

Aurora - Batavia - Big Rock - Blackberry - Kaneville - Sugar Grove - Virgil

INC LINKS

South Kane County Townships Working Together

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Featured Agency Suicide Prevention Services

Suicide Prevention Services (SPS) will be 25 years old in 2023. It was with \$10,000 of seed money from INC Board that the agency began. The agency started with a depression hotline and 2 therapists to work with clients. Stephanie Weber, Executive Director, started an SOS (Survivors of Suicide) Support group in 1982 for families and friends of those who had died by suicide. This same group continues running on the 3rd Monday of every month and is led by 4 adults who are survivors as well as licensed clinicians. In addition, SOSY (Survivors of Suicide Youth) started 5 years ago and is geared towards children 6-17 years of age.

SPS focuses on Prevention, Intervention, and Postvention. The hotline is part of the National Suicide Prevention Hotline and is one of 183 centers in the country. SPS is working with the Lifeline to move towards 9-8-8. Like 9-1-1, 9-8-8 will be used if one is suicidal or concerned about someone who is suicidal.

SPS has contracts with 4 school districts. SPS therapists are called to these schools to evaluate a student who is at high risk. All 4 licensed therapists carry a caseload of individuals ranging from 6-87 years of age.

Education and training are an important part of the work done at SPS. Training can be anywhere from 2 hours to a full day. Training is provided to schools, social service agencies, churches, or as requested. Suicide Prevention Services motto is "Here for Life." For more information, contact SPS at <https://www.spsamerica.org/>.

What's Happening with INC?

Staff will be attending 708 Board meetings within the 7 townships in Southern Kane County throughout the month of February. The meetings are open to the public and details can be found on the INC Board website at www.incboard.org.

The INC Board is finalizing their Strategic Plan for FY23-25. INC conducted a survey of its 57 community volunteer board members, funded agency staff and board members, and dozens of key stakeholders such as government officials, provider agencies, and advocacy groups. Both the findings of the surveys on the needs of the community as well as the purpose and operation of INC Board were shared and discussed at the strategic planning session held in early January. The Board's guidance and direction will help to direct INC Board and staff as it makes decisions on planning and funding for the next 3 years. Please be on the lookout for our FY23-FY25 Strategic Plan on our website and don't forget to check us out on Facebook!



INC Board said good bye to intern Tiffany Larocque and hello to new intern Isabella Ramirez! Isabella is a 3rd year student at Northern Illinois University with a major in NNGO / Nonprofit and Sociology, and a minor in Psychology. She will graduate in May of 2023, and her goal is to focus on the operational and social media side of health and human services. Isabella will work with staff during the Spring semester on upcoming projects and attend board meetings and local community meetings along with the INC staff.

What's Happening Locally?

Association for Individual Development (AID) is offering a 10-week Crisis Line training beginning March 10th from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. For details, visit AID at www.aidcares.org.

Alive is Naperville and Aurora's teen center. They provide teens a unique place to connect, discover, and come alive. The program is a teen-led, teen-driven (TLTD) center focused on empowering the youth of today to become the impassioned, resilient leaders of tomorrow. As a nonprofit organization, Alive offers free drop-in hours after school and over the summer as well as a

myriad of programs, classes, and events, designed to build confident and resilient teens. For more information, visit <https://www.alivecenter.org/>.

Remembering Karen McCannon

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Karen McCannon on January 11th. Karen served on the Sugar Grove 708 board from May of 2003 until February of 2010. She also volunteered regularly at the Sugar Grove/Between Friends food pantry. These acts of giving and helping led her to be honored with Sugar Grove's Citizen of the Year award in 2008. Whenever she saw a need, she lent a hand or organized a project to make it happen. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Karen's family.

Kane County System of Care

Mental health is significant in the development of children and is an essential part of their overall health. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, 1 in 6 youth aged 6-17 experience a mental health disorder each year. Mental health has a huge impact on whether a child can succeed in school and ultimately in society. The Kane County System of Care (KCOSC) is a coordinated network of community providers and parents that is led by the Kane County Health Department. The goal of the KCSOC is to enhance

systems to improve mental health outcomes for children and families. The system of care approach combines a broad array of individualized services that are community based, family driven, youth guided, culturally and linguistically competent, and data informed. The KCSOC is building a system that identifies children who are at risk for developing a mental health disorder earlier; provides a stronger voice for youth and families in planning, oversight, and quality improvement; increases access to community-based services and parent/youth peer supports; improves access to culturally specific services that are provided in the family's primary language; and increases the use of evidence-based practices in our community. For more information, visit <https://www.kanehealth.com/Pages/Childrens-Mental-Health.aspx>.

Did You Know?

INC's continuing responsibility to the citizens of our seven townships is to assure the availability, accessibility, and continuity of appropriate services for persons with mental illness, intellectual/developmental disabilities, and substance use disorders. Its Mission Statement reads as follows: ***To support mental, intellectual, and developmental health and well-being for residents of the seven townships in INC's alliance by responsibly using these local resources to fund, plan, coordinate, monitor, advocate, educate and lead collaborative efforts for a local system of care that provides services to any resident with mental health concerns, intellectual/developmental disabilities, and/or substance use disorders.***