

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 9, 2021 For more information, please contact:

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COVID-19 has Increased the Demand for *More Care*. We are Responding with *More Hours*.

SAGINAW, MI – Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Saginaw County Community Mental Health Authority (SCCMHA) is responding to an increased need for services with expanded hours at multiple locations. As people grapple with how to deal with stress and anxiety caused by the pandemic, behavioral health services have never been more important. To increase access to care, SCCMHA is extending case management, clinical and crisis service hours, including mental health and substance use disorders, to better serve consumers and our community.

Hours have been extended at all SCCMHA locations, including their main site on Hancock Street and the Towerline and Bay Road locations. These facilities will now be open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Fridays, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

"Many in our community are dealing with the effects of emotional stress and anxiety that are the result of living through the COVID-19 pandemic," said SCCMHA CEO Sandra Lindsey. "It was imperative that we extend our reach with extended hours. The population we serve are some of the most vulnerable and we need to be there for them during this unprecedented period."

Additional hours will provide greater access to services that include case, clinical and crisis management with services like evaluation, screenings, treatments and referral. Substance use intervention services are also available. SCCMHA is committed to getting our community through this crisis with important supports and services.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, visit sccmha.org or call 989-797-3400 or 800-258-8678. Crisis Services remains open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, including holidays, at 989-792-9732 or 800-233-0022.

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For more information or interview opportunities, please contact Colleen Sproul, LMSW, MSHSA, Chief of Health Services & Utilization Management, Saginaw County Community Mental Health Authority, at (989) 272-0259 or csproul@sccmha.org.

Saginaw County Community Mental Health Authority (SCCMHA) is the public manager/steward of supports and services for citizens with mental illness, developmental disabilities and chemical dependency and their families. SCCMHA actively strives to develop a system of care and a community that values and embraces the potential and contributions of all individuals with disabilities. SCCMHA assists approximately 8,000 Saginaw County residents each year with services ranging from evaluations, screenings, treatments and referrals. The Authority operates multiple locations with the main headquarters located at 500 Hancock Street in Saginaw.