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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OCHN Recognizes MLK Day and National Day of Service

OAKLAND COUNTY, MI (January 11, 2024) – In recognition of Martin Luther King (MLK) Day and the National Day of Service, Oakland Community Health Network (OCHN) stands with the nation to honor the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and recognizes his tireless efforts to promote justice, freedom, and equality for all Americans.

In 1963 the iconic “I have a Dream” speech delivered by Dr. King on the National Mall in Washington D.C. galvanized the nation to fight the injustices and inequalities that plagued people of color. Unfortunately, the pain and trauma of racism still affects many ethnic communities. However, Dr King’s message of justice, freedom and equality still resonates and inspires hope, even today.

Dr. King said, ‘Life’s most persistent and urgent question is “What are you doing for Others?”’ OCHN takes inspiration from this quote as we strive to serve, bring awareness and viable behavioral health solutions as well as resources for all the individuals we serve regardless of their race, color, creed, religion or socio-economic backgrounds.

In addition, OCHN provides robust Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) training and education opportunities for its employees and service provider network. The goal is to cultivate a culturally competent and sensitive service delivery system that promotes dignity and protects the rights of marginalized populations.

OCHN will continue to align with Dr. King’s message to promote positive change for all the persons we serve. See informational resource below to learn more about African American behavioral health and wellness:

- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) highlights the [African American Mental Health page](#) with stories, resources, and statistics related to mental health and the African American community, including ways to find help.

About OCHN

OCHN is contracted by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) to lead a provider service network and manage care for approximately 29,000 Oakland County residents at more than 400 service sites across the county. People who receive public behavioral health services through OCHN's provider network include those who have an intellectual or developmental disability, mental health concerns, or substance use disorder. Most of these individuals have Medicaid insurance coverage.

OCHN's goal is to ensure these individuals are aware of and have access to services and supports that will improve their health and quality of life, as well as ensure their engagement in full community participation. Its mission to "inspire hope, empower people, and strengthen communities" reflects an unyielding belief in a "Valuable System for Valued People." Programs and supports provided by OCHN's service network are available at www.oaklandchn.org.

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Inspire Hope • Empower People • Strengthen Communities

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