



## **Agency Spotlight: Senior Services Associates**

**Senior Services Associates, Inc. provides services in Kane, Kendall and McHenry for the senior population over the age of 60 and people who are disabled between the ages of 18-59. Some of the services include Information and Assistance, Comprehensive Case Coordination for the Community Care Program, Ombudsman, Adult Protective Services, activities at the local senior center, and volunteer programs that provide transportation and companion for seniors at risk of isolation.**

**Senior Services Associates' Senior Companion Program is a program that brings people together to build new friendships. One of the goals of the program is to connect seniors, who are lonely or isolated, with a volunteer that will provide socialization, support and companionship. The relationship that is formed has the potential to reduce risk of depression, substance abuse, poor nutrition, and illness for both the participant and volunteer. It can also bring comfort, support, and understanding to the participant and the volunteer who may be looking to form a new friendship and make a meaningful contribution to the community. The program is also able to assure caregivers that their loved one's social needs are being met. Volunteers and seniors are interviewed as part of the matching process. Volunteers need to be at least 18 years of age and individuals over the age of 60 that live independently may apply to be participants. A background check is completed on all potential volunteers, as part of the application process. Both are asked to make a commitment of one hour a week, for one year. The participant and volunteer are encouraged to work together when**

**determining how to spend their weekly time commitment in activities such as movies, coffee or lunch outing, crafting, baking, or playing board games. This valuable experience has the potential to create an amazing friendship that could last many years!**

**For more information contact Senior Services Associates at: (630)553-5777 or email: [acummings@seniorservicesassoc.org](mailto:acummings@seniorservicesassoc.org).**

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## **2019 Lyle E. Oncken Community Service Award Recipient Selected**

**This year the INC Board of Directors rightfully awarded the Lyle E. Oncken Community Service Award to Jerry Murphy, retired Executive Director of the INC Board, NFP.**

**Jerry was nominated by two different individuals. One of his nominators stated that Jerry deserved this award “for unfailingly placing the needs of the community as his highest priority and his leadership which has allowed service provider agencies to aid thousands of individuals, both clients and their families. without his dedication the service landscape in southern Kane County wouldn’t be as comprehensive.”**

**Ken Rojek, President of the INC Board and Big Rock Township Supervisor, presented Jerry his award at the March INC Board meeting.**



## **Thank you, Jerry!**

**Jerry's last day as Executive Director was March 31, 2019. He leaves big shoes to fill. The INC Board and staff truly appreciate all that Jerry has done in his 28 years of service to the organization, the community and the system as a whole.**



**We are excited that others also have recognized his valuable contributions. NAMI-KDK awarded Jerry with the Jim McNish Award. He will also be receiving another award at AID's annual meeting in May. Again, thank you Jerry for all of your hard work and effort! May you truly enjoy retirement!**

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## **Staff Updates**

**With the transitions occurring at the INC Board, we are also pleased to announce that the Operations Manager position has been filled by Dagoberto Contreras. He is eager to learn and looking forward to connecting with all of the agencies and board members to better serve South Kane County.**



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## **New Volunteer Steps Up**

**The INC Board and staff would like to welcome a new community volunteer. Pam Peters has been appointed to the Aurora Community Mental Health 708 Board. We look forward to her participation and input. Please note that all INC Board and Township Mental Health 708 Board meetings are open to the public. Check out the dates on our website [www.incboard.org](http://www.incboard.org), or call the office and talk to Dalila, Dago or Eileen.**