January/February 2024 Magazine





Racial Equity Impact Assessment League



Pictured (Left to Right): Nicole Lurry, Community Engagement Coordinator; LeShae Hudson, Violence Prevention Council Coordinator; Councilwoman Suzanna Ibarra; and Barbara Wells, Kankakee Democrats

Joliet Township Ozzie and Peggy Mitchell Center 172 S. Chicago, Joliet, Illinois 60432 Monday –Friday, 9am-6pm

Saturday, 12pm - 8pm Phone: 815-726-4781 www.joliettownship.net

REIAL Monthly Meetings every 1st Wednesday @ 5pm

#### IN THIS ISSUE

In this issue, we highlight the events and accomplishments made by our Peace Over Violence initiative, Public Focused Therapy Services, and League Partners.

Read More

#### VIOLENCE PREVENTION COORDINATOR'S REPORT



#### COMMUNITY SUPPORT

December was a very exciting and enriching month. During our monthly Racial Equity Impact Assessment League (REIAL) meeting, we had the honor of hosting Patricia Martin of Lightways Hospice and Grief Care, a Joliet organization. Often times during the holidays, we grieve our loved ones who are no longer with us. Patricia spoke to our members about the free service Lightways offer. These include individual and family

grief support, ongoing grief support groups, parent support grief groups. This support is not limited to clients, it is also extended to any organization or staff who are surviving grief.

#### HOLIDAY TREATS

Also, during the month of December, our friends at the Salvation Army helped us bless over 20 families with over 100 toys and gifts for the holidays. We also volunteered and reached right across the street and helped Pastor Tyler of Second Baptist Church with their holiday food give-away, where they gave hundreds of turkeys, hams and other much needed food items to the community members.

Many of our REIAL Members including the Illinois Youth and Family Services, Harvey Brooks Foundation and Wives for Justice distributed 1000's of toys, coats and much needed items to our community.

#### **COLLABORATIONS & PARTNERSHIP**

Many of our REIAL Members including the Illinois Youth and Family Services, Harvey Brooks Foundation and Wives for Justice distributed 1000's of toys, coats and much needed items to our community.

REIAL will begin to roll out our new initiative of municipality tours. Supervisor Angel Contreras and I will be visiting our counterparts of the Reimagine Grant from as far north as Waukegan, as far south as East St. Louis and our Village in between in Greater Illinois.

#### RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY: OZZIE & PEGGY MITCHELL CENTER

Moreover, we were very proud and elated to host our ribbon cutting for the Ozzie and Peggy Mitchell Center. This center is at 172 S. Chicago Street. We have outreach workers, victims' advocates, case managers, trauma behavioral health therapist. We were so honored to have our Joliet City Council Members, Township Trustees, Will County Board Members and special thanks to our partners from greater Illinois and the Springfield team from IDHS join us.

I look forward to making more connections and partnerships as we move further in the year. BE WELL.

For more information about this program, email LHudson@joliettownship.net



www.joliettownship.net

172 S. Chicago, Joliet, Illinois 60432



# HOLIDAY TREATS













## PEACE OVER VIOLENCE HIGHLIGHTS



Peace Over Violence successfully completed our Quarter 2. Overall, the program has served 93 clients some of which are families. Victim Advocates have served 25 families or direct victims with services. Over the first quarter, the team has made over 800 linkages or referrals to local services for clients and conducted 11 incident mediations. Outreach staff have responded to 35 incidents of which 7 have been through police notifications.

Our outreach team has completed 756 hours towards canvassing and dedicated 570 minutes collectively to mediations.

#### **BY-THE-NUMBERS**



#### **POV'S FIRST TOWN HALL**

January 6th, 2024, Peace Over Violence conducted our first ever town hall. We had 25 participants! Including local judges, attorneys, community members, NAACP members, ABA staff, and more. After our first townhall, some feedback reported was that the community would like to see more Townhall's in the future, which we plan on organizing monthly.

For more information about this program, email ViolencePrevention@joliettownship.net



# Donate Blood In Honor of Jamere Bew

Jamere passed away unexpectedly in November, and a blood drive in his memory is being organized by the Joliet Township Department of Violence Prevention (Peace Over Violence). Jamere's family shares that he was an active



member in the Bloomington community. He was a football coach, and a loving son, father, brother, and so much more. He was also a regular blood donor. They welcome everyone in the community to come out and roll up a sleeve to donate in Jamere's memory.

