



HANOVER TOWNSHIP

Annual Report
2023-2024

Hanover Township

2023-24 Township Board



Trustee
Craig Essick



Trustee
Eugene "Gino" Martinez



Supervisor
Brian P. McGuire



Trustee
Alisa "Lee" Beattie



Trustee
Denise Noyola



Assessor
Khaja Moinuddin



Clerk
Katy Dolan Baumer

Department Leaders

James Barr, Administrator
Megan Conway, Aging Services Director
Mike Crews, Emergency Services Director
Simeren Silverstein, Chief Deputy Assessor
Caleb Hanson, Facilities & Road Maintenance Director

Mary Jo Imperato, Human Services Director
Thomas Kuttentberg, Community Affairs Director
Tina Houdek, Youth and Family Services Director
Kirsten Smith, Community Health Director
Amanda Teachout, Mental Health Board Manager

Annual Report of Hanover Township

2023-2024

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*Hanover Township's mission is to continuously improve the quality of life
of Hanover Township residents.*

*The Hanover Township vision is a better life through leadership,
innovation and diversity.*

Township Supervisor

Brian P. McGuire

It is my honor and privilege to submit this report for the 174th Annual Town Meeting of Hanover Township. Fiscal year 2024 was certainly a year of challenges but also a year of opportunities and celebration. The Township cut the ribbon on the long-anticipated Emergency Services Station in February. The facility features a communications room, training area, separate bunk rooms for men and women, as well as the bathrooms and kitchen, 12 vehicle bays, lockers for officers, storm shelter room, and provides other storage needs. Joined by many of our first-responder partners, local and county officials, residents, and supporters, the event was the culmination of many years of planning and preparation as the department of Emergency Services begins its new phase in serving the community with a facility befitting this dedicated group of professional volunteers. This project would not have been possible without the support and state capital funding secured by Senator Cristina Castro. She has been a steadfast advocate for the department since she was elected in 2017. The Township has already begun work on the next phase of the development of the 17.5-acre section on the south end of the Tiknis Campus, including developing the green space on the property and renovating an existing structure to house the Township's Facilities and Road Maintenance department.



Supervisor McGuire thanked Facilities and Road Maintenance Director Caleb Hanson for all of his work on the Hanover Township Emergency Services station and presented him with a plaque of appreciation on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

In September, the Township celebrated the opening of Hanover Landing, another long-awaited capital project. This initiative began in 2015 with the creation of the Township's Mental Health Housing Task Force that studied the need for housing in the Township for residents diagnosed with mental health disorders. The Task Force's report concluded that housing was needed and with no facilities in or near the Township's borders, the Board entered into an agreement with UPHoldings to begin the process of seeing this recommendation become a reality. In the year following the Task Force's report, the Township and UP identified several different paths forward for funding for a development in the community. The project was awarded tax credits and gap funding from the Illinois Housing Development Authority in FY22 as well as money from the Kane-Elgin HOME Consortium, totaling more than \$16,500,000. The ground-breaking ceremony was held in September 2022 on this 39-unit, amenity-rich permanent supportive housing development that will serve residents living with disabilities, all of whom will live independently.

Where great service happens!



2023-2024 Annual Report



Hanover Township staff, Township County and State officials and the City of Elgin officials joined residents at the Hanover Landing ribbon cutting.

The office of Community Health experienced increases in the number of labs, home visits, and residents visiting their clinics in FY24. The department continued to assist Aging Services staff with intake for residents in the Home Care Program. Special events remained a focus for the department with a successful Sprint 2 Spring 5K last May and the 16th Annual “Just for the Health of It” Expo last September. Township nurses also continued their educational outreach in U-46 schools by offering students handwashing presentations and “health talks” with discussions focused on hygiene and puberty, as well as healthy choices and behaviors.

Human Services saw significant increases in food pantry visits, General Assistance clients and appointments for crisis intake. Through their work with community partners, the staff and volunteers were deliberate in anticipating the assistance for the continued influx of asylum seekers entering the community. Visits to the pantry increased by nearly 20% in FY24. The department’s strong relationships with area grocery stores and cafes remain a critical avenue of support in stocking the pantry shelves. Residents have the option of shopping for pantry supplies online and utilizing curbside pickup. Home delivery of pantry orders is also available for homebound residents.

Entering their third year as accredited Veterans Service Officers, staff continued filing claims on behalf of Township veterans and their families with the Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington. The popularity of the veterans afternoon social programs and offsite trips continued to grow. New in FY24, the department hosted a successful health and wellness event for veterans and their spouses at the Astor Avenue Community Center.



Fresh produce was distributed to grateful residents during the Thanksgiving food box distribution.

The Open Gym program which provides free social, recreational, and educational activities based on a positive youth development model at five different school sites per week during the school year and during winter, spring, and summer breaks, resumed in FY24. Youth and Family Services prevention staff wrapped up its second year of operations at the Izaak Walton Youth Center. In addition to serving as an Open Gym site, the facility continued to offer drop-in teen hours providing a safe place for activities while giving teens opportunities to meet and interact with each other in a safe place. The annual holiday events such as Hoppin’ for Hanover, Cookies and Cocoa with Santa, and National Night Out and End of Summer BBQ continue to be popular events for Township families. This year, the department welcomed Dr. Natalie Pamphile, Psy.D, as the Assistant Director of Clinical Services. In addition to overseeing the therapy staff, Dr. Pamphile will be charged with expanding the department’s internship program for Master’s and Bachelor’s level field placement.

Aging Services celebrated the tenth anniversary of the Stars-N-Stripes Café in January. Popularity of the congregate meal program continues to increase with the number of café meals served increasing by 32% in FY24. The Home Delivered Meals program also experienced significant demand, with the department increasing daily delivery to

eight routes, and offering a weekly hot vegetarian meal choice. Ridership in the department's Transportation Division increased by 20% from FY23 with reinstating of weekly grocery trips and implementing the "will call" feature for medical appointments. New case management software in the Social Services Division of Aging Services will lead to many efficiencies for staff in scheduling and maintaining files of residents. The Township is grateful to the Senior Citizens Services Committee who generously contributed to half the cost of the software.

The Facilities and Road Maintenance Department (F&RM) remained one of the more active in the Township, overseeing capital projects, conducting in-house cleaning, and maintaining the Township Reserves and unincorporated roadways. F&RM staff worked closely with the Township engineers, attorneys, and Board in the construction and remodeling of the new Emergency Services Station following the removal of the general contractor during project. The department is also leading the process of planning for the Rohrssen Road Bridge replacement. Located just north Irving Park Road over Poplar Creek, the original structure was built in 1958 and rehabilitated in 1980 and 2001. Following an inspection of the bridge in June 2022 by Milhouse Engineering & Construction Inc, the superstructure was found to be in poor condition and geometrically, the bridge is classified as functionally obsolete and a high priority for replacement. The Township worked closely with the county to secure \$640,000 in funding that would begin the Phase 1 Engineering in FY25.

The Community Affairs Department coordinated the Township's first Summer Concert Series at the Izzak Walton Reserve in Elgin. This allowed many residents and families to enjoy the outdoor space and new amphitheater. The department also worked closely with Emergency Services to record a recruitment video highlighting the service of the unit's volunteers and their mission. The department continues to serve as the point for maintaining relationships with all local government partners, county, state, and federal officials. Director Tom Kuttentberg continues to lead the statewide association of Township Communication Professionals.

