



Ogle County Mental Health Board

AGENCY REPORTS FOR THIRD QUARTER 2021



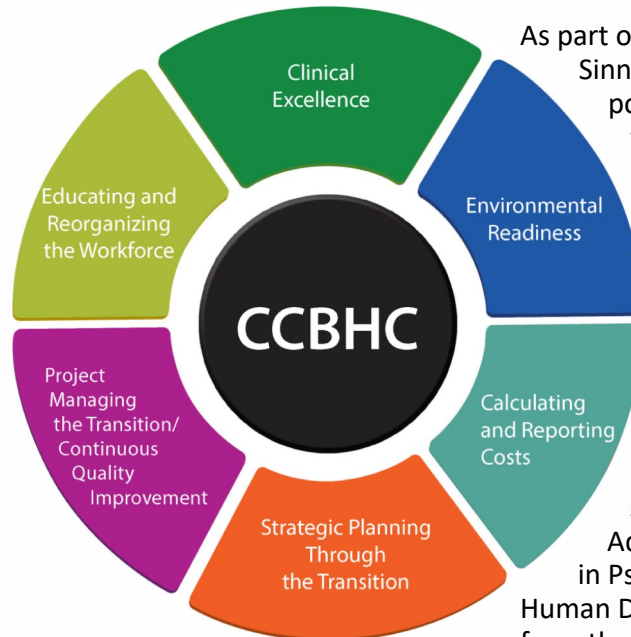
SINNISSIPPI CENTERS
PROVIDING CARE, OFFERING HOPE

Sinnissippi Centers got great news during the past quarter, we were awarded funds under the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's FY 2021 Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) Expansion Grant program.

For people with serious mental illness, the CCBHC model more closely integrates primary care with behavioral health. By addressing primary care needs, we are able to identify physical issues sooner and help them link to our medical providers and get treatment. Under the CCBHC model providers are allowed to use funding to provide care to individuals who do not have any health care coverage. Sinnissippi Centers' CCBHC project will provide enhanced services to adults, children and families with a serious mental illness, serious emotional

disturbance, substance use disorder and/or those with co-occurring disorders. The project will provide enhanced and increased psychiatric services, peer support, crisis intervention, care

offices in Ogle County as well as all of Sinnissippi Centers' locations. Sinnissippi Centers is in an ideal place to be on the cutting edge of this new model of service provision for behavioral health with this grant.



As part of our CCBHC project, Sinnissippi has been hiring more positions in order to support this model, including several nursing positions. Jennifer Thomason, Senior Director of Outpatient Services, has been named the Project Manager. Thomason joined Sinnissippi Centers in 2007 and has served as a clinician, manager of residential services, and Director of Adult Services. She has a B.A. in Psychology and a Master's in Human Development Counseling from the University of Illinois, as well as an MBA in Healthcare Administration from Southern Indiana University.

coordination, evidence-based treatments, and intensive team-based interventions from our Oregon and Rochelle



Serenity's annual butterfly release was held August 21st on the grounds of Serenity Home. It was a very successful event with beautiful weather and an outstanding turnout. This event offers those who have experienced the death of a loved one to symbolically release a butterfly.



Serenity's bereavement program continues to serve not only hospice families, but anyone in the community who is experiencing grief. Our trained coordinators visit schools as well to meet with children who have

experienced the death of someone close to them.

In July, we hosted a Kid's Camp at the Rec in Rochelle for children ages 6 to 15. The camp featured games, crafts, swimming and more. The camp allows kids to meet peers who experienced the same trauma and



provides the opportunity for them to grieve and play together.

The Shed continues to evolve and has many regulars and groups who meet there to create, visit and chat with one another about the death of a loved one.

Serenity recently learned they would again be receiving Hospice Honors Elite status. Hospice Honors is a

prestigious program that recognizes hospices providing the highest level of quality as measured from the caregiver's point of view.

Looking ahead, Serenity's Annual Memorial Service will be

at Ebenezer Church on November 7th at 1:00pm.

We are also offering a Q&A Forum featuring experts in the areas of law, wills, financial planning and advanced directives. The forum is on October 23rd at Pinecrest Grove Community Center in Mt. Morris. The event is free and will be informative for people of any age and any income bracket.



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Serenity Hospice & Home:

Contact: Lynn Knodle 815.732.2499

Sinnissippi Centers:

Contact: Patrick Phelan 815.284.6611

Easterseals-Family Support Services

Contact: Patti Mook/Kathleen Kurtz 815.965.5069

Family Support Services received a grant from the Rochelle Community Foundation to help families with extra expenses due to COVID. We were able to provide utility assistance to four families along with purchasing gift cards for families to be able to purchase groceries and cleaning supplies.

