



MAYOR'S OFFICE OF DOMESTIC & COMMUNITY VIOLENCE PREVENTION

	DESCRIPTION	PARTNERS	REPRESENTATIVE OUTCOMES & EVALUATION METHOD
WORKING GROUPS:			
<p>Task Force</p> <p>Working Teams under the Task Force Framework include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Domestic Violence Prevention Team * Family Peace Center Team * Juvenile Enhanced Response Team * Community Violence Prevention Team 	<p>Multidisciplinary teams convene regularly to define and develop measurable objectives to address gaps in our community's response to domestic violence, human trafficking, and community violence under the pillars of Prevention, Protection, Prosecution, and Partnerships, and guided by our Community Gap Document.</p>	<p>Brightpoint, Children's Safe Harbor (CHS), City of Rockford Health and Human Services Department, Comprehensive Community Solutions (CCS), Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS), Equip for Equality (EFE), Family Counseling Services (FCS), Family Peace Center (FPC), Get Connected 815, National Alliance on Mental Illness Northern Illinois (NAMI), National Youth Advocacy Program (NYAP), Northwest Community Center, OSF Health Care - Strive Trauma Recovery Center, Prairie State Legal Services, Regional Access & Mobilization Project (RAMP), Remedies Renewing Lives, Rockford Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation (RAASE), Rockford Police Department, Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling (RSAC), Simmons Law, St. Vincent de Paul Society, United States Attorney's Office, University of Illinois Chicago College of Medicine Rockford Medical Evaluation Response Initiative Team (MERIT), Winnebago County Adult Probation – DV Unit, Winnebago County Juvenile Probation, Winnebago County Sheriff's Office, Winnebago</p>	<p>Identification and deployment of collaborative strategies to address specific gaps documented in the Community Gap Document including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct annual strategic planning and year-in-review with Team Chairs. • Created the Quick 10 Educators Video Series. • Supported the updates to the Illinois Domestic Violence Act form provided to survivors on the scene. • Collaborating in a community-wide trauma response effort. • Ongoing juvenile crime data reviews to determine indicators that drive the occurrence. • Enhanced processes to identify repeat high-risk runaways vulnerable to sex trafficking. • Developed a Rockford Fire Department Training Series. • Hosted a virtual community resource fair for professionals. • Create public awareness campaigns for designated awareness months. • Police Department Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault General Order Review. • Hosted and organized a training for the community and law enforcement on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children. • Led in the development of the Lifetime Civil No Contact Protection Order legislation. • Collaborated with and guided the Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office on the development of a Domestic Violence Data Collection process. • Investigated and compiled information on best practices for school-based teen dating violence policies provided to inform their efforts to create a Teen Dating Violence Tool Kit, which was adopted in January of 2025. • A Multidisciplinary Team provided four Teen Dating Violence (TDV) training sessions to RPS 205 counseling staff, with an average attendance of 36 per session. Three additional sessions are planned



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		County State's Attorney's Office, YMCA, Youth Services Network (YSN), and Zeke Giorgi Legal Clinic – Northern Illinois University.	for 2026. Additionally, RPS 205 Principals and Assistant Principals were provided training on TDV and the Toolkit. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed a multidisciplinary response to provide support and information to families and loved ones impacted by intimate partner violence. • Supported and informed the development of resources to provide litigants with information about Guardian ad litem. • Supported and informed the development of training for attorneys and the judiciary working in cases involving intimate partner violence. Evaluation Method: Varies based on the project being deployed
VOICES Committee	VOICES is a committee of survivors of domestic violence who volunteer their time to celebrate their strength and survival. This group of individuals uses their collective voice to help others through advocacy, education, and empowerment. The VOICES Committee was integral in the development of the Family Peace Center and helps to ensure that all strategies deployed by the Office are survivor-centered.	Family Peace Center, Community Survivors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convened a group of local survivors. • Advised in the development of the Family Peace Center. • Advised Rockford Police Department's Policies and Procedures update. • Advised the 17th Judicial Circuit Court on the development of their proposed Domestic Violence Court renovation and modified Protective Order Court. • Advised the Winnebago County State's Attorney on a proposed Domestic Violence Diversion program. • Supported and informed the development of training for medical students and residents on working with survivors of intimate partner domestic violence.
Human Trafficking Task Force	This team is building a collaborative response to the identification, referral, investigation, and prosecution of human trafficking in Winnebago County.	Carrie Lynn Children's Center, Department of Children and Family Services, Federal Bureau of Investigations, Illinois Gaming Board, Illinois State Police, Rockford Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation, Rockford Police Department, United States Marshals Service, Winnebago County Adult Probation, Winnebago County Juvenile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular convening of a working, multidisciplinary team. • Creation of a mission and vision statement. • Developed a framework for a case review process to identify gaps, barriers, and improvements. • Coordinated training and technical assistance from the Office for the Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center at no cost to partners and local law enforcement. • Created an Enforcement Subcommittee to coordinate law enforcement efforts.



