



# Ogle County Mental Health Board

AGENCY REPORTS FOR SECOND QUARTER 2019

## VILLAGE OF PROGRESS

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SERVICE • 1969-2019

This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Village of Progress.

Believe it or not, fifty years of continuous nonprofit service is much more difficult than one might imagine. The journal, *Nonprofit Quarterly*, reported that the average life expectancy of a nonprofit is only six to nine years. Indeed, only about 16% of all nonprofits ever make it to the age of fifty.

But the Village of Progress has done more than survive to fifty; it has thrived.

In 1968 it was Robert Brooks, one of the Village of Progress' founding board members, who launched the successful 708 initiative in Ogle County to help fund services for people with developmental disabilities and mental illness. It is no coincidence, then, that the Village of Progress was founded at that time to stand in the forefront of providing those services.

Over the years the Village has grown in the scope and nature of the services offered. In its infancy, the Village provided day care to children with developmental disabilities – something that neither Illinois nor the federal government provided. (Special education wasn't created until passage of the Education for the Handicapped Act in 1975).

The Village broke new ground in Illinois again in the 1970s when it built its current training center. It's believed that the Village was the first nonprofit in Illinois to construct a building specifically dedicated as a training center for those with disabilities.

Over the years the Village reached out beyond its four walls. In 1975 they launched the Village Cleaning Service as a way of providing competitive, integrated employment to those with disabilities.

Since its inception the Village has always looked first toward entrepreneurial activities whenever possible. That mindset has continued into the present



with the opening of the Village Bakery in 2017.

The Village of Progress Foundation, created in 1990, has been a strong partner in helping to advance the Village's mission. In 2014 the Foundation launched the Attendance Grant Program. These grants are awarded annually to individuals who are on the Illinois waiting list for disabilities-related services but have not yet received them because of state underfunding.

At present, the Village of Progress serves the needs of over 90 men and women in Ogle County. Its board of directors, like its staff, are diverse, talented, and dedicated to the Village's mission. From just about any standard, the Village of Progress' 50 years of work in the county can be considered a major achievement.

The Village will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary with an open house on the afternoon of Friday, August 28th from 1:00 – 2:30. We will have a special unveiling at 1:30 to honor our past director Bob Glaser. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend.



### HOPE of Ogle County:

Contact: Ruth Carter 815.562.4323

April was Child Abuse Prevention Month as well as victim's rights awareness week. Through the month of April, HOPE of Ogle County displayed awareness information, service information, child client artwork, and rights information in the Ogle County Courthouse, along with Shining Star, CASA, LSSI and RSAC.

HOPE held its 5<sup>th</sup> Annual CincoK on May 4<sup>th</sup>. 77 participants attended this year's 5K and helped HOPE provide information to the community about its life saving services.

HOPE of Ogle County provided Emergency Shelter to 14 adults and 17 children this quarter. Staff provided support, counseling, support group services, court advocacy and economic empowerment to those in shelter.

### Easterseals - Family Support Services

Contact: Patti Mook/Kathleen Kurtz 815-965-5069

Family Support Services ended their fourth quarter with a strong finish! We co-hosted a training at Sauk Valley College with Florissa/Kreider Services entitled: "Late, Lost and Unprepared. Why Can't My Child Get Organized?" Two separate trainings were held-one for parents/caregivers and a full day for professionals.

We co-hosted our Galena mom's retreat weekend with Starnet Region I & III and Dr. Karen Maloney in May. We also held a family fun event at Stronghold Camp in May which was very well attended. Families who have children with disabilities enjoyed medieval carnival games, lunch, archery and tours of the castle. In June, we hosted our annual sibling night at Volcano Falls along with a sibling workshop. For this quarter, 90 people from Ogle County attended these various events and all of our respite hours were used for the four families enrolled in our program.



## **Village of Progress:**

**Contact: Brion Brooks 815.732.2126**

## **Sinnissippi Centers:**

**Contact: Patrick Phelan 815.284.6611**

Sinnissippi Centers' Ogle County staff were very active during this past quarter. Sinnissippi continued efforts in our partnership with the Rochelle Police Department and others for performing ALICE training in October at RTHS. This will be the first active shooter drill for Rochelle. Many Ogle County employees attended one of our three Mental Health First Aid trainings in the past three months including health department staff, probation staff, and a judge. Sinnissippi also had five employees trained in PAIP (partner abuse intervention program), what we call DVIP (domestic violence intervention program) that will help improve our program in Oregon and help to expand it in the future.

Sinnissippi also supported the FOCUS House annual Spaghetti supper with volunteers and participation. Sinnissippi posted jobs for 2 case managers in Ogle County (1 for each office) to help improve care. We posted a full time school based clinician to fill the need in Rochelle schools and will potentially expand into other schools in Ogle County.

Finally, the Ogle County Cares Coalition, of which Sinnissippi is a member, continues to talk about gaps in care in Ogle County. We had a special guest, Rochelle Mayor John Bearrows, in June, and he was able to meet service providers and also learn about needs in Rochelle and Ogle County as a whole.

## **Serenity Hospice & Home:**

**Contact: Lynn Knodle 815.732.2499**

Serenity has been busy hosting their annual fundraisers: the Garden Luncheon event at Stronghold, the Jonathon Knodle Golf Play Day at PrairieView on Father's Day weekend and one of the most anticipated events of the year, the Annual Butterfly Release. The butterfly release was held on the grounds of Serenity Hospice and attendees released nearly 400 butterflies.

Serenity Hospice is hosting a camp for bereaved children ages 6-17 on July 31<sup>st</sup> at the Nash Recreation Center. We are excited to bring this much needed resource to the children of Ogle County.

## **Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling:**

**Contact: Maureen Mostacci 815.636.9811 (24-hrs)**

Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling (RSAC) has been active with counseling and education programs in the community and the schools. All RSAC services are free of charge and confidential. As summer approaches, look for RSAC at summer fairs and events providing information for parents and children.

Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling is hosting a Golf Play Day at Aldeen Golf course on August 2, 2019. For more information on participating or sponsoring, call 815-636-9811 or check us out on the web or Facebook. All proceeds benefit child and adult survivors of sexual violence.

## **LSSI:**

**Contact: Jeremy Hooker 815.284.7796**

LSSI has had another busy quarter in Ogle County. The school year was completed with 7th and 8th graders at David L Rahn and Meridian Jr. High, with a total of over 500 students served. Project LEAD is also staying involved with some area schools through their summer programs by teaming up with Youth WORKS to present educational lessons on a variety of topics that promote healthy decision-making and wellness. After hiring an additional worker in the program this year, Project LEAD has the capacity to form partnerships with other schools in Ogle County and we are hoping to expand in the 2019-20 school year.

Youth WORKS, our violence prevention program, continues to grow and develop more partnerships within the community. Many of the lessons from the Too Good for Violence curriculum have focused on enhancing skills for safe, pro-social decision-making. In the 2019-20 school year, Youth WORKS will continue to have partnerships with Chana School and the HUB Project in Rochelle. Youth WORKS continues to work closely with CCBYS to identify at-risk youth who may benefit from counseling services and provide needed referrals. CCBYS serves at-risk, run away, and lockout youth on an emergency basis in Ogle County. They are also able to provide needed counseling services to adolescents and their families to promote stability within the home environment.

## **Family Counseling of Rockford:**

**Contact: Eileen Liezert 815.962.5585**

No Report Submitted