

**For Immediate Release**

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**Florida Behavioral Health Association's Response to Florida Senate Budget Cuts**

**Tallahassee, Fla.** – The Florida Behavioral Health Association's (FBHA) community mental health and substance use disorder treatment providers offer life-saving services to Florida's most vulnerable families and children. Adequate state funding is critical for FBHA's members.

“Across the state, the mental health of thousands of people has suffered due to this unprecedented pandemic we have lived through over the last year,” Melanie Brown-Woofter, FBHA's President and CEO, said. “The demand for mental health and substance use services has never been higher. The Senate's budget reduction in funding for these services puts thousands of Floridians lives at risk.”

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*The Florida Behavioral Health Association is a non-profit organization that provides statewide leadership on behavioral health policy and practice. FBHA supports member agencies offering services to those in need of mental health and substance use disorder assistance and support. Its members include a broad range of provider types, ranging from small specialty organizations to comprehensive treatment organizations with multiple locations within a geographic region. For more information, please visit [www.floridabha.org](http://www.floridabha.org).*