



**HANOVER
TOWNSHIP**
2007—2008



158TH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

**BRIAN P. MCGUIRE
HANOVER TOWNSHIP CLERK**



MISSION STATEMENT

Hanover Township is committed to providing an array of quality, cost effective, community based services; to acting as a dynamic organization which continually assesses and responds to the changing wants and needs of our residents; and to delivering services in a responsible and respectful manner which benefits the community as a whole and promotes a personal relationship with our residents.



April 8, 2008

Dear Neighbor,

It is my honor and privilege as the Hanover Township Clerk to present to you the 158th Annual Report for the Township of Hanover, County of Cook in the State of Illinois. The following document contains reports submitted by the various elected officials and appointed department heads that serve the residents of Hanover Township. I hope you find each report insightful and informative as they touch on the highlights of the past year.

The elected officials of Hanover Township strive to ensure that the Township operates in a fiscally sound and responsive manner for its residents, while fostering an environment that attracts a professional and dedicated staff. While you will not see a report generated specifically from them, the Township Trustees who serve as the legislative arm of Township government should not be overlooked in the role they perform. The Township Trustees, along with the Supervisor and the Clerk comprise the Towns Board and are responsible for developing and approving the Township budget, establishing Township policy, and give the organization the direction it needs. This publication is really a report on the culmination of their efforts. Hanover Township is currently served by the following Trustee's; Robert Goffinski, Marvin Kramer, Katy Dolan Baumer and Sandra Westlund-Deenihan.

Hanover Township continues to be a leader among Townships in Illinois for its commitment to excellence and innovative approach to serving the residents. As you read the reports contained within this document I hope it will become clear as to why Hanover Township is where great service happens.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian P. McGuire". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brian P. McGuire

HANOVER TOWNSHIP BOARD

Supervisor Michael E. Kelly

Clerk Brian P. McGuire

Trustee Katy Dolan Baumer

Trustee Sandra Westlund-Deenihan

Trustee Robert J. Goffinski

Trustee Marvin J. Kramer Jr.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Assessor Thomas S. Smogolski

Collector William T. Burke

Highway Commissioner P. Craig Ochoa

APRIL 8, 2008

HANOVER TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENT HEADS

James C. Barr – Administrator

Cathy Mikulski – Chief Deputy Assessor

Trisha Simon – Community Health Nurse

Mary Jo Imperato – Deputy Clerk

Steve Spejcher – Facilities and Maintenance Director

Sam Santangelo – Highway Foreman

**Danise Habun – Executive Director of the Mental
Health Board**

Barbara Kurth Schuldt – Senior Services Director

William Tiknis – Veteran's Affairs

Aurea Picasso – Welfare Services Director

Kathy Fox – Youth and Family Services Director

APRIL 8, 2008

**OFFICE OF THE
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR**

158 TH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING REPORT

**MICHAEL E. KELLY
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR**

APRIL 8, 2008

**158th ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
HANOVER TOWNSHIP
MICHAEL E. KELLY, SUPERVISOR
APRIL 8, 2008**

This year marks the 158th Annual Town Meeting of Hanover Township. The focus of our township continues to be on social services and to bring these services to as many township residents as possible in a cost-efficient manner.

First and foremost, the township is in fine financial shape, due to the outstanding efforts of the Board and staff of Hanover Township, and most of all, the multitude of volunteers who donate their time and expertise at every level of township government and allows us to keep costs down. Without our many volunteers, Hanover Township could not provide its current high level of services at the current tax rate. Each of our departments continued to grow to accommodate the increased demand for services.

