



TOWNSHIP OF LYONS
MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
6404 JOLIET ROAD COUNTRYSIDE, ILLINOIS 60525

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Anthony Przeklasa, PhD, President
Ronald R. Melka, Executive Director

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Lyons Township
Mental Health Commission

ANNUAL REPORT
Fiscal Year 2021

History & Overview

The Lyons Township Mental Health Commission is charged by Illinois Statute to plan, fund and monitor community-based services for people with mental health and substance abuse problems, as well as for those who suffer from developmental disabilities. Created in 1972 pursuant to a township-wide referendum, the Commission provides community grants-in-aid and other funding to local agencies that provide direct services to Lyons Township residents in need. Funding is generated by a small annual property tax distributed by the Commission after careful planning and assessment of need. Since its inception over 40 years ago, the Commission has disbursed over \$78 million in community-based support to assist Lyons Township residents with these disabilities.

Mission Statement & Guiding Principles

In all of its activities, and especially when making difficult decisions concerning the distribution of limited financial resources, the Mental Health Commission is guided by the following Mission Statement and Principles:

Lyons Township Mental Health Commission Advances A Network Of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, And Substance Abuse Services For Creating A Healthier Community.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Lyons Township Mental Health Commission:

- Promotes coordinated mental health services through judicious use of funding resources.
- Fosters and maintains a high level of client-focused services.
- Provides leadership to a collaborative community-based mental health network.

Strategic Priorities

Ultimately, four key strategic priority areas were identified, highlighting activities and initiatives that the Commission should focus on in both the short-and long-term. The strategic priority areas are: 1) leveraging collaboration and partnership; 2) financial stewardship and long-term planning; 3) community engagement and support of critical services; and 4) awareness through advocacy and education.

Funded Agencies & Programs

The Commission funds a broad array of programs and services targeted to three disability groups:

➤ **Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services**

Pillars Community Health– Hickory Hills/Western Springs/La Grange

- Mental Health Counseling for Adults, Children, Families, and Seniors
- Addictions Treatment and Prevention Services
- Sexual Assault Services
- Domestic Violence Services (Constance Morris House)
- Head Start and Daycare Services
- Crisis Support
- Housing and Supportive Services (LATH)
- Children’s Bereavement Program (Buddy’s Place)
- Dating Violence Prevention Programing

➤ **Services for People with Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities:**

Helping Hand - Countryside and Hodgkins

- Helping Hand School for Children with Autism
- Pediatric Clinic
- High School Transition
- Adult Day Services
- Residential Living Services
- Aging Program
- Employment Services
- Special Recreation

Community Support Services – Brookfield

- Respite Care provides important, intermittent breaks for parents. Respite helps

families stay together and reduces the stress that many parents experience. CSS is the largest Respite provider in Illinois.

- Our Independent Living Program supports adults who live on their own as well as those who reside in one of our seven group homes.
- Customized Employment Programs are tailored for adults with disabilities who want to work in the community.
- Home-Based Support Services helps identify, secure and maintain the services families need.
- CSS Academy Programs provide classes and workshops in a progressive community environment in the areas of life skills, the arts, vocational and health and wellness.
- Professional Certification Programs such as CPR, First Aid and Mental Health First Aid helps raise awareness and educate families, staff and community members about these important topics.

Center For Independence Through Conductive Education – Countryside

- Intensive Motor Training Programs for Children and Young Adults with Physical Disabilities, including Early intervention, Assistive Technology, Physical and Occupational Therapy.
- Vocational Training Programs for Teens/Young Adults with Physical Disabilities that include employment soft skill development and real-life experiential job skills.
- Job Shadowing & Youth Outreach Programs for local youths interested in working with children and adults with disabilities.
- Respite Program & Parent Training for Families Raising Children with Physical Disabilities.
- Adult Stroke Motor Training Programs for Participants who have completed traditional therapy and are 6 months post stroke.

➤ Prevention and Youth Services

The LeaderShop – La Grange

- Junior High and High School Leadership Development programs.
Programs provided within the High School Leadership Program
 - Leadership Development Conferences
 - High School Teen Leader Training Program
 - High School Girls and Guys Groups
 - High School Performance Group
- After School Homework Programs (LaGrange, Brookfield and Summit)
- Adult/Youth Mentoring Program
- Mental Health First Aid Trainings (Adult and Youth)

The LeaderShop also offers opportunities for Junior High and High School age youth to participate as youth leaders in community volunteer opportunities, service projects, and in social and recreational activities.

