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## The Florida Behavioral Health Association Applauds the Framework for Freedom Budget

**Tallahassee, Fla. –** The Florida Behavioral Health Association (FBHA) applauds Governor Ron DeSantis for his steadfast commitment to ensuring mental health and substance use services are available for Florida's families and communities. His *Framework for Freedom* Budget includes a substantial investment in funding for behavioral health services.

"The Governor's strong leadership and vision are clearly demonstrated by including an investment that will yield an immediate, long-lasting and positive impact for Floridians," said FBHA President and CEO Melanie Brown-Woofter. "This commitment comes at a critical juncture as Florida's community mental health and substance use treatment providers are experiencing an unprecedented increase in demand for services. On behalf of our 70 community providers and the 545,000+ patients they serve each year, we are thankful for the Governor and First Lady's ongoing recognition of the importance of mental health and substance use services for Florida's families."

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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.