

Senior Manager, Government Affairs

Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness (ABHW)

Washington, DC (Hybrid)

FLSA Classification: Exempt

To Apply: Submit cover letter and resume to gilmore@abhw.org

Looking to take your Capitol Hill experience to the next level while staying close to policy and making a real impact? This role offers direct lobbying opportunities with personal office staff and the chance to shape national behavioral health policy.

Job Summary

The Senior Manager of Government Affairs plays a hands-on role in advancing ABHW's federal advocacy priorities, with a strong focus on direct engagement with Congressional personal offices. This is an ideal opportunity for someone with Capitol Hill experience who wants to stay close to policy while building a career in advocacy.

This role will actively engage with House and Senate personal office staff, represent ABHW in coalition settings, and contribute to shaping policy positions on key behavioral health issues. The position reports to the Vice President of Government Affairs and works closely with ABHW leadership, members, and external partners.

About ABHW

The Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness (ABHW) is dedicated to advancing policy and raising awareness on mental health and substance use disorders. By advocating and promoting solutions on behalf of health plans to ensure high quality, evidence-based care, we are focused on reducing disparities and ensuring better outcomes for whole-person care for all individuals and communities.

ABHW is the national voice for payers that manage behavioral health insurance benefits. ABHW member companies provide coverage to 200 million people in both the public and private sectors to treat mental health, substance use disorders, and other behaviors that impact health and wellness. Founded in 1994, ABHW is a respected leader in the behavioral health and medical arena. Poised to effect positive policy change, ABHW provides thought leadership and advocates for regulations and policies that help provide high quality health care to promote healthy living and improved quality of life.

What You'll Do

- Conduct direct outreach to House and Senate personal offices to advance ABHW's policy priorities
- Build and maintain relationships with legislative assistants, legislative directors, and relevant staff
- Represent ABHW in coalition meetings and stakeholder discussions, helping to shape shared advocacy strategies
- Help plan and execute advocacy activities such as Hill Days, briefings, and targeted outreach campaigns
- Draft clear, concise policy materials, including talking points, issue briefs, and comment letters
- Monitor and track legislative and regulatory activity and translate developments into actionable insights
- Support engagement with ABHW members to align advocacy efforts and amplify impact
- Collaborate with internal teams to ensure consistent messaging

Who You Are

- Experience working on Capitol Hill (House or Senate personal office preferred) or in a government affairs role
- Comfortable meeting with Congressional staff independently
- Understand how personal offices operate and how to move issues forward
- Experience or interest in coalition and stakeholder engagement
- Strong writer and communicator
- Organized, proactive, and able to manage multiple priorities
- Interest in health care and behavioral health policy

Experience

- Approximately 3–6+ years of relevant experience
- Experience engaging with Congressional personal offices strongly preferred
- Health care or behavioral health policy experience is a plus

Compensation and Benefits

Salary Range: \$80,000 – \$90,000 annually, commensurate with experience

Benefits Include:

- Medical, dental, and vision insurance
- 401(k) with employer contribution
- Paid time off, including vacation, sick leave, and holidays
- Hybrid work environment, primarily remote
- Professional development opportunities