FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Jeremy Stern
Phone: 303-898-5507; Email: jstern@mhbhc.org

MILE HIGH BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE TO LEAD OPERATIONS & STAFFING FOR AURORA’S CITIZENS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS DURING COVID-19 CRISIS

Large Tents and Hotel Integral for those without a home during Stay-At-Home Order

Mile High Behavioral Healthcare and its shelter service programs, the Comitis Crisis Center, the Aurora Day Resource Center and Street Outreach, continue to provide basic need services to those in Aurora experiencing homelessness while the city has been impacted with COVID-19. Basic needs, food and shelter are offered seven days a week though the organization has adjusted to constantly changing safety measures. Two large tents at the Aurora Day Resource Center are providing space in accordance with social distancing recommendations and a location to partially quarantine those that are medically cleared to quarantine on their own.

On Wednesday, April 8, doors will open to a hotel in Aurora, Colorado for individuals who are experiencing homelessness and have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or to those who may have been exposed. Mile High Behavioral Healthcare CEO, Bob Dorshimer, stated, “As COVID-19 continues to threaten our communities, it’s time to add to the continuum of care and to ensure the safety and health of some of the most vulnerable residents.” Those staffing these efforts will maintain all safety measures outlined by local and state guidelines and will be supplied proper personal protective equipment. “I’m so proud of our staff and local community partners for giving 100 percent during this national crisis as we are saving lives in our communities.”

Mile High Behavioral Healthcare has been chosen to lead onsite operations and staffing at this new hotel model to serve as a safe place for shelter, food and resources while following physical distancing guidelines. Dorshimer said, “Our COVID-19 Direct Care Staff will manage our Social Distancing Tents full time and now we will be staffing a 120-room hotel for distancing and quarantining in collaboration with the City of Aurora, saving lives of our unhoused friends.”

Available services for the community and for those experiencing homelessness during COVID-19 can be found at www.MHBHC.org

Mile High Behavioral Healthcare was founded in 1960 and is the metro Denver area’s leading nonprofit provider of affordable, evidence-based behavioral health services, including substance use and/or mental health disorder treatment, prevention programs, shelter and transitional housing, and integrated primary healthcare. With a mission to provide a caring, seamless continuum of behavioral healthcare to those in need and a vision to empower individuals to shape healthy, viable, complete lives and communities, MHBHC and provides services to over 5,000 of Denver and Aurora’s most high-risk, high-need and under-resourced community members each year.

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