

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

**INCLINKS**

South Kane County Townships Working Together

## Featured Agency Association For Individual Development

Celebrating 60 years of providing customized, consumer-focused programs and services in an equitable, inclusive manner, the Association for Individual Development (AID) works with individuals with developmental, intellectual, physical and/or mental health challenges, those who have suffered a trauma, those experiencing immediate and/or chronic crises, and those at risk to overcome personal, behavioral, societal and environmental barriers to achieve recovery, independence, self-reliance and to live the lives they choose. Operating in Kane, Kendall, DeKalb, DuPage, Will, McHenry, and suburban Cook County communities, AID is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) and the American Association of Suicidology (AAS).

In FY 2021, AID served 6,300 people in client-centric, community-based programs. AID currently operates community centers in Elgin, Aurora, Batavia, Sugar Grove, and Yorkville, mental health outpatient clinics throughout the Fox Valley, supported 1,000 individuals living in their own apartments, and more than 220 individuals in 3 dozen group homes scattered throughout the greater

Fox Valley. AID collaborates with Federally Qualified Healthcare Centers (FQHCs), managed care companies, Frequent Users (FUSE) programs, Continua of Cares, and local hospital systems to decrease homelessness, increase employment and improve the mental and physical health of residents. To access AID services or make a referral please call (877) 244-0001 or e-mail [info@aidcares.org](mailto:info@aidcares.org). Learn more about AID programs and services by visiting AID online at [www.AIDcares.org](http://www.AIDcares.org).

## What's Happening with INC?



Please join INC Board in welcoming new intern Tiffany Larocque! Tiffany is a student at Northern Illinois University with a major in Nonprofit and NGO and a minor in Sociology. She will graduate in December, 2021, and her goal is to work in the nonprofit sector. Tiffany will work with staff during the fall semester on upcoming projects and attend board meetings and local community meetings along with INC staff.

INC staff participated in the 17th annual Big Rock Plowing Match in September. INC believes it is important to support the 7 townships served, and it was a pleasure to see so many familiar faces at the event.

INC Board has a new Facebook page! INC's goal is to share information and upcoming events from it's funded agencies as well as what's happening with INC Board. Here is the link to the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/INC-Board-NFP-104430745291160/>.

Please stop by and like our page!

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## October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Mutual Ground (MG) operates one of the oldest and largest Domestic Violence Programs in Illinois. They are the only provider for a population of approximately 450,000 individuals in southern Kane and Kendall counties, as well as the city of Aurora in DuPage County. As part of Domestic Violence Awareness month, Mutual Ground has shared important facts about Domestic Violence below:

- In the state of Illinois, there are more than 41,000 survivors of domestic violence and more than 8,000 child witnesses. Last year, Mutual Ground served 1,022 of those survivors and 270 of those child witnesses.
- On a typical day, domestic violence hotlines nationwide receive approximately 20,800 calls. Last year, Mutual Ground responded to 6,004 calls to their domestic violence and sexual assault crisis hotlines. That is an average of 17 calls a day.
- In the US, an average of 20 people are physically abused by an intimate partner every minute. Last year, Mutual Ground assisted 467

individuals with orders of protection, child custody issues, and other complex legal challenges to help them escape this physical abuse.

- Last year, Mutual Ground made 1,807 prevention education presentations in area schools to 31,912 students. As a result, 89 children and 10 adults disclosed abuse, allowing Mutual Ground to get them the help they needed.
- People with intellectual disabilities are the victims of sexual assault at rates more than seven times those for people without disabilities. Mutual Ground has the staff and capability to help anyone that seeks their services. They're committed to serving anyone in need.
- In a one-year period, domestic violence incidents led to 61 deaths in the state of Illinois. Last year, Mutual Ground hosted 103 adults and 67 children at their emergency shelter, keeping them safe during their stay and allowing them access to MG's total array of life-changing services.
- In the US, one in three women and one in seven men will be abused by an intimate partner in their lifetime. Mutual Ground's emergency shelter is open to anyone needing shelter from abuse. Last year, they provided 6,316 nights of shelter to 170 people, even during COVID.
- Hospitals regularly see victims of abuse walk into their emergency rooms or be brought in by law enforcement officials. Last year, 134 victims of domestic or sexual violence received support and advocacy in area emergency rooms from Mutual Ground hospital advocates. That is an average of approximately 11 hospital calls a month – or one every three days.
- Intimate partner violence accounts for 15% of all violent crime. Last year, Mutual Ground provided 10,518 hours of counseling and

advocacy for victims of domestic and/or sexual violence, giving survivors the tools to break free from the cycle of abuse.

