

Oakland Family Services Expands Impact on Children in Oakland County

Oakland Family Services was selected by the Oakland County Community Mental Health Authority (OCCMHA) to be one of two providers of mental health treatment to children and youth, aged 6 – 17 years, with Serious Emotional Disturbances, and their families. The services that will be offered are an extension of the family focused, evidence based practice continuum of care currently offered by Oakland Family Services. The agency has the potential to impact an additional 800 children and youth in Oakland County each year.

Children with Serious Emotional Disturbances experience disorders in mood, including depression and anxiety, conduct, and/or cognition and perception. As well as mental health issues, the children and youth may have co-occurring substance abuse and/or developmental delays. Without quality intervention, mental health and co-occurring disorders can lead to school failure, family conflicts, violence, and even suicide.

Oakland Family Services' Specialized Services for Youth will offer an array of services, as needed, including any of the following: home and center based mental health and substance abuse treatment, family education and support, linkages to community supports and services, respite care, community living supports, foster care and peer-to-peer supports. The program incorporates a provider network that ensures specialized services provided by experts.

The contract commenced June 16th after the Board of Directors of both Oakland Family Services and the OCCMHA approved entering into the agreement. It is anticipated that services will begin mid-July. The children to be served receive Medicaid or MICHild, or qualify for General Fund.

Oakland Family Services is very excited about this opportunity to partner with the OCCMHA and our service provider network to deliver this valuable and needed program to children and families in Oakland County.



Michael Earl, CEO, Oakland Family Services (left) and Jeff Brown, Executive Director, OCCMHA, seated. Standing - Kathleen Kovach, (left) and Jennifer Muller, OCCMHA, and Kathleen Lynd and Natalie Marchione, Oakland Family Services.