



WCCMHB

Winnebago County
Community Mental
Health Board

**ANNUAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR
2025**

October 2024 - September 2025



WCCMHB

Winnebago County
Community Mental
Health Board

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Community Mental
Health Board

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WCCMHB Links Page:
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Final Report 3.11.2026

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Letter from Board President

Dear Winnebago County Residents,

Being the President of the Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board (WCCMHB) has been a privilege and honor. The half-cent sales tax, which was originally approved by residents in the 2020 was reapproved in the 2024 general election, which extends the tax until 2031. These funds are allotted to programs to manage and treat mental health as well as substance use conditions. In our fourth program year, WCCMHB transitioned from a one-year to a three-year funding cycle. For Program Years 4-6, \$60 million has been awarded to all 38 funded Core programs, which now have three-year contracts.

At the end of the fourth year of funding (Program Year 4), the number of individuals served by our funded programs remains significant. Mental health and/or substance use services were provided to more than 4,000 Winnebago County residents each quarter. PY4 began with 136.5 out of 156.5 (87%) full-time equivalent positions being filled from previous program years. During PY4, several additional positions were hired with WCCMHB funding, including program supervisors, specialists, nurses, therapists, and advocates, increasing the percentage of filled positions to nearly 93% by the end of PY4.

The Accelerator Awards program, a one-time funding opportunity utilizing surplus funding from past Core Program years, was established by WCCMHB in 2023. The program supports time-sensitive, innovative projects that increase mental health and substance use services system capacity. The focus areas include Human, Social, and Physical Capital improvement projects to address systemic and emerging community needs. In Fiscal Year 2024, \$7 million was awarded to ten local organizations leading projects in human, social, and physical capital. In Fiscal Year 2025 with the remaining funds were awarded across eight proposals to fund various capital improvement projects.

The WCCMHB operates under the Illinois Community Mental Health Act 405 ILCS 20/0.1, et seq. Due to this, we are responsible to collate an annual report outlining our major activities, accomplishments, revenue, and expenses for our fiscal year. With this Annual Report, we are committed to being open and transparent to the Winnebago County community.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Abate

Winnebago County
Community Mental
Health Board President



LETTER FROM BOARD PRESIDENT



ABOUT
WCCMHB

BOARD
MEMBERS

About WCCMHB

The Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board (WCCMHB) was established by the Winnebago County Resolution 19-128. The Board consists of eleven members, nine of whom are appointed by the Chairman of the Winnebago County Board and two of whom are appointed by the Mayor of the City of Rockford, with the advice and consent of their respective governing bodies and the advice of the Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board.

WCCMHB exists to improve community mental health and substance use services in Winnebago County through planning, grantmaking, community engagement, coordination, and evaluation. Through an intergovernmental agreement, Region 1 Planning Council provides administrative and technical support for our work.

WCCMHB meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 2 PM CST, unless otherwise specified on the website. Information about the Board Meetings can be found on the meetings page of our website.

WCCMHB Board Members

Officers*

President: Mary Ann Abate

Vice President: Richard Kunnert

Secretary: Dr. Bill Gorski

Treasurer: Dr. Terry Giardini

Andrell Bragg-Shaw

Dr. Reverend K. Edward Copeland

Margie Lindmark (Resigned April 2025)

Timothy Nabors

Jeff Nielsen

Dr. Amanda Penney

Mohammad Yunus

* Current officer terms run July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026. Officer elections are scheduled for the June board meeting.



Region 1 Planning Council provides staff support for WCCMHB operations through an Intergovernmental Agreement; the Director of Community Impact serves as Director for WCCMHB.



WCCMHB
VISION

WCCMHB
MISSION

Vision

Our hope for the community

We see a community where residents are knowledgeable about mental health and have access to high-quality mental health and substance abuse services when and where they need them.

Mission

What we are doing about it

We are an appointed group of community leaders who are passionate about improving mental health and substance abuse services in Winnebago County and coordinate them through planning, funding, evaluation, and communication.



WCCMHB
VALUES

Values

Why we do what we do

Wellness - We support the Community Support System framework because it focuses on providing an array of services that bring people from illness to health.

Awareness - We believe mental illness and substance abuse disorders can occur at any age and can affect individuals across all domains including race, ethnicity, income, geography, religion, gender identity, language, sexual orientation, and disability, so we strive to educate all members of our community about mental health and substance use to increase mental health literacy and prevent mental illness and substance abuse disorders.

Collaboration - We believe that relationships are foundational to coordination, so we practice teamwork and breaking down silos.

Transparency - We believe the best way to gain trust is to be truthful, so we practice open and consistent communication about our work.

Diversity - We believe complex problems require perspectives from all areas of the community, so we practice listening and cultural humility.

Client-Centered - We believe that people with mental illness and substance abuse disorders are important members of our community, so we promote services that support them with compassion and unconditional positive regard.

Intersectional - We believe that mental health is interconnected with other parts of community life and personal identity, so we promote solutions that address a combination of factors.

Trauma-Informed - We believe that no one who has experienced trauma should ever be re-traumatized during the process of seeking out or receiving mental health or substance abuse services, so we promote trauma-informed care in all areas of service delivery.

Accessibility - We believe mental health and substance abuse services should be accessible for all people irrespective of race, ethnicity, income, geography, religion, gender identity, language, sexual orientation, and disability, so we promote ADA compliance, language access, and effective communication in all areas of service delivery.

Principles

How we operate

Evidence-Based - Our decisions are driven by the best available empirical evidence and data.

Process-Oriented - We use best-practice processes to guide planning, funding, evaluation, and communications.

Outcomes-Informed - We evaluate the results of our efforts by collecting and analyzing data in order to continuously improve and maximize impact.

Equity - We fund and measure results with equity in mind, analyzing needs and outcomes by race, ethnicity, income, geography, religion, gender identity, language, sexual orientation, and disability or other demographic breakdowns.

Urgent - We operate with a sense of urgency knowing that gaps in care affect real people.

Emergent - We stay flexible in order to identify and address new issues in the service delivery system as they are developing.

Network-Driven - We work diligently to establish a broad and diverse coalition of community stakeholders dedicated to improving the mental wellbeing of our community.



WCCMHB
PRINCIPLES



COMMUNITY
SUPPORT
SYSTEM
FRAMEWORK

Community Support System Framework

One of the foundations of all the work we do is the Community Support System framework, which guides our strategic planning. The Community Support System (CSS) framework is rooted in the Community Support

Program research that dates back to 1977, linked with the community mental health and deinstitutionalization movement. The CSS framework provides a framework for municipalities to use in comprehensive, community-based mental health systems planning.

The components of CSS represent the array of services and opportunities that an adequate service system should include for the target population, all to be provided in the community.

As such, this model was adopted by WCCMHB and was used as a map to guide the planning process, from the environmental scan and public participation survey to the data synthesis, framing strategic issues, the establishment of priorities, and development of goals and intended outcomes. For each priority area, represented in the visual as a "spoke" in the wheel, there are corresponding service areas.

For example, the "Treatment" priority area includes the service areas of Diagnostic Evaluation, Supportive Counseling, Medication Management, and Substance Abuse Treatment.

The priority areas and their included service areas are shown with the corresponding color based on the framework.

CSS Priority Areas

Client Identification and Outreach

- Client Identification
- Outreach
- Transportation Assistance

Mental Health Treatment

- Diagnostic Evaluation
- Supportive Counseling
- Medication Management
- Substance Abuse Services

Crisis Response Services

- Crisis Telephone Services
- Walk-In Crisis Services
- Crisis Outreach Services
- Crisis Residential Services

Health and Dental Services

Housing

- Supportive Housing
- Residential Assistance for Homeless Mentally Ill Persons

Income Support

Peer Support

- Self-Help
- Consumer-Operated Services

Family and Community Support

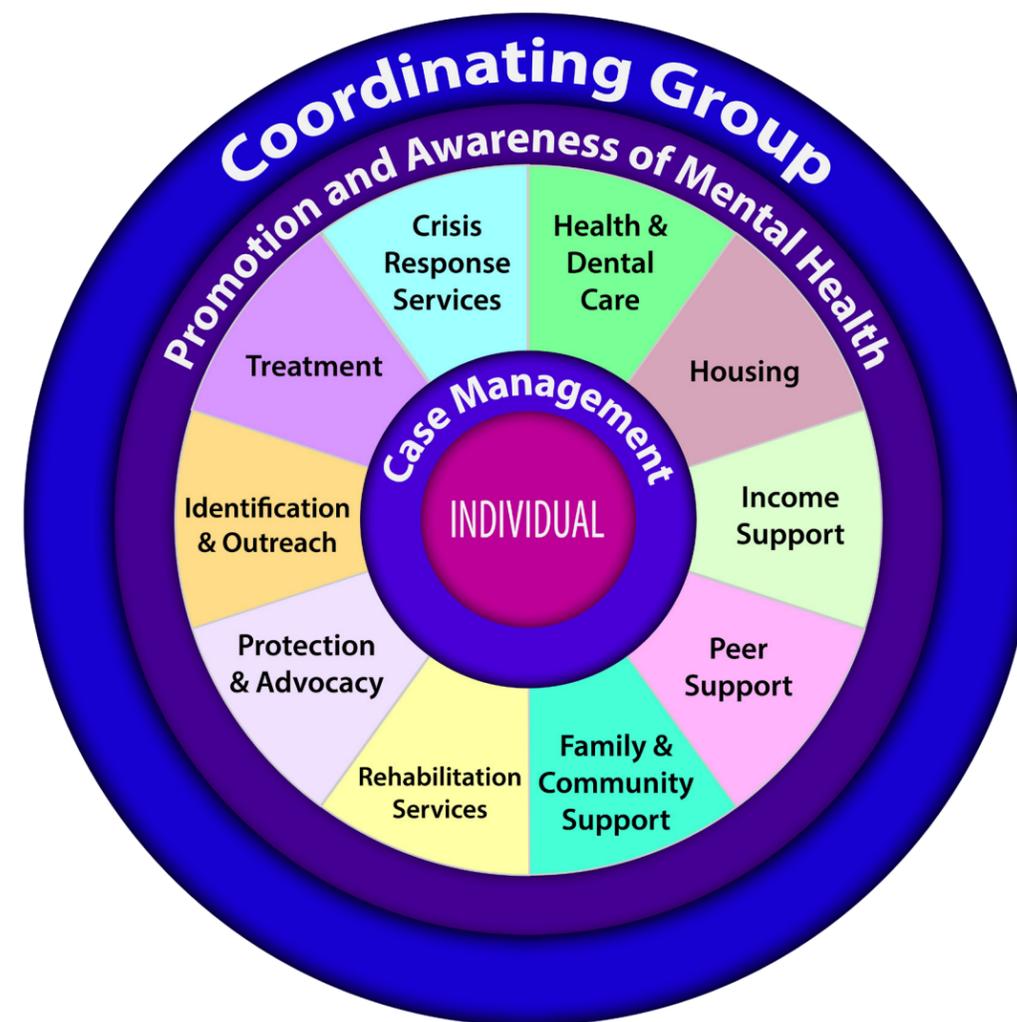
- Assistance to Families
- Education for the Community

