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Contact: Suzanne Weinert
248-758-1991
weinerts@oaklandchn.org

Kaylee Salveta
248-764-5364
salvetak@oaklandchn.org

OCHN Recognizes April as Autism Acceptance Month

OAKLAND COUNTY, MI (April 7, 2025) – April is globally recognized as Autism Acceptance Month, and Oakland Community Health Network (OCHN) is joining world-wide efforts to raise awareness and increase understanding for individuals living with autism.

The overarching theme “Celebrate Differences” addresses the negative stereotypes often associated with individuals diagnosed with autism, and OCHN will champion for change within the communities we serve during the month of April and beyond.

OCHN acknowledged World Autism Awareness Day, which is celebrated annually on April 2, by participating in the “Light It Up Blue” campaign. OCHN staff participated in the campaign on Wednesday, April 2, and Thursday, April 3, 2025, by wearing blue. “Light It Up Blue” is an initiative to spread awareness, celebrate the unique talents of people with autism, and bring attention to these individuals’ needs.

“OCHN is committed and proud to celebrate Autism Acceptance Month, not just for awareness, but also to embrace and empower the individuals we serve living with autism,” states OCHN’s Executive Director and CEO, Dana Lasenby.

To learn more about Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) services through OCHN’s provider network, please visit www.oaklandchn.org.

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Pictured: OCHN staff wearing blue in honor of Autism Awareness Month

About OCHN

OCHN is contracted by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to lead a provider service network and manage care for approximately 30,000 Oakland County citizens 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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