

APRIL 2026



COUNTY OF SAGINAW

# NEWSLETTER

Mar 24



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[www.saginawcountymi.gov](http://www.saginawcountymi.gov)



Thanks to Saginaw County Parks who brought the bunnies out and placed them on the Courthouse lawn!



**Board of Commissioners**  
**Suzy Koeplinger, Board Coordinator**  
**[boc@saginawcountymi.gov](mailto:boc@saginawcountymi.gov)**

## Board of Commissioners Announce New Committee Meeting Structure

Starting in April there will be changes to the standing committee structure. These changes are as follows:

Courts & Public Safety will be held the first Tuesday of the month at 4:00PM (no change).

Human Services has been combined with County Services, which meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 4:00 p.m., so there is no HSC meeting on Monday.

Budget/Audit and Labor Relations have been combined under the new name of "Finance & Human Resources" and will meet on the first Thursday of the month at 4:00 p.m. (There is no longer a separate Labor Relations meeting on the second Monday of the month.)

Executive Committee will meet as called by the Chair. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month the Board of Commissioners will meet either as a Committee of the Whole or a Work Session.

Please check the County of Saginaw website for agendas, meeting minutes and cancellations.

[www.saginawcountymi.gov](http://www.saginawcountymi.gov)

### **Courts & Public Safety Committee**

Tuesday, April 7, 2026 - 4:00PM

### **County Services Committee**

Wednesday, April 8, 2026 -  
4:00PM

### **Finance & HR Committee**

Thursday, April 9, 2026 - 4:00PM

### **Committee of the Whole Work Session**

Tuesday, April 14, 2026 - 4:00PM

### **Board Session**

Tuesday, April 21, 2026 - 5:00PM

Chairman Jack Tany presents a Saginaw County W.A.V.E. award to Dr. Samuel Shaheen at the Saginaw Future annual meeting.



### **Old Town Saginaw Association Easter Egg Hunt**

Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> 12:00

Borchard Park

# EVENTS

## AT THE CASTLE

March and April 2026

**MARCH 5**

MICHIGAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
6:30 PM  
Saginaw Valley Chapter Meeting

**MARCH 10**

LUNCH & LEARN  
12:00 PM  
Dr. Michael Evans, "Medieval Women-Not Just Damsels in Distress"

**MARCH 17**

PAGES OF HISTORY BOOK CLUB\*  
12:00 PM  
*Cold Case Michigan* by Tobin Buhk

**MARCH 21**

HANDS ON HISTORY  
10:30 AM-12:30 PM  
Make & Take Dipped Candles

**MARCH 24**

LUNCH & LEARN  
12:00 PM

 *America250: Power of Place, Dr. Hannah Frazekas, "Natural History: River Basins and Floods"*

**MARCH 28**

TRADITIONAL SKILLS DEMO  
*Museum Open Hours*  
Kraslice Egg Decorating

**MARCH 30**

STEM DAY  
Details TBA

**MARCH 30-APRIL 3**

EASTER EGG COUNT  
*Museum Open Hours*  
Find and count the Easter eggs throughout the Castle & win a prize for participating!

\*In collaboration with Hoyt Library

**APRIL 2**

HANDS ON HISTORY  
11 AM-1 PM  
Spring Sports

MICHIGAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
6:30 PM  
Saginaw Valley Chapter Meeting

**APRIL 9**

EXHIBIT OPENING: CHANGING TASTES  
5-5:30 PM  
Curator Talk  
5-7 PM  
Reception & Gallery Opening

**APRIL 14**

LUNCH & LEARN  
12:00 PM

 *America250: Power of Place, Craig Monahan, "Legends, Lies, and Myths of American History"*

**APRIL 16**

HISTORY AFTER HOURS  
5:30-6:30 PM  
Stephanie Reinhardt, *MI Great Read: "Everything I Learned I Learned in a Chinese Restaurant"*

**APRIL 18**

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING\*  
11 AM  
*Business Meeting and*  
\*Please RSVP Online

**APRIL 21**

PAGES OF HISTORY BOOK CLUB\*  
12:00 PM  
*Everything I Learned, I Learned in a Chinese Restaurant* by Curtis Chin

**APRIL 28**

LUNCH & LEARN  
12:00 PM

 *America250: Power of Place, Pollution*

**The Dow Event Center**  
**Kevin Murphy, General Manager**  
[kevin@doweventcenter.com](mailto:kevin@doweventcenter.com)  
**County Services Committee**