The Hanover Township Emergency Services Unit experienced significant increases in total volunteer hours, emergency call outs, and total details in FY24. During the tornado that came through Elgin in July, the unit responded in full force to assist Elgin police and fire, as well as Cook County personnel in providing scene lighting, damage assessment and debris removal. The unit's decontamination service remained popular on fire scenes, as well as its drone and search and rescue team. The unit continues to provide assistance to all local law enforcement agencies in Hanover Township. In closing out FY24, the unit boasts almost 40 volunteer officers on its roster.

The Township's Administrative Services Department once again was recognized with the Government Finance Officers Association's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. The department's Resident Services office continues to experience high traffic for passports, vehicle stickers, hunting and fishing licenses and handicap placards.



The Mental Health Board allocated just over \$1 million in funding in FY24 to support local non-profit organizations and agencies serving Township residents in the areas of substance abuse, developmental disabilities, and mental health. The board is generously subsidizing five vouchers for Hanover Landing, ensuring that existing residents had a path for residency in the new facility. Hanover Township's very own Savannah Widman was honored in Springfield in November with the Youth Leadership Award at the Township Officials of Illinois conference, presented by the Association of Illinois Township Committees on Youth. Savannah was recognized for her volunteer service with Operation Snowball and her countless hours in working Township programs and events. A resident of Hanover Park, Savannah is attending College of DuPage studying American Sign Language.

Residents should know that a group of dedicated elected officials, Township staff, and volunteers serve them daily. Their combined efforts make Hanover Township the best in the State of Illinois. Please take the time to read this annual report to learn more about the programs, services, and accomplishments in FY24.

As I do every year, I would like to thank my family and the families of the officials and staff. They sacrifice so much in order that we may serve. I consider it an honor and a privilege to serve the residents of Hanover Township as your elected Township Supervisor.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian P. McGuire
Supervisor

Office of the Clerk

Katy Dolan Baumer

In 2023, the Township Board formed a Decennial Committee on Local Government Efficiency. The Illinois statute (50ILCS 70/) states that “By June 10, 2023 (one year after the effective date of this Act) and at least once every 10 years after June 10, 2023, each governmental unit must form a committee to study local efficiencies and report recommendations regarding efficiencies and increased accountability to the county board in which the governmental unit is located.” The Hanover Township committee included Trustee Beattie, Trustee Essick, Trustee Noyola, Trustee Martinez, Assessor Moinuddin, Supervisor McGuire and Clerk Dolan Baumer, in addition Hanover Park Trustee Herb Porter, and past Hanover Township Trustee Marv Kramer were asked to serve as committee members. During our first meeting in February 2023, Director Kuttnerberg explained the purpose of the Act, “...to study the Township’s governing statutes, ordinances, rules, procedures, powers, jurisdiction, shared services, intergovernmental agreements, and interrelationships with other governmental units and the State.” Throughout the series six of meetings over the course of six months, the committee learned of and reviewed Hanover Township’s current programs, services, agreements, strategic planning results, and interactions with other government entities in the area, as well as the positive relations it has with elected officials who represent us, and the strategic plan for the coming year. In August, the culmination of the committee’s sessions resulted in a document the “Report of the Decennial Committee on Efficiency” for Hanover Township, which was not only sent to the Cook County Board, but to our area elected representatives of State and Federal offices, as well as the other governmental entities with which we enjoy relationships. Supervisor McGuire thanked Trustee Porter, Mr. Kramer, and the Board of Trustees and elected official for their service on this committee, as well as to staff for gathering and presenting the information, and the residents who attended. It proved to be very eye opening in terms of what we do today and provided a multitude of ideas for the future of Hanover Township. As an immediate result of this committee, the Township set up the Community Education Support Task Force to study how education in our area impacts the Quality of Life Index.

In 2023-24, the Township Officials of Cook County elected me to serve as its president. This association provides educational opportunities to township elected officials across the County and advocates on their behalf at the local and State level. This year, we are holding another annual conference in May with education as its main focus. The format of the event is expert panels with volleys of questions and answers on topics that Supervisor, Clerks, Assessors, Trustees, Road Commissioners, and staff face every day in township government. We studied best practices for serving our residents. I was delighted to bring a resident and neighbor, Mrs. Cathy Thompson, who was pleased to learn so much about township government. If you are interested in learning more about your government closest to the people and would like to be my guest at this upcoming event, please call me for details at 312-215-5577. Many thanks to Supervisor Brian McGuire for supporting me in this endeavor and putting my name forward for this position.

At the state level, I currently serve as president to the Township Officials of Illinois Clerks Division. This is my second two-year term, and it is so interesting to interact with many diverse townships and clerks across the state. The division maintains a membership of over 700 township clerks interested in how to better serve their residents. We also are focused on education, and offer sessions and seminars on everything from the Open Meetings Act to Freedom of Information Act, to taking minutes and navigating the intricacies of record keeping.

Locally, I serve as vice president of the Township Officials of Cook County Clerks Association. This year, it has been my honor to provide training to 25 clerks and township elected officials and staff on topics such as closed sessions, minutes, and a fun trivia game that tests clerks’ knowledge of the statutes that govern them. This has been a rewarding experience, and has broadened my own knowledge of our roles and responsibilities to our communities. It has truly been a pleasure to serve with the Township Board of Trustees and the entire Township staff in FY24 and I look forward with enthusiasm and a continued desire to provide the best to my community, my neighbors, in FY25.

Katy Dolan Baumer, *Clerk*

173th Annual Town Meeting

Clerk Dolan Baumer called the 173rd Annual Town Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 18, 2023, and asked those assembled to join in the Pledge of Allegiance. She welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced elected officials present, including Hanover Township Trustees Lee Beattie, Denise Noyola, and Craig Essick, and Supervisor Brian McGuire, and Assessor Khaja Moinuddin.

Nomination by Mr. Brian McGuire of Bartlett and seconded by Mr. Mike Baumer of Streamwood to nominate Mr. Paul Halverson of Elgin to the position of Moderator. On the call for a vote, Mr. Halverson was unanimously elected. Clerk Dolan Baumer administered the Oath of Office of Moderator.

During the meeting, the minutes from the 172nd Annual Town Meeting were approved. In addition, Clerk Dolan Baumer presented the Supervisor's Financial Statements for the Township and they, too, were approved by the residents with a motion by Mr. Essick of Elgin and second by Mrs. Beattie of Bartlett, then followed by a voice vote. The Board Trustees certified all accounts and presented the certificate to the Clerk for the file. A booklet with the FY23 Annual Reports was made available to all present.