Rehabilitation Services

- Social Rehabilitation
- Vocational Rehabilitation

Protection and Advocacy

Case Management



Community Support System Framework



COMMUNITY
SUPPORT
SYSTEM
FRAMEWORK



Fiscal Year 2025 Activities

WCCMHB's Fiscal Year 2025 began on October 1, 2024, and ended on September 30, 2025. Each year, the Board develops a work plan that guides their activities for the ensuing year, which accompanies an annual budget for operations approved by WCCMHB. The table below shows the status of each work plan element at the end of FY25. Fiscal year 2025 includes portions of two core grant program years and accelerator awards (See Pages 22 and 41). The program years can be referred to as follows:

- **Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (FY25):** October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025
- **Core Program Year 4 (PY4):** June 1, 2024 – May 30, 2025
- **Core Program Year 5 (PY5):** June 1, 2025 – May 30, 2026

Process Area	Activity	Target Start	Target End	Status
Coordination	Board Meeting	October 2024		Completed
Grant Making	PY4 Core Program Site Visits	10/01/24	11/30/24	Completed
Coordination	Board Meeting	November 2024		Completed
Coordination	PY4 Learning Network Collaborative #2	11/01/24	11/30/24	Completed
Communications	Funded Program Communications Work Group Meeting	11/01/24	11/30/24	Completed
Coordination	Board Meeting	December 2024		Completed
Evaluation	PY4 Q2 Outcome Reports Due	12/01/25	12/31/24	Completed
Coordination	Board Meeting	January 2025		Completed
Communications	Funded Program Communications Work Group Meeting	1/01/25	01/31/25	Completed
Communications	FY24 Annual Report Developed	01/01/25	03/26/25	Completed
Grant Making	PY5 Non-Competitive Grant Extension Application Available	01/01/25	01/31/25	Completed
Coordination	Board Meeting	February 2025		Completed
Grant Making	PY5 Non-Competitive Grant Extension Application Due	02/01/25	2/28/25	Completed
Coordination	PY4 Learning Network Collaborative #3	02/01/25	02/28/25	Completed
Evaluation	PY4 Mid-Year Report Published	02/01/25	02/28/25	Discontinued
Coordination	Board Meeting	March 2025		Completed
Communications	Funded Program Communications Work Group Meeting	03/01/25	03/31/25	Completed

Process Area	Activity	Target Start	Target End	Status
Communications	FY24 Annual Report Published	03/01/25	03/26/25	Completed
Grant Making	PY5 Non-Competitive Grant Extension Applications Reviewed	03/01/25	03/31/25	Completed
Evaluation	PY3 Q3 Outcomes Report Due	03/01/25	03/31/25	Completed
Coordination	Board Meeting	April 2025		Completed
Coordination	PY4 Learning Network Collaborative #4	04/01/25	04/03/25	Completed
Grant Making	PY25 Non-Competitive Grant Extension Application Decisions	04/01/25	04/30/25	Completed
Coordination	Board Meeting	May 2025		Completed
Communications	Annual Mental Health Community Event	05/01/25	05/31/25	Completed
Communications	Funded Program Communications Work Group Meeting	05/01/25	05/31/25	Completed
Grant Making	PY5 Renewal Program Extension Agreements Signed	05/01/25	06/31/25	Completed
Coordination	Board Meeting - Election of Officers	June 2025		Completed
Evaluation	PY4 Q4 Outcomes and Year-End Reports Due	06/01/25	06/30/25	Completed
Grant Making	PY5 Core Program Site Visits	06/01/25	09/30/25	Completed
Finance	FY26 Budget Developed	06/01/25	06/30/25	Completed
Coordination	FY26 Work Plan Developed	06/01/25	06/30/25	Completed
Coordination	Board Meeting	July 2025		Completed
Communications	Funded Program Communications Work Group Meeting	07/01/25	07/31/25	Discontinued
Finance	FY26 Budget & Narrative Submitted to County Finance	07/01/25	07/31/25	Completed
Coordination	Board Meeting	August 2025		Completed
Evaluation	PY4 Impact Report Developed	08/01/25	09/31/25	Discontinued
Coordination	PY5 Learning Network Collaborative #1	08/01/25	0/31/25	Completed
Coordination	Board Meeting	September 2025		Completed
Communications	Funded Program Communications Work Group Meeting	09/01/25	09/30/25	Discontinued
Evaluation	PY5 Q1 Outcomes Reports Due	09/01/25	09/30/25	Completed





Fiscal Year 2025 Financials

The collection of the Winnebago County half-cent sales tax for mental health began in July 2020. While collected tax revenues are not received in the same month they are collected, they are still reflected in the budget for the month they were collected. In Fiscal Year 2024, \$60 million in multi-year funding was awarded to Core Program Grants and \$7 million in Accelerator Awards, with an additional \$3 million in Accelerator Awards made in Fiscal Year 2025. More information about the Accelerators will start on page 41.

The budget below reflects only the portion of grant awards expended in Fiscal Year 2025; additional awarded funding will be allocated in future years. The tables below list the associated county object number in parentheses next to each budget line item.

Fiscal Year 2024 Revenue	Dollar Amount
Mental Health Sales Tax Accrual (32229)	\$22,204,269.25
Interest (39210)	\$1,416,545.81
State of IL Admin Fee (32228)	-\$333,064.03
Total Fiscal Year 2024 Revenue	\$23,287,751.03

Fiscal Year 2025 Expenses	Dollar Amount
Food & Beverage (42250)	\$35.44
Legal (431040)	\$47,835.25
Contractual Staff (43155)	\$626,883.33
Program Grants & Service Contracts (43190)	\$20,019,085.22
Dedicated Technology (43198)	\$2,853.07
Travel (43310)	\$6,993.01
Community Engagement (43420)	\$5,881.50
Liability Insurance (43510)	\$24,420.00
Membership Dues (43941)	\$16,173.00
Training and Education Costs (43944)	\$4,931.32
Total Fiscal Year 2025 Expenses	\$20,755,064.10

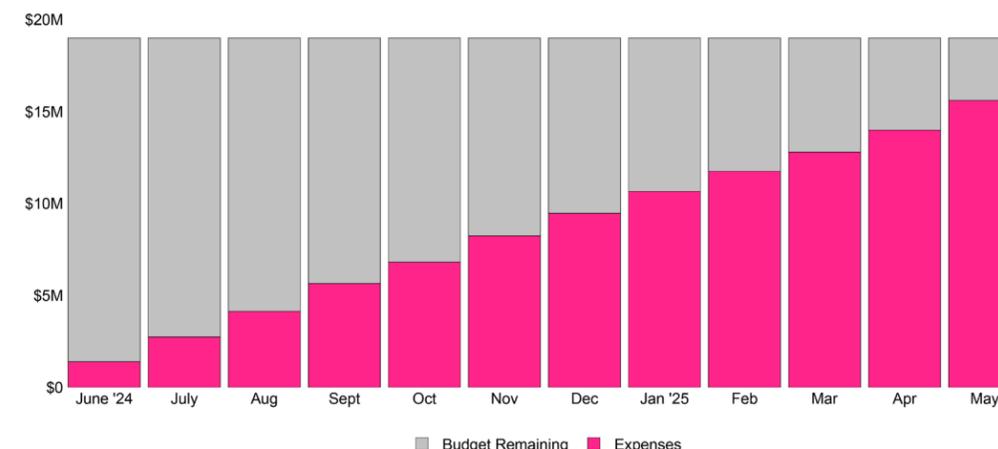
Fund Balance	Dollar Amount
FY 2024 Year End Balance	\$36,921,255.67
FY 2025 Revenue Less Expenses	\$2,532,689.89
FY 2025 Year End Balance	\$39,453,942.56

Program Year 4 (PY4, 2024-2025) Funded Programs Outcomes

Beginning with the fourth funding cycle, the WCCMHB now funds its programs over a three-year period. The total funding awarded for Program Years (PY) 4-6 was \$60 million, with an approximate budget of \$19 million allotted for PY4. The chart below displays the cumulative monthly spending in PY4 by all programs. WCCMHB issues expenditure reimbursement grants, which means funds are only allocated to reimburse expenses from the approved program budget. If a program is not able to expend all of their award, funds will be reallocated in a future award year.

