



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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(708) 354-7212

*Lyons Township*  
**Mental Health Commission**

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**Fiscal Year 2022**

**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**

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

**Guiding Principals**

- Promote coordinated mental health services through judicious use of funding resources
- Fosters and maintains a high level of client-focused services
- Provide 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, including:

### **Pillars Community Health**

- Behavioral Health Counseling for Adults, Children, Families, and Seniors
- Community Support Services for Persons living with mental health conditions
- Employment Counseling for Persons living with mental health conditions
- School-based clinical mental health support
- Addictions Treatment and Prevention Services
- Lyons Township Drug Free Coalition lead and fiscal agent
- Mental Health Crisis Response, Intervention and Stabilization
- Sexual Assault Services (inclusive of 24-hour help-line and response)
- Domestic Violence Services (inclusive of emergency shelter, 24-hour help line and response)
- Children's Bereavement Program (Buddy's Place)
- Health Center Services – primary medical and oral healthcare, prenatal care, psychiatry and behavioral health services
- Community based outreach, education and prevention
- Benefits assistance and enrollment

### **NAMI Metro Suburban**

- Living Room Program is a safe place where you can talk with a peer if you are experiencing life's emotional stresses.
- Community Education and Outreach

### **Helping Hand**

- Helping Hand Therapeutic School for Children with I/DD (EC to 22 years old)
- Outpatient Clinic (OT, Speech, Behavior, Food, Social)
- Adult Community Day Care and Education Services
- Community Residential Living Services
- Aging (dementia) day program and community living
- Vocational training, placement, and support
- Special Recreation

### **Community Support Services**

- Respite Care provides important, intermittent breaks for parents. Respite helps families stay together and reduces the stress that many parents experience.
- Case Management is provided to all CSS participants by service coordinators who assesses the needs of the participant and their family, and arranges, coordinates, monitors, evaluates, and advocates for a variety of services to meet their specific needs.
- Our Adult Independent Living Program supports adults who live on their own as well as those who reside in one of our eight community group homes.
- Community Day Services is a fresh approach to traditional day programming where adults choose meaningful ways to spend their day. Some activities include structured volunteer work; creative classes in art, music, and dance; activities of daily living; health and wellness classes; group exercise; classes structured around developing job skills and job searching; etc.
- 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.

### **Center For Independence Through Conductive Education**

- Intensive Motor Training Programs for Children and Young Adults with Physical Disabilities, including Early intervention, Assistive Technology, Physical, Occupational & Developmental Therapy.
- Vocational Training & Job Placement Programs for Teens/Young Adults with Varying Disabilities that includes Employment Soft Skill Development, Job Development & Placement, Short-Term Job Coaching and Long-Term Volunteer Mentoring.
- Job Shadow & Youth Outreach Programs for local Teens interested in working with children and adults with disabilities.
- Social Work Services, Counseling, Case Management, Respite Program & Parent Training Workshops for Families Raising Children with Physical Disabilities.

### **Aging Care Connections**

- Adult Protective Services Program helps vulnerable older adults and adults with disabilities experiencing abuse, neglect, or exploitation.
- Caregiver Support Program helps caregivers deal with being a primary caretaker and for caring for themselves. Specialists offer one-on-one support at home or via phone.
- Aging Well Month brings together older adults, businesses, healthcare and social services, and health education to create a "Health Neighborhood" that supports life-long wellness, prevention and an age-friendly community.

### **The LeaderShop**

- Programs provided within the Middle School & High School Leadership Programs
- Leadership Development Conference
- High School Teen Leader Training Program
- Volunteer Service Opportunities (all ages)
- After School Homework Programs (LaGrange, and Summit)
- Adult/Youth Mentoring Program
- Camp LeaderShop - Summer only
- Winter Camp - Winter School Break
- Mental Health First Aid Trainings (Youth Curriculum)
- Court appointed Community Service

### **BEDS Plus Care, Inc.**

- Mental Health/SUD Services
- Rental Assistance
- Housing Programs
- Employment program.
- Case management, access and linkages to community-based safety net programs.

