

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019–2020



**Florida Behavioral  
Health Association**



**Florida Alcohol and  
Drug Abuse Association**

*The Florida Behavioral Health Association*



**Florida Council  
for Behavioral Healthcare**

*The Florida Behavioral Health Association*

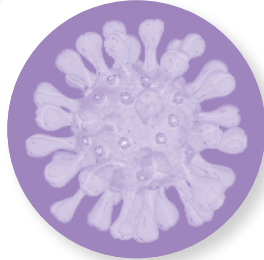


# 2019-2020

## ACHIEVEMENTS



**ADVOCACY**  
BH Day  
2019



**PANDEMIC**  
**FBHA Adjustments**  
Behavioral Health  
Service Flexibilities



**Policy**  
Appointed to  
Statewide  
Opioid  
Taskforce by  
the Governor



**LEGISLATIVE**  
Background  
Screening  
Legislation

**Passed SB1120**



### MEMBERSHIP

Organizational  
Members **65**

Corporate Partner  
Members **18**

**MAT**  
Medication  
Assisted  
Treatment  
Programs



**4,745**  
participants

**ASSOCIATION IN ACTION**  
**Engage** in various boards  
and taskforces



**\$21** Million received  
through multiple grants



**1,400 attendees**

**BHCON 2019**  
**Largest** registration  
numbers as of 2019

**2019**  
Awards of Excellence  
**Honored** 6 award winners



**Florida Behavioral  
Health Association**



# Florida Behavioral Health Association

Inform. Innovate. Influence.

## Message from the President

Amidst the challenging and unconventional times of fiscal year 2019–2020, the Florida Behavioral Health Association and members have been unwavering forces throughout the state. FBHA continues to excel as the thought leader of behavioral health, while nourishing our relationships with elected officials and creating innovative ways to succeed during the pandemic.

Before COVID-19 struck, FBHA joined over a thousand behavioral health professionals at BHCon 2019, cultivated forward-thinking ideas at BH Innovation Summit, hosted BH Day at the Capitol, and had one of our best legislative sessions ever.

We have a voice in important conversations where we advocate for mental health and substance abuse services using policy, legislation, and funding on behalf of our members. We are active members in the National Council for Behavioral Health, where I was recently elected as the Vice President of Public Policy. Not only does the association have strong relationships on the national level, but also on the state level. Furthermore, it was an honor to be appointed to the Statewide Opioid Task Force and the Reopen Florida Task Force by Governor Ron DeSantis to represent the entire association and our industry. It was also wonderful to have First Lady Casey DeSantis and Attorney General Ashley Moody at BHCon2019, where they both shared their mental health and substance abuse initiatives.

We actively hold seats on the:



As individual providers, you are all resilient and powerful. But, when we come together as an association with all of us working towards common goals greater than our individual ones, we are an unstoppable force. Together we are stronger, and we are paving a better future for behavioral health.

Sincerely,

Melanie Brown-Woofter  
President and CEO  
Florida Behavioral Health Association



# Pandemic Adjustments

## COVID-19

The Florida Behavioral Health Association continues to communicate all information during the pandemic to our members, so they are aware of everything going on in Tallahassee and throughout the state.

COVID-19 has affected all our businesses, staff, patients, and administrators. Throughout these difficult times, FBHA has strengthened and solidified our relationship with the Agency for Health Care Administration and the Department of Children and Families. In addition, we hold weekly state Emergency Operations Center calls with all our providers, weekly calls with AHCA Secretary Mary Mayhew and DCF Secretary Chad Poppell, weekly calls with State Surgeon General Dr. Scott Rivkees, and weekly all-member calls to keep members updated.

Furthermore, we decided to host our annual conference, BH Con virtually.

We also established a FBHA COVID-19 webpage that provides the latest guidance, best practices, toolkits, and policies to assist members during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

FBHA advocated on behalf of our members with key state and federal policymakers to ensure behavioral health regulatory flexibilities are implemented and remain in place during the Public Health Emergency.



### DCF Behavioral Health Service Flexibilities:

- Authorized telehealth and telephonic mode of service delivery
- Authorized 1/12 payments to behavioral health service providers



### Medicaid Behavioral Health Service Flexibilities:

- Waiver of prior authorization requirements
- Waiver of service limits (frequency and duration)
- Payment parity for services provided via telehealth/telephonic and in-person
- Authorized telehealth and telephonic mode of service delivery



# Legislative/Policy

## ■ Top 4 Legislative Accomplishments

**\$8.3 million**

**Increased** community substance use and mental health funding by an additional \$8.3 million.

- Expanded the capacity of Community Action Teams (CAT)
- Created telehealth services in K-12 public schools in 27 additional counties



Fully funded medication assisted treatment (MAT) across all budget silos, securing funding for MAT for individuals with opioid use and alcohol use disorders.

**SB 7012  
HB 1081**

Passed suicide prevention legislation: SB 7012 and HB 1081.

**SB 1120  
HB 649**

Passed background screening legislation, which removes barriers for the behavioral health workforce.

