



NAPHS HOSTS *THE* POLICY MEETING FOR LEADERS OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE PROVIDER ORGANIZATIONS...

PART 2: AWARDS

Congressional Champions Receive NAPHS Presidential Awards

NAPHS Presidential Awards were presented to two leaders in Congress for their leadership in support of behavioral health.



Sen. Benjamin Cardin (D-MD) (left) receives his award from NAPHS President **Jeff Borenstein, M.D.**, (center), CEO and medical director of Holliswood Hospital, Holliswood, NY, and senior vice president and corporate medical director of Liberty Behavioral Management Group, Inc.; and **Steven S. Sharfstein, M.D.**, (right), president and CEO, Sheppard Pratt Health System, Baltimore, MD. Sen. Cardin was recognized for “his longstanding leadership and firm commitment to working for those with serious mental illnesses.” For example, Sen. Cardin has focused attention on issues ranging from the need for mental health parity to the need for adequate financing for essential treatment.

Rep. Jim McCrery (R-LA) (right), who will retire from Congress at the end of 2008, was recognized for his efforts throughout his 20 years in Congress to ensure that Americans of all ages have access to a full continuum of



appropriate and affordable treatment when they need help with mental illnesses and substance use problems. For example, Rep. McCrery was the original sponsor of legislation that established a prospective payment system (PPS) for inpatient psychiatric care. As an original sponsor of the *Medicaid Emergency Psychiatric Care Act* (now pending before Congress as H.R.2050 and S.2406), Rep. McCrery has also taken a leadership role in addressing access concerns. The measure is designed to address the crisis of emergency department crowding by promoting the right care, at the right time, in the right setting. Here Rep. McCrery talks with NAPHS Second Vice President **Joey Jacobs**, chairman, CEO, and president, Psychiatric Solutions, Inc., Franklin, TN.

Award Recognizes Grassroots Advocacy

Mary Hanrahan, C.S.W., government relations specialist in behavioral health at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital (left), received the NAPHS Grassroots Leadership Award. The award recognized Ms. Hanrahan’s efforts to elevate the importance of grassroots advocacy within the association and her personal action to educate members of Congress about issues – such as mental health parity and emergency psychiatric care – that have a direct impact on whether people have access, coverage, and fair funding when they need mental health services. She is congratulated here by NAPHS Executive Director **Mark Covall** (right) and **Gail Ryder** (center), administrative director, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital.

