



Media Alert

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Meridian Releases Annual Data that Demonstrates an Increase in Acute Care Services and a 500% Increase in Telehealth Usage

Gainesville, Fla.- Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. releases the Resilience Edition of the organization's Annual Report to the Community for fiscal year July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020.

Data and the report is normally released during the annual board dinner which is an open annual meeting attended by partners, supporters, and interested community members each year in December. This year the meeting will be prerecorded and streamed virtually, on YouTube and Facebook, utilizing a lighthearted news story theme called **42 Minutes** as Meridian celebrates 42 years of serving North Central Florida. The annual meeting features an awards celebration, seating of new officers, and a presentation, by Meridian President/CEO Don Savoie, on outcomes and achievement from Meridian's annual report.

The report demonstrates that in spite of the pandemic Meridian was stood was resilient and increased access to care, launched new essential programs and care lines, managed a 500% increase in care through Telehealth, accommodated an increase in acute care including a significant jump in children's crisis stabilization services, and an overall increase of 11% in the number of services provided.

The premier of the meeting/celebration will be on Tuesday, December 1, 2020 8:00pm and is available for anyone to watch.

Who: Meridian Behavioral Healthcare's Board of Directors

What: Awards Celebration and Community Update

When: The video link will be live at 8:00pm on Tuesday, December 1, 2020. Join us for the premier or watch any time after the premier. [42 Minutes Meridian Annual Community Update](#)

Other: Review Meridian's latest [Annual Report to our Communities 2020](#) or visit <https://www.mbhci.org/about/annual-reports/>

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Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. is a comprehensive community behavioral healthcare organization located in North Central Florida. With services available throughout the region, Meridian maintains offices in these eleven counties: Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Suwannee, and Union. Meridian is CARF accredited and licensed by the Florida Department of Children and Families and the Agency for Healthcare Administration. Its mission is to promote the health, recovery, and well-being of those affected by mental illness and substance use disorders through prevention, coordinated treatment, and supportive services and is based on the vision that hope, recovery, and wellness are within everyone's reach. For more information, visit <http://mbhci.org/>.

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