



# Florida Behavioral Health Association

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## For Immediate Release

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### **Mental Health and Substance Use Community Providers Prioritized in State Budget**

**Tallahassee, Fla.** – The Florida Behavioral Health Association (FBHA) and its statewide community mental health and substance use providers thank Governor Ron DeSantis for acknowledging the importance of mental health and substance use by signing the FY 2022-2023 state budget that supports all Floridians.

This unprecedented budget funds a record increase of \$126 million in recurring general revenue and more than \$50 million in one-time spend for community mental health and substance use disorder services.

“This investment provides a critical boost to community providers as they treat Florida’s families who struggle with mental health and substance use disorders,” said FBHA President and CEO, Melanie Brown-Woofter. “Since entering office, Governor DeSantis has always prioritized the mental wellbeing of all Floridians. The FBHA could not be more grateful to have a governor who not only recognizes the importance mental health and substance use disorders but also takes innovative steps forward to help community providers save lives and create stronger families and communities.”

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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).*