



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Wall-Breaking Ceremony Marks a New Era of Behavioral Health Support in Greater Lansing**

*Crisis Care Center to serve as a critical resource, providing immediate and expert care 24/7 to people in crisis.*

**Lansing, MI — November 26, 2024** — Community leaders, healthcare professionals, and advocates joined together on Monday, November 25, 2024 for a moving wall-breaking ceremony to mark the transformation of the former McLaren Health Care hospital into the Crisis Care Center. Developed by the Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties (CMHA-CEI), this new facility will serve as a beacon of hope for adults, youth, and families facing behavioral health emergencies.

Created in response to the growing need for accessible behavioral health crisis support services, the Crisis Care Center will provide immediate intervention to stabilize individuals in distress, reduce hospitalizations, and provide an alternative to emergency rooms for families seeking urgent care.

“Our community deserves more behavioral health support, and the Crisis Care Center is a critical resource that reflects our collective vision for a healthier, more compassionate future,” said Sara Lurie, CEO of CMHA-CEI. “This center is designed to serve people in their moments of greatest need, offering expert care and support around the clock.”

The ceremony was attended by many dignitaries who voiced their strong support for the initiative, including Mayor Andy Schor, Senators Debbie Stabenow and Sarah Anthony, MDHHS Director Elizabeth Hertel, COO of McLaren Health Care, Jay de los Reyes, NAMI Lansing President Katreva Bisbee, Ingham County Sheriff, Scott Wrigglesworth, CMHA-CEI Board member and Ingham County Board of Commissioners, Ryan Sebolt and Rep. Angela Witwer. Their messages underscored the urgent need for resources like the Crisis Care Center to address behavioral health challenges in the community.

A highlight of the event was a heartfelt message shared by Noelle Melton, offering a powerful reminder of the profound impact behavioral health crises have on individuals and loved ones. The



story emphasized the importance of accessible, compassionate care and the difference the center will make in the lives of those it serves.

The ceremonial wall-breaking was both a symbolic and tangible moment of progress, signifying the beginning of a new chapter for the building and for the community. Attendees also participated in a community engagement activity, sharing insights and ideas to help shape the branding and vision for the Crisis Care Center, reinforcing the inclusive and collaborative spirit behind this initiative.

The Crisis Care Center will provide immediate, expert care 24/7 in a safe and supportive environment, offering prevention, intervention, and continued care to individuals without bias. The center is set to open Spring 2026.

**About Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties (CMHA-CEI):**

The Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties (CMHA-CEI) provides a comprehensive range of person-centered, high-quality behavioral health, substance use, and developmental disability services to residents in the region. Through direct care and partnerships, CMHA-CEI is dedicated to meeting community needs with innovative and effective support systems that empower individuals, foster recovery, and enhance quality of life.