

ABH June Committee Meetings

Tuesday, June 4
ATS, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, June 5
eHealth, 10 a.m.

Friday, June 7
**Children's CEO
Leadership**, 10 a.m.

Monday, June 10
Billing, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, June 11
PWUP, 10 a.m.
ACCS, 2:30 p.m. (Beechwood
Hotel)

Wednesday, June 12
Outpatient, 10 a.m.

Thursday, June 13
SOAP, 10 a.m.

Friday, June 14
CBHI, 10 a.m.
Corporate Compliance, 10
a.m.

Tuesday, June 18
OTP, 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, June 19
BH CP Exec., 10 a.m.

Friday, June 28
PDT/PH, 10 a.m. (ABH)

All meetings are held at the Hampton Inn, Natick unless otherwise noted. For more information, call 508-647-8385.

House Ways and Means Budget

At the end of April, the Massachusetts House of Representatives passed its FY 2020 budget totaling \$42.7 billion. This budget constitutes a 3% increase over the FY19 budget and closely resembles Governor Baker's Fiscal Year 2020 House I Budget Recommendations. The House budget includes the following highlights:

- The Department of Mental Health is funded at approximately \$890 million. The Adult Community Services line item (5046-0000) is funded \$489.3 million, a level that is consistent with current FY19 funding levels. The House budget included an additional \$500,000 over House I recommendations. The Children and Adolescent Services line item (5042-5000) is funded at \$93.4 million. This is a \$2.8 million increase over the administration's recommendation, and restores the account to projected final FY19 spending levels.
- The Bureau of Substance Addiction Services is funded at \$153,281,348. This level of funding represents a decrease of nearly \$2.7 million from projected final FY19 spending.
- MassHealth is funded at \$16.57 billion, a \$343 million increase over the Administration's House I recommendation. MassHealth covers 1.9 million residents and accounts for approximately 38% of the House's total proposed budget.
- Consistent with Administration's recommendations, the Chapter 257 Rate Reserve is funded at \$20.5 million for FY20.
- The House budget retained a House I proposal (1599-0105) for costs associated with the delivery of medication assisted treatment in County Correctional facilities, and funds this new account at \$10 million in FY20.
- The House budget elected to forego several of the Governor's tax proposals, including a tax on opioid manufacturers, and a tax on e-cigarettes and vapor products.

Please feel free to reach out to Vic DiGravio (vdigravio@abhmass.org) or Mandy Gilman (agilman@abhmass.org) should you have any specific questions.

ABH Annual Meeting

You are invited to ABH's 2019 Annual Meeting with Senator Julian Cyr, the newly appointed Chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery, on **Tuesday, May 14, 2019**.

Julian Cyr serves in the Massachusetts Senate representing Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket. First elected to the State Senate on November 8, 2016, Julian is now serving in his second term and is the youngest senator in the 40-member body. He is the Senate Assistant Majority Whip, Chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery, Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Housing, and serves on committees with oversight of health care policy, public health, municipalities and regional government, and education.



All Politics is Local!

We will also be honoring this year's All Politics is Local winners. The member with the most site visits will be honored as our All Politics is Local champion. ABH will recognize all member organizations that host at least 5 legislative site visits before May 2019.

As always, we will also be conducting our annual business meeting during which members will act on the following:

- Vote to Adopt the Proposed FY 2020 Budget for the Corporations
- Vote to Elect the Slate of Nominees to Serve as Directors for the Corporations

Tuesday, May 14, 2019 from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM

Beechwood Hotel

363 Plantation Street , Worcester, Massachusetts

Cost: \$50 per person or \$380 for a table of 8. Lunch is included.

This event is for ABH Members only.

Register Now!

Questions Regarding Registration? Please Contact Ellen Caliendo at ecaliendo@abhmass.org or 508.380.9887

Looking forward to seeing you there!

ABH Announces Vice President for Mental Health Lydia D. Conley Elevated to President and CEO

SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday, June 20,
2019

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Boston Marriott
Newton

A Farewell Reception
for Vic DiGravio



More information to
come.

ABH has announced that ABH's vice president for mental health, Lydia D. Conley, will assume the role of President and CEO, succeeding Vic DiGravio, as of July 1, 2019.

For two decades, Conley has worked in the government and non-profit sectors, helping to shape public policy that has established Massachusetts as perhaps the nation's most progressive provider of behavioral health services and insurance coverage for mental health and addiction treatment.

"The board unanimously agreed that Lydia was the ideal choice to lead ABH in the coming years," said Diane Gould, chair of ABH's board of directors and president and CEO of Advocates, Inc. "Lydia is one of the most highly respected and knowledgeable advocates in the nation for organizations serving individuals with behavioral health needs. We are thrilled that she has accepted the challenge of leading ABH."

