



Advancing Health Care Policy
for Mental Health and Addiction

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ABHW Announces Two New Hires to Enhance Advocacy

Washington, DC (May 9, 2019) – The Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness (ABHW), the national voice for payers that manage behavioral health insurance benefits for over 200 million people, has announced the appointment of Maeghan Gilmore, MPH as Director of Government Affairs and Kate Romanow, JD as Director of Regulatory Affairs.

“The addition of Kate and Maeghan will help drive ABHW’s overall goal of ensuring access to quality, evidence-based behavioral healthcare for all individuals with a mental health or substance use disorder. Kate’s policy and regulatory background along with Maeghan’s deep expertise in behavioral health policy will have an immediate and profound impact on ABHW’s advocacy efforts,” stated Pamela Greenberg, MPP, ABHW, President and CEO.

Ms. Gilmore brings nearly 15 years of experience working with local governments on behavioral health, health, and justice policies and programs. Prior to joining ABHW, Maeghan was the Program Director for Health, Human Services and Justice at the National Association of Counties. She previously served as the Director of Government Affairs and Public Policy for the National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Directors. Ms. Gilmore received a B.S. in Health Education from Western Michigan University and a Master of Public Health, health policy concentration, from George Washington University.

“I am excited to join the ABHW team as the Director of Government Affairs. I look forward to working with the Association’s member companies and partners, to advocate for federal policies that will help provide needed mental health and substance use disorders care and services,” noted Ms. Gilmore.

Ms. Romanow brings over 15 years of experience in analyzing and influencing federal public policy. Prior to joining ABHW, Kate was the Director of Medicaid Policy at the Blue Cross

Blue Shield Association and has led regulatory affairs initiatives on issues such as the Affordable Care Act, Medicare, and Medicaid. Kate received her B.S. and M.A. from the State University of New York at Geneseo and her J.D. from Boston University School of Law, with a concentration in health care law.

“I’m thrilled to contribute to ABHW’s impressive advocacy work in the field of mental health and substance abuse disorder treatment. I believe this is a critically important area of health policy, and I’m thrilled to join the ABHW team,” stated Ms. Romanow.

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[ABHW](#) is the leading health plan association working to improve access and quality of care for mental health and substance use disorders. ABHW’s members include national and regional health plans who care for more than 200 million people. Together we work to reduce stigma and advance federal policy on mental health and addiction care. Member companies - Aetna Behavioral Health, AmeriHealth Caritas, Anthem, Beacon Health Options, Centene Corporation, Cigna, Magellan Health, New Directions Behavioral Health, and Optum.