



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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[Houghton, Mi] The Portage Health Foundation announced this morning that it has made a financial contribution to Copper Country Mental Health Services (CCMH) in an effort to restore psychiatric services to over forty (40) people that were placed on a waiting list following significant budget cuts from the State in 2014.

Copper Country Mental Health intends to use the \$53,000 award towards telepsychiatry to meet the current need as they, along with other medical providers, continue to recruit additional psychiatrists for our community. "We hope to eliminate the waiting list for psychiatric services." remarked Pat Rozich, Chairperson for CCMH. "This would not be possible without the support of the Portage Health Foundation."

"Behavioral and mental health services in our community are critically important." Said Kevin Store, Executive Director of the Portage Health Foundation. Store went on to say that the Portage Health Foundation Board also realizes that the impact of this funding is not just on the people immediately being served. "It impacts the families and it impacts – positively – the rest of the community as CCMH provides services and care." Store added.

"The people that CCMH serves, our Board and our staff are very grateful that the Portage Health Foundation recognizes the need in our community." concluded Vicki Mikkola, Ex. Director of CCMH. "Their recent grants to local agencies demonstrates their commitment to support those needs and confidence that, as a community, we can meet the challenge to assist people in need in our community."

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. e financial burden and allow us to focus more of our resources on helping the people in our community."