

The Connecticut General Assembly



For IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 6, 2017

Contact: Tess Koenigsmark
860-240-8790

Rep. McCarthy Vahey Honored for Advocacy on Mental Health Issues *Recognized by nonprofit Keep the Promise Coalition*



Rep. McCarthy Vahey accepts the Legislative Leadership Award from Keep the Promise Coalition co-chairs Paul Acker and Kristie Barber

State Rep. Cristin McCarthy Vahey (D-Fairfield) was recently honored with the Legislative Leadership Award by the Keep the Promise Coalition for her advocacy on mental health issues. The award was presented at the organization's 18th annual Awards Luncheon in Bloomfield.

"I'm honored to be recognized by the Keep the Promise Coalition, which does important work throughout Connecticut advocating for improved mental health services. KTP works both for and with those living with mental illness," **Rep. McCarthy Vahey** said. "Most of us, whether personally, or through a family member or friend, are impacted by psychiatric disabilities at some point in our lives. I will continue to advocate for all of the supports and services that are essential to the wellbeing of people living with mental health challenges."

Keep the Promise Coalition (KTP) is a coalition of Connecticut advocates, including people living with mental illness, family members of people with mental illness, and mental health professionals dedicated to ensuring that a comprehensive, community mental health system is created and sustained for people of all ages. They advocate for mental health community services, supportive housing, and recovery services.

Rep. McCarthy Vahey sponsored legislation passed by the House and Senate this session which aims to address shortages in the psychiatric workforce. She is a certified suicide prevention trainer who until recently served as co-chair of Fairfield Cares Community Coalition.

###