



**NEWS RELEASE
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MHPA Announces New State Affairs Director

Washington, DC, October 20, 2022 - Medicaid Health Plans of America (MHPA) has hired Corey Pleasants as its inaugural Director of State Affairs. Mr. Pleasants will be responsible for the establishment and coordination of MHPA's state level priorities and advocacy portfolio. Mr. Pleasants will also be responsible for identifying, developing, and managing strategic relationships with states, state associations, and other relevant stakeholders to advance the Medicaid priorities of MHPA, our members MCOs, and the Medicaid managed care industry at the state level.

Mr. Pleasants joins MHPA with over a decade of experience in managed care policy, operations, and advocacy. Most recently he served as the Director of Regulatory and External Affairs for Aetna Better Health of Virginia where he was a leading voice with State officials regarding major policy and operational issues affecting the health plan. Mr. Pleasants also previously served as Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Resources in the Office of the former Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Ralph S. Northam; and has held several roles at the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services where he served as primary author of a Medicaid managed care contract and later served as Deputy Chief of Staff.

"MHPA is excited to welcome Corey to our MHPA Advocacy Department to spearhead our state affairs activities," said Shannon Attanasio, Vice President of Government Relations and Advocacy. "As we stand up MHPA's new State Affairs Department and State Affairs Committee, I believe that Corey's experience representing Medicaid MCO interests and working for the betterment of Medicaid programs at the state level will be invaluable as we continue to expand MHPA's efforts to ensure that the millions of Medicaid enrollees our member health plans serve continue to receive the highest quality health coverage and care."

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About Medicaid Health Plans of America

Founded in 1995, the Medicaid Health Plans of America (MHPA) represents the interests of the Medicaid managed care industry through advocacy and research to support innovative policy solutions that enhance the delivery of comprehensive, cost-effective, and quality health care for Medicaid enrollees. MHPA works on behalf of its 130+ member health plans, known as managed care organizations (MCOs), which serve nearly 48 million Medicaid enrollees in 40 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. MHPA's members include both for-profit and non-profit, national and regional, as well as single-state health plans that compete in the Medicaid market. www.medicaidplans.org