

Association for Behavioral Healthcare



Fiscal Year 2012 Annual Report



Who We Are

For over 30 years, the Association for Behavioral Healthcare (ABH) has been the leading advocacy organization in the Massachusetts' mental health and addiction services arena. Fighting for high quality, community-based care for families and individuals with mental illness, addiction and substance use disorders, ABH provides leadership and statewide coordination on important public policy, financing, managed care, clinical, and quality assurance issues.

ABH is a statewide association representing over eighty community-based mental health and addiction treatment provider organizations. Our members are the primary providers of publicly-funded behavioral healthcare services in the Commonwealth, serving approximately 81,000 Massachusetts residents daily and over three-quarters of a million residents annually, and employing 37,500 people.

ABH represents its member providers to funding, legislative and regulatory agencies at the state and national levels and has become a powerful and compelling advocacy organization to ensure that citizens throughout the Commonwealth have access to quality, comprehensive community-based care.



ASSOCIATION
FOR BEHAVIORAL
HEALTHCARE



Dear ABH member:

It is our pleasure to submit to you the Fiscal Year 2012 Annual Report for the Association for Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. and the Association for Behavioral Healthcare Foundation, Inc.

The Annual Report reflects how much of ABH's efforts during FY12 were focused on the recurring theme of change. Indeed, ABH and our member organizations worked closely together to monitor and influence how health care purchased and delivered in Massachusetts is changing. We were tremendously successful in ensuring that the needs of individuals with significant behavioral health disorders were addressed in the landmark payment reform legislation passed by the legislature and signed into law by Governor Patrick.

We worked closely with state policy makers and other stakeholders to eliminate regulatory barriers hindering the integration of primary and behavioral healthcare and continued our forceful advocacy in the area of health information technology and electronic health records.

As an association we saw our long commitment to fair and adequate reimbursement rates bear fruit. For the first time ever, the Patrick Administration and legislature included funding in the FY13 budget for increased rates in accordance with Chapter 257. Medicaid-funded services such as detox and family partner services received significant rate adjustments.

Our advocacy for increased state funding for mental health and addiction treatment services resulted in a \$2.35 million increase for the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS); \$16.5 million in new funding for Department of Mental Health adult and child community services; and \$4 million for increased MassHealth behavioral health outpatient rates.

This new funding in part was the result of the strong relationships ABH and our members maintain with key policy makers in the Patrick Administration and the legislature. Building and maintaining relationships is a large part of what we do at ABH. This was never more important than in FY12 when we welcomed a new Director of MassHealth, a new Commissioner of Mental Health and a new Director of the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services during the course of the year.

Our most important relationships, however, continue to be with our member organizations. In FY12 we worked hard to increase our engagement with our members and to provide you with access to the resources you need to successfully meet the needs of the individuals you serve every day. Whether it was through our long-standing committee system or newer methods like Facebook and Twitter, serving our members is what is most important to us.

We are grateful for your commitment to ABH and our work. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Kevin Norton
Chair, Board of Directors

Vic DiGravio
President/CEO



Kevin Norton
Chair,
Board of Directors

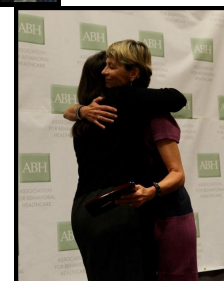


Vic DiGravio
President/CEO

Salute to Excellence

Each year, one of the major highlights for ABH is the **Salute to Excellence**. This year seemed especially touching as over 300 people joined us in recognizing the accomplishments of the year's award winners. We were fortunate enough to have the opportunity to celebrate some truly amazing people who work every day to provide high quality community-based behavioral healthcare.

We don't have enough opportunities to thank the staff of ABH member organizations for the work that they do every day, and we're grateful that the **Salute to Excellence** gives us the opportunity to do just that.





Member Opportunities

ABH's Annual Meeting and regular Association Meetings serve multiple purposes. They provide staff from our member organizations with the opportunity to meet and network with their colleagues from other ABH member organizations, they offer the chance to hear from state and federal policymakers, and provide educational opportunities on relevant topics for our members.

ABH Annual Meeting: The Changing Landscape in Healthcare in 2012

ABH members from around the state joined their colleagues to engage in an important discussion with Katherine Powers, M.Ed., SAMHSA Regional Administrator, and Julian Harris, M.D., Director of the Office of MassHealth, about healthcare reform at the state and federal levels and its impact on behavioral health.



