PHOENIX — The Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association applauds Arizona Governor Doug Ducey in his acknowledgement of mental health. During Governor Ducey’s 2020 State of the State address Monday, mental healthcare became more than a simple talking point as the Governor announced Arizona’s lead in improving access to mental healthcare services.

“We feel Arizonans’ access to mental health is a major health care priority which is all too often overlooked. We commend the Governor for his leadership on this critical issue and look forward to learning more about proposed changes in state law he intends to pursue in the coming days,” said AzHHA President and CEO Ann-Marie Alameddin.

“We applaud the governor for his action helping to reduce the stigma of this often over-looked health care priority,” said Alameddin.

AzHHA’s Twitter account, @azhospitalassn, posted the following facts during today’s State of the State Address:

- More than 2.8 million Arizonans live in an area without a sufficient number of mental healthcare providers.
- Approximately 1 in 3 Arizonans lives in a mental healthcare provider shortage area.
- Arizona ranks 48th out of 50 states and the District of Columbia in the percent of mental healthcare provider need met.

Source: kff.org