EATING DISORDERS COMMUNITY MEETS WITH SENIOR STAFF FROM WHITE HOUSE AND OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO DISCUSS PARITY, EARLY IDENTIFICATION, AND RESEARCH

*Press Release*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Washington, D.C.- September 15, 2016 – Yesterday, members of the eating disorders community met with politically appointed and professional staff from the White House, U.S. Department of Labor, National Institute for Mental Health, Center for Medicaid & Medicare Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Health Resources and Services Administration, and the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight to discuss further partnership and collaboration to help people with eating disorders in the areas of mental health parity compliance, early identification, and research. The eating disorders community members included representatives of the Eating Disorders Coalition, National Eating Disorders Association, Binge Eating Disorder Association, Academy for Eating Disorders, Residential Eating Disorders Consortium, and other members of academia.

The meeting marked the first steps of beneficial collaborations amongst the agencies and the eating disorders community. Issues discussed related to mental health parity, medical necessity, non-quantitative treatment limitations and transparency; early identification for the public, doctors, school personnel and health insurance providers; and the need for further research to help advance eating disorders treatment and early identification. Going forward, the eating disorders community is excited to continue these partnerships and forge a path for mental health parity, early identification, and research relating to eating disorders.

The Eating Disorders Coalition is a Washington, D.C.-based, federal advocacy organization comprised of treatment providers, advocacy organizations and entities, parents of children with eating disorders, and people experiencing eating disorders nationwide. For more information, contact Katrina Velasquez at kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org. Additional resources can also be found at www.eatingdisorderscoalition.org.

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