## ■ Top 4 Policy Initiatives



Appointed by the Governor to provide priorities and behavioral health innovations on the Governor's Statewide Task Force on Opioid Abuse.



Advocated on behalf of our members at regulatory hearings regarding substantial revisions.

- Rule 59G-4 (Medicaid Behavioral Health Coverage Policies)
- Chapter 65D-30 (Substance Abuse Services)



Served on the DCF Criminal Justice Mental Health Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant Advisory Committee.



Established a partnership with DCF, Citrus Health, and the National Association of Mental Health Program Directors on a Transformation Transfer Initiative.



# Trainings/Events

## Year-to-Date Dashboard

**FY 2019-2020**  
July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

**60**

### YTD Training Events

Training events include webinars, workshops, summits and recorded modules

**9,922**

### Number of Individuals Trained

Sum of individuals in each training event except recorded modules

**15,201**

### CEUs Awarded

FADAA provides CEUs for the Florida Certification Board, the Florida Board of Social Work, and the Florida Board of Nursing

**39**

### Covid-19 Specific Resources Added

A new Resource Center page was created to house emerging guidance and information from authoritative sources

**46**

### Physician Peer Prescriber Activities

Physician Peer Prescribers provide technical assistance and supports to increase Florida's knowledge of MAT

**47,641**

### Resource Center Visits

Page views of FADAA's web-based Resource Center

**67**

### MAT Providers in FADAA Administered Programs

Treatment providers under contract and actually providing MAT services through FADAA funded programs

**4,745**

### Patients that Received a MAT Medication

Patients may have received any of the FDA approved medications, Naltrexone, Buprenorphine, or Methadone

**4.4**

### Average Vivitrol Shots per Patient

Reflects only patients that received one or more Vivitrol shots

**13**

### Communities Involved in RCO Development

Recovery capital is growing around Florida with the expansion of Recovery Community Organizations

**5**

### Number of Hospitals in Warm Handoffs

Includes hospitals currently engaged in developing warm handoff protocols for individuals presenting with an opioid use disorder

**78**

### TA Visits Completed

Technical Assistance Visits include Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) reviews, Independent Review (IR) visits, and MAT in-person supports



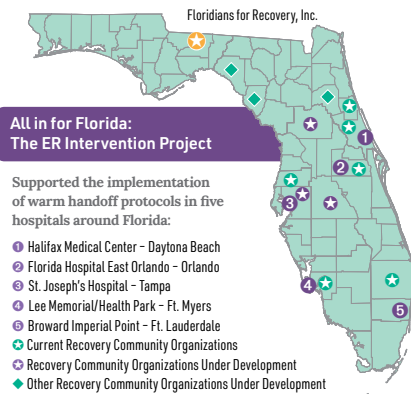


# Grants/Contracts

## Aetna Foundation

All in for Florida: The ER Intervention Project, a two-year grant that supported the implementation of warm handoff protocols in five hospitals around Florida.

All in for Florida: Recovery Community Organizations, a three-year grant that is building recovery communities around Florida.



## National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors Transformation Transfer Initiative (TTI)

A multiyear project that will provide incentives to improve outpatient engagement of individuals and families currently engaged in the child welfare system due to mental health or dual diagnosis concerns. The program will serve at least 1200 individuals.

## Department of Children and Families Medication Assisted Treatment Program

A multimillion, multiyear contract that funds patient screening/education, medical assessment, and long-acting injectable Naltrexone to treat individuals with opioid or alcohol use disorder who are eligible for publicly funded behavioral health services. \*See dashboard on page 6 for statistics

## Linking Individuals Needing Care Grant

A suicide prevention grant that resulted in care coordination services and training for providers and recipients of services throughout Florida. This was possible due to a partnership with UCF and USF.

## Office of State Courts Administrator Programs

These programs fund patient screening/education, medical assessment, treatment beds, and FDA-approved medications to treat individuals with opioid use or alcohol use disorders who are involved or are at risk of becoming involved with the criminal justice system. \*See dashboard on page 6 for statistics

## DCF Substance Abuse Treatment and Prevention Training Project

A multiyear project that provides trainings for prevention, treatment, and recovery services. The project expands the understanding of MAT and maintains a cadre of prescriber peer mentors who support practitioners. The grant includes the Resource Center, the Epidemiology Alerts and Reports, and Evidence Based and Independent Reviews. \*See dashboard on page 6 for statistics

## HRSA Rural Communities Opioid Response – Planning

A one-year project to help four rural communities apply for funds to support their efforts treating opioid use disorders. Disc Village received \$1 million as a result.



# BHCon 2019

In August 2019, 1,400 behavioral health professionals attended the Florida Behavioral Health Association's BHCon 2019. Not only was this the first annual conference under the new FBHA brand, it also had the most attendees ever, as of 2019. Hosted at the Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek Resort, FBHA awarded 1,403 Continuing Education Units and housed 101 exhibitors.



