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NEWS RELEASE
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Lighthouse Opens New Durant Crisis Center, Expanding 24/7 Behavioral Health Crisis Care

DURANT, OK — Lighthouse Behavioral Wellness Centers is expanding access to crisis intervention services with the opening of its new Durant Crisis Center. To celebrate this important milestone, Lighthouse invites the public to a community dedication at noon on Friday, August 7, in Durant.

The new crisis center represents a major investment in crisis care for southern Oklahoma. With support from the Choctaw Nation, the facility provides a dedicated space where individuals experiencing a mental health emergency can receive immediate care 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Designed with the unique needs of different age groups in mind, the center includes separate treatment areas for children and adults creating a safe, age-appropriate space for care and recovery. It will serve individuals and families across Lighthouse's nine-county service area while strengthening Durant's Crisis response system as the primary mental health crisis provider reducing the number of unnecessary stays in emergency rooms or local jails.

Durant Crisis Center's state-of-the-art design offers expanded services to clients, families and first responders. The new location features dedicated entrances for adult and child walk-ins, providing safe, confidential access for those entering care.

In the adult area, each client is provided a private therapeutic space, along with a dedicated team to support their needs and care. Through integrated technology, mobile crisis and follow-up care our team members support each client with multiple points of access during and after their stay.

The children's crisis center offers a family-centered environment with eight semi-private rooms. Through Lighthouse's partnership with Choctaw Nation, the children's crisis center expanded from three rooms to eight, significantly increasing the capacity to provide specialized crisis care for children and adolescents. The children's crisis center also includes a dedicated therapy room where clinicians can work with children and families, as well as a teaching kitchen that provides opportunities to build practical life skills such as meal planning.

"Every day, we see the difference timely intervention can make for individuals in the most difficult moments of their lives," said Jessica Pfau, Lighthouse CEO. "We're grateful for our partnership with Choctaw Nation, whose support helped bring this vision to life. Together, we're expanding access to high-quality crisis services because every person deserves hope, compassion and a place to turn during life's toughest moment moments."

"Taking care of people has always been at the heart of who we are. This new crisis center reflects what can happen when organizations come together with a common goal." Said Chief Gary Batton of the Choctaw Nation. "We're proud of our partnership with Lighthouse and enjoy the opportunity to open more doors to behavioral health care for children, families and individuals in Bryan County."

Lighthouse invites community members and partners to join in celebrating this momentous occasion for the future of behavioral health care. The community dedication will include guided tours of the new crisis center and remarks from Lighthouse leadership and community partners.

Community Dedication Details:

Time: Noon – 1p.m.

Date: Friday, August 7, 2026

Location: 615 Westside Drive, Durant, OK

For more information about Lighthouse Behavioral Wellness Centers and its services, visit lighthouseok.com. For questions about the community dedication event, please contact Jordan Sampson at jsampson@lighthouseok.com.

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About Lighthouse

Lighthouse Behavioral Wellness Centers is a non-profit organization. We are proud to be a Certified Community Behavioral Health Center (CCBHC) and the designated Community Mental Health Center for nine counties in Southern Oklahoma. As a CCBHC, Lighthouse ensures access to comprehensive behavioral health services, which include outpatient counseling, care coordination, addiction treatment and 24/7 crisis services. Lighthouse serves anyone who requests care for mental health and substance use, regardless of their ability to pay, place of residence or age.

