

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 26, 2023

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BestSelf Senior VP of Strategic Initiatives Elected to COMPA Board

Jennifer Seib Joins the Coalition of Medication-Assisted Treatment Providers and Advocates of NYS

Buffalo, NY, December 26, 2023 – BestSelf Behavioral Health announced today that Jennifer Seib, LMHC, CASAC-M, Senior Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, was recently elected to the Coalition of Medication-Assisted Treatment Providers and Advocates for New York State's Board. COMPA is a non-profit, membership organization dedicated to treating addiction through the use of pharmacotherapy as a part of a comprehensive, bio-psycho-social approach to treatment.

COMPA works very closely with member partners, NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports OASAS, and NYS Opioid Treatment Authority. They provide information and support to the field and advocate on behalf of more than 45 member organizations. Recognized as champions for Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs) and office-based opioid treatment, COMPA also represents New York State's Opioid Treatment Providers in the American Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence (AATOD).

According to Margery Stanton, Chief Program and Services Officer at BestSelf Behavioral Health, "Just as she has done at BestSelf, Jen will bring added leadership and visibility to the COMPA Board and give it an upstate NY voice. With her long history of work in the substance use disorder field, she remains committed to helping the tens of thousands of people across New York State who are being supported by OTPs."

Seib joined BestSelf when it formed in 2017 and helped start the organization's first OTP, which opened in 2019 in Orchard Park, NY. In addition to her current position, she has held various roles throughout her tenure at BestSelf, including Vice President of Adult Clinic Services and Director of Clinical Substance Use Disorder Services. Through her illustrious, 21-year career in the behavioral health care field, Jen has also held relevant roles at Brylin Behavioral Health System, Horizon Health Services, and Medaille College.

With this new opportunity, Jen and the other 13 members of the board will work together to help focus their continuing efforts of providing effective treatment for addiction, by integrating behavioral therapy with clinically-effective medications. COMPA plays a crucial role in assisting people struggling with opioid dependence. They also support legislation that aims to establish a single set of licensing standards and requirements for these centers, which would enhance the quality of care provided. It is a great opportunity for BestSelf to stay connected with similar organizations across the state and share best practices.

COMPA also actively encourages the adoption of the latest evidence-based practice in order to improve quality of care and to obtain the best possible treatment outcomes. Their program members provide Medication Assisted Treatment and include both OTPs and Office-Based Opioid Treatment (OBOT) providers. Collectively, they directly impact how organizations do business and how their clients are served.

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Currently, there are 110 OTPs in New York, serving over 43,000 New Yorkers. However, it is important to note that only 32 out of 62 counties in the state have an OTP.

"As a new member of the COMPA Board, I hope to play an integral role in raising awareness, advocating for patients, and seeking the resources and regulatory flexibility that will expand treatment availability and improve quality throughout New York State," said Seib. "I plan to bring the same drive, dedication, and passion that has served me well in this field for the past two-plus decades."

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<u>BestSelf Behavioral Health</u>, Inc. is the largest community-based behavioral health organization serving children and adults with mental health and substance use disorders in WNY. We provide easy access to a full continuum of person-centered, trauma-informed behavioral health treatment, rehabilitation, and recovery services. BestSelf has an annual budget of \$94 million and serves more than 41,000 children and adults in 70+ locations in Western New York.

<u>COMPA</u> is the Coalition of Medication-Assisted Treatment Providers and Advocates of New York State. Our member programs treat more than 41,000 New Yorkers from every corner of our state and help them to overcome their dependence on illicit opioids and other drugs. COMPA, along with our member treatment programs, affiliate members, and corporate members works to improve all aspects of the lives of our patients. This involves advocacy with federal, state, and local governments, as well as a variety of educational activities.