# 2025-26 SEASON

**Apr. 2:** Saginaw Spirit Playoff Game vs. Kitchener

**Apr. 3:** Bob Dylan "Rough and Rowdy Ways" Tour

**Apr. 6:** Saginaw Spirit Playoff Game vs. Kitchener *(if needed)*

**Apr. 12:** Broadway in Saginaw-Riverdance 30: The New Generation

**Apr. 18:** Gary Owen "No Hard Feelings" Tour

**Apr. 25:** Michigan Arsenal Arena Football Home Opener Game

**Apr. 30:** World Ballet Company's Cinderella

**May 2:** La Unión Cívica Mexicana Cinco de Mayo Festival

**May 5:** The Rock Orchestra by Candlelight

**May 15:** Saginaw County Police Chief Association Concert  
The King of Rock 'N' Roll: Elvis Tribute

**May 29-31:** 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Saginaw Tattoo Festival

**July 7:** "Weird Al" Yankovic Bigger & Weirder 2026 Tour



Spirit Hockey Schedule and Tickets at [saginawspirit.com](http://saginawspirit.com)



Season and single tickets on sale now at [michiganarsenal.com](http://michiganarsenal.com)

**989-759-1330 | [www.DowEventCenter.com](http://www.DowEventCenter.com)**

*Event dates and times subject to change. Shows/events added throughout the year. Buy at the Box Office to save on online fees. Open Thursdays, 10 am - 2 pm and Fridays, 10 am - 5 pm.*

# Rx Kids Launches in Saginaw County

As of Jan. 12, pregnant residents of the City of Saginaw, Bridgeport Township, and Buena Vista Township can apply for Rx Kids, a maternal and infant support program providing direct financial assistance during pregnancy and early infancy.

Eligible participants will receive \$1,500 during pregnancy, followed by \$500 per month for the first six months after birth. Any baby born on or after Jan. 1, 2026 is eligible.

Rx Kids is led by Michigan State University and has already supported more than 5,000 families statewide, improving maternal health outcomes and strengthening family financial stability.

SCF is proud to financially support and serve as the fiscal sponsor for the local expansion of the program.

"Our mission is to bring people and resources together for an equitable community and that's exactly what Rx Kids represents," said Reneé Johnston, president & CEO, Saginaw Community Foundation. "When we invest in moms and babies early, the impact lasts for generations."

Local health leaders emphasized the importance of early support in a county where nearly half of all births occur within the three participating communities.

"When families have stability, health follows," said Christina Harrington, health officer,

Saginaw County Health Department. "Babies are healthier, moms are healthier, and families are stronger."

Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, director of Rx Kids and associate dean at Michigan State University College of Human Medicine, noted that pregnancy and infancy represent a uniquely critical window.

"Families struggle the most during pregnancy and infancy," Hanna-Attisha said. "If there was ever a moment to surround families with stability, it's during this time."

For local moms, the impact is deeply personal. One expectant Saginaw mother shared how learning about Rx Kids eased her stress.

"It felt like a huge burden was lifted," she said. "Baby items are so expensive and knowing I have support helps me focus on staying healthy for my baby."

Rx Kids is supported through a public-private partnership, including funding from the State of Michigan, Saginaw Community Foundation donors, Covenant HealthCare, TriStar Trust Foundation, and community partners.

"We see the data, and we see the impact on moms and babies," Johnston added. "This is the kind of investment that strengthens our community for the long term."

Learn more at [RxKids.org](http://RxKids.org)

## Rx Kids Enrollment Impact Statistics

Rx Kids launched in Saginaw County on Jan. 12, 2026. Here is a snapshot of participant enrollment data as of Mar. 5, 2026. View current statistics by visiting [rxkids.org/impact/dashboard/saginaw](http://rxkids.org/impact/dashboard/saginaw).

### Funding Prescribed

**\$255,000**

### Families Enrolled

**163**

### Babies Born

**60**

"When we invest in moms and babies early, the impact lasts for generations."

**Reneé Johnston**  
President & CEO  
Saginaw Community Foundation



**Emergency Management**  
**Mark Przybylski, Director**  
**[mprzybylski@saginawcountymi.gov](mailto:mprzybylski@saginawcountymi.gov)**  
**County Services Committee**

**!!Be Ready Saginaw County!!**  
**April's Objective:**  
**SHELTERING vs. EVACUATION**

## **SHELTER IN PLACE**

Shelter-In-Place generally means that you stay where you are – indoors – and do not go outside until the all-clear is announced by local authorities.

- Close all doors to the outside and close and lock all windows.
- Turn off all air conditioners and all heating systems and switch inlets to the “closed” position. Seal any gaps around window air conditioners with tape and plastic sheeting, wax paper or aluminum foil.
- Turn off all exhaust fans in kitchen, bathrooms and other spaces.
- Close all fireplace dampers.
- Go to an above ground room (not the basement) with the fewest windows and doors. This is usually a bathroom.
- Use tape and plastic food wrap, wax paper or aluminum foil to cover and seal bathroom vents, range vents, dryer vents and other openings to the outside as much as possible (including any obvious gaps around the windows and doors).
- Tune into the emergency broadcast system on your radio and television for information and guidance.

