

July 20, 2020

Greetings,

On Saturday, September 12th, 2020, Mental Health America in Sheboygan County (MHA) will be hosting the 15th annual *There is Hope* walk for suicide awareness and prevention. There is Hope is the largest educational fundraiser event for MHA, a nonprofit mental health resource center serving Sheboygan County since 1963. Suicide prevention is the foundation of the work we do; all proceeds from this event strengthen MHA's programs increasing mental health education and stigma reduction, access to services, and support services for families and individuals in Sheboygan County. This event is typically held along Lake Michigan at Deland Park; however, with the current Public Health protocols on large gatherings due to the Covid-19 pandemic, MHA is planning a series of virtual events to in order to keep our participants safe and healthy.

The morning will begin with a virtual opening ceremony featuring MHA Board and staff, as well as Benjamin Breckheimer, a Purple Heart recipient who is one climb away from being the first Purple Heart Recipient/Combat Wounded Veteran to climb the world's Seven Summits, and other. There is Hope participants will then walk in their neighborhoods or other safe locations throughout the county. The weekend will also feature an online silent auction, social media contests, and raffle opportunities that will be available to all registered walkers.

We know that the walk will look different this year, but our message of remembering, honoring, and saving lives remains the same. We cannot do this without the support of our community partners. The following are ways that you can show your **continued support for this event**:

- Donate a **Silent Auction** or **Raffle** item, or an **In-kind Donation** of supplies or goods for use during the event.
- Purchase a Trail Marker with your company's logo or personal message.
- Become a **Sponsor**.

We also know that many businesses have felt an economic impact in the past few months and may not be able to support MHA's efforts this year. Your support over the years has made an impact! If you are not able to donate to There is Hope this year, we ask that you help us spread the word via social media and word of mouth. Regardless of the type of support you offer, we appreciate our community of mental health champions who continue to help us do this important work.

Thank you for your consideration of supporting this important event. Your **response by August 14th** is greatly appreciated. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Warmest regards,

Lana A lunin

Laura Reinemann

There is Hope Committee Chair

Julie L. Preder
Executive Director

Suicide knows no social or economic boundaries. Suicide is preventable. Treatment works.

Together we can make a difference in suicide awareness and prevention in our community.