



Resolution of Hiawatha Community Mental

Health Authority

Gearing Toward Integration Proposal



Accessible

2021-1

WHEREAS, the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners, Chippewa County Board of Commissioners and the Mackinac County Board of Commissioners have entered into an enabling resolution to create the Hiawatha Behavioral Health Community Mental Health Authority, dba as Hiawatha Behavioral Health, pursuant to Section 100 et seq. and Section 205 of the Mental Health Code, 1974 PA 258, as amended (MCL330.1100 et seq; MCL330.1205); and

WHEREAS, Hiawatha Behavioral Health Community Mental Health Authority, dba as Hiawatha Behavioral Health, is a community mental health authority for the counties of Chippewa, Mackinac and Schoolcraft, organized under the terms of Section 204(a) of the Michigan Mental Health Code (the code), (MCL330.1204(a)); and

WHEREAS, Section 116(b) of the Code (MCL330.116(b) requires that the Department of Community Health shift primary responsibility for the direct delivery of public mental health services from the state to a community mental health services program whenever the community mental health services program has demonstrated a willingness and capacity to provide an adequate and appropriate system of mental health services for the citizens of that service area; and

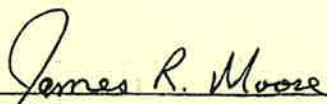
WHEREAS, Hiawatha Behavioral Health has demonstrated such willingness and capacity to provide a broad array of innovative, cutting edge, community mental health services for the past 50 plus years and is properly certified as a community mental health services program under terms of Section 232(a) of the Code (MCL330.1232(a)); and

WHEREAS, Hiawatha Behavioral Health has developed, improved and sustained successful efforts for integration of behavioral health and physical health services throughout our entire service area beginning at the provider level; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hiawatha Behavioral Health Authority Board strongly urges the State Senate and House of Representatives to oppose Senator Shirkey's Gearing Toward Integration Proposal and subsequent changes to the Michigan Social Welfare Act which would privatize the public mental health system, diminish adequate oversight to ensure quality care and essentially eliminate the public safety net; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey, Speaker of the house Jason Wentworth, Senator Wayne Schmidt, Senator Ed McBroom, Representative John Damoose, Representative Sarah Cambensy, and the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC)

Adopted by the Hiawatha Behavioral Health Board this 24<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021

  
James R. Moore, Board Chairman

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