

#### Elgin Township Social Service Fund 2020/2021 Interim Report

Administer Justice is grateful to the Elgin Township for helping us expand access to justice for vulnerable neighbors in the Township.

Our continuing desire is to see two additional legal centers operating in the Township. To accomplish this, we had to secure additional funding and work with additional site locations.

In December we secured additional funding to partner with the Township in opening two location sites. To date, we have not expended any funds but anticipate spending all the funds prior to September. We have entered into an agreement with Judson University to open a legal center in August. This center will be overseen by a new staff person being hired by Judson this summer, involve faculty and students, along with lawyers from Administer Justice. This project will be the first of its kind in the country and can be a blueprint for other schools as an important service to the community and means of encouraging students to enter public interest law.

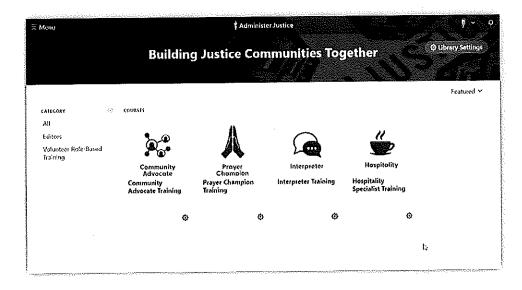
We are in conversation with other possible location sites, but do not yet have a firm commitment. COVID continued to slow our efforts as partner location sites struggle with their own reopening protocols. We are confident we can secure another location for community access prior to September. Funds are expended after an agreement is secured and within one month of opening. Those funds go toward malpractice insurance, volunteer liability insurance, premises liability insurance, database, online calendar, virtual tools, MS Teams Channel, Website, Supplies, and Training.



The supplies a new legal center receives.



Every client will receive this helpful guide as we help them seek justice and find freedom.



We have nine volunteer roles that are trained through our online learning management system.

Thank you again for your investment in expanding access to justice for all. We look forward to sharing photos from the grand openings of the new location sites and to sharing the impact these locations have on Elgin Township residents needing help to guide them through the complex legal circumstances besetting them.

If I can offer any further information, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Bruce D. Strom

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CEO

O'Shea Center 1135 Bowes Road Elgin IL 60123 Phone: 847-931-6200 Fax: 847-888-6079 E-mail: Info@AlDcares.org

Elgin Township Social Service Funding FY2021

Six-month activity report (Nov 2020-Apr 2021)

Received \$45,000 in funding on 12/22/2020

\$20,000 for Elgin Nutrition Initiative (not yet spent) as commercial kitchen remodel just completed in April 2021.

\$12,500 for client services (spent to support Elgin based programs for clients who rely on local funding).

Total number of Elgin Township clients served thus far in 6 months- Nov 2020-Apr 2021=190 (9 who rely on local funding)

Programs in which Elgin Township residents participate:

- Case management
- Community Day Services and Volunteering
- Community Living Programs
- Job Development/Career Planning
- Home Based Support

The remaining \$20,000 in Elgin Township funds will support the Elgin Nutrition Initiative which will include a part time professional educator, a licensed Dietitian, curriculum and learning materials, healthy eating and lifestyle training, food and other cooking supplies.

The remaining \$12,500 will be spent on client services offered in Elgin for clients who rely on local funding to participate in programs that support them in living the lives they choose.

My best, Christie Plotzke AID Director of Grants and Fundraising cplotzke@aidcares.org 847.931.2292 www.aidcares.org

VISIT AIDCARES.ORG FOR A COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF AID LOCATIONS AND SERVICES

CHILDREN/TRANSITION SERVICES • EMPLOYMENT/COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES • DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SERVICES CRISIS/COMMUNITY OUTREACH • OUTPATIENT/RESIDENTIAL MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES • VICTIM SERVICES









355 Dundee Ave, Elgin, IL 60120 PH: 847-608-5017 | www.BGCElgin.org Facebook & Instagram: @boysgirlsclubofelgin

April 5th, 2021

Frank Ramirez Elgin Township 729 S. McLean Blvd Elgin, IL 60123

Dear Frank Ramirez,

The Boys and Girls Club of Elgin is sincerely appreciative of the Elgin Township's support for the youth in the Elgin community. This letter is to report our current program activities and outcomes during the first half of our program year of October 1st through March 30th.

With support from Elgin Township, the Boys & Girls Club of Elgin successfully operated during the pandemic during the first half of the grant year by serving over 400 youth and families during a very challenging year.

Attached you will find the interim report including the following:

- Narrative on Operations from 10/1/2020-3/30/2021
- Budget breakdown
- Photographs

Again, we sincerely thank you for your continued support of the Boys & Girls Club of Elgin's mission as we continue to serve the youth in the Elgin community who need us most.

Sincerely,

Cathy Russell
President & CEO
crussell@bgcelgin.org
847-608-5017
355 Dundee Avenue

Elgin, IL 60120

Mussell

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS** 

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#### **DIRECTOR EMERITUS**

Kevin McCarty Mike Shales

#### STAFF

Cathy Russell, CEO Natalie Pawluk, COO Elizabeth Moe Garcia, CDO Jessica Jones, CFO



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#### Narrative

In October 2020, Boys & Girls Club of Elgin was operating full day (12 hour) programs for students at 6 locations in Elgin, Streamwood, South Elgin & Bartlett. Staff assisted members with their remote learning during school hours and youth enrichment activities during the after-school time. BGCE served around 400 youth during this semester with this operation model.

In January 2021, BGCE expanded operations to reflect the decision of U46 District to return most students to a hybrid school schedule. Club sites were transferred from the high school locations back to elementary schools. BGCE held full and after school programs each day based on the student's hybrid schedule. Club sites included 9 elementary schools and the Elgin Clubhouse and 400 students were served through this operations model.

#### **Budget**

Employee Salaries	
- Area Manager/Program Coordinator	
- Program Assistants	\$7,000
Program Supplies	
- STEM, Art, Recreation,	\$2,000
Transportation	
- Van expenses for member transportation	\$500
Safety & Training	! •
- COVID safety materials	
- Staff training	\$500
Total for October 1st, 2020-March 30th, 2021	\$10,000
Employee Salaries	
- Area Manager/Program Coordinator	
- Program Assistants	\$7,000
Program Supplies	
- STEM, Art, Recreation,	\$2,000
Transportation	
- Van expenses for member transportation	\$500
Safety & Training	
- COVID safety materials	
- Staff training	\$500
Total proposed budget for April 1st, 2021-September 30th, 2021	\$10,000
Total Grant Funds	\$20,000

Thank you for all you do for the youth in the Elgin community!

