



Main Office
184 U.S. 41 East
Negaunee, MI 49866
(906) 475-9977
www.mqthealth.org



Community Health
Ph:(906)475-7844
Fax:(906)475-4435



Community Outreach
Ph:(906)315-2610
Fax:(906)475-9312



Environmental Health
Ph:(906)475-4195
Fax:(906)475-6500



Gwinn Teen Clinic
50 West M-35
Gwinn, MI 49841
Ph:(906)372-4002
Fax:(906)372-4012



Hematite Health Clinic
319 E Division
Ishpeming, MI 49849
Ph:(906)204-2620
Fax:(906)204-2660

August 14, 2020

Dear Parents:

In cooperation with NICE Community School District (NICE), the NICE Child & Adolescent Health Center, operated by the Marquette County Health Department, is currently offering mental health services for students ages 5-21 during the school day and throughout the summer. This is being made possible by a grant through the State of Michigan and administered by the State Child and Adolescent Health Clinic program. There are over 140 school based health centers in Michigan and these centers have been proven to help students achieve academic success by keeping students healthy, learning, and in school.

Fall of 2020 will bring us new challenges as we approach learning and adaptation during the Covid-19 pandemic. The past six months may have created significant stress and uncertainty that have negatively affected mental health for many students. For those dealing with existing mental health issues, the stress brought about by the pandemic and changes to our daily lives can exacerbate issues individuals may be struggling with. Others may be impacted by the uncertainty of new routines and lack of predictability in their daily lives.

The clinic has continued to operate full-time during the Covid-19 closure. Mental health services are offered through both in-person and telehealth sessions. As we weather the unknowns this school year, contingency plans are in place to allow us to provide continuous services in the event of temporary closures, illness, or other unforeseen circumstances. Mental health services remain available to all students ages 5-21, including those selecting one of the distance learning options for this school year. We are committed to maintaining strict safety guidelines to ensure that services are delivered in the safest way possible.

In order for your child to receive care at the clinic, you simply need to complete a parent/guardian consent form once during their time in the NICE school system. The consent will remain on file as long as your child is attending any NICE school. If your child has a primary care provider, we would like to ensure good coordination of care with that provider's office. Signing the consent form will allow the office and your child's physician to communicate for that purpose. You and your child may also decline the sharing of this information with the primary care provider by noting that on the form.

It is very important and we encourage and prefer that the consent form is returned.

However, please note Michigan law requires that adolescents 14 and older be able to obtain certain confidential health care services without parental permission. Health care providers are required by law to keep those services CONFIDENTIAL, meaning we are only able to share confidential information if your child gives us permission to do so. Mental health services and substance abuse services fall into this category. We will encourage your child to share this information with you and we will always share information with you if your child's life is in danger.

If you have questions or concern about your student, please feel free to call and speak with me about their needs (485-1023 ext 3). Additional information can be located on the District website under the Health Resources tab.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jamie Dieterle LMSW, CAADC". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Jamie Dieterle, LMSW, CAADC
NICE Child & Adolescent Health Center