



ABOUT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVOCATES OF TEXAS

Behavioral Health Advocates of Texas (BHAT) is a coalition of private mental health providers and other interested organizations dedicated to promoting sound behavioral health policies in Texas – with specific focus on addressing the concerns of private providers.

WHY JOIN BHAT: HELP IMPROVE THE MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM IN TEXAS

While nearly \$1 billion of state money is pumped into the mental health system each year, the disparate infrastructure (39 different LMHA's, NorthStar, and the September 2014 addition of mental health rehabilitation and mental health targeted case management to Managed Care) continues to create opportunities for patient and care inefficiencies, data collection issues and an overall lack of accountability and transparency in the system. BHAT is dedicated to improving the Texas mental health system by:

- ▶ **Defining the behavioral health issues in Texas** and providing a collective voice and message on the mental health issues-of-the-day by communicating a set of core messages consistently and effectively to target audiences, including legislators, community leaders, mental health related organizations and the media when necessary.
- ▶ **Ensuring the coalition has a seat at the table on any issue that may affect Texas' mental health system** by establishing strategic local and statewide alliances with mental health advocates, and strong relationships with elected officials and other relevant stakeholders.
- ▶ **Developing effective relationships and processes to identify or anticipate other critical issues** and develop mechanisms that enable the coalition to respond quickly and efficiently. BHAT will be a proactive advocate for behavioral health issues and galvanize other stakeholders to add credibility to messages and actions.
- ▶ **As managed care expansion takes place, ensuring that MCOs and providers truly have opportunities** to engage with one another in ways that change the system for the better, maximizes efficiencies and provides more services to Texans in a timely manner.
- ▶ **Ensuring broadened access for patients who need care the most** by providing opportunities to have true choice in their provider.

MEMBERSHIP	ANNUAL COSTS	BENEFITS
Member		Participation in Task Force Meetings Participation in Meetings with Legislators/Staff Listing on Coalition Website Participation on Coalition Calls Regular Coalition Newsclips Coalition Newsletter and Updates 40% off Texas Insight Monthly Subscription