By providing direct and indirect funding to multiple programs at these five agencies, the Mental Health Commission helps to support a comprehensive array of unduplicated services throughout Lyons Township.

The Commission also provides funding for support services at **BEDS Plus Care, Inc., Aging Care Connections**, and the **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Metro Suburban** which are all located in La Grange and provide services throughout Lyons Township.

The Commission partners, hosts and staffs the **Coalition for a Drug Free Lyons Township** that meets monthly in the Township Community Center. Its mission is “As a grassroots community coalition, our mission is to build a healthy safe and drug free community. Our commitment through the Coalition is to change attitudes, encourage action, and mobilize stakeholders around the issues of underage drinking, impaired driving and substance misuse. We achieve this through education, advocacy, policy change and environmental change.”

In addition, the Commission provides **Mental Health First Aid Training** to local units of government, police, fire/EMS personnel, service organizations, schools and the community.

Program Services and Financial Overview

- Chart 1 – FY 2021 Lyons Township Residents Receiving Assistance
- Chart 2 – FY 2021 Hours of Service Provided by Program Area
- Chart 3 – FY 2021 Community-Based Funding
- Chart 4 – FY 2021 Funding by Service Category
- Chart 5 – FY 2021 Revenue
- Chart 6 – FY 2021 Expenditures