## **EVACUATION**

Evacuation means that you must leave your home and go to a safer place away from the danger area. Evacuation may last for several days to several weeks.

- If public officials order you to evacuate, take that order seriously and act IMMEDIATELY
- Bring your Emergency Kit and be sure to include:
  - Prescription medications
  - Disaster supplies (see November's fact sheet for lit information)
  - Clothing and bedding (one change of clothes and bed roll for each person)
  - Car keys and the keys to the place you may be going
- Turn off the water and gas to your home
- Lock your home
- Use travel routes specified by local authorities. Do not use shortcuts because some areas may be impassable or dangerous
- If flooding is a danger avoid flooded roads and washed-out bridges
- Stay away from downed power lines
- Listen to local authorities. They provide the most accurate information and will communicate the location of shelters



# Behind the bench: 'Expect the unexpected,' says Judge Julie Gafkay

Published Jan 26, 2026 7:30a.m.\*Updated Jan 26, 2026 9:50a.m.

by: Cole Waterman, MLive.com

Photo Credit: Emma Burcusel

SAGINAW, MI — Julie A. Gafkay has been a judge of Saginaw County Circuit Court for nearly three years, but in her relatively short time on the bench, she's learned to expect the unexpected.

Gafkay was appointed to the judgeship by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer in April 2023 to fill a vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Janet M. Boes. At the time, Gafkay described the appointment as “a career-long dream come true.”

Gafkay owned her firm, Gafkay Law, specializing in litigation including civil rights, employment discrimination, sexual harassment, retaliation, the Whistleblowers' Protection Act, and personal injury. She's also served as an adjunct professor at Saginaw Valley State University and an instructor in employment law at the National Business Institute. She is a past president of the Saginaw County Bar Association and Women Lawyers Association of Michigan.

Gafkay is now the chief judge of both Saginaw County's Circuit and District courts.

Today, Gafkay is the focus of the third installment in The Saginaw News' ongoing “Behind the Bench” series.

## **Q: What inspired you to pursue a career in the law?**

A: Fairness. My commitment to fairness was shaped early in life by watching my father lose his job during the railroad reductions and later rebuilt with the stability of union-protected work, and by seeing my mother advocate for my younger brother who was born with special needs. Those experiences led me to pursue a career in law to advocate for others. After nearly three decades as an attorney, I was drawn to the bench so I could focus not on one side, but on achieving fairness by balancing competing interests and administering justice.

## **Q: What's the most rewarding aspect of being a judge?**

A: Hope. The most rewarding aspect of being a judge is that I get to witness the power of hope every day. Court is often one of the hardest days in a person's life — but even in those moments, I see the opportunity for accountability, fairness, and a path forward. Being able to offer that possibility of positive change is deeply meaningful to me.

**Q: What's the most challenging aspect of being a judge?**

A: Resources. The most challenging aspect of being a judge is navigating a system with limited resources. Too often, the services an individual needs for rehabilitation or restoration are not readily available or affordable. Balancing justice, public safety, and human need within those constraints is one of the hardest parts of this work.

**Q: What advice would you give to your younger self when you first assumed the bench?**

A: Expect the unexpected. No two days on the bench are ever the same. Be prepared to adapt, listen carefully, stay grounded in fairness, and trust your instincts. You will be called upon to make difficult decisions in moments you could never fully prepare for.

**Q: What's a common misconception the public has regarding your role?**

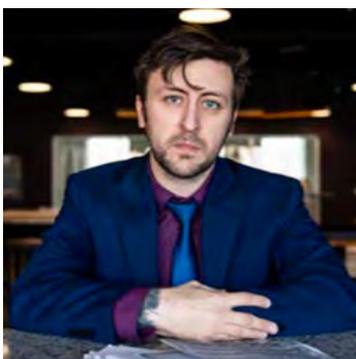
A: A common misperception is that judges can rule however they want based on personal feelings, political beliefs, or sympathies. The truth is that judges are constitutionally required to take an oath of office. That oath of office imposes binding legal and ethical duties on every judge. Judges must follow the rule of law, perform their judicial duties impartially and diligently, and maintain professional competence.

**Q: What's your favorite legal novel, movie, and/or TV series and why?**

A: "The Shawshank Redemption." It's a powerful story of perseverance — of how hope can survive even in the darkest circumstances. It reflects what I see in court every day: that even in moments of despair, the possibility of redemption and change still exists.