A list of surplus Township property for consideration for disposition was submitted before the Town; a motion to accept the list as presented and allow disposition of the property was made by Mrs. Beattie and seconded by Mr. Baumer of Streamwood; the motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

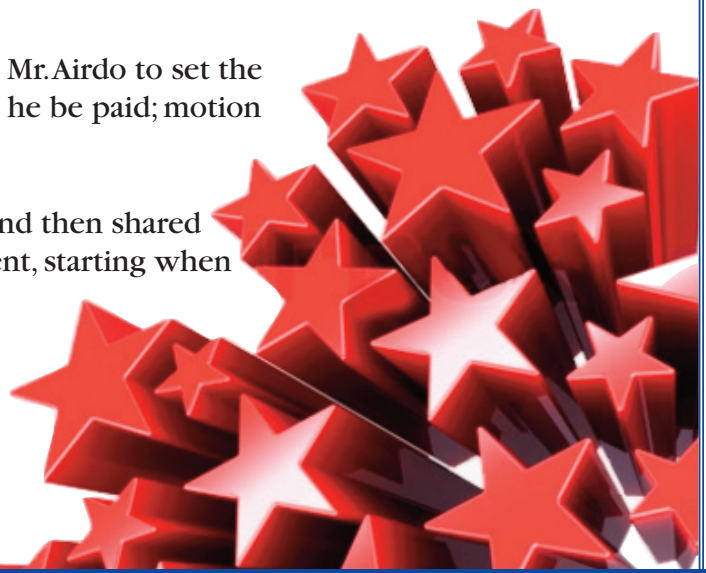
Resolution to Delegate Authority to the Township Board to Purchase, Sell and Lease Property: Motion by Mr. Khaja Moinuddin of Hoffman Estates to approve resolution #ATM041823 to delegate authority to the Township Board to purchase, sell and lease property; second by Mr. Essick. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A motion by Mr. Baumer to set the hour of special town meetings to be 7:00 p.m. was seconded by Mrs. Noyola of Streamwood. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. A motion to set the hour of the 174th Annual Town Meeting for 7:00 p.m. was made by Mrs. Beattie and seconded by Mrs. Noyola; motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Baumer and seconded by Mr. Airdo to set the Moderator's pay at \$150 for his fine service, and that he be paid; motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Finally, Moderator Halverson thanked the residents and then shared some details of his 50 year history in local government, starting when he was 23 years old as a Trustee in Maine Township.

At 7:19 p.m., Mrs. Beattie moved and Mrs. Noyola seconded the motion to adjourn this 173rd Annual Town Meeting. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.



**Did you know that once you request a Mail-in Ballot Application, you need never request another, as you will be put on the list and the County will mail one prior to each election?
Register to Vote or Change your Address: elections.il.gov**

Office of the Assessor

Khaja Moinuddin

The Assessor's office continually strives to give the taxpayers the best personalized service and to help address all their needs and concerns.

In FY24, the Hanover Township Assessor's office continued its commitment to providing exceptional service to the taxpayers. The office is grateful for Patty Glascott's dedication as Chief Deputy Assessor for the last ten years and as Deputy Assessor for the decade prior. Patty retired this past summer. Her service to the Township for over 21 years has been invaluable, and she is wished all the best in this new chapter of her life.

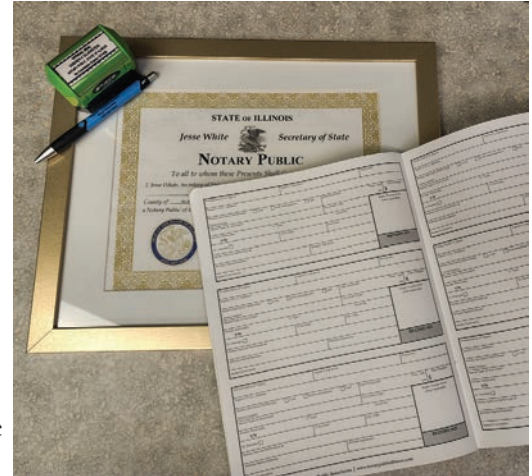
In October, Jeanette Cedillo was sworn in as Deputy Assessor, after successfully completing her CIAO certification. Later in December, Simeren Silverstein officially took on the role of Chief Deputy Assessor, following a six-month interim period.

The Assessor's office is excited again welcome taxpayers into the office for a more engaged level of service. In-office offerings include filing for exemptions and appeals, researching property information, notarial services, and more. The staff is fully committed to serving as taxpayer advocates for all taxpayers in Hanover Township. Through these efforts, the staff hopes to provide a more efficient and personalized experience for all visitors to the office.

In FY24, the office worked closely with the Cook County Assessor's Office and the Cook County Board of Review to improve services for taxpayers through a streamlined approach that provides better outreach to the community. As part of this effort, the Township partnered with the County Assessor's Office to organize two exemption seminars in April and November of last year, well as an appeals' seminar in May. Additionally, the Cook County Board of Review was welcomed by the Township Assessor's Office to present an appeals seminar in September. The office appreciates the support of Cook County Commissioner Kevin Morrison, who co-sponsored these events.

Respectfully submitted,

Khaja Moinuddin, P.E., CIAO
Assessor



Administrative Services

Administrative Services' mission is to ensure effective implementation of Township Board policies through efficient professional management of the Township government. The Township Administrator serves as the organization's Chief Administrative Officer, and in this capacity, is responsible for administration, coordination, and management of all Township services and employees. In addition, Administrative Services is responsible for support services including financial management, human resources, information technology, risk management, strategic planning, resident services, and disability services.

Administrative Services continued to assist individuals and families through the Resident Services office. The staff provide passport application assistance and acceptance, State of Illinois license plate sticker renewals, temporary handicap placards, and hunting and fishing licenses. This year, Resident Services accepted over 4,500 passport applications bringing an estimated total revenue in excess of \$200,000. In response to the utilization of passport services, Hanover Township has certified seven staff members as passport acceptance agents, two of whom are Assessor's Office staff who have been cross trained in Resident Services. Cross-training minimizes the possibility of service disruptions for any reason. Two members of Administrative Services have also been cross-trained to assist in the Assessor's department and are in the process of obtaining designations as Certified Illinois Assessment Officers (CIAO).

100 Years! Happy Birthday says the proclamation that Administrator Barr presented on behalf of Supervisor McGuire and the Board to a Township resident.

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The department has also been busy with projects occurring outside of Town Hall. In September, through the efforts of Hanover Township, Upholdings, the Housing Opportunity Development Corporation, and Ecker Center for Behavioral Health, Hanover Landing, a permanent supportive housing facility, opened in Elgin. Hanover Landing has 39 one-bedroom apartments for residents with disabilities to live independently. Tenants are eligible to receive comprehensive on-site supportive services, coordinated by the Hanover Township Disability Services Coordinator, with staff from Ecker Center for Behavioral Health, with the goal of connecting Hanover Landing residents with the services they need to thrive in an independent living environment. This has been an ongoing project for many years and the Township was excited to see it come to fruition this year.

The Hanover Township Emergency Services Station was also completed in FY2024 with the ribbon cutting ceremony held in February. The Emergency Services Station is located adjacent to the

Hanover Township main offices on the William Tiknis Campus. Utilizing a \$2,000,000 grant, a pre-engineered building that houses an apparatus bay with six overhead doors for Emergency Services vehicles was completed and added to the previously remodeled building on the property which serves as headquarters for Emergency Services. Department staff have been engaged in project oversight and grant administration.

The Administrative Services staff worked on goals including continued focus on customer service practices, a review of all Township reserves and open spaces, and research into future energy efficient projects. The department held a Customer Service Work Group with front line staff to discuss and evaluate customer service practices at the Township. Customer service training was also held for staff to attend. The work group will continue to meet in 2025. Administrative Services staff worked with Facilities and Road Maintenance staff to form a Campus Beautification Work Group that reviewed all the Township reserves and open spaces and created a plan for additional plantings and equipment to be added in the future. Research into future energy efficient projects was completed including possible building and vehicle upgrades. Department staff discussed possible electric vehicle purchases with the Township's fleet management team and continues to research and review cost effective options and potential funding opportunities for future purchases.