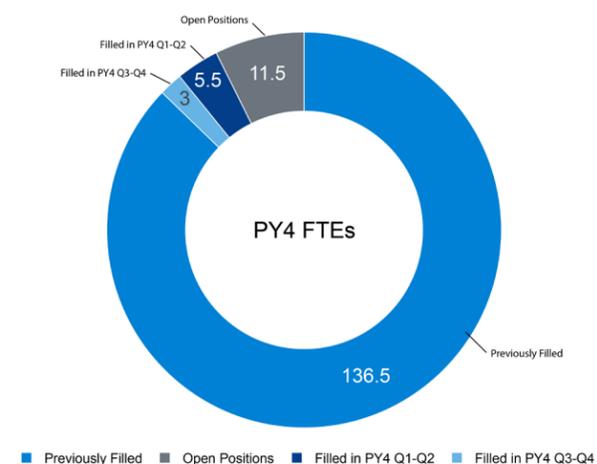
Funding Status by Month

The gray segments of the bar represent funds that were awarded but not spent, while the pink segments indicate funds that have been awarded and disbursed. By the end of PY4, \$15.6 million (82.1%) was expended collectively by the WCCMHB programs.



Positions Created and Filled

The funding cycles before PY4 were periods during which WCCMHB Funded Programs were hiring the majority of its staff. Thus, PY4 began with 136.5 out of 156.5 (87%) of full-time equivalent (FTE) positions filled. This began a period of stability where only 8.5 FTE positions were hired during PY4, leaving 11.5 FTE positions open by the end of the program year.





People Served By Target Population

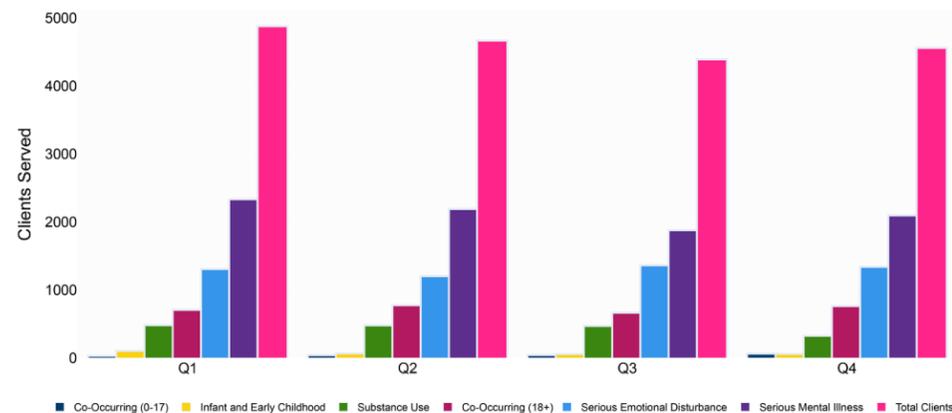
Below is a chart showing the number of Winnebago County residents served during PY4 by the WCCMHB Funded Programs, also broken down by target populations. The numbers served for each quarter indicate unique individuals only within that quarter, e.g., if someone was served in quarters one and two, they are counted separately in both quarters.

The following are the total number of people served by the WCCMHB Funded Programs by target population across all quarters in PY4, listed from least to greatest:

- Co-Occurring (0-17 years): 107
- Infant and Early Childhood (0-5 years): 219
- Substance Use Disorder (all ages): 1,687
- Co-Occurring (18+ years): 2,842
- Serious Emotional Disturbance (3-21 years): 5,145
- Serious Mental Illness (18+ years): 8,431
- Total: 18,431

From PY3 to PY4, the total number of clients served went down from 24,261 to 18,431, a difference of 5,830 (24%). Most of this difference is attributed to a net decrease in the number of clients (4,394) in the programs that were renewed from PY3 to PY4. The changes implemented beginning in PY4 contributing to this included the change in the requirement to report a minimum of 5 clients in a demographic or target population category to reporting the true number of clients even if it less than 5. Additionally, the WCCMHB began requiring stricter data collection of individuals that should be counted as clients for WCCMHB reporting. Thus, although there was a net decrease in the number of clients among renewed programs, the numbers reported in PY4 are a more accurate reflection of clients being served in the county in the various target populations defined by the WCCMHB.

A lesser part of the decrease of 5,830 clients is attributed to a decrease in the number of funded programs (44 programs to 38). Eight PY3 programs were not renewed for PY4, and in PY4, two new programs were funded. This contributed to a net decrease of 1,436 clients. Despite these two new programs not yet serving clients in Q1 of PY4, WCCMHB funded programs in Q1 observed the highest amount of total clients at 4,863.



People Served by Age

Programs typically also report on their client demographics such as age, race, ethnicity and gender. The breakdown of clients by age range across all PY4 programs is shown in the table below in the first two columns: Age Category and Number of Clients.

Across all age categories, the largest amount of people fell into the 30 to 59 age range at 7,868, followed by 6 to 17 and 18 to 29. However, the age categories have a variable number of years within the age ranges; therefore, the table below also calculates the number of clients per year of age in the last two columns: Years in Age Category and Per Year Calculation (Clients/Year).

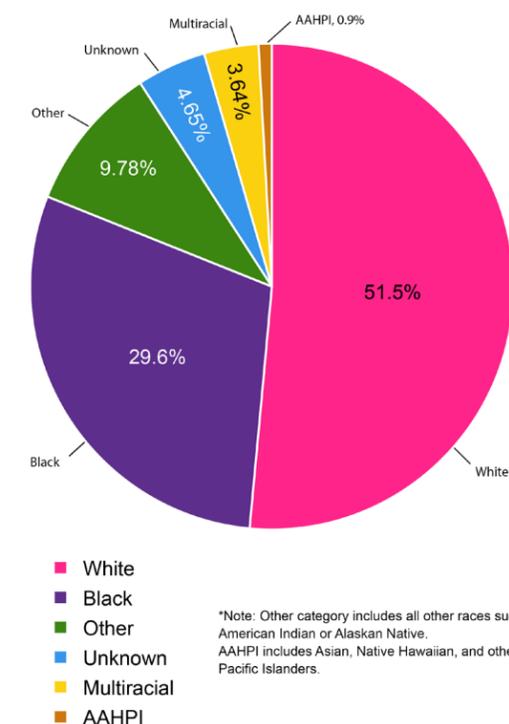
Age Category	Number of Clients	Years in Age Category	Per Year Calculation (Clients/Year of age)
0 to 5	248	6	41.3
6 to 17	4,811	12	400.9
18 to 29	3,438	12	286.5
30 to 59	7,868	30	262.3
60+ (Assumed 60 to 85)	1,607	26	61.1
Unknown	459	N/A	N/A

Thus, the top age category in terms of number of clients per year of age was 6 to 17, followed by 18 to 29. In fact, the combined 6 to 29 age category alone accounts for nearly half (44.8%) of those served in PY4.

Note that, in some cases, totals across all surveyed categories for a particular demographic such as age may not align with the overall total for clients served (18,431). This is due to some programs not reporting a particular demographic category on a quarterly basis.

People Served by Race

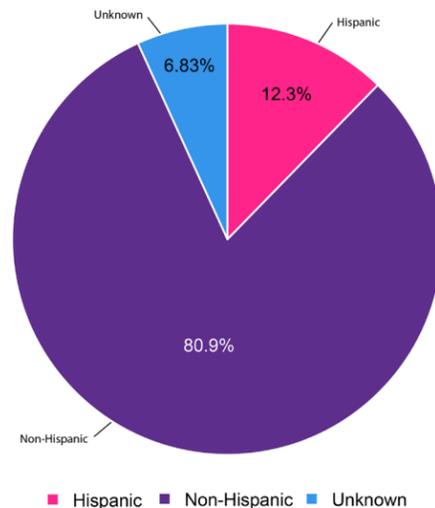
In PY4, the breakdown of the racial demographics was as follows: 51.5% of clients served were white, 29.6% were black, and 0.9% were AAHPI, defined as including Asian, Native Hawaiian, and other Pacific Islanders. Clients from other races—defined as including all other races such as American Indian or Alaskan Native—made up 9.78% of the total, multiracial clients made up 3.64%, and clients with an unknown race made up 4.65% of the total. This demographic breakdown is similar to the proportions observed in PY3.





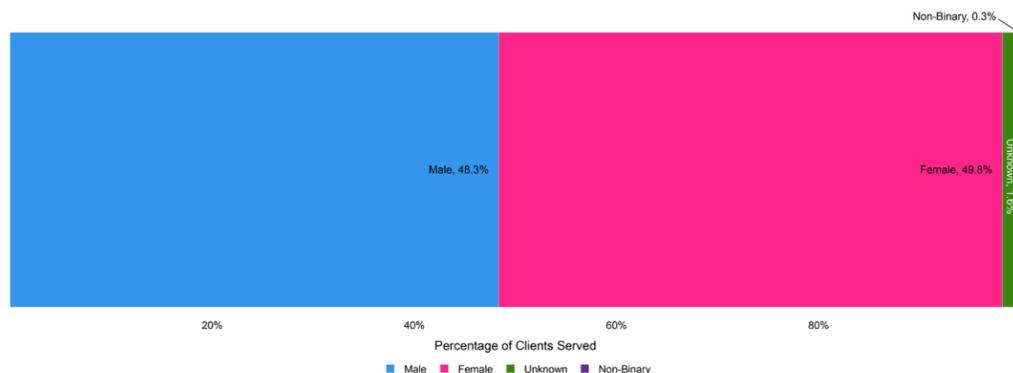
People Served by Ethnicity

80.9% of clients in PY4 were categorized as Non-Hispanic and 12.3% as Hispanic. The Non-Hispanic percentage increased slightly by 0.4% since PY3. There was also a 0.7% increase in the percentage of Hispanic clients. Correspondingly, the Unknown ethnicity percentage decreased by 1.06%.



People Served by Gender

In PY4, there were slightly more female (49.8%) clients than male (48.3%) clients. Going from PY3 to PY4, the percentage of male clients decreased by 2.9%, while the percentage of female clients increased by 4.6%. Consistent with PY3, there was also a small percentage of clients reported as non-binary (0.3%).