- In the US, statistics show 31% of teen girls have been victims of sexual assault. Last year, Mutual Ground provided support to 133 adult, and 72 child survivors, of sexual assault or abuse. This support guides them through emotional expression and puts them on a path to healing.

The following services and programs are offered free of charge by Mutual Ground in both English and Spanish: 24-hour crisis hotline, emergency shelter, case management, emergency response, legal advocacy, and individual and group counseling. For more information, visit Mutual Ground at [www.mutualground.org](http://www.mutualground.org).

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## Kane County Reports Downward Trend in Crime

According to the Kane County Court Services 2020 Annual Report, juvenile crime in Kane County is trending downward. The five-year trend shows a 52% decrease in juvenile caseloads. In compliance with the Juvenile Court Act, minors may be diverted from court proceedings when it is in the minor's and the community's best interest. Minors may be diverted into residential facilities for the treatment of substance use or mental illness.

Treatment Alternative Court (TAC) has contributed to a reduction in recidivism rates for adults in Kane County. The 5-year trends show a reduction of 54% in total cases. The mission of the Kane County Treatment Alternative Court

(TAC) is to guarantee justice for criminal defendants with mental illness, co-occurring disorders, or developmental disabilities, to enhance public safety and promote the continuity of mental health care in the community. TAC is intended to be a systematic approach that brings together community-based agencies to address defendant's needs and to provide comprehensive case management to reduce future criminal activity and incarceration in the Kane County Adult Justice Center. The defendants work closely with the court personnel and the treatment team to facilitate positive behavioral change and reduce criminal recidivism. The TAC Court program is funded in part by INC Board.

## Remembering Jim Hopp



It is with deep sadness that we remember the life of James C. Hopp, who passed away peacefully on Tuesday, August 10, 2021. A lifelong resident of the Fox Valley area, Jim was born in Aurora on March 10, 1947. With his big heart, Jim was a very strong believer in community service. He joined the INC board in July 2016 and brought a wealth of knowledge and experience with him. He was a member of INC

### Board's Property & Facilities Committee.

Jim was a member of the Board of the Family Counseling Service of Aurora from 1998 to 2007. Previous activities also include the Boy Scouts of America, where he was Scoutmaster of Bob's Hill Troop 3 at a time when 12 boys earned Eagle rank, 8 in one year. He was chairman of the district council and recognized with the prestigious Charles Pierce Burton Award. His family remains in our thoughts and receives our deepest sympathy.

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## What's Happening Locally

Health providers, mental health professionals, school personnel and community members are invited to attend a free online symposium discussion "Building Community Resilience" presented by Kane Health Counts on Thursday, October 7 from noon to 1 p.m. Guest speaker Jonathan Shively, Fox Valley Hands of Hope Executive Director, will be presenting: "Good Grief!? Loss in the Midst of Pandemic." Register online at <https://bit.ly/3kcZnU8>.

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## Did You Know?

Under the leadership of Executive Director Jerry Murphy, the INC Board initiated several programs aimed at better serving the Latino community in southern Kane County. These initiatives included a "grow-your-own" bilingual, bicultural social worker's training program, provided by Bridging the Gap, where dual credit courses were taken by screened Latinos beginning in high school, toward a social work degree. Also, Spanish language training was offered to personnel at area agencies, by INC, to facilitate services to the growing Latino population. The INC Board also has provided several scholarships to Latino students interested in pursuing their MSW and working in the INC service area after achieving their degree.

In recent years, INC continues to collaborate with several community organizations. Working with Compañeros en Salud, INC produced a brochure and database of behavioral health services available in English and Spanish for distribution in the community and as a referral source for all agencies. INC has also worked with the Kane County Behavioral Health Council to better coordinate services county-wide. The Community Awareness Committee of the KCMHC has also produced an anti-stigma presentation given to community groups.