

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **AMBHA RELEASES STATEMENT ON CONFIDENTIALITY**

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(Washington, D.C.) – The American Managed Behavioral Healthcare Association (AMBHA) today released a policy statement on confidentiality. AMBHA's Bill of Rights for Consumers Accessing Behavioral Health Services (released in 1997) included a brief statement on confidentiality. In 1998, AMBHA issued a statement on clinically appropriate access to medical records. In 1999, AMBHA released the AMBHA Code of Conduct, which includes a pledge by AMBHA member companies to keep each patient's medical record protected and confidential. As Congress continues to discuss the details of confidentiality legislation AMBHA felt it was important to refine and reiterate its position on the issue.

Pamela Greenberg, M.P.P., Executive Director, AMBHA, stated "I am delighted that AMBHA's efforts towards assuring the confidentiality of patient medical records continues. This is an issue that AMBHA member companies have focused on for several years and the statement released today reflects a culmination of the work done in previous years."

The American Managed Behavioral Healthcare Association (AMBHA) represents nine of the nation's leading managed behavioral healthcare organizations. These organizations provide insurance coverage for treatment of mental health and substance use disorders to over 100 million individuals.

#### **AMBHA Members**

Alliance Behavioral Care, Cincinnati, OH; American Psych Systems, Bethesda, MD; AmeriChoice Behavioral Health, Philadelphia, PA; CNR Health, Inc., Milwaukee, WI; CORPHEALTH, Fort Worth, TX; Horizon Behavioral Services, Lewisville, TX; Magellan Health Services, Columbia, MD; PacifiCare Behavioral Health, Van Nuys, CA; ValueOptions, Falls Church, VA.

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