

MEDIA ADVISORY | Walk a Mile Rally 2025

Former Senator Debbie Stabenow Keynotes for the Walk a Mile in My Shoes Rally, Warns Against State PIHP Procurement Process

WHO: Keynote speaker former Senator Debbie Stabenow, an avid mental health advocate, who is concerned that the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) favors privatization of behavioral health care, eliminating local control and local voice. Other featured presenters include Wayne County author and advocate Bethany Boik, and Oakland County advocate Hannah Richey. More than 2,000 advocates from each of Michigan's 83 counties, lawmakers and mental health workers are expected to attend.

WHAT: 21st Annual "Walk a Mile in My Shoes" Rally

WHEN: Wednesday, September 17, 2025, 12:00pm-3:00pm

WHERE: Michigan Capitol Front Lawn, 100 North Capitol Lansing, MI 48909

WHY: The rally has become a tradition for mental health advocates to bring attention to the inadequate funding given to Michigan's behavioral health system. Especially concerning this year is the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) plan to allow non-profits and private health plans to bid on the behavioral health care system, disrupting the lives of 300,000 Michiganders.

BACKGROUND: [Advocacy Resources | Oakland CHN, MI](#)

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