



February 2, 2018

Ms. Sandra Lindsey, Chief Executive Director  
Saginaw County Community Mental Health Authority  
500 Hancock Street  
Saginaw, MI 48602

Dear Sandy:

On behalf of the Saginaw Community Foundation (SCF) and Alignment Saginaw, our community collaborative, I am pleased to submit this letter of support for Saginaw County Community Mental Health Authority (SCCMHA) in its pursuit of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services 298 Pilot status. There is no doubt that SCCMHA is highly qualified and organized to administer such an opportunity, and I would like to articulate why in the following paragraphs.

As a community foundation, it is our responsibility to be aware of all the needs and priorities of our community. And, when identifying and addressing those needs, it is beneficial to align ourselves with community partners who can educate us on what those specific needs are and how to effectively and efficiently address them. The Saginaw Community Foundation is privileged to have such a great working relationship with SCCMHA who has educated us on mental health issues, and those issues associated with mental health, such as, hoarding and drug addiction.

In addition, SCF and SCCMHA have worked together on a Community Health Needs Assessment, which ultimately, developed the Saginaw County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). Through that assessment, behavioral health was an area identified which SCCMHA took the leadership role to make progress. There was also the development of a "Pathways to Better Health", Saginaw Children's Health Access Plan (CHAP), and the Saginaw Community Care HUB, each spearheaded by SCCMHA. These are all fine examples of how your organization is a great partner and how these programs have provided our community a great benefit in addressing physical and mental health.

I must also add, Sandy, that the Saginaw County Community is fortunate to have you as the leader of SCCMHA. You have leveraged your resources and connections at the state level, that have resulted in additional support for our community, and for that we are very grateful for your service.

Thank you for your leadership and the services and programs you offer to address the various mental illnesses that members of our community are challenged with. And, thank you for your on-going partnership!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Renee Johnston".

Renee S. Johnston  
President & CEO