



## **Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network**

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### **COVID-19 Therapy Collaborative Offers Free Behavioral Health Help To Youth & Families**

**DETROIT, MI** --May 20, 2020 – The Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network (DWIHN) with support from the Ethel and James Flinn Foundation, Skillman Foundation, Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, and Michigan Health Endowment Fund is launching the first of its kind, the Detroit COVID-19 Therapy Collaborative, which will provide free behavioral health supports and counseling to those who need help. This virtual platform provides access to a safe and private network of behavioral health resources and therapy supports by trained counselors for children and families ages 14 years and older.

“This is a remarkable partnership,” said DWIHN President and CEO, Willie E. Brooks, Jr. “I am grateful that other organizations share our passion to reach out to young people and families during these unprecedented times as we try and get a handle on the impact COVID-19 is having on our young people.”

The Detroit COVID-19 Therapy Collaborative will launch Thursday, May 21, 2020 and will be available to teens and adults ages 14 years and up through the rest of the year. Individuals will be able to receive up to 12 therapy sessions via phone, tablet or computer. These sessions are with professional counselors to provide screenings, brief interventions and treatment. This is available for youth and adults who are approaching a crisis related to or triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We’ve never experienced this before, we’re facing so much uncertainty, and we shouldn’t have to do it alone. African Americans have been hit particularly hard” said Andrea Cole, Executive Director & CEO of the Ethel and James Flinn Foundation. “This is a trying time for all of us, but especially for young people who may already be struggling with mental health issues such as anxiety, depression, suicidal thoughts, hopelessness or substance use disorder.”

An array of comprehensive, culturally responsive supports and counseling services will be available to individuals who live, work or worship in Detroit/Wayne County. The Detroit COVID-19 Virtual Therapy Collaborative consists of partners within the DWIHN system of care - Development Centers, Inc., Hegira Health Inc., The Children's Center and Starfish Family Services.

**To access services call or text 313-488-HOPE or visit [www.ReachUsDetroit.org](http://www.ReachUsDetroit.org)**

*The Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network (DWIHN) is the largest and most diverse Community Mental Health system offering integrated health care in Michigan. Through programs and services that utilize promising best practices we promote a community that is supportive and embraces people with mental illness, intellectual and developmental disabilities and substance use disorder. We offer help with Infant Mental Health, Supportive Housing, and Recovery to support self-determination and improve the health, safety and quality of life for nearly 75,000 people and their families.*