The Senior Department, under the direction of Barbara Kurth Schuldt (Program Manager), Tracey Colagrossi (Office Manager), Carol Lutzow (Social Services Manager), Jennifer Busché (Social Services Specialist), Cathy Reese (Social Services Liaison), Deena Adkins (Social Services Liaison), Pat Wharton (Volunteer Coordinator), Susan Baptist & Mimi Krall (Visual Arts Instructors), Florie Sposito and Diane Mollis (Receptionists), Julie Becker (Computer Instructor), Kathy Varsalona (Transportation Manager), Charlotte Wakefield (Dispatcher), and Tom Moshis, Beth Evans, Michael Hart, Nadine Tyler-Moran, and Cristan Douglas (Drivers), continue to service our senior needs with "Dial-A-Ride" Services, Meals-On-Wheels, health programs, senior counseling and trips, along with CNN Program Jerry Krzywdzinski (Director).

The Hanover Township Senior Citizens' Services Committee, lead by Karleen Suhrbier, has again done a great job. The Senior Committee consisting of Charlene Ahlin, Lillian Henschel, Bob Salvesen, Mary Lou Elder, Patti Loomis and Robert Greene contribute and provide valuable advice and expertise in the senior area. Sadly, Dolores Johns passed away this year but her contributions to our senior committee live on.

"Dial-A-Ride" continues to grow and the township was happy to see the continued growth of Victory Centre and the opening of Clare Oaks.

This was the third year for our Senior Center and we look forward to many expanded hours and uses for our Senior Center and Senior Community in the upcoming years.

AARP, under the direction of Robert Treder, and with able assistance from Bill Elder, Cherry Stoddard, Paul Cord, Paul Hall, Casimer Malis, Leo Lesniak, and John Brady, continue to provide year after year of volunteer tax services to prepare tax returns for over 350 township seniors.

Year after year the Meals-On-Wheels volunteer drivers bring food to the homes of those in need in almost complete anonymity. These drivers represent what is best in our society and on behalf of those they serve. They currently are: Richard Nelson, Richard & Doris Bayer, Bob & Emily

Saivesen, Bill Ludwig, Lynne Schiller, Joan Yonan, Charlie Coleman, Beth Cooper, Judy Kling, Tom Haltenwanger, and William Lindberg.

Jerry Krzywdzinski has continued to do an outstanding job with CNN Food service along with Vickie Alvaraz. Thank you to them for their hard work.

The Senior Services Department is generously supported in all its work by a wonderful corps of over 275 volunteers. While these folks are too numerous to list here, they provided dedicated service in the CNN meal program (both congregate and home delivered), at the Senior Services social events, in the Silver Bells singing group, preparing Christmas and Easter gifts for children, hosting Newcomers events, greeting in the Senior Center, helping with clerical tasks of all types, visiting in hospitals and nursing homes, driving seniors to special appointments, visiting homebound seniors, shopping for others, serving on committees and so much more!

Our General Assistance, Youth and Family Services and Senior Services Departments have all been recipients of sizeable grants this past year, thanks to the efforts of Aurea Picasso, Kathy Fox, Barbara Kurth Schuldt and many others.

The Supervisor's Office again conducted the Annual Township Toy Drive. Thanks to the efforts of township seniors, businesses and individuals, we provided, with the help of the Streamwood Kiwanis, Gymkhana and St. Peter Damian Church, toys for over 1500 needy township children for Christmas. The Supervisor's Office also conducted a township Easter Basket Program, which made possible over 700 township children to receive baskets for Easter. We also thank Pat Wharton, and all the senior volunteers for their help with both of these programs and the gift-wrapping.

The Food Pantry, together with the Northern Illinois Food Bank, 6 times per year, brings 10,000 lbs. of food in the Mobile Food Pantry to needy residents. This is paid for by local businesses. Our Food Pantry continues to grow as do the services provided by our General Assistance Department under the great leadership of Director Aurea Picasso, and her staff: Linda Richmond, Sheila Gillis, Martha Castrejon, Peter Kirilik, Frank Penczek and Delia Almanza.

We thank the Committee on Youth for its wisdom and ongoing guidance: Judith Walsh (Chairperson), Bill Peterson (Secretary), Greg Herbert (Treasurer Ashley Tyszkiewicz, Christina Zima, Micaela Ten Hoven and Robert Wojtowicz.