The department will continue to improve in FY25. Planning for reserve improvements to the Tiknis Campus expansion property are underway and the Township is planning to submit an Open Space Land Acquisition and Development grant application. A remodel of one of the existing buildings on the Tiknis Campus expansion property for the Facilities and Road Maintenance department is also planned. The Township will work with its Information

Technology (IT) provider to create an IT strategic plan. The department will also be working with the Township board, staff and key community stakeholders to develop a new multi-year Township-wide strategic plan.

Hanover Township, our officials, staff, and many volunteers, continue to strive to meet the changing needs of the community and to improve the quality of life for residents. The Department of Administrative Services is excited to provide another year of leadership in this endeavor.

Respectfully submitted,

James C. Barr, MPA, *Administrator*

Kristin Vana, *Deputy Administrator*

Administrator Barr had the opportunity to speak with State Representative Anna Moeller during a meeting at her district office in July.



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Aging Services

Enriching Lives, Fostering Friendships, Promoting Independence

The Department of Aging Services continues to be a leader in providing exemplary programs and services to older adults. Over the past year, on-site programming expanded and in-person participation increased in every facet of service delivery. Nutrition Services celebrated ten years of serving the community on January 8, 2024. Diners of the Stars-N-Stripes Café enjoyed an array of desserts and celebrated the successes from the past 10 years. Some of the accomplishments highlighted included adding Home Delivered Meals (HDM) to qualifying residents, increasing daily delivery to eight routes, and offering a weekly hot vegetarian meal choice. Nutrition Manager Marilyn Perri began hosting a bi-monthly advisory group to provide feedback on the café's service and quality, while sharing information on nutrition guidelines and procedures. Of particular note was the restructuring of the division which allowed Nutrition Manager Marilyn Perri to assume a part-time role with the café while shifting some responsibilities to a newly created Nutrition Coordinator Lana Harvey who was promoted in May. The Nutrition Assistant position new staff member Angela Coconato was hired in October.

Throughout the year, Transportation Services focused on increasing ridership by 20%. Transportation Manager Dino Kazeos and Dispatcher Juanita Espinosa improved efficiencies by instating weekly grocery trips and implementing the "will call" feature for medical appointments. The staff also participated in advanced training in the Ecolane dispatch software system allowing for improved utilization of the system. All transportation staff received specialized training in March from the Rural Transportation Assistance Corporation on Passenger Assistance, Emergency Procedures, and Customer Service. The training is offered every three years to ensure drivers are up to date on best practices and preferred procedures. Transportation Services also provided courteous shuttle services for many Township events as well as for the Veterans group field trips occurring four times per year. Transportation Services hired new Bus Driver Mary Aguayo in October.

The Home Services Program continues to grow under the leadership of Home Care Coordinator Sarece Mitchell, reaching capacity mid-year. Coordinator Mitchell manages a small waitlist and triages clients according to need. A full-time Home Care Assistant, Joann Gante, was hired in May. Both staff members provided empathetic, professional care to clients. Home Care staff completed Basic Life Support training, Heart Saver training, and Dementia Academy through Elderwerks. Over the past year, a Friendly Visitor volunteer program grew; three volunteers meet with six individuals weekly. In the next fiscal year, staff plans to expand this program to include friendly callers as well.

Several important updates from the Social Services Division occurred in FY24. After many years of searching, the division purchased Mon Ami, a case management software specifically designed to support aging and disability social services providers. The implementation will be concluded in April. Social Services Manager Diana Gomez and Volunteer & Program Coordinator Devora Murillo hosted a Community Conversation focus group for Spanish-speaking older adults in December. As a result of the group, a relaunched Latino group started in January. The group meets at the Hanover Park Park District to provide socialization, share resources, and promote community among Spanish-speaking elderly residents throughout the Township. The 2023 Adopt-A-Senior reception and gift distribution was held in

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Residents and staff decorated the float for Streamwood Summer Celebration's "Great American Road Trip" with a classic fifties diner vibe!



Memory Café hosted Mane in Heaven in June. Mane in Heaven provides therapeutic benefits to disabled and able-bodied children and adults through animal-assisted activity and therapy visits with miniature horses leading to improved outcomes of physical, mental and emotional well-being.



The Village of Bartlett Police Department provided support to the Adopt-A-Senior program in December.

December, during which 146 older adults received care packages. Many thanks to program sponsors: Fellowes Brands, Rydin, Village of Bartlett, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Women's Auxiliary of Chicago, McKesson, and MSC Industrial Supply.

The Village of Bartlett was instrumental in helping with the gift distribution. The division welcomed Melissa Endean as Social Services Specialist in May. Social Services Manager Diana Gomez continues to serve complex clients, as well as Spanish-speaking households.

The Communities Helping Others Persevere Everyday (C-HOPE) program expanded during the past year with the implementation of a grant-funded evidenced-based program called Program to Encourage Active, Rewarding Lives (PEARLS), which is a program that reduces symptoms of depression and improves quality of life. Through a two-year grant from AgeOptions, the C-HOPE Therapist is able to provide PEARLS at no cost to older adults in the Township.

Enrichment Programming continues to grow by leaps and bounds. Visual Arts Instructors Linda Kay and Mimi Krall rebranded the department's annual art exhibit as HT Creates. During this year's exhibit in August, the Artist Reception featured demonstrations from other groups showcasing their art. Demonstrations of Zumba, Yoga, and Guitars in Bartlett allowed people to see the various ways people can "create." Extended travel is continuing to grow with 50

Very popular with men and women, the Diamond Art Painting club started with five participants and now is one of the most popular activities - thanks to Volunteer Club Leader Steve Tucky! Their work was featured in an exhibit in March.

people traveling through the assistance of the Senior Center. Some destinations such as Rhine River, Tuscany, Canadian Rockies, and Cherry Blossom Festival have been particularly popular. The division also offered a trip to Door County. The participants were thrilled to have the opportunity to travel regionally with the Senior Center, and a new trip to Shipshewana is being curated for next year. A wide range of Lunch Bunch restaurants, day trip destinations, and in-house



speakers/entertainers were presented throughout the past year. Popular day trips included destinations such as the Chicago Blackhawks, the Chicago Wolves, the Chicago White Sox, Fireside Theater, Lyric Opera House, White Pines Theater, White Fence Farm, Marriott Lincolnshire Theater, Drury Lane Theater, Axe Throwing, Metropolis Theater, Holiday Folk Fair International, Reindeer Ranch, Long Grove, Apple Holler, Botanic Gardens, Halim Time and Glass Museum, Baha'i Temple, Chicago Polish Churches, Dancing Horses, and the Holocaust Museum.

Special pop-up events were hosted throughout the year in an effort for staff to engage with participants and to generate buzz over activities at the Senior Center. Some of the pop-ups included National Milkshake Day where complimentary milkshakes were prepared and distributed by staff, Wear Red for Heart Health Month, and Operation Gratitude with letter writing supplies provided for people to write to a veteran. These will continue in the future. Over the summer, Eesha Alaparthy, a student from Bartlett High School, completed a ten-week internship which provided significant support to the operations at the Front Desk and Stars-N-Stripes Café. Due to Alaparthy's outstanding support, she continued her internship during the school year. She stepped down in December to prepare for graduation and college. Char Thomason was promoted to Administrative Assistant which reflects her increased duties managing the front desk operations and overseeing the volunteer support. Director Megan Conway was elected Vice-President of the Illinois Township Association of Senior Citizens Services Committee (ITASCSC).

