

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Anna Taylor,** 

859.317.3252; info@factms.org

## The Foundation for the Advancement of Clinical TMS (FACTMS)-sponsored Neil S. Hirsch TMS Center Treats First Patients

NASHVILLE, Tenn., July 17, 2024 – The first Foundation for the Advancement of Clinical TMS (<u>FACTMS</u>)-sponsored Neil S. Hirsch TMS Center at Kitsap Mental Health Services in Bremerton, Washington has begun treating their first patients.

The Neil S. Hirsch TMS Center was made possible through a generous donation from the Neil S. Hirsch Foundation to FACTMS to provide greater access to Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS), a cutting- cutting-edge treatment for depression and other neuropsychiatric disorders. The TMS Center offers TMS therapy to individuals in need, regardless of their ability to pay.

The response to bringing TMS therapy to Kitsap has been astounding, with 28 patients being referred for treatment to date, and five in active treatment.

"As President of FACTMS, I am thrilled with the enthusiastic response to the opening of the FACTMS-sponsored Neil S. Hirsch TMS Clinic at Kitsap Mental Health Services," said Dr. Randy Pardell. "We are excited to see these first patients already benefiting from this innovative treatment. This milestone represents a significant step forward in our mission to expand access to transcranial magnetic stimulation therapy, an emerging, non-drug treatment for depression and other neuropsychiatric illnesses. We envision this TMS center as a prototype for future facilities, setting a gold standard for care and accessibility. Our gratitude goes out to the Neil S. Hirsch Foundation and Kitsap Mental Health Services for their unwavering support in making this vision a reality."

"Kitsap Mental Health Services' clients are primarily on Medicaid, uninsured or underinsured, and they would not have access to this life-changing treatment for depression without the generosity of FACTMS and the Neil S. Hirsch Foundation," said Monica Bernhard, CEO of Kitsap Mental Health Services. "TMS allows us to break down healthcare inequities in our community and offer hope to hundreds of people living with treatment-resistant depression – hope that their lives will be transformed from a place of darkness and despair to one of opportunity and possibility. Words cannot adequately express our gratitude."

## **About the Foundation for the Advancement of Clinical TMS**

The Foundation for Advancement of Clinical TMS (<u>FACTMS</u>) was established in 2022 by the Clinical TMS Society Board of Directors. FACTMS' mission is to support education and research relevant to Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS), raise public awareness of TMS therapy and its benefits, and increase treatment access, especially in underserved areas worldwide.

## **About Kitsap Mental Health Services**

Kitsap Mental Health Services is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization providing a full range of inpatient, outpatient and residential behavioral health services for children, adults and families.

###