**Q: Is there anything else you'd like the public to know?**

A: Yes. I want the public to know that the Saginaw County Trial Courts are committed to access to justice for all. For those who need assistance navigating the legal system, our Legal Self-Help Center is available at the Saginaw County Courthouse. The Center is staffed with Navigators who help with legal forms, directions, and connections to community resources, so individuals can better understand the legal process and participate meaningfully in their own cases. More information about the Courthouse Legal Self-Help Center can be found at <https://www.saginawcountymi.gov/courts-public-safety/courts/saginaw-court-legal-self-help-center/>



Cole Waterman | [Cole\\_Waterman@mlive.com](mailto:Cole_Waterman@mlive.com)

Cole Waterman is a public safety reporter for MLive. He predominantly covers crime in Saginaw and Bay counties. He attended Delta College and Saginaw Valley State University. He has been a reporter with MLive since January 2008.



# April Events



**SAGINAW COUNTY  
PERCOLATOR  
BREAKFAST**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

-  Speed Networking
-  Thursday, April 9, 2026
-  7 a.m. Networking Begins  
7:30 - 9 a.m. Breakfast + Program
-  Dow Event Center  
303 Johnson Street, Saginaw, MI 48607

Perc is free for Chamber and YPN Members. However, registration is required. Register at [www.SaginawChamber.org](http://www.SaginawChamber.org)

**Percolator Breakfast**



THE SAGINAW COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTS  
**BUSINESS  
AFTER HOURS**

-  April 9, 2026 | 5 - 7 p.m.
-  Abele Greenhouse & Garden Center
-  3500 Wadsworth Road, Saginaw, MI 48601



A free member networking event | [www.SaginawChamber.org](http://www.SaginawChamber.org)

**Business After Hours**

# Books & Brews

SAGINAW COUNTY YOUNG PROFESSIONALS NETWORK BOOK CLUB

*Silent Book Club | Bring Your Own Selection*

Tuesday, April 21, 2026 | 5 p.m. | Miles Market, 6235 Gratiot Road, Saginaw, MI 48638



**Books & Brews**




# YPN Connect: Morning Mix

-  Tuesday, April 28, 2026
-  7:30 - 9 a.m.
-  2525 Tittabawassee Road, Saginaw, MI 48604
-  Registration is free but required. Food & drink available for purchase.

**YPN Connect: Morning Mix**

**Health Department**  
**Christina Harrington, Health Officer**  
**[charrington@saginawcountymi.gov](mailto:charrington@saginawcountymi.gov)**  
**Human Services Committee**

# 2026 **BWELL**

## Public Health SUMMIT

### Transforming Community Health

May 1, 7:30am-4pm

Temple Theatre

Free Event, \$100 for 5.25 CME credits

#### MORNING SESSIONS

7:30-8:20am

Registration/Breakfast

8:30-9:30am

**Christina Harrington, MPH, Health Officer,**  
Saginaw County Health Department

*From Assessment to Impact: Our Strategy for Community Health Transformation*

9:40-10:40am

**Natasia Bagdasarian, MD, MPH,**  
Chief Medical Executive for the State of Michigan

**Delicia Pruitt, MD, MPH, FAAFP,** Medical Director, Saginaw County Health Department, Interim Chief Executive Director, CMU Medical Education Partners

*Where Policy Meets Real Life: A Frank Conversation About Medicaid Changes and How They Will Impact Our Community*

10:50-11:50am

**Samuel Shaheen, MD, President and CEO, Shaheen Development**

*Stranger Together: How Community Collaboration Impacts Health Outcomes*

noon-1pm

BWell Champion Awards

(See back for afternoon sessions.)

REGISTER

Scan the QR code or visit  
<https://pci.jotform.com/form/260335384389162>

#### DESCRIPTION:

BWell Saginaw Summit 2026 offers two tracks – one for healthcare providers and another for the general public. Keynote speakers and breakout sessions will take a multi-faceted approach to Saginaw’s top health priorities. There is something for everyone to learn, apply to patient care, adopt for healthier living, and work individually and collectively to improve Saginaw’s wellbeing.

#### TARGET AUDIENCES:

1) Patient-facing provider community including physicians, advanced practice providers, nurses, and 2) Community members.

## AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS

	COMMUNITY HEALTH	WOMEN & CHILDREN'S HEALTH	BEHAVIORAL HEALTH / SUBSTANCE USE	OBESITY / CHRONIC DISEASE
1:00-1:50	<p>Mamie Thorns, PhD, Chief Diversity Officer, Saginaw Valley State University Implicit Bias in Healthcare: Recognizing It, Reducing It, Repairing Trust <b>IMPLICIT BIAS CREDIT AVAILABLE</b></p>	<p>Rene Sundstrom, DO, Obstetrics &amp; Gynecology, CMU Health Menopause Explained: Symptoms, Science, and Solutions <b>COMMUNITY/NO CME CREDIT</b></p>	<p>Michael Ingram, MD, Psychiatry, Great Lakes Bay Health Centers Practical Strategies for Substance Use Disorder Care: A Psychiatric Perspective for Health Care Providers <b>CME</b></p>	<p>Brandon Elliott, MD, Obesity Medicine &amp; Metabolic Wellness Clinic Muscle Preservation Strategies During Weight Reduction: How Medication, Nutrition, Physical Activity and Sleep Work Together <b>COMMUNITY/NO CME CREDIT</b></p>
2:00-2:50	<p>Nicholas Haddad, MD, Infectious Disease, CMU Health Advisory to Action: Implementing the Latest Immunization Guidance <b>CME</b></p>	<p>Shanna Hensler, Region 5 Perinatal Quality Collaborative Lead Infant Mortality Update: A Powerful Indicator of Our Community's Health, Stability and Future Success <b>COMMUNITY/NO CME CREDIT</b></p>	<p>Kathy Dollard, MyMichigan Health Sam Price, Ten16 Recovery Network Rene Amyotte, Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Center Ricardo Bowden, Peer 360 Recovery Alliance Panel Discussion: Continuum of Care in Action: Recovery, Peer Support, and Aligned Community Services <b>COMMUNITY/NO CME CREDIT</b></p>	<p>Dr. Dafina Allen, MD, Wise Weight Management Advances in Obesity Care: Evidence-Based Eating Plans and Treatment Strategies <b>COMMUNITY/NO CME CREDIT</b></p>
3:00-3:50	<p>Steven Frazier, Director of Quality and Patient Safety, MyMichigan Health Jenna Bemson, MD, MyMichigan Health Scott Ross, MD, MyMichigan Health Healthcare Without Walls: Increasing Access through Team-Based Care <b>COMMUNITY/NO CME CREDIT</b></p>	<p>Nikita Roy, MD, Child &amp; Adolescent Psychiatry, CMU Health Abishek Bala, MD, MPH, Child &amp; Adolescent Psychiatry, CMU Health Clinical Perspectives on Autism Care Across Healthcare Disciplines <b>CME</b></p>	<p>Randy Pfau, Saginaw County Medical Examiner's Office Opioid Deaths in Our Backyard: How Awareness Leads to Prevention <b>COMMUNITY/NO CME CREDIT</b></p>	<p>Jason Kuhn, DO, Bariatric Surgeon, Covenant HealthCare From Prevention to Intervention: Innovations in Pediatric Obesity Care <b>CME</b></p>

### ACCREDITATION:

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of Covenant HealthCare College of Medicine at Central Michigan University and Saginaw County Health Department. CMU College of Medicine is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Covenant HealthCare College of Medicine at Central Michigan University designates this live activity for a maximum of 5.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

### DISCLOSURE:

The planners and speakers have no relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies to disclose.

### PLANNERS:

BWell Summit planners: Dr. Delicia Pruitt, Christina Vasquez, and Melinda Shriner.

### OBTAINING CME:

CME evaluation certificate and transcript for this activity may be obtained by visiting: med.cmu.edu/cmecert

### EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES:

- Communicate audience-appropriate public health and medical content, both in writing and through oral presentation.
- Apply principles of leadership, governance and management, which include creating a vision, empowering others, fostering collaboration and guiding medical decision making.
- Apply awareness of cultural values and practices to the design or implementation of public health policies or programs.
- Advocate for political, social or economic policies and programs that will improve health in our diverse populations.
- Inform on policies and best practices that most impact public health and health equity.
- Describe the importance of cultural competence in communicating public health content.

For questions or concerns, contact [bwell@saginawcountymi.gov](mailto:bwell@saginawcountymi.gov)

### HOSTED BY:



**Information Technology**  
**Andrew Klaczkiewicz**  
**[itsc-ak@saginawcountymi.gov](mailto:itsc-ak@saginawcountymi.gov)**  
**County Services**

### **MFA Fatigue Scams**

Multi-factor authentication (MFA) helps protect your online accounts by making you approve login attempts. However, enabling MFA doesn't guarantee that your information is safe. If cybercriminals get your login credentials, they can use a tactic called MFA fatigue to try to access your account. In MFA fatigue scams, cybercriminals try to overwhelm you with prompts via email, text message, or phone call so you approve their login attempt.

### **Fake Support Text Messages**

To set up this scam, cybercriminals trigger repeated MFA prompts by attempting to log in to your account multiple times. Then, they text you and claim to be a support team representative who has noticed the unusual behavior. To verify your identity and protect your account, the representative says that you need to approve the prompt. However, if you approve the prompt, the cybercriminals will be able to access your account.

### **Verification by Phone Call**

In another MFA fatigue scam, cybercriminals wait until it's late at night when you're likely asleep and unprepared. Then, they attempt to log in to your account using your credentials. If they're successful, they'll request a phone call MFA prompt to the phone number you use for MFA. If you answer the phone call and press the button to verify your identity, you'll grant the cybercriminals access to your account.

