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## NEWS RELEASE: MHRB expands hotline services to help residents feeling isolated by COVID-19

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To: "Mason Deerfield Chamber (info@madechamber.org)" <info@madechamber.org>, Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce <chamber45005@gmail.com>, Angie Smith <angie@lebanonchamber.org>, Springboro Chamber of Commerce <info@springboroohio.org>, Wilmington-Clinton County Chamber of Commerce <dbuchanan@wccchamber.com>

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 12

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### MHRBWCC expands hotline services to help residents feeling isolated by COVID-19

LEBANON, Ohio, May 5, 2020 – Residents of Warren and Clinton Counties who have concerns about their mental health in connection with the COVID-19 crisis can now call the established hotline to ask questions and get advice free of charge.

“We’re excited to expand the hotline services to include ‘warmline’ services,” said Jeff Rhein, deputy director of Outpatient, Substance Use Disorder and Criminal Justice Services at Mental Health Recovery Board Serving Warren & Clinton Counties (MHRB). “Residents of our two counties can get answers to many mental health questions. And, if they’d like to talk further with a therapist, they can ask to do that, too.”

Julie Payton, deputy director of Special Projects for MHRB, said the opportunity to expand is timely. “With COVID-19 keeping people indoors more, many folks might be feeling isolated. We want them to know that even though they may be by themselves or seeing fewer people for the time being, they are not alone.”

The service is free to all residents of Warren and Clinton Counties.

Any resident with questions about mental health and COVID-19 can call 877-695-6333 any time of day, seven days a week. Trained staff will talk with callers to answer questions about mental health and substance use, and offer some strategies and tips as needed. Callers who wish to talk with a therapist will be transferred or will quickly receive a call back.

#### **About MHRBWCC**

Mental Health Recovery Board Serving Warren & Clinton Counties (MHRBWCC) is the local board of mental health and addiction services for residents of Warren and Clinton Counties. MHRBWCC plans, funds, monitors, and evaluates services and programs provided by various agencies that care for residents living with mental health and addiction issues. For more information, visit [mhrbwcc.org](http://mhrbwcc.org).

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