ABH Association Meetings

Health Information Technology in Massachusetts

Manu Tandon, Secretariat, Chief Information Officer, Executive Office of Health and Human Services, provided an overview of the work of the state's Health Information Technology Council and the Commonwealth's plans over the next few years in the area of e-Health. In addition, the co-chairs of the Massachusetts Standardized Documentation Project provided an overview of the project and the next steps moving forward.



Working with Military Service Members and their Families

Secretary Coleman Nee, Department of Veterans' Services, provided ABH members with a presentation on various initiatives by the Department of Veterans' Services. A panel presentation and discussion followed focusing on ways to support the unique needs of service members and their families.



State Budget Victories

One of ABH's biggest priorities is ensuring adequate funding for community-based mental health and addiction services. Throughout the course of the year, ABH led the way in securing increased funding for FY 2013, including:

- \$2.35 million in increased funding for the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS)
- \$16.5 million in increased funding for Department of Mental Health community-based services
- \$4 million in funding for increased MassHealth behavioral health outpatient rates

The FY 2013 budget also maintains funding for all other BSAS line items and includes a \$20 million human services salary reserve.

ABH firmly believes that both grassroots efforts and coalition building are essential components to budget advocacy. ABH would not have secured these funding increases were it not for the grassroots advocacy of our members through visits to the State House and phone calls and emails to Legislators. In addition, ABH was the driving force behind the **Massachusetts Coalition for Addiction Services (MCAS)** and **FundMentalHealth.org**, two coalitions formed to secure funding for community-based services.

ABH keeps members informed of budget developments through regular correspondence, including Community Conversations, conference calls designed to brief members on key items included in the budget and their impact on ABH members.





Fair and Adequate Rates

Chapter 257 of the Acts of 2008 was passed to replace the historic Purchase of Service System with a transparent rate-setting system in an effort to remedy the fact that human service contracts have been historically underfunded.

As part of an implementation accord reached with the Patrick Administration, Governor Patrick issued *Executive Order 536*, which created the Provider and Consumer Advocacy Council “to facilitate the involvement of Massachusetts social service providers and consumers, in an advisory capacity, in the development of policies, plans, and initiatives to address issues that have system-level impact on the implementation of *Chapter 257* across all agencies and programs subject to *Chapter 257*.” Governor Patrick named six members of *The Collaborative* (ABH, the Providers’ Council, and The Association of Developmental Disabilities Providers) to the Provider and Consumer Advocacy Council.

In addition, for the first time Governor Patrick and the Legislature included funding in the FY 2013 state budget for *Chapter 257* rate increases, marking a major victory for ABH and *The Collaborative*. Additionally, ABH successfully advocated for restoration of cuts made to BSAS Family Residential programs that violated *Chapter 257*, and ABH members exercised their legal rights under *Chapter 257* by filing appeals of rates set for ATS (detox) and Department of Mental Health Clubhouse Services.



The Campaign to **STRENGTHEN
HUMAN SERVICES**
*IMPROVE CARE • RETAIN QUALITY STAFF
ENHANCE ECONOMIC IMPACT*



Integration

Integration of Primary and Behavioral Healthcare

ABH identified integration of primary and behavioral healthcare, both at the policy and practice levels, as a major focus for Fiscal Year 2012. We worked diligently to ensure that payment reform legislation passed by the legislature included provisions such as behavioral health homes to better position ABH members in the evolving health care delivery system. ABH worked closely with the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers to lobby state agencies to address regulatory and billing barriers to integration of care and the two organizations co-hosted an Integration Summit for our members to highlight strategies around integration of care.

Integration of Care for Dual Eligible Individuals

Over the past year, there has been a great deal of focus on the *Massachusetts State Demonstration to Integrate Care for Dual Eligible Individuals* where the goal is to integrate care for individuals between the ages of 21-64 who are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid. ABH assiduously monitored and influenced the design of the Duals Demonstration Project. During Fiscal Year 2012, ABH submitted written responses to the state's Request for Information (RFI) on the Duals Project as well as the Commonwealth's Draft Submission to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid. ABH also successfully advocated to exempt Department of Mental Health Community Based Flexible Support services (CBFS) from the service array for the project. Additionally, we hosted several meetings for our members with potential Integrated Care Organizations (ICOs) throughout the last quarter of Fiscal Year 2012.



Healthcare Payment Reform

Chapter 224 of the Acts of 2012, An Act Improving the Quality of Health Care and Reducing Costs Through Increased Transparency, Efficiency and Innovation was signed into law by the Governor at the conclusion of the 2011-2012 legislative session, marking the culmination of over two years of effort on the part of the Administration and the Legislature to create a law aimed at reducing health care costs in the Commonwealth.

