

News Release

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Jason Holcomb, Director of Community Impact **Email**: <u>jholcomb@r1planning.org</u> | **Phone**: 815-227-1022



Public Participation Survey for Mental Health Services

ROCKFORD, IL — The Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board (WCCMHB) is seeking responses for the Public Participation Survey. This survey will collect valuable community input about mental health and substance use service gaps and needs in Winnebago County, Illinois. This input will be used to inform the WCCMHB's three-year Strategic Plan, which will ultimately inform the Board's funding priorities.

"This is an important opportunity for residents to share their insights and experiences, which will inform the Board's priorities," stated Board President Mary Ann Abate. "The feedback helps identify service gaps and community needs."

The survey will remain open until midnight on January 6, 2026 and can be accessed in the following ways:

- 1. Direct link: https://bit.ly/pps-mental-health
- 2. QR code (below)

The survey will take about 3-5 minutes to complete and can be translated into 13 languages: English, Spanish, Arabic, Filipino, Croatian, Lao, Polish, Serbian, Swahili, Urdu, Vietnamese, Chinese (Simplified), and Chinese (Traditional). All responses are anonymous and confidential.



ABOUT WCCMHB – The Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board (WCCMHB) is a board of appointed community leaders and public officials dedicated to investing and supporting mental health and substance use services for adults and children in Winnebago County. WCCMHB receives funding through a half-

cent sales tax which was approved by Winnebago County residents in March 2020. This sales tax generates approximately \$18 million annually for mental health and substance use services across the county. WCCMHB positively impacts the Winnebago County community by increasing access to local services by providing support and funding to organizations, non-profits, and government agencies that offer mental health and substance use services. This allows Winnebago County residents to live and recover in the community.

ABOUT RPC – Region 1 Planning Council is a special-purpose, regional government agency providing cross-jurisdictional, government-to-government collaborative planning for Northern Illinois. The regional planning model provides an efficient means to promoting a well-informed, comprehensive dialogue that holistically addresses regional issues by fulfilling the needs of government entities for long-range planning, securing funding, and analyzing and providing data in support of regional projects and initiatives. The Region 1 Planning Council provides staff support to the Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board.

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