## COMMUNITY COUNSELING CENTER AWARDED SAMHSA CCBHC-PDI GRANT

**Ashtabula, OH, March 30, 2023** – Community Counseling Center (CCC) is now on a path to become a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) after being awarded a four year planning and development grant on September 23, 2022 by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

CCBHC is a model of care that is focused on improved service quality and accessibility, with a purpose of transforming community behavioral health systems and providing comprehensive, coordinated behavioral health care for individuals and their families. CCC made the choice to pursue CCBHC certification in an effort to improve health outcomes for all populations served by our organization with an emphasis on increasing engagement of underserved populations.

According to the National Council for Mental Wellbeing, CCBHCs dramatically increase access to services, expand capacity to address the overdose crisis, reduce mental health-related hospitalizations, help address the workforce shortage, and create innovative partnerships to improve care coordination with primary health care and other critical social systems.

"The CCBHC model will not only enhance our comprehensive array of existing services, but will also enhance our community partnerships, especially those that focus on improving the overall wellness of people with serious and persistent mental illness and substance use disorders," Paul Bolino, President & CEO of Community Counseling Center, stated.

Established in 1964, Community Counseling Center is a non-profit behavioral health provider with an expressed mission of engaging the community in recovery. The organization provides mental health, substance use disorder treatment, and prevention services across the lifespan. Adopting the CCBHC model and standards aligns with our mission and demonstrates our commitment to improving the quality of life for the residents of Ashtabula County.