#### **GREAT FUTURES START HERE.**

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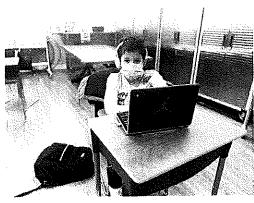


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#### **GREAT FUTURES START HERE.**

# CASA Kane County Elgin Township Report

# Our accomplishments during the reporting period.

cracks especially contact with the children and foster families. CASA Kane County has been instrumental in ensuring that cases are brought before Training Class that started on 5/4/2021. Despite COVID restrictions, our staff and volunteers have consistently had contact with all of the children the Elgin area. CASA Kane County trained 36 new CASA/GAL volunteers who went through the initial 50-hour training program since the start Funding from the Elgin Township aided in the recruitment and training of volunteers that continue to serve the abused and neglected children in reporting period, we have sworn in additional staff and prepared other staff members to be able to assist to ensure that nothing falls through the we are entrusted to advocate for. In addition, when we were informed that volunteers were not comfortable making in person visits during this Every CASA/GAL volunteer is then required to complete 12-15 continuing education hours annually. These classes also, have been recruited entirely online to continue with the change in training and recruiting to an online format. 35 trainees have been recruited for our 2021 Spring of the grant period. There has been a spike in the number of children entering the system, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to keep up. he Judge in a timely manner

different from one case to the next based on many factors of the children and their age, what brought the case in and the complexity of mental and physical health and well-being goals. Our CASA/GAL volunteers increase positive outcomes of improved school behavior, effective responses to conflict and learning what it takes to have healthy relationships that will help them long-term with whatever comes their way today and well into CASA Kane County is proud of our transparency, measurements and benchmarks that impact the lives of the children we serve in Elgin in the foster care system. Our most important outcomes for these kids in care is to first ensure their best interest needs are met, which can be very

# Below are brief success stories of how a child was helped by a CASA volunteer. Case Story #1

The case came in 4 ½ years ago when Ryan's younger brother was sexually abused by their parents (he also has another younger brother). His two him for making her happy after a crummy week. She also said that Judge A who was previous judge on the case always asked about him and was so pleased he was doing so well. Judge K had each of us say a few words to him and CASA Jim said that he wanted Ryan to share his latest news. younger brothers are in Guardianship with a relative but Ryan had an Independence goal. Ryan will be turning 21 and aging out of the program. The judge told him that he was the poster child for other kids to see that they can be successful even though they are in foster care. She thanked Ryan works at a meat packing plant and his peers elected him as their Union representative!

# CASA Kane County Elgin Township Report

CASA Kane County Schedule of Quality Measures:	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Year to Date
All active CASA/GAL volunteers will complete 12-20 hours of continuing education programs annually and keep record of these opportunities in Optima.	98	40			
CASA/GAL volunteers will be recruited, trained and sworn in by the Judge, and prepared to take new cases.	16	20			

CASA Kane County will continue to recruit and train additional volunteers with the remainder of the funds through the next two quarters of the grant period. This is to meet the growing number of child victims we are currently seeing, numbers higher than at any time during the history of the organization. We are very grateful for the support of the Elgin Township and value our partnership to help these children in the Elgin community during these uncertain times.



#### Interim Activity Report submitted by Centro de Informacion May 6, 2021

#### **Social Services Provided**

With the support of Elgin Township, Centro de Informacion proposed to provide bilingual information, referral, advocacy, crisis support, employment assistance and job fairs, legal clinics, housing assistance, public aid information, and life skills seminars to Spanish-speaking immigrant residents of Elgin Township. A year ago, however, COVID put a stop to all group events—job fairs, legal clinics, medical screenings, seminars, and community resource fairs. Partners such as Restoration America, Chinese Mutual Aid, both hospitals, other agencies, and professionals in the community stopped offering their services at Centro.

Although during the pandemic, Centro never closed, the agency has struggled to meet the unanticipated needs of the community while, simultaneously, trying to ensure the safety of our staff. As much as possible, community outreach workers provided help by phone. In-person assistance has been by appointment only. During these past six months, Centro has been overwhelmed with immigrants disproportionately impacted by the virus, in crisis, needing answers, information, emergency financial assistance for rent, over utilities, and medical bills they cannot pay, and, especially, asking for help with filing for unemployment benefits and putting together their first-ever resumes for ILJobLink.

**Elgin Township Clients** 

From October 2019 – March 2020, 87% of Elgin Township clients have had incomes below the Federal Poverty Level and 98% below 200% of poverty. Bilingual services have been provided to children (6%), youth (5%), adults (72%), and seniors (17%). Within this population, 97% speak Spanish as their first language and only limited English. During these six months, Centro provided services to more than 1,100 township clients from 26 countries, and, as educational efforts all went online through Facebook Live and YouTube, several thousand tuned in without our being able to identify who they were or where they lived.

Use of Elgin Township Funds

Elgin Township funding provides critical part-time salary support for Centro bilingual community outreach workers who answer the questions of what, where, when, why, and how, provide advocacy with landlords, employers, and doctors among others, fill out forms in English such as for unemployment benefits, emergency financial assistance, child support, and interpret and translate to link township families with needed services and supports—both that Centro provides and those that Centro does not offer.

By the end of the term, Centro de Informacion anticipates using the entire \$30,000 for personnel, payroll taxes and fringe benefits, and associated supplies, copies, and other direct costs.



#### Chinese Mutual Aid Association

1016 W Argyle Street Chicago II. 60640 Tel. (773) 784-2900 | Fax. (773) 784-2984 www.chinesemutualaid.org

CMAA's Elgin office has been providing a myriad of social services for the low income, refugee and immigrant communities of Elgin since 2016- particularly the growing and underserved Lao community of Elgin. The Covid-19 pandemic has exposed a wide breadth of need in our community as the low income immigrant and refugee community is overrepresented in industries that have been hit hardest by the pandemic, compounded by the fact that our families have never had an opportunity to build a "rainy day" fund for emergencies. With support from the Elgin Township, our Elgin office has been able to offer a myriad of culturally competent Covid assistance programming to our community. These services have included expanded case management services to ensure that those struggling most have access to the resources they need; enhanced translation services; administration of our Community Care Program; and most recently- vaccine outreach.

Specifically, funding from Elgin Township was allocated towards supporting the salaries and fringe benefits of CMAA's Assistant Manager of In-Home Services Ket Herena and Elgin's Community Care Program Coordinator Bird Sanavongsay. Both Ms. Herena and Ms. Sanavongsay were raised in Elgin, and are deeply embedded in the Lao community as immigrants themselves who are fluent in Lao; as such, Ms. Herena and Ms. Sanavongsay are invaluable assets to our clients as they have assisted them throughout the pandemic. As noted above, the pandemic has had a devastating effect on our community and access to public benefits such as SNAP, Medicaid and unemployment assistance are more critical than ever for our clients. Using their language competencies, both Ms. Herena and Ms. Sanavongsay have assisted clients in applying for these benefits, as well as maintaining them- translating applications, notices of renewals and various correspondence required to maintain public benefits. Throughout the pandemic Ms. Sanavongsay has also connected clients facing food insecurity to food drives throughout the city- including the multiple food drives hosted by CMAA.

Additionally, at the time of this grant proposal Ms. Herena oversaw Elgin's In-Home Services Programming, or Community Care Program (CCP), while Ms. Sanavongsay serves as our CCP's program coordinator. CMAA's CCP provides culturally competent in-home caregiving services for aging adults and disabled individuals who wish to remain independent and age in the comfort of their own homes. Through the work of Ms. Herena and Ms. Sanavongsay, as well as our In-Home Caregivers, our CCP has, and continues to, conduct significant Covid outreach, education and prevention. These activities have included assistance with helping clients find Covid testing sites, making appointments, transportation to and from testing sites as well as scheduling, registration and transportation to vaccine appointments.