Outcome Domains

Outcomes are programmatic goals curated to each program's scope of work. There were 288 outcomes in total among all of the PY4 programs. Outcome domains were introduced in PY4 in order to categorize the collection of programs' outcomes into 12 categories or "domains". The domains are listed below with the number of outcomes in PY4 falling under that domain.

- Access/Wait Times: 24
- Case Management/Follow-Ups/Wrap Around: 10
- Community Outreach/Education: 26
- Housing: 3
- Numbers Served: 38
- Perception of Care: 40
- Recidivism/Readmission: 3
- Staffing: 14
- Symptomatology: 28
- Systems Coordination: 23
- Treatment Method: 55
- Workforce/Professional Development: 24

Each quarter, programs report on the progress of each outcome, whether it is not yet started, delayed, in progress, or completed. There are also continuous outcomes, which are outcomes that programs are continually trying to improve or maintain their achieved goals. The table below shows the difference in the distribution of progress statuses between PY4 quarter 1 and quarter 4. By quarter 4, there is an increased number of completed and continuous statuses, indicating that programs are achieving many of their set goals. There are also decreases in the number of progress reported "Not Yet Started" or "Delayed" which shows that programs are making progress on outcomes not yet completed.

Progress Status	Quarter 1	Quarter 4
Not Yet Started	24	2
Delayed	7	6
In Progress	131	44
Completed	7	92
Continuous	119	144

Finally, the bubble chart below shows the distribution of all program outcomes by their domain and progress status, for quarter 4. This chart is part of an interactive figure on the WCCMHB Data Dashboard, where users can see this bubble chart for all four quarters of PY4.

Outcome Domains by Progress
Program Year 4: Quarter 4



Interactive versions of the data visualizations presented here, data on indirect impacts, and more can be found on the WCCMHB Data Dashboard: bit.ly/WCCMHB-DataDashboard

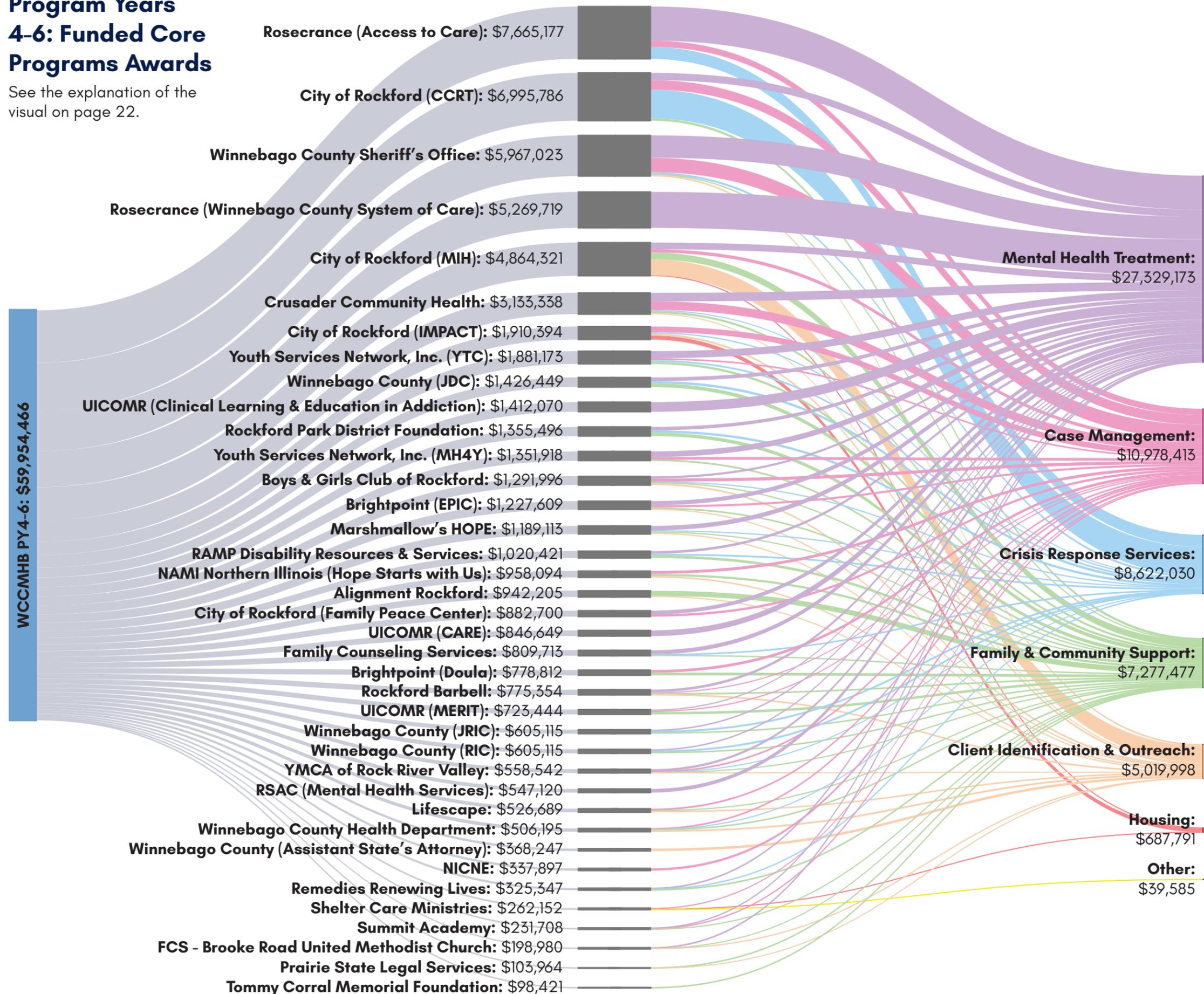




PROGRAM
YEARS 4-6
FUNDED CORE
PROGRAMS

Program Years 4-6: Funded Core Programs Awards

See the explanation of the
visual on page 22.



PROGRAM
YEARS 4-6
FUNDED CORE
PROGRAMS



PROGRAM YEARS 4-6 FUNDED CORE PROGRAMS

Program Years 4-6 Funded Core Programs

For Program Years 4-6 (PY4-6), WCCMHB transitioned from one-year funding cycles to three-year cycles. This means \$60 million was granted to fund and expand 38 programs over three years, from June 1, 2024, to May 31, 2027. There were 25 programs awarded 3-year contracts and 13 programs awarded one-year contracts, which could be renewed at the Board's discretion for an additional one or two years. On April 2, 2025, the Board approved all thirteen programs with one-year contracts to extend their contract an additional two years. As a result, all 38 funded Core programs now have three-year contracts.

The timeline for the PY4-6 grant cycle is as follows:

- April 3, 2024 - Funding Decisions for New & Renewal Programs Announced
- June 1, 2024 - Program Year 4 Begins
- December 4, 2024 - NOFO and Application for PY5-6 Renewals Released
- February 19, 2025 - Application for PY5-6 Renewals Due
- April 2, 2025 - PY5-6 Renewal Funding Decisions Announced
- May 31, 2025 - Program Year 4 Ends
 - Program Year 4: June 1, 2024 - May 30, 2025
 - Program Year 5: June 1, 2025 - May 30, 2026
 - Program Year 6: June 1, 2026 - May 30, 2027

Funded programs provide any combination of mental health treatment, crisis response services, case management, family and community support, client identification and outreach, and housing services. The programs address the needs of the Target Populations of Serious Mental Illness (18+ yrs.), Serious Emotional Disturbances (3-21 yrs.), Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (0-5 yrs.), Substance Use Disorders (all ages), and Co-Occurring Disorders (0-17 & 18+ yrs.). Co-Occurring Disorders are any combination of two or more Substance Use Disorders (SUD) and mental disorders. WCCMHB strategically allocated these funds to support the expansion and improvement of community mental health and substance use programs.

The visualization on pages 20 and 21 shows the amount awarded to each priority area and program over the course of PY4-6. On the right of the image are the funding amounts by priority area. Each organization estimated the amount of funding allocated to each priority area in its grant application. Each award's 'lead' agency is in the middle of the visualization with its awarded amount. In many cases, the actual program is a collaboration of multiple organizations. Additional participating organizations' logos can be found with the Funded Program descriptions starting on page 23. Amounts awarded represent funding commitments and do not reflect the actual amounts distributed in Fiscal Year 2025, as program years extend beyond the Fiscal Year.

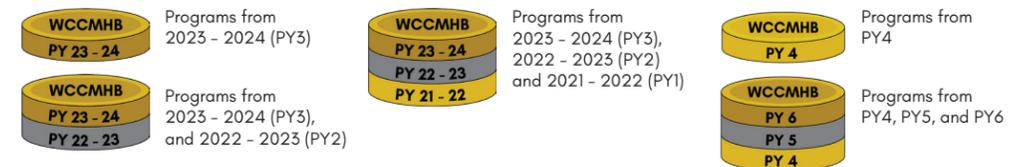


More information, such as links and contact information for each program, can be found at bit.ly/WCCMHBFundedPrograms



More information on the program's data can be found at bit.ly/WCCMHB-DataDashboard

Program Year Coins Key:



Alignment Rockford

How are the Children?

Alignment Rockford will expand the Early Development Instrument (EDI) kindergarten survey across Winnebago County, creating a comprehensive early childhood health and well-being data set. This data will inform the development of a system-wide framework to support mental health for children ages 0-5, addressing a critical gap in the community. Alignment Rockford, with a strong track record in early childhood collaboration and parent support, will lead this effort in partnership with local, state, and national stakeholders. The goal is to develop a model for early childhood mental health support, foster local community-based usage of EDI data, and ultimately improve the quality of life for all 17,000 children under five in the county. With funding, Alignment Rockford will make a lasting impact on the well-being of our community's youngest members, setting them up for a healthy and successful future.



