



— WILL COUNTY —
**Community
Mental Health
Board**

2025 Will County Community Mental Health Board - Grant Recipients -

100 Club of Illinois

Awarded \$20,000

Provide access to mental health resources for all active duty first responders. Further, the provision of mental health and wellness support programs for the surviving family members of first responders.

AGAPE

Awarded \$190,237

Reduce adverse mental health occurrence for socially vulnerable Will County residents. Increase the availability of behavioral health providers in Will County in order to reduce the wait times for short term and long term clinical and non-clinical behavioral health services. Services that reduce or eliminate the barriers to behavioral health services.

Blueprint Agency

Awarded \$199,096

Improve services for vulnerable and justice-involved women that have experienced intellectual and developmental disability, depression, domestic abuse, sexual abuse, self-image issues, substance use and mental health issues including case management, counseling, wellness programs and referral resources.

Bridges to A New Day

Awarded \$5,000

Funding to offset the cost of a reduced fee counseling program. This program is designed to help bridge the gap for folks who do not have resources to obtain counseling.

CASA**Awarded \$197,758**

CASA of River Valley seeks funding for its advocacy services for abused and neglected children for whom the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services has made a finding of maltreatment. These children enter into the court system and the court appoints CASA of River Valley as their Guardian ad Litem to advocate for the best interests of each child. When petitioning the court for counseling and mental health services for abused and neglected children the court mandates that an attorney advocate for the child. This funding will help to pay for that attorney in order to ensure that the child receives the clinical support they require directed by the court.

Center for Correctional Concerns**Awarded \$70,000**

The program sets a goal for detainees to reintegrate into society using the skills they have acquired in the CCC programs and link with the other Will County agencies according to their needs as they re-enter society.

Center for Correctional Concerns**Awarded \$55,000**

Jail detainees are an underserved population who have an effect on the entire community. Creating opportunities for them to be successful outside the jail environment enriches and creates safety for the community. Programs like our children's book recording program and our greeting and Christmas card programs are opportunities that allow detainees to remain connected with family and friends another predictor of success.

Cornerstone**Awarded \$128,000**

Employment services made available to Will County residents with developmental disabilities and / or a co-occurring mental health diagnosis.

Cornerstone**Awarded \$72,000**

A Clinical Support and Retention stipend program for licensed clinical employees, Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors (LCPC) and Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW), who provide clinical supervision to Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC) and Licensed Social Workers (LSW) working towards their clinical licensure.

Easterseals DuPage & Fox Valley**Awarded \$50,000**

Pediatric Outpatient Medical Rehabilitation Programs and Services that identify a child's delay and/or disability, help the child reach developmental milestones, and strengthen his/her abilities through individualized rehabilitation.

Easterseals Joliet Region**Awarded \$79,887**

A 12 week intensive therapeutic program delivered by licensed professionals to youth 3-12 years with a developmental disabilities. Weekly therapy sessions will be provided on an individual, co-treatment, and/or group basis dependent upon the needs presented. Easterseals Regional Pediatric Center is designed to serve this population of children 3-12 years on an outpatient basis with hours Monday through Friday 7:30am-5:30pm. The 12 week program span will incorporate Summer and offer the continuation of therapy interventions when school is not in session. Additionally, children and families will be provided suggestions for home carry-overs.

Heart Haven Outreach**Awarded \$27,432**

Transform the lives of (at risk) struggling teens through caring relationships and programs that support healthy development on an emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual level.

Heartlife Ministries**Awarded \$200,000**

Sustainable recovery ecosystems by integrating peer support, prevention strategies, suicide prevention programming, and holistic recovery services. Access to Peer Recovery Support Services, Strengthening Suicide Prevention Initiatives, Family-Centered Programming, Providing Early Intervention and Prevention Programs, Strengthening Community Partnerships.

Heroin Epidemic Relief Org (HERO)**Awarded \$148,770**

Programs to address the opioid epidemic through prevention, education, harm reduction, and support services. HERO provides and actively supports programs and initiatives whose primary intent is to reduce the harm caused by the use of heroin, opioids, and other dangerous drugs. To these ends, HERO is committed to finding and supporting the most effective prevention, treatment, and interdiction strategies.

