



AUTISM ALLIANCE OF MICHIGAN

Help. Hope. Answers. Today.

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TO: Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA)

FROM: Colleen Allen, Ph.D., President and CEO, AAoM

RE: Support of 10 Bed Residential Facility

DATE: September 4, 2024

Please accept this letter of support from the Autism Alliance of Michigan for the establishment of Heartland Center for Autism's new 10-bed residential facility in Lansing. This facility seeks to serve children with autism across the state of Michigan, and to address the growing need for specialized behavioral residential care in our state. The current shortage of available beds is placing significant strain on families, service providers, and individual communities across the state.

With the addition of these 10 beds, Heartland will begin to address this critical shortage. The facility should provide much-needed relief to the children and families who need this type of behavioral support. The Autism Alliance of Michigan urges you to support this project.

Sincerely,

Colleen Allen Ph.D.

Colleen Allen, Ph.D., President & CEO

Autism Alliance of Michigan