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		Probation, Winnebago County Public Defender's Office, Winnebago County Sheriff's Office, Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office, United States Attorney's Office Northern District of Illinois, and Youth Services Network.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convened a Data Subcommittee with UIC as lead, to develop research on social determinants and demographics of traffickers using local and regional data. • Co-facilitated a weeklong national training reaching 260 frontline responders, including firefighters, EMS, law enforcement, and healthcare workers. <p>Evaluation Method: Training attendance data & Development of community outcome measures with Region 1 Planning Council.</p>
Educators Team	A multi-disciplinary team of educators, education professionals, and youth service providers working to develop training and assistance for educators to identify and respond to children in crisis from domestic and sexual violence.	Catholic Charities, Family Peace Center, Regional Office of Education, Rosecrance, School staff from Belvidere Community Unit School District 100, School staff from Hononegah Community High School District 207, Alignment Rockford, and School staff from Rockford Public School District 205.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organized and hosted eight annual multi-day summits, reaching over 1,100 professionals in total. • Pre- and post-test results indicate a significant increase in participants' ability to identify factors that may increase a youth's risk of being a target of trafficking. Before the training, 26% rated their ability as "good," while after the training, that number rose to 69%, reflecting a 43 percentage-point improvement. <p>Evaluation Method: Pre and Post-Summit Evaluations</p>
Juvenile Enhanced Response Team (JVERT)	A multi-disciplinary team of the Task Force convenes to identify and deploy prevention, intervention, and protective strategies that aid in the interruption of trauma.	Comprehensive Community Solutions, Department of Child and Family Services, Equip for Equality, Rockford Police Department, Winnebago County Juvenile Probation, Winnebago County State's Attorney, and Youth Services Network.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team members attended a fellowship in Washington, D.C. through Georgetown University's Center for Juvenile Justice Reform to develop a capstone project. • Identified and deployed the My Life My Choice Curriculum. • Identified and deployed the StepUp Curriculum. • Identified the need for a Human Trafficking Task Force. • Conducting a strategic review of juvenile diversion. programming identifying the need for the integration of community navigators in the juvenile assessment and detention centers, and the reopening of the day reporting center for system-involved youth. • Identified the need for and created a youth violence interruption case staffing team. • Built a strong referral and service engagement/re-engagement process, linking high-risk youth to supportive services. <p>Evaluation Method: Varies depending on the project deployed</p>



