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Lehigh Valley Business Coalition on Healthcare (LVBCH) Board Announces Employee Assistance Program Partner – Health Advocate

Bethlehem, PA – The Lehigh Valley Business Coalition on Healthcare (LVBCH) has selected Health Advocate as the Coalition’s Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Partner for in-person, telephonic, and virtual EAP behavioral health services, including telephonic and web-based support for work/life services. In making this selection, the LVBCH Board of Directors has endorsed Health Advocate as a *Preferred Partner for Employee Assistance Program Services*.

Health Advocate participated in an extensive review process. To earn the Coalition’s Preferred Partner status, they had to demonstrate better plan performance, pricing, or enhanced service capabilities, giving employers benefits and benefit administration options that best meet their needs. Using a market-based approach, the Coalition negotiates rates that are exclusive to its members and better than individual employers could obtain on their own. Health Advocate’s preferred pricing for LVBCH members is available immediately.

“As we continue to navigate the ongoing challenges of the past two years, providing mental and behavioral health support to employees is more important than ever,” said Abbie Leibowitz, MD, FAAP, Chief Medical Officer and Cofounder, Health Advocate. “We are proud to have been selected by the Coalition as a preferred partner and look forward to serving as a trusted and valuable resource for member organizations and their employees.”

“The selection of Health Advocate as the Coalition’s EAP Partner, continues our commitment to providing programs that address the needs and interests of our employer members,” said Carl Seitz, President, LVBCH. “Health Advocate participated in an extensive review process of mental health capabilities, and was ultimately selected as the Coalition’s Preferred Partner for EAP services. This partnership brings behavioral health and work/life services along with negotiated performance guarantees to employer members.”

“The COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a distinct impact on mental health across the country, intensifying the need for ready access to treatment, says Health Advocate’s Norbert J. Alicea, EVP, EAP & Work/Life. “Equally important is attaining qualified support for the physical, emotional, social, and financial challenges individuals face on a day-to-day basis or in the midst of a crisis. With multiple ways to connect with our

counselors and coaches via phone, email, app, chat, or text, our EAP enriched program is dedicated to providing whole-person, whole-organization emotional and well-being support when it's needed most, no matter what the situation.”

Health Advocate has been helping Americans navigate the complexity of the healthcare system for over 20 years. The result – improved health outcomes, reduced absenteeism and presenteeism, and lower costs.

Health Advocate is able to provide employee assistance program (EAP) behavioral health services and work/life services, including the following available to LVBCH employer members:

- In-person, telephonic, and virtual EAP behavioral health services
- Telephonic and web-based support for work/life services
- 24-hour emergency hot line
- Unlimited critical incident stress debriefing support and manager consultations
- Case management for in-patient and out-patient treatment
- Digital cognitive behavior therapy (dCBT)
- Resources for childcare, eldercare, legal, and financial wellness

Health Advocate's additional features include personal concierge service, annual statistical management reports, and on-site services available for workshops, seminars, and critical incident stress debriefing.

Coalition purchasing programs are available directly to employer members, and also through our members' consultant and broker representatives, which is an integral part of LVBCH's membership recruitment. Employers are encouraged to contact their consultant/broker or LVBCH to learn more about our purchasing programs. For more information, visit www.lvbch.com or www.healthadvocate.com.

Meet the Coalition's newest partner, Health Advocate, at the LVBCH 42nd Annual Conference on May 11, 2022 at DeSales University.

The Annual Conference will feature an introductory presentation “The Importance of Managing Mental Health in the Workplace,” from Bert Alicea, and Health Advocate will be exhibiting as a Gold Sponsor of the event. Register now at www.lvbch.com.

About LVBCH

LVBCH is a multi-state, not-for-profit, coalition of employers striving to provide access to quality affordable healthcare for their employees. The Coalition's mission is to improve the delivery, cost and quality of health care in our communities through: Collective employer action; Quality and data initiatives; Value based purchasing; and, Providing forums for the exchange of information, ideas and resources. The Coalition is also a member of the National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions, the National Quality Forum and The Leapfrog Group. For more information, visit www.LVBCH.com.

About Health Advocate

For more than 20 years, Health Advocate has been making healthcare easier for thousands of organizations and millions of their employees and members nationwide.

Health Advocate's solutions leverage a unique combination of expert-led, compassionate support using powerful predictive data analytics and a proprietary technology platform to engage members in their health and well-being.

Health Advocate's members enjoy an award-winning, personalized concierge service that addresses nearly every clinical, administrative, wellness or behavioral health need. Our clients benefit from high levels of engagement, improved employee productivity and health, and reduced medical costs, while simultaneously streamlining and enhancing their health benefits offerings. For more information, visit www.HealthAdvocate.com.

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