#### THE MEDITERRANEAN DIET

The Mediterranean Diet has emerged as a leading dietary pattern to improve mood and treat depression:

#### Studies show:

- This diet can reduce depression symptoms by 30% in 12 weeks.
- Young men with moderate to severe depression saw a 20.6-point drop on the Beck Depression Inventory after 12 weeks.
- The diet is associated with a significantly lower risk of developing depressive symptoms

#### Getting started:

- Gradually introduce more Mediterranean diet components into your meals.
- Consult with a nutritionist or dietitian for personalized guidance.
- Be patient significant improvements can be seen in as little as 3-12 weeks.

Customer Service 800-317-0708 or 989-772-5938 Michigan Relay 7-1-1 24-hour Crisis Telephone Convenient Office Locations and Hours

#### **Clare County**

789 North Clare Avenue Harrison, MI 48625 989-539-2141

#### **Isabella County**

301 South Crapo Street Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 989-772-5938

#### **Gladwin County**

655 East Cedar Street Gladwin, MI 48624 989-426-9295

#### **Mecosta County**

500 South Third Avenue Big Rapids, MI 49307 231-796-5825

#### **Midland County**

218 Fast Ice Drive Midland, MI 48642 989-631-2320

#### **Osceola County**

4473 220th Avenue Reed City, MI 49677 231-832-2247



# EAT YOUR WAY TO BETTER MENTAL HEALTH

The power of diet in treating depression.

Accredited by:



CMHCM receives financial support from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.



### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Did you know that what you eat can

significantly impact your mood and

mental health? Research shows that

depression. Obesity, on its own, can

unhealthy diets can lead to obesity and

cause brain inflammation, which makes

antidepressants less effective. On the

other hand, eating a healthy, balanced

depression than antidepressants. Discover

how you can harness the power of nutrition

diet can be more effective in treating

to boost your mental well-being.

## THE SCIENCE BEHIND FOOD AND MOOD

## KEY COMPONENTS OF A BALANCED DIET

### A healthy diet can:

- Reduce inflammation in the body, which is linked to depression
- Alter neurotransmitters to alleviate depressive symptoms
- Change the structure of your brain, potentially increasing its size
- Improve overall quality of life, including psychological and physical well-being

- Fruits and vegetables: Aim for a variety of colorful produce daily
- Whole grains: Choose non-refined grains like brown rice, quinoa, and whole-grain barley
- Healthy fats: Incorporate olive oil, nuts, and seeds
- **Fatty fish:** Rich in omega-3s, which are crucial for brain health
- Lean proteins: Include legumes and fish in your meals



#### **Foods to Avoid:**

- X Refined sugars and processed foods
- X Saturated fats and fried foods
- X Red and processed meats (in excess)
- X High-fat dairy products