

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Michelle McKenzie

Ball Consulting Group, LLC

Phone: 617-243-9950; Email: michelle@ballcg.com

Association for Behavioral Healthcare Announces New Board Members

FRAMINGHAM, Mass. (June 8, 2023) – The <u>Association for Behavioral Healthcare</u> (ABH), a statewide nonprofit organization representing 82 community-based behavioral healthcare providers, today announced the election of 15 executives to its Board of Directors.

The board members – experienced industry leaders at provider agencies across Massachusetts – play a pivotal role in advocating for solutions to improve and expand access to mental health and addiction services at a time when workforce challenges are growing.

"Our board is representative of the geographic, cultural and programmatic diversity of our membership and of behavioral health services in the Commonwealth," said ABH President and CEO Lydia Conley. "Their experience, insight and innovation are invaluable as we address the workforce crisis and other issues affecting community-based providers, who are the key to improving and expanding access to care for all who need it."

Those elected to two-year terms are:

- Ken Bates, President & CEO, Open Sky Community Services, Worcester
- Damien Cabezas, President & CEO, North Suffolk Community Services, Chelsea
- Daurice Cox, President & CEO, Bay State Community Services, Quincy
- Sherry Ellis, Chief Executive Officer, SSTAR, Fall River
- Peter Evers, President and CEO, BAMSI, Brockton
- Jim Goodwin, President and CEO, Center for Human Development, Springfield
- Gary Houle, Executive Director, North Charles Institute, Cambridge
- Louis Josephson, President and CEO, Bay Cove Human Services, Boston
- Christine Macbeth, President and CEO, The Brien Center for Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services, Pittsfield
- Lois Nesci, Chief Executive Officer, Gandara Center, Springfield
- Eileen Maguire, President and CEO, Hope House, Boston
- Robert Mills, Chief Executive Officer, Middlesex Human Service Agency, Waltham
- Andrew Pond, President and CEO, JRI, Needham

- Steve Winn, President and CEO, Behavioral Health Network, Springfield
- Jean Yang, President and CEO, Vinfen, Cambridge

In addition, two leaders were appointed to fill board vacancies. They are:

- Sarah Porter, Executive Director, Victory Programs, Inc., Boston
- Andrew Dawley, President and CEO, Community Counseling of Bristol County Inc., Taunton

About the Association for Behavioral Healthcare

The Association for Behavioral Healthcare (ABH) represents 82 organizations that are the primary providers of community-based behavioral healthcare in Massachusetts. Their nearly 50,000 dedicated employees provide clinically effective and cost-sensitive care to more than 80,000 individuals on any given day in communities throughout the state. ABH is recognized as the leading statewide association advocating for the preservation, promotion and advancement of community-based mental health and addiction services. Visit www.abhmass.org for more information.

###