

*Contact: Danis Russell, CEO Phone 810-257-3707*

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**For Immediate Release**

September 27, 2011

**GENESEE COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH RECEIVES FEDERAL GRANT TO DEVELOP  
PLAN FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER**

Flint, MI – On September 15, 2011, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced that they were awarding financial aid to 129 organizations nationwide to plan for the development of community health centers. These funds are from the Affordable Care Act. Locally, Genesee County Community Mental Health received \$80,000, and is one of only five mental health organizations in the country to receive the special funds.

In Genesee County, the need for community health care for the uninsured and underinsured is immense, especially among the growing population of those that are unemployed and /homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. It is estimated that nearly 42,000 residents in Genesee County lacked health insurance in 2009 and countless more are underinsured.

“Through this Health Center Planning Grant, we will reach out to those in our community who share our goal of broadening access to health care for Flint’s most vulnerable populations,” says Danis Russell, CEO of GCCMH. “We will work with community partners to develop a Health Center Planning Workgroup that will represent the various interests of the community in all planning efforts. The end result is to be well situated to apply to open a new community health center that reflects the local needs, uses existing resources effectively without duplicating services, and has long-term viability.”

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Genesee County Community Mental Health  
**News Release**

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Interested community members are welcome and encouraged to join the discussion and planning. For more information, contact GCCMH at (810) 424-6046.

Genesee County CMH provides services and supports to Genesee County residents who are adults and children with developmental disabilities, adults with serious mental illness, children with serious emotional disturbances, and adults and children with substance use disorders. For more information call Customer Services at (810) 257-3705.

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