



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**First Choice of Saginaw – Unique Local Charitable Organization Distributed Gift Cards to Adults with Disabilities in Saginaw**

**SAGINAW, MI -**

First Choice of Saginaw is pleased to again announce the annual distribution of gift cards to adults with disabilities residing in licensed residential settings in Saginaw County. This month First Choice of Saginaw issued \$50 gift cards to 316 persons. An event was held at the Anderson Enrichment Center on December 15<sup>th</sup> for this purpose. 2015 is the 11<sup>th</sup> year that First Choice of Saginaw has conducted fund raising culminating in the annual gift card distribution.

“We are most excited to be distributing \$50 gift cards for the first time in our history,” states Ginny Reed, Board Chairperson. “We are so pleased with the support from the Saginaw Community for this important role in improving the quality of life for persons who have such limited resources and opportunities. I am especially grateful to not only our varied and generous financial donors, but also the individuals who continue to contribute to our fund raising activities directly through their time and donations. We could not accomplish our sole organizational mission without their yearly help and support.”

Tim Ninemire, also on the First Choice of Saginaw Board of Directors and Board Secretary concurs. “We are so pleased to give a better level of gift cards to these Saginaw citizens this year. We are so proud of our

organization; it meets a unique community need, and offers choice and improved quality of life in supporting the often unmet needs of these adults with serious disabilities.”

First Choice of Saginaw was first developed in 2005, as a project of the Saginaw County Community Mental Health Authority quality program, through its Quality of Life Committee. SCCMHA, the local Saginaw County Community Mental Health Authority, had received feedback from various community representatives through quality discussions about the many persons served with disabilities, often residing in licensed residential settings, who had severely limited discretionary funds to meet any of their personal needs. The First Choice of Saginaw program was created primarily to help with some of that need for individual funds for adults with serious disabilities living in licensed or other residential settings in the Saginaw community. First Choice of Saginaw has been a tax-exempt organization since 2007 and is completely supported by volunteers. A 10 year report is available on the organization’s website at [www.saginawfc.org](http://www.saginawfc.org).

The First Choice of Saginaw organization is governed by a four member, volunteer Board of Directors and fundraising is planned by a volunteer committee, Friends of First Choice. Recipients are determined annually based on financial hardship, identified by the Saginaw County Community Mental Health Authority. Proceeds go directly to recipients in the form of gift cards on an annual basis.

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