Many thanks to the staff and interns of Youth & Family Services who skillfully help our residents and who provided needed counseling at NIU: John Parquette (Clinical Director), Carmen Chavez (Office Manager), Debbie Swiatek (Astor Ave. Site Director), Lissete Bonilla (Astor Ave. Administrative Assistant), Andrea Freerkser (Astor Ave. Program/Volunteer Coordinator, Susan Alborell (Internship Coordinator/Therapist), Brian Fask, Karen Low, Suellen Shively-Mack, Angela Gallo, Anita Chlipala (Family Therapists), Michael Cohen (Outreach Services Coordinator), Mariana Gutierrez (Outreach Worker), Mary Beahan (Administrative Assistant), Susan Graffy, Kira Sardinas (Secretary/Receptionists), and Kristin Langer (graduate student intern).

Much thanks also to our Tutoring Services teachers: Rich Olivarez, Patricia Maynard, Maria Petrov, Debbie Swiatek, and Kristi Holm and Open Gym Assistants: Laura Schoen, Sarah Skrabacz and Flavio Ramirez and police officers of Bartlett, Hanover Park, Streamwood and Elgin, Renz Addiction Counseling Center, and volunteers.

Veterans' Assistance continues to be provided by Bill Tiknis.

Township Clerk Brian McGuire, Deputy Clerk Mary Jo Imperato, and Lori Orozco, together with many volunteers, have continued their outstanding service to the community. An increase in registered voters, vehicle stickers for Unincorporated Hanover Township, Temporary Handicapped Parking cards, and Hunting and Fishing licenses are just a few of the services offered by the Clerk's office.

Our Assessor's department continues its fine service under the direction of Assessor Thomas Smogolski, together with Cathy Mikulski, Patty Glasscott and Peg Deyne. They are always available to help with assessments, questions, and help our seniors, in particular, with many questions and issues regarding property taxes. This office is very customer oriented and takes great pride in helping the taxpayer.

Craig Ochoa Highway Commissioner, Sam Santangelo Foreman, along with J. David Jimenez and Rick Nelson continue the high standards of maintaining the unincorporated roads in Hanover Township. Craig and Sam help out in every area of the township. The township truly benefits greatly from this devoted department.

The Mental Health Board, under the direction of Executive Director Danise Habun and Board Members: Mary Alice Benoit, Gabrielle Infusino, Ruth Beckner, Rita Lopienski, Brian Gorcowski, and Trustee Liaison Katy Dolan Baumer, and assisted by Faust Villazon Community Resource Specialist, continue to monitor and address the Mental Health needs of our community and through careful financial planning help support those agencies that deliver Mental Health services to Hanover Township residents. The T.I.D.E. project, initiated by the Mental Health Board, was groundbreaking and spearheaded for Mental Health Services. The Township is always grateful to Bill Meade and Chris Van Herick for their hard work with NAMI and their efforts are appreciated.

Since it was introduced by the Supervisor's Office, the Emergency identification "Bracelet Program" administered by Sheila Gillis - has nearly 500 people signed up for these potentially life-saving bracelets. Thus far, residents of Bartlett, Streamwood, Hanover Park are eligible.

Thank you to Trish Simon, Community Nurse, as she continues to provide outstanding service to Township residents.

Our new Township Administrator, James Barr, continues to do a great job as administrator and we look forward to him serving the township for many years to come. The same kudos applies to Administrative Assistant, John Acardo, who provides assistance in all areas of the Township.

Thank you to Main Office Receptionist Rebecca Isunza, Senior Services Receptionists Diane Mollis and Florie Sposito, and Township Attorney Larry Mraz for all their top-flight work this past year.

