

Maine Township Agency Funding Special Meeting October 22, 2024

Maine Township Agency Funding Special meeting has been videotaped.

For more detailed reports and discussions please refer to the recorded meeting at:

https://mainetown.com/government/agendas_minutes.php

Board Members Present: Supervisor Dimond, Trustees: Jones, Horvath, Maher and Malik

Others in attendance: Dayna Berman, Marie Dachniwsky, Kathy Sabbini, Richard Lyon, Iain Parker, Anne Brown, Cassy Horton, Jessi Moon, Susan Resko, Michael Scholl, Amy Fox, Jennifer Sultz, Tina Cortez, Melody Rose, Maile Nguyen, Mindy Haglund, Lina Modestas, Melanie Pignotti, Kathryn Matousek, Mike Charewicz, Helmut Lackajs, Rebecca Plascencia, Nicole Coomer, Greg Ekland, Bob McNamara, and Eva Magnowski.

Supervisor Dimond called the special meeting to order at 6:32 p.m., led the Pledge of Allegiance and Deputy Clerk Magnowski called the roll.

Agenda Item: Public Participation

None.

Agenda Item: Presentations by the following Agencies:

1. PEER Services, Inc.

Presentation by Anne Brown. 2025 funding request: \$15,000.

PEER Services has been providing substance abuse prevention, early intervention and treatment services to residents of northern Cook County since 1975. The agency is licensed to provide substance abuse treatment by the Illinois Department of Human Services Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse. They are accredited by the Joint Commission. Services include early intervention and substance use disorder for teens, young adults, working parents and older adults, intensive outpatient treatment for adult assessment, early intervention, DUI risk education, prevention services for local schools and communities and drug testing services.

See video at 2:05

2. Pickles Group (New Agency)

Presentation by Cassy Horton. 2025 funding request: \$24,000

Pickles Group's mission is to provide free peer-to-peer support and resources to kids affected by their parent or guardian's cancer. More parents than ever are being diagnosed with cancer. That means more kids than ever are facing the weight of isolation, confusion, and fear that comes with this kind of adverse childhood experience and our healthcare and mental healthcare systems aren't built to support the kids of adult patients – yet. The agency was founded by three families, the Agnews, the Smiths, and the Hlavaceks, when parents saw their kids struggling through their cancer and couldn't find adequate support for them. Pickles Group is providing scalable, quality programming and support for kids by helping families talk about cancer, helping kids develop coping skills, and connecting them with kids who get it.

See video at 7:07

3. Oakton College Educational Foundation

Presentation by Jessi Moon. 2025 funding request: \$25,000

Oakton College Educational Foundation's mission is to enable student success by eliminating financial barriers and personal obstacles for residents seeking to better their circumstances. The Educational Foundation works as Oakton College's philanthropic arm while positioning the College to be a premier community partner. Support provided by the Oakton College Educational Foundation directly benefits more than 6,000 students enrolled in credit classes, nearly 14,000 students enrolled in continuing education, and 487,00 residents of the College's district.

See video at 14:54

4. Josselyn
Presentation by Susan Resko and Michael Scholl. 2025 funding request: \$141,700.
Josselyn is a nonprofit Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) accredited by the Illinois Department of Human Services. For 73 years Josselyn's mission has been to provide quality, affordable outpatient mental health services to residents who would not otherwise have access to care. They offer outpatient therapy, hard to access psychiatry, case management, employment support for adults, Latino Youth Services, school-based supports, and specialized programs for youth. Josselyn accepts Medicaid, Medicare, over seven forms of private insurance, self-paying clients and has a sliding scale fee.
See video at 21:47
5. Life Span
Presentation by Amy Fox. 2025 funding request: \$15,000.
Founded in 1978 by a coalition of concerned women in the north and northwest suburbs of Cook County, their mission is to empower survivors of domestic and sexual violence to demand safety as a human right. They ensure responsive and appropriate treatment and delivery of services to survivors of abuse. Life Span is a client-centered organization whose aim is to change social attitudes toward domestic violence through accountability, community engagement, and systemic advocacy.
See video at 31:25
6. Turning Point Behavioral Health Center
Presentation by Jennifer Sultz and Tina Cortez. 2025 funding request: \$50,000.
Turning Point Behavioral Health Care Center is a non-profit outpatient mental health center serving families for over 50 years with a mission to provide solid support when and where they need it most. In FY24, Turning Point provided over 26,000 service hours to 1,154 individuals, approximately 90% of whom were low income. Services include individual and group therapy, case management, a residential living program, and crisis services including The Living Room and Resource Center.
See video at 34:50
7. The Harbour
Presentation by Melody Rose. 2025 funding request: \$10,000.
The Harbour serves homeless suburban youth - a population that is often denied and underserved. The Harbour offers a myriad of programs to meet the needs of youth experiencing homelessness in N & NW suburban Cook County. This is a nonprofit, community - based, Licensed Child Welfare Agency with over 50 years of experience serving youth. The facility provides short-term shelter and crisis intervention and up to 18 months of transitional housing in both supervised group homes and independent apartments with declining rent subsidies. Youth in their transitional housing programs receive intensive life skills training, health education, budgeting and financial literacy, employment skills training, and educational support.
See video at 45:23
8. KAN-WIN
Presentation by Maile Nguyen. 2025 funding request: \$5,000.
Through culturally competent services, advocacy, and education KAN-WIN empowers survivors and fosters anti-violence movement leaders. KAN-WIN offers a holistic array of services, including crisis intervention, counseling, transitional housing, legal advocacy, medical advocacy, support groups, art therapy, children's programs, economic empowerment services and more. Services are free of charge, confidential, multilingual, culturally resonant, cater to diverse Asian languages.
See video at 52:16
9. Advocate Lutheran General Hospital Older Adult Services/Home Delivered Meals
Presentation by Mindy Haglund and Lina Modestas. 2025 funding request: \$6,000.
Older Adult Services' mission is to enrich the quality of life of the older adult through a full range of services that appropriately responds to the person as he/she experiences needs and desires along the aging continuum. Older Adult Services offers community-based programs for adults, and older adults, and adults with disabilities. These programs are in Maine Township and serve the primary and secondary service areas

of Advocate Lutheran General Hospital. The Agency is requesting funding for the Home Delivered Meals Program which provides meals to homebound adults and older adults who cannot prepare their own meals or are at home recovering from an illness or injury.

See video at 57:38

10. Children's Advocacy Center

Presentation by Melanie Pignotti. 2025 funding request: \$6,000.

Children's Advocacy Center of North and Northwest Cook County (CAC) provides comprehensive case coordination to aid the investigative process, forensic interviews, victim advocacy, medical, and therapeutic services for children who are alleged victims or witnesses to abuse or other crimes. CAC serves 38 communities in the north and northwest suburbs of Cook County. All services are free and provided in English and Spanish and include the child's non-offending family members.

See video at 1:06:08

11. Miracle House

Presentation by Kathryn Matousek. 2025 funding request: \$15,000.

Miracle House is a halfway house for women 18 and older recovering from addiction. The residents are required to find employment within four weeks. They are required to be working with an AA sponsor and attend meetings 7 days a week. The agency offers Alcoholics Anonymous meetings at their house 6 days a week for the community.

See video at 1:11:54

12. Izaak Walton League (New Agency)

Presentation by Helmut Lackaj and Mike Charewicz. 2025 funding request: \$7,500.

Izaak Walton League, Chapter 206 Des Plaines is a 501(c)3 organization. The League is one of the oldest conservation organizations in America. The League is a defender of soil, air, woods and wildlife and is promoting outdoor activities to Maine Township residence

See video at 1:19:00

13. Northwest Center Against Sexual Assault (NW CASA)

Presentation by Rebecca Plascencia. 2025 funding request: \$10,000

NWCASA works to empower individuals impacted by sexual harm and engage communities to end sexual violence. Their free services include individual, family, and group counseling for Survivors and their loved ones; medical advocacy at hospital emergency rooms; legal advocacy at local police departments and courthouses; general advocacy & referral services; crisis intervention telephone hotline; and professional training, sexual abuse prevention education, and community activism. Medical advocacy and Crisis hotlines are available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, and many services offered are available in both English and Spanish. NWCASA does this through two office locations and via virtual services.

See video at 1:28:37

14. Center of Concern

Presentation by Nicole Coomer and Greg Ekland. 2025 funding request: \$50,000

The mission of the Center of Concern is to provide housing solutions, support services, and counseling for older adults, people with disabilities, and others in need, enabling them to live with dignity and independence. As a nonprofit social service agency, Center of Concern provides housing, community, and older adult services to vulnerable low-income residents at no cost.

All agency programs share a common purpose: supporting families and strengthening the community.

See video at 1:32:00

15. Avenues to Independence

Presentation by Bob McNamara. 2025 funding request: \$48,000

Avenues to Independence is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that provides comprehensive services for people with developmental disabilities. Avenues to Independence is dedicated to putting aside old ideas about what is possible. The organization serves over 200 adults each year with physical, intellectual, and

developmental disabilities living in northwest Chicago and north and northwest suburban Cook County. Key Avenues' programs include: Residential Support Program, Home-Based Support Services, Community Employment Services, Professional Readiness Employment Program, Creative Avenues, Vocational programs, and Day Programs.

See video at 1:36:42

Several questions were asked during presentations by the Agency Funding Committee: Supervisor Dimond, Trustee Jones, Trustee Horvath, Trustee Maher, Dayna Berman, Marie Dachniwsky and Richard Lyon which were answered by the presenters.

MaineStay Agency and Program Coordinator Iain Parker stated that recommendation amounts from the Administrator and Department Heads will be included in the November Board packet. He asked the Board of Trustees to submit their recommendations by December 10th. Mr. Parker said that the Trustees' recommendations will be added to the chart and then the average from the Board and Staff will be calculated. He stated that the 2025-2026 Grant will be presented in December.

Agenda Item: Adjournment

Trustee Jones Motion to adjourn.
Trustee Horvath Second.

Motion on a roll call vote as follows:

Supervisor Dimond Yes
Trustee Jones Yes
Trustee Horvath Yes
Trustee Maher Yes
Trustee Malik Yes

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Maine Township Clerk