HHH Ranch**Awarded \$30,000**

Serving participants from toddlers to adults with disabilities or mental health challenges across Will County including those ensuring that everyone feels included at HHH Ranch. The program emphasizes patience, understanding, and the power of animals to facilitate emotional expression, communication, and healing. The focus is on allowing participants to grow at their own pace, building confidence and social skills while addressing challenges related to trauma, social isolation, and emotional regulation.

Holsten Human Capital Development**Awarded \$145,000**

The program will serve adults aged 18 and older who face mental health challenges, substance use recovery, and limited work experience. Through a holistic approach combining supportive services, and ongoing case management, participants will receive individualized support throughout their employment journey.

Joliet Fire Department**Awarded \$200,000**

A program to provide no cost mental health care to the residents of the City of Joliet (COJ). Since the inception of the project, the age range of people who have received services is 3-84 years old. Services provided are mental health services. The services include everything from family counseling to psychology.

KidsMatter Foundation, Inc.**Awarded \$150,000**

KidsMatter, in partnership with Joliet Junior College, Plainfield and Lockport schools, and area behavioral health providers proposes the Springboard Summer Series: Youth Healthcare Workforce Development and Education, as a means of helping 11th and 12th grade students explore potential careers in behavioral health fields (e.g., psychology, social work, counseling, etc.).

Legacy Equine-Assisted Services, NFP**Awarded \$50,000**

Adult Life Skills is a life skills enrichment program for persons 18 years of age and up who have emotional, Intellectual, physical and/or developmental challenges. The program focuses on communication skills, social interaction skills, increasing independence, and promoting self-confidence and self-esteem.

Little Friends, Inc.**Awarded \$185,135**

Comprehensive educational, therapeutic, and respite services for children ages 3-22 living with I/DD. Family Respite Services serving as a continuation of a I/DD-friendly educational approach, combining an educational curriculum with recreational and social activities for low-income families who could not otherwise afford specialized care for their children while they work, run errands, or take well-deserved time to meet their own mental health needs.

LWSRA**Awarded \$109,666**

A Sensory Bus providing mobile sensory support to individuals with disabilities in Will County. This innovative program will convert an LWSRA bus into fully-equipped mobile sensory room designed to create a safe and stimulating environment for individuals with sensory processing and behavioral needs.

Mental Health Matters Fund, Inc**Awarded \$150,000**

Services committed to “off setting” costs of high deductibles and copays to help prevent potential mental health crises. The majority served are young children, adolescents and parents that need support and services “now” and not putting it off because they cannot afford treatment.

Moose and Me Baking Company**Awarded \$65,000**

A workforce development initiative designed to provide meaningful employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. The program will operate through Moose & Me Bakery, a non-profit bakery known for its commitment to inclusivity and high-quality baked goods.

Morning Star Mission**Awarded \$200,000**

A program designed to help men (ages 21 and over) gain the practical tools and skills they need to create lasting, positive changes in their lives. Participants will work to overcome challenges such as addiction, homelessness, and emotional struggles by developing a strong foundation and a tailored recovery plan. Each individual is assessed by a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CADC), who will create a tailored recovery plan based on their unique needs. The goal is to help each participant gain the tools they need for sustainable, long-term recovery.

NAMI Will Grundy**Awarded \$173,320**

Direct peer-led mental health support will be focused on three primary cohorts of residents: members of the Spanish-speaking community, youth and young adults (YYA), and families navigating behavioral health & social services systems.

New Day Employment Network**Awarded \$154,702**

Case management sessions, delivered by experienced social workers with vast experience in local community outreach. Case management sessions to create personalized plans for the individual and their family based on the specific needs of each person. Of particular focus in the case management program is parenting assistance, recovery support for traumatic life experiences and substance use, and housing.

Racing for Mental Health**Awarded \$200,000**

CARE+ program is an evidence-based Targeted Case Management (TCM) model designed to provide comprehensive, whole-person treatment for individuals with behavioral health conditions. CARE+ integrates psychosocial rehabilitation, intensive case management, individual and group therapy, and medical/medication management to empower individuals in their recovery journey.

Ray Graham**Awarded \$50,000**

A bilingual (English/Spanish) Mental Health Professional in coordination with our employment services, to provide 12 job exploration classes and five IEP attendance to young people with I/DD in Will County high school transition programs. We will also provide two outreach sessions to provide information and education to families and people with I/DD in Will County about the employment services we will offer.