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Conway

Director

Hanover Township in Your Neighborhood



William Tiknis Campus

Administration, Assessor, Clerk
Downey Hall, Resident Services
Mental Health Board
250 S. State Route 59, Bartlett 60103
(630) 837-0301



Senior Center

Library, Craft Room, Activity Rooms
Billiards, Computer Room
Veterans Hall, Stars n' Stripes Café
Trish Lynn Simon Center
for Health & Wellness
Lending Closet, Ye Olde Gift Shoppe
240 S. State Route 59, Bartlett 60103
(630) 483-5600



Emergency Services Station

300 S. IL Route 59, Bartlett 60103
(630) 837-0301



Hanover Landing

711 E. Chicago Street, Elgin 60120

Community Center

Township Food Pantry
Veteran Services, Human Services
Senator Castro's Satellite Office
7431 Astor Avenue, Hanover Park 60133
(630) 540-9085



Izaak Walton Youth Center

Youth Services
George Rosner Youth Center
Community Activity Room
Outdoor Amphitheater
866 Jay Street, Elgin 60133
(847) 888-8329

Emergency Services

Bartlett Volunteer Fire Assn. Fire Barn
218 Main Street, Bartlett 60103
(630) 483-5600

Township Garage

Battery/Dry Cell Drop-Off
behind the Township building
250 S. State Route 59, Bartlett
60103 (630) 837-0960



Izaak Walton Reserve
866 Jay Street, Elgin 60120

Naomi Walters-Lenoci Reserve
735 Stowell Avenue, Streamwood

Runzel Reserve

Located between
Tiknis Campus Admin offices
and the Senior Center

The Bridlewood Reserves of
Hoffman Estates

Central Bridlewood Drive
East Shoe Factory Road
Northeast Morningview Drive

Shoe Factory Basin Reserve
Shoe Factory & McDonough Roads,
Hoffman Estates

Robinhood

1169 Robinhood Drive, Elgin

Hanover-Township.org

Community Affairs

Dedicated to providing Township residents with accurate and timely information in regards to all services and events offered by Hanover Township. The office is engaged in community events and actively promotes the mission and vision developed by the Board.

FY24 – Community, Community & Community! As one may guess – yes, the office of Community Affairs is all about community but perhaps no theme was quite as evident in this fiscal year as everything COMMUNITY. Township staff were out in the community, partnering with the community, and promoting our community in fiscal year 2024.

The Township's long-awaited permanent supportive housing initiative with UPholdings opened its doors in September with many community partners, residents and supporters in attendance at the ribbon cutting. Since 2013, Community Affairs has been working with the developer, local government officials and agencies, as well as other Township staff to bring this 39-unit amenity rich development to the Township. Located at 711 E. Chicago Street in Elgin, the facility serves residents living with disabilities, all of whom live independently and retain all rights of tenancy.

With the addition of an outdoor amphitheater to the Izaak Walton Reserve in 2022, the department kicked off the Township's inaugural "Music in the Reserve" concert series featuring Rosie and the Rivets, Caliente, and Ginger

Road. Attendees sat out on blankets and lawn chairs to enjoy live music in the reserve with many residents walking from their homes from the surrounding community. Many enjoyed a dessert treat by visiting the Ice Overload food truck at each of the events. The series will return this summer with anticipated larger crowds.

Once again, Community Affairs staff coordinated the Township's annual Fall Food Truck Festival in September. 13 trucks were onsite offering a wide array of foods and desserts while attendees listened to classic pop hits from Chicago area fest-favorite band, GooRoos. Attendees enjoyed free carnival games while having the opportunity to visit Township booths promoting programs, services and special events. This event has become one of the premier annual festivals in Bartlett and throughout the Township community – not to miss!

Closing out on another capital project, the department worked closely with Administrative Services, Facilities & Road Maintenance, and the Emergency Services Department to coordinate the long-anticipated ribbon cutting for the construction of the new Emergency Services station on the Tiknis Campus in February. Tours of the facility and highlights of the assistance and services the Emergency Services unit provides were showcased.

The department continues to regularly provide information to engage with members of the community using social media, press releases, and other media. Utilizing several platforms, Community Affairs effectively communicates and interacts with the community daily. Facebook: four Township Facebook pages with the primary page obtaining 5,901 followers, representing a 9% increase over FY23. Twitter (X): the account accumulated, on average, over 4,000 impressions per month. Instagram: surpassing 1,120 followers in FY24 it is the most of any Illinois Township, and reaches 1,021 users, on average, each month.

The department continues to work closely with the Township Board of Trustees, the Township Officials of Cook County, and the Metropolitan Township Association to monitor legislation in Springfield and to work with state, county, and federal offices in advocating for grants for the Township. Last summer, the department coordinated and participated in a legislative tour, with Supervisor McGuire and Administrator Barr, meeting with State Representatives and Senators to share the Township's funding priorities as it relates to the availability of state appropriations. The visits allowed for the Township to provide an in-depth briefing on its programs and services while discussing in detail the needed funding for capital projects and other improvements.

FY24 was an exciting year of results and ribbon cuttings for Hanover Township. We look forward to working with staff, elected officials, and our community partners in FY25 to further improve our outreach and results to benefit the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas W. Kutenberg
Director



One of many families who stopped by the Kona Ice truck to cool off during the Fall Food Truck Festival.

Community Health

The mission of the office of Community Health is to provide education and health promotion, prevent the spread of disease and illness, and to assist in accessing quality health services.

The Community Health Department made great strides this year in pursuing its mission to promote health and prevent the spread of disease. Kicking off the year with the 8th annual Sprint 2 Spring 5k, the department hosted another successful event that raised over \$2,000 for the Hanover Township Foundation. Proceeds from the event are utilized to assist residents experiencing financial hardship with accessing medical and dental services. The race also serves as a community building opportunity, bringing together runners and walkers of all ages to celebrate healthy and active lifestyles.



In an ongoing effort to prevent the spread of disease and illness, the department coordinated and collaborated with partnering organizations to provide vaccination clinics throughout the year. Walmart pharmacy partnered to host four vaccine clinics, providing COVID, flu, shingles, pneumonia, Tdap, and RSV immunizations for several hundred residents. Preventive immunizations were also available and administered at the department's annual health expo "Just for the Health of It," in September. Hundreds of residents attended the event and received an array of valuable information and resources from the participating vendors, in addition to a host of free screenings, including bone density, cholesterol, blood pressure, glucose, and hearing and vision. The department always looks forward to hosting this event and expanding the screenings and resources offered to the community.

In the past year, the department made strides to increase health literacy, improve cognitive health and prevent social isolation for older adults, and expand dental resources for residents. Staff collaborated with Advocate Health, Ascension, and the Epilepsy Foundation to provide community education presentations on important health topics including stroke prevention, sleep apnea, prostate health, and seizure awareness training. Community Health Nurse Kramer spear-headed efforts to provide engaging, mentally-stimulating programs for older adults including exercise, brain games, and art classes that focused on cognitive health. Director Smith and Community Health Nurse Kramer met with Midwestern University and the Chicago Dental Society, in addition to local dental providers, to further expand efforts to increase access to dental services for residents.