Boys & Girls Club of Rockford

Social-Emotional Skill Building and SED Services

Boys & Girls Club of Rockford will offer evidence-based programs designed to build social-emotional development for youth in our community. Social-emotional skills are needed to achieve academic success, grow character and leadership skills, and commit to a healthy lifestyle. Through targeted programs with specific objectives of building social-emotional knowledge, Club members practice what they learn in a safe, supportive space. A collaboration with Rosecrance allows a continuum of care to all youth; including those impacted by severe emotional disturbance or trauma-based symptoms. Further, this program will increase access to these skill development programs for marginalized youth in underrepresented communities who oftentimes lack access to these programs and services. The success of this program is to bring services to young people in Club locations where they feel comfortable and safe.



PROGRAM YEARS 4-6 FUNDED CORE PROGRAMS



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Brightpoint Doula Program

The Doula Program, through Brightpoint, will continue to fund two doula positions for its fifth year, including a Doula II. Doulas are trained professionals who provide continuous physical, emotional, and informational support to a mother and her support system. They provide in-person support during childbirth as well as education and information for new families about attachment, regulation, and other common issues that arise during the perinatal period. The Doula II can follow families with significant mental health concerns for up to an entire year postpartum. The Doula Program will work closely with community partners to receive referrals to eligible pregnant mothers and aims to serve a total of 40 clients for PY5.



EPIC Program: Early Prevention in the Community

Brightpoint's Early Prevention in the Community (EPIC) Program provides trauma-informed individual and group counseling for students in Winnebago County in partnership with Harlem Unit School District 122. The EPIC program aims to reduce the symptoms of trauma to allow students to fully engage in their school and community. Therapists are trained in Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT), Trust Based Relational Intervention (TBRI), Child Parent Psychotherapy (CPP), and Theraplay. This program serves around 150 individuals annually.



City of Rockford Crisis Co-Response Team (CCRT)



The Rockford Police Department, Loves Park Police Department, Winnebago County Sheriff's Office, and Rosecrance collaborate to form the Crisis Co-Response Team (CCRT), which aims to serve 1,800 Winnebago County Residents living with Behavioral Health Issues, including serious mental illness and/or substance use disorders.



The City and collaborators recognize that oftentimes, criminal acts are merely symptoms of an underlying issue. CCRT hopes to reduce prosecution for those experiencing behavioral health crises. The goal of CCRT is to improve law enforcement's current response to behavioral health crises and believes that these positive contacts and linkage to services are critical to a healthier, safer community.

CCRT assists those who come in contact with and/or are referred to CCRT via police report, officer referral or community referral for the purpose of

promoting safer encounters between individuals in need of crisis services and police department personnel by utilizing a co-responder model, which pairs law enforcement with mental health professionals.

CCRT refers, links, and encourages participation in appropriate mental health services, substance use treatment and any other services that may fit the individual's needs. CCRT completes follow-ups, assists with court referrals to the criminal justice system, and responds to live calls fielded by the City and County 911 centers where mental health or substance use may be an issue.



rosecrance[®] BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Mobile Integrated Health - Mental Health Program

With a focus on early intervention and prevention, the Rockford Fire Department and UW Health collaborate to form the Mobile Integrated Health - Mental Health program (MIH - MHP). The goal is to identify those in need of mental health crisis services and to provide the appropriate response. The MIH - MHP is a proven, evidence-based program that follows the current best practices in assisting those with mental health concerns. The MIH - MHP focuses on treating individuals who have utilized 911 emergency services for non-police-related calls or who have been hospitalized repeatedly due to mental health issues. By creating a more appropriate level of response, and a strategic way of providing assistance for those suffering with mental illness, there will be a decrease in 911 call volume and unnecessary Emergency Department transports. This program aims to serve 1,800 additional Winnebago County residents.



UWHealth

Inclusive Wellness Programming at FPC

The Family Peace Center (FPC) is a multi-agency, collaborative organization providing services to survivors of domestic and sexual violence. The FPC's WCCMHB funding supports two projects:

1. To provide case management, holistic support, and wellness programming to survivors of domestic and sexual violence who may be experiencing additional barriers due to the trauma they've experienced and its impact on their mental health; and
2. To sustain a workplace environment for FPC staff and partners that is supportive, vicarious-trauma informed, and hope-centered.



Family Peace Center Restoring Survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence

Aligned with emerging research and trauma-informed practices, this programming is creative and inclusive as it seeks to address the increasing mental health and wellness needs of survivors of domestic violence and the experiences of vicarious trauma of staff and partners.



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City of Rockford City of Rockford Health & Human Services Department - IMPACT (Integrated Mobile Partners Action Crisis Team)



City of Rockford Health & Human Services Department, Integrated Mobile Partners Action Crisis Team (IMPACT), is a needs-based, community program that will help Winnebago County's most seriously mentally ill and addicted unhoused individuals. Using strong partnerships, this program provides one-on-one mental health navigators to walk beside this vulnerable population and connects them with a variety of successful programs. IMPACT already has strong partnerships in place with Crusader Community Health, Rosecrance, UW Health Systems, Rockford Fire Department - Mobile Integrated Healthcare Program (MIH), and other community programs. IMPACT is client-centered, and the navigators are in place to guide, nurture, care for, and mentor the targeted population by demonstrating dedication, competence, and building rapport with the clients. The Navigators received extensive training that will allow them to have ongoing success in their positions, starting with Crisis Intervention Training as basic learning. Additionally, the Navigator assists in getting the unhoused clients into the Transitional Housing units that will also be funded. While in this temporary housing, a Housing Navigator (case manager) provides the clients with the support they need, building the client's confidence and teaching them the skills they need to move to independent, permanent housing.



Crusader Community Health Behavioral Health Services



Crusader utilizes an integrated model of treatment in which mental health and/or substance use treatment services are provided in a primary care setting for child, adolescent, and adult patients. WCCMHB grant funding enabled Crusader to increase the behavioral health workforce and expand services offered to patients. Crusader has full-time, Behavioral Health Consultants who provide mental health and substance abuse services such as assessment, diagnosis, and therapy. Additionally, Crusader Behavioral Health Case Managers provide coordination, collaboration, advocacy, psychoeducation, crisis intervention, and supportive counseling to patients and their families. The case managers are the primary point of contact for patients receiving behavioral health



services, including telepsychiatry and/or medication-assisted treatment (MAT) services, thus increasing accessibility, availability, and timeliness to address the needs of patients and reduce barriers to care. Behavioral Health Consultants and Behavioral Health Case Managers also provide services to patients receiving MAT services for opioid use disorder and/or alcohol use disorder. Crusader offers part-time telepsychiatry services to provide diagnostic evaluation and medication management for child, adolescent, and adult patients, as well as peer-to-peer consultation services for medical and behavioral health providers. Finally, the Crusader Behavioral Health Department Assistant/Certified Medical Assistant (CMA) provides departmental support, provider practice management, community outreach and engagement, and staff onboarding and training coordination and is the medical assistant for Crusader telepsychiatry services.

Family Counseling Services

Mental Health Counseling

Family Counseling Services (FCS) utilized the WCCMHB grant for additional resources to provide more mental health counseling for more people. This includes therapists, office space, materials and supplies used in therapy, and ongoing training and professional development of staff. Services include art and play therapy, various types of experiential therapy, some crisis counseling services for children and adults, group therapy, and education on mental health topics for the public. In addition, WCCMHB funding is used to develop and support the FCS internship program to help train future mental health therapists for FCS and Winnebago County residents.



Brooke Road Community Center - BRCC Community Mental Wellness Response Program

The BRCC Community Wellness Response Program provides a sense of safety and security to children and families while partnering with other local organizations that improve participants' overall knowledge of available community services, mental health care, and quality of life. With access to counseling services, large support groups, and enriching life skills programs, children and families learn the importance of hygiene care, nutrition, intergenerational wraparounds, and how to stay safe. Being in the center of southeast Rockford, BRCC reaches many families to reduce mental health stigma and break down barriers to direct access to mental health care and community wellness.



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Lifescope



Senior Mental Health Program

Lifescope's Senior Mental Health Program seeks to strengthen older adults' (aged 60+) resilience and mental health well-being through many of life's changes by assessing, educating, and referring participants to the support and help they need.

Lifescope utilizes validated screening tools to assist with recognizing Social Isolation, Loneliness, and Depression. Using an evidence-based program, PEARLS, they focus on depression awareness and education to ensure participants can recognize signs & symptoms of depression and link them to community resources. Depression is not a normal part of aging, and they are here to assist with cultivating coping skills and provide education & advocacy, so that individuals can live full healthy, connected, and informed lives.



NAMI Northern Illinois

Hope Starts With Us

NAMI Northern Illinois provides advocacy-driven case management services for those impacted by mental illness.

These services aim at eliminating barriers, reducing confusion, increasing linkages with appropriate direct service, and increasing individual, family and community support, while also providing educational programming to improve the response to mental illness for all. This program aims to serve 225 Winnebago County residents using various evidence-based practices.

NAMI Northern Illinois will also expand its service hours and person-centered programming by adding family support and recovery support specialists to the team. These positions revolve around creating a supportive community, promoting long-term recovery, and providing education and resources into the evening hours. By offering a combination of emotional support, practical assistance, and education, recovery and family support specialists will empower an additional 175 individuals and families to achieve their goals.



Marshmallow's HOPE Nonprofit Organization

Youth Suicide Prevention

They provide pro bono psychotherapy to youth, emerging adults, and families affected by suicide, offering crucial interventions within 24/48 hours of referral, bypassing the typical 6 to 12-month waiting period.

With the WCCMHB funding award, Marshmallow's HOPE is expanding youth access to mental health care by introducing an Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) for at-risk youth, utilizing evidence-based treatments. Implementing a step-up/step-down continuum of care through Intensive Outpatient Programs and outpatient counseling can significantly enhance the effectiveness of mental health services. This holistic approach aims to prevent and intervene early in mental health concerns, contributing to a more resilient and proactive mental health framework for the Winnebago community, which faces some of the highest youth suicide rates in Illinois.



