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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Healthfirst Network to Offer Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Services

Wausau, WI – Healthfirst, a nonprofit network of ten reproductive health clinics serving Wisconsin, is introducing an expansion of services. Beginning in June of 2023, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner, or SANE, services will be offered at Healthfirst’s Marshfield location.

Healthfirst identified SANE services as a need within the area because other providers had stopped offering them. Access to services is an identified core value in the Healthfirst Network mission. Access to care can be defined in many ways: proximity to care, the timing of care, and acceptability of care. Healthfirst’s mission is also committed to innovation. The organization believes in identifying and filling gaps within service areas, and in relation to its mission.

Healthfirst CEO, Jessica Scharfenberg, wrote the following in the formal announcement of the service expansion, “I firmly believe in identifying and filling gaps within our mission. That is why I am overjoyed to announce Healthfirst Network’s addition of sexual assault nurse examiner (SANE) services at our Marshfield location beginning in June. We are introducing a community-based approach to the services, that have historically been coupled within larger systems. As others are pulling out of the fire, we are ready to jump in to ensure access (proximity, timing, and accessibility) to these much needed services within the region.”

Carmen Vazquez, APNP, MSN-FNP, SANE-A, AFN-C, will be serving as Healthfirst’s SANE coordinator. Carmen joined Healthfirst in December and has vast knowledge and experience that will bring fresh eyes to the need! Healthfirst is a network of reproductive health clinics serving ten locations in the State of Wisconsin. Healthfirst offers a variety of reproductive and preventative health services, and facilitates the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program in four Wisconsin Counties. As an organization, Healthfirst is dedicated to giving judgement free, medically accurate, and non-directional medical services. Learn more at healthfirstnetwork.org.