The Commission partners with the **Coalition for a Drug Free Lyons Township** that meets monthly in the Mental Health Commission office and via Zoom. Its mission is “to build a healthy, safe and drug-free community” 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 2022 Lyons Township Residents Receiving Assistance

Chart 2 – FY 2022 Hours of Service Provided by Program Area

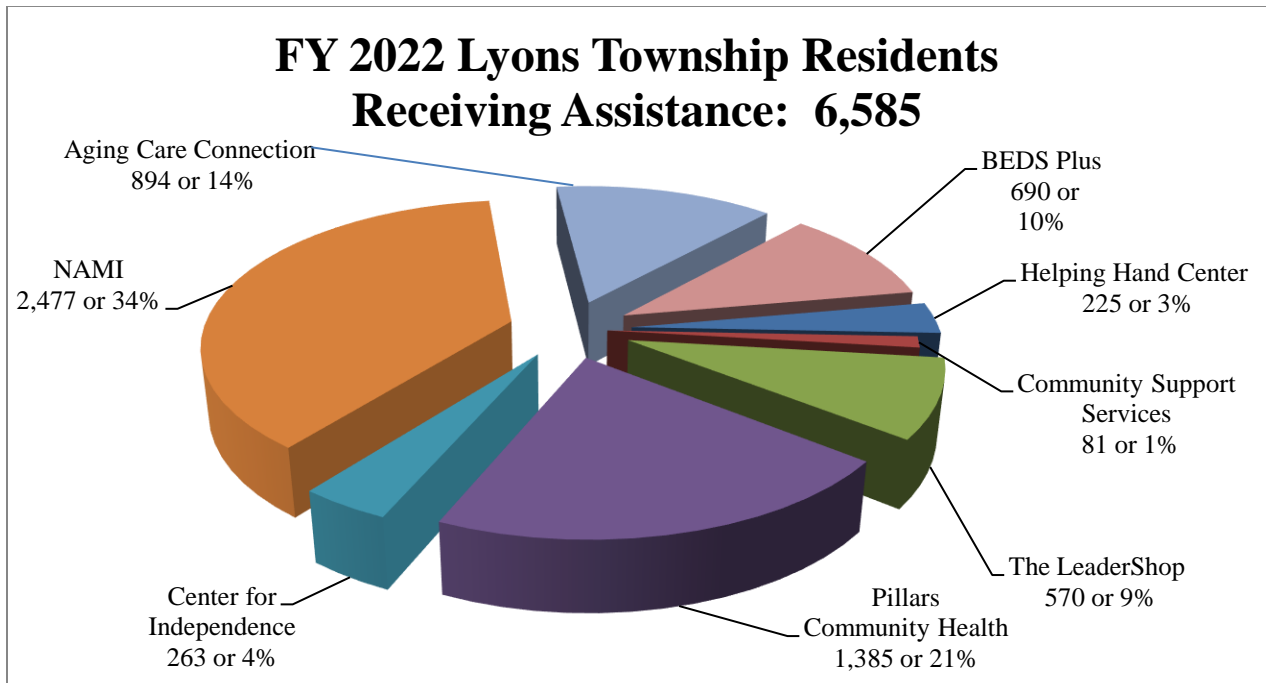
Chart 3 – FY 2022 Community-Based Funding