ABH devoted considerable resources to ensuring that any payment reform/cost containment bill acknowledge the unique challenges of serving individuals with mental health and/or addiction disorders. As part of this effort, ABH worked closely with the Patrick Administration and the Legislature to educate them on the vital role of community-based services and the organizations which provide those services within the larger health care system. Our goal throughout the legislative process was to ensure that ABH members and the field of community-based behavioral healthcare were as well-positioned as possible to play a key role moving forward in our healthcare delivery system.

We were very successful in this effort. References to "mental health, substance use disorder and behavioral health services" are included in all key sections of the law. The law also allows behavioral health organizations to serve as specialty behavioral health homes for individuals with significant mental health and/or addiction disorders. Additionally, the law contains strong provisions around behavioral healthcare workforce development and health information technology funding for behavioral health organizations. These are significant victories that were made possible by the advocacy of ABH and our member organizations.



Monitoring Procurements, Ensuring Fair and Adequate Rates

Monitoring Procurements

Over the past year, ABH focused extensively on a number of ongoing procurements of significant importance to our members including the Department of Mental Health/Department of Children and Families Joint Residential procurement and the Department of Mental Health Clubhouse procurement. In both cases, ABH submitted extensive feedback to the Commonwealth about system designs and worked closely with other stakeholders to impact the rate-setting processes for each service. Additionally, ABH devoted significant time to addressing ongoing implementation issues around the Department of Mental Health's Individual and Family Flexible Supports procurement.

ABH also convened a number of meetings for our members around the upcoming Bureau of Substance Abuse Services Residential procurement which will continue to be a major focus of our efforts in Fiscal Year 2013.

Ensuring Fair and Adequate Rates

Working to ensure fair and adequate rates is a key tenet of ABH's mission. This year, ABH successfully advocated for increased reimbursement rates for Children's Behavioral Health Initiative Family Partners and Acute Treatment Services (detox) providers. Rates for Family Partners increased by 18% on July 1, 2012 and will increase by another 1.7% on July 1, 2013. We secured a 17% rate increase for larger Acute Treatment Services providers and a 30% rate increase for smaller Acute Treatment Services, retroactive to November 1, 2011.



Federal Policy

ABH is fortunate to collaborate with the **National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare (The National Council)** and the **State Associations of Addiction Services (SAAS)** on federal policy issues. Vic DiGravio, ABH's President/CEO, chairs the National Council's Association Executive Group and serves on the National Council's Board of Directors and Public Policy Committee. Connie Peters, ABH's Vice President for Addiction Services, serves as President-Elect of the SAAS Board of Directors.

ABH participated in the National Council's 8th Annual Capital Hill Day in June 2012 where a contingent of ABH members met with members of the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation to discuss behavioral health policies. This year's contingent was ABH's largest ever and ABH was extremely pleased to be recognized by the National Council as the "Fastest Growing Delegation" at Hill Day.





Social Media Expansion

Over the past year, ABH worked to expand its engagement of members through social media. ABH created a [Facebook](#) page and Twitter account (@ABH Mass). In addition, members can access ABH's You Tube channel by clicking [here](#) to stay informed on the latest news and information.

Every Monday, ABH highlights the accomplishments of our members on our [Facebook](#) page and Twitter account. ABH also uses social media to highlight interesting news stories, our upcoming events, reports and studies relative to behavioral health.



Member Services

ABH prides itself on its member services and focused a great deal on increasing member engagement over the past year. Below is a snapshot of some of our member services:

- ◇ E-Update
- ◇ Regular operational issues updates
- ◇ Annual *Salute to Excellence*
- ◇ Association meetings
- ◇ Trainings
- ◇ Committee meetings
- ◇ Legislative updates
- ◇ State budget tracking
- ◇ Action alerts
- ◇ Legislative and budget testimony
- ◇ Regulatory testimony
- ◇ Updates on regulation changes
- ◇ Essential Learning discounts
- ◇ Salary survey
- ◇ Procurement and policy monitoring
- ◇ Professional opportunities





Professional Trainings

In addition to our Annual Meeting and Association Meetings, ABH also offers its members a number of professional trainings throughout the year. In FY 2012, we sponsored the following trainings:

Meaningful Use and Electronic Health Implementation

Bethany M. Gilboard, Director, Regional Extension Center, Massachusetts eHealth Institute, and Jim Breenan, Clinical Research Manager, Massachusetts eHealth Institute, presented a dialogue focusing on the Massachusetts eHealth Institute, including what providers need to know to succeed with implementing Health IT, the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs, and meaningful use.

