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PRESS RELEASE

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United Way of St. Clair County Approves Grant for New Telehealth System

United Way of St. Clair County (UWSCC) announces the granting of funds for Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan (CCSEM), St. Clair County, through their Emergency Services Fund ~ COVID-19 Relief Aid (<u>uwstclair.org/EmergencyServicesFund-Covid-19-ReliefAid</u>). For CCSEM, staying connected with their clients to assure their mental health services are available and maintained throughout Michigan's stay at home order is of the utmost importance. The counseling center converted their face-to-face counseling services into virtual counseling. This allows CCSEM to provide services to existing and new clients during this time of social distancing. UWSCC COVID-19 Emergency Response Funds will support the start-up costs and a duration of time for their telehealth system to ensure that individuals are able to receive counseling services through CCSEM.

CCSEM is the only counseling service in the area that does not refuse service based on a client's ability to pay. They offer quality counseling services to those who most need it, especially during this challenging time of COVID-19. Without CCSEM, many of our most vulnerable residents would be without much needed support.

COVID-19 funds are still available for organizations seeking aid. Please visit the website to apply (<u>uwstclair.org/EmergencyServicesFund-Covid-19-ReliefAid</u>). Funds cannot be used for individuals seeking financial support at this time. UWSCC recommends all individuals with any type of need to dial 2-1-1, or (888) 636-4211, to be connected with available information and resources. Please remember, many organizations have staff working from home and require individuals to leave a phone message. Visit <u>uwstclair.org/HealthFirst</u> for more household resources.

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For further information, please contact: Brent Gillette - Executive Director

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About United Way of St. Clair County

The United Way of St. Clair County was founded in 1924. Its mission is to mobilize the community of St. Clair County to raise funds and resources to meet identified human service needs with the highest level of accountability and community involvement. For more information, visit <u>www.uwstclair.org</u>.