In the year ahead, the department looks forward to working on several initiatives to further improve the health and wellness of residents in the community. The department will be increasing efforts to ensure residents have affordable healthcare coverage and access to quality health services. Additionally, the department will be taking a multifaceted approach to falls prevention efforts for older adults; offering education and exercise classes, and assessments to reduce the incidence of falls and related injuries among the older adult population. The office of Community Health will also continue to pursue efforts to improve individual engagement in personal health and ensure access to quality preventive services.

Respectfully submitted,
Kirsten Smith RN, BSN,
Director



Emergency Services

Hanover Township Emergency Services (HTES) is a self-sustaining organization with the responsibility to coordinate and provide responses for emergencies in an all-hazards environment. HTES has a strategic mission of life safety, incident stabilization, and the preservation of the environment and property. The valued members of HTES continue to expand our services within the Township.

The capabilities of HTES are significant, including lighting for fire and other emergency scenes: traffic management on scenes for vehicle accidents, fires and police investigations, basement flooding pump outs, debris management and damage assessment after a passing storm, severe weather presentations, severe weather spotting, safety patrols for Township unincorporated areas, drone aerial operations, firefighter air cylinder refill, large diameter hose rolling, gross decontamination, and search and rescue.

HTES moved into its new home in February of 2024. The timing for the move could not have come at a better time operationally as members responded to a record number of incidents including fire responses, search and rescues, weather spotting, and traffic management incidents. The new facility supports the around-the-clock staffing model with new bunk rooms, a communications room, a kitchen, training room, and adequate apparatus floor space for maintenance and housing all vehicles.

HTES continued recruitment efforts at the collegiate level, attending the College of DuPage Career Day and the Elgin Community College emergency services programs. HTES continues to have a robust presence on their Facebook and Instagram pages, highlighting many of the response and training activities throughout the year.

To enter the department, the applicant will appear before an interview panel followed by a background check, drug screen, and driver's license check. If an applicant passes all four adjuncts, they meet with the Deputy Chief to determine which officer will be assigned to lead their training requirements. From there, the now recruit begins a 90-day probationary period to learn the program and complete their training under their officer's guidance.

Eventually, the recruit is released to begin working shifts. After probationary completion, training will continue each week with a varied schedule of topics and hands-on exercises and tasks aimed at keeping all the members within HTES skills sharp.

In FY24, HTES took possession of a new medium duty squad truck increasing the agencies capabilities of adding an additional light tower and air cascade fill station.



The department's annual training conference proved to be a great success this year with a wide range of classes and participants from around the region.

The HTES Drone program continued to grow this year with numerous deployments for search and rescues and multi-jurisdictional trainings. HTES operates a fleet of three drones.

The Hanover Township Department of Emergency Services appreciates the opportunity to serve the residents and will always work to improve the services offered.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Crews
Director

The City of Elgin Fire Department presented an award to the Hanover Township Emergency Services unit for their service.

Facilities and Road Maintenance

For the Department of Facilities and Road Maintenance, FY24 is best described as the year of building and rebuilding. Multiple construction and renovation projects have been the focus over the past twelve months.

On the building, the largest project was the completion of the new Emergency Services Station, started in FY23, located on the Township's Tiknis Campus. The facility received occupancy in December and is now fully operational. Staff continue to complete smaller projects associated with the station including stormwater drainage, yard hydrant installation and reviewing future uses for other existing, smaller structures on the property.

The department's focus moving forward is Phase II of the site development plan for the south end of the Tiknis Campus, and the renovation and completion of the Facilities and Road Maintenance department headquarters in an existing building located on the property. This includes a full renovation of a former home into an office, meeting and storage space.

The rebuilding projects kept the staff moving from one project to the next this year. The Township was court-awarded an abandoned former athletic club property in the Sherwood Oaks subdivision, which contained a dilapidated pool, pool house, and tennis and basketball courts. The Township contracted the demolition of the pool and courts, but completed the site leveling and restoration in-house. The property is now open green space available to the residents of Hanover Township to enjoy.

Also completed in FY24 was the annual road resurfacing program. This year, the department completed the resurfacing of Glen Echo, Circle, and Chestnut Drives located off Route 19 and Shales Parkway.

1169 Robinhood Drive former pool and courts - after renovation.



Sherwood Oaks former pool on Robinhood Drive - during renovation.

Staff completed several renovations to the Town Hall, including a complete redesign and renovation of the copy room, transitioning the former Emergency Services offices to the newly updated Human Resources suite, and updating the Administration offices with new flooring, drywall repairs, painting, and LED lighting. A full renovation of the

Committee on Youth garden located in the south courtyard of Town Hall was also completed in FY24 including new furniture, sun shade, plantings, koi pond pump and filter replacement, and gravel. This new look gave new life to the space used to conduct therapy sessions, or a spot for residents and staff to sit and relax.

Facilities and Road Maintenance staff looks forward to continuing to provide the best service, roads, and facilities for residents and will continue to look for new and improved ways to provide even greater quality moving forward.

Yours in Service,

Caleb Hanson
Director



Where great service happens!

Human Services

Committed to improving the welfare of Hanover Township residents experiencing hardship. Providing resources and support empowering residents in achieving self sustainability; to serve promptly with dignity and respect. We are dedicated to serving the residents and will continue to strive to meet the needs of our community.

The Human Services Department was confronted with many challenges in fiscal year 2024. Inflation rose quickly and residents were faced with dramatic increases in the cost of food, gas and living expenses. Food pantry usage



Happy to lend a helping hand, this crew of volunteers distributed hams, eggs, produce, and canned goods during a food box distribution in Streamwood last Spring.

increased over 20% making it difficult to meet the needs of residents facing food insecurity. The number of residents seeking assistance continued to grow. The department experienced an increase in crisis intake calls and financial assistance applications. Special food events that occur around the holidays all showed dramatic increases in the number of residents attending and needing extra food items.

Hanover Township Human Services, the first Township with accredited Veteran Service Officers, has proven to be a valuable resource, with over 150 claims filed for compensation, pension, survivor benefits, and more. Staff continue to train and maintain accreditation status. The monthly veteran group continues to grow with lunch attendance, networking and movie watching, as well as trips to Great Lakes American Sailor Museum, the Civil War Museum in Kenosha, and Marcus Theatres to see Oppenheimer.

State Representative Fred Crespo, and Cook County Commissioner Kevin Morrison co-hosted the 13th annual Job Fair in March where more than 70 employers were onsite assisting job seekers find employment. Though unemployment continues to remain low, many job seekers were offered sustainable employment opportunities.

In the summer, the Astor Avenue Community Center provided the lunch program to families for the twelfth year at no cost by the Northern Illinois Food Bank so no child would go hungry. In August, 1,260 backpacks filled with school supplies were distributed to children of families in need. Backpacks filled with school supplies were provided by Communities that Care and Essendant so children could go to school on the first day prepared.

The 2023 holiday programs were strongly utilized with 1,026 families registered and Christmas gifts distributed to 2,841 children; 1,001 meal boxes were distributed. Thank you to Streamwood High School students for packing and distributing gifts to families. It is only through the support of the many generous sponsors from the community including Immanuel United Church of Christ in Streamwood, St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Streamwood, Knights of Columbus, Mary's Millennium Council 12801, Streamwood Woman's Club, Bartlett Rotary Club, Streamwood Kiwanis, as well as residents, schools, businesses, local municipalities, and organizations that the department can meet the needs of residents.