Chart 4 – FY 2022 Funding by Service Category

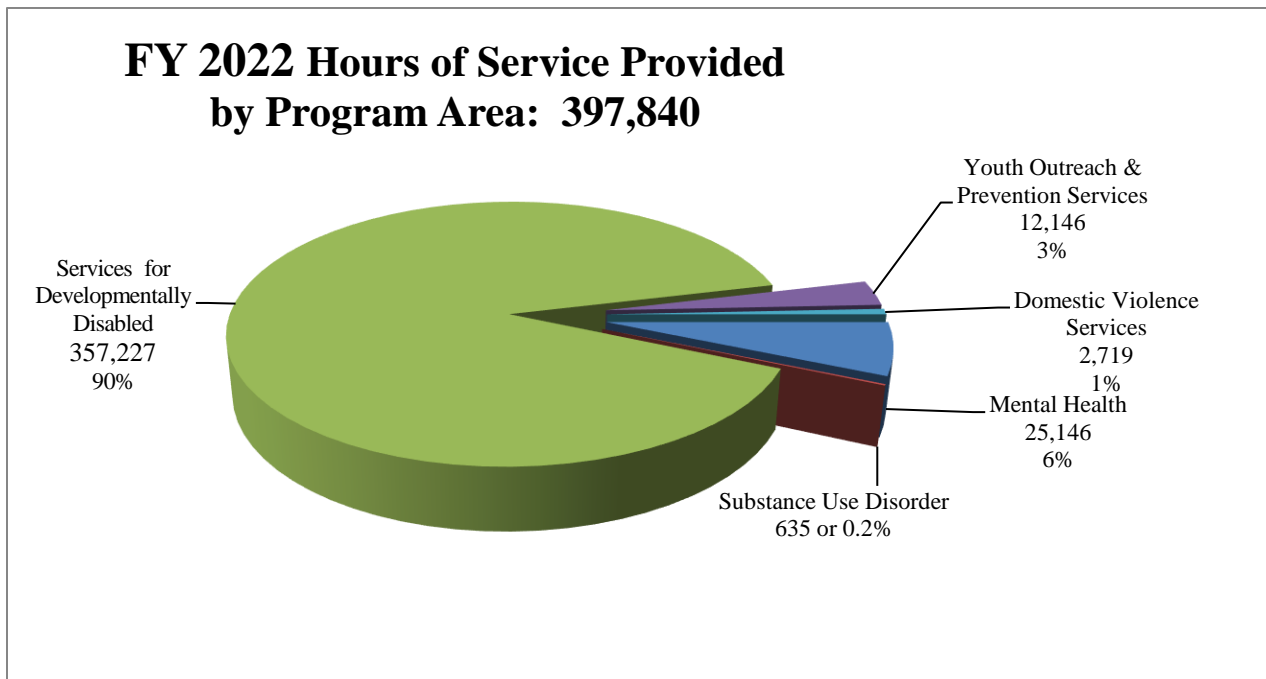
Chart 5 – FY 2022 Revenue

Chart 6 – FY 2022 Expenditures

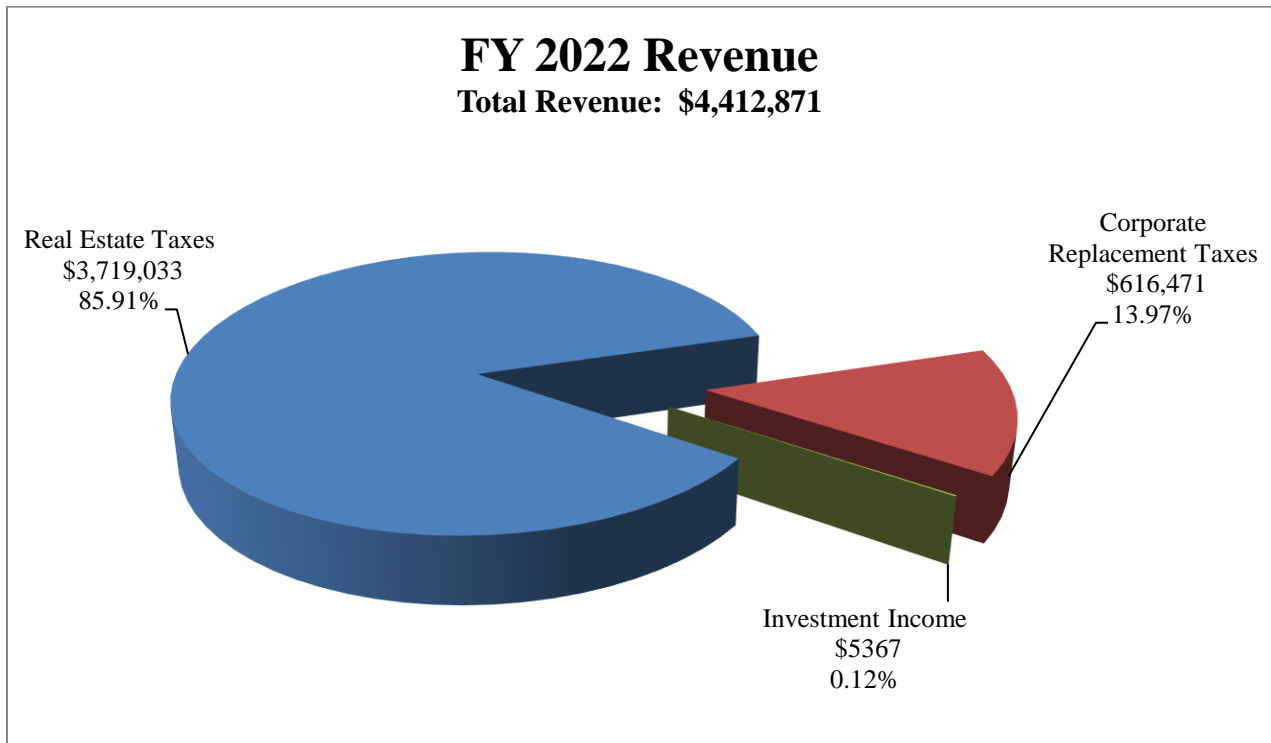
**CHART 1**



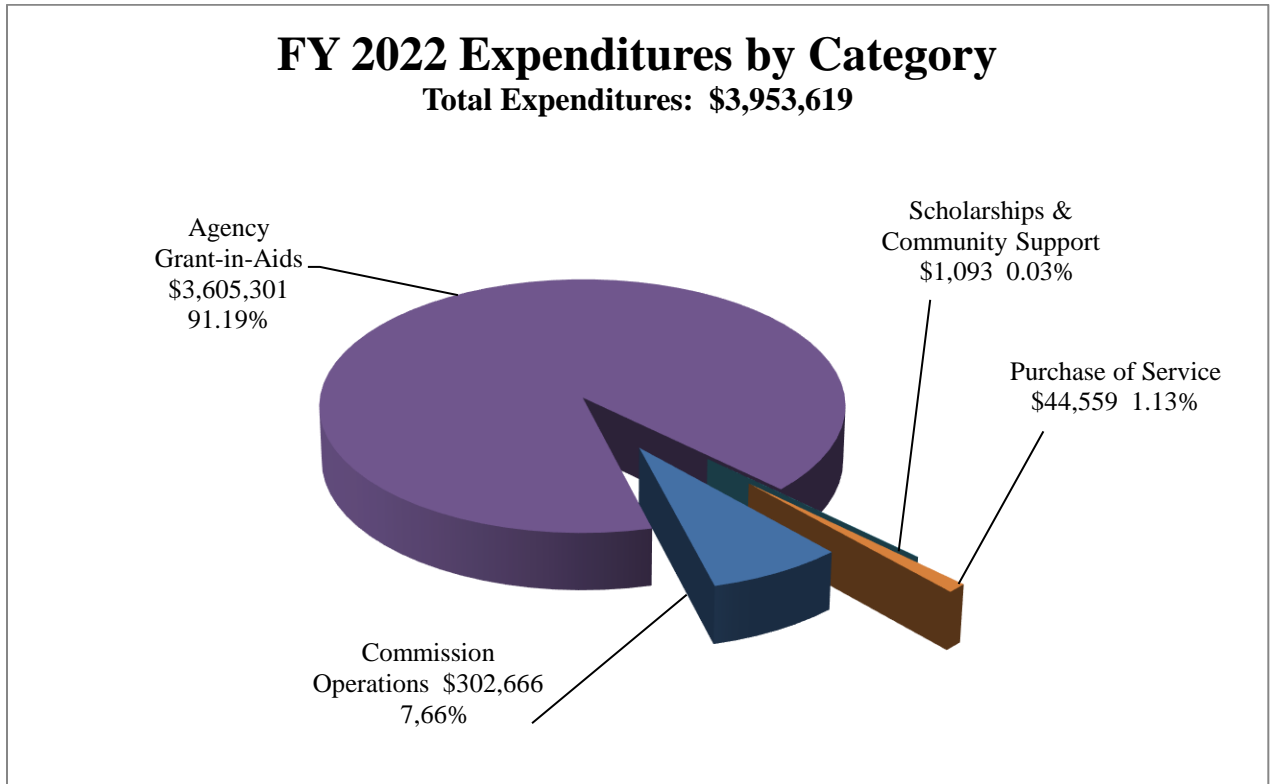
**CHART 2**



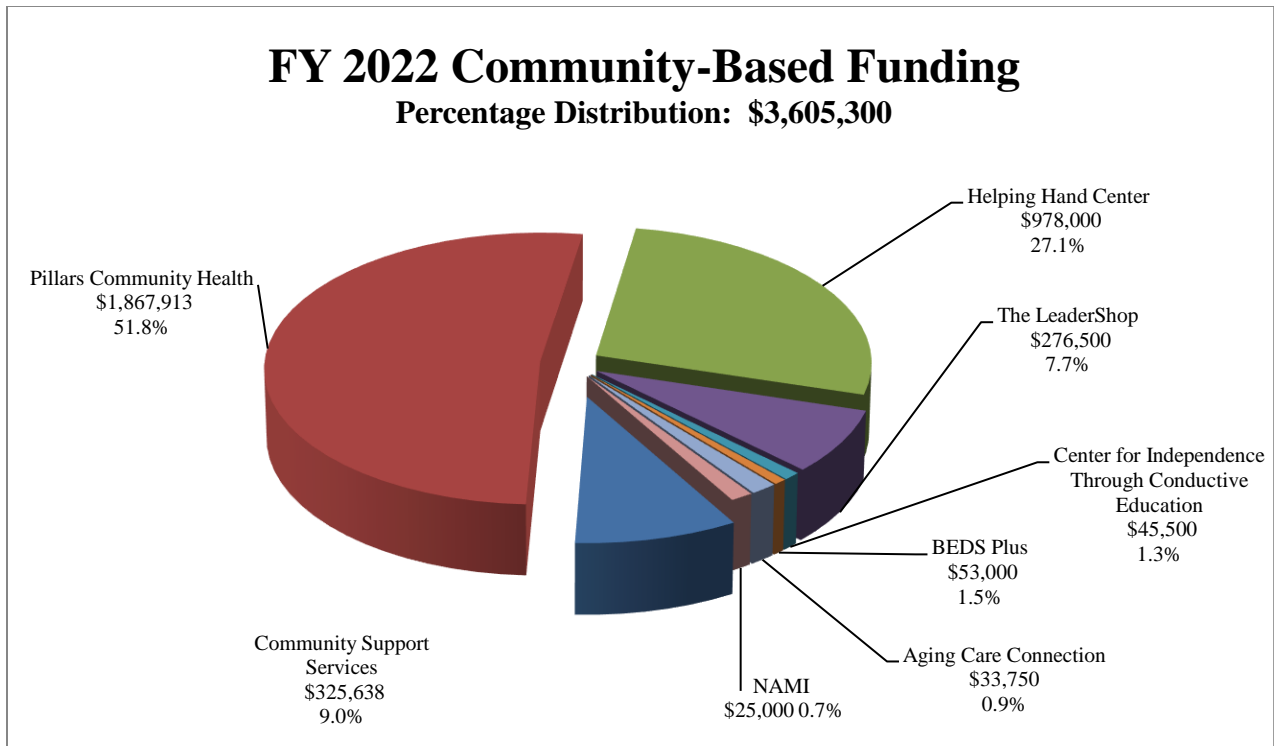