Dialogue on Client and Staff Safety

Program Directors from across the state joined their colleagues to engage in this important discussion around best practices in promoting client and staff safety in community-based programs.

Non-Profit Boards: What Providers Need to know about D&O Coverage Issues and Legal Responsibilities for Directors and Officers.

Jeffrey L. Hirsch, Hirsch, Roberts, Weinstein LLP, and William L. Granahan, Senior Vice President, Bostonian Group, led a discussion focusing on legal duties of board members, the Attorney General's Guide for Board Members of Charitable Organizations, common sources of D&O claims, Indemnification Agreements, D&O coverage basics.

Middle Management Academy

ABH was extremely pleased to bring The National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare's Middle Management Academy to Massachusetts for ABH members. This intensive, one-of-its-kind, interactive training program is designed to help behavioral healthcare managers get the best out of people and resources and develop the next generation of leadership for our member organizations.

Evidence-Driven and Integrated Care for people with Dual Eligibility

Richard Dougherty, Ph.D., DMA Health Strategies, reviewed the elements of several integrated care evidence-based models in clinic settings, including the IMPACT model, patient-centered medical homes, peer-driven health homes, screening, and brief interventions.



Coalition Strength

In striving to promote community-based mental health and addiction treatment services as the most appropriate, clinically effective and cost sensitive method for providing care to individuals in need, we have been fortunate to work with a variety of organizations. We are thankful for our coalition partners, including, but not limited to the following:

Affordable Care Today!! (ACT!!)

AIDS Action Committee

Army OneSource

Association of Developmental Disabilities Providers (ADDP)

Boston University School of Public Health/Join Together

The Campaign to Strengthen Human Services

Children's League of Massachusetts

Children's Mental Health Campaign

FundMentalHealth.org

Health Care for All

Massachusetts Aging and Mental Health Coalition

Massachusetts Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors

Massachusetts Association of Behavioral Health Systems

Massachusetts Coalition for Addiction Services (MCAS)

Massachusetts Council of Human Service Providers

Massachusetts Hospital Association

Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance

Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers

Massachusetts Mental Health Transformation Committee (TRANSCOM)

Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery (MOAR)

Massachusetts People/Patients Organized
for Wellness, Empowerment and Rights (M-Power)

Massachusetts Psychiatric Society

Massachusetts Psychological Association

Massachusetts Public Health Association

National Alliance on Mental Illness—Massachusetts (NAMI-MASS)

National Association of Social Workers—Massachusetts

National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare

The National Empowerment Center

New England Association of Drug Court Professionals

Parent/Professional Advocacy League (PAL)

Professional Advisory Council

Recovery Homes Collaborative

State Associations of Addiction Services (SAAS)

The Transformation Center



ABH Committees

Our committees are essential to setting ABH's agenda and participation on most is open to our full membership. Our committees, which fall into three categories: Policy and Systems, Mental Health Services, and Addiction Treatment Services, identify pertinent policies and programmatic issues to be addressed by ABH.

Policy and Systems Committees

Billing, Rules, Regulations and Policy Committee
Corporate Compliance Committee
e-Health Committee
Human Resources Committee
Managed Care Committee
Quality and Outcomes Committee
Uniform Financial Reporting Committee

Mental Health Services Committees

Children's Policy Committee
Children's Services Committee
Community Based Flexible Supports Committee
Emergency Service Programs Committee
In-Home Therapy Committee
Program of Assertive Community Treatment (PACT) Providers Committee
Psychiatric Day Treatment/Partial Hospitalization Committee



Addiction Treatment Services Committees

Acute Treatment Services (ATS) Committee
Clinical Stabilization Services (CSS) Committee
Driver Alcohol Education/Second Offender Aftercare Committee
Opioid Treatment Providers Committee
Recovery Committee for Residential Services

ABH Executive Teams

- The *ABH/Department of Mental Health Executive Team* regularly meets with DMH Commissioner Marcia Fowler and her senior staff to discuss issues impacting community-based providers in serving DMH clients.
- The *ABH/Bureau of Substance Abuse Services Executive Team* works closely with the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health and Bureau of Substance Abuse Services Director Hilary Jacobs.
- The *ABH/MassHealth Executive Team* meets regularly with the Director of Behavioral Health for MassHealth Chris Counihan.
- ABH meets quarterly with the state's Medicaid Managed Care Organizations to discuss issues of mutual interest.