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<p>Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (DVFRT)</p>	<p>A multidisciplinary team convened by the Mayor's Office of Domestic and Community Violence Prevention and the Family Peace Center's Lethality Prevention Division to review domestic-related homicide (or near homicide) cases to decrease IPV fatalities and improve services by identifying service problems and coordination gaps, increasing communication and resource sharing across agencies responding to IPV survivors, and raising public awareness with reports and recommendations.</p>	<p>Children's Safe Harbor, City of Rockford Police Department, City of Rockford Mayor's Office of Domestic and Community Violence Prevention, Family Peace Center, Northern Illinois University College of Law-Zeke Giorgi Legal Clinic, Region 1 Planning Council, Remedies Renewing Lives, UW Health SwedishAmerican Hospital, Winnebago County Adult Probation, Winnebago County Coroner's Office, Winnebago County Health Department, Winnebago County Public Defender's Office, and Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislation drafted, finalized, introduced, and signed. • Appointment to the Statewide Illinois Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission. • Selected as one of five pioneer sites in the state of Illinois to convene a local review team. • Team members have been onboarded and participated in statewide training efforts presented by a national technical assistance provider. • Case selection criteria have been established, and the first local case review was concluded in January 2025. • As part of the second formal case review in 2025, we introduced interviews with impacted individuals to incorporate the voices of those with lived experience into the review process. This marks the first time this practice has been included. • As we enter 2026, the team will draft its initial set of recommendations informed by insights from prior case reviews. <p>Evaluation Method: The team is working with local and state data teams to determine measures.</p>
<p>Strangulation Response Team</p>	<p>A multidisciplinary team co-led by the Office and UW SwedishAmerican Hospital to improve the community-wide response to strangulation.</p>	<p>City of Rockford Fire Department, City of Rockford Police Department, City of Rockford Mayor's Office of Domestic and Community Violence Prevention, Family Peace Center, UW Health SwedishAmerican Hospital, Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office, and Winnebago County Sheriff's Office.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided 911 Telecommunicator New Employee Training. • Developed a 911 Telecommunicator Strangulation Card. • Embedded training into each new employee's 911 telecommunicator training session. • Implementation of the Rockford Fire Department's automatic medical response procedure, which has produced a 20% increase in transports of domestic violence survivors to the emergency room since the implementation. • Presented at statewide and international level conferences. • Developed a continuum of response from the 911 call to the hospital medical response. • Developed and implemented a law enforcement strangulation supplemental form, with outcome data demonstrating improved prosecutorial outcomes in strangulation cases. • Secured funds to implement an emergency room advocacy response to domestic violence and strangulation.



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State's Attorney's Office Victim Service Staff provide a strangulation advisory when making Pretrial Fairness first contact calls. • Implemented a QR code linking to strangulation information and resources on law enforcement IDVA forms (July), provided on scene to survivors and UW SwedishAmerican After Visit Summary sheets (September), provided to all patients; accessed 336 times within the first six months. • Created and released a Community Response to Strangulation document, which details each partner's individual and coordinated response to intimate partner non-fatal strangulation. • Team members trained new Rockford Fire Department Telecommunicators and Law Enforcement Officers on intimate partner violence and strangulation, with pre- and post-surveys showing significant knowledge and confidence gains. <p>Evaluation Method: Development of community outcome measures with Region 1 Planning Council.</p>
<p>Domestic Violence Enhanced Response Team (DVERT)</p>	<p>A multidisciplinary team was organized to identify the most violent DV offenders and develop strategies to engage them in the criminal justice system while simultaneously increasing connection to resources and the safety of the survivor.</p>	<p>Family Peace Center, Prairie State Legal Services, Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office, Rockford Police Department, Winnebago County Sheriff's Office</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convening of a multidisciplinary team. • Development of a case review process. • Development of case-specific coordinated strategies. • Developed a data framework to track trends and outcomes. • Received 19 referrals and conducted multidisciplinary reviews for each of the referred high-risk cases in 2025. Eleven (11) of the cases involved stalking, and 14 were identified as having a history of strangulation. <p>Evaluation Method: Development of community outcome measures with Region 1 Planning Council.</p>
<p>Medical Advocacy & Collaboration</p>	<p>The Mayor's Office of Domestic and Community Violence Prevention, the Family Peace Center, and the Voices Committee have created and expanded partnerships with local medical systems, educational institutions, and professionals to</p>	<p>Epic Systems, LP Johnson, Mercyhealth, Mobil Integrated Health Program, Rockford Fire, UIC College of Medicine, UW Health, Voices Survivor Group.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In a 2024 pilot training, 65 first- and second-year UIC medical students were trained to recognize domestic violence, use evidence-based screening tools, make referrals, and teach others how to respond. Pre- and post-survey data showed statistically significant gains in knowledge and confidence. • Student feedback from the pilot highlighted a desire for hands-on experience, more time, and mandatory curriculum integration. In