Northern Illinois Center for Nonprofit Excellence (NICNE)

Case Management Training & Community of Practice

The Northern Illinois Center for Nonprofit Excellence (NICNE) and partner human service organizations provides case managers and clinicians within local mental health and substance abuse organizations training in a community-wide approach to case management that is a strength-based and person-centered, focused on helping participants achieve specific, self-defined outcomes. NICNE continues to grow the Community of Practice (COP) for case management to increase knowledge of available services, complement IRIS, expedite access to services, and enhance referrals. NICNE expands the case management training through a biennial (every two years) conference for case managers with regional and evidenced-based speakers in PY4 & PY6 to expand knowledge of case management programming with continued program evaluation in PY5 to further evaluate the results of the trainings, COP and free conferences to improve future program deliverables.



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Prairie State Legal Services

Legal Services for Residents with Mental Illness



Prairie State Legal Services (PSLS) provides high-quality legal services for individuals with mental illness who need support, such as information, advice, advocacy, and court representation. PSLS understands that low-income individuals with mental impairments are particularly vulnerable when confronted with legal issues because they are often unable to be effective self-advocates. This is particularly a concern with civil legal issues impacting the ability of the individual to provide for their basic human needs, including housing, safety, and financial stability. PSLS helps individuals with mental illness to overcome barriers to provide for their basic needs. PSLS serves clients at risk of losing their housing by fighting against illegal evictions, utility shut-offs, housing discrimination, or mortgage foreclosure; clients facing violence by obtaining restraining orders against abusers; and clients facing financial instability by fighting against wrongful denials of needs-based governmental assistance programs and improper collection practices. PSLS also opens paths toward financial stability and independence by removing barriers to employment; by restoring driver's licenses, fighting against wrongful denials of professional licensing, and helping clients move past criminal records through sealings, expungements, and health care waivers.

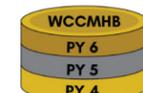


RAMP



Mental Health Services and Training

The Mental Health Services and Training program, through the Regional Access and Mobilization Project (RAMP), partners with community organizations to provide mental health training, services, and advocacy to support and assist families and the community. RAMP provides marketing and outreach to identify at-risk and underserved individuals in order to educate the community about mental health. The Mental Health Services and Training program serves approximately 520 clients total across all four WCCMHB target populations annually.



Remedies Renewing Lives



Domestic Violence Therapy & Advocacy Project

The Domestic Violence Therapy and Advocacy Project of Remedies Renewing Lives provides comprehensive support to survivors who have experienced multiple victimizations of domestic violence such as intimate partner violence, family violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and community violence. Our therapist and advocate offer immediate and ongoing therapeutic and advocacy-based crisis support with survivors accessing our 24-hour emergency shelter or non-residential programming. Services additionally offer case management assistance, help survivors connect with local resources, and assist with safety planning. All services are completely confidential, free of charge, and support survivor autonomy.



Rockford Barbell



Youth Self-Regulation Programs

Rockford Barbell's Youth Self-Regulation Programs include yoga or weightlifting classes in conjunction with social-emotional learning. It targets youths who experience a lack of social-emotional skills and other mental health concerns due to trauma. The program utilizes best practices in trauma treatment by developing therapeutic rapport, providing direct instruction in self-regulation and skill building, and engaging in both individual and group therapy. The therapist and program staff collaborate with community agencies, schools, and family members in order to provide wrap-around services as a part of each individual treatment plan. The program also creates content to educate family and community members on the best practices for creating and maintaining a trauma-informed environment.



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Rockford Park District Foundation

Unique Mental Health Services

The Perks Family Equine Center at Lockwood Park provides year-round Equine Assisted Learning Activities and Psychotherapy programming, which offer valuable experiential opportunities for life skill and social-emotional learning to individuals with mental health and trauma-related needs. The Rockford Park District serves youth and families in the community by providing new, unique, and relevant ways to complement traditional mental health treatment addressing the social, emotional, and behavioral challenges of individuals. This expansion of services for young people provides access for those struggling with trauma, mental health, and substance abuse disorders through evidence-based equine therapy and activities. The services provided at the Perks Family Equine Center harness the power of the horse to bring hope and healing to the youth served.



Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling (RSAC)

RSAC Mental Health Services

Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling (RSAC) provides outreach therapy to schools in the area to ensure that child and adolescent sexual abuse/assault survivors can receive free quality therapy services. Sexual abuse and assault cause severe emotional disturbances, which can be helped by having trained professionals providing therapy. Since many children and adolescents have transportation issues, providing therapy in the schools meets the survivors in a safe, convenient place that allows for consistent appointments.



In addition, RSAC provides a free, regularly occurring support group for sexual assault/abuse survivors with mental health issues for ages 50+. Groups allow those survivors to start services more quickly by entering group while waiting for individual therapy as well as connect with others in their age range who can identify more closely with their experiences and stigmas surrounding sexual abuse/assault and mental health. Group will focus on triggers, mindfulness, anxiety, depression, self-harm reduction, coping skills, unhealthy relationships, and grounding techniques.

Rosecrance Behavioral Health

Rosecrance Access to Care

Rosecrance Access to Care serves individuals five years and older for Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED), individuals 18 and older for Serious Mental Illness (SMI), and individuals of all ages for Substance Use Disorders (SUD). Access to Care offers rapid access to psychiatric treatment, which includes "on demand" availability of interpreter services, expansion of evening service hours, reduction in wait times for psychiatric diagnostic evaluation, and treatment coordination for individuals across the lifespan who are experiencing mental health and/or substance use needs. Rosecrance utilizes a case manager who serves as a care navigator to meet individuals where they are in their recovery to eliminate barriers and coordinate treatment. To meet the constant shift in the landscape impacting our community and to increase access for people who need opioid addiction treatment, the Rosecrance Access to Care program expands access to Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT). This expansion includes a board-certified addiction medical provider who will offer FDA-approved medications to provide a "whole-patient" approach to the treatment of substance use disorders. Access to Care offers an all-inclusive range of substance use and mental health disorder treatments, especially for individuals who have the most complex needs. The extension of psychiatric and nursing services at the Rosecrance Mulberry Center expands crisis response services to ensure that adults experiencing a behavioral health crisis will have access to crisis stabilization services 24/7/365 as an alternative to psychiatric hospitalization and to reduce the risk of justice involvement. With WCCMHB funding, Rosecrance Access to Care offers a full continuum of behavioral health services for individuals who reside in Winnebago County to achieve recovery and sustain improvements in abstinence and symptom improvement.



Winnebago County System of Care

Rosecrance Winnebago County System of Care provides priority access to substance use treatment for adults who reside in Winnebago County for withdrawal management and residential treatment of drug use and alcohol use. With the support of the WCCMHB, Rosecrance Winnebago County System of Care fills a gap in this priority area, improves client outcomes, and responds to community needs. This partnership provides low-income individuals and families access to withdrawal management/detox by dedicating beds specifically for individuals who reside in Winnebago County. Upon completion of withdrawal management/detox, the client is provided care coordination with the Rosecrance Harrison Campus treatment team to develop a transition plan to residential/inpatient Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment. Rosecrance anticipates serving over 315 individuals annually with this funding. In addition, Rosecrance offers harm reduction services to address the opioid overdose public health epidemic to save lives, minimize stigma, and promote access to healthcare, social services, and treatment.



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Shelter Care Ministries



Jubilee Community Outreach and Housing Stability

Shelter Care believes stable housing and supportive services are key to helping adults living with mental illness recover and thrive. The Jubilee Outreach Program helps people maintain safe, affordable, clean housing, which improves their ability to manage mental and physical health. Housed individuals create a plan to improve areas of their lives and are both supported and held accountable by the Jubilee Outreach Advocate. Current participant goals include staying on track with medication, improving physical health, and finding more suitable housing.



Summit Academy

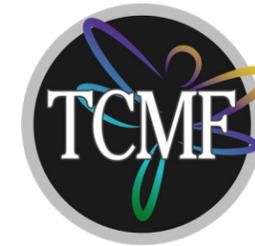


Transition Counselor and Mental Health Curriculum

Summit Academy seeks to add a Transition Counselor for at-risk students to promote academic and social/emotional wellness. This position facilitates communication between districts, students, and their families to ensure a successful transition for students who are referred to Summit's alternate education program. Summit Academy also provides trauma-informed group lessons using new curriculums to promote self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making. School counselors and social workers provide culturally relevant and age-appropriate lessons to support skill-building and emotional wellness. Three hundred fifty students will be served annually.



Tommy Corral Memorial Foundation



Family & Community MHFA Training

The Tommy Corral Memorial Foundation (TCMF) is dedicated to improving community education, reducing stigmas around mental illness and substance abuse, and encouraging people to seek help when needed. TCMF is working with a variety of community organizations, professionals, and the public to provide Mental Health First Aid training and educational programs. The Mental Health First Aid program teaches individuals how to spot, understand, and react to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders. The training equips people with the skills needed to give initial help and support to someone who might be developing a mental health or substance use problem or experiencing a crisis. This aid can be given until the person receives appropriate professional treatment or the crisis is resolved. The Tommy Corral Memorial Foundation hopes to train over 300 individuals annually in Winnebago County.



University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford



CARE Program - Compassionate Appreciation for Recovery in Everyone

In conjunction with UI Health Mile Square Health Center (MSHC) - L.P. Johnson Rockford and the Winnebago County Justice Center (WCJC), the University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford (UICOMR) Department of Family and Community Medicine's CARE program, provides a fully integrated transition to care services for individuals who are incarcerated upon their return to society for medical, mental health, and substance use disorders.