# **Blood Drive** Joliet Township Department of Violence Prevention

Ozzie and Peggy Mitchell Building 172 S. Chicago St. Joliet, IL 60433

# Friday, February 16, 2024 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

For an appointment, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-783-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org. Use sponsor code: joliettown

Your blood can save lives. We'd like to thank all donors at this blood drive for coming to give blood to help meet the urgent need for blood in the Black community. Get a \$20 Gift Card by email from our friends at Amazon.





# P.O.V.Outreach

## PUBLIC FOCUSED THERAPEUTIC SERVICES





Karissa Fleming, LSW



Latreavette McCline, LSW

#### **PROGRAM NAME CHANGE**

The Trauma Informed Behavioral Health Services team is excited to announce a program name change! Our new name is Public Focused Therapeutic Services. Along with this rebrand, we are proud of our associate Latreavette McCline for creating our logo (as shown)!

#### **TRAININGS & NETWORKING**

The last quarter has been filled with trainings and networking for our therapists. Our team is happy to announce, our official completion of the EMDR(Eye-Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing training and consultation on February 23, 2024! This modality, EMDR, has a rich history with helping individuals who have felt "stuck" with unpleasant past experiences. These past experiences have ranged from classroom humiliations to sexual assaults and gun violence. Our team is grateful to be trained in this type of therapy and is looking forward to the ways the community will benefit from these services.

#### THERAPISTS BEGIN SEEING CLIENTS

As the new year rang in, our therapists officially began to see clients! While building the program has been an experience of a lifetime, our two therapists are thrilled to begin therapeutic sessions with the community.

Thus far, 2024 is looking to be a monumental year and we are here for it.

#### For more information about this program, email KFleming@joliettownship.net





Joliet Councilman Cynthia Tyle tist Church

Angel ontreras, liet Township Rachel Jacoby, Lake County Supervisor State's Attorney

Office

# Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Ozzie & Peggy Mitchell Center

First

#### **OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION ASST. SECRETARY BELL**







At Lightways Hospice and Serious Illness Care, we understand the unique concerns of those grieving. Our grief support programs help you:

#### Share your grief journey Understand common grief reactions Begin to heal and start to feel like yourself again Grow by listening and supporting others

We offer a variety of programs and services, all at no cost, to encourage healthy grieving before and/or after the death of a loved one.

Our grief support programs and services are available to anyone coping with the death of a loved one.

Programs include:

Individual & Family Grief Counseling Ongoing Grief Support Groups Interactive Grief Workshops & Events Parent Support & Education

To set up an appointment or r equest information, contact Patrice Martin, LCSW, Director of Grief Support Service: at 815-460-3282 or pmartin@joliethospice.org

Online: lightways.org/services/grief-support Facebook: JACH Grief Support



Lightways Hospice and Serious Illness Care APOYO PARA EL DUELO

Nosotros en Lightways Hospice and Serious Illness Care, entendemos las preocupaciones únicas que tienen las personas dolientes. Los programas de apoyo le ayudarán a:

#### Compartir su jornada del dolor

#### Entender las reacciones comunes del dolor

- Empezar a sanar y sentirse usted mismo una vez más
- Crecer por medio del apoyo de otros y escuchándoles

Ofrecemos una variedad de programas y servicios, sin

costo alguno, que ayudarán a tener un duelo saludable antes o después de la muerte de un ser querido.

Nuestros programas de apoyo al duelo y servicios están disponibles a cualquier persona que esté experimentando con la muerte de un ser querido.

Los programas incluyen:

Conserjería individual o en familia para su pérdida

Grupos de apoyo continuos

- Eventos y talleres interactivos para el duelo
- Apoyo y educación a los padres de familia

#### Llamar a Lucia Stoica al 815-460-3295 o por correo electrónico Istoica@joliethospice.org para una cita o para la solicitar información

En linea: lightways.org/services/grief-support Facebook: JACH Grief Support

815.740.4104 lightways.org 320 Water Stone Way, Joliet

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# WEARE HIRING

## >>>> JOIN OUR TEAM NOW!

<<<<<

We Are Looking For

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR** 

**OUTREACH WORKERS** 

#### VICTIM ADVOCATE

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH THERAPIST

PART-TIME TRANSPORTATION DRIVERS

About Joliet Township Government

Joliet Township Government is dedicated to strategically addressing the unique needs of our community.

#### **Full-Time Benefits**

- & Pension
- Health, Dental, and Vision Insurance
- ✓ Life Insurance
- Workplace culture that encoruages work/life balance

# APPLY ONLINE BIT.LY/JTJOBS



Learn more about Joliet Township Government

www.JolietTownship.net

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