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	<p>help support a more coordinated, trauma-informed response to survivors of domestic violence, one that strengthens early identification, streamlines referrals, removes barriers to care, and equips current and future providers with the tools they need to offer survivor-centered, trauma-informed responsive services.</p>		<p>response, a standardized patient simulation and lecture were developed and delivered to 50+ UIC students in April.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2025, teams delivered multidisciplinary IPV/strangulation trainings to more than 160 medical providers and students across UW Health, MercyHealth, UIC, and residency programs. • Launched on-site medical services at the Family Peace Center in partnership with Mercyhealth's Family Medicine Residency Program. Resident physicians provide trauma-informed care every Friday, including checkups, chronic condition management, injury care, and prescriptions. In the first seven months of operation, the program received 14 referrals. • The Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) Program provides on-site services at the FPC, supporting survivors with mental health and chronic disease management through both short- and long-term care. • In partnership with Epic Systems and UW Health, an integrated referral and data system is in development to coordinate survivor care and track outcomes. The pilot is currently moving through UW Health's approval process and has potential for national replication. • The Medical Advocacy Response Program was launched in September 2025, providing supportive services to survivors of intimate partner violence seeking care in the UW Health SwedishAmerican Emergency Department. • From September through December 2025, 16 survivors received emotional support, safety planning, and assistance navigating resources and services. <p>Evaluation Method: Varies based on the project being deployed. Trainings use pre- and post-tests.</p>
GRANTS/GRANT SUPPORTED:			
<p>Grant Supported: Family Peace Center</p>	<p>A multi-agency, multi-disciplinary hub to support survivors of interpersonal violence. The facility focuses on reducing the number of times survivors tell their stories and the number of places</p>	<p>On-site Partners: Brightpoint, Children's Safe Harbor, City of Rockford Police Department Domestic Violence Unit, Family Counseling Services, National Alliance on Mental Illness, NIU</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applied for and received federal funding to support the establishment of the Family Peace Center. • Secured an international technical assistance provider, The Alliance for HOPE International, who facilitated a two-day strategic planning process and produced a strategic planning report.



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<p>survivors must go for help, as well as increasing access to services and support for survivors and their children.</p>	<p>College of Law's Zeke Giorgi Legal Clinic, Prairie State Legal Services, Remedies Renewing Lives, Rockford Fire Department Mobil Integrated Health Unit, Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling, 17th Circuit Therapy Dog Volunteers, Healing Home Ayurveda, Winnebago County Housing Authority, Mercyhealth Family Medicine Residency.</p> <p>Partners: 17th Circuit Court, Carrie Lynn Children's Center, City of Rockford Human Services Department, Goodwill, Habitat for Humanity's ReStore, LP Johnson, Lifescape, MERIT, Regional Access and Mobility Project (RAMP), Region 1 Planning Council, Rock River Valley Pantry, Rockford Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation, Rockford Rescue Mission, Rosecrance, RPS 205, St. Vincent de Paul, The Workforce Connection, UW Health, Winnebago County Animal Services, Winnebago County Health Department, Winnebago County Probation Department, Winnebago County Sheriff's Office, Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office, YMCA, Youth Services Network.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convened several multidisciplinary working groups to develop the framework of a community-centered Family Peace Center for Rockford, Illinois. • Opened a survivor-centered, trauma-informed organization and, in partnership with over 36 on-site and referral partners, served 2,597 survivors and their children (1,908 adults and 597 children) from July 2020 through January 12, 2026. • Presented at the International Family Justice Center Conference. • Acquired new space to relocate the Family Peace Center. This location will allow for the expansion of space and on-site partnerships. • Collaborated with Winnebago County on the Jail Call Project and Order of Protection Service Project to increase service rates. • Convened community partners for the SART development-planning phase. • Implemented the Danger Assessment, an evidence-based lethality assessment tool used to help survivors better understand their risk of harm/lethality. This also promotes more informed advocacy at the FPC. • Implemented the Lethality Prevention Division, which includes coordinating three high-lethality teams and a high-lethality case manager. • Developed a process to collect court-related data aimed at identifying ways to improve the system's response to survivors experiencing post-separation abuse. <p>Evaluation Method: Grant Outcomes, Hope Scale Surveys, Exit Surveys, ongoing data collection, and review</p>