### **What Can I Do to Stay Safe?**

Follow the tips below to stay safe from MFA fatigue scams:

- Never approve an MFA prompt you didn't request. If you have a shared account, verify the MFA prompt with the other account holder before taking action.
- If you receive an MFA prompt you didn't request, immediately change your password for the associated account. You should also consider updating passwords for accounts that use the same credentials.
- Create unique, strong passwords for each of your accounts. Without your password, it's difficult for cybercriminals to reach the MFA step of the login process.



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## **New Program Expands Access to Opioid Treatment**

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MMR Community Paramedicine has launched a new initiative to expand access to treatment for individuals living with opioid use disorder (OUD). The program, called Bridge the Gap, provides community-based access to Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD), helping people begin recovery without many traditional barriers to care.

Through Bridge the Gap, trained community paramedics meet individuals at home or in the community to start evidence-based treatment such as buprenorphine. The program reduces withdrawal symptoms, stabilizes cravings, and supports patients during the early stages of recovery.

The initiative helps close the gap that can occur when someone is ready to seek treatment but lacks a clear path into ongoing care or insurance coverage. Services are provided at no cost during this transition to prevent financial or system barriers from delaying care.

"Opioid use disorder is a chronic, treatable disease, and timely access to evidence-based care saves lives," said Miranda White, Quality & Compliance Manager at MMR. "Bridge the Gap allows us to intervene earlier, reduce barriers, and support individuals as they take their first steps toward recovery."

MMR partners with local recovery organizations, including Recovery Pathways, LLC, to provide warm handoffs to counseling, therapy, medication follow-up, and long-term support. Community paramedics receive specialized training in addiction medicine, and patients are connected to overdose prevention education and social support services.

By meeting people in familiar settings, the program reduces stigma and improves engagement in care — especially for those who may not otherwise access traditional healthcare systems.

Individuals or families seeking support can contact the MMR Community Paramedicine Team at 989-907-2042.

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**Medical Examiner  
Randy Pfau, Director  
rpfau@saginawcountymi.gov  
County Services Committee**



**Saginaw County Office of Medical Examiner**

1600 N. Michigan Avenue  
Saginaw, Michigan 48602  
Office: (989) 790-5533 Fax: (989) 790-5466  
Email: [medicalexaminer@saginawcounty.com](mailto:medicalexaminer@saginawcounty.com)  
Daniel Spitz, MD, Chief Medical Examiner  
Kevin Ginnebaugh, MD, Deputy Chief Medical Examiner



**2026 Monthly Itemized Report**

Month	ME-Cases	Non-ME Cases	Total Cases	Autopsies	Cremation Permits
January	57	77	134	24	154
February	59	62	121	14	160
March					
April					
May					
June					
July					
August					
September					
October					
November					
December					
<b>Total</b>	116	139	255	38	314

- Cost per autopsy: \$2,600
- Cost per Cremation Permit (paid by Funeral Homes): \$75.00

*SAVE THE DATE!*

**Wednesday, May 13, 2026**

COMMUNITY  
**IMPACT**  
DAY

 SAGINAW COUNTY  
CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE

**Service hours 1 - 4 p.m.**

Volunteer sign-up opportunities and participating nonprofit locations to be announced soon.

**Appreciation After-Party beginning at 4:15 p.m.**

Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce - Parking Lot  
515 N. Washington Avenue, Saginaw, MI 48607

**Saginaw County Community  
Mental Health Authority  
Sandra M. Lindsey, CEO  
[sandra.lindsey@sccmha.org](mailto:sandra.lindsey@sccmha.org)  
Human Services Committee**



Saginaw County Community Mental Health Authority has released its SCCMHA FY25 MDHHS Annual Submission Executive Summary.

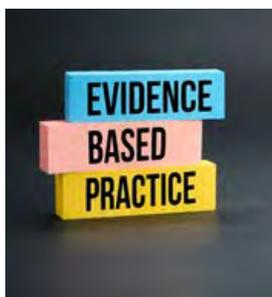
The report was developed based on information gathered from a survey distributed to various community partners in Saginaw County. These partners included individuals in law enforcement, healthcare, nonprofits, government agencies, and other organizations that serve Saginaw County.

A total of 84 stakeholders responded to the survey, identifying the needs in the county where SCCMHA could develop further planning and policy implementation in assisting in these specific areas.

The survey findings showed that some of the priority issues in Saginaw County are:

- Access & Navigation – Service availability and wait times
- Housing & Basic Needs – Homelessness and shelter access
- Housing & Basic Needs – Affordable/supportive housing
- Workforce & System Capacity – Case management quality and follow-through
- Access & Navigation – Insurance and affordability

Given these findings, SCCMHA will find ways to address these needs going forward to better serve our Saginaw County community. You can find the full report [here](#).