CMAA is extremely grateful to Elgin Township for their generous grant of \$8,000 to support our Elgin office. Due to the high needs of our community currently, CMAA has expended 100% of the funds serving the low income immigrant and refugee community of Elgin.



PO Box 1390 Elgin IL 60121-1390 Bus Line: 847-742-4088 Crisis Line: 847-697-2380 Fax: 847-742-4182 TTY: 847-742-4057 www.crisiscenter.org

Elgin Township Social Service Funding 6-month Report: 10/1/20 –3/31/21

**Date:** 5/5/21

Award Date: 11/9/2020

Funding Period: 10/1/2020 - 9/31/2021

Award Amount: \$60,000 for Economic Crisis Program; Economic Crisis Shelter; Emergency Food Pantry; and Facility Maintenance/Insurance & Repair.

1) How were funds used?

Financial Report: 73.25% of grant funds expended by 3/31/21.

\$34,082.79: salaries for EC personnel \$ 5,617.21: fringes for EC personnel

\$ 1,859.11: Shelter Program costs (utilities, shelter supplies, and maintenance)

**\$ 974.40:** Insurance

\$ 1,419.11: Telephone crisis line

\$43,952.62 Total

2) If you have not spent them, why? Grant funds are dispersed throughout the funding period of 10/1/2020 - 9/30/2021; all funds will be expended by 9/30/21.

3) What your future plans are with the money over the remainder of the term?

Funds will be used as needed for EC Program salaries & fringes; Shelter Program costs; insurance; and crisis line costs.

Services provided to Elgin Township residents 10/1/20 - 3/31/21

Economic Crisis Program: EC Financial and Case Managers provided the following:

- 551 Elgin Township residents received 739 hours of service
- 846 crisis line calls were answered; 1,594 walk-in contacts were addressed
- 44 Elgin Township households received \$61,562.29 in financial assistance for housing and/or utilities
- 224 households received 5,778 meals from our Emergency Food Pantry
- 71 households received a November Holiday/Thanksgiving meal box
- 114 households received 21,412 diapers/wipes; 174 households received 6,674 toiletries; and 49 households received 109 rolls of toilet paper
- 96 residents received transportation assistance that included bus passes, cab and train fare
- 59 households received 270 pairs of socks; 24 households received 38 pairs of shoes or boots; 91 households received 250 winter coats; 130 households received 342 pairs of gloves; and 108 households received 300 winter hats
- 40 residents received 99 blankets
- 8 households received 10 eyeglass referrals to the Elgin Lion's Club

EC Shelter: A total of 13 women and 3 children homeless due to financial/economic crisis were sheltered for 244 nights; 87% (10 women and 3 children for 91 nights) listed an Elgin Township address. An additional 27 women and 31 children from Elgin Township were safely sheltered 501 nights due to domestic violence.

**Submitted By:** Lisa Winchel, Resource Development/Facility Coordinator, Shereen Venning, Grant Monitor Theresa Boksa, Information Technology Manager

COMMUNITY CRISIS CENTER, INC MISSION:





PO Box 1390 Elgin IL 60121-1390 Bus Line: 847-742-4088 Crisis Line: 847-697-2380 Fax: 847-742-4182 TTY: 847-742-4057 www.crisiscenter.org

May 5, 2021

COVID-19 Update

Since our last report of October 2020, the Crisis Center continues to provide the following services: 24-hour crisis line; 24-hour onsite and off-site emergency shelter; in-person and telehealth individual and group counseling; housing, utility and transportation assistance; emergency pantry for food and personal care items; children's services; and abuser intervention services.

Adhering to CDC and State of Illinois recommendations capacity of our facility is limited; some staff continue to work remotely and staggered schedules; group gatherings/meetings are limited; and shelter census remains reduced. The Crisis Center provided acrylic barriers for work stations and made minor renovations as needed; continues health screening for all who enter the agency; continues increased sanitizing of high touch areas in the facility; provides PPE for staff, clients, and guests; requires masks; encourages social distancing, frequent hand sanitizing, and vaccinations. The agency is in the process of making a plan to return all staff to the facility and increasing shelter census once the state enters Restore Illinois Phase 5.

We continue to see fewer residents request services than in pre-pandemic times. We believe that the additional financial support from the government, the extended protection from eviction, and the on-going fear of the virus contribute to the lower requests for assistance. The Crisis Center is networking with other local, county and state providers in order to offer comprehensive services to our community.

#### Executive Director Update

The Crisis Center's longtime, legacy ED, Gretchen Vapnar, retired in June 2019. After a lengthy search a new ED, Ms. La Tonya Walker, started with the agency in November 2019. She resigned in March 2021 and the Board of Directors is working with a recruiter to hire a new ED. During the interim the Board has designated a 3-person Leadership Team that includes the Business Manager, IT Manager and Resource Development Coordinator. We will inform the Township once a new ED is in place.

Sincerely,
Lisa S. Winchel
Resource Development/Facility Coordinator







#### Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Northern Illinois

#### Elgin Township Grant – Progress Report

Grant amount received: \$2,500

From November 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021, we counseled **25** Elgin Township residents in 28 counseling sessions.

The following are the types of counseling provided and demographic information of the clients served:

# of Clients	Type of Counseling	Notes
9	Pre-Purchase	1 – Purchased a home and received additional Down
		Payment assistance
		1 – Client is purchasing a Habitat for Humanity Home
		2 – Decided not to purchase a home following
		counseling
		5 – Have not yet closed
1	Reverse Mortgage	Client received required counseling to get a reverse
_		mortgage
4	Mortgage Default	1 – client received a modification following counseling
·		3 – still working on the modification process
5	Budget Counseling –	4 – received counseling for credit issues – 1 client is
_	Homeowners	paying down their debt through our debt management
		program
		1 – received the required pre-filing bankruptcy
		counseling
6	Budget Counseling – Renters	2 – past due on rent
		4 – received counseling for credit issues

Income Levels		
Level	# of Clients	
30% or below median income	3_	
30 - 50% of median income	4	
50 - 80% of median income	12	
80 – 100% of median income	1	
Over 100% of median income	5	

815-338-5757 www.illinoisCCCS.org

13707 W Jackson St, Suite B, Woodstock, IL 60098



### Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Northern Illinois

Race/Ethnicity				
Race	# of Clients	# Clients Hispanio		
African American	2	0		
White	23	17		

Age of Clients		
Age Range	# of Clients	
20-25	1	
26-35	6	
36-45	8	
46-55	4	
56-65	2	
65+	4	

815-338-5757 www.illinoisCCCS.org

13707 W Jackson St, Suite B, Woodstock, IL 60098

# easterseals DuPage & Fox Valley

#### Elgin Township Social Service Funding Six Month Activity Report May 6, 2021

#### Submitted by Theresa Forthofer, President and CEO

In November of 2020, Elgin Township provided Easterseals DuPage & Fox Valley with a \$15,000 grant to provide critically needed Pediatric Rehabilitation Services to low-income infants and children with disabilities who are residents of Elgin Township.

#### How the funds were used:

The Elgin Township Funding was used to support Family Services which includes counseling, psychosocial support, information, and referral services to children with disabilities and their families who reside in Elgin Township. To date we have served more than 207 Township clients and have provided more than 300 hours of Family Services support. Therefore, we have exhausted the funds provided by the Elgin Township. However, we have leveraged individual donors and fundraising activities so the services can continue for the remaining grant period.