ABH Board of Directors

Kevin P. Norton, Chair, President, Northeast Behavioral Health
Jackie K. Moore, Vice Chair, CEO, North Suffolk Mental Health Association
Daniel Mumbauer, Treasurer, President/CEO, High Point Treatment Center
Karin Jeffers, Clerk, President/CEO, Clinical and Support Options
Vic DiGravio, President/CEO, Association for Behavioral Healthcare

Ellen Attaliades, CEO, The Edinburg Center
Scott Bock, President/CEO, Riverside Community Care
Bruce Bird, President/CEO, Vinfen Corporation
Maurice Boisvert, President/CEO, Youth Opportunities Upheld, Inc.
Matthew Davis, CEO, Community Substance Abuse Centers
Gerard Desilets, Director of Planning, SMOC Behavioral Health Services
Henry East-Trou, Executive Director, Gandara Mental Health Center
Deborah Ekstrom, President/CEO, Community Healthlink
Charles Faris, President/CEO, Spectrum Health Systems
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Gary Houle, Executive Director, North Charles
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Andrew Pond, President, Justice Resource Institute
Frank Sacco, President/CEO, Community Services Institute
Carla Saccone, President/CEO, Children's Friend and Family Services
Al Scott, Executive Director, Mental Health Association of Greater Lowell
Jonathan Scott, President, Victory Programs
Philip Shea, President/CEO, Community Counseling of Bristol County
Harry Shulman, President/CEO, South Shore Mental Health Center
William Sprague, CEO, Bay Cove Human Services
Susan Stubbs, President/CEO, ServiceNet
Ken Tarabelli, President/CEO, Bay State Community Services
William Taylor, President/CEO, Advocates, Inc.
Barry Walsh, Executive Director, The Bridge of Central MA
Carlton Watson, Executive Director, Henry Lee Willis Community Center
Kathy Wilson, President/CEO, Behavioral Health Network



ABH Member Organizations

Adcare Educational Institute
Addiction Treatment Center of N.E.
Advocates, Inc.
Amesbury Psychological Center, Inc.
Bay Cove Human Services
Bay State Community Services
Behavior Health Network
Boston A.S.A.P.
Boston Healthcare for the Homeless
Boston Public Health Commission
The Bridge of Central Mass, Inc.
The Brien Center
Brightside
Brookline Community Mental Health Center
C.A.S.P.A.R.
Cape Cod Healthcare
The Carson Center for Human Services
Casa Esperanza
Catholic Charities
Center for Human Development
Child & Family Services - New Bedford
Children's and Family Services, Inc
Children's Friend, Inc.
Children's Services of Roxbury
Clinical & Support Options, Inc.
Community Care Services
Community Counseling of Bristol County
Community Health Care, Inc.
Community Healthlink
Community Services Institute
Cutchins Programs for Children & Families
Dimock Community Health Center

The Edinburg Center
Eliot Community Human Services
Family and Community Resources
Family and Community Solutions
The Family Center
Family Service of Greater Boston
Fellowship Health Resources, Inc.
Fenway Community Health Center
Gandara Mental Health Center
George B. Wells Human Services Center
Gosnold on Cape Cod
Habit Management
Harbor Counseling Center
Henry Lee Willis Community Center
High Point Treatment Center, Inc.
The Home for Little Wanderers
Hope House
Institute for Health & Recovery
Jewish Family & Children's Services
Judge Baker Children's Center
Justice Resource Institute
Key Program
Lowell Community Health Center
Luk Crisis Center
Mass General Hospital
Mental Health Association of Greater Lowell
MSPCC
NFI Massachusetts, Inc.
North Charles Institute
North Suffolk Mental Health Association
Northeast Behavioral Healthcare
Old Colony Y Services Corporation

Phoenix Houses of New England
Pine Street Inn
Project Cope
The Psychological Center
River Valley Counseling Center
Riverside Community Care
ServiceNet
SMOC Mental Health & Addiction Services
South Bay Mental Health Center
South End Community Health
South Shore Mental Health Center
Spectrum Health Systems
SSTAR
Steppingstone, Inc.
Team Coordinating Agency
Victory Programs, Inc.
Vinfen Corporation
Wayside Youth & Family Support Network
Youth Opportunities Upheld, Inc.

Associate Members

Bostonian Group
The Echo Group
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Health Enhancements
The Health Foundation of Central MA
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ASSOCIATION
FOR BEHAVIORAL
HEALTHCARE

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