



**Association for Behavioral  
Health and Wellness**

*Advancing benefits and services  
in mental health, substance use  
and behavior change.*

## **ABHW Statement on HCCI Report on Parity**

**Washington DC (February 27, 2013)** - Pamela Greenberg, President and CEO of the Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness issued the following statement in response to the new report, *The Impact of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act on Inpatient Admissions*, issued by the Health Care Cost Institute (HCCI):

“This study indicates that health plans’ implementation of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA) and the interim final rule has had an impact on mental health and substance use disorder benefits, as evidenced by the rise in admissions for both addiction and mental health at a time when medical/surgical admissions decreased. This report provides valuable information. As ABHW continues to work with regulators to implement MHPAEA we look forward to further studies that delineate the impact of parity on the array of individuals and organizations that are affected by the law and its regulations.”

For more information, please contact Pamela Greenberg at [greenberg@abhw.org](mailto:greenberg@abhw.org) or visit [www.abhw.org](http://www.abhw.org).

*The Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness (ABHW) is the national voice for specialty behavioral health and wellness companies. ABHW member companies provide specialty services to treat mental health, substance use and other behaviors that impact health. ABHW supports effective federal, state and accrediting organization policies that ensure specialty behavioral health organizations (BHOs) can continue to increase quality, manage costs and promote wellness for the nearly 125 million people served by our members.*