Your contribution helped improve the mental and social health of children with disabilities, and their families, during this unprecedented time!



#### **Program Summary:**

Easterseals DuPage & Fox Valley is a pediatric rehabilitation organization serving infants, toddlers, and children with developmental delays and disabilities. Children benefit from an integrated model, a team of experienced therapists, evidence-based care, and family engagement.

Typically, pediatric disability services focus exclusively on achieving the developmental milestones for motor, communication, and self-care. They often overlook the

behavioral and mental health needs of the child and the family which are fundamental to successfully supporting this vulnerable population. When mental health needs are left unaddressed, parents of children with developmental delays and disabilities are at risk for marital conflict and parenting difficulties, which compromise family stability and negatively impacts the rehabilitative outcomes for the child with a disability.

When family needs extend beyond the child with the disability, behavior and mental health services play an important role. At Easterseals, Parent Liaisons provide client-driven services to help children and parents build strategies to manage their grief, stress, and anxiety so they can focus on new possibilities for their child and their family. When families require more support, a Social Worker is available. A Case Manager helps families overcome barriers to care, such as financial, insurance and scheduling conflicts. A Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor, with extensive pediatric experience, works with families when the behavior and mental health needs are of significant concern. Our wrap-around model of care is supported by the AAP and our clients. The AAP recently updated its clinical recommendations regarding co-occurring conditions stating, "Interventions work best when they are early, when they are intense and when they involve the family."

#### **Outcomes:**

- 201 Families living in Elgin Township and enrolled in therapy services, had access to support and resources provided by the Family Services Program.
- The comprehensive family survey indicated that 98.7% of families felt services resulted in progress (positive changes) for their child.
- 99% of children that were discharged during made clinical progress.
- 100% of parents indicated that they were given ideas that help with everyday activities at home and in the community.
- 100% of parents indicated that when information was shared about their child's diagnosis, therapy and/or equipment needs, it was understandable and helpful.
- 98.1% of parents indicated they received information and ideas that helped when their child started school or made other school related changes.

#### **Future Plans:**

This year, we were recognized by doctors for our exceptional teletherapy services that allowed families to address their individual health concerns and their child's development during the pandemic. Our Comprehensive Annual Family Survey conducted in November stated that nearly 90% of children continued to make progress during teletherapy services and 100% of families felt supported. Families indicated that therapy was the one constant in their life (during the

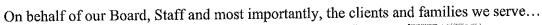


pandemic) that they could rely on. Considering all the factors influencing families during the pandemic; e-learning, working from home, loss of day care, family stress, we are very pleased with these outcomes. The ability to have individual choice regarding in-person, teletherapy or a hybrid model provided comfort and consistency their child and their family needed. Therefore, while in-person services will always remain a priority, we recognize that virtual services enable us to address barriers of care that include transportation, family schedules, illnesses, etc. It can also serve to improve health equity. We will continue to enhance our virtual format and it will become an on-going model for all services and family supports.

Due to COVID-19, civil unrest, job insecurity, stock market volatility, etc., we have experienced an increase need for mental health supports. While we have always been committed to excellence and community-based services that address the mental health and therapeutic rehabilitation needs of children with disabilities, we recognize that this is a growing area of need. Therefore, we are in the process of hiring a psychologist to further expand our integrative, wrap around services. We have also added a case management position that works directly with all newly diagnosed clients ages 0 - 3 that come to us through the Early Intervention System so that we can help families find answers, celebrate progress, and feel empowered at a time when they are often overwhelmed and vulnerable.

The pandemic exposed the stress our families are under in a way we had not witnessed previously. We recognized that not all families are comfortable reaching out to our mental health providers however, they have very close connections with their rehabilitation therapists. Therefore, over the next year, our entire therapy team will be trained, through the Erikson Institute on FAN (Facilitating Attuned Interactions). This approach serves as a framework for parent engagement and reflective practice. It focuses on parents' urgent concerns and helps therapists tailor responses to match what parents need most in the moment.

In addition, we recently initiated a new project specifically focused on health equity. Like other priorities, it was something we always intended to focus on. However, in the past, we found ourselves challenged by competing priorities. The pandemic highlighted the significant inequities in health care and amplified the need to act now.







#### **Elgin Township**

#### **Six Month Report**

The objective of the psychiatry program is to provide quality diagnostic assessment, consultation, and medication prescriptions for individuals with mental illness. The priority of the program is to provide stabilization with medication support, ongoing medication management, and education. Funding from Elgin Township helps the agency minimize the disparity between the reimbursements we receive in fee for service billing and donations comparative to the actual cost of providing psychiatry services. In the first six months of our grant period beginning October 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021 Ecker provided 647 Elgin Township residents with psychiatric services.

Medication-assisted treatment (MAT) is the use of medications in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, which is effective in the treatment of opioid use disorders and can help some people to sustain recovery. MAT programs are considered a standard of care when combined with individual and group counseling. The MAT program improved to include a nurse practitioner with addiction medicine experience who also has experience prescribing Suboxone which alleviates opioid/alcohol withdrawal symptoms so patients can focus on their treatment program and recovery. In the first six months of our grant period beginning October 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021 Ecker provided 41 Elgin Township residents with substance misuse services.

We continue to modify our service delivery to maintain client and staff safety during the phases of the pandemic. While the agency continued to deliver services virtually during the shut-down, we have transitioned back to in-person. The impact of COVID-19 and the restrictive measures put in place during the pandemic coupled with loneliness, job and income loss, and death has led to increased levels of anxiety and a negative effect on many people's behavioral health. We are witnessing the highest volume of intake requests in the agencies history. Our commitment to providing continuity of care to our clients and new programs and services remains steadfast during these uncertain times.

We are very grateful for Elgin Township's continued and generous support. Your funding helps us to carry on our mission of providing behavioral health services that help people maintain their independence, health and highest quality of life.



#### MISSION

The Elgin Cooperative Ministry exists to bolster whole-life stability for our neighbors by advocating for their nourishment, health and success.

#### **VISION**

As persons of many faiths, we are united by our call to care for the holistic wellbeing of our neighbors, which begins with relieving food insecurity, nourishing the hungry, and cultivating health and hope.

As residents of the greater Elgin area, we commit to truly knowing our neighbors and inviting our neighbors to be truly known.

As members of a community, we advocate for the whole-life stability of our neighbors, knowing that we are all only as successful as each other.

As inhabitants of this planet, we conduct our work in ways that protect our environment for the sake of the health of neighbors around the world and neighbors yet to come.

As an interfaith cooperative, we welcome all our neighbors fromall backgrounds and walks of life to this table.

#### MIDTERM REPORT

May 6, 2021

ECM continues to be very grateful for the ongoing support we receive from Elgin Township. During this past year, we have experienced many challenges. The pandemic itself with the restrictions on socialization has impacted our ability to bring people into our facilities to dine, has further limited our volunteer pool because of legitimate counterindications for those over 55 or 60 prior to availability of vaccination....and even afterward because of fear and legitimate caution.