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<p>Grant: Improving Responses for Survivors with Disabilities Grant Partner Lead Grant Recipient: Regional Access & Mobilization Project (RAMP)</p>	<p>A multidisciplinary team was established to increase the organizational capacity of partners to provide accessible, safe, and effective services to individuals with disabilities and Deaf individuals who are survivors of violence and abuse by identifying needs in the service area and by developing a plan to address the needs identified sustainably.</p> <p>* The Family Peace Center is a named partner on a pending federal grant to expand this project and strengthen services for survivors with disabilities.</p>	<p>Remedies, Mercy Health and Home, Rockford Sexual Assault and Counseling, Regional Access and Mobilization Project, and the Family Peace Center</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed development of Strategic Planning. • Developed a Mission and Vision statement. • Conducted listening sessions separately with executive directors, staff, and clients of partner agencies. • Completed a comprehensive data review. • Developed performance indicator reviews. • Development of next steps that include reviewing data with partner agencies and utilizing data to develop action plans that address the service gaps identified in serving survivors with disabilities. • Family Peace Center is a partner on a Federal Grant pending approval <p>Evaluation Method: Grant Outcomes</p>
<p>Grant: Camp Hope</p>	<p>Yearlong healing and mentoring programming for youth ages 7-17 that helps them process experiences of being exposed to domestic and/or sexual violence in a trauma-informed way to help them heal and find pathways for hope.</p> <p>This project, first launched through a successful partnership with the City, has now grown into a fully independent initiative, with our partner organization, the YMCA, proudly taking the lead in 2024, marking a powerful milestone in sustainability and community impact.</p>	<p>Family Peace Center, YMCA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated inaugural Camp Hope, which hosted 18 youth participants. • Pathways program facilitated to provide ongoing connection and mentorship to Camp Hope participants. • Provided the second annual Camp Hope, reaching 15 community youth. • Worked with the YMCA to coordinate Camp Hope staff training and camper referrals for the first overnight camp experience occurring in Summer 2024. • 15 youth participated in the inaugural week-long Camp Hope, overnight experience. <p>Evaluation Method: Hope Scale and Grant Outcomes</p>



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<p>Grant: Strategies to Support Children Exposed to Violence</p>	<p>A project to develop and establish a multiagency, multidisciplinary facility, where children exposed to violence and their families can come to receive healing and supportive services that promote trauma recovery, youth development, and violence prevention and interventions.</p>	<p>Boys and Girls Club of Rockford, Boys and Girls Club of Rockford, By Any Dreams Necessary, City of Rockford Police Department, Comprehensive Community Solutions, Creating Initiative Through Interaction Education & Development (CITIED), Family Peace Center, Juvenile Probation Dept, Regional Access & Mobilization Project, Rockford Area Arts Council, Rockford Barbell, Strong Neighborhood Houses, Washington Park Community Center, and Youth Services Network.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selected as one of seven federal grant award recipients. • Services operate at multiple locations, including Irving Strong House, Comprehensive Community Solutions, Boys & Girls Club Stenstrom Unit, and Washington Park Community Center. • Community engagement reached over 2,100 people, including a Summer Block Party with 200+ attendees, and provides donation support to families experiencing hardship. • Since April 2024, 205 youth completed intakes (144 ages 0–10; 61 ages 11–17) • Over the first year of drop-in programming, CHC has served 163 youth through 1,311 visits at Irving Strong House, providing mentorship, social-emotional learning, restorative circles, and service connections • Providing school-based restorative justice circles and community-building activities at McIntosh School, resulting in a 78% reduction in disciplinary referrals. • Led a 7-week My Life My Choice, human trafficking prevention group at Washington Park, with 17 participants. • Developed a framework to recruit and select youth for the peer-led Youth Advocacy Board that includes 18 active members. <p>Evaluation Method: Grant outcomes, supported by ongoing data consultation of Region 1 Planning Council.</p>
<p>Grant: Engaging Men and Boys as Allies in the Prevention of Violence Against Women and Girls Program</p>	<p>A project aimed at creating educational programming and community organizing to encourage men and boys to work as allies with women, girls, and marginalized communities to prevent domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sex trafficking.</p>	<p>YMCA of Rock River Valley, Comprehensive Community Solutions, Boys & Girls Club of Rockford, Family Peace Center, Rockford Park District.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selected as one (1) of nine (9) federal grant award recipients. • Convened a multidisciplinary team to complete the needs assessment and planning phase. • Facilitated cross-training between each of the partner agencies. • Developed and deployed a customized train-the-trainer curriculum for partner agencies to use with supervisory-level staff, who then train program staff and incorporate it into onboarding plans. <p>Evaluation Method: Grant Outcomes</p>

