



## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ALLIANCE OF MONTANA

### 2019 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

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*The Behavioral Health Alliance of Montana is 501(C)(3) organization. We are a strong alliance of adult, children, substance use and Tribal behavioral health providers. We work together to ensure that the Triple Aim is fundamental to the behavioral health system in Montana: 1. Experience of Care; 2. Population Health; 3. Reducing Per Capita Cost.*

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#### **I. ACCESS TO CARE IN MONTANA**

The Alliance will work to continue the expansion of Medicaid in Montana to ensure that the most vulnerable populations have access to high quality and timely health care. We will work with the clients, state and legislature to ensure that all behavioral health programs address the Triple Aim.

#### **II. RESPOND TO THE SUBSTANCE USE EPIDEMIC IN MONTANA**

The Alliance will work to respond to the Substance Use Epidemic by ensuring that providers are reimbursed at sustainable levels and clients have access to best practices of treatment that are evidence-based and high-quality.

#### **III. REINSTATE AND IMPROVE COMMUNITY-BASED MENTAL HEALTH IN MONTANA**

The Alliance will work to reverse the trend of cutting community-based treatment and the return to institutional care in Montana. We will work to ensure that mental health and substance use clients can live in their communities, supported by their families and friends, and limit the use of high-acuity, high-cost institutional placements. We will work together with the Legislature to identify sustainable funding models for the long-term benefit to the citizens of Montana.

#### **IV. REESTABLISH A SYSTEM OF CARE FOR CHILDREN IN MONTANA**

The Alliance will work to reestablish System of Care Legislation that ensures that children and families in the system receive comprehensive, holistic support that limits the need for long-term and out-of-state placement for children.

#### **V. DEVELOP COMMONSENSE LICENSING FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS**

The Alliance will work to ensure that licensing regulations provide timely licensing of providers with the professional education to serve Montanans.

#### **VI. ENSURE THAT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS HAVE ACCESS TO THE HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

The Alliance will represent behavioral health providers on the Health Information Exchange Board of Directors to ensure that behavioral health has a place at the table for the creation of the exchange.