



MEDIA RELEASE

PHFoundation
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DIAL HELP AWARDED \$43,000 FROM PORTAGE HEALTH FOUNDATION TO OFFER EXPANDED PROGRAMMING

[Hancock, MI] Dial Help, Inc., the oldest and only crisis intervention center in the Upper Peninsula, was recently awarded \$43,000 from the Portage Health Foundation to offer additional comprehensive services.

Dial Help applied for funding under the PHFoundation's mental and behavioral health RFP. The foundation recognizes the gap in services throughout the U.P. for individuals suffering from mental and behavioral health as well as substance abuse and addiction issues. Therefore, the foundation earmarked up to \$100,000 over the past summer for applications that focused on community health and preventative health initiatives.

With this grant, Dial Help will offer the following programming: 1) follow-up services to callers who are struggling with complex crisis; 2) initiate broader outreach throughout Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw, and Ontonagon counties, particularly to youth and Native American populations, regarding Dial Help's services; and 3) hire two Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE-Ps) to work with sexually abused children.

According to Rebecca Crane, Executive Director of Dial Help, "We are grateful for another generous financial contribution from the Portage Health Foundation to help us achieve our mission of improving the well-being of our community. We look forward to transforming these funds into expanded community programs that will offer much-needed support to individuals struggling with crisis, mental health issues, suicide, and other difficult circumstances."

Kevin Store, Executive Director of the Portage Health Foundation, added, "Dial Help provides a vitally important service to our community. Their employees and volunteers are compassionate and committed to helping those they serve. We are proud to support their efforts as they work to expand services to those in crisis."

The Portage Health Foundation is a 501(c)3 charitable organization that receives and contributes charitable donations, which support the health needs of the community through enhanced philanthropy and community collaboration throughout Baraga, Houghton, Keweenaw, and Ontonagon counties.



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L to R: Keith Meyers (Dial Help Board Member), Rebecca Crane (Dial Help Executive Director), Eli Karttunen (Dial Help Board Treasurer), Virginia Machiela (Dial Help Grant Writer), Lt. Nick Roberts (Dial Help Board Member), Marlene Gilpin (Dial Help Board President), Fred Gaff (Dial Help Board Vice President), and Bernadette Yeoman-Ouellette (PHFoundation Fund Development Committee Chair)

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