



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

West Central Behavioral Health Announces 2025 Lilla McLane-Bradley Award Winner

LEBANON, NH – June 6, 2025 - West Central Behavioral Health (WCBH) is proud to announce the recipient of the 2025 Lilla McLane-Bradley Award: Alexander, AJ Horvath, Senior Director of Psychiatry Administration at Dartmouth Health, for his outstanding commitment to mental health access and advocacy. This annual award recognizes individuals who have made a significant impact on the lives of those affected by mental illness.

“I am both honored and humbled by receiving this award from WCBH, and it will be an everlasting reminder for me of the importance of living life with passion and drive to have a positive impact on people, systems, and community beyond ourselves.”

“AJ has been a tireless advocate for mental health, working to bridge the gap between community members and the resources they need. His dedication to improving outcomes for individuals and families struggling with mental health challenges is truly commendable,” said Lori Shibinette, President and CEO of WCBH.

In addition to serving as the Interim CEO of West Central Behavioral Health in 2024, AJ recently offered leadership to NH Hospital and Hampstead Hospital during crucial periods of transition.

The Lilla McLane-Bradley Award was established to honor the legacy of Lilla McLane-Bradley, a dedicated mental health advocate who played a foundational role in the growth and development of West Central Behavioral Health. This award serves to inspire future generations of leaders, volunteers, and advocates in the field of mental health and substance use.

The award was presented by Dr. William Torrey, on behalf of the West Central Board of Directors, at a ceremony notably attended by Bronwen Ballou, Lilla’s daughter. WCBH staff and board members were in attendance, as were past award winners, AJ’s friends, family, and colleagues from each of the mental health organizations he stewarded.

For more information about the Lilla McLane-Bradley Award and West Central Behavioral Health, please visit <https://www.wcbh.org/>.

About West Central Behavioral Health:

West Central Behavioral Health is the community mental health center for the lower Grafton and Sullivan County regions. It ensures access to advanced counseling, treatment, and support for people of all ages and income levels. With locations in Claremont, Lebanon, and Newport, NH, West Central serves adults, families, and children. Mobile crisis response services may be accessed via the New Hampshire Rapid Response Access Point. Learn more online at [wcbh.org](https://www.wcbh.org)

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