CHART 1

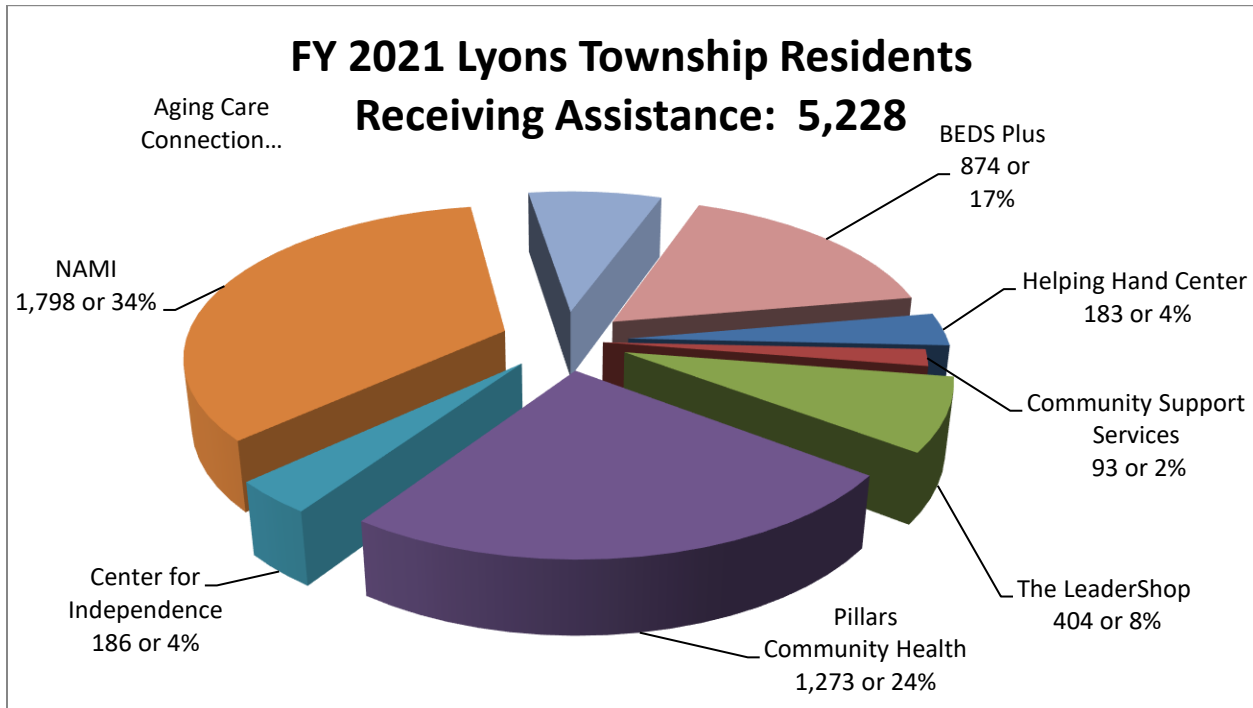


CHART 2

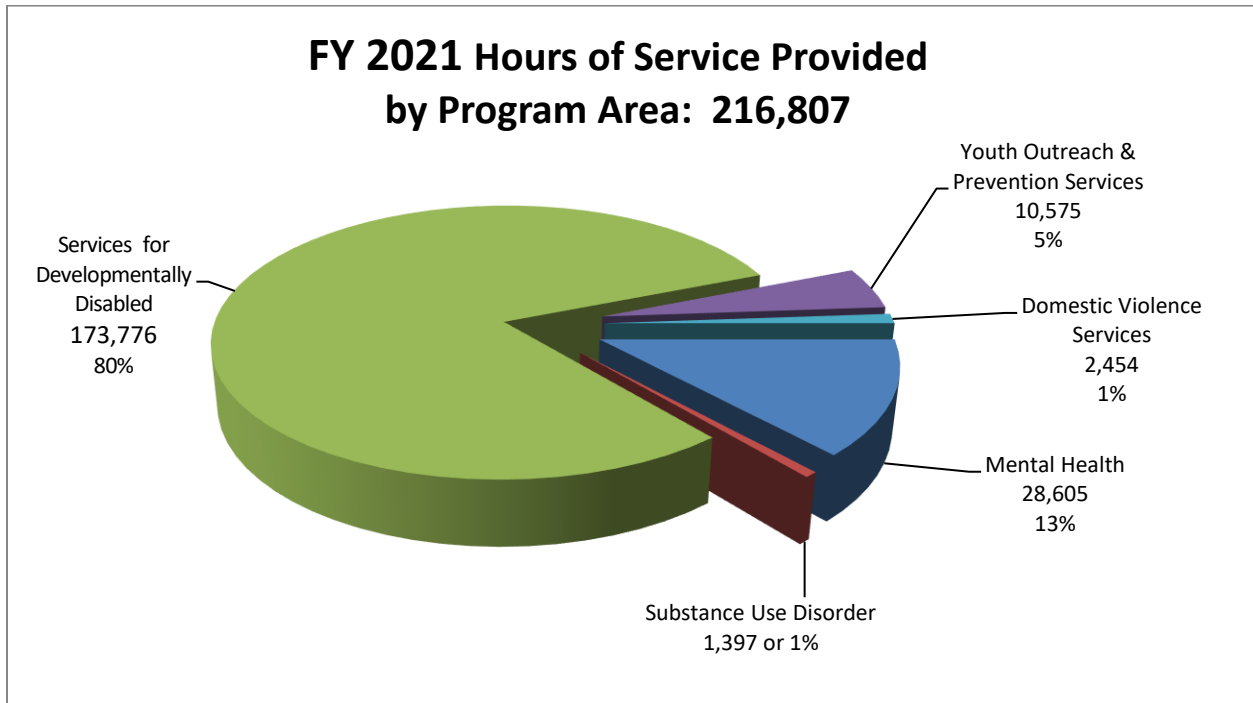


