

National Council Honors Vibrant Emotional Health

Peer Specialist, Lifetime Achievement and Behavioral Health Leadership Awards were Bestowed Upon Five Distinguished Recipients During NatCon22, April 11-13

WASHINGTON, DC (April 14) – The National Council for Mental Wellbeing presented Vibrant Emotional Health with one of five Awards of Excellence during NatCon22, the industry’s biggest conference.

Vibrant received the National Council’s Behavioral Health Leadership Award, which recognizes an organization that distinguished itself by improving care to and outcomes in its community. Vibrant has played a vital role in efforts to ensure the nation can smoothly transition to 988, the new three-digit number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

The new access code for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (Lifeline), 988, will be available across the country on July 16, 2022. The Lifeline was established in 2005 by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and has been administered by Vibrant Emotional Health since that time.

“We can’t thank Vibrant enough for its work to prepare for the transition to 988,” National Council for Mental Wellbeing President and CEO Chuck Ingoglia said. “Vibrant has taken steps to raise funds, distribute the money and support planning efforts among states. Vibrant also continues to work with its network of crisis centers to build capacity, establish national back up centers and provide leadership on this issue of national importance.”

NatCon22 was the National Council’s first conference held in person since 2019, when thousands of attendees gathered for NatCon19 in Nashville. More than 4,500 people attended NatCon22 at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center outside of Washington, D.C., April 11-13.

Vibrant received its award during the general session on Wednesday, April 13.

“We’re so grateful that we can gather once again, and we’re even more gratified that we can honor our 2022 Awards of Excellence winners in person,” Ingoglia said. “The winners of our Peer Specialist, Lifetime Achievement and Behavioral Health Leadership awards have accomplished so much over the past year against incredible odds, and we can’t overstate what they mean to the field, the National Council and their communities.”



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About the National Council

Founded in 1969, the National Council for Mental Wellbeing is a membership organization that drives policy and social change on behalf of nearly 3,200 mental health and substance use treatment organizations and the more than 10 million children, adults and families they serve. We advocate for policies to ensure equitable access to high-quality services. We build the capacity of mental health and substance use treatment organizations. And we promote greater understanding of mental wellbeing as a core component of comprehensive health and health care. Through our Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) program, we have trained more than 2.5 million people in the U.S. to identify, understand and respond to signs and symptoms of mental health and substance use challenges.

About Vibrant Emotional Health

For 50 years, Vibrant Emotional Health, has been at the forefront of promoting emotional well-being for all people. As leaders, advocates, educators, and innovators in mental health, we have been raising awareness and offering support to everyone who is struggling. We work every single day to help save lives and assist people to get care anytime, anywhere and in any way that works for them. We are unwavering in our belief that everyone can achieve emotional wellness with the right care and support. As part of our work, we administer the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, funded by SAMHSA, which provides 24/7, free, and confidential support for people in emotional distress across the United States. For more information, please visit www.vibrant.org.

