

Representative Steve Eliason Receives Karen Mayne Legislator of the Year Award from Utah Association of Behavioral Health Organizations



(UBHO Board of Directors presents award to Representative Eliason. Left to right: Heather Chase, Adam Cohen, Jared Sanford, Rep. Steve Eliason, Eric Schmidt, Mariah Hurst)

Springville, Utah - June 25, 2026

Following a tumultuous and successful legislative session, Utah Association of Behavioral Health Organizations (UBHO) presented Representative Steve Eliason (Utah House District 43) with their annual Karen Mayne legislator of the year award. The award recognizes his exceptional leadership, integrity, and tireless advocacy for the advancement of behavioral health for all Utahns.

“This award was named after Senator Mayne because she set the gold standard in behavioral health advancement and advocacy, and this year we are awarding it to Representative Eliason because he has demonstrated that he can keep up with her same pace,” said Mariah Hurst, Executive Director of UBHO.

Due to the delicate systems he works with, Representative Eliason’s bills are widely acknowledged as being some of the most complex and intricate bills on the hill, but he pairs them with his unique ability to help everyone (lawmakers and the layman) understand the importance of his proposed legislation and the value they will add to Utah. He is able to

find consensus and advance wise policy that keeps Utah and behavioral health providers focused on what really matters: a healthy and robust system of care for all Utahns.

“Working with Representative Eliason on meaningful change in the behavioral health space has been our pleasure, and supporting his work is easy. We always know whose side he is on, because the answer is always the same: Utah’s,” Hurst added.

Utah Association of Behavioral Health Organizations has been in operation since 2013 with the singular mission to support the organizations that heal Utah by offering strategic industry guidance, ethical accreditation, and legislative monitoring.

Contact:

Mariah Hurst

Executive Director, Utah Association of Behavioral Health Organizations

mariah@ubho.org

8016233365

###