

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## HealthNet of Rock County receives \$250,000 Donation from Blackhawk Community Credit Union

Janesville, WI – HealthNet of Rock County is still moving forward with a plan to obtain more space that will expand medical and dental services, and add a new behavioral health clinic. Blackhawk Community Credit Union (BHCCU) has given HealthNet of Rock County a monetary donation of a quarter of a million dollars to continue their services in a new building.

"The need for services is larger than in recent memory. With this pandemic, we know that 2,600 more individuals have enrolled for BadgerCare over the last three months, hundreds if not thousands of individuals are also newly uninsured. The only way we can see full economic recovery is if those who are underinsured or uninsured are taken care of in the interim. This will ensure we have a stabilized community and a healthy workforce," says HealthNet of Rock County CEO Ian Hedges.

In 2019, BHCCU announced it was building a new headquarters and would donate its administrative building located at 2707 Kennedy Road to HealthNet of Rock County. Since then, BHCCU has put its headquarters project on hold due to the economic uncertainties of the pandemic. Because the Kennedy Road building currently houses administrative credit union employees, BHCCU is no longer in a position to donate it. However, BHCCU and HealthNet worked together on an agreement for this monetary donation that will assist HealthNet in relocating closer to their clients than the previous plan.

Hedges added, "Convenient access to our services is a priority for our clients. With this generous donation from BHCCU, we will be able to select the best location for those we serve. The gift of \$250,000 is one step closer in creating a revitalized clinic space that will impact thousands of more lives than before this pandemic."

"All of us at Blackhawk Community Credit Union strongly believe in the mission of HealthNet and know how critical their services are to many of our members and the community now and into the future, which is why we have remained committed to them. Our commitment to HealthNet not only involves a monetary donation, but also resources from the credit union to help future fundraising and find the best location to help the most people in need," said Interim CEO of Blackhawk Community Credit Union Lisa Palma

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HealthNet of Rock County is a non-profit volunteer-based free medical and dental clinic dedicated to providing quality care to low-income, uninsured and underinsured Rock County residents. HealthNet of Rock County's Board of Directors recently voted to change its eligibility guidelines to allow those who utilize the medical clinic to be at or below 250 percent of the federal poverty level. HealthNet of Rock County's dental clinic continues to provide dental care to low-income individuals at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. who are uninsured, enrolled in BadgerCare, or have their healthcare through the Veteran's Administration. Patients who need to enroll virtually for services during the COVID-19 pandemic should contact 608-756-4638, and patients who need emergency assistance with dental should contact 608-314-1940. For more information about the clinics, please visit <a href="https://www.healthnet-rock.org">www.healthnet-rock.org</a>.