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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Horizon Behavioral Health Receives 2.2 Million Dollar Grant to Serve Homeless Youth and Young Adults**

**Lynchburg, VA** - Horizon Behavioral Health has received a three-year $2.2 million grant from the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to combat a growing problem facing people between the ages of 18 and 24 years old - homelessness and lack of consistent mental healthcare. These young adults present a series of unique challenges because they are too old for child services but often not ready or eligible for adult services. Within our local community, housing and other resources are scarce. “This is tremendous news for Central Virginia. This grant will make a meaningful difference in the lives of our transition aged youth and young adults,” says Damien Cabezas, CEO of Horizon Behavioral Health.

The grant, called the Coordinated Approaches to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI), will allow Horizon to provide outreach, assessment, and treatment to these young adults. CABHI is designed to reduce homelessness, incarceration, emergency department visits, and re-arrest, while increasing positive social and behavioral outcomes, including employment and stable housing.  This grant will fund a team of therapists, case managers, and housing, employment specialist and peer specialist that will work with this population to maximize their potential. “Our community partnerships will be key to the success of this effort,” says Damien Cabezas, CEO of Horizon Behavioral Health.

For more information on the CABHI Grant please contact Jennifer Smith Ramey at [Jennifer.Smith.Ramey@horizonbh.org](mailto:Jennifer.Smith.Ramey@horizonbh.org) or visit: <https://www.samhsa.gov/homelessness-programs-resources/grant-programs-services/cabhi-program>

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***Horizon Behavioral Health*** *has been the primary public behavioral healthcare provider in the Region 2000 area for more than 48 years. In the last year, Horizon provided services to approximately 16,000 adults and children, addressing problems with mental health, substance use and intellectual disabilities. Horizon is accredited by CARF International. This represents the highest level of accreditation that can be given to a behavioral health organization.*