**CHART 3**



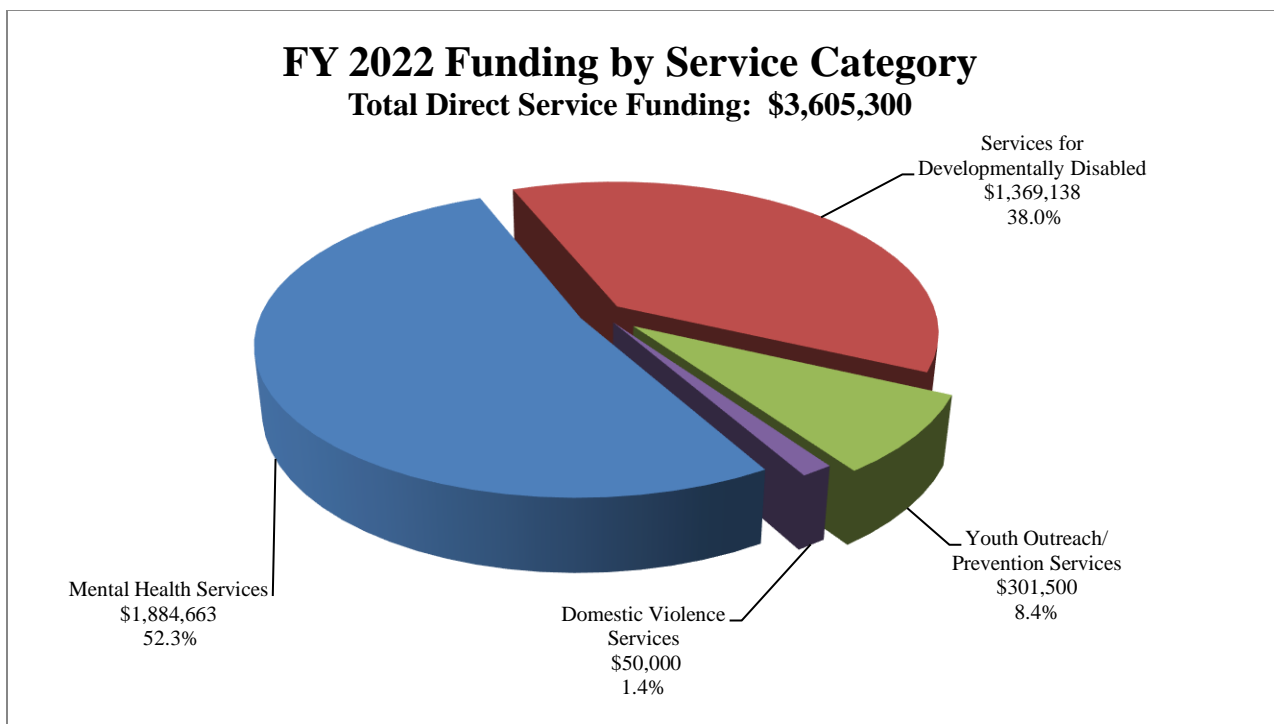
**CHART 4**



**CHART 5**



**CHART 6**



**Members of the Board of Mental Health Commissioners**  
(as of June 30, 2022)

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

**COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES, INC**

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

**THE LEADERSHOP**

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

**THE CENTER FOR INDEPENDENCE  
THROUGH CONDUCTIVE EDUCATION**

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

**HELPING HAND CENTER**

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

**AGING CARE CONNECTIONS**

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

**BEDS PLUS CARE, INC**

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

**NAMI METRO SUBURBAN**

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