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University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford



Clinical Learning and Education in Addiction

University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford expands existing partnerships with UW Health SwedishAmerican and Rosecrance, to provide training for primary care physicians in the Addiction Medicine Fellowship Program: Clinical Learning and Education in Addiction. Clinical Learning and Education in Addiction addresses the county's workforce need for medical providers with expertise in addiction medicine through the hiring of an Addiction Medicine Fellowship Director and at least one Addiction Medicine Fellow per year. The fellowship director and fellow provide addiction services to all citizens of Winnebago County regardless of ability to pay. Furthermore, we anticipate that graduates of the UICOMR's Addiction Medicine Fellowship Program will stay in the area after completing their training to continue providing addiction medicine treatment.



Medical Evaluation Response Initiative Team (MERIT) - Transition Counselor and Mental Health Curriculum

Winnebago County has the second-highest rate of child abuse/neglect in the State of Illinois. The negative effects of child abuse/neglect go beyond just physical and psychological damage and can last a lifetime, leading to issues such as depression, anxiety, low academic attainment, and violent behavior. To address this issue, the University of Illinois College of Medicine established the Medical Evaluation Response Intervention Team (MERIT), which provides immediate medical care to victims and collects forensic evidence needed to prosecute perpetrators. MERIT also educates the public and healthcare professionals on how to prevent child abuse/neglect and care for victims. To further support victims, MERIT hired a full-time licensed clinical social worker to implement a comprehensive trauma-informed care program that includes an initial behavioral assessment and 5-7 follow-up sessions. This individual also provides ongoing case management to ensure individuals receive necessary follow-up and services.



Winnebago County Juvenile Detention Center (JDC)



With the support of the Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board's funding, the Winnebago County Juvenile Detention Center aims to reduce youth/adolescent isolation and improve overall mental health by addressing the behavioral health needs of detained youth through assessment, crisis intervention, therapeutic intervention, and coordination of services. This program aims to serve 220 youth.



Small groups are facilitated using one or more of the following; cognitive behavioral therapy, dialectical behavioral therapy, and/or trauma-informed care. Groups are held several times during the week to ensure that all youth have the opportunity to attend, participate, and learn. Individual sessions are completed with youth for improved mental health functioning or for youth in crisis.

Juvenile Resource Intervention Center (JRIC)

Increasingly, youth exhibiting significant mental health and behavioral programs have encountered the juvenile justice system. The JRIC conducts assessments and case management coordination for urgent or crisis situations. Cognitive-behavioral approaches, such as dialectical behavior therapy (DBT), have shown particular promise for application to corrections populations. As such, the Juvenile Resource Intervention Center intervenes using the Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) therapeutic model and offers individual and group therapy for the highest risk youth. These therapeutic services including DBT will be available to 75 youth.



Resource Intervention Center (RIC)

Winnebago County will expand The Resource Intervention Center (RIC), which is a multiagency, multidisciplinary center where public and private agencies assign staff members to be co-located to deliver evidence-based, coordinated services to individuals in probation or pre-trial supervision in Winnebago County. Research indicates that focusing on high-risk individuals is the path to reducing recidivism. As such, RIC services are only available to those deemed moderate to high-risk based on actuarial risk assessment results. Bringing service providers in-house supports both research findings and is the RIC strategy for delivering all services. This proposal seeks to increase RIC service offerings to include dialectical behavioral therapy (DBT), individual therapy sessions, and Seeking Safety, a therapeutic model for highest-risk offenders impacted by substance use disorder, and/or posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). This program serves approximately 120 criminal justice-involved individuals annually.



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Winnebago County

Assistant State's Attorney - Mental Health

The Winnebago County Office of the State's Attorney provides the 17th Judicial Circuit Courts with a dedicated and specially trained Assistant State's Attorney to help individuals with substance-abuse disorders, behavioral and mental health issues proceed through the criminal justice system. The Office of the State's Attorney has the authority to decide how to proceed in criminal cases. When appropriate, the Assistant States Attorney can dismiss criminal charges during the first court appearance and then serve as a conduit to ensure that the individual receives the court-appointed behavioral health and supportive services necessary to lead to positive outcomes. In addition, the Mental Health Assistant State's Attorney handles Firearms Restraining Orders and civil commitments as needed or appropriate, with the ultimate goal of increasing positive outcomes for individuals and reducing recidivism.



WINNEBAGO COUNTY
ILLINOIS



Winnebago County Health Department



Winnebago County

Health Department

Trauma-Informed Community Care Coordination

With WCCMHB funding, Winnebago County Health Department (WCHD) works toward building a Trauma-Informed Community and expanding the impact of the Trauma-Informed Workgroups by working with the Illinois Collaboration on Youth (ICOY) to provide ongoing Trauma 101 and Advanced Trauma Training to local agencies, organizations, and community members. Additionally, WCHD incorporates IRIS, an online referral system, into its focus on intervention and case management to improve the mental health and resilience of families and the community as a whole. This program aims to expand the IRIS system throughout the community and serve 50 WCHD clients and their families while utilizing trauma-informed practices.



Illinois Collaboration on Youth

Winnebago County Sheriff's Office



WINNEBAGO COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Winnebago County Jail Behavioral Health Program

The goal of the Winnebago County Jail Behavioral Health System-Enhanced Program, through the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office, is to assist in reducing overdoses/overdose deaths and increase recovery in Winnebago County. Studies have shown that the transition from jail back into the community can be very difficult for individuals who stopped the treatment received in jail, once they have integrated in the community, due to a lack of programs, medication, therapy, and counseling. WCCMHB funding provides the expansion of the existing mental health, discharge planning, and addiction services to now include a Medication Assisted Therapy (MAT) Program. The MAT program allows for a sustained continuity of care for individuals in custody. This is to ensure that they will not have any relapses or withdrawals while in custody and once released back into the community.



YMCA of Rock River Valley



Protecting Youth Mental Wellness

The YMCA, along with Rosecrance, will offer early intervention, support, and treatment services to youth in the YMCA programs for the fourth year. By embedding a mental health counselor in the day-to-day activities at the K-5 and Teens after-school program, youth will have access to both education and supportive therapy, as well as the opportunity to overcome the stigma of receiving mental health care. Programming will include community and parental outreach to reduce the stigma of mental health treatment and connection to other mental health services. Staff members also receive support in dealing with secondary trauma and personal situations that affect their mental health. This initiative aims to serve 150 children and adolescents within Winnebago County.



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Youth Services Network, Inc.



Mental Health for Homeless Youth (MH4Y)

Mental Health for Homeless Youth (MH4Y) provides mental health counseling and case management services to youth, young men and women, and their minor children who are serviced through the Youth Services Network's homeless programs. The goal is to improve the youth's mental health and well-being so they are able to maintain and sustain long-term safe housing. MH4Y has therapists who work with the youth to decrease mental health symptoms, help them learn coping skills, and, when needed, appropriate parenting to assist them in dealing with frustration and anger. Therapists are also able to provide play therapy and intervention strategies for young children. Case Managers provide wrap-around services to offer extra support to youth needed to solidify issues addressed in therapy and to help maintain stability in the youth's life, help with housing, employment, school attendance, and finding resources in the community. All of the approaches are client-centered and evidence-based.



Youth Trauma Clinic (YTC)

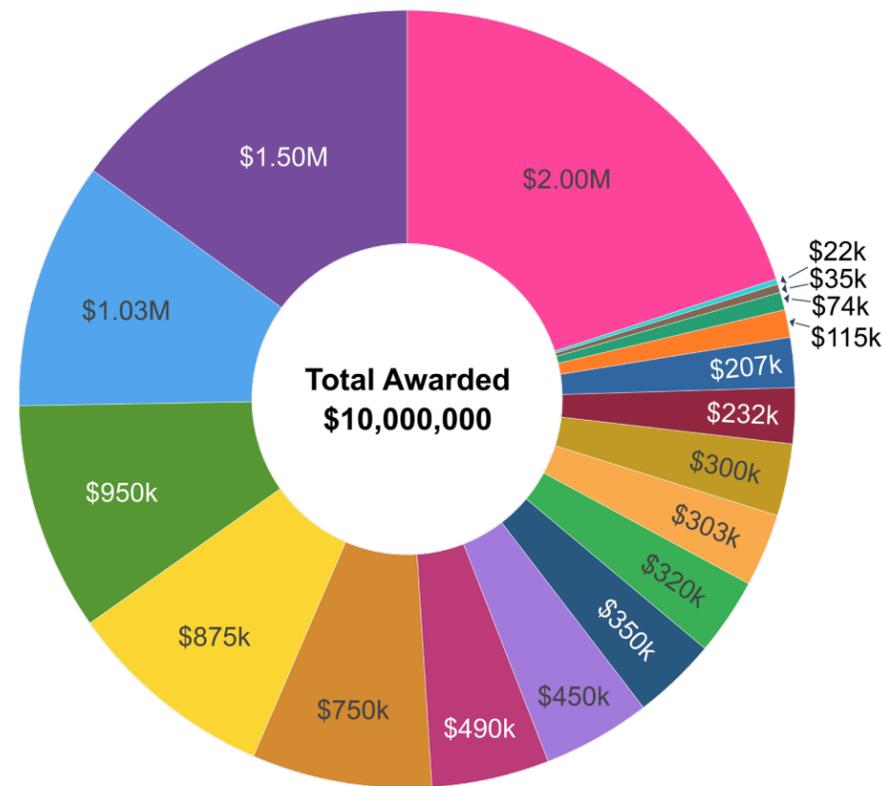
The Youth Trauma Clinic (YTC) is a walk-in clinic that provides mental health counseling and case management to youth, ages 0-21, who have encountered a trauma which can include child abuse, neglect, death of a loved one, bullying, pandemic effects and experiencing or witnessing violence in the home, school, or neighborhood. One of the goals is to eliminate the wait times many service providers in the area have; therefore, the aim is to start support within 24 hours of first contact. YTC has therapists who work with the youth to reduce traumatic stress symptoms and minimize any physical, social, and emotional concerns. Case Managers also offer extra support to youth needing help with school, attendance, schoolwork, and finding resources such as clothing, housing, transportation, and other community resources.



