



Georgia Department of Behavioral Health
& Developmental Disabilities

Monica S. Johnson, MA, LPC, Interim Commissioner

Office of the Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 14, 2022

David Sofferin, Director, Office of Public Affairs

david.sofferin@dbhdd.ga.gov

404.463.7160

DBHDD Interim Commissioner Selected for Prestigious National Women's Empowerment Behavioral Health Leadership Award

Interim Commissioner for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) Monica Johnson has been selected for the National Women's Empowerment Behavioral Health Leadership Award by the National Women's Empowerment Ministry.

"I'm very honored to have been nominated and selected for this prestigious award by the National Women's Empowerment Ministry," said Johnson. "I'm looking forward to meeting other award recipients from around the country at the Award ceremony in February."

The National Women's Empowerment Ministry recognizes women around the nation who are influential and empowering other women in their respective industries, community, and faith-based communities.

The organization's Behavioral Health Leadership Award recognizes a female leader in mental health, or a substance use treatment counselor, provider, or an organization that is saving lives, and helping communities thrive by paving the way for progress through mental wellness and awareness. As recipient of this award, Johnson will be honored at the organization's annual National Women's Empowerment Red Dress Experience Conference in February.

Johnson joined DBHDD in 2011 as the Director for Child & Adolescent Mental Health and was quickly promoted to the Director for Community Mental Health, and in 2014 selected as the Division Director for Behavioral Health. Governor Kemp recently asked her to serve as Interim Commissioner. Ms. Johnson has a bachelor's degree in psychology from Kennesaw State University and a master's degree in professional psychology from Argosy University. She has over 26 years of experience in the behavioral health field.

#

If anyone you know needs help related to mental health, substance use, or intellectual and developmental disabilities immediate assistance is available 24/7/365. Please call the Georgia Crisis and Access Line at **1-800-715-4225**.

#

The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) is the state agency, which supports people with mental health needs, substance use disorders, and intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Department's vision is easy access to high-quality care that leads to a life of recovery and independence for the people it serves

<https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/>

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities
Office of the Commissioner

2 Peachtree Street, NW | 24th Floor | Atlanta, Georgia 30303 | 404.463.7946 | dbhdd.georgia.gov