



COLLABORATIVE PLANNING FOR NORTHERN ILLINOIS

News Release

For Immediate Release

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\$85 Million Available for Mental Health and Substance Use Initiatives

ROCKFORD, IL - The Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board (WCCMHB) is seeking proposals from Winnebago County service providers to deliver mental health and substance use services through its next round of funding. The Board has allocated \$85 million to be distributed over three years: \$75 million for programmatic grants and \$10 million for one-time capital projects. This request for proposals follows the approval of an updated three-year strategic plan for mental health and substance use services in Winnebago County, IL.

The Board will accept renewal applications from current Core Program grant recipients in addition to new applications that address mental health service gaps in Winnebago County. Several service gaps are identified in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). The Board will also be accepting proposals for one-time capital projects, according to eligibility requirements and focus areas outlined in the NOFO.

“We remain committed to our vision to ensure that high-quality mental health and substance use services are available to residents of Winnebago County when and where they need them,” said Board President, Mary Ann Abate. “We anticipate that currently funded programs will seek renewal, while we welcome new proposals that seek to fill remaining mental health service gaps in Winnebago County.”

Funding resources for interested organizations, including the Notice of Funding Opportunity, can be found at r1planning.org/wccmhb-funding-resources. Additional resources will be posted on the website throughout the grant application period, which includes registration links to two Question and Answer sessions, as well as a pre-recorded informational presentation.



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Any general questions, feedback, or requests can be sent to info@mentalhealth.wincoil.gov

For requests for accommodations, contact Jason Holcomb, Director of Community Impact at Region 1 Planning Council, at jholcomb@r1planning.org or 815-277-1022.

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 and November 2024. This sales tax generates approximately \$20 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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