Auxiliary staff and volunteers put in countless hours at the Astor Avenue Community Center, stocking and operating the food pantry, processing energy assistance applications, providing employment support, working special events, programs, and more. Thank you to all of the Human Services volunteer staff for their dedication, hard work, and the countless hours they put in to ensure resident needs are met.



The Human Services staff of Case Manager Kelly Corona, Coordinator Lori Orozco, and I are committed to serving the residents of Hanover Township.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Jo Imperato
Director

Youth and Family Services

Charged with the mission of the prevention of juvenile delinquency and the promotion of positive development in young people. We work to meet our mission by providing an array of services which help to strengthen families, to provide outreach to children and teens at risk of school failure and delinquency, and that contributes to the building up of a healthier community for all Township youth.

This year the Department of Youth and Family Services continued to focus on the Hanover Township's Strategic Plan goal of evaluating and prioritizing Youth and Family Services programming. The department continues partnerships with School District U-46, Streamwood Park District, and other community organizations. The sports tournament-style programming with the Streamwood Park District continues to be successful and participation, to grow, offering basketball, volleyball, soccer, and dodgeball this year. This program gives youth the opportunity to participate in a sports program that they may not have the opportunity to do so due to cost or skills. Youth can register to participate free of charge, giving them the opportunity to participate in learning new skills and take part in some friendly competition.

A particular highlight this year was the resuming of the Open Gym program at local elementary schools. The program had been on pause since the beginning of the pandemic in March 2020. The Township was able to work collaboratively with School District U-46 to secure an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) that allowed the Township to continue providing this highly successful, well-established program, which has existed for nearly 30 years. The IGA was approved in March and the program began this year. It provides social, recreational, and educational

activities based on a positive youth development model at five different sites per week during the school year and during winter, spring and summer breaks and is offered at no charge.

The Izaak Walton Youth Center offers Open Gym programming daily, as well as the free drop-in teen hours, providing a safe place for teen activities, while giving youth opportunities to meet and interact with each other in a safe place. Additionally, the department continues to host four free family-friendly events throughout the year at the Center. The second annual Hanover Haunts event took place in October and youth were invited to participate in games and crafts. Department staff and volunteers transformed the reserve and the boardwalk on the property into a haunted trail. Dressed in costumes, staff led children through the haunted trail where spooky stories were shared. The fifth annual Cookies and Cocoa with Santa took place in December and in the beginning of



Fun and festive annual Cookies and Cocoa with Santa.



Children enjoying the return of Open Gym.

the year, Hoppin' for Hanover took place. This past year, the department combined National Night Out and the End of the Summer BBQ event, which offered families the opportunity to engage in a variety of activities, including games and crafts, photo opportunities, meeting new families, and providing a sense of community.

In the department's Outpatient Family Therapy program, therapists empower youth and their families to make optimal choices and decisions to benefit themselves and the community. They work collaboratively within our schools to enable youth to make positive choices and to support others in making ideal choices. Dr. Natalie Pamphile, Psy.D., was hired in FY24, as the Assistant Director of Clinical Services. With this new position, the department is looking forward to expanding the internship program allowing additional Master's and Bachelor's level field placement opportunities.



This year, the department also focused on addressing the recommendations from the Summit on Youth Violence that was conducted in the last fiscal year. Transportation and offering mental health services for emerging adults is currently being reviewed by the department and the Committee on Youth.

Youth and Family Services staff continues to provide leadership to the Association of Illinois Township Committees on Youth and the Alignment Collaborative for Education Operating Board.

FY24 was a successful year, and the department looks forward to the continued work next year. With the creative, professional, and engaging staff and volunteers of Youth and Family Services, the department continues to assist and address the mental health needs of the Township community, and looks forward to continued growth and development of youth programming.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Houdek, LCPC
Director

Committee on Youth

The Committee on Youth is a catalyst for promoting well being among Township youth and families through family education, outreach and the fostering of community connections with an emphasis on positive youth development.

Committee on Youth

Jordan Wildermuth, Chairperson
Savannah Widmann, Vice Chairperson
Dr. Ariel Correa, Secretary
Eesha Alaparathi
Emily Fagan
Nazneen Hashmi
William Henderson
Mahitha Ratakonda
Robert Wojtowicz

Trustee Alisa "Lee" Beattie, Town Board Liaison

In FY24, the Committee on Youth continued identifying the needs of youth and making recommendations to the Township Board on the provision of services. The committee, along with the Youth and Family Services department, once again welcomed and honored the new principals in the Township at the annual event to celebrate their leadership and service. The Committee continued to recognize, honor and celebrate leadership in the community by recognizing young leaders and adult leaders, dedicated to supporting youth, at the Annual Celebration of Leadership reception. This year's awards were given to James Fagan of Bartlett Elementary School for the Rising Star Award, Eli Klingaman from Canton Middle School for the

Junior Leader Award, and Marissa Clements from South Elgin High School for the High School Leader Award. Katelyn Glenn, an Art Teacher from Parkwood Elementary School, won the Community Adult Leader Award.

The Township Board appointed Savannah Widman, of Hanover Park, to the committee as an adult member. Savannah has served on the Committee as a youth member since October 2021. Upon her graduation from high school, she has chosen to continue serving on the committee as an adult member. Also, this past November Savannah was presented, by the Association of Illinois Township Committees on Youth, the 2023 Youth Leadership Award in recognition of her continued leadership role not only on the Committee on Youth, but the entire Township, as she has been involved in programming and volunteering for the past seven years.

This past year, three new youth members were appointed by the Township Board to the committee. Emily Fagan, from Bartlett is a senior at South Elgin High School. She comes to the committee with a passion in serving, especially the youth population. Eesha Alaparathi, also from Bartlett, is currently a senior at Bartlett High School. She was interested in volunteering on the committee as she believes that it offers a platform to advocate for change and address issues in the community that directly impact students. Mahitha Ratakonda, from Streamwood, is a junior at Elgin High School. Her interest is in community involvement as a priority and to continue to become more active in society. The Committee on Youth is excited to be able to have these new youth members be part of the Committee and offer their input on promoting well-being among township youth.

The committee meets monthly to discuss and identify the needs of the community and continues these discussions around positive youth development, community services, programming.

Senior Citizen Services Committee

To create a better quality of life for Hanover Township senior citizens by advising the Board and staff on programs and services benefiting residents age 55 and older. The Committee will support the Township and the Department of Aging Services through fundraising and community engagement.

The Senior Citizen Services Committee provided significant support to the Aging Services Department this year. In addition to holding monthly general meetings and providing feedback on services, the committee also hosted three special event fundraisers: Eli's Cheesecakes in July, Apple Cider Donuts in September, and Paczki Day Fundraiser in February. These events generated community-wide support and raised several hundred dollars for the committee's activities.

The Café Cruisin' is another fundraising initiative of the committee that continues to be popular. Café Cruisin' connects local eateries with the community to raise funds for the Committee. Many thanks to the local establishments who coordinated an event with the committee: 120 Live, Atlas Chicken, Briana's Pancake House, Cherry on Top Ice Cream Shoppe, Marco's Pizza, My Cocina, O'Hares Pub, and Pasta Mia.