Aurea Picasso (Director of Welfare Services), has brought her bilingual abilities as well as many fine volunteers to our General Assistance Department. Ms. Picasso is ably assisted by Linda Richmond (Caseworker), Sheila Gillis (Administrative Coordinator), Martha Castrejon (Welfare Services Coordinator), and Peter Kirilik, Frank Penczek and Delia Almanza (Part Time Food Pantry Coordinators), in the General Assistance Department and we continue to be the beneficiary of many donations and food drives by our community which allows the Food Pantry to keep operating at the level they do. (Approximately 1500 people, per month, depend on our Food Pantry for help.)

Aurea and her staff have been responsible for a huge increase in donations at the Food Pantry and obtained a grant from Cook County for a vehicle for the Pantry. Aurea is also responsible for all basic human needs and General Assistance of Hanover Township residents. Aurea has brought into the township many programs for the residents and plans on expanding them in the future. I am extremely proud of them and they represent what is best with township government.

Steve Spejcher is the head of the Maintenance Department. Together, Mike Rundquist, David Marcinek and Steve have been doing a great job keeping the building up and running. I cannot compliment them enough for their work.

I commend our volunteers, administrative staff, and our elected officials on their continued effort and perseverance to a better life for the citizens of Hanover Township.

Mel Runzel retired from the Board of Trustees as of last year after many years of fine service. Her place on the Board was taken by Sandra Westlund-Deenihan.

Lastly, I want to thank our Board of Trustees: Marvin Kramer, Katy Dolan Baumer, Robert Goffinski and Sandra Westlund-Dennihan and recently retired Mel Runzel. They are a very hard working and dedicated group.

As always, I look forward to the coming years to see what new and continued services will be taken in the Partnership for progress. True lasting Progress is made in incremental steps.

It is the greatest honor and privilege to be the Supervisor of Hanover Township and I will continue to do my best to serve all of the residents of our Township to the best of my ability.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Kelly

Hanover Township Supervisor

**OFFICE OF THE
TOWNSHIP CLERK**

158 TH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING REPORT

**BRIAN P. MCGUIRE
TOWNSHIP CLERK**

APRIL 8, 2008

Office of the Township Clerk
Annual Report
2007-2008

The past year has been an exciting and one filled with opportunities to continue the proud tradition of service to our residents. The office continued to process a record number of passport applications, collect supplies for Support our Troops, oversee the Veterans Honor Roll and perform many other duties for the township as a whole.

I am very pleased to announce that this fall we started the Clerk's Auxiliary Staff volunteer program to assist the office in the performance of its duties and ancillary services. The program is coordinated by Auxiliary Staff volunteer Richard Nelson and has helped the office staff with many community events, provides additional clerical support in the office and serves as a great resource for providing service to our residents. Auxiliary Staff members are certified as deputy registrars to take voter registration, recognized as notary publics by the State of Illinois and agree to a background check. Volunteers are then trained on various functions of the office depending on how they will be utilized and participate in a half day training session on Hanover Township and the services offered by the various departments.

This year the office in cooperation with all the officials of Hanover Township started Breakfast with the Board. This program which takes place on the first Saturday of every month allows for residents to come in and meet with their officials over breakfast to discuss whatever issues may be on their mind that day. The program has been warmly received by the public with over 70 people attending the last breakfast. In order to comply with the Open Meetings Act this is a regularly posted meeting of the board.



Pictures from right: Trustee Goffinski, Highway Commissioner Ochoa, Clerk McGuire, Trustee Westlund-Deenihan, Trustee Kramer, Trustee Dolan Baumer and Assessor Smagolski

Township residents have greatly benefited from the ability to access the Township's Community Health Nurse Trisha Simon, which reports to the Township Clerk. Many lives have been improved through interaction with this program and I feel confident that more than one has been saved through the efforts of our nurse. I encourage you to read the report submitted by the Office of the Community Health Nurse to learn more.

