



Dave Pankotai Departs as Macomb County Community Mental Health CEO, Board Appoints COO Traci Smith as Interim CEO

Macomb, Mich. Nov. 29, 2023 --- Macomb County Community Mental Health (MCCMH), a collaborative organization designed to encourage the development of preventative, recovery, and treatment services, announced today the departure of Dave Pankotai as CEO and the appointment of MCCMH COO, Traci Smith as interim CEO, effective January 2024.

“Dave Pankotai’s contributions to Macomb County have been monumental” said Phil Kraft, MCCMH Board Chairman. “Our providers, MCCMH staff, and board of directors are grateful for his leadership and dedication. He will be greatly missed, but Dave has provided MCCMH a clear path and vision with which to move forward and be successful for years to come.”

Pankotai’s impact on the organization has been pivotal in its recent success. Particularly his leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic, providing guidance for the Macomb County Central Intake and Assessment Project as well as bringing the organization back from financial hardship. Following a collaborative transition through the end of Pankotai’s term in December, MCCMH’s current COO, Traci Smith, will become interim CEO and will lead the organization as it moves into the next year.

“With over 25 years of professional experience Traci Smith is well versed in the needs and goals of the organization and is currently responsible for many key functions across MCCMH that help us succeed in supporting our community daily,” said Kraft. “We are confident that she is the right person to advance the organization during this period.”

A diligent search for a new CEO is ongoing and will be led by the MCCMH board of directors with potential guidance from a professional search firm to identify and evaluate the best candidates for this leadership role.

About MCCMH

Macomb County Community Mental Health is guided by the values, strengths, and informed choices of the people we serve. The organization provides quality services to meet behavioral, mental, physical, and medical health needs -- which promote recovery, community participation, self-sufficiency, and independence to individuals in Macomb County regardless of financial status.

Media Contact:

Kayla Collins

Kayla.collins@mccmh.net

586.942.1112