“During a time when we had no income due to Covid, the assistance we received from the Rochelle Community Foundation helped us to pay our bills. This relieved a lot of stress for us and helped us to continue on.”

All of the respite hours that are allotted for Ogle County families are used on a regular basis.

Planning was underway for training/social/mom’s retreat activities for the remainder of FY22.

Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling:

Contact: Erica Engler 815.636.9811

Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling (RSAC) has continued to provide services in our 3-county service area of Ogle, Boone, and Winnebago counties. Our Ogle County therapist, Michelle Pauley, is back in schools meeting with child and adolescent survivors individually as well as making plans to start three Strong Self Plus groups in Ogle County schools. Our Prevention Educators are already in area schools to educate students about sexual assault/abuse in age appropriate ways. Our 2nd Annual Dispelling the Darkness, was held on September 9th at 7PM at First Free Rockford. We were so excited to have people attend in person and virtually this year and show support for survivors everywhere. Along with Judge Rosemary Collins (retired) and Representative Maurice West, we were honored to have a sexual assault survivor speak at the vigil. It was a very moving evening. We just started our Raising Hope with RSAC raffle on Facebook where you have the chance to win some awesome prizes! The link is below to join the group. The raffle posts started October 1st. Most items have spots still available so come join us!

Website- [Rockfordsexualassaultcounseling.org](https://www.rockfordsexualassaultcounseling.org) • Facebook Raffle Group- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/raisinghopewithrsac/>

Ogle County phone: (815) 732-0000 • 24-hour crisis hotline: (815) 636-9811

LSSI:

Contact: Chris Mills 815.284.7796

With resuming in-person services, LSSI has had a very busy quarter. Both Project LEAD and Youth WORKS have reengaged with area schools to provide a variety of prevention education including the Too Good for Drugs and Too Good for Violence curriculums. LSSI currently has partnerships with the following Ogle County schools to provide services to their students: Aplington Middle School, Forrester Jr. and Sr. High, David L Rahn, Meridian Jr. High, and Oregon High School. Project LEAD is also encouraging schools’ participation in the Illinois Youth Survey and promoting Drug Take Back Day, which is scheduled for October 23rd.

Comprehensive Community Based Youth Services (CCBYS), which serves at-risk, run away, and lockout youth experiencing a crisis or needing discretionary counseling, has recently experienced an increase in referrals throughout its four county region. In Ogle County specifically, there have been 5 new referrals for youth in need of counseling and support to prevent family disruption. In addition, 3 crisis calls were received this quarter to assist youth in Ogle County who were experiencing a lockout or runaway situation. CCBYS workers continue to offer both in-person and virtual options for on-going counseling sessions among adolescents on their caseloads.

LSSI as an organization will be extremely active in the upcoming month through outreach efforts that highlight the work of its many programs. We will have informational booths at various locations in Ogle County including at the Rally Against Child Abuse in Oregon and at the Cypress House in Rochelle. We hope you’ll stop by and see us!

HOPE of Ogle County:

Contact: Ruth Carter 815.562.4323

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and HOPE of Ogle County is emphasizing education about the intersectionality of animal abuse, domestic and child abuse. We are inviting you to join HOPE of Ogle County in its mission to bring domestic abuse awareness to our community and support those in need. The Campaign: When patrons share a picture of their pet wearing purple or in costume on our HOPE of Ogle County Facebook page PAWS for PEACE thread they are entered in to a drawing. There will also be prizes for best purple ensemble, best dressed and most creative. This will run through the month of October.

The first quarter of FY22, HOPE of Ogle County provided 17 adults and 11 children emergency shelter services. 146 adults and 43 youth received counseling services, safety planning, crisis support, Order of Protection services, outreach services and economic assistance and advocacy.

Village of Progress:

Contact: Brion Brooks 815.732.2126

In an effort to increase our exposure in the community, the Village of Progress created a variety of small group outings this summer. Our goal was to promote and improve self-advocacy, informed decision making, budgeting/money skills and greater life experiences. Everyone was able to choose the activities they want to participate in each time.

So far, we have explored local restaurants, museums and parks as well as learned how to play billiards, geocache, cook, and play disc golf. The small groups really allow their case manager or “Q” to customize activities to challenge individual skills. In the fall, we hope to expand our groups by adding an in house store and a coffee morning club.