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<p>Grant: Violence Prevention Coordinating Council</p>	<p>The Mayor's Office of Domestic and Community Violence Prevention (MODCVP) established a Violence Prevention Coordination Council, which serves as a lead body to work across the Rockford community to coordinate violence prevention resources and continue the Rockford Local Advisory Council (LAC) work established by the Illinois Department of Human Services Office of Firearm Violence Prevention.</p>	<p>Voices of Inspiration, Comprehensive Community Solutions, Get Connected 815, Crisis Co-Response Team, National Youth Advocacy Program, Northwest Community Center, Rockford Police Department, Rockford Public School District 205 Families in Transition (FIT) Program, Rockford Regional Health Council, Boys and Girls Club, By Any Dreams Necessary, Total Faith, Sisters by Love.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convened local council members to guide community violence prevention efforts. • Established a multidisciplinary Emergency Response Team to coordinate responses to firearm-related incidents involving multiple victims. • Mapped local resources and organized partners to deliver services directly to neighborhoods through targeted outreach and referrals. • Hosted bilingual community education events (English and Spanish) to promote self-advocacy within the school system. • Added a Community Liaison position to strengthen community outreach and youth engagement. • Developed policy recommendations and a Community Safety Action Plan for the State of Illinois. • Guided the Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation in designing grant funding opportunities aligned with VPCC recommendations. <p>Evaluation Method: Grant Outcomes</p>
<p>YOUTH-BASED INITIATIVES:</p>			
<p>My Life My Choice</p>	<p>Human Trafficking Prevention curriculum for girls ages 12-18 to learn the signs of grooming and human trafficking, so they are equipped to avoid tactics and seek help.</p>	<p>Community Healing Center, Rockford Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation, Washington Park Community Center, Strong Neighborhood Houses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trained facilitators and deployed curriculum in Lincoln Middle School. • Twelve (12) youth participants enrolled in the curriculum and reported identifying signs in their lives and in friends' lives that connected to the information being shared in the sessions. • Youth were connected with additional support and services. • Facilitated the training of staff from Brightpoint, Family Counseling Services, Community Healing Center, and Comprehensive Community Solutions as trainers of MLMC curriculum to expand offerings. • Deployed a 6-week group at West Middle School with six (6) female students enrolled. • Deployed a 7-week group at Washington Park Community Center with 15 youth enrolled, and 9 fully completed the program.



