

## NEWS RELEASE

### **Oakland County Michigan Works! to Close Waterford Office as Replacement Should Open in North Oakland by September**

**WATERFORD, Mich. – April 16, 2019** – Oakland County Michigan Works! today announced the agency’s office located on Steffens Road in Waterford will close July 1.

All customer services will end June 15. Current customers are being transitioned to other Michigan Works! offices in Oakland County. The Waterford School District operates this office and has decided to focus its resources on pre-kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade programming.

A new office in northern Oakland County, managed by JVS Human Services, is planned and will open between July and September. The location has not yet been determined.

“There’s strong demand for the services provided by Oakland County Michigan Works! in this area and surrounding communities,” said County Executive L. Brooks Patterson. “Our Waterford team has done an excellent job for many years at that location. The seamless transition of our customers to other Oakland County offices has already begun and should be completed by June 30.”

Jennifer Llewellyn, manager, Oakland County Michigan Works!, said the Waterford office employs 13 people through the school district. The plan is to retain as many of the experienced staff as possible in the Michigan Works! system. Llewellyn said the new center will increase the use of modern technology to automate key systems and improve the center’s efficiency.

“Our goal is to provide even better services and support to all of our customers,” she said. “We appreciate everyone’s patience and expect the move to the new location in northern Oakland County to be completed by Sept. 30, with our full list of services available at that time.”

Oakland County Michigan Works! helps more than 45,000 job seekers prepare for careers and conduct job searches each year. The agency provides services to businesses including talent recruitment, talent retention and training support, and labor market information.

“JVS Human Services is very excited to partner with Oakland County Michigan Works! to bring our innovative person-centered approach to workforce development for the job seekers of Oakland County,” said Paul Blatt, JVS Human Services executive vice president and COO. “Being selected for this One Stop Service Center allows JVS to build on our 77-year history of supporting metro Detroiters and their families to maximize their potential through counseling, training and support services.”