

Dear Governor DeSantis,

I am writing to bring to your attention a pressing matter regarding mental health care access in our state and to request your support in implementing a much-needed policy change.

As you are aware, Florida is currently facing a significant challenge in meeting the mental health needs of our community. Despite the dedicated efforts of many professionals, there remains a critical gap in access to individual and family therapy services, particularly for Medicaid recipients. This issue is exacerbated by the limited reimbursement options available for qualified providers essential in delivering these vital services.

To address this challenge, please consider amending section 3.2 of the November 2019 Behavioral Health Therapy Services Coverage Policy. Specifically, I propose the inclusion of bachelor's degree-level Certified Addiction Professionals (CAPs) and Certified Mental Health Professionals (CMHPs) as eligible providers for individual, family, and group therapy services. Having AHCA make this change would enhance access to essential mental health care and ensure financial reimbursement for professionals delivering these critical services. Additionally, this will create a career and workforce ladder for people working in mental health systems.

By making this policy change, we can take significant strides towards closing the gap in mental health care access and improving outcomes for individuals living with mental health challenges in our state. Furthermore, this change will contribute to the establishment of a more robust and inclusive mental health care system that prioritizes the well-being of all Floridians.

Governor DeSantis, I urge you to consider the profound impact this small policy change could have on the lives of countless individuals and families across our state. Your support in championing this cause is crucial in ensuring that every Floridian has access to the mental health and substance use care they need.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your support in making this much-needed policy change a reality.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your Address]