CHART 3

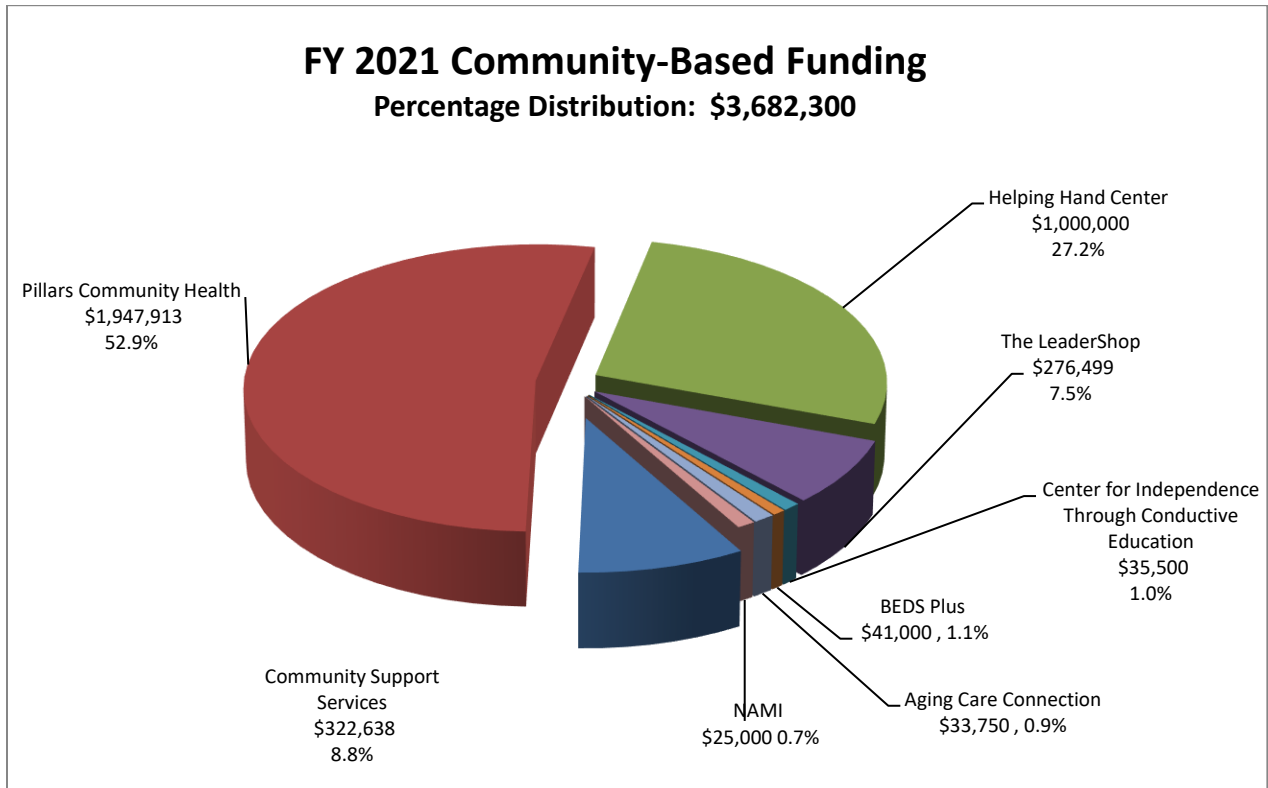


CHART 4

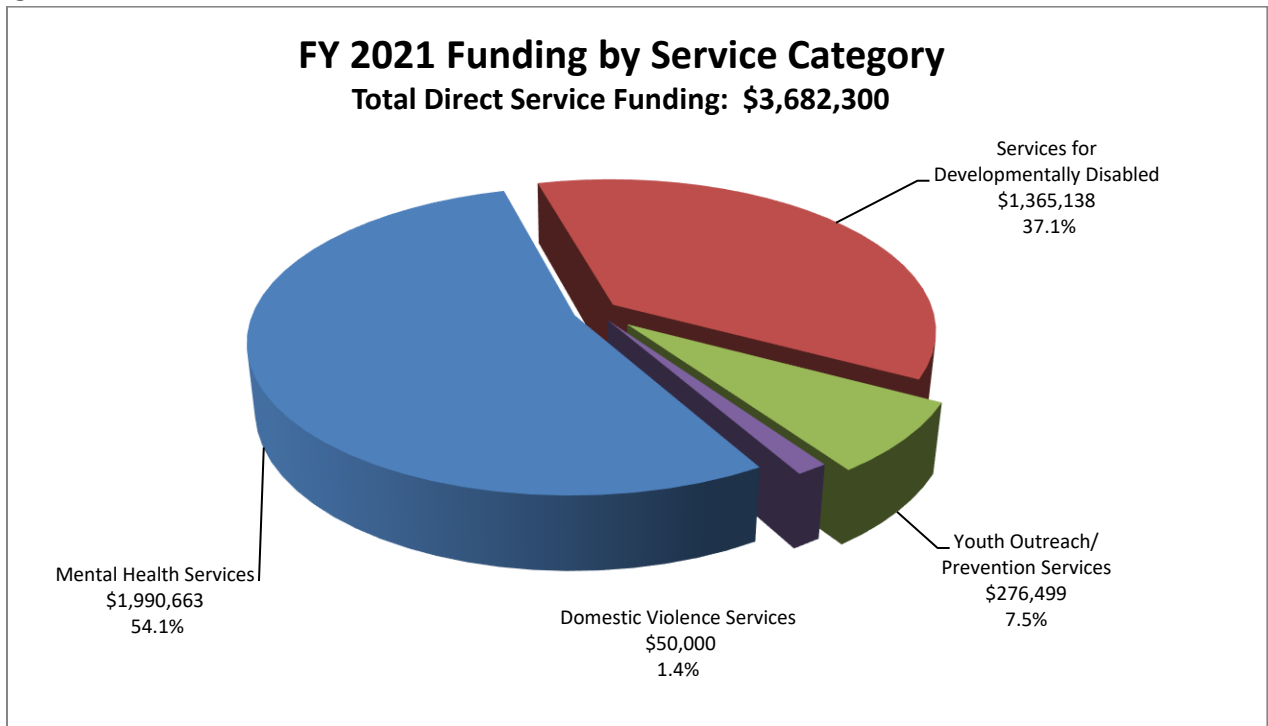


