



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 9/21/20

Thornton Fractional District 215
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Thornton Fractional North High School Partners with Hartgrove Behavioral Health System to Increase Access to Mental Health Services for Students

Calumet City, IL- Thornton Fractional North High School and Hartgrove Behavioral Health System are partnering to provide increased access to outpatient mental health services for Thornton Fractional North High School students for the 2020-21 school year. The TF North guidance office will be the home of a new Hartgrove counseling center location established specifically to serve the needs of TF North students and their families. The services being offered at the new center include individual, group, and family counseling and psychiatric evaluation and medication management. TF North principal, Brian Rucinski, stated, “We are so grateful that Hartgrove is offering this opportunity to our students and families. Students facing anxiety, depression, grief, relationship issues, and more now have access to help right in their own school. This help is more needed than ever during these challenging times.”

Hartgrove Behavioral Health System has been serving the Chicago area for over fifty years and has recently expanded their services by partnering with schools in communities that have a shortage of mental health care services. Students and families with Medicaid will access the new counseling center services at TF North for free, and Hartgrove also works with private insurance companies for families who do not qualify for Medicaid.

TF North is getting the word out to students that they can find more information or schedule an appointment to be seen by staff of the new counseling center by calling or texting 312-399-2361. Telehealth appointments are currently being utilized due to COVID-19, but in-person appointments at TF North will be available in the future. TF North’s guidance counselors and social workers can also refer students in need to the new counseling center.

In addition to the new counseling center at TF North, Thornton Fractional District 215 recently added a mental health hotline that is available to all students at all three campuses in the district. The hotline is available Monday through Friday from 3:30-6:00 p.m. and is staffed by certified District 215 staff members. Students calling the hotline will receive support, consultations, and referrals if needed.

About Thornton Fractional High School District 215: District 215 serves the students of Burnham, Calumet City, Lansing, and Lynwood at Thornton Fractional North High School, Thornton Fractional South High School, Thornton Fractional Center for Academics and Technology, and Thornton Fractional Center for Alternative Learning. The mission of District 215 is to provide diverse learning opportunities that inspire all students to become life-long learners who contribute to their community.

About Hartgrove Behavioral Health System Hartgrove Behavioral Health System is licensed as a 160-bed psychiatric facility providing mental health services for children, adolescents and adults. The system maintains a continuum of care with four inpatient units, two partial hospitalization programs for children and adolescents, adult dual diagnosis and adolescent intensive outpatient programs, two traditional outpatient locations and school-based outpatient centers. Recognized as leading the industry are two specialty programs, the Neuropsychiatric Center of Chicago (NPCC) and TRAUMA Program, with both programs receiving the First in the Nation Disease Specific Certification Gold Seal of Approval by The Joint Commission. Hartgrove Behavioral Health System is recognized for the largest training programs of any free-standing behavioral health system in the state. Their clinical training series currently provides education for professionals in the fields of medicine, social work, psychology, nursing, substance abuse and pharmacy. Hartgrove's Physician Training Programs are proud to partner with the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) Residency Program as part of the College of Medicine in the Department of Psychiatry, as well as the Rush University Medical Center Child and Adolescent Substance Abuse Psychiatry Residency Program and Rush University Medical Center, Department of Psychiatry Fellows and Physician Assistants from Yale University.

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