Ready, Set, Ride Therapeutic Rec**Awarded \$200,000**

Animal Assisted Learning to provide one-on-one or group sessions led by qualified therapists and incorporates the calming and therapeutic presence of animals such as horses, miniature horses and donkeys, and goats. This program offers a safe and supportive environment where participants can thrive emotionally and socially. Through these evidence-based services, RSR aims to transform lives and strengthen community connections.

Riverwalk**Awarded \$10,000**

The Riverwalk Recreational program provides support for older adults emphasizing social interaction, physical health, community outings, and service projects with intergenerational connections.

Samaritan Interfaith Counseling dba SamaraCare**Awarded \$45,000**

A program to subsidize reduced cost counseling and psychiatric services to clients in Will County who have insurance and/or financial limitations as well as to cover the payment gap by accepting clients using low-reimbursement insurance providers.

Steger School District**Awarded \$180,333**

Through Cartwheel Care, students from Will County can receive on-site or virtual therapy session during the day as well as crisis intervention and support for students experiencing urgent mental health challenges. Cartwheel also provides counseling and guidance for families to support their child's mental well-being along with resources and tools to address common mental health challenges at home. Leader in Me provides foundational support in the three pillar areas by fostering emotional resilience, social skills, and positive habits. It emphasizes whole-child development, creating an environment that can complement mental health interventions and support students with diverse needs. This program will support the mental illness pillar by promoting social emotional learning, fostering positive relationships, and reducing stigmas by emphasizing inclusivity and acceptance.

Stepping Stones, Inc.**Awarded \$199,987**

Improving Access to services for high-risk patients who require additional and specialty support services who are age 18 and older with a substance use disorder including those with a co-occurring mental health disorder who are medically and psychiatrically stable. Stepping Stones' Intensive Residential Treatment Program serves the highest risk, most medically complex individuals in the height of active addiction.

The Arc of Illinois**Awarded \$10,000**

Request to purchase assistive features on devices like iPads that can really improve learning for students with IDD. For nonverbal children, using an iPad allows them to share all their communication needs without frustration. These devices can also help school-age children with understanding social cues, emotions, and can make transitions easier.

The Hive Day Program**Awarded \$171,007**

The delivery of individualized social, vocational and life skills training, facilitating community engagement, and ensuring high-quality support tailored to the diverse needs of its members. Additionally, we plan to invest in assistive technology, adaptive devices, and a bus to reduce transportation barriers and enable greater access to community-based activities and employment opportunities.

The Recovery Community Center of Joliet**Awarded \$79,084**

The Day 29 Program, based at the Recovery Community Center of Joliet (RCCJ), is designed to bridge the critical gap between treatment discharge and sustained recovery support.

The Recovery Community Center of Joliet**Awarded \$69,300**

A 15-passenger van to provide reliable transportation for participants. This service will ensure that individuals that are members of the RCCJ, engaged in the Day 29 Program, Youth Services, and the Community Service Program have consistent and barrier-free access to essential resources and opportunities.

The Second Story Foundation**Awarded \$88,060**

Transportation assistance to help individuals participate in the Second Story Foundation's 2nd Story Ranch Recovery Oriented Community Service Program. The program will serve men age 21 and older who are in recovery from substance use disorder providing reliable transportation to and from the 2nd Story Ranch Recovery Oriented Community Service Program site.

Trinity Services**Awarded \$200,000**

Engaging teens in their mental health journey, empowering them to advocate for themselves and their families. The program targets youth and young adults, offering a continuum of services that includes mental wellness screenings, one-to-one support, educational groups, and crisis intervention.

Veterans Assistance Commission**Awarded \$100,000**

The provision of comprehensive mental health care tailored to the unique challenges veterans face. The programs plan is to integrate evidence-based therapies, suicide prevention, peer support, and holistic wellness strategies to support veterans in their transition to civilian life and ongoing mental health management.

Will Grundy Medical Clinic**Awarded \$199,800**

Counseling, psychiatric health clinic services, psychiatric medication management, violence and risk assessment and street outreach ensuring that individuals receive the comprehensive support needed to achieve mental wellness and overall well-being.

Wilmington Coalition for a Healthy Community (WCHC) **Awarded \$156,707**

CAT Crew is a prevention leadership group at Wilmington High School that empowers members to make a positive impact on their peers and community. Any student can get involved by contacting a counselor or a current CAT Crew member. Tobacco Free Teens is a group of Wilmington Middle School students who learn about the risks of tobacco products and develop activities to prevent tobacco and e-cig use among their peers.