



301 South Crapo, Suite 100, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
www.cmhcm.org
Phone- 989-772-5938
Fax - 989-773-1968

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Linda Kaufmann
Executive Director
Community Mental Health for Central Michigan
Office: 989.772.5938
lkaufmann@cmhcm.org

State Funding Cut for Community Mental Health for Central Michigan

May 19, 2015, Mt. Pleasant, MI – Community Mental Health for Central Michigan (CMHCM) has made the difficult decision to reduce or terminate services for individuals whose cost for services would normally be paid for with state general fund dollars. The State of Michigan implemented its Medicaid expansion program called the Healthy Michigan Plan on April 1, 2014, which allowed many individuals to gain eligibility for health insurance through this Medicaid program. The State of Michigan made assumptions about the reductions in the number of uninsured individuals, and, as a result, Community Mental Health Services Programs across the state including CMHCM experienced significant reductions in state general fund allocations.

Unfortunately, the Healthy Michigan Plan does not provide coverage in certain situations. General fund resources continue to be needed for those ineligible for Healthy Michigan who do not have any insurance, those whose insurance only covers part of the cost of service and those who have to “spend-down” their resources on a monthly basis to cover a deductible before becoming eligible for Medicaid each month.

The State of Michigan reduced CMHCM’s general fund allocation by \$3.7 million, from \$7.8 million at the end of fiscal year 2013 down to \$4.1 million for fiscal year 2015. CMHCM serves the needs of individuals with a severe and persistent mental illness, developmental disability, and/or substance use disorder in Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Mecosta, Midland, and Osceola counties. In order to address CMHCM’s general fund deficit of nearly \$900,000 through six months of operations, individuals are being reviewed on a case by case basis, a wait list for service has been implemented, and benefits have been limited for the most part to local psychiatric inpatient and crisis only services.

Community Mental Health Services Programs across the state are looking at ways to address the funding shortfall including using cost cutting measures, assuring people in need are connected to eligible benefits, reducing services and using limited local fund balances.

CMHCM serves a six county area: Clare, Isabella, Gladwin, Mecosta, Midland and Osceola. The mission of CMHCM is to promote community inclusion and optimal recovery through provision of comprehensive and quality integrated services to individuals with a mental illness, developmental disability, and/or substance use disorder. More information is available at www.cmhcm.org

###