

Contact Danis Russell, CEO – 810-257-3707

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GENESEEE HEALTH SYSTEM RECEIVES GRANT FROM THE MICHIGAN HEALTH ENDOWMENT FUND

Genesee County, Michigan – Genesee Health System (GHS) is excited to announce that they are a recent recipient of a Healthy Aging Grant from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund. The grant award to GHS was \$500,000.

GHS will be working closely with the Valley Area Agency on Aging (VAAA) to improve access to and availability of integrated, comprehensive health services for older adults in Genesee County. The agencies will identify areas in the county where low income and isolated seniors reside, and then provide outreach to those seniors through a mobile medical health clinic and a multi-disciplinary team to offer physical and mental health assessment and referral to medical and other aging services in support of a medical home model. In Flint, older adults were significantly affected by the Flint Water Crisis, therefore both GHS and VAAA sought to ensure that complete health assessment, referrals and services were available to them.

“Genesee Health System has long understood the need for care that includes both physical and mental health as well as support from the community,” said Dr. Lauren Tompkins, Vice President of Clinical Services at Genesee Health System. “This partnership will allow us to provide comprehensive outreach and services to those older adults who have difficulty seeking services or have not traditionally sought out such services.

It is also our goal to help develop a community work force competent in supporting aging; these are services and supports our community needs.”

Kathy Boles, President and CEO of Valley Area Agency on Aging states, “Often, seniors need care and services in their home. This partnership meets a great unmet need with

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providing care to isolated and homebound seniors, as many are too frail to leave their home to receive supportive services. VAAA and GHS, working together, can help to provide well-rounded care for seniors to assist them in staying in their home and help them to remain as independent as possible”

GHS promotes hope and health by recognizing the interconnectedness of the body, the mind, and the community. Services include primary health care, mental health services, substance use disorder treatment, assessment and referral for the Genesee County community for all ages. Special services also include outreach to those affected by the Water Crisis and to special populations. Call 810.257.3705 to learn more or go to www.genhs.org

VAAA provides action, advocacy and answers on care for the elderly in Genesee County by enhancing lives, empowering choices, sustaining independence and supporting families and caregivers. Services include (but not limited to): Home Delivered Meals, Care Management, Personal Care, Information and Assistance, Wellness Programs, Volunteer Services and Assistance for Caregivers. Call 810.239.7671 to learn more or go to <http://www.valleyaaa.org/>

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