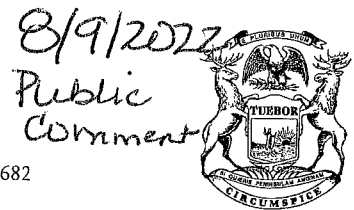


STATE OF MICHIGAN · COUNTY OF LEELANAU
HONORABLE MARIAN KROMKOWSKI
PROBATE COURT / FAMILY COURT JUDGE

8527 E. Government Center Drive, Suite #203 · Suttons Bay, Michigan 49682
Telephone (231) 256-9803 · Facsimile (231) 256-9845



August 9, 2022

Dear Commissioners,

I write in favor of this Board giving favorable consideration to today's presentation on the proposed Community Crisis Wellness Center for Adults and Children in Traverse City. The presenters will only have 10 minutes and that is hardly enough time to provide a full overview of these ongoing efforts. They have submitted a 4-page preliminary business plan and many supporting facts and statistics on their PPT slides, many of which they may not get to today. Please take the time to re-read their submission in your e-packet.

The development of the Crisis Center has been the topic of months of discussion among several key participants in the region. The full list of agencies is on their PPT. I and several of my staff have been at the table since early this year. We have offered ideas on the concept, the location, the geographical reach of the center and potential funding sources.

Although the details are still a work in progress, there is a dire need for such a Crisis Center. Individuals experiencing mental health challenges will be able to walk in and secure prompt, professional care. Law enforcement will have an option other than jail for persons whose "unruliness" is more mental health related and less a

Cameron Clark
Family Court Administrator

Josephine Lingaur
Juvenile Register

Kristina Mattis
Probate Register

Erica Pfriem
Deputy Probate Register

Therese Larson
Juvenile Probation Officer

Ryan Douglass
Juvenile Probation Officer

John Boonstra
Diversion Counselor

Sarah Hubbell
Diversion Counselor

matter of intentional criminal behavior. The Emergency Room at Munson will no longer have to address all mental health crises. The Court will no longer have juveniles languishing in the ER for weeks until a residential bed can be found elsewhere in the state.

It only takes one experience with a family member, neighbor or friend to know that merely talking to someone on a crisis line may not be sufficient when one's mental health becomes fragile. The Crisis Center will offer not only one on one stabilization, but also short-term in-patient beds for adults and children needing more care. It is our plan that no person will be turned away and no person will leave the center without an individualized plan for his or her recovery from a mental health illness.

Yes, there will be a financial cost for quality, professional 24/7 services, but if it can save one person from death by suicide or offer solace to a family who does not know where to turn when a loved one is in deep psychological pain, the dollars are worth it.

The Court ask this Commission to designate a board member to attend the upcoming virtual committee meetings and to be a vibrant part of the conversation and to support a public presentation to the Leelanau public on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marian Kromkowski". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Hon. Marian Kromkowski