	Weapons-Free Workplace			
	Chapter:	Board Services and Program Administration	Policy #	2-12-13
	Section:	Safety and Therapeutic Environment	Revision #	3

I. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this policy is to ensure a safe environment for staff members, independent contractors, vendors, customers, and visitors while on WCMCMH property and during the course of conducting WCMCMH business. WCMCMH believes it is important to establish a clear policy that specifically addresses and prohibits weapons in the workplace.

II. **APPLICATION:** All staff members, independent contractors, vendors, customers, and visitors of WCMCMH. This policy does not apply to law enforcement officers authorized to carry a weapon in the line of duty.

III. **REQUIRED BY:** Not applicable

IV. **DEFINITIONS:**

Staff members – All employees, students, interns, and volunteers at WCMCMH.

Independent Contractors – Those people hired to perform work at WCMCMH facilities, but who are not considered staff members of the Agency. Examples of independent contractors include but are not limited to a carpenter making a repair to the building or a mental health clinician hired under a time-limited grant to deliver specific skills or complete a specific project.

Vendors – Those on the premises of WCMCMH for the purpose of selling a product or service. Examples of vendors include but are not limited to the following: a prescription drug company representative or Federal Express delivery person.

Customers – Those persons seeking the services of WCMCMH.

Visitors – All other persons who come on to the premises of WCMCMH for any other reason not related to employment, service or product delivery, or to seek services.


Weapons – Prohibited weapons include any form of weapon or explosive restricted under local, state, or federal regulation. This includes knives, chemical dispensing devices such as pepper spray, and firearms (concealed or non-concealed), etc. Concealed includes firearms legal with Concealed Pistol License under Michigan Law.

WCMCMH Property – This includes all WCMCMH owned or leased buildings and properties, as well as motor vehicles.

CIR– A WCMCMH critical incident report.

SIR- A WCMCMH Staff Incident Report.

V. **POLICY:** WCMCMH prohibits all staff members, independent contractors, vendors, customers, and visitors, except law enforcement officers, who enter its property from carrying weapons. All staff members and independent contractors are also prohibited from carrying a weapon while in the course and scope of performing work

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for WCMCMH whether they are on WCMCMH property at the time or not and whether they are licensed to carry a handgun or not. Staff members and independent contractors may not carry a weapon on their person or in their private vehicle while performing any work on WCMCMH' behalf. This policy also prohibits weapons at any WCMCMH sponsored functions at off-site locations.


This policy shall not be construed to create any duty or obligation on the part of WCMCMH to take any actions beyond those required of an employer by existing law.

VI. **PROCEDURES:**

- A. Reporting: Any WCMCMH staff member or independent contractor who becomes aware of anyone violating this policy should report it immediately to the appropriate on-site supervisor or their direct supervisor. The reporting staff member must also complete a CIR prior to leaving work for the day. Note: Please refer to WCMCMH Emergency Operations Plan and WCMCMH Emergency Response Guides for more detail.

- B. Searches: WCMCMH reserves the right to conduct searches of any person, vehicle, or object that enters onto WCMCMH property consistent with the law. WCMCMH reserves the right to request the presence of law enforcement as needed. No staff member or independent contractor shall have an expectation of privacy in the Agency's facilities, including offices, agency vehicles, personal vehicles brought on to Agency property, etc.
 - 1. A person or a person's property can be searched only if there is reasonable cause to suspect that the person is in possession of a weapon.
 - 2. A search of a person or a person's property shall take place in the presence of at least one witness. The person shall be present during the search unless he or she declines.
 - 3. The following shall be documented in the record of any person who is subjected to a search: reason for initiating the search, type of search (person or property), who authorized the search, who conducted and witnessed the search, and the results of the search including the property discovered and its disposition. This information will also be documented in a CIR or an SIR depending of if it's staff or someone else.

- C. Investigations: In the event that a violation of this policy by a staff member or independent contractor is reported, Human Resources and the immediate supervisor of the person suspected of the policy violation will conduct an investigation. In the event that the immediate supervisor is not available, the appropriate Chief Officer or the Chief Executive Officer of the Agency will assist. If appropriate, law enforcement will be contacted. Note: Please refer to WCMCMH Emergency Operations Plan and WCMCMH Emergency Response Guides for more detail.

	Weapons-Free Workplace			
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- D. Violations: If an individual is found to possess a weapon, an assessment of risk will be undertaken. If no immediate danger is perceived, the individual will be reminded of the Agency Weapons-Free Workplace Policy and will be asked to leave the premises of WCMCMH immediately. If it is apparent that the situation may be dangerous, a call for emergency law enforcement will be made by dialing911. Note: Please refer to WCMCMH Emergency Operations Plan and WCMCMH Emergency Response Guides for more detail.
- E. WCMCMH Sanctions: Failure to abide by all terms and conditions of the policy described above may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment if the violator is a staff member or termination of the work contract if the violator is an independent contractor. Vendors and visitors may be banned from the premises. Customers will be evaluated and depending on the level of risk determined, their behavior may be managed through a behavior plan, or they may be transitioned to a new care provider.
- F. Legal Sanctions: Further, carrying a weapon onto WCMCMH property in violation of this policy will be considered an act of criminal trespass and may be grounds for immediate removal from WCMCMH property and may result in criminal prosecution.

VII. **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

Please see:

- WCMCMH Critical Incident Report – WCMCMH Form EC001
- WCMCMH Emergency Operations Plan and WCMCMH Emergency Response Guides

VIII. **POLICY/PROCEDURE REVIEW:**

REV#	APPROVED BY	Policy/Procedure	DATE
			04/2018
			11/2018
			11/2019
			12/2020
2	Corporate Compliance	Procedure	03/2022
3	Safety Comm	Procedure	04/2023
Board Approval Date: 01/18/2005			

IX. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER ENDORSEMENT:**

I have reviewed and approved of policy # 2-12-13 Revision # 3.

CEO: Lisa A. Williams Approval Signature: _____