

Advancing benefits and services in mental health, substance use and behavior change.

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## Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness CEO to Speak at White House Opioid Crisis Commission Meeting

Washington, DC (October 13, 2017) — The Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness (ABHW), the national voice for payers that manage behavioral health insurance benefits for over 175 million people, today announced that Pamela Greenberg, M.P.P, president and chief executive officer, will speak before President Trump's Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis on Friday, October 20, 2017. The Commission, led by New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, was created to study ways to combat and treat drug misuse, addiction, and the opioid epidemic.

The meeting, which will be held in Washington, D.C. on Friday, October 20 from 11am – 1pm, will consist of discussion regarding insurance issues related to the opioid epidemic.

Greenberg will discuss the important role payers have in access to and delivery of treatment for opioid dependence. She also will highlight innovative approaches taken by ABHW member companies to address the opioid epidemic and actions the federal government can execute to help address this crisis.

"I thank the Commission for addressing this critical public health issue plaguing our nation and for the opportunity to discuss the significant work our members are doing, as well as, the challenges they face. ABHW supports the goals of the Commission and is committed to working with the Administration and Congress to help eradicate the opioid epidemic in our country. Now, more than ever, is the time to ensure patients receive safe, effective, high quality substance use treatment," stated Ms. Greenberg.

This will be the fourth in a series of meetings held by the President's Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis. The meeting will be open to the public through live streaming on <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/live">https://www.whitehouse.gov/live</a>.

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<u>ABHW</u> is an association of the nation's leading behavioral health and wellness companies. These companies provide an array of services related to mental health, substance use disorders, employee assistance, disease management, and other health and wellness programs to over 175 million people in both the public and private sectors. ABHW and its member companies use their behavioral health expertise to improve health care outcomes for individuals and families across the health care spectrum. Member companies - Aetna Behavioral Health, Anthem, Beacon Health Options, Centene Corporation, Cigna, Humana Behavioral Health, New Directions Behavioral Health, Optum, and PerformCare.