**SCCMHA would like to recognize outstanding performances from staff in our Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) in FY26 Q1.**

Increasing numbers of positive improvement and work in EBP could be found in such practices as Motivational Interviewing, Dialectal Behavior Therapy, and Parent Support Partners, seeing strong upticks in those areas.

We'd like to recognize the following staff for excellent work in the first quarter of 2026:

- Elise Hodgins
- Laine Hilts-Forcade
- Myesha Crockett

We'd also like to note Dakota Cook of Saginaw Psychological for their positive work as well. Thank you for all that you do, we appreciate your hard work and strong efforts to those we serve at SCCMHA!

**Mosquito Abatement**  
**William Stanuszek**  
[wstanuszek@saginawcountymi.gov](mailto:wstanuszek@saginawcountymi.gov)  
**Human Services Committee**

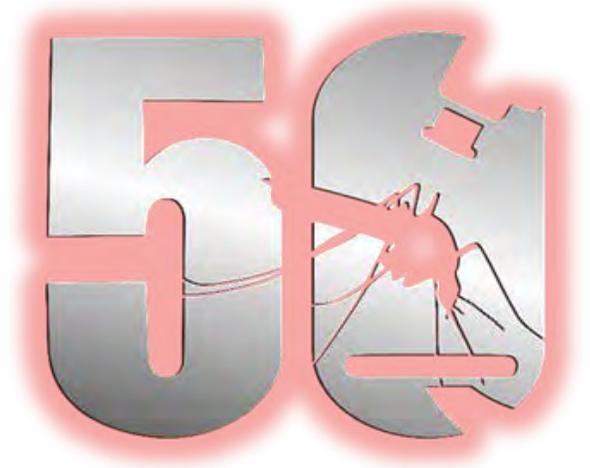
Plans and goals for our services are in place as we finish our off-season work, including hiring seasonal staff for our 50th mosquito control season. We look forward to commemorating this milestone with the community through social media, public outreach, and an open house on June 26.

We plan to highlight the history and foundation of our program while recognizing the hundreds of community members who have spent their summers helping control mosquitoes in Saginaw County since 1986.

As we enter the 2026 season, April marks the official start of mosquito control operations. Our aerial spring treatment of flooded woodlands is scheduled for this month, with the exact dates depending on weather conditions, including temperature and rainfall. A colder start to April will delay treatment flights until later in the month, while warmer weather may allow treatment to begin in mid-April. We utilize eight yellow aircraft to treat nearly 90,000 acres of woodland habitat. This operation typically takes 4 to 10 days to complete, depending on weather. Once this countywide mosquito population is brought under control, we shift into our regular seasonal operations.

Weather conditions will strongly influence mosquito activity and arbovirus risk throughout the season. Our strategies, operations, and service approach are detailed in our [2026 Program Plan](#), which serves as the community's official notification of mosquito treatment activities countywide.

For service details or treatment information, please visit [www.saginawmosquito.com](http://www.saginawmosquito.com), follow us on social media, or call our office at (989) 755-5751.





**2026 MURAL  
CONTEST**

**AMERICA 250 - SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL**

**250 Years of Freedom, Unity and History**

**Join us in making history through creativity!**

**Hosted by: Saginaw County Courts**

Visit [saginawcountymi.gov/mural](http://saginawcountymi.gov/mural) for more information

