



## **Michelle M. Stevenson**

**Roscommon County Clerk & Register of Deeds**  
**500 Lake Street, Roscommon, Michigan 48653**  
**Email: [stevensonm@roscommoncounty.net](mailto:stevensonm@roscommoncounty.net)**  
**Phone: (989) 275-5923 or (989) 275-5931**  
**Fax: (989) 275-8640**

September 9, 2021

**"Motion by Melvin, Second by Muckenthaler to adopt Resolution #2021-09-01;**

### **RESOLUTION #2021-09-01**

#### **OPPOSING PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO CURRENT MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEMS**

**WHEREAS**, Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Authority has served for more than 50 years as the public mental health and intellectual/developmental disabilities services provider for this community, serving approximately 24,900 residents in Roscommon County each year; and

**WHEREAS**, Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Authority was created by the Roscommon County Board of Commissioners as duly authorized under the Community Mental Health Act of 1963; and

**WHEREAS**, Every year thousands of individuals and their families in this community depend on the public behavioral health system for daily and life-long supports and services; and

**WHEREAS**, Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Authority opposes any behavioral health redesign that harms the state and county partnership for community mental health and related Medicaid safety net services and/or seeks to privatize Medicaid behavioral health services; and

**WHEREAS**, The Roscommon County Board of Commissioners believes recent proposals in the Michigan House and Senate fundamentally change the public behavioral health system and will harm those served by the system for the following reasons:

- Beneficiaries would stand to lose access to services, supports and input into the design and operation of their services and supports system. Many Michiganders would be left out of the redesign proposals completely;
- Public oversight, governance, operations and accountability would be ended;
- Current proposals for redesign are not based on performance metrics related to positive outcomes, effectiveness and efficiency measures associated with the current public system. Also, there is no clear statement about the problems that the Senate or House are attempting to address or solve;
- The Senate proposal specifically incentivizes and prioritizes profits to private companies at the expense of the public and the beneficiaries served by the public behavioral health system;

**WHEREAS**, Instead of damaging our public behavioral health system through pursuit of these proposals recent innovations by the public behavioral health system should be supported. The Roscommon Board of Commissioners supports and asks our Legislative and Executive Branch leaders to support;

- Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs)
- Behavioral Health Homes
- Opioid Health Homes
- State Innovation Models

- Local primary and behavioral health integration infrastructure and care coordination at the point of service delivery

**WHEREAS,** The public behavioral health system is the safety net system for our state's most vulnerable and needy people, we believe strongly that the public safety net behavioral health system must remain public in governance, accountability, funding and operation and we believe strongly that representatives in the community and to the whole board of directors through participation in local public board meetings under the Open Meetings Act, and recent proposals by the Michigan Senate and House eliminate these key features of the behavioral health system, we stand united in opposing these proposals, and

**WHEREAS,** The premise of these proposals seems to be that privatization (Senate) and state-centralization (House) are better than local access, local control, local accountability, collaborative regional/local management and local oversight. These are just a few of the beneficial features of the current public behavioral health system that the House and Senate proposals ignore and for these reasons we stand united in opposition to them, and

**WHEREAS,** Having come through a recent pandemic, and currently dealing with further results of the pandemic, this is no time for a major upheaval of the public behavioral health system that so many thousands of persons, their families and entire communities rely on for support. The public behavioral health safety net has ensured continued services and supports for all these people in our communities throughout the pandemic period.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Roscommon County Board of Commissioners, 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, invest in and expand initiatives that are proven to improve citizen access, beneficiary engagement, individual and population health, behavioral wellbeing, quality of life and community betterment such as those mentioned above. These are among the accomplishments of the public system that would be destroyed by pursuing these new legislative proposals.

On Roll Call:

Ayes: Russo, Schneider, Milburn, Muckenthaler

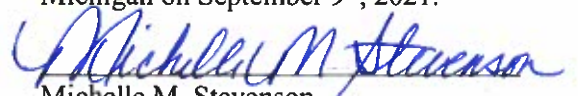
Nays: None

Resolution Adopted

State of Michigan       }  
County of Roscommon}

I, Michelle M. Stevenson, Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners for the County of Roscommon do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Roscommon County Board of Commissioners at a regular session held on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021. That I have compared the same with the original and it is a copy transcript therefrom, and of the whole thereafter.

In testimony whereof, I have  
hereunto set my hand and affixed  
the official seal at Roscommon,  
Michigan on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

  
Michelle M. Stevenson  
Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

