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Contact: Isabella Agby | Director of Marketing and Communications

Phone: 586-416-2300 ext. 3653

Email: agbyi@ccsem.org

After Eight Years of Service, St. Joseph Center of Hope Closes as Monroe County's Fight Against Opioid Addiction Enters a New Chapter

Monroe, MI — July 15, 2026 — Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan (CCSEM) announced today that St. Joseph Center of Hope, its 24/7 crisis intervention center for individuals struggling with substance use disorder, will close July 31, 2026, after nearly eight years of service to the Monroe community. Beginning August 1, Monroe Community Mental Health Authority (Monroe CMHA) will provide crisis support and peer recovery services for individuals in need, ensuring the community's most vulnerable residents continue to have somewhere to turn.

"This is a story about what a community can accomplish when it comes together," said Paul Propson, CEO of Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan. "The St. Joseph Center of Hope team helped many people find help for recovery, and going forward, we will work with MCMHA to accomplish this work in new ways with new programs."

A Center Born from Community

St. Joseph Center of Hope carries forward a legacy that stretches back further than its 2018 opening. Its name honors the former St. Joseph Parish in Monroe, whose food pantry ministry continued serving the community even after the parish closed in 2014, with its records and resources passing to St. John the Baptist Parish. On March 19, 2018, CCSEM formally named St. Joseph as the organization's patron saint — a fitting tribute that set the stage for what came next.

On November 20, 2018, then-Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron — now Archbishop Emeritus of Detroit — joined CCSEM leadership and Monroe community members for the ribbon-cutting of St. Joseph Center of Hope, a 24/7 crisis intervention center made possible through the generosity and support of several community partners: ProMedica, which provided space on its Monroe Regional Hospital campus; the Monroe Community Foundation, which provided a founding grant; the Community Mental Health Partnership for Southeast Michigan (CMHPSM), which provided ongoing annual funding; and the Monroe County Commissioners, who directed Monroe Opioid Settlement Funds to support its operations. The center was created to give Monroe County something it had never had: a place where anyone in an addiction crisis, regardless of ability to pay, could find immediate stabilization, a meal, a shower, and a path toward recovery.

Nearly Eight Years of Impact

In the years since it opened, St. Joseph Center of Hope has served hundreds of Monroe County residents, providing 900 to 1,800 individual admissions each year and helping people find stability, safety, and a first step toward treatment.

That work has paid off. Overdose deaths in Monroe County, once among the highest in Michigan during the height of the opioid crisis, have returned to pre-2010 levels — a benchmark that reflects years of close collaboration between CCSEM, Monroe CMHA, local hospitals, faith communities, and county partners.

“We set out to give this community something it didn’t have, and because of the partners who stood with us — ProMedica, Monroe CMHA, our parishes, and so many others — we’re able to close this chapter knowing the need is being met in a new way,” stated Propson.

What Comes Next for the Community

Beginning August 1, 2026, Monroe CMHA will provide substance use disorder crisis support through its Behavioral Health Urgent Care program and will offer Peer Recovery services through its Clinical Services team. Individuals who need help can call (734) 243-7340, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, or visit Monroe CMHA's Behavioral Health Urgent Care at 325 Colonial Court or its main office at 1001 S. Raisinville Rd. in Monroe. Clients with an existing open case at Monroe CMHA do not need to re-enroll.

Monroe CMHA has been a trusted partner to CCSEM since St. Joseph Center of Hope's earliest days — a member of Monroe CMHA's Community Coalition since its inception, and in 2024 CCSEM was recognized as Monroe CMHA's Outstanding Community Partner. As a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic, Monroe CMHA is now positioned to provide these crisis and recovery services directly, allowing CCSEM to focus its resources on other pressing needs across Monroe County.

“Monroe CMHA is honored to build on the foundation St. Joseph Center of Hope has laid for the past eight years,” said Lisa Graham, CEO of Monroe Community Mental Health Authority.

A Joint Commitment to Monroe County

“This work has never belonged to one organization — it belongs to this community,” said Propson and Graham in a joint statement. “CCSEM and Monroe CMHA have stood side by side for years in the fight against addiction in Monroe County, and that partnership isn’t ending — it’s evolving. Together, we’re making sure that anyone in our community facing a crisis will still find help, compassion, and a path forward.”

CCSEM Remains Committed to Monroe County

While St. Joseph Center of Hope's doors will close, CCSEM's presence in Monroe County will not. The organization continues to offer adult and family counseling, substance use treatment and prevention services, and peer recovery services through its outpatient behavioral health clinic, along with its Student Prevention Leadership Training (SPLT) program in local schools. CCSEM's Monroe County counseling office is located at 234 Colonial Drive, Monroe, MI 48162; individuals can reach the office at (734) 240-3850 ext. 2000. CCSEM is also exploring new programming to support the population most often served by St. Joseph Center of Hope, working alongside community partners to help this group find lasting recovery and stable housing.

“No one organization can do this work alone,” Propson said. “That’s always been true of St. Joseph Center of Hope, and it’s true of what comes next. It takes an entire community — our staff, our partners, our neighbors — coming together to make sure no one in Monroe County facing addiction has to face it without somewhere to turn.”

Community Open House

CCSEM will host a community open house on July 31, 2026, from 12 to 4 p.m., to celebrate St. Joseph Center of Hope's legacy and thank the many partners, donors, and community members who made its work possible.

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About Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan

Compelled by the love and teachings of Jesus Christ, Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan (CCSEM) provides programs and services that offer help and hope to over 20,000 people annually throughout the six counties served by the Archdiocese of Detroit. For more information, please visit www.ccsem.org

Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan (CCSEM) serves the most vulnerable of our community, providing a broad spectrum of social services in Lapeer, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, and Wayne Counties. Reflecting profound respect for human life and the dignity of each person, and a commitment to strengthening families, CCSEM helps more than 20,000 people of all faiths, races, and cultures throughout southeast Michigan. CCSEM's programs transform lives, relationships, and futures, serving pregnant women, young mothers, infants, children, teens, adults, seniors, couples, and families.

About Monroe Community Mental Health Authority

Monroe Community Mental Health Authority is here for one reason—to ensure that everyone in the Monroe County community has access to high-quality mental health and wellness services for the residents of Monroe County, regardless of their background, income, or situation.