The committee provided significant support to the Aging Services Department supporting the implementation of new Social Services case management software. The software package was estimated to cost \$15,000 per year. The Senior Citizen Services Committee agreed to support 50 percent of the first year's cost, a huge assistance to the department's budget. The committee also supported motor coach transportation for day trips on two occasions, allowing more participants to attend the trip; it supported a new bingo board system, as well as gift cards to be raffled at several parties. For the annual holiday party, the committee sponsored two Stars-N-Stripes gift certificates per attendee in lieu of a favor, which were well received by attendees. The committee purchased a commercial slushie machine which will provide enhancements to on-site parties, pop-up events and the lunch program.

The Ye Olde Gift Shoppe continued to surpass sales from preceding years. A volunteer from the Gift Shop secured a donation of a Weber Grill, which was raffled off at the Fall Food Truck Festival in September, generating over \$400. The Senior Citizen Services Committee also provided sponsorship for the Fall Food Truck Festival and the Fiesta del Sol Township Foundation fundraiser.

New committee member Peggy Deyne was appointed by the Township Board in May.

Senior Citizens Services Committee

Peggy Bucaro, Chairperson

Walter Gramiak, Vice Chairperson & Treasurer

Thomas Lathara, Secretary

Peggy Deyne

Lynn Nelles

Naomi Walters-Lenoci

Trustee Craig Essick, Town Board Liaison



Where great service happens!

Mental Health Board

The Mental Health Board was established in 1977 by a referendum vote to levy an annual tax for the purpose of funding mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse programs that serve residents. Since then, the Mental Health Board has prioritized these three areas when making funding. The Mental Health Board's mission is to ensure that services in the areas of mental health, including developmental disabilities, addictions and substance abuse, are available to all residents of Hanover Township..

Hanover Township Mental Health Board

Kathy Biesiadecki, Chairperson

Faiza Rahim, Vice Chairperson

Mary Jane Garvey, Secretary

Kristen Cruthers

Matthew Steichmann

Michelle Zajac Esquivel

Amanda Teachout, Manager

Trustee Denise Noyola, Town Board Liaison

In May, the board re-elected long-time member Kathy Biesiadecki to the role of Chair. Kathy has dedicated this year to mentoring newer members in leadership roles to ensure the longevity and relevance of the Mental Health Board, as it continues its dedication to determining the best way to provide accessible and affordable mental health services to the Hanover Township community.

In fiscal year 2024, the Mental Health Board awarded \$1,040,000 in annual funding in support of various agency programs and services within the community. Forty-four programs from thirty-one agencies received funding

and collectively served over 2,500 residents in need. In addition to annual funding, the Board continues to support agency growth in the areas of staff development, capital improvements and new programs by making available mid-year funding opportunities. PADS of Elgin, Ecker Center for Behavioral Health, Marklund, Summit Early Learning Center, and Gigi's Playhouse were awarded capital funding to support new programs to Township residents. The Board awarded a total of \$168,502 for staff development, capital improvements, emergency, and new programming in FY24.



Hanover Landing resident received the key to her first apartment.

In October, residents took occupancy of their apartments at Hanover Landing. The Mental Health Board provided the subsidy for five residents of Hanover Township who have a mental health, substance use or developmental disability diagnosis to live at Hanover Landing. By December, all five residents had signed lease agreements and moved in. The Mental Health Board also provided funding for a Hanover Township Disability Services Coordinator, and a Case Manager through Ecker Center to provide services to the occupants of Hanover Landing. The Mental Health Board is particularly proud of this endeavor and is committed to supporting Hanover Landing for years to come.

FY24 was the second year of the Mental Health Board's three-year strategic plan. One goal was to facilitate two community-wide trainings on topics relevant to the community in the area of mental health. The Board cooperated with the Poplar Creek Public Library to facilitate a training on

Genetics and Mental Health and Mental Health among Adolescents. The Board's overall goal remains to make services and programming available for all residents of Hanover Township.

Looking towards the next year, the Mental Health Board will continue to focus funding on direct services for mental health, substance abuse and developmental disabilities for residents of Hanover Township. In addition, every three years the Mental Health Board conducts a community needs assessment to review and evaluate the needs in the community, gaps in services and mental health trends. The Board has begun discussion on the strategic planning process, and in addition to planning for the future, the it will continue to assess what services the residents of Hanover Landing may need and will assist in coordinating those services. The Mental Health Board will also be facilitating professional education workshops to local providers to ensure the quality of services available to the residents of Hanover Township remains excellent. The Mental Health Board is looking forward to another year of partnership and collaboration within the community.



Mental Health Board Chair Kathy Biesiadecki and Manager Amanda Teachout visited the Ray Graham Center, an agency that provides services to people with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

Hanover Township Services, Events & Programs

Youth Leadership Recognition
Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
“Just for the Health of It!” Health & Wellness Expo
Open Gym Program
Affordable Care Act Navigators
Wellness Screenings
Brush Pick-up
Circuit Breaker Program
Homeowners’ Tax Seminars
Aging Services Art Expo
Veterans Honor Roll Recognition
CEDA Weatherization Program
ComEd Hardship Program
Podiatry Clinic
Access-To-Care
All-Kids Health Insurance Program
Election Polling Sites and Receiving Station
Summer Lunch and After School Snack Programs
Christmas Toy Drives and Distribution
Adopt-a-Senior Program
Adopt-a-Family Program

Tutoring Services
Alternatives Program with U-46
Dial-a-Bus Transportation
IDNR Hunting & Fishing License Sales
Emergency Services Drone Program
T.I.D.E. Transportation Program
PBIS Tier II Groups Programming
Heritage Marker Program
Substance Abuse Prevention Programming
Back to School Backpack Drive and Distribution
In-Home Care Program
Easter Drive and Distribution
Temporary Handicap Placards
Election and Voter Services
Food Pantry
Home Wellness Visits
Senior Will Program
U.S. Passport Application Services
Lending Closet
Income Tax Assistance
Heating/Cooling Location
Emergency Services Search & Rescue
Emergency Scene Lighting & Traffic Control

Flood Water Removal
Severe Weather Monitoring
Emergency Preparedness Education
Mental Health Resources
5K Run/Walk
Dental Access Network
Stars N’ Stripes Café
Notary Services
Senior Leisure & Skill Development Programming
Family Therapy
Ye Olde Gift Shoppe
Mobile Drivers’ Services
Home Delivered Meal Program
Job Fairs
Operation Snowball
High School Voter Services Outreach
Veterans Services & Events
Fall Food Truck Festival
License Renewal Sticker Sales
Emergency Services Decontamination Program
Medication Disposal
Notary Services

Meeting Schedule

Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2.0 and 2.03, the Hanover Township Board of Trustees generally meet on the first and third Tuesday, except as noted, of each month at 7:00 p.m. The Board meetings will generally be held in the Township Aging Services Center, 240 S. Route 59, Bartlett, Illinois 60103 and are open to the public.

Tuesday, April 9 Annual Town Meeting
(60 ILCS 1/30-5) 7:00 p.m.
Rescheduled Tuesday, April 9 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 16
Tuesday, May 7
Tuesday, May 21
Tuesday, June 4
Tuesday, June 18
Tuesday, July 2
Tuesday, July 16

Tuesday, August 6
Tuesday, August 20
Tuesday, September 3
Tuesday, September 17
Tuesday, October 1
Tuesday, October 15
Tuesday, November 5
Tuesday, November 19
Tuesday, December 3
Tuesday, December 17

Residents enjoyed Rosie and Rivets during a free concert at the Izaak Walton Reserve in July.



