



John Monino, Supervisor  
Yadav Nathwani, Clerk  
Jeff Castle, Trustee  
Drew Ellis, Trustee  
Joe Soto, Trustee  
Dan Milinko, Trustee

**MILTON TOWNSHIP  
SUPERVISOR JOHN MONINO**

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**Milton Township Community Mental Health Board  
Year One Strategic Plan  
2021-2022**

**Milton Township Community Mental Health Board Members**

**Shannon Hartnett, President**

**Kara Murphy, Secretary**

**Drew Ellis, Trustee Liaison**

**Christine Evans**

**Jae Kwon**

**Stephanie Linares-Hood**

**Dr. James Shannon**

**John Monino, Milton Township Supervisor**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **PURPOSE OF COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARDS**

Community Mental Health Boards, also known as 708 boards after House Bill 708, were first established by the Community Mental Health Act (405 ILCS 20/) in 1963. To establish a 708 Board requires passage of a local referendum by any county, city village, incorporated town, or township. With the passage of a referendum, local governmental units levy an annual tax not to exceed .15% from taxable property that is appropriated to the Community Mental Health Board. A 708 Board is established for the purposes of planning and funding of mental health, intellectual/developmental disability and substance abuse services. There are over 90 such boards in Illinois.

In 2020, Milton Township voters approved a referendum that established the Milton Township Community Mental Health Board to fund mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse programs that serve township residents. The Act calls for the establishment of a seven-member community mental health board to administer local funds and plan and coordinate services within the local behavioral health system. In July 2021, Milton Township Supervisor John Monino appointed seven Milton Township residents to serve on the community mental health board. One of the statutory requirements of the Community Mental Health Act is to establish a One and Three Year Plan to outline how township tax levied funds will be used to address identified community needs in the areas of mental health, intellectual and developmental disabilities, and substance abuse.

### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR MILTON TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD**

- 1) Increase system-wide coordination and collaboration among behavioral health system partners and stakeholders.
- 2) Provide information to community residents to increase public awareness and education of behavioral health needs in the community and available support resources.
- 3) Conduct ongoing assessment to identify community needs and prioritize service provision.
- 4) Ensure that local tax funds are allocated and monitored in an effective and responsible manner.
- 5) Collect and analyze data within Milton Township to track and monitor community impact of funding.

## YEAR ONE PLAN

Based on the above guiding principles, the Milton Township 708 Board will prioritize the following in Year One:

- 1) Increase public awareness and education
- 2) Identify community needs and service priorities
- 3) Deploy resources to serve township residents
- 4) Collect and monitor data for impact analysis
- 5) Build internal capacity of 708 board to best serve Milton Township

### *Goal 1: Increase Public Awareness and Education*

- Provide information on mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse to community stakeholders
- Educate public as to the purpose of the Mental Health Board and the services that are available to them in the community
- Increase Mental Health Board social media presence and seek alternative methods of public outreach (i.e. mental health forums, presentations to community groups, editorial column, press releases, website)

### *Goal 2: Identify Community Needs and Service Priorities*

- Conduct a preliminary community needs assessment
- Utilize needs assessment results to identify system gaps and service priorities

### *Goal 3: Deploy Resources to Serve Township Residents*

- Develop grant application policies and procedures
- Award funds to organizations to address unmet needs of Milton Township residents in the areas of mental health, developmental/intellectual disabilities, and substance abuse

### *Goal 4: Build internal capacity of 708 board to best serve Milton Township*

- Gather information about the operations, policies, and practices of existing 708 Boards in Illinois
- Adopt the use of best practices and other effective operational strategies from successful 708 boards in the area

### *Goal 5: Seek alternative methods of funding*

- Determine whether there are alternative sources of funding available for the provision of mental health, developmental disability, and substance abuse services
- Use opportunities to engage with county, state and federal agencies to increase access and coordination with regards to Milton Township residents' needs