## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## NEW PARTNERSHIP ALLOWS LOCAL DENTAL CENTER TO EXPAND SERVICES TO MEDICAID ADULTS

The Saginaw County Department of Public Health (SCDPH) is pleased to announce a new partnership with My Community Dental Centers (MCDC). My Community Dental Centers operates the dental center at 185 N. Frost Dr. in Saginaw on behalf of the health department. The dental center is dedicated to providing quality care to all, and welcomes patients covered through Medicaid, Healthy Kids Dental, Healthy Michigan Plan and private dental insurance. The center is also pleased to offer My Dental Program (MyDP) for those without dental insurance, and provides reduced fees based on household income.

Comprehensive dental care for the entire family including – exams, cleanings, fillings, tooth removal, dentures, and crowns are provided. The care is customized to meet the individual needs of each person, and offered in a patient centered atmosphere with exceptional customer services. The center also utilizes electronic patient records, digital radiography and state of the art dental equipment.

A lack of access to dental care negatively affects the community's health and well-being. As part of the 2017 Saginaw County Community Health Improvement Plan, dental health has been identified as a health priority. Access to dental services, particularly among adult Medicaid residents, has been noted as a gap in Saginaw County. "This new dental resource provides for expanded access for adults with Medicaid and the uninsured residents in Saginaw County" stated Christina Harrington, Acting Health Officer "This resource in addition to the Great Lakes Bay Health Centers dental program helps to address the gap in access to dental services amongst our most vulnerable populations."

The dental center is open Tuesday through Friday from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. For more information or to register as a new patient, please call 877-313-6232 or visit the MCDC website at <a href="https://www.mydental.org">www.mydental.org</a>.

MCDC currently operates 36 public dental centers on behalf of local health departments throughout the state. This spring Dr. Donald Weikum D.D.S. joined the network of MCDC offices.

"MCDC looks forward to providing a dental home to residents of Saginaw and surrounding counties who have previously been unable to find a dentist" noted Dr. Weikum.

Studies now show when your mouth is healthy, chances are your overall health is good as well. Follow these tips for a healthy smile and overall healthy you: visit your dentist regularly, brush twice a day for at least two minutes using a soft bristled brush and fluoridated toothpaste, floss each day, eat healthy foods, and limit snacks. Be Wise. Be Well.

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