**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**Between SSM Health Care of Wisconsin, Inc., doing business as St. Clare Hospital – Baraboo and the Sauk County Health Department for a Donation Benefitting the Education Navigator Project**

WHEREAS, SSM Health Care of Wisconsin, Inc., doing business as St. Clare Hospital – Baraboo (“St. Clare Hospital”) and the Sauk County Health Department (“Sauk County”) each desire to enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) for the implementation of Sauk County’s Education Navigator Project (“Project”);

WHEREAS, the Project will focus on providing an educational-based path out of incarceration and into employment for five key target populations—Sauk County Jail inmates, inmates on Huber Work Release, Medication Assisted Treatment participants, Adult Treatment Court participants, and those residents on extended supervision (post prison);

WHEREAS, St. Clare Hospital has provided a donation of $71,000 that will be utilized by Sauk County to fund and support a .75 LTE Education Navigator position for Calendar Year 2021;

WHEREAS, St. Clare Hospital retains certain interests in the operational success of the Project;

WHEREAS, Sauk County agrees to provide programmatic updates to St. Clare Hospital.

THEREFORE, St. Clare Hospital and Sauk County agree as follows:

1. Evidence suggests that Sauk County has a generational pattern of involvement with its criminal justice system. In addition, a high proportion of individuals in Sauk County jail, Huber, or adult treatment court systems do not have a high school diploma. Incarceration, particularly without an education, can adversely affect individuals and their families. Often the children of incarcerated persons suffer unmet social needs (food insecurity, housing insecurity, insufficient access to health care) leading to adverse childhood experiences and trauma that could span generations. A disproportionately high percentage of Sauk County’s incarcerated population are indigenous or First Nation peoples.
2. By providing culturally and linguistically competent navigation through and to educational resources (instruction, tutoring, training, testing/credentialing), it is anticipated that some people involved in the Sauk County correctional system will use education as a pathway out of incarceration and into sustained employment. By reducing the generational cycle of incarceration and by providing navigation through and to the education system, this project should reduce incarceration, recidivism, and revocation rates. It is anticipated that this change will also lead to formerly-incarcerated individuals becoming and staying employed, which should lead to greater access to health care, improved health conditions, and reduced adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and trauma for the children of the incarcerated. By providing culturally competent and responsive approaches, the project also intends to address racial and ethnic disparities in the incarcerated population.
3. The Project’s intended outcomes are as follows:
   * Support of a Sauk County position for a Education Navigator.
   * Collaboration and cooperation among Sauk County’s Health Department, Sheriff’s Department, CJCC and participating partners in Sauk County (Ho-Chunk Nation, St. Clare Hospital, UW-Platteville Criminology Department, Madison College’s School of Academic Achievement, and UW-Madison Population Health Institute’s MATCH program.
   * Culturally responsive reduction of barriers to education among individuals in Sauk County’s jail, Huber work release program, and adult treatment court.
   * Culturally competent incentives for education among individuals in Sauk County’s jail, Huber work release program, and adult treatment court.
   * Increased number of individuals in Sauk County’s jail, Huber work release and adult treatment court programs seeking and achieving instruction, tutoring, training, testing and credentialing.
   * Increased number of individuals formerly in Sauk County’s jail, Huber work release and adult treatment court programs seeking, obtaining and retaining employment.
   * Lower repeat offenses, recidivism and revocation among individuals formerly in Sauk County’s jail, Huber work release and adult treatment court programs.
   * Reduced racial and ethnic disparities in Sauk County’s jail, Huber work release and adult treatment court programs.
   * Reduced adverse childhood experiences and generational trauma in the families of individuals formerly in Sauk County’s jail, Huber work release and adult treatment court programs.
4. Sauk County’s Responsibilities:

* Staff and support a 0.75 LTE Sauk County Education Navigator position within Sauk County’s Health Department to try and achieve the intended deliverables above.
* The Navigator will assess education levels of individuals with justice involvement and identify barriers to education as well as training opportunities for those enrolled participants.
* The Navigator will secure, coordinate, and monitor necessary adjunctive services involving staff through appropriate educational agencies and community resources.
* The Navigator will develop information and programing that will incentivize enrollment and engagement of participants in educational instruction, tutoring, academic testing and credentialing processes.
* The Navigator will assess for and assure culturally competent and responsive services.
* Sauk County will provide monthly status updates and de-identified, aggregated programmatic data to St. Clare Hospital so as to highlight the efforts and activities of the Navigator.
* St. Clare Hospital leadership will be provided a meeting with the Sauk County Board of Health and appropriate County Supervisors to describe the activities and merits of the Education Navigation project.

1. Donation: SSM Health’s contribution of $71,000 to Sauk County is hereby considered a financial donation. The parties to this MOU do acknowledge and agree that the donation is intended carry out the responsibilities detailed herein.
2. Agency/Entire Agreement: Nothing in this MOU shall be deemed in any way, or for any purpose, to create agency between the parties. This MOU constitutes the entire obligations of each party.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Laura Walczak,  St. Clare Hospital, President | Date |
|  |  |
| Tim Lawther  Sauk County, Director & Health Officer | Date |