For Immediate Release

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## **Comprehensive Takes On County Mental Health Services**

Effective July 1, community mental health services for Walla Walla County will be managed by Comprehensive, a private non-profit corporation. Services were previously provided by Walla Walla Human Services of Walla Walla County.

Walla Walla's Community Health Assessment Taskforce recommended the change as part of a multiyear process of studying the county's mental health service needs. In an open letter to the community the CHAT taskforce concluded, "Comprehensive is making access to mental health services as simple and straightforward as possible. By providing services for residents of all ages, income levels, with all types of insurance (or no insurance at all) Comprehensive is breaking down barriers that have prevented residents and their families from finding the help they need."

Rick Weaver, Comprehensive CEO, says clients and patients will experience very little disruption to services. "Virtually all of the staff of Walla Walla Human Services will continue working for Comprehensive. In almost all cases, your appointments and relationships will remain the same. We are looking forward to being part of the community."

Community members are invited to attend one of the mental health services forums scheduled for June 26 and July 29, 5:00 – 6:00 pm, at the Public Health and Legislative Building, 314 W. Main Street, Second Floor, Walla Walla. Or contact Tina Hill at 509-524-2920 for more information.