

## Our Vision

Community Mental Health of Ottawa County strives to enhance quality-of-life for all residents.

## Our Mission

Community Mental Health of Ottawa County partners with people with mental illness, developmental disabilities and substance use disorders and the broader community to improve lives and be a premier mental health agency in Michigan.

## Our Most Important Values

We recognize the importance of **SERVICE** in the accomplishment of our mission and hold it as a basic value to treat each consumer as a customer; to do all we can, within the bounds of state and federal laws, regulations, policies and budget, to meet requests for service.

We recognize the importance of **CONSUMERS** in the accomplishment of our mission and hold it as a basic value to interact with each consumer impartially, fairly and consistently; and to listen and respond to the recommendations and concerns of each.



The activities and programs of this agency are brought to you by the members of the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners. The Michigan Department of Community Health provides financial support to this agency.



Community Mental Health of Ottawa County has been accredited by CARF for twelve of its programs.

# *Respite* Services

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH OF OTTAWA

## Community Mental Health of Ottawa County

(CMHOC) provides temporary or short-term care, known as respite services, for adults and children with developmental disabilities and children with serious emotional problems. Respite care can be used on a regular or occasional basis, depending on your family's needs, and can be provided by a family member, friend, or skilled care provider. Respite services are not to be used for daycare/babysitting to enable the primary caregiver to go to work or school.

Once it is determined that you are eligible for CMHOC services, your family will be asked to complete a brief survey about your needs with our Respite Specialist. The amount of respite dollars you receive is determined by this assessment.

With respite services at CMHOC, your family can choose your provider of respite care and how you want to spend your respite dollars. With CMHOC respite services, all related employment tax withholding obligations and tax reporting requirements will be handled by the fiscal intermediary you select. Your provider needs to be approved by CMHOC prior to start of services. Any hours worked prior to date of approval will not be paid for by CMHOC. Your provider will receive reimbursement by submitting their voucher to CMHOC for approval. We will forward the voucher to a fiscal intermediary for payment processing. Checks to providers are distributed by the fiscal intermediary on a weekly basis.

### CMHOC Service Eligibility

To request CMHOC services contact the Access Center between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**Access Center** (616) 393-5681  
**TTY** (616) 494-5508  
**All other areas in**  
**Ottawa County toll free** 1-877-588-4357

### What Is Respite?

#### *Relaxation*

Respite gives families peace of mind, helps them relax, and renews their humor and energy.

#### *Enjoyment*

Respite allows families to enjoy favorite pastimes and pursue new activities.

#### *Stability*

Respite improves the family's ability to handle daily responsibilities and increases stability.

#### *Preservation*

Respite helps preserve the family unit.

#### *Involvement*

Respite allows families to be more involved in community activities.

#### *Time Off*

Respite allows families to take a needed vacation, spend time together, or time alone.

#### *Enrichment*

Respite makes it possible for family members to enrich their own growth and development.

### Important Information to Note

It is your responsibility, and in the best interest of your family, to monitor the funds you use through respite. If you exceed the limits outlined below, your eligibility for respite dollars could be at risk. The maximum amount a respite provider may receive is \$12 (twelve) per hour or \$150 (one hundred fifty) per day.\*

- All respite care providers within a calendar quarter (January to March, April to June, July to September, and October to December) must not earn more than \$1,000.\*\*
- Any single respite care provider within a calendar year (January thru December) must not earn more than \$1,700.\*\*

#### **Michael Berghuis, Respite Specialist**

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\* Amounts are subject to change. To ensure this information is current, contact the Respite Specialist.

\*\* Information based on limits in the 2009 tax code for respite.

"What is Respite" from briefing paper on Respite care by the National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities. (1996) Washington, DC.