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Step Up	<p>21-week intervention/diversion program for youth ages 13-18, and their family unit, to receive group and individual support.</p> <p>In 2025, a collaborative project originally developed in partnership with the City was successfully transitioned to Youth Services Network (YSN), which now proudly hosts and leads the initiative, demonstrating both the strength of our partnerships and a shared commitment to long-term impact for youth and families.</p>	Boys and Girls Club, Youth Services Network (YSN), JVERT Team Members.	<p>Evaluation Method: Pre and Post-Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created project partnership. • Conducted facilitator training. • Conducted sessions. • All youth participants completing the pilot program in June 2020 have had no further criminal justice involvement. • Expanded partnerships to expand programming in community settings. • Conducted facilitator training for Boys & Girls staff to conduct community-based Step Up groups. • Partnered with YSN to host programming. Four families completed the first cohort. <p>Evaluation Method: Pre and Post-surveys</p>
Barbershop Project	<p>What began as a project of the Grassroots Team, a group of community members with lived experience who advised the Office and helped amplify local organizations, has evolved into The Barbershop Project. The Barbershop uplifts barbers as trusted community advocates, helping to destigmatize mental health services by fostering connection, offering training, and providing ongoing support and resources to community members. This transition represents a meaningful investment in community-rooted leadership and healing.</p>	Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois, Community Life Center, Comprehensive Community Solutions, Family Peace Center, Get Connected 815, Grassroots Team, Health Choice Illinois, Local Barbers and Beauticians, NAMI, Northwest Community Center, Power of Hope.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created a sustainable grassroots framework that empowers barbers to serve as frontline mental wellness advocates. • Coordinated four (4) organized youth-based community violence listening sessions. • Developed and delivered nonprofit training and mentorship to local grassroots groups, helping build organizational capacity and grant readiness. • Supported successful grant applications and contributed to the design of violence prevention strategies and projects across the Office and partner task forces. • Hosted a multidisciplinary training for barbers with subject matter experts and launched a kickoff event with 15 barbers/stylists providing nearly 30 free haircuts to community members. • Facilitate monthly Shop Talk community conversations on trauma and mental wellness, averaging 12 participants per session. • Delivered Mental Health First Aid and suicide prevention trainings (QPR – Question, Persuade, Refer) to participating barbers and community members.



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secured sponsorships from Portillo's and Blue Cross Blue Shield to support community health through nutritious food and wellness resources. <p>Evaluation Method: Conducted pre- and post-tests to evaluate training impact and inform ongoing development.</p>
<p>Handle With Care</p>	<p>A collaborative notification system providing school staff with notice that a student may have been exposed to a traumatic event. Notice promotes a trauma-informed response to potential behaviors.</p>	<p>Rockford Public Schools, Rockford Police Department, Regional Office of Education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Led a collaboration that was necessary to develop and implement a school district-wide project. Achieved development and deployment of the project over three months. City of Rockford and School District 205 Information and Technology departments created an innovative automated notification system. Worked collaboratively with partners in the development of the project rollout plan and participated in the creation and presentation of rollout training for all school staff. Since the start of the program (2/28/22) and December 2025, the Rockford Police Department provided Rockford Public Schools with over 12,148. Handle With Care Notices. 2,353 notices were provided during the 24-25 school year. RPS has developed a data framework around HWC notices and responses. Additional schools in nearby districts and local charter schools have begun implementing the Handle With Care project, modeled after the Rockford initiative. <p>Evaluation Method: To be determined, pending Rockford Public Schools' development of a response to identified Handle With Care Students</p>
<p>School-Based Supports</p>	<p>Collaborative identification and connection to support for school staff and students.</p>	<p>Alignment Rockford, Boys & Girls Club, Family Peace Center, Community Healing Center, NAMI, Region 1 Planning Council, Rockford Park District, Rosecrance, RPS 205, Winnebago County Health Department, YMCA.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted the STARS (Support, Teach, and Respond to Students) proposal through Rockford Public Schools' Call to Action ARP ESSER process, advancing a cross-system approach to coordinated in- and out-of-school student supports; the proposal was not selected for funding. Mayor's Office and FPC staff provided Vicarious Trauma Support Training for 30 RPS 205 administrators and 79 school staff members, focusing on recognizing and mitigating the impact of secondary trauma, emphasizing self-care, resilience, and school-wide trauma-responsive strategies.



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide ongoing Vicarious Trauma and Wellbeing Training and direct support to staff at Constance Lane school. • Identified 17 high-need students in an elementary school to participate in a 10-week Youth Support Group Service to provide social-emotional support through the end of the school year. • Facilitate a Community Building Circle for a 4th-grade class impacted by a traumatic firearm incident. • Trained RPS 205 middle and high school principals (5/20) and assistant principals (5/22). • Provided ongoing specialized training and technical assistance to support toolkit implementation for the upcoming year. <p>Evaluation Method: Examination of community and school data</p>