



COLLABORATIVE PLANNING FOR NORTHERN ILLINOIS

Media Release

For Immediate Release

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Illinois Governor J. B. Pritzker and R1 Planning Council Host 2020 Census News Conference: Share Recent Grant Successes and New Initiatives

ROCKFORD, IL – On Thursday, July 16, Governor J.B. Pritzker joined the Region 1 Planning Council (RPC) to host a News Conference at the Rockford City Market’s outdoor pavilion to share the region’s recent Census 2020 outreach successes and to announce a new wave of 2020 Census grant funding coming to northern Illinois.



Last fall, the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) named RPC as the Northern Region Regional Intermediary for the Illinois Census Office’s 2020 Census Grant Program. As a result, the Council received **\$1,015,015.00** in phase I and II funding to reinvest in Northern Illinois to encourage a complete and accurate 2020 Census count. RPC accepted applications and 14 sub grants were awarded to assist in reaching historically- undercounted populations located throughout our five-county region of Winnebago, Boone, Ogle, Stephenson, and DeKalb counties.

“Over the past eight months, grant sub recipients coordinated hundreds of outreach events, distributed thousands of marketing materials, and implemented social media, billboard, radio, television, and digital marketing campaigns. As a result, our region’s survey response rates have exceeded state and national averages, which has been a direct correlation to all the work accomplished through these grant efforts,” said Ivy Hood, 2020 Census Grant Program Manager.

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Northern IL Region Response Rates

National and State Response Rates (as of 07/13/20)		% Response
U.S. Self-Response Rate		62.10%
Illinois Response Rate		66.80%
Cities		% Response
City of Oregon		73.40%
City of Belvidere		73.10%
City of Rochelle		70.30%
City of Freeport		68.10%
City of Rockford		65.40%
City of DeKalb		64.30%
Counties		% Response
Boone County		74.70%
Ogle County		73.50%
Stephenson County		71.80%
Winnebago County		71.50%
DeKalb County		71.40%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Phase III 2020 Census Grant Dollars Awarded to RPC

Recently, it was announced that RPC will receive **\$432,941.00** in additional phase III grant funding to continue 2020 Census outreach efforts to increase survey results in the Northern Illinois region. Much of the funding will be redistributed to sub-awardees to assist with 2020 Census outreach efforts. This new Fiscal Year 2021 phase of the grant program will run from July 1 through October 31, 2020, to line up with the U.S. Census Bureau's operational timeline extension.

"In receiving this phase II funding, we are grateful for the State of Illinois and Governor Pritzker's commitment to the Northern Illinois region. These dollars will go directly into communities located in our five-county area, helping to ensure a complete and accurate Census count so that each town, village, city, and county will receive their share of federal funding and representation," said Michael Dunn, Executive Director of the Region 1 Planning Council.

Responses from completed U.S. Census surveys is used to determine how billions of dollars in federal funding are allocated locally. The Census results are also used to determine the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives.

How to Complete 2020 Census

The nine-question Census survey takes less than 10 minutes to complete. To respond by phone, call 844-330-2020 or online at www.my2020Census.gov.

For more information on the Census visit, www.2020Census.gov.

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