

Box 2741 231 Main Street Humboldt, SK SOK 2A0 Tel 306-682-4135 Fax 306-682-4154 admin@partnersfamilyservics.ca www.partnersfamilyservices.ca

MEDIA RELEASE

March 19, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PARTNERS FAMILY SERVICES TO MOVE TO REMOTE SERVICES EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

Humboldt, SK – PARTNERS Family Services closed the office to the public as of Thursday, March 19 2020 at 4pm, but will continue to provide mental health, crisis and counselling services

"PARTNERS Family Services recognizes the essential role we play as a mental health services provider, while also understanding we all have a role in slowing the spread of COVID 19 and reducing the burden on the healthcare system. After careful review of our pandemic response plan, we have suspended some services, and moved essential mental health services to remote service deliver", said Hayley Kenney, Executive Director of PARTNERS Family Services.

Effective immediately, the following changes are in place:

- The main office located at 231 Main St is closed to the public. No services are available at the office location
- In home family support visits are suspended and will be replaced with remote phone/video chat
- Triple P parenting in person sessions are suspended and will be replaced with remote/video chat
- Ongoing clinical counselling services will continue to be scheduled and provided without interruption via phone or video chat. Clients will be notified directly by their clinician
- New intakes and referrals are being accepted for new clients who require ongoing clinical counselling and are suitable for remote phone/video chat services
- Walk In Counselling Clinics have been moved to Call in Counselling Clinics. Clients may phone 306-682-4135 Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm to speak with a counsellor. No appointment in required
- Crisis support services remain available by phone at 306-682-4135

"As an organization, we recognize the significant toll COVID 19 has had, and will continue to have, on the mental health and wellbeing of our communities. We are committed to ensuring continuity of vital services while also protecting the health and safety of our staff, and doing our part to flatten the curve". Kennedy also noted PARTNERS Family Services mental health team remains available to support other essential service providers in their work, including RCMP, EMS, fire, and medical service providers.

Anyone with questions regarding services or wanting to complete an intake for mental health counselling may do so by calling the office at 306-682-4135 during regular business hours. Details regarding on line programs, including the Triple P Parenting program, are available on the PARTNERS Family Services website at www.partnersfamilyservices.ca There is no fee for any program or service.

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For further information, contact: Hayley Kennedy Executive Director PARTNERS Family Services

Email: hkennedy@partnersfamilyservices.ca

Phone: 306-231-0884