
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ABH Board of Directors

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Karin Jeffers, President/CEO, Clinical and Support Options

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Andy Pond, President/CEO, Justice Resource Institute

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William Sprague, CEO, Bay Cove Human Services

Emily Stewart, Executive Director, Casa Esperanza

Susan Stubbs, President/CEO, ServiceNet

Lesli Suggs, President and CEO, The Home for Little Wanderers

Katherine Wilson, President/CEO, Behavioral Health Network



ABH Member Organizations

Acadia Healthcare
Adcare Educational Institute
Addiction Treatment Center of New England
AdvantEdge Company
Advocates, Inc.
Arc South Norfolk
Aspire Health Alliance
Bay Cove Human Services
Bay State Community Services
Behavioral Health Network
Beth Israel Lahey Health Behavioral Services
Boston A.S.A.P.
Boston Healthcare for the Homeless
Boston Public Health Commission
Bridgewell
Brien Center
Brockton Area Multi-Services, Inc.
Brookline Community Mental Health Center
Cambridge Health Alliance
Cape Cod Healthcare
Casa Esperanza
Catholic Charities
Center for Human Development
Child and Family Services
Children's Services of Roxbury
Clinical & Support Options, Inc.
Community Counseling of Bristol County
Community Healthlink
Community Services Institute
Cutchins Program for Children & Families
Dimock Community Health Center

Eliot Community Human Services
Family Service Association
Fellowship Health Resources
Fenway Community Health Center
Gandara Mental Health Center
Gosnold
High Point Treatment Center
Hope House, Inc.
Institute for Health & Recovery
Italian Home for Children
Jewish Family & Children's Services
Judge Baker Children's Center
Justice Resource Institute
Key Program
Link House
Lowell Community Health Center
Lowell House, Inc.
Luk Crisis Center
Martha's Vineyard Community Services, Inc.
Mental Health Association
Middlesex Human Service Agency, Inc.
New Life Counseling & Wellness Center
North Charles Institute
North Cottage Program, Inc.
North Suffolk Mental Health Association
Northeast Center for Youth and Families
Old Colony Y Services Corporation
Open Sky



ABH Member Organizations

Perkins Behavioral Health
Phoenix Houses of New England, Inc.
Pine Street Inn
River Valley Counseling Center
Riverside Community Health Center
ServiceNet
SMOC Mental Health & Addiction Services
South Bay Mental Health Center
Spectrum Health Center
SSTAR
Steppingstone, Inc.
The Edinburg Center
The Home for Little Wanderers
Till, Inc.
UMass Memorial Community Healthlink
Veterans Inc.
Victory Programs, Inc.
Vinfen Corporation
Volunteers of America of MA, Inc.
Walden Community Services
Walker
Wayside Youth and Family Support Network
Youth Opportunities Upheld, Inc.
Youth Villages, Inc.
Walden Community Services
Walker
Wayside Youth & Family Support Network
Youth Opportunities Upheld, Inc.
Youth Villages, Inc.

Associate Members

Advocates for Human Potential
Alexander, Aronson, Finning & Co.
Bob Barker Company
eHana LLC
Hirsch, Roberts, Weinstein, LLP
Marsh & McLennan Agency
Netsmart Technologies
Qualifacts
Donald Siddell
Victory Human Services
William James College



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 & Strategic Initiatives

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

Stuart Figueroa, Policy and Research Specialist

Rosemary Santini, Administrative Assistant

Ellen Caliendo, Business Manager



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