The Veterans Honor Roll has continued to honor those residents who have served in our nations armed forces. Each honor roll member's name is engraved on the Veterans Honor Roll plaque which hangs in the Township's main lobby, is invited to our honor roll dinners twice a year and recognized at a board meeting. A special note of thanks to the Examiner Publications which has made it a point to publish a short article each time members are inducted into the rolls. This program is designed to simply thank those who allow us to enjoy the freedoms we often take for granted. Thank you to each and every member who has or is serving in defense of our country.

Operations Support Our Troops continues here at Hanover Township. We continue to work with Schools, service organizations and individual residents to collect supplies to send over to our men and women in harms way. Last year in June we again did our 24 hour marathon collection drive which each year collects more and more items. This year we added a classic car show, live entertainment and a flea market. Special thanks is due to the Senior Services Department especially Tracey Colagrossi who put her heart and soul into helping make the event a success. I would like to say thank you to the Facilities and Operations Department the Road District and all the other township departments that help make the collection so successful.



This year we have also partnered with Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart's Office to offer a car wash once a month to encourage people to donate money or items to the Support our Troop efforts. Sheriff Dart allows us to use members of the Sheriff's Work Alternative Program to wash the vehicles and we provide the washing materials. We appreciate Sheriff Dart's support of our efforts to Support our Troops.

The Clerk's Office also partnered with the Sheriffs Police to conduct a safety seminar for our unincorporated residents. Sgt. Karen Lader of the Cook County Sherriff's Police has worked hard to strengthen ties between our office and the Sherriff's Police and we are grateful for her efforts.

The office continued to provide administrative support to the Facilities and Maintenance Department, Administrators Office and the Township Road District. In addition the Clerk's office serves as the administrative arm for the Town Board and Collector.

None of the functions of the office could be done without the help of my dedicated staff Mary Jo Imperato who serves as Deputy Clerk is truly a dedicated professional. Lori Orozco who is the Assistant to the Clerk is always ready to lend a hand and often forces her family to pitch in as well. Trisha Simon is well on her way to building what is sure to become the envy of our surrounding Community Health Nurses. We are very lucky to have such a dedicated staff. I am also pleased to announce this coming fiscal year the Township Board approved a part-time staff addition to our office which is allowing us to open late on Tuesday and Thursday nights as well as Saturday mornings. We are proud to welcome Michelle Pacini to our team in this role.

I would also like to thank the Township Board which has been strong supporters of the work done by this office on behalf of the residents. But most importantly thank you to the residents of Hanover Township for allowing me the privilege to serve as your elected Township Clerk.

Respectfully,



Brian P. McGuire
Township Clerk

**OFFICE OF THE
TOWNSHIP CLERK**

COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSE PROGRAM

158 TH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING REPORT

**TRISHA SIMON RN, BSN
COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSE**

APRIL 8, 2008

The Hanover Township Community Health Nurse program began operation in June of 2006 as a division of the Office of the Town Clerk. The program was initiated by Hanover Township Clerk Brian P. McGuire who asked the Town Board to allow his office to start the program with the revenue his office collected through passport processing. In the 2006-2007 budgets, the Town Board unanimously approved the funding for a part time program and office space was secured in the township senior center.

The office is staffed by Trisha Simon who is a registered nurse (R.N.) and has a baccalaureate degree in nursing (B.S.N.) from the University of St. Francis. Ms. Simon is also certified as an emergency medical technician and brings over a decade of experience in the nursing profession to the residents of Hanover Township. Dr. Daniel O'Malley serves as the Medical Director for the program. Dr. O'Malley operates a successful family practice located in Bartlett and has been an invaluable resource to the program.

The mission of the community health program is to focus on the health and well-being of the residents of Hanover Township. Services are offered to assist individuals in making decisions to achieve optimal functioning within their environment and to provide choices for our residents to maintain and build a healthier community for all of Hanover Township.

The program focuses primarily in three service areas; 1) Preventative health screenings 2) Home visits and crisis response and 3) Vaccines for Children. Furthermore, the office is a resource for residents to obtain health and disease management information and referrals to local agencies as deemed necessary.

