



# Florida Behavioral Health Association

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## For Immediate Release

April 30, 2021

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### **The Florida Behavioral Health Association Applauds the Florida Legislature for Restoring Crucial Funding in State Budget**

**Tallahassee, Fla.**—The Florida Behavioral Health Association (FBHA) applauds the entire Florida Legislature for restoring crucial funding that supports programs for thousands of Floridians who are facing mental health and substance use challenges.

With the passage of the General Appropriations Act, the Legislature preserved mental health and substance use funding. Lawmakers also provided COVID-19 relief funds to mental health and substance use providers, directed opioid settlement funding to evidence-based programs such as Medication Assisted Treatment, and targeted additional funds to further engage minority populations in community-based services related to mental health and substance use.

“Facing unprecedented economic uncertainty this session, the Florida Legislature demonstrated support to our most vulnerable citizens by prioritizing the lifesaving mental health and substance use services they depend on,” Melanie Brown-Woofter, FBHA’s President and CEO, said. “With so many of our friends and neighbors suffering from the stresses of this prolonged pandemic, FBHA and our statewide members are truly grateful to work with state legislators who invest in healthcare services that provide hope and a path forward for those in need.”

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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).*