



ABH October Committee Meetings

Monday, October 1
Billing, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, October 2
ATS, 10 a.m. (ABH)

Wednesday, October 4
HR, 10 a.m.

Friday, October 5
**Children's CEO
Leadership**, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, October 10
Outpatient, 10 a.m.

Thursday, October 11
SOAP, 10 a.m.

Friday, October 12
**CBHI, Corporate
Compliance**, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, October 16
OTP, 9:30 a.m. (ABH)

Thursday, October 18
**Recovery Committee
for Residential
Services**, 10 a.m.

All meetings are held at
the Hampton Inn, Natick
unless otherwise noted.
For more information,
call
508-647-8385.

**ABH's
Salute to
Excellence!**

Recognizing leadership in community-based
behavioral healthcare

DREAM...BELIEVE...ACHIEVE

Please join us in celebrating the outstanding contributions and accomplishments of community-based behavioral healthcare providers from across the Commonwealth at our Annual Salute to Excellence.

Friday, October 19 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

(Check-In, Breakfast, and Exhibitor Fair begin at 8:00 a.m., program begins at 9:00 a.m.)

Boston Marriott Newton

Keynote:

Gary Mendell, Founder and CEO of Shatterproof

REGISTER TODAY

Questions? Contact Megan Thompson at MThompson@ABHmass.org.

Now Accepting Nominations!

Do you know someone who should be recognized for their outstanding work in the behavioral healthcare field?

If your answer is **YES**, then you should nominate them for recognition at ABH's Salute to Excellence on Friday, October 19, 2018. Learn more about the awards [here](#).



It's easy!

Just click [here](#) to access the online nomination form.

The deadline for submitting nominations is **Friday, September 7**.

To be considered, nominees must be employed by ABH member organizations.

ABH Committee Survey

Each year, as part of our continual effort to improve our committees, we ask for your feedback as to what is working well, what we can improve, and what direction the committees should take moving forward. The information you provide will be used to inform agenda planning to ensure that content is engaging, timely, and meaningful to your work.

Please take a few minutes to share your insights using this brief survey – [2018 ABH Committees Survey](#). If you have participated on more than one committee this past year, we ask that you complete the survey for each separate committee you attended.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Stuart Figueroa at SFiguroa@ABHmass.org.

Webinar: Building Communication Access

The One Care Learning Team is hosting a **Building Communication Access: Language and Cultural Considerations** webinar for providers on Friday, September 21 from 12pm – 1:30pm. The goal of this webinar is to build providers' communication skills when working with people with disabilities who do not use English as a first language, including spoken language or ASL, or who have low literacy levels related to limited education or cognitive disabilities. To register, visit: <https://onecarelearning.ehs.state.ma.us/>.

Neighborhood Health Plan Rebranding

Neighborhood Health Plan has announced a new name and brand. As of January 1, 2019, Neighborhood Health Plan will be rebranded as AllWays Health Partners. In addition, the plan has selected Optum as their behavioral health partner for commercial and MassHealth products, also effective January 1, 2019.

Master Agreement RFR for Flexible Support Services

The Department of Mental Health (DMH) has released their Master Agreement (MA) RFR for Flexible Support Services (FSS). It can be found on CommBuys [here](#). To be considered for the First Round of Response Reviews, Bid Responses must be filed by September 19, 2018, 4 p.m. Thereafter, a Bid Response may be filed any time on or after January 1, 2019, 4:00 PM EST up to March 31, 2019 4:00 p.m.

MassHealth and the Children's Behavioral Health Initiative have published a new informative brochure **MassHealth Services for Children and Youth.**

The brochure describes home and community-based behavioral health services available to MassHealth enrolled children and youth under the age of 21.

Click [here](#) for free copies.

The brochure is available in Spanish, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, Chinese and Vietnamese.

Grand Bargain Law

Governor Baker signed a new law on June 28, 2018 that establishes a new paid family and medical leave program for Massachusetts workers and increases the minimum wage over five years ([Chapter 121 of the Acts of 2018](#)).

ABH encourages our members to contact your own legal counsel to discuss the details of the new law, but you can find a short summary below. The ABH Human Resources Committee also plans to address the details of these changes at our meetings over the coming year.

The so-called "Grand Bargain" came about when legislators, organized labor, community groups and the business community worked together on compromise legislation following the introduction of a series of ballot questions proposed for 2018. The groups agreed to withdraw these questions from the ballot in exchange for united support of this legislation. The new law does the following:

1. Establishes a paid family and medical leave program for Massachusetts workers;
2. Increases the minimum wage to \$15 over 5 years (\$6.75 for tipped employees);
3. Phases out over 5 years premium pay on Sundays and holidays for retail employees; and
4. Establishes an annual 2-day sales tax holiday each August.

Of specific interest to ABH members:

Minimum Wage Increase to \$15/hour by January 1, 2023

2019: \$12.00/hour

2020: \$12.75/hour

2021: \$13.50/hour

2022: \$14.25/hour

2023: \$15.00/hour

Minimum wage for tipped employees will increase from \$3.75/hour to \$6.75/hour by January 1, 2023.

Paid Family & Medical Leave

Starting on January 1, 2021, Massachusetts workers will be entitled to:

- Up to 12 weeks of paid leave to care for a child within first 12 months of birth or placement or adoption/foster placement; and
- Up to 20 weeks of paid leave to attend to a serious medical condition.

Starting July 1, 2021, Massachusetts workers will be entitled to:

- Up to 12 weeks to care for a family member with a serious health condition.

The law applies to all employers with at least one employee working in Massachusetts and will be administered by the Commonwealth. It will be funded through a payroll tax of .63%, split between employers and employees. After a 7-day waiting period, workers receive 80% of their wages (capped at 50% of state average weekly wage), plus 50% of their wages beyond that amount (capped at \$850 per week). The law also includes notice and anti-retaliation provisions.

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ABH - William James College led Workforce Focus Groups- PLEASE ATTEND & SHARE!

ABH is partnering with William James College to host a series of focus groups over the next month and a half to learn more about the workforce shortages that continue to plague our members, and brainstorm ways to address this crisis collectively. We will then use the data collected during these sessions to jointly develop a workforce development strategy moving forward.

Who: CEOs, Senior Staff, Human Resources Directors, Clinical Directors & Program Managers

What: Workforce Focus Groups

When & Where:

Worcester, Beechwood Hotel, 363 Plantation Street

Tuesday September 11, 2018 (immediately preceding ABH Board meeting)

8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Brockton, High Point Treatment Center, 30 Meadowbrook Road

Monday September 17, 2018

9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Newton, William James College, 1 Wells Ave, Room 127

Tuesday September 18, 2018

10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Northampton, Clinical & Support Options, 8 Atwood Drive, #201

Tuesday September 25, 2018

9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Natick (directly following an upcoming ABH HR Committee meeting)

Details TBD

RSVP: Please RSVP to Rosemary Santini (rsantini@abhmass.org) to let us know if you or your staff can attend one of these sessions. We will share a list of topic areas for your consideration before the meetings.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Mandy Gilman at AGilman@ABHmass.org.

Keeper's Korner

Keeper has been avoiding the heat this week (and reading):

- [Department of Public Health releases mandated state study of marijuana use.](#)
- [Fentanyl-Involved Deaths At All-Time High In Massachusetts.](#) WBUR.
- [The Scourge of Fentanyl is More Clear in the Battle Against Opioid Use.](#) Boston Globe.

