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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ASSOCIATION FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE
TO CELEBRATE PROVIDERS**

Bill Spinks of Bay State Community Services Honored

Quincy, MA - September 30, 2010 - The Association for Behavioral Healthcare (ABH), a statewide organization representing ninety-one community-based behavioral healthcare provider organizations, will present its 2010 Recognition Awards at its annual Provider Celebration on October 8, 2010. Each year, ABH recognizes human service employees, young people, consumer and family advocates and others who have made outstanding contributions to the fields of mental health and substance abuse treatment.

This year Bill Spinks, Director of Prevention and Intervention Services at Bay State Community Services (BSCS), will be presented with the 'Francis O'Brien Award for Substance Abuse'. This award recognizes his long-term dedication and leadership in the field of substance abuse prevention, intervention and treatment.

Bill has been a leader in the development of substance abuse services for close to forty years. From volunteer alcohol counselor to Executive Director of the former South Shore Council on Alcoholism; alcohol probation officer to Director of Prevention and Intervention Services at BSCS, Bill has continuously advanced the idea that resiliency can be nurtured by programs that promote recovery. To this end, Bill has been involved with many grassroots initiatives serving on various local boards and statewide committees. Presently, Bill is involved in ABH's SOAP Committee and the Impact Quincy Coalition, which he founded.

"Like all true leaders, Bill always demonstrates integrity and dedication and, like all true leaders, he holds to principles that characterize his work and motivate others," said Kenneth Tarabelli, CEO of Bay State Community Services, Inc. "Simply put, Bill has spent his professional life operationalizing the beliefs that have become the core values of ABH and thus we have all been enriched by his efforts and grace."

"The Provider Celebration allows us to honor individuals like Bill Spinks who work without fanfare to stand up every day to make life better for individuals with mental illness and substance use disorders and their families," said Vic DiGravio, ABH's President and CEO. "Bill's devotion to his work is truly inspiring."

ABH will honor awardees at a ceremony in Waltham. ABH members are the primary providers of mental health and substance abuse treatment and services in Massachusetts. Member providers and their 20,000 dedicated employees provide clinically effective and cost-sensitive care to 117,000 individuals on any given day in communities throughout the state.

Bay State Community Services, Inc. (BSCS) was founded in 1991 through the merger of five local, not-for-profit agencies, including Quincy-based Survival, Inc. and South Shore Council on Alcoholism. Today, throughout Southeastern Massachusetts BSCS offers a unique continuum of social, mental health, addiction and correctional services. Most programs offer help based on need regardless of ability to pay; all recognize the primary importance of individual, family and community empowerment. BSCS continually strives to partner with clients and community in the most direct, honest and whole-hearted manner possible. For more information on Bay State Community Services, Inc., call (617) 471-8400 or log on to www.baystatecs.org.

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