



MONROE  
COMMUNITY  
MENTAL  
HEALTH  
AUTHORITY

## When Someone You Know Refuses Mental Health Care

Embarking on the path to support a loved one who resists seeking help for their mental health can be a challenging journey. At the heart of our mission at Monroe Community Mental Health Authority (MCMHA) is a commitment to providing guidance for families and friends navigating the sensitive terrain of helping someone who doesn't want help—or isn't capable of asking for it. Here, you'll learn the law and legal proceedings to advocate for your loved one, as well as the resources available to you through MCMHA.

### Introducing Kevin's Law

Signed into law in 2004 and updated and expanded in 2017, Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT), also known as Kevin's Law, allows a judge to order outpatient mental health treatment for people with severe untreated mental illnesses and a history of violence, recent hospitalization, or incarceration who are resistant to or who do not understand their need for treatment. Kevin's Law aims to enhance the overall well-being of those struggling with severe mental health issues and serves to treat mental health problems before they become a crisis.

## How Kevin's Law Works

- 1 If you are aged 18 or older, and you think a friend or family member may not be taking care of their mental health and may not be in a position to do so, you may file a petition with the Monroe County Probate Court. Only the individual who witnessed the concerning behavior can complete and sign this petition, and you will be asked to provide specific details and facts in this petition.

Monroe County Probate Court  
Monroe County Courthouse  
106 E. First Street, Monroe, MI 48161  
(734) 240-7346  
[www.co.monroe.mi.us/696/Probate-Court](http://www.co.monroe.mi.us/696/Probate-Court)

- 2 After the petition is filed, a hearing date will be set within 28 days. At this hearing, a judge will make a decision and may issue an order requiring AOT for your loved one.

- 3 If the judge orders AOT, then your loved one will be screened and linked with services.

It's possible that your loved one may not comply with the court order. If this happens, the judge can order the person to be hospitalized for up to 10 days and monitored for up to 180 days

## How MCMHA Can Help

MCMHA understands well the many reasons that individuals with mental illnesses sometimes refuse treatment. We have a successful history of engaging with individuals and working with local courts and community partners to create care plans that connect people who need help with the resources they need.

You are not alone. Call us today to get started on the road to healing.

**734.243.7340**

### Locations:

1001 S. Raisinville Rd., Monroe, MI 48161  
428 S. Monroe Street, Suite 104, Monroe, MI 48161

**Phone:** 734.243.7340

**Hours:** Monday - Friday: 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM