



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 2, 2019

CONTACT:

Frank Cornelia
Deputy Director and Chief Strategy Officer
Colorado Behavioral Health Care Council
303 E 17th Ave, Suite 910
Denver, CO 80222
720-573-9371
fcornelia@cbhc.org
www.cbhc.org

CBHC ANNOUNCES 2019 COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CHAMPION AWARD

Denver, Colorado – October 2, 2019 – Colorado’s General Assembly has a long history of supporting our state’s community-based behavioral health system. Each year, a handful of state legislators rise above to become Community Behavioral Health Champions.

What makes a Community Behavioral Health Champion?

It’s not just about carrying behavioral health bills - CBHC’s Community Behavioral Health Champions consistently demonstrate a passion for advancing public policy related to behavioral health by:

- Responding to constituents regarding behavioral health policy needs;
- Engaging colleagues and leading discussions around behavioral health issues;
- Reaching across party lines to solve problems related to behavioral health; and
- Working to strengthen Colorado’s well-established, community-based behavioral health system.

2019 COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CHAMPION AWARD RECIPIENT

State Representative Daneya Esgar (State House District 46)

Representative Esgar has been a relentless advocate when it comes to addressing mental health and substance use disorder services in the state of Colorado. During the 2019 legislative session, she demonstrated leadership in this critical area of health care.

In 2019 alone, her accomplishments included:

- Leading a Joint Budget Committee (JBC) motion to support behavioral health workforce provider rates – a critical need to allow providers to increase treatment capacity;



- Securing a \$5M appropriation for grants through MSOs to expand SUD treatment capacity;
- Advocating for thoughtful inpatient capacity expansion at Ft. Logan and CMHIP, but also championing the need for community-based treatment;
- Championing behavioral health access issues for Pueblo and rural Colorado;
- Prime-sponsoring HB19-1129 Prohibiting Licensed Mental Health Professionals from Practicing Conversion Therapy in Colorado

Please join CBHC in congratulating State Representative Daneya Esgar as the 2019 Community Behavioral Health Champion!

Thursday, October 24th

5:30pm – 7:30pm

Station on the Riverwalk – The Clink

140 Central Main Street, Suite 222

Pueblo, CO 81003

RSVP BY MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2019

to

Ari Fullmer at 719-423-1212 or arianaf@health.solutions

ABOUT CBHC

The [Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council \(CBHC\)](#) envisions a state where all people have the opportunity to lead healthy, purposeful lives. Our 23 member organizations represent a statewide network of integrated care providers and care management organizations, including all of Colorado's 17 Community Mental Health Centers, 4 Managed Services Organizations, and 2 specialty health clinics. Together, we strengthen Colorado communities by ensuring innovative care and supporting the health, wellbeing, and safety of all Coloradans.

###