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**CREATIVE MINDS CHANGING MINDS:  
TRAVELING ART SHOW FIGHTS THE STIGMA OF MENTAL ILLNESS**

Flint, Mich. – Genesee Health Center will be hosting the 3rd Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards' (MACMHB) statewide traveling art show, "Creative Minds Changing Minds," in conjunction with the Vista Center and other local artists. The first showing will be at the Art Walk on December 12<sup>th</sup> downtown Flint in the Patterson Building (corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and Saginaw), and then will join other Vista artwork displayed at the Courtland Center Mall in the center section from December 15-31.

The goals of the two-year traveling art show are to help de-stigmatize mental illness, developmental disabilities and addictive disorders by showcasing the multidimensionality of the artists and to highlight the recovery potential of art.

"We know that many great artists experienced mental illness," said Danis Russell, CEO of GHS. "For hundreds of years, their famous works of art have helped change attitudes while enriching people's lives. We are pleased to present this show of Michigan artists who have used art to help their recovery and build life skills."

Michigan's Community Mental Health (CMH) organizations submitted works of two-dimensional art, including paintings, drawings, prints, fabric and photography. Entrants

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discussed what art means to them, including what they like about art, what creating art does for them and if art helped in their recovery and life skills development.

In Michigan, one in five adults will experience a mental health disorder at some point in their life, yet many of them do not access the treatment they need.

Genesee Health System 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. The focus is on the health of the whole person. For more information, call Customer Services at (810) 257-3705.

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