## County of Saginaw Department Head Contact Information

Al Kaufman	HW Browne Airport, Manager	<a href="mailto:alairport@yahoo.com">alairport@yahoo.com</a>	989-295-0675
Andrew Klaczkiwicz	Information Technology, Director	<a href="mailto:itsc-ak@saginawcountymi.gov">itsc-ak@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-996-1844
Bill W. Stanuszek	Mosquito Abatement, Director	<a href="mailto:wstanuszek@saginawcountymi.gov">wstanuszek@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-755-5751
Brian Lechel	Parks & Recreation, Director	<a href="mailto:blechel@saginawcountymi.gov">blechel@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5281
Brian Wendling	Public Works, Commissioner	<a href="mailto:bwending@saginawcountymi.gov">bwending@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5257
Britney Mlostek	District Court, Administrator	<a href="mailto:bmlostek@saginawcountymi.gov">bmlostek@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5360
Christina Harrington	Health Department, Health Officer	<a href="mailto:charrington@saginawcountymi.gov">charrington@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-758-3818
Denise Joseph	Equalization, Director	<a href="mailto:djoseph@saginawcountymi.gov">djoseph@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5260
Gilbert Ramirez II	Deputy County Administrator	<a href="mailto:giramirez@saginawcountymi.gov">giramirez@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5356
Jaime Ceja	Administrator's Office, Exec Asst	<a href="mailto:jceja@saginawcountymi.gov">jceja@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5211
Jennifer Broadfoot	Personnel, Director	<a href="mailto:jbroadfoot@saginawcountymi.gov">jbroadfoot@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5507
Jessica Tumblin	Interim 911 Authority, Director	<a href="mailto:jtumblin@saginawcounty911.com">jtumblin@saginawcounty911.com</a>	989-797-4590 x2
John McColgan	Prosecuting Attorney	<a href="mailto:jmccolgan@saginawcountymi.gov">jmccolgan@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5330
Katheryn Kelly	Register of Deeds	<a href="mailto:kkelly@saginawcountymi.gov">kkelly@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5273
Kelly Suppes	Purchasing/Risk Manager	<a href="mailto:ksupes@saginawcountymi.gov">ksupes@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5505
Koren Thurston	Financial Services, Director	<a href="mailto:kthurston@saginawcountymi.gov">kthurston@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5218
Latecia Cirilo	Registrar of Probate	<a href="mailto:lcirilo@saginawcountymi.gov">lcirilo@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5322
Lt. Mark Przybylski	Emergency Services, Director	<a href="mailto:mprzybylski@saginawcountymi.gov">mprzybylski@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5500
Mary Catherine Hannah	County Administrator/CAO	<a href="mailto:administratorsoffice@saginawcountymi.gov">administratorsoffice@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5211
Mary McLaughlin	Community Corrections, Coordinator	<a href="mailto:mmclaughlin@saginawcountymi.gov">mmclaughlin@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5584
Michael Yelsik	Circuit Court, Administrator	<a href="mailto:myelsik@saginawcountymi.gov">myelsik@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5411
Mike Gomez	Sheriff Department, Undersheriff	<a href="mailto:mgozmez@saginawcountymi.gov">mgozmez@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5450
Rachel Horton	Animal Care and Control, Director	<a href="mailto:rhorton@saginawcountymi.gov">rhorton@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	979-797-4500
Randy Pfau	Medical Examiner, Director	<a href="mailto:rpfauf@saginawcountymi.gov">rpfauf@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-758-3836
Suzy Koepplinger	Board of Commissioners, Coordinator	<a href="mailto:boc@saginawcountymi.gov">boc@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5268
Tara Hofmeister	Friend of the Court, Administrator	<a href="mailto:thofmeister@saginawcountymi.gov">thofmeister@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5311
Tim Novak	Treasurer	<a href="mailto:tnovak@saginawcountymi.gov">tnovak@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5230
Todd Borders	Family & Juvenile Court, Administrator	<a href="mailto:tborders@saginawcountymi.gov">tborders@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-799-4125
Tony DePelsmaeker	Maintenance, Director	<a href="mailto:adepelsmaeker@saginawcountymi.gov">adepelsmaeker@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5235
Vanessa Guerra	County Clerk	<a href="mailto:vguerra@saginawcountymi.gov">vguerra@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5244
William Federspiel	Sheriff Department, Sheriff	<a href="mailto:wfederspiel@saginawcountymi.gov">wfederspiel@saginawcountymi.gov</a>	989-790-5400

## County of Saginaw Department Locations

911	618 Cass Street, Saginaw, MI 48602	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/Saginaw911">https://www.facebook.com/Saginaw911</a>
Animal Control	5615 Bay Road, Saginaw, MI 48604	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/SaginawAnimalControl">https://www.facebook.com/SaginawAnimalControl</a>
Commission on Aging	2355 Schust Road, Saginaw, MI 48603	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/SAGINAWCOA">https://www.facebook.com/SAGINAWCOA</a>
Courthouse	111 S. Michigan Ave, Saginaw, MI 48602	<a href="http://www.saginawcountymi.gov">www.saginawcountymi.gov</a>
Early Voting Center	618 Cass Street, Saginaw, MI 48602	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/SaginawCountyClerk">https://www.facebook.com/SaginawCountyClerk</a>
Family and Juvenile	3360 Hospital Road, Saginaw, MI 48603	<a href="http://www.saginawcountymi.gov">www.saginawcountymi.gov</a>
Health Department	1600 N. Michigan Ave, Saginaw, MI 48602	<a href="https://www.saginawpublichealth.org/">https://www.saginawpublichealth.org/</a>
HW Browne Airport	4821 Janes Road, Saginaw, MI 48601	<a href="https://www.khyx.org/">https://www.khyx.org/</a>
Maintenance	1312 Gratiot Avenue, Saginaw, MI 48602	<a href="http://www.saginawcountymi.gov">www.saginawcountymi.gov</a>
Mosquito Abatement	705 N. Towerline Road, Saginaw, MI 48601	<a href="https://www.saginawmosquito.com/">https://www.saginawmosquito.com/</a>
Sheriff Department	311 S. Harrison, Saginaw, MI 48602	<a href="https://www.saginawcountymi.gov/Sheriff">https://www.saginawcountymi.gov/Sheriff</a>