

ABHW BECOME A MEMBER

Elevate crucial behavioral health issues in
the national health care conversation



Benefits of Membership

By joining ABHW, organizations help shape the future of the field by:

- **HAVING A VOICE** in creating a favorable policy environment for managed behavioral health care
- **DRIVING STRATEGIC DIRECTION** of industry and ABHW with a full seat on the Board of Directors and participation in committees
- **FORGING RELATIONSHIPS** with other stakeholders in and outside of behavioral health
- **SHARING BEST PRACTICES** with educational resources, forums for debate and consensus-driven solutions, and networking within and across domains
- **STAYING UP-TO-DATE** on policy through monthly reports on federal and state legislation and regulation. Members learn about the latest trends and developments in policy, business, and research through meetings, newsletters, and regular members-only updates. They also receive generous discounts on industry events and conferences.



Our Objectives & Strategies

- **EDUCATE** federal policymakers, associations, accreditation agencies, and the media on the value and effectiveness of behavioral health services provided by health plans
- **ADVOCATE** for policies that ensure health plans can continue to effectively increase quality and improve health care outcomes
- **PROMOTE** quality health care delivery that strives to achieve recovery, wellness, and a productive workforce
- **COLLABORATE** within the industry and with key stakeholders to exchange ideas and offer creative solutions to ongoing and emerging challenges



ABHW INITIATIVE: STAMP OUT STIGMA

Together, we can reduce the stigma that hinders people from getting treatment.

In addition to its main activities, ABHW seeks out opportunities to advance the profile and positive positioning of the industry. Stamp Out Stigma, our campaign to reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness and substance use disorders. Our goals are to help individuals feel more comfortable seeking out the treatment they need and to change the national conversation around mental health and substance use disorders.

Learn more at www.stampoutstigma.com.

ABHW IN WASHINGTON

ABHW is the eyes and ears in Washington for its member companies, representing members' interests before Congress, with federal administrative and regulatory bodies, and with other associations.

To advance our members' interests in Washington, ABHW maintains relationships with a variety of government officials, behavioral health associations, health plan associations, employer organizations, and other stakeholders.

Members get frequent updates on a variety of topics:

- Regulation
- Legislation
- State activity
- Recently released reports
- Other initiatives that relate to the industry

Policy and government affairs leaders of ABHW member companies have meetings with ABHW staff.

MEMBERS

- Aetna, A CVS Health Company
- CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield
- Carelon Behavioral Health, an Elevance Company
- Centene Corporation
- Evernorth
- Kaiser Permanente
- Lucet
- Magellan Health
- Molina Healthcare
- Optum
- PerformCare, a subsidiary of AmeriHealth Caritas



Advancing Health Care Policy for
Mental Health & Substance Use Disorders

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Provided key advice to support workable implementation of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA) law. Eliminated provisions in the final rule** that were unreasonably burdensome and would not advance quality care.
- **Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records (42 CFR Part 2):** ABHW founded the Partnership to Amend 42 CFR Part 2, a coalition of 50 organizations representing stakeholders from across the health care spectrum, and successfully advocated for aligning substance use disorder privacy protections with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).
- **Paved the way for passage of the Mainstreaming Addiction Treatment (MAT) Act** by co-leading a coalition and coordinating with bill cosponsors.
- **Secured the inclusion of Mental Health Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists as covered Medicare providers:** For over a decade, ABHW has been in working with other organizations to achieve this coverage.

*For additional information, please contact:

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ABOUT ABHW

The Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness (ABHW) is the leading association working to advance federal policy on mental health and substance use disorder services. Founded in 1994, ABHW is dedicated to shifting the paradigm in treatment and policies for mental health and substance use disorders to ensure access to quality care, improve overall health outcomes, and advance solutions to public health challenges.

OUR MEMBERS' ROLE IN THE INDUSTRY

ABHW members include top national and regional health plans that care for 200 million people in both the public and private sectors. Our member companies bring substantial knowledge and experience with mental health and substance use disorders, integration, patient-centered treatment, and lead the industry in evidence-based treatment and preventative care.