CHART 5

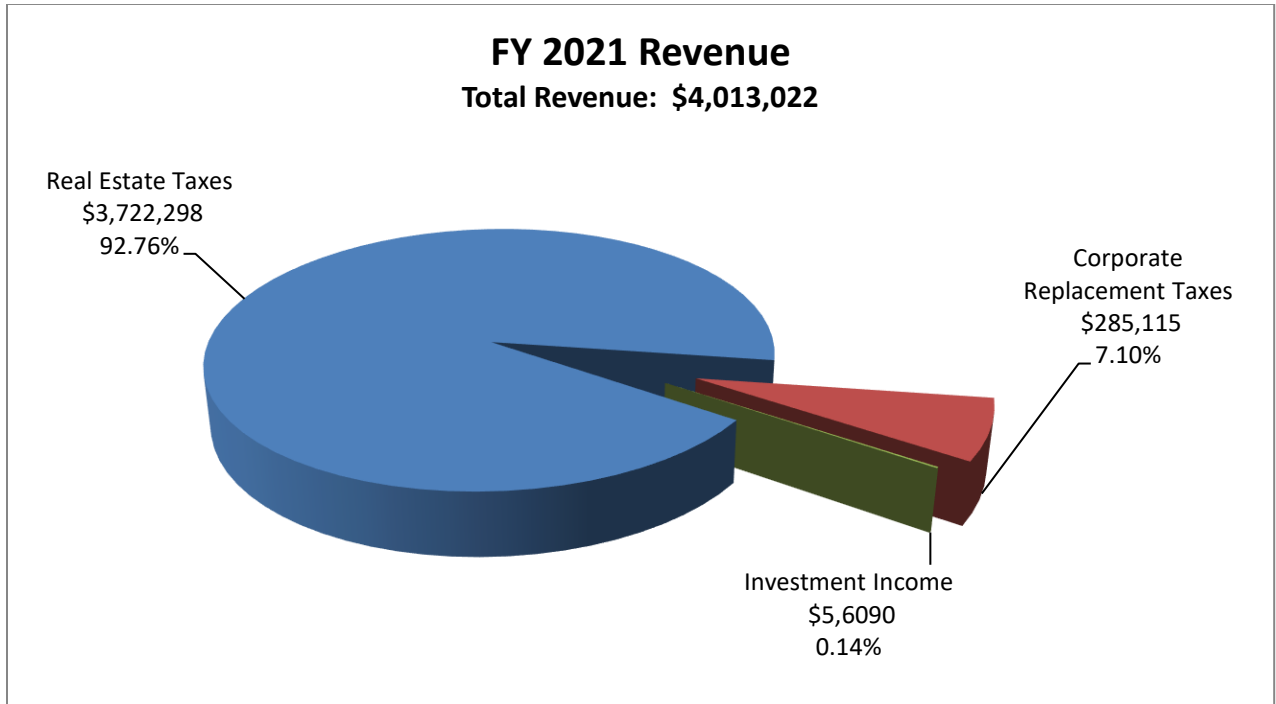
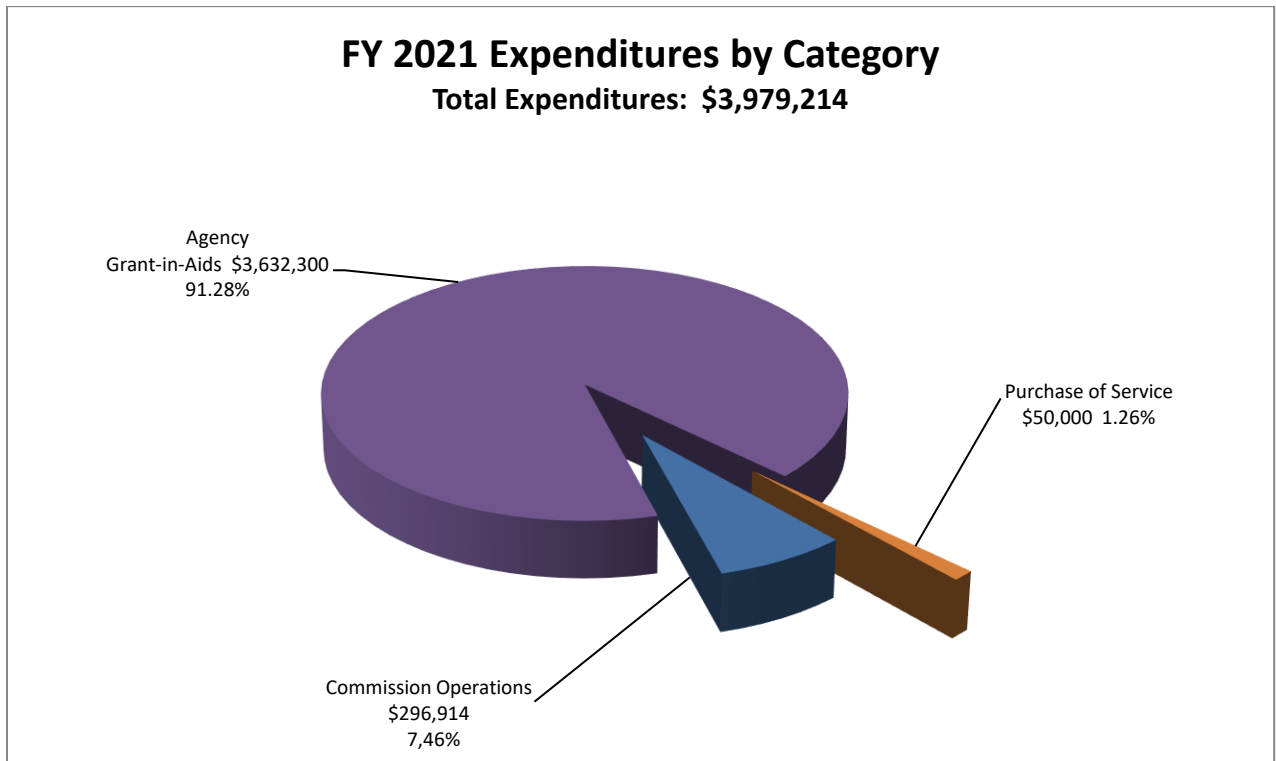