2007-2008 year has been a year of explosive growth and demand for the Community Health Nurse program here in Hanover Township. Many residents are being assisted in managing their chronic health issues, receiving advice and assistance in finding healthcare solutions that fit their individual budgets and still some have been steered on to a path to a healthier lifestyle.



Pictured: Community Health Nurse Trisha Simon with Township Resident Opal Waldman

The office continues to work closely with the police departments, emergency medical system (EMS) providers and our local hospitals to respond to crisis calls throughout the township. These calls often deal with residents who have fallen through the cracks of societies' safety net and need special attention from a healthcare provider in order to continue to remain in an

independent living arrangement. The office, working closely with doctor's offices, other township departments and social service agencies has been able to have an enormous impact in improving the quality of life in many of these cases. At the same time our involvement has often lightened the load carried by our area's (EMS) providers.

Our office is able to increase its reach and effectiveness by cooperation we receive from the other township departments as well. The Community Health Nurse takes part in the township service wrap around meeting that is held with the Senior Services Department social workers and Welfare Services department to discuss cases that require services from all three departments. The committee will invite other township departments to participate as needed also; this ensures that residents receive a coordinated approach to their individual case. These meetings were established early on at the urging of Clerk McGuire and Supervisor Kelly, and been enhanced with assistance from the Township Administrator James Barr.

Community health screenings are done on a regular basis at Centro de Information's Glendale Terrace location in Hanover Park. This has allowed the office to have a positive impact on an under insured population where language and cultural barriers have been broken down to improve the health of this neighborhood. This service could not be done without the cooperation we receive from Centro de Information. This year we have begun offering screenings at, a senior living complex, Victory Centre, located right next to the township campus and at the Astor Avenue Community Center as well. Residents may also stop in to our office by appointment to take advantage of our many health screenings or to have their questions answered.

We have also continued are participation in the Vaccines for Children Clinic held in Hoffman Estates. Many Hanover Township residents have taken advantage of this low cost immunization program for their children. Thanks to the efforts of the Clerk's Auxiliary Staff Volunteers we have also been able to increase our staffing support to the clinic as the number of our residents participating has grown.

The office continues to participate in the Northwest Municipal Nurses Association. This is a professional association of nurses who work for both townships and villages and offers the chance to learn about new public health issues as well as serve as a great networking source. In May of 2007 we were proud to host the groups meeting and participate in activities that recognized national Nurses Week.

Due to the increased demand for the services of the Community Health Nurse I am happy to report that the Township Board approved the request for an additional part-time staff member in the fiscal year 2008-2009. The Township Board also approved Clerk McGuire's request to relocate the Community Health Nurse to new office space in the lower level of the Senior Center building. The new offices will include a reception area, exam room and administrative area. In addition to providing larger area to provide service, it will allow the office to perform multiple services at once and in less cramped quarters.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the administrative staff of the Clerk's Office for the support they provide the Community Health Nurse's Office. Without their support, time that is currently devoted to care of our residents would have to be diverted to all tasks that they perform. It is also important to extend a heartfelt thank you to the volunteers of the Clerk's Auxiliary Staff. No job is too small nor too big for this dedicated group that serve the residents of our township. My fellow township staff members from all departments deserve recognition as well; it is an honor to serve on a team of such dedicated professionals.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trisha Simon", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Trisha Simon RN, BSN
Community Health Nurse

**OFFICE OF THE
TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR**

158 TH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING REPORT

**THOMAS S. SMOGOLSKI, SRA, CIAO
TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR**

APRIL 8, 2008

The Assessor's office this year had a very exciting and challenging year. This was our re-assessment year, and according to the Cook County Assessor:

Median increase for 2007 was 22.95% which was down from 25.95% in 2004,
Median assessed value was \$25,090 which was up from \$20,149 in 2004
Median 2006 sale was \$233,500 which was up from \$195,950.

