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The National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) Awards Full Three Year Managed Behavioral Health Organization (MBHO) Accreditation Status to Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health

(PORTAGE, MI- April 10, 2018) Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health (SWMBH) has earned full Managed Behavioral Health Organization (MBHO) Accreditation for their MI Health Link Business Line from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to assessing and reporting on the quality of managed care plans, managed behavioral health care organizations (MBHOs), preferred provider organizations, new health plans, physician organizations, credentials verification organizations, disease management programs, and other health related programs.

"We are proud to receive MBHO full accreditation from NCQA," said Bradley Casemore, SWMBH's CEO. "We strive to provide the best quality care, programs and service to members, helping them to thrive in the community," Casemore states. "As the first, and only Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) in Michigan to achieve NCQA MBHO accreditation; this affirms our dedication to innovation, growth, and continuous improvement across all areas of our organization and Region."

Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health (SWMBH) is the Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) for eight Michigan counties, and is in partnership with the Community Mental Health (CMH) agencies of these counties. SWMBH, through various funding contracts with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, manages mental health services to adults with severe and persistent mental illness, children with severe emotional disturbance, individuals with developmental disabilities, and individuals with substance use disorders in addition to managing the behavioral health benefit for the MI Health Link program.

NCQA Accreditation is a nationally recognized evaluation that purchasers, regulators and consumers can use to assess managed behavioral health organizations (MBHO). NCQA evaluates how well an organization manages all parts of its delivery system, including behavioral health professionals, other providers and administrative services. NCQA also measures continuous quality improvement in health care for its members. NCQA MBHO Accreditation standards are intended to provide guidance for organizations to achieve the highest level of performance possible, reduce patient risk, improve outcomes, and create an environment of continuous improvement.

NCQA reviews include rigorous on-site and off-site evaluations conducted by a team of physicians and managed care experts. A national oversight committee of physicians and behavioral health providers



analyzes the team's findings and assigns an accreditation level based on the MBHO's performance compared to NCQA standards. For more information:

<http://www.ncqa.org/programs/accreditation/managed-behavioral-healthcareorganization-mbho>