

HILLMAN HEARTBEAT WELLNESS CLINIC

Operated by District Health Department No. 4
In collaboration with Hillman Community Schools
Jessica DeJohn, LMSW and Julie Cook, RN, BSN

Prevent. Promote. Protect



Wednesday, May 28, 2025

Dear Parents, Caregivers, and Students,

You may have seen or heard about the new School Wellness Program in both school buildings; Room 103 in the Elementary and Room 203 in the Jr/Sr High School. Students mindfully named the program the Hillman Heartbeat Wellness Clinic as it began to develop. But what is a School Wellness Program? Who works there? What do they do? Per the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, a School Wellness Program is a clinical program in a school where care is provided by a nurse and a mental health provider; yet, differentiated from a School Nurse and a School Social Worker. The enclosed brochure provides more information and we will be present at back-to-school events to answer more questions anyone may have.

In order to provide any level of services to students, we need to have a completed consent form and have included a current copy now for you to review and return, should you desire to do so. The consents will be required to be completed on an annual basis. Crisis situations and emergencies will always be tended to, as per school policy, and regardless of consent, though we will still make attempts to obtain consent during or immediately following any crisis or emergency situation.

Who are we? Our bios have been posted to the school website along with monthly newsletters we began sharing in March, and we wanted to highlight a few things, in case you missed our introductions. Jessica "Jess" DeJohn, LMSW, received her undergraduate degree from Grand Valley State University and her graduate degree from Western Michigan University. She is a fully licensed, Master's 's-level social worker with 17 years of experience working with children and families through foster care, generational poverty, social justice, special needs, and various levels of disabilities. Jessica's most recent experience was as a home-based therapist at Community Mental Health. Julie Cook, RN, BSN, completed her Bachelor's degree in applied science nursing at Chamberlain University. She has 25 years of experience working in pediatric nursing and research, including emergency medicine, pediatric intensive care, and homeostasis and thrombosis clinic. Julie's most recent experience was as an elementary school nurse serving 500 children.

We are both passionate about building connections within the community for the health and support of our growing Tigers. We invite you to engage with us, ask questions, and educate us on the unique needs of each of your students entering Hillman Community Schools for the 2025-2026 school years. Together, we can nurture the next generations to greatness through holistic health services in school and beyond. Come grow with us!

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