

# BUILDING HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INITIATIVE




In February 2023, Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) announced 20 Building Healthier Communities: Behavioral Health Initiative grant awards totaling nearly \$17 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding across suburban Cook County to address dramatic increases in anxiety, depression and substance use since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

*According to one 2021 study, nearly half of Americans reported recent symptoms of an anxiety or depression, and 10 percent of respondents felt their mental health needs were not being met.*

CCDPH streamlined the grant application process to encourage all interested organizations and agencies to apply. Information sessions and optional capacity-building workshops were also offered to familiarize applicants with legal requirements and grant application skills, such as program design, monitoring and reporting.

CCDPH received an overwhelming 140 behavioral health grant applications, totaling more than \$120 million in requested funding; demonstrating the unprecedented need for mental health, positive youth development and opioid overdose prevention programs and services.

## GRANT STRATEGIES

		
<b>Mental Health</b>	<b>Positive Youth Development</b>	<b>Opioid-Involved Overdose Prevention</b>
Development, maintenance, and/or expansion of programs and services that improve the behavioral health of suburban Cook County residents through prevention and support approaches	Development, maintenance, and/or expansion of programs and services supporting positive youth development for suburban Cook County residents ages 0-24	Development, maintenance and/or expansion of harm reduction outreach programming for suburban Cook County residents in high-need areas
Tracks 1, 2	Tracks 1, 2	Track 3
9 grants awarded	8 grants awarded	3 grants awarded

## EXECUTIVE SPONSOR

- LaMar Hasbrouck, MD, MPH, MBA  
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## GRANT AWARDS

### Mental Health

- Arab American Family Services (\$1M)
- Asian Health Coalition (\$1M)
- Black Alphabet (\$600K)
- Hoffman Estates Department of Health and Human Services (\$222K)
- Legacy Medical Care (\$1M)
- NAMI Metro Suburban (\$469K)
- Shelter Inc. (\$2310K)
- Thrive Counseling Center (\$1M)
- YWCA Metropolitan Chicago (\$1M)

### Positive Youth Development

- Aunt Martha's Health and Wellness, Inc. (\$1M)
- Big Brothers Big Sisters (\$1M)
- Girls on the Run Chicago (\$1M)
- Kenneth Young Center (\$570K)
- Northwest Center Against Sexual Assault (\$250K)
- Pillars Community Health (\$1M)
- Playworks Illinois (\$250K)
- Youth Guidance (\$1M)

### Opioid-Involved Overdose Prevention

- Family Guidance Centers (\$1.3M)
- Housing Forward (\$1.3M)
- Proactive Community Services (\$1.3M)

## FUNDING PER GRANT

### Mental Health & Positive Youth Development

Track 1: Up to \$250,000 over four years  
Track 2: Up to \$1M over four years

### Opioid-involved Overdose Prevention

Track 3: Up to \$1,345,715 over four years

## TOTAL FUNDING AVAILABLE

Tracks 1 and 2: \$13M  
Track 3: \$4M

\* Funded amounts are rounded up