Our attendees had the opportunity to hear from state leaders, including First Lady Casey DeSantis, Attorney General Ashley Moody, the Agency for Health Care Administration former Secretary Mary Mayhew, and President and CEO of the National Council for Behavioral Health Chuck Ingoglia.

BHCon hosted luncheons, workshops, sponsorship exhibits, and leadership dinners, including one with Senate President-elect, Kathleen Passidomo.



1,400 Attendees

*just*  
**bh one**



Casey DeSantis

**“What I have really seen is that there are a lot of great entities doing wonderful things, but everybody is going in a separate road. What we have to do is coordinate all of our efforts so that at the end of the day we are putting the emphasis on outcome of the individual.”**



Ashley Moody

**“We are leading the fight in courts going after manufacturers, distributors, and pharmacies that we believe have led to this man-made crisis, the opioid epidemic. We now lose 17 people a day here in Florida.”**



# 2019 Awards of Excellence

The annual Awards of Excellence honors the best in the behavioral health workforce with a series of prestigious achievement awards.

The behavioral health workforce deploys its expertise across a broad range of prevention, health care, and social service settings. These settings may include prevention and education programs, community-based outpatient and inpatient treatment programs, primary care health delivery offices, hospitals, emergency rooms, criminal justice systems, and school-based or higher education institutions.

The 2019 Awards of Excellence Recipients from left to right:

- **Supervisor/Administrator of the Year Award**  
**Tara Kellogg**  
Director of Clinical Supervision,  
Chrysalis Health
- **Peer/Recovery Support Specialist of the Year Award**  
**Barry Cass**  
Peer Advocate,  
Centerstone of Florida
- **Behavioral Health Professional of the Year Award (Youth)**  
**Manal Durgin, MD**  
Medical Director, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist,  
Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health Florida
- **Behavioral Health Professional of the Year Award (Adult)**  
**Guy Czaykowski, MD**  
Psychiatrist,  
SMA Healthcare



2019 Awards of Excellence Recipients

## ■ FBHA Distinguished Service Award Recipients



- **FBHA Distinguished Service Award**  
**Margarita “Maggie” Labarta, PhD**  
President/CEO,  
Meridian Behavioral Healthcare



- **FBHA Distinguished Service Award**  
**Mary Lynn Ulrey, MS, ARNP**  
CEO, DACCO



## ■ Behavioral Health Innovation Summit

### Suicide Awareness, Assessment, and Prevention

The Florida Behavioral Health Association held its Suicide Summit on Sept. 25, 2019. Hosted in Orlando, FBHA created this convention to bring together key stakeholders with the goal of developing a blueprint for an improved behavioral health system of care and suicide prevention in Florida.



**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INNOVATION SUMMIT**  
SUICIDE AWARENESS, ASSESSMENT AND PREVENTION

**SUICIDE SUMMIT 2019**

**WEDNESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2019**

ROSEN PLAZA HOTEL  
ORLANDO, FL

**SPONSORED BY:**  
Florida Behavioral Health Association  
PeycoU

**REGISTRATION INFORMATION**  
Registration fee: \$45  
Click here to register for the event

**THE PURPOSE:**  
This summit brings together key stakeholders with the goal of developing a blueprint for an improved behavioral health system of care and suicide prevention in Florida.  
Key topics to be discussed include:  
• The current landscape of suicide prevention in Florida  
• Snapshots of innovative suicide prevention initiatives in Florida  
• Introduction to an evaluation of the National Zero Suicide Model across learning healthcare systems  
• Strategies to integrate innovative practices, funding methodologies and policy

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND?**  
• Behavioral Health Provider Leadership  
• CEO, COO, CFO, CIO, CMQ  
• Clinicians  
• Health Plans  
• Clinical Program Managers  
• Managing Entities  
• University Research Staff  
• State Agency Leadership and Program Specialists

**HOTEL INFORMATION:**  
ROSEN PLAZA HOTEL  
9709 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE  
ORLANDO, FL 32819  
Rate: \$133  
Click here to make room reservations  
(Note: room rate is part of the Florida Supportive Housing Coalition room block)

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2019 | ROSEN PLAZA HOTEL | ORLANDO, FL

## Behavioral Health Day 2019

# Well.

## Beyond Healthcare.

Prevent | Support | Recover

### ■ Behavioral Health Day at the Capitol

On Wednesday, October 16, 2019, the Florida Behavioral Health Association hosted Behavioral Health Day on the 22nd floor of the Capitol. The theme was, “Well. Beyond Healthcare.”

State leaders stopped by to speak to attendees, including First Lady Casey DeSantis, Agency for Health Care Administration Secretary Mary Mayhew, and Representative Cindy Stevenson.

First Lady Casey DeSantis used this event to announce Florida’s first Disaster Recovery Mental Health Coordinator who’s job is to coordinate mental health services for areas most affected by Hurricane Michael.

In addition to speakers and attendees, the event attracted more than a dozen collaborative partners representing mental health organizations, law enforcement, recovery organizations, housing coalitions, and peer support coalitions, and other state associations.



# Staff Members

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