

## BI-STATE PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION & NH COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION JOINT STATEMENT ON INTEGRATION

Bi-State Primary Care Association and the NH Community Behavioral Health Association are engaged in a collaborative effort, funded by the Delta Center for a thriving safety net, to create and support systems of integrated primary care and behavioral health services.

Here in New Hampshire, we believe every resident deserves access to high quality, affordable primary and behavioral health care. Integrated care is all about ensuring residents have equitable access to the right care, at the right place, at the right time. Building collaboration between primary care and behavioral health providers helps to ensure the whole patient is cared for, and the entire care team is on same page supporting patients in meeting their care goals.

Research tells us that as much as 80% of a person's ability to be healthy is due to what is happening outside of their medical provider's exam room walls. <sup>1</sup> This we know as Social Drivers of Health. When we integrate primary care and behavioral health services, the entire care team works to support the patient in meeting their health and behavior goals taking into consideration where they stay, work, play, and pray. We are committed to connecting the mind and the body as we serve Granite Staters seeking primary care and behavioral health care services and are striving to create an integrated system that supports residents in living their best, most healthy lives.

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## About Bi-State Primary Care Association

Bi-State Primary Care Association is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that represents New Hampshire and Vermont's 28 Community Health Centers serving over 315,400 patients at 143 locations. Bi-State was founded as a 501(c)3 charitable organization in 1986 to promote access to quality, affordable primary health care with an emphasis on reaching underserved populations.

## About the NH Community Behavioral Health Association

The NH Community Behavioral Health Association is an organization comprised of the 10 community mental health centers throughout New Hampshire. These centers serve individuals in our state who are living with – and recovering from – mental illness and emotional disorders. This network of mental health centers provides ongoing and emergency behavioral health services to New Hampshire residents, both children and adults.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>https://www.cdc.gov/publichealthgateway/sdoh/index.html</u>