CHART 6



Members of the Board of Mental Health Commissioners

(as of June 30, 2021)

Anthony Przeklasa, PhD, Indian Head Park – President
Rev. Jeffrey B. Clemons, Summit – Vice President
Sophia G. Mallis, Bedford Park – Treasurer
Hon. Russell W. Hartigan, Western Springs – Secretary
Mike Porfirio, La Grange – Commissioner
Nicholas Kantas, Western Springs – Commissioner
William D. Seith, Hinsdale – Commissioner
Al Dorobiala, Brookfield - Commissioner
Steve Palmer, La Grange – Commissioner

Ronald R. Melka, MPA, Brookfield – Executive Director
Jazmin Lopez, MA, Bridgeview – Administrative Assistant

Agency Contact Information

If you, a family member, or someone you know is in need of any services funded by the Lyons Township Mental Health Commission, please contact one of the agencies listed below:

PILLARS COMMUNITY HEALTH

23 Calendar Avenue
La Grange, IL 60525
(708) 745-5277
Angela Curran
CEO & President

THE LEADERSHOP

4903 S. Willow Springs Road
La Grange, IL 60525
(708) 579-5898
Alan Morales
Executive Director

HELPING HAND CENTER

9649 W. 55th Street
Countryside, IL 60525
(708) 352-3580
Bill Dwyer
Chief Executive Officer

BEDS PLUS CARE, INC

9601 Ogden Avenue
La Grange, IL 60525
(708) 354-0858
Tina Rounds
Executive Director

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES, INC

9021 Ogden Ave.
Brookfield, IL 60513
(708) 354-4547
Diane Farina White
President & Chief Executive Officer

THE CENTER FOR INDEPENDENCE THROUGH CONDUCTIVE EDUCATION

100 W. Plainfield Rd., Suite 100
Countryside, IL 60525
(708) 588-0833
Patricia Herbst
Executive Director

AGING CARE CONNECTIONS

111 W. Harris Avenue
La Grange, IL 60525
(708) 354-1323
Desiree Scully
Executive Director

NAMI METRO SUBURBAN

4731 Willow Springs Road
La Grange, IL 60525
(708) 582-6434
Kimberly Knake
Executive Director