Our township had a total of 3,421 appeals, 3,015 residential and 406 commercial and industrial. We processed over 400 appeals from December 13th thru January 18th we also had 795 office visits, and 661 phone calls, our office has not been this busy since 1998.

This year our office had a series of Homeowner Seminars, which was well received by the public. Our first seminar was held in the Senior Center and had approximately 39 in attendance, our second was with a Spanish interpreter, and the final one we had the honor of the Cook County Assessor James M Houlihan attending to answer questions about Cook Counties 7% tax cap for tax year 2007. Our intent at these seminars was to inform taxpayers of the three different appeal process' available to them, to cover the exemptions homeowners & seniors are eligible for, and to explain how their tax bills are calculated. We received positive feed back and many questions, meaning there is a great need to have these seminars on an annual basis.

We have a new employee in the Assessors office; Margaret (Peggy) Deyne who joined us in April of 2007. Peggy and her family have been living in Bartlett for 30 years and is familiar with our township, which is an asset to our office. Peggy is a welcome addition and has been well received by the public we serve.

Cook County has introduced three new Exemptions for 2007. Disabled Persons, Disabled Veterans and Returning Veterans exemptions. We are currently receiving the new forms and requirements.

My staff will be available at the Senior Center for processing the Senior Assessment Freeze Applications, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 am to 1:00 on the days when AARP will be doing tax returns, alleviating the need to travel to both buildings for these two services. We call it one stop service and it seems to be well accepted. We hope to continue this service in future years.

I am proud of my staff's continued commitment to providing the best service for our taxpayers over the last year.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas S. Smogolski, SRA, CIAO

Hanover Township Assessor

ASSESSOR'S STATISTICS
FOR HANOVER TOWNSHIP

	2003	2004 *	2005	2006	2007*
Number of Taxable Real Estate Parcels	29,976	30,995	31,853	33,225	N/A
Equalized Assessed Valuation	1,505,654,757	1,797,732,378	1,997,584,086	2,120,188,975	N/A
Township Governmental Units Tax Rates (Total Rates)					
Highest	13.711	11.717	11.257	11.565	N/A
Lowest	7.017	5.524	5.338	5.473	N/A
Average	9.273	8.314	7.963	8.042	N/A
Building Permist Processed by Township Assessor's Office	3,755	7,164	5,717	4,567	4,926
Incoming calls to Assessor's Office	4,335	4,607	4,902	4,488	4,532
Office Visits to Assessor's Office	1,365	1,524	2,010	2,197	2,287

* - Triennial Reassessment Year
N/A - Not available at this time

**OFFICE OF THE
TOWNSHIP COLLECTOR**

**158 TH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
REPORT**

**WILLIAM T. BURKE
TOWNSHIP COLLECTOR**

APRIL 8, 2008



Dear Residents:

It has been my pleasure to serve you as your Township Tax Collector. In the past year I have attended many community and civic events representing the staff and officials of Hanover Township. These events have afforded me the opportunity to speak with many of you and hear your opinions on many different public policy issues. The Collectors office is a unique elected post. In the early 70's an injunction was placed upon Collector's in Cook County forbidding them from carrying on their appointed duties, while in several other counties Township Collectors continue to actively collect taxes. Since that time the Cook County Township Tax Collectors Association has worked to have this injunction lifted and to date has been unsuccessful. The position of Township Tax Collector receives no annual salary and is elected ready to assume the functions if and when the injunction is lifted.

I have conducted several homebuyer workshops this past year in cooperation with Hanover Township Assessor Thomas S. Smogolski and Hanover Township Clerk Brian P. McGuire covering homeowner issues, tax savings tips, present market situations, as well as how to avoid foreclosure. In addition, the Township Collector is always available to speak to your local community group about Township services as well as government in general.

I look forward to continuing to serve the resident of Hanover Township in the coming year. If I can be of any assistance please