In her role as vice president, Conley has worked closely with state and federal officials to advocate for equitable reimbursement to support the ability of ABH member organizations to continue to deliver high quality services to individuals living with mental health and/or substance use disorders.

I am excited to assume this new role with ABH and continue working with community-based behavioral health providers and the Commonwealth to improve the lives of men, women and children living with mental health and addiction disorders," Conley said. "We have made a great deal of progress, but every year, every month, and every day we learn new lessons about how to better provide essential services, and when and where people need them."

To read the announcement in its entirety, click [here](#).

Paid Family and Medical Leave Act

Under the new Paid Family and Medical Leave Act, employers must provide employees and independent contractors with notices informing them of their rights under the law. Notices must be provided to employees within 30 days of their start date or by May 31, 2019, whichever is later. Independent contractors must be given notices at the start of their contracts or by May 31, 2019, whichever is later. These notices will explain that employees may be eligible for up to 20 weeks of paid medical leave, up to 12 weeks of paid family leave, and up to 26 weeks of paid military caregiver leave. Paid leave will be funded by employer contributions and will be administered by the Department of Family and Medical Leave.

For more information on the notice requirements, click [here](#). For information on contribution requirements, click [here](#).

ABH STAFF

Vicker V. DiGravio III
President/CEO
508.647.8385, x11
vdigravio@abhmass.org

Constance Peters
Vice President for
Addiction Services
508.647.8385, x13
cpeters@abhmass.org

Lydia Conley
Vice President for
Mental Health
508.647.8385, x15
lconley@abhmass.org

Mandy Gilman
Senior Director of Public
Policy & Research
508.647.8385, x16
agilman@abhmass.org

Megan Thompson
Director of Children's
Behavioral Health and
Member Services
508.647.8385, x14
mthompson@abhmass.org

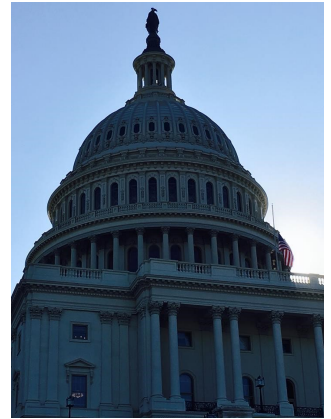
Stuart Figueroa
Public Policy & Research
Specialist
508.647.8385, x17
sfigueroa@abhmass.org

Rosemary Santini
Administrative Assistant
508.647.8385, x10
rsantini@abhmass.org

Ellen Caliendo
Business Manager
508.380.9887
ecaliendo@abhmass.org

Mark Your Calendars! Hill Day 2019

Mark Your Calendars for National Council Hill Day 2019, September 17-18 in Washington, DC. Make your voice heard at the largest behavioral health advocacy event of the year, plus get the latest policy insider analysis from experts in the field. Whether you're a seasoned pro or speaking to federal legislators for the first time, you'll learn how to take your advocacy skills to the next level. Register [here!](#)



Expanded Access to MAT

The SUPPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, which makes amendments to the Controlled Substance Act and provides for greater flexibility relative to the provision of medication assisted treatment (MAT).

Under the SUPPORT Act qualified physicians can treat up to 100 patients in the first year of MAT practice with a waiver. Current practitioners with a waiver from SAMHSA to treat 30 patients at one time may submit notification to SAMHSA requesting an increase in patient limits. SAMHSA may then increase patient limits of current practitioners to 100 patients. For more information, click [here](#).

Shatterproof Roundtables

Shatterproof has been working with the National Quality Forum (NQF) to gather multi-stakeholder guidance to inform implementation of a Rating System for Addiction Treatment Programs. ABH and the Recovery Homes Collaborative are working with Shatterproof to schedule two in-person SUD provider roundtable meetings on May 21 and 22. These meetings are a follow-up to the April webinars.

The May 2019 provider roundtables will focus on the Rating System Treatment Program Survey measures of the pilot program. The event will be run as a moderated discussion to feasibility test the measures recommended for inclusion in the Treatment Program Survey.

Greater Boston Area: Tuesday, May 21: 9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m. Register [here](#).

Springfield: Wednesday, May 22: 1:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m. Register [here](#).

Keeper's Corner

Keeper has been sleeping her way through the spring rain. When she's awake, here's what she's been reading:

- [Marijuana Investor Gives \\$9 Million To Harvard And MIT For Cannabis Science](#). WBUR CommonHealth.
- [State Expands Treatment for People with Both Addiction and Mental Illness](#). The Boston Globe.
- [Prison For Forced Addiction Treatment? A Parent's 'Last Resort' Has Consequences](#). NPR.

