

Aurora - Batavia - Big Rock - Blackberry - Kaneville - Sugar Grove - Virgil

INC LINKS

South Kane County Townships Working Together

Featured Agency Family Counseling Service

Founded in 1925, Family Counseling Service provides a wide array of outpatient behavioral healthcare services to more than 4,000 people in the community each year. The staff at their offices in downtown Aurora and Oswego provide professional and compassionate care with one goal in mind: to help people develop the skills they need to be successful in life.

While their emphasis for most of the last century was on individual and family counseling, their scope has expanded quite a bit over the past several years. In addition to the 40+ therapists they employ, they also have outpatient addiction treatment staff, 4 psychiatric medication providers, and a rapidly growing Care Coordination team that exists to successfully engage new clients in services and help remove barriers to successful treatment episodes. Their 1-2-1 Mentoring staff work with child and adolescent clients both in their "Garage" life skills training center and in the community to help them develop interpersonal and community living skills. Their behavioral healthcare clinicians are in more than 20 schools in 2 counties providing onsite mental health evaluation and treatment. Older Adult Counseling staff are in client homes and senior facilities up and down Kane County helping seniors manage life transitions, cope with loss, and reconnect with supports in the community. Violence Intervention Services help men and women who have been court-referred due to domestic violence offenses learn to manage challenging emotions without violence and build healthier relationships and families.

As one of Aurora's oldest community-based organizations, they are proud to partner with the INC Board and several other community organizations to provide effective and innovative solutions to the mental health challenges their neighbors face every day. For more information on Family Counseling Services, visit their website at <https://aurorafcs.org/contact-us/>.

What's Happening with INC?

INC Board will be participating in Wellness Saturdays at the Batavia Farmer's Market on June 12. Wellness Saturdays are held the 2nd Saturday of each month during the Batavia Farmer's Market. Stop by and visit! For more information, visit their website at <https://downtownbatavia.com/farmers-market/>



Scholarships

The Community Foundation of Fox River Valley announced that 330 scholarships have been awarded to area students through the 2021 Community Foundation Scholarship Program. Total amount committed for these awards over the next four years is \$1,441,850. **The recipients of the Jerry J. Murphy MSW Scholarship are Theresa Baer and Erica Lopez-Linton. The recipient of the Christine A. Ponquinette Memorial/INC Board Minority Student Scholarship is Anayeli Sanchez.** Congratulations to all recipients!

Welcome to New Township Officials

May 17, 2021 was inauguration day for local townships. The INC Board would like to welcome new officials and thank outgoing officials for their dedication and hard work in making Kane County one of the best places to live.

What's Happening Locally

Conley Outreach Community Services is hosting the annual Good Grief Day Camp June 21- 25. Good Grief Day Camp is a one-week, non-residence camp designed specifically for children ages 6-12 who have lost a parent or sibling to death. The camp uses the healing elements of music, theater, art and nature to help children on their unique grief journey and provides children with the opportunity to spend time with others who have experienced similar losses, helping them understand that they are not alone in their grief. Registration is limited to 20 children and only to those who have lost a parent or sibling to death. For details on registration, visit their website at <https://conleyoutreach.org/>.

Fox Valley Hands of Hope (FVHH) is offering several grief support groups. Family Forest Days Day Camp for families will be held in June, July, and August in local forest preserves. There will be break out sessions for youth and family on grief. FVHH also offers six-week grief support groups, monthly support groups, partner programs within the community, short-term grief counseling, and medical equipment lending. Visit the website at <https://www.fvhh.net> for more information.

Did You Know?

Each of the 708 boards within the 7 townships recommends a mental health levy to its respective township board for inclusion among their levy submissions to the county. The county distributes the tax dollars collected to the townships, which remit the mental health portion of the taxes to the INC Board, the administrative body. The combined levies are distributed to agencies for selected, eligible services by the INC Board. The INC Board of Directors is composed of fifteen (15) members; one member from each of the township 708 Boards, and eight (8) members-at-large elected by the board. Contractual agreements exist between INC and the seven community mental health boards to carry out the work in a regional approach to administration.

Annual grants are made by INC to local agencies for services to persons with mental illness, developmental disabilities, and substance use disorders, using the local mental health tax dollars, which are currently over \$1.4 million.