

While I have my suspicions, I was not given any information other than the letter cancelling the contract.

The loss of revenue will affect the agency, but we will continue to operate and provide a much needed service to Livingston County residents on a smaller scale.

The bigger picture is the Consumers who depend on the use of their Medicaid benefits are losing local treatment. CMH has chosen not to contract with the only Medication Treatment (MAT) center in Livingston County, which creates barriers to those who are most vulnerable.

Presently consumers report depending on others for transportation, because they don't drive. The increased cost of commuting daily for services and the time needed to commute given rush hour traffic is also a barrier. Some of the consumers have minor children and childcare responsibilities which will make morning school preparation harder to navigate. Several of the consumers are pregnant and have expressed that they will not be able to commute outside of the county for MAT, which could potentially increase the risk of unhealthy pregnancies and complications for both mother and baby.

Discontinuing a contract for local treatment options is creating additional barriers for people who are suffering with a chronic condition and seeking help to stabilize their lives. Consumers need local access to care, treatment and MAT services.