



February 5, 2018

Sandra M. Lindsey
Saginaw County Community Mental Health Authority
500 Hancock Street
Saginaw, Michigan 48602

Dear Ms. Lindsey:

The Saginaw Public School District is pleased to submit a 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. It is through our established partnership with SCCMHA that we are able to work collaboratively to have a positive impact on students, families, and other community partners.

The following are a few key contributions SCCMHA has made in partnership with Saginaw City Schools to better serve our students and their families:

- Co-location of network mental health therapist inside district schools including Arthur Eddy, Chester Miller, Herig, Jessie Loomis, Jesse Rouse, Kempton, Merrill Park, Stone, Thompson, and Zilwaukee.
- SCCMHA through Saginaw Max System of Care, provides evidence-based training and activities for Saginaw Public Schools' families, students, and staff, which includes, but not limited to: Strengthening Families, Multicultural Competency, Caring for Children Who Have Experienced Trauma, Family Road Map, and Mental Health First Aid. These evidence-base practices helped shape and improve the overall school culture and climate by addressing the non-academic needs of students and their families, thus assisting with carrying out the goals of our Safe Schools/Healthy Students Project, in which mental and behavioral health is a key component.
- Leadership in our local children's system of care effort as the fiduciary for 10 years of SAMHSA funding of the national model of System of Care. SCCMHA, partnered with Saginaw Public Schools to develop a Care Management Team, in which all of Saginaw's child serving systems work together to develop effective services and work to remove barriers to quality treatment and care.
- SCCMHA has been a leader in creating a trauma-informed community. SCCMHA has directly provided training to Saginaw Public Schools' staff, parents, and many community partners. Several of Saginaw Public Schools staff are now trainers of the evidence-based model, and more than 200 Saginaw Public Schools stakeholders have been trained and/or introduced to the trauma curriculum.

Saginaw Public School District looks forward to the continuation of our collaboration with SCCMHA as it embarks on its hopeful selection as a 298 Pilot site.

Sincerely,

Nathaniel B. McClain

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