

GLADWIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Community Mental Health for Central Michigan (CMHCM), a Mental Health Authority that has served for more than 50 years as the public mental health and intellectual/developmental disabilities services provider for Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Mecosta, Midland, and Osceola counties, and has served over 10,000 residents in FY20; and

WHEREAS, CMHCM was created by the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners along with five participating County Boards of Commissioners as duly authorized under the Community Mental Health Act of 1963; and

WHEREAS, CMHCM is governed by a Board of Directors seated by the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners along with five participating County Boards of Commissioners appointed according to state law to include County Commissioners, invested citizens, and persons with lived experience from each of the local communities; and

WHEREAS, every year, thousands of individuals and their families across Central Michigan depend on the public behavioral health system for daily (and in some cases, life-long) supports and services; and

WHEREAS, Michigan's Community Mental Health (CMH) system has pioneered every mental health innovation, evidence-based, and promising practice that are not available outside of the system. It has delivered these effectively and efficiently benefiting its consumers and the taxpayers. Some examples include:

- Meeting or exceeding state-established performance standards, for decades, around timeliness of access, speed of crisis intervention, follow-up from inpatient care, and low inpatient readmission rates;
- Providing one of the nation's most comprehensive array of community-based services resulting in a dramatic increase in access to care for low-income Michiganders;
- Ranking number six in the country for access to care for adults;
- Saving over \$5 billion from 1997 through 2015 and extrapolated to over \$12 billion through 2024 through the use of person-centered planning and comprehensive care management;
- The total state overhead payment to the public managed care system is 6.02 percent compared to the 21 percent paid to private health plans resulting in a savings of \$4.7 billion since 1997. This means that \$94 of every \$100 dollars provided to the CMH system is used for health care compared with only \$79 of \$100 from private providers. This difference is equivalent to \$450 million diverted from the mental health care of Michiganders; and

WHEREAS, the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners opposes any behavioral health redesign that harms the state and county partnership for community mental health and related Medicaid safety net services. Additionally, we believe that any behavioral health redesign must maintain the efficacy, responsiveness, and integrity of the community-based behavioral health system; and

WHEREAS, recent proposals in the House and Senate fundamentally change the public behavioral health system and will harm those served by the system. The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners opposes these proposals because:

- Public oversight, governance, operations, and accountability of the Medicaid benefit would be ended;
- Beneficiaries would lose local access for input into the design and operation of their Medicaid services and supports system;
- Current proposals for redesign are not based on performance metrics related to positive outcomes, effectiveness, and efficiency measures associated with the current public system. The proposals offer no clear statement about the problems that the Senate or House are attempting to address or solve;

- The proposed bills ignore the views expressed by those who would be directly affected by these changes. These bills ignore the comprehensive set of recommendations made by a large and diverse set of stakeholders who have the most to gain or lose from changes to the system and are counter to the findings captured in the Section 298 Workgroup Final Report; and

WHEREAS, instead of damaging the public behavioral health system through ill-advised proposals, recent innovations fostered by the public behavioral health system should be supported. The Gladwin County Board of Commissioners supports and asks our Legislative and Executive Branch leaders to support local primary and behavioral health integration infrastructure and care coordination at the point of service delivery to include:

- Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs)
- Behavioral Health Homes
- Opioid Health Homes; and

WHEREAS, the public behavioral health system is the safety net system for our state's most vulnerable individuals. We believe strongly that the public safety net behavioral health system must remain public in governance, accountability, funding, and operation. We believe strongly that beneficiaries have immediate, virtual, and in-person access to their board member representatives in the community and to the whole board of directors through participation in local public board meetings under the Open Meetings Act. Recent proposals by some members of the Michigan Senate and House eliminate these key features of the behavioral health system. We stand united in opposing these proposals; and

WHEREAS, the public behavioral health system carries out its responsibilities to every citizen in this state by seeking and serving persons with the greatest, most severe, most persistent needs and vulnerabilities without regard to whether there is risk of loss, low, or no return on investment, or other non-person-centered motivations. The public system appropriately shares these risks with the State and is demonstrably and significantly more efficient at moving more taxpayer money into services and not into administration, infrastructure, or profits; and

WHEREAS, the public behavioral health safety net has ensured continued services and supports to individuals, families, communities, workforce members, and provider organizations in every possible way before and throughout the pandemic period including tens of millions of dollars in provider stabilization and direct care worker support in this CMH region alone. The House and Senate proposals as they currently stand both eliminate Michigan's PIHPs, threaten the CMH's ability to deliver services and supports to the most vulnerable individuals in our State and shift responsibility for managing public services and supports to private health plans (Senate), and Administrative Services Organization (House), and to the State, effectively damaging Gladwin County-level oversight and control. The premise of these proposals appears to proffer that privatization (Senate) and state-centralization (House) are better than local access, local control, local accountability, collaborative regional/local management, shared resources, and local oversight. We stand united in opposition to those proposals; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we request that our policy making representatives support, improve, and strengthen the public behavioral health safety net system, and that you support improvements in the delivery of publicly governed, publicly accountable, publicly operated regional and community-based systems, investing in and expanding initiatives that are proven to improve citizen access, beneficiary engagement, individual and population health, behavioral wellbeing, resiliency, quality of life, and community betterment such as those mentioned above. These are among the daily, weekly, and yearly accomplishments of the public system that would be destroyed by pursuing these new legislative proposals.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED



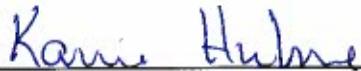
Gladwin County Board of Commissioners Chairperson

Adopted by the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners at a meeting on 28, 2021, held with public notice of said meeting, was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, 1976 P.A. 267, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.

I, the undersigned, being duly qualified and acting Clerk of the County of Gladwin, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the resolution adopted by the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting held on September 28, 2021, and that notice of said meeting was given in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

Roll call vote as follows:

Commissioner K. Grove	Yea
Commissioner Taylor	Yea
Commissioner Szuch	Yea
Commissioner Moore	Yea
Commissioner R. Grove	Yea



Karrie Hulme, Clerk



Date