WCCMHB Accelerator Awards

On November 3, 2023, the Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board approved a Notice of Funding Opportunity for "Accelerator Awards," using surplus funding from past Core Program Years to fund time-sensitive, innovative projects that increase mental health and substance use services system capacity. Focus areas include Human, Social, and Physical Capital improvement projects to serve emerging and systemic community needs. Out of the \$10 million of available funds, \$7,083,761.63 was awarded to ten local organizations in Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24), with the remaining amount available for additional awards in Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25). Accelerator Award Letters of Interest closed on November 1, 2024, and the remaining \$2,916,238.37 was awarded across eight proposals to fund various capital improvement projects in FY25.

You can find the visual representation of all the accelerator awards for programs funded below. The programs' names, descriptions, award dates, and amounts will start on page 42.



- University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford: Social Work Opportunities Tracks (SWOT) - \$2,000,000.00
- Stepping Stones of Rockford: New Agency Main Office to expand treatment options - \$1,500,000.00
- Winnebago County: Winnebago County Juvenile Detention Counseling Center - \$1,027,133.37
- Marshmallow's HOPE Nonprofit Organization: Marshmallow's HOPE Youth IOP - \$950,000.00
- City of Rockford/Family Peace Center: Family Peace Center Expansion - \$875,000.00
- Regional Office of Education #4: Student Support Interventionist - \$750,000.00
- Crusader Community Health: Crusader New Behavioral Health Access Point (2) - \$490,000.00
- Crusader Community Health: Crusader Behavioral Health: Dedicated Therapeutic Clinic Space (1) - \$450,000.00
- Community Foundation of Northern Illinois: Addressing Access and Coordination of Behavioral Healthcare - \$350,000.00
- YMCA of Rock River Valley: Neighborhood Youth Enrichment Center - \$320,483.00
- Regional Office of Education (SOAR Academy): SOAR Academy Playground - \$303,278.63
- Regional Office of Education #4: Safe and Secure Schools - \$300,000.00
- Rosecrance, Inc.: "Empowerment Hub" - \$231,805.00
- Rockford Area Arts Council: SPARK! at Washington Park - \$206,800.00
- Youth Services Network Inc.: Transportation Insecurity - \$115,000.00
- Live4Lali Inc.: Mobile Harm Reduction Outreach Program and Recovery Services - \$73,500.00
- Winnebago County: Justice-Involved Peer Navigator Program - \$35,000.00
- Emmaus SS. Peter and Paul: Emmaus Mental Health - \$22,000.00



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Winnebago County (Awarded April 2024)

Justice Involved Peer Navigator - \$35,000.00

Winnebago County's Justice Involved Peer Navigator program applied Accelerator Award funding to the cost of one vehicle to transport justice-impacted individuals with opioid substance abuse disorder. The program assists individuals in transportation to substance use treatment, recovery meetings, and other services necessary for successful recovery.

City of Rockford / Family Peace Center (Awarded April 2024)

Family Peace Center Expansion - \$875,000.00

The City of Rockford's Accelerator Award is being used to renovate a new location for the Family Peace Center (FPC), a resource center for survivors of domestic violence based on the internationally recognized best practice Family Justice Center Model. The awarded funds will cover the costs of HVAC upgrades, roof repair, and other facility improvements. The new space will be large enough to welcome University of Illinois Medical Evaluation Response Initiative Team (MERIT) and the Carrie Lynn Children's Center to join as full-time on-site partners.

Crusader Community Health (Awarded May 2024)

Dedicated Behavioral Health Clinic Space - \$450,000.00

Crusader Community Health's Dedicated Behavioral Health Clinic Space project utilized their Accelerator Award to renovate and repurpose existing areas within their North Alpine Road and West State Street clinics. With awarded funding, Crusader Community Health developed therapeutic settings tailored for behavioral health providers/consultants, case managers, telepsychiatry, and support staff. These spaces were created to foster a more conducive atmosphere for therapy sessions, telepsychiatry services, and improving the overall patient experience.

Marshmallow's HOPE Nonprofit Organization (Awarded May 2024)

Intensive Outpatient & Mental Health Treatment Facility - \$950,000.00

Marshmallow's HOPE Nonprofit Organization was awarded an Accelerator Award to develop their Intensive Outpatient and Mental Health Treatment Facility project, which fills a service gap for youth requiring mental health services in Winnebago County. Therapy is provided to clients aged 12-18 that are at an increased risk of suicide attempts using holistic approaches to mental wellness, such as mindfulness techniques and expressive arts therapy. With the Accelerator Award, Marshmallow's HOPE Nonprofit Organization established the first in-person Intensive Outpatient Program in Winnebago County and the Northern Illinois Region.

Regional Office of Education (Summit Academy) (Awarded May 2024)

SOAR Academy Playground - \$303,278.63

The Regional Office of Education's Summit Academy applied their Accelerator Award to constructing an SEL Playground for its alternative elementary school campus. As the first alternative elementary school in Winnebago County, Summit Academy provides a social and emotional learning curriculum with the goal of reconnecting its students to their home schools.

University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford (Awarded May 2024)

Social Worker Opportunity Tracks (SWOT) - \$2,000,000.00

The University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford has created a Social Worker Opportunity Tracks (SWOT) program to support young adults interested in the mental health career field, partly funded by an Accelerator Award. The program will provide a streamlined pathway for new young professionals entering the workforce as licensed clinical social workers, certified drug addiction counselors, or in other clinical roles.

YMCA of Rock River Valley (Awarded May 2024)

Neighborhood Y / Youth Enrichment Center - \$320,483.00

With an Accelerator Award, the YMCA of Rock River Valley completed renovations at its new Good Shepherd branch. Funds were applied to mental wellness spaces, incorporating programming including (but not limited to) direct therapeutic services, trauma care, and art therapy.

Community Foundation of Northern Illinois (Awarded June 2024)

Address Access and Coordination of Behavioral Healthcare - \$335,000.00

With Accelerator Award funding, the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois contracted a consultant to identify gaps in behavioral health services in Winnebago County, utilizing publicly available data as well as data submitted by local mental health organizations. The consultant will identify needs, best practices, and potential solutions for care-coordination in Winnebago County.

Regional Office of Education (Awarded June 2024)

Safe and Secure Schools - \$300,000.00

The Regional Office of Education used Accelerator Award funding to establish a regional safety team and create a standard in-person safety curriculum for schools. This initiative also provides training in trauma-informed care and restorative practices while supporting crisis planning, threat assessment, and trauma response.



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Stepping Stones of Rockford (Awarded July 2024)

New Agency Main Office to Expand Treatment Options - \$1,500,000.00

Stepping Stones of Rockford applied Accelerator Award funding to the cost of their agency's new office, allowing them to relocate internal and service operations to a strategically located location. The new office has additional space for more services, such as group therapy. Consolidation of administrative offices will also allow for Stepping Stones to open a new counseling center in an underserved geography within Winnebago County.

Regional Office of Education #4 (Awarded October 2024)

Student Support Interventionist - \$750,000.00

The Region Office of Education #4 applied an Accelerator Award to their Student Support Interventionist program, which places titular interventionists in schools to assist at-risk students facing emotional and social challenges. Student Support Interventionists will offer individualized support plans alongside behavioral and academic support for students across 15 schools in the county.

Rockford Area Arts Council (Awarded October 2024)

SPARK! at Washington Park - \$206,800.00

With their Accelerator Award, the Rockford Area Arts Council (RAAC) is supporting the costs of their after-school therapeutic arts enrichment program - SPARK! At Washington Park - for Rockford Public School District 205 students.

Saints Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church (Awarded December 2024)

Emmaus Mental Health - \$22,000.00

Saints Peter & Paul Roman Catholic Church utilizes their Accelerator Award to administer their Emmaus Mental Health program, which provides therapy sessions and retreats for the Hispanic community of Winnebago County, Illinois.

Crusader Community Health (Awarded January 2025)

Crusader New Behavioral Health Access Point Project - \$490,000.00

Crusader Community Health was granted an Accelerator Award for a behavioral health suite in its new Alpine and Linden clinic, which is expected to open in summer 2026. The clinic is strategically placed to include clients in rural areas, such as New Milford and Cherry Valley, to make behavioral health services readily available to the rural areas of the county.

Live4Lali, Inc. (Awarded February 2025)

Mobile Harm Reduction Outreach Program and Recovery Services - \$73,500.00

With their Accelerator Award, Live4Lali bought a van to mobilize their harm reduction outreach and recovery services. Live4Lali will provide harm reduction supplies, services, awareness education, and community engagement throughout Winnebago County.

Youth Services Network Inc. (Awarded February 2025)

Transportation Insecurity - \$115,000.00

Youth Services Network (YSN) used their Accelerator Award funding for the cost of two vehicles in hopes of closing the transportation gap their clients face. With these vehicles, youth and caregivers will be able to attend therapeutic services as well as develop life skills.

Rosecrance, Inc. (Awarded March 2025)

Empowerment Hub - \$231,805.00

Rosecrance's Empowerment Hub intends to support formerly homeless Serious Mental Illness (SMI) clients by providing wrap-around and support services to those living in Rosecrance-owned apartment buildings. By renovating existing units in the building, clients will have access to on-site services that encourages skill development, self-sufficiency, social network integration, and long-term sustainable outcomes.

Winnebago County Juvenile Detention Center (Awarded May 2025)

Juvenile Detention Center - \$1,027,133.37

Winnebago County received Accelerator Award funding to support renovations at the Juvenile Detention Center (JDC). The funding will create three confidential counseling spaces within the JDC as part of the overall renovations.



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