

Borgess Psychiatric Crisis Intervention Unit

Mental Health Crisis

Imagine bringing your child to the Emergency Room to get stitches after falling off her bike. When you enter the ER, you hear yelling and screaming and watch security escort an individual with an urgent mental health condition to a small locked room.

While traveling to the Emergency Room is full of anxiety under the best of circumstances, that anxiety can double or quadruple when someone with an emergent mental health condition needs help at the same time.

Consider also the feelings and fear of the individual with the emergent mental health condition. They may be suicidal, paranoid or severely depressed and at great risk of harming themselves or others. They need help too, yet, the treatment options are not conducive to their condition.

Neither situation is ideal, but it is a situation that occurs with increased frequency in Kalamazoo.

The Need: A Safe, Private, and Calming Care Environment

As the community's leader for emergency and inpatient mental healthcare, Borgess Health has a solution to ensure that individuals with a medical and psychiatric crisis can receive quick access, appropriate care by dedicated behavioral health staff in a safe, private and calming environment.

The Borgess Psychiatric Crisis Intervention Unit is a specialized psychiatric emergency treatment unit that will be connected to the Borgess Medical Center's Burton H. Upjohn Emergency & Trauma Center (ETC).

The unit will have a separate entrance with a dedicated mental health and emergency medical staff and seven (7) treatment rooms that will provide a more private, safe and calming respite for individuals with an emergent mental health crisis. For individuals needing medical treatment in addition to treatment for their mental health condition, the unit will have two secure entrances connected to the ETC.



The need for such a unit in our community is great. It is not uncommon for patients with a mental health crisis to wait 2-3 hours in the ETC when there are other more severe medical emergencies.

The number of crisis patients, as well as hours social work screeners meet with these patients, has increased dramatically, growing in each of the last four years. Additionally, the severity level of these patients has increased, causing additional strain on treatment space for medical emergencies.

Further, police patient transports and extension of treatment orders from a judge can go directly to the unit providing greater privacy for the patient and eliminating the potential for disruption in the ETC.

The most important benefit of the unit is that patients will have quicker access to the right treatment in the right environment. They can be triaged, treated and referred to the appropriate level of care in much less time. There will be less disruption in the ETC and a safer and calmer environment for staff and the medical emergent patients Borgess serves.

Healing: Built by You

The creation of the Psychiatric Crisis Intervention Unit at Borgess Medical Center is part of a larger investment Borgess recently made on its Inpatient Behavioral Health Units.

In the past six months, Borgess has invested \$1.5 million dollars enhancing the community's only inpatient behavioral health units for adolescents, adults and our senior population. This will ensure that individuals experiencing a mental health crisis who need transition to an inpatient unit can expect to receive treatment in a similar environment that is just as calming, secure and conducive to their needs.

Currently, there are two similar Psychiatric Crisis Interventional Units in Michigan. One is located in Ann Arbor and the other is located in Jackson. The Borgess Crisis Unit would be the first in west Michigan and managed by the leader and most respected behavioral health provider on the west-side of the state.

Mental health emergencies are complex. Yet, we know that effective treatment works. During a mental health crisis, the key is to stabilize and calm the patient so that effective treatment and the referral process can begin.

With a dedicated behavioral health staff and emergency medical physicians literally next door, the addition of the Borgess Psych Crisis Interventional Unit will enhance the treatment of some of our most vulnerable citizens and ensure a less disruptive ER for individuals needing emergency medical attention.

A recent study of this model of Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES) showed that a PES in a health system decreased time in an emergency department by 80% and led to behavioral health stabilization and discharge without needing inpatient admission more than 75% of the time. It goes on to say that a PES interior is far more calming and welcoming than a busy and noisy ER. The open spaces, soft lighting, music, and décor all contribute to the goal of encouraging healing and recovery.

To build the Borgess Psychiatric Crisis Intervention Unit and better serve individuals with mental health emergencies, the Borgess Foundation Board seeks to raise \$1.5 million in community philanthropy. The focused fundraising initiative is led by board

co-chairs Sr. Mary Pung, a member of the Congregation of St. Joseph and Mr. Andrew Riker, CFP, Senior Wealth Management Advisor at Greenleaf Trust.

The new Unit, connected to the eastern edge of the Borgess ETC, will comprise of the following:

- New patient drop-off and entry to the building
- Separate patient entry to the Psych Crisis Interventional Unit
- Seven patient interview/treatment rooms
- Two secured entranceways to the Emergency & Trauma Center
- Waiting area and counseling room
- Staff/nurse station
- Security sub-waiting and holding area for higher acuity patients
- Dedicated mental health and emergency medical professionals on staff 24/7

Recognition for Philanthropic Investment

We appreciate your consideration of support for this important project. Gift recognition levels for this unit are listed in the following table:

Unit Naming Recognition	\$750,000
Dedicated Team Area Recognition	\$150,000
Equipment/Furniture Recognition	\$100,000
Art/Sound System Recognition	\$50,000
Staff Posting Area Recognition (2 areas available)	\$50,000
Staff Lounge Recognition	\$50,000
Patient Room Recognition (7 rooms available)	\$30,000

For additional information, please contact Mr. Tony McDonnell or Ms. Anne Witherspoon at the Borgess Foundation, (269) 226.8100.

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