



Call for Nominations
AHA Section for Psychiatric and Abuse Services
Class of 2012-2014

The Nominating Committee of the Section For Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Services is actively soliciting nominations of highly qualified candidates for 3-year terms commencing January 1, 2012

SECTION PURPOSE

The purpose of the AHA's Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Section is to promote and enhance the understanding of the mental health and substance abuse treatment needs of all persons, and of the issues pertinent to behavioral health services. The section defines and focuses AHA policy, advocacy, and service efforts on behalf of the behavioral health care field. Additional information about the Section can be obtained on the web at: www.aha.org/psych.

GOVERNING COUNCIL ROLE

The section's governing council provides input and participates in the advocacy and public policy development process of the AHA. Council members take an important role in identifying and tracking issues of special interest to the types of organizations and services they represent. Council members serve as field experts in behavioral health and use their experience and expertise to influence legislation and AHA policy positions impacting all Americans.

The term of office is for three years beginning January 1, 2012 and expiring on December 31, 2014. Governing council members attend up to three, 2-day meetings each year in various geographic locations, with additional conference calls scheduled as needed. AHA pays the expenses of members of the governing council for expenses incurred related to council meetings.

ELIGIBILITY:

Candidates for nomination should hold senior level positions (i.e., CEOs, COOs, vice presidents, department heads, medical directors, trustees, nurse executives) in hospitals or networks, which are members of the American Hospital Association. Candidates should also

- ✓ Have responsibility for services in one or more parts of the behavioral health care continuum, which may include adult, child and adolescent, and/or geriatric psychiatric or addiction treatment programs offered via inpatient, outpatient, partial, residential, IOP, etc,
- ✓ Demonstrate a commitment to AHA's Vision of a society of healthy communities, where all individuals reach their highest potential for health; and to AHA's Mission to advance the health of individuals and communities.

- ✓ Have the support of their hospital/system CEO, if applicable,

The AHA Board of Trustees has made a strong commitment to increasing diversity in governance positions. You may nominate yourself or someone else. You may also have one or your colleagues from your organization or hospital association be involved in the nomination process. Candidates from all states will be considered; however we are also seeking individuals with the following roles and responsibilities:

- CEO, Senior Executive, or Trustee of a general hospital or system with a strong psychiatric or addiction treatment program.
- Administrator or clinician with a strong addiction treatment program, dual diagnosis program, med/psych or geriatric psych program.
- Department Head or Medical Director of a behavioral medicine program.
- CEO/Trustee of a freestanding psychiatric hospital, especially from a federal hospital
- Psychiatric Nurses, social workers and psychologists.

Through the work of the Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Services Section and its Governing Council, AHA is able to strengthen its influence on issues of advocacy, policy, and governance important to all health care providers. AHA has strong connections to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the Joint Commission, the Office of the Inspector General, the American Psychiatric Association, NAPHS, NAMI, MedPAC and other policymakers and leaders creating national policies on the future of psychiatric medicine. Members can be called upon to testify on behalf of all behavioral health care providers on a wide variety of issues, including mental health care parity, psychiatric quality measures, and the psychiatric prospective payment system.

Now, more than ever, behavioral health is at the forefront of medical care. By uniting hundreds of individual voices into one coherent voice, the AHA makes it possible for member hospitals to work with other behavioral health care organizations to not only address the field's top concerns, but to act on them.

Please contact me at the Section for Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Services (phone: 312/422-3303) or via e-mail at rchickey@aha.org if you have questions. **Send your recommendations to Camille Fernands, at cfernands@aha.org later than June 17, 2011.**

Sincerely,
Rebecca B. Chickey
Director
American Hospital Association
Section for Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Services