Our Soup Kettles converted to carry-out meals early on and most continue through the present time. Some of the Kettles have opened doors for inhouse dining to a very limited capacity but continue to offer hot meals on a carry out basis. This has greatly increased the amount of disposable clam shells, plasticware, and Styrofoam containers with lids, and carry out bags that we have had to purchase. To date, during the past 6 months, we have spent \$4,165 on paper goods as listed above and serving related items such as gloves, sanitizer, and various other items. Overall, our numbers are down a bit from past years. While these numbers can fluctuate, we attribute the overall decline to the additional monetary and community support that has been generated to counteract the pandemic. We would anticipate that this will increase back to at least prior levels when ancillary

support wanes. We anticipate that our paper goods charges for the remaining 6 months will be a bit greater because of the larger community meals that some of our members have done in prior years will be slowly reinstated as our COVID case numbers continue to decline.

We report our numbers by calendar year. During 2020, our Soup Kettles(including Vineyard breakfasts) served 30,720 individuals 38,067 meals. Community Crisis Center served 97 families, 5,480 meals(significantly down because of COVID restrictions.) We will utilize the remainder of your support to continue purchasing and supplying materials for serving meals and any remaining township funding will be dispersed equally to the Soup Kettles in their regular stipends that were approved at our last quarterly meeting.

ECM provides additional support for the member pantries in Elgin and South Elgin. Numbers served here during this past year (excluding FFGE) total 4,677 families and 17,743 individuals. FFGE serves over twice the number of families each week, but we do not presently have reliable total numbers to share.

The Township's support to ECM makes a daily difference in the lives of those in Elgin who are food insecure. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Joann W. Hartmann, Chair

Elgin Cooperative Ministry



Elgin Partnership for Early Learning 220 East Chicago Street Elgin, IL 60120 847-452-2457

05/05/21

families.

#### Elgin Township Trustees,

#### Executive Board Members

Advocate Sherman Hospital

Chamberlain Educational Consultants, Inc

City of Elgin

Elgin Community College

Gail Borden Public Library

Kane County Health Department

**Next Generation Pediatrics** 

School District U-46

VNA Health Care

YWCA Elgin

Please see report below for our 6 month report. Thank you for your partnership and commitment to the community in the name of children and

#### 1. How you used the funds

Funding is being used for materials, electronics and workforce for Developmental and Social-Emotional screenings (Ages and Stages/ASQ-3)/outreach and enrollment/resources for early care and education sites.

2. If you have not spent them, why?

EPEL has not spent funding to date because of COVID restrictions of entering food pantries, site restrictions and weather since we need to be outside. The online version of the screening tool is available on the Elgin Partnership for Early Learning website. EPEL brought in a trainer to train in home child care provider but the organization did it in-kind. EPEL has been having partner meetings to design a plan for outreach efforts to Meet Families Where they are and offer screenings onsite with a bilingual support and materials.

## 3. What your future plans are with the money over the remainder of the term?

EPEL will begin our outreach and neighborhood family engagement efforts the week of June 7<sup>th</sup> Spending will start as we are purchasing materials needed for those sites and workforce to offer screenings onsite. Our hope is that as restrictions are lifted we will be able to add our 3 Language in the Laundromat programs as a screening site for families as well as get back into Food for Greater Elgin, Salvation Army and Soup Kettles.

Together We Can,

Selver Peters

Amber Peters
Executive Director
Elgin Partnership for Early Learning
amberpeters@elginpartnership.org



To: Elgin Township Supervisor and Trustees

From: Bernadette May, Executive Director

RE: Semi-annual grant report

Family Service Association has served 426 unique individuals living in Elgin Township for the time period of 10/1/2020 to 3/31/2021. We had a total of 8,705 contacts with those 426 unique individuals in the same time frame.

We have utilized \$21,410 of the total \$25,000 grant funds in the following ways:

- 1. We serviced Elgin Township residents that had no funding, and were not eligible for Medicaid, on a very liberal sliding fee scale that starts at \$3 per session based on income. All other costs of service are waived to these clients. (\$18,760 in fees were waived.)
- 2. We provided therapy books and tools to clients as they were unable to be seen in the office to share our resources. (\$2650 in tools provided to families.)

Since the reporting period that ended on 3/31/2021, we have expended the remaining \$3,590 on waived fees and all grants dollars were expended by 4/30/2021.

We thank you for your continued support of our agency and mental health. We are extremely disappointed in the Clerk's decision in regards to the 708 Boards. So much good could have been done on behalf of Elgin Township residents and I certainly hope that the decision is overturned.

In service,

Bernadette May, LCSW



April 2, 2021

Elgin Township 729 S. McLean Blvd. Elgin, IL 60123

Dear Mr. Ramirez,

Please accept this 6 month report from Fellowship Housing Corporation. We are currently working with and housing 6 families in Elgin. We have 6 single moms with 11 children, for a total of 17 residents living in Elgin. (We have additional families living at our Hoffman Estates and Schaumburg locations.)

Funds were utilized to support the single moms and children housed in Elgin through a variety of activities including:

- A portion of their monthly housing costs
- Family Advocates to provide accountability, advocacy, goal setting, and financial literacy training
- Employment and counseling services
- Debt matching program
- Basic needs such as clothing, coats, school supplies, etc.

The funds have been fully utilized. On behalf of the moms and children at Fellowship Housing, I would like to express our appreciation for our partnership. Thank you for empowering single moms to build a new legacy! If you are in need of any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 847-380-8867.

Sincerely,

Amanda Woods
Associate Director
amanda@fhcmoms.org



May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Elgin Township 729 S. McLean Blvd. Elgin, IL 60123

Dear Elgin Township Board Members,

On behalf of all of us here at Fox Valley Hands of Hope, thank you again for generously awarding \$6,000 to support our no-cost grief services!

We have been able to put this award to good use for Elgin residents by continuing to offer several virtual, no-cost grief support options to our clients. Below is a list of the programs that we have provided in the last six months.

- Individual Counseling Clients of all ages meet one-on-one with a licensed clinician to receive counseling and learn how to cope with their loss(es).
- Individual Support Clients meet one-on-one with a trained volunteer to receive comfort and support as it relates to their loss(es).
- Pathways This weekly group supports clients that are navigating their losses related to the death of a spouse or life partner.
- Crossroads A program designed specifically for those who have gone through the Pathways
  group. These Participants have journeyed through some of the initial stages of loss and are now
  prepared to seek a new direction in life.
- M.A.L.E.S. (Men After a Loss Expressing themselves Safely) An on-going support group, specifically for men who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Here, guys can freely express their feelings with other men who are experiencing the same challenges.
- Passages This new group is for parents who are struggling with the loss of their spouse while simultaneously trying to help their children grieve through a loss.
- Life After Caregiving This on-going support group navigates through grief and the loss of your role as a caregiver.
- COVID-19 Coping Group This drop-in group will be available as participants sign up and is for people who have lost a loved-one due to the pandemic.
- Iluminar la Esperanza/ We Illuminate Hope In partnership with Family Focus, this in an open, general grief group, offered in English and Spanish, that provides education and guidance on the feelings that come with loss.

- Understanding Grief, Loss, and Bereavement This educational video presented by volunteer,
   Ken Schneider discusses how to identify the feelings that come with acute grief along with tips on how to cope with the change.
- Memories of Mom This virtual session is for people who are grieving their mothers on this
  upcoming Mother's Day. During this session, clinicians will discuss the ways in which a mother's
  influence contributes to who we are and how to cope with their absence.

We plan to continue running these programs throughout the year. We also have many other programs in development that are scheduled to launch in the coming months. These programs include:

- Family Forest Days: Grief Outdoors This program will bring together families who are coping
  with loss for a day of fun, hope, and healing. There will be three, day-long camps offered at
  different locations in Kane County's forest preserves. Families will have a chance to honor lost
  loved ones and receive compassionate support while making new memories together. The three
  camps will be held on June 26<sup>th</sup>, July 25<sup>th</sup>, and August 21<sup>st</sup> 2021.
- Footprints Memorial Walk Located at Bluff City Cemetery in Elgin on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 this
  memorial session is for families who have been affected by miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, or
  neonatal loss.
- Project Hope In partnership with 46 schools in the Fox River Valley this program is for youth suffering from grief. We are currently reconnecting with several schools as restrictions loosen and allowed outside resources in their buildings. There are tentative plans to resume sessions in several schools in the fall semester.
- Lazarus House Grief Support Group In partnership with a local homeless shelter, this support group is for residents who are struggling with grief related to death loss as well as the losses of their homes, families, livelihoods, and comforting normalcy.

Funding received from the Elgin Township plays a huge part in our ability to provide the quality and quantity of grief support options that we do, all at no cost to clients. Having partners like the Elgin Township enables us to take the cost of care away from clients so that they have no barriers to receiving support, which is essential to their mental wellness.

If you have any further questions regarding this report, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at, <a href="mailto:cculton@fvhh.net">cculton@fvhh.net</a>. I would like to mention that we have recently welcomed a new Executive Director, Jonathan Shively to the team. He can be reached at, <a href="mailto:jshively@fvhh.net">jshively@fvhh.net</a> if you have any questions for him.

I wish all of you on the Elgin Township Board of Directors continued health and wellness. Once again, thank you so much for being such a generous partner to Fox Valley Hands of Hope!

Warm Regards,

Claire Culton

Outreach Engagement

Clavo Culton

#### **Greater Elgin Family Care Center**

#### Elgin Township Funding 6 Month Performance Review

This document is being submitted to satisfy Item 6 of our funding agreement dated November 12, 2020 covering the time period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021. As indicated in our application and included in our agreement, Greater Elgin Family Care proposed to use the funding so support social service programs to Elgin Township residents.

Greater Elgin Family Care Center has fully expended the full \$50,000 awarded. The \$50,000 funding amount received was used to support the operating expenses (including salaries, fringe benefits, supplies and overhead costs) of our health centers based in Elgin, IL at the following addresses:

- 373 Summit St., Elgin, IL 60120
- 450 Dundee Ave., Elgin, IL 60120
- 1435 Randall Rd., Suite 410, Elgin, IL 60123

For the period of September 1, 2020 – April 30, 2021, Greater Elgin Family Care Center provided care to 21,021 unduplicated through 48,221 completed appointments at these three locations. The breakdown of the patient demographics receiving care during this time period are reflected in the following tables:

Insurance Type	% of Visits	
Private Insurance	8.82%	
Medicaid	56.39%	
Medicare	3.80%	
Uninsured/Self Pay	30.99%	

Gender	% of Visits		
Female	61.77%		
Male	38.23%		

Race	# of Patients
American Indian	0.93%
Asian	3.12%
Black/African American	9.14%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.59%
White	62.67%
Unknown/Unreported	23.55%

Ethnicity	% of Visits
Hispanic	71.51%
Not Hispanic	27.81%
Unknown/Unreported	0.68%



#### Grantor: Elgin Township Grant Amount: \$5000 6 month Interim Activity Report

Thank you for your current \$5000 grant funding that was receive on December 12, 2020. Making Kane County Fit for Kids (Fit for Kids) has partnered with Elgin Township for the past 4 years. Fit for Kids Mission is "Forming partnerships to promote healthy eating and active living for children of Kane County". Fit for Kids collaborates with organizations, schools, day care centers, municipalities and partners by funding implementation projects that align with a Fit Kids 2020 Plan that produce healthier lifestyles for Kane Kids. To date, over \$870,000 has been invested in 125 healthy eating and active living implementation projects that can range from \$500 through \$15,000 with an average of \$5000.

#### **CURRENT Implementation Project - 6 Month Report**

#### \$5000 - Monies received December 12, 2020.

To be used for a **Healthy Eating and Active Living Project Request for Proposal in the Fall of 2021.** Due to the COVID 19 logistics and remote and hybrid schooling, Fit for Kids decided that Fall 2021 would be a more productive timeframe than Spring 2021. A final report will provide all the details regarding partners, projects, and funding.

#### **PAST Implementation Projects**

#### \$5000 Monies received December 19, 2019

EPEL & Alignment Collaborative for Education – Learning on the Go in the Parks – Mind and Body Fitness

#### **RECAP**

The Learning on the Go project promotes mind and body fitness serving the geographical area surrounding Festival Park and Lords Park along with providing mobile Story Walk in neighborhood parks. Families in active play settings will increase communications with their children in a talk and play teaching environment to increase their knowledge of fitness and nutrition along with improving language skills and boosting brain development. In just the surrounding geographical, there are six, U-46 elementary schools with close proximity to these parks to include Channing, Garfield, Huff, Lowrie, Mckinley and Washington with a total enrollment of approximately 2600 students. These elementary schools have an average of 94% racial and ethnic diversity. This population is challenged by the need for greater financial resources with the average free and reduced lunch percentage at 90%. Goals include providing a nontraditional learning opportunity for children and families to increase community wellness and family interaction.

#### \$5000 Monies received December 14, 2018

Well Child Center, Community Demo Kitchen Equipment – promote/prepare Healthy Meals - \$4,295 EPEL & Alignment Collaborative for Education, Move, Play, and Talk project – interaction panels - \$705

#### \$5000 Monies received December 15, 2017

Garfield Elementary School – New Recess Equipment to help increase physical activity - \$3,314 Boys & Girls Club of Elgin – Implementing a summer fitness program - \$1,686

For more info - Susan Ericson, Development Coordinator at <a href="mailto:smericson@comcast.net">smericson@comcast.net</a> or 630-768-8044

# REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO IMPLEMENT FIT KIDS 2020 PLAN STRATEGIES











Remit Electronic Copy of Completed Application to:

Making Kane County Fit for Kids

c/o Michael Isaacson at:

isaacsonmichael@countyofkane.org

#### **HEALTHY EATING & ACTIVE LIVING PROJECT SUPPORTERS**







**Andrew & Alice Fischer Charitable Trust** 



# **Grant Report for Elgin Township Prepared May 2021**

Northern Illinois Food Bank received \$20,000 in December 2020 to provide Mobile Pantry distributions in Elgin in 2021.

**Impact** 

The Food Bank has provided four Mobile Pantries to date and has eight scheduled for May through December:

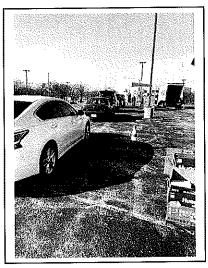
Date	Location	Number of households	Number of individuals	Pounds distributed
1/11/21	901 Center Street	216	926	11,090
2/9/21	901 Center Street	145	551	20,664
3/9/21	901 Center Street	158	573	10,923
4/13/21	901 Center Street	118	450	7,793
5/11/21	901 Center Street			
6/15/21	901 Center Street		d.	
7/13/21	TBD			
8/10/21	TBD		:	
9/14/21	TBD			
10/12/21	TBD			
11/16/21	TBD			•
12/14/21	TBD			

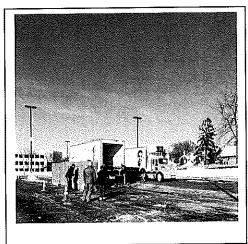
In January we moved the location from the Old Library lot to 901 Center Street (old Sherman Hospital parking lot) at the recommendation of the city and the police department to be able to better handle the traffic that we were seeing. We

are grateful to the owner of the property for allowing us to use the lot and to the police department who continue to set up cones and help us manage the traffic. We are seeing a decline in the number of families visiting the Mobile Pantry that is reflected across our service area and due, we think, to additional federal benefits available to families and the recovering economy. However we know there is still a need for these Mobile Pantry distributions to supplement what families receive at local food pantries or to serve those ho are unable to visit local pantries. Over the next two months we will review where we should locate the Mobile Pantries from July through December to best serve all residents and may return to previous locations. For the moment these distributions will continue to be a drive through model to protect safety of guests and volunteers.

At each Mobile Pantry neighbors in need of food line up in their cars and volunteers load their car with a selection of shelf-stable foods, fresh produce, meats, milk and eggs. We have been fortunate to benefit from food donated through the federal Coronavirus Farmers Assistance Program (CFAP) which accounts for the discrepancy in the number of pounds distributed at each Mobile Pantry. This program will be ending in May but we will continue to provide the variety of food probably averaging 8,000 pounds per distribution.







At each Mobile Pantry distribution we are also collaborating with other social service providers to give families access to other resources. These include U-46 Five at Five and Gail Borden Library who distribute books to children, Elgin Partnership for Early Learning (EPEL), who distribute diapers, GEFCC, YWCA and Centro de Informacion distributing information on their services. We are grateful to the many volunteers who regularly show up to help distribute food. In May we the YWCA, in collaboration with Jewel and BlueCross, will be offering COVID vaccinations at the Mobile Pantry.

We are grateful to Elgin Township for their continued support of our food distribution programs in Elgin and know that these make a difference for our food-insecure neighbors at this uncertain time.



#### PUBLIC ACTION TO DELIVER SHELTER

#### **Executive Director**

Sarah J. Ponitz, B.S., J.D

#### **Board of Directors**

Steve Stauffacher, President
Adobe
Beth Kruger, Vice President
Projects Manager
Joe Waldau, Treasurer
Sternberg Lighting
Debbie McGuire, Secretary
LCSW

LCSW
Ron Barkby, President Emeritus
Telecommunications Industry (Ret.)
Dan Fox, Member
Fox & Waters Leader Training
Dr. Doug Kramp, Member
Siemens Medical Systems (Ret.)
Catherine LeBlanc, Member
Marketing Manager
Ashley Miklas, Member
LaFarge, Finance
Steve Kroiss, Member

Sue Moylan, Member

Elgin Community College (Ret.)

Jennifer Sellers-Wong, Member

Attorney at Law

Cathy Trumbower, Member

Comptroller, Quantum Plastics

CEO 79 Ratio

April 1, 2021

Elgin Township Attn: Franklin Ramirez, Supervisor 729 S. McLean Blvd., Ste. 200 Elgin, IL 60123

Dear Franklin,

Please consider this letter as a six (6) month (November 2020-April 2021) report for PADS of Elgin to be presented to the trustees.

#### Updates Include:

- Starting in July 2020, we moved out of the hotel and back into the shelter while temporarily halting any intakes. We then began accepting new intakes in August. In November, after discovering an exposure amongst staff, we returned to the hotel to quarantine, test, and monitor guests. We are happy to report that no guests contracted COVID-19 during that time. Since then, we have continued to offer scheduled testing days for both staff and guests.
- After careful consideration, we decided to postpone our annual Winter Harvest Gala. We are very excited to announce that we will be hosting a more accessible, virtual event, free and open to the public on April 17th, 2021.
- On March 31st, all PADS staff and guests received their first COVID-19 vaccination, ensuring the health and safety of current and future guests.

In the last six (6) months we have spent \$17,500 of our \$35,000 award to support direct case management services.

We greatly appreciate the support we receive from Elgin Township. If you need any additional information or if you have questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Sy Powde

Sarah J. Ponitz

Executive Director

"Homeless doesn't have to mean hopeless."



Elgin Township 6 Month Grant Update:

5/7/2021

What a year it has been. We are grateful for those who are working together to meet the needs of so many in our community. We value your impact and resources that have helped us reach out to so many families this past, and early part of this year.

As you are aware, our "Keep Kids Warm" outreach program provides brand new winter coats to children of families in need. In 2019 we provided more than 900 coats to children in elementary and middle schools in U-46. With COVID this past year, and children not physically in school, we needed to modify our program to ensure families in need still had access to coats. Usually, we had physical coat closets in 26 schools. This allowed children to receive a coat on site without having to go pick one up.

In normal conditions throughout the school year social workers pass on requests to our Social Services Director when coat needs arise. We then coordinate for the pick-up of the coat(s). With schools not being in session, many needy families were not aware of the process to request coats from their school and began contacting us. To respond to these new logistical challenges, we decided that families who qualify to register for toys as part of our "Hope for the Holidays" program can also register for a winter coat for each family member if needed.

We anticipated that our remaining 2019 inventory and an additional 200 coats we purchased would get us through the winter of 2020 into 2021. This was not the case, and we rapidly exhausted our inventory. We know this is due to more families economically impacted due to COVID. This was consistent with the nearly 60% monthly growth of requests for our services since the start of the pandemic.

We were able to immediately use the grant of \$6,000 to add 300 additional coats to our order. We worked with our contacts through Kiwanis to purchase coats in bulk, at a greatly reduced rate. In all we purchased another 1000 coats at the cost of \$20,000 with a bulk order \$2000 discount. Of these newly ordered 1000 coats, we distributed 400 of them this last winter, totaling over 1300 coats distributed. We will be purchasing more early this fall to ensure we are ready restock the schools and be ready for the 2021-22 winter season.

This has been a challenging time for the many service agencies. Even with all the safety protocols we implemented at one time or another all but 1 of our staff contracted Covid, requiring quarantining staff and volunteers, and a complete cleaning of our facility. Even Captain Linnea and I just returned to work now as of 2 weeks ago, and are blessed to better understand what so many have experienced this past year. I am grateful that we were able to get through the most difficult months of the pandemic, prior to our recent recovery.

We live to serve at our best during these times of great need. We will continue to prioritize emerging needs as the pandemic restrictions and resources change, addressing so much despair in so many

households. At the Salvation Army we will continue to allocate our resources and partner to address these needs. We are currently working with the City of Elgin to address funding available to assist families experiencing water bill shut off notices. All the while we have not stopped providing food, rent and utility assistance appointments, and referrals to our partnering agencies, and we are making plans to resume our youth music instruction programming this fall with an emerging partnership with the Judson University music dept.

If you need the documentation for the purchase of the coats, I'd be glad to request them of our Business Administrator Hannah Reynolds and share them for your documentation. Captain Linnea and I are honored to serve our Elgin (and surrounding) communities for over 130 years and look forward to continuing working together with the Elgin Township.

Many blessings to you all!

Blessed in Elgin,

Captains Rish & Nea Forney

Captains Rich & Linnea Forney

Corps Officers Elgin Salvation Army Corps Community Center

cell (847) 494-4692



May 6, 2021

Mr. Franklin Ramirez Supervisor Elgin Township 729 S. McLean Boulevard Elgin, IL 60123

Dear Mr. Ramirez,

On behalf of the Summit School, Inc. Board of Directors and the Summit Early Learning Center staff, we are pleased to submit this report for the \$7,000 grant in support of our Parent Engagement Program (PEP) in 2020.

As we noted in our fall grant application, there was no way to have known how much life for our staff, students and their families was to change during the pandemic. Through it all, the Elgin Township Board's support proved more important than ever as engaging families and maintaining meaningful contact with parents and caregivers was critical.

This year, the Early Learning Center limited its capacity to 110 of 130 spots to allow for greater onsite learning opportunities. On average throughout the school year, 30% of the 110 students did synchronous and asynchronous remote learning. The percentage of remote learners dropped to 8% after Spring Break. While the goal is to have 80% of preschool students fully ready for kindergarten by the time they leave our program, it is clear that students are struggling in various domains and will need greater supports as they transition into elementary school.

Of the 50 students set to graduate to kindergarten at the end of the month (May), Summit has identified 14 students projected to need Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) by the end of kindergarten. All but one of these students are experiencing speech and language deficiencies, and 7-10 are receiving 1:1 interventions from Summit's speech therapists. As a comparison, only four students that graduated in May 2019 were projected to need IEPs by the end of kindergarten.

With all of Summit Early Learning Center's preschool families living at or below the poverty level, our students were already facing social-emotional and learning deficits prior to the global pandemic. Today, our students are facing more intensive trauma resulting from their families experiencing unemployment, divorce, ever-changing care-takers, mental illness, abuse and unstable housing.

To serve our students and their families in this time of even greater need, we have strived to be a consistent, stable influence in our students' lives. We have sustained relationships with our community partners (Elgin Partnership for Early Learning (EPEL), Well Child Center, U-46, Gail Borden Library) to keep families connected to existing resources. Continuous communication between staff and families through social media and the Remind App, a texting app, has put information into families' hands. In particular, we communicate regularly about education, literacy, health and wellness, and access to food. We have developed new partnerships, as well, to help with families' increased needs.

In November 2020, Summit Early Learning Center partnered with Quest Management Food Services on a donation of their Questables Meal Kits. Each Questable bag included shelf stable and fresh items for seven breakfasts and seven lunches. Quest provided 400 meal kits, 100 per week, throughout the month of December. The Center's staff hand-delivered the kits every week to each preschool family. Summit staff also teamed up with EPEL and other community partners to distribute food, diapers and books to families in need throughout the summer and winter months. The local Aldi provided \$500 to purchase healthy snacks for families learning remotely without access to the food provided daily in the classroom.

Throughout the school year, we have provided students with resource bags including educational materials, books and school supplies. Bags are replenished regularly throughout the year as families request and are either picked up or hand-delivered by staff to families as needed.

Finally, Summit Early Learning Center established student follow-up as a priority in the 2020-2021 school year. When Summit's staff can maintain connections with student families after preschool graduation as students enter the public school system, we can provide additional supports to those families to bolster their students' chances of success in kindergarten and beyond.

In 2020, Summit referred seven preschoolers for additional support from the school district post-preschool graduation. Follow-up with these students in the 2020-2021 school year indicated that they were struggling as a result of remote learning. Specifically, the students were bilingual with non-native speaking parents. Summit's team provided bilingual books, online tutorials, help navigating Khan Academy (an online educational resource), and other tools for families to work on foundational skills and phonemic awareness. Because Summit's team established and maintained relationships with families, targeted support specific to each child's needs improved access to existing resources.

This level of family engagement and support is only possible because of the private investment donors, like Elgin Township, make in our students and programs. As we look ahead to the 2021-2022 school year, we are hopeful that more in person connections with our families will be possible. With recruiting efforts underway, we are confident in our abilities to serve our students at full capacity (130 children) and to equip our families with the knowledge they need to support their children's educational endeavors.

We hope this report finds you and your fellow Trustees well. As always, we thank you for your support of our efforts, and for your commitment to our community's greatest asset—its children.

Sincerely yours,

Steve Baldwin
President and CEO

cc: Linda Breen, Director, Summit Early Learning Center

itis ) like

Well Child Center Six-month Activity Report

#### 1. How you used the funds

Well Child Center (WCC) used \$5,000 of our generous \$7,000 grant from the Elgin Township on dental team salaries, as proposed. This grant has been essential for the sustainability of our Pediatric Dental Clinic during the COVID-19 pandemic.

WCC's greatest challenge providing oral health care for Elgin area's low-income children during COVID-19 has been managing the financial impact of being restricted to providing dental care to only one family at a time - an ADA requirement based on the configuration of our clinic. WCC's dental team needs to be fully staffed to provide comprehensive oral health care during regular hours of operation. COVID prevention protocols result in serving significantly fewer child patients every day, resulting in a sharp decrease in State reimbursements even though our personnel expenses remain the same and our PPE expenses have skyrocketed.

As vaccinations become more widely available, WCC looks forward to our dental team once again effectively and safely serving children concurrently in our three operatories. Until then, WCC's Pediatric Dental Clinic is operating at a substantial financial loss every month to abide by COVID protocols. Elgin Township's support of our mission and children's dental services is greatly appreciated.

2. If you have not spent them, why?

WCC intended to use the \$7,000 grant over a 12-month timeframe.

3. What your future plans are with the money over the remainder of the term

WCC plans to use the remaining \$2,000 on dental team salaries before the end of this 12-month grant cycle.

#### YWCA Elgin-Family Literacy Program Six-month Activity Report May 6, 2021

This past year has been challenging to say the least. We are currently six months into the generous grant from the Elgin Township. Thank you for your support.

- 1. How you used the funds?
  - As stated in the grant, the funds have been used to cover salaries for the teaching assistants in the Family Literacy Program. We received \$13,000 from the township and have spent \$4,874.40 for wages.
- 2. If you have not spent them, why?
  - The remaining funds will be entirely used by November 2021 for salaries.
- 3. What your future plans are with the money over the remainder of the term?
  - We have Family Literacy workshops scheduled for June, which is new to encourage families to increase their literacy levels and the children. Additionally, we will provide pop-up projects and literacy take-home activities through the summer parks program.
     With the additional services, the grant funds will be used by November 2021.

Attached is the current financial information for the Township Grant. Again, thank you so very much for helping the families at the YWCA Elgin. Please call me at 847-742-7930 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Julia A. McClendon, CEO YWCA Elgin



YWCA Elgin 220 E. Chicago St. Elgin, IL, 60120 P 847.742.7930 F 847.742.8217 ywcaelgin.org

#### Elgin Township Family Literacy FY21 - 6 month expenses \$13,000

Revenue

13,000.00

Expenses (Dec 2020 -

Apr 2021)

Salaries

4,062.00

Benefits

812.40

**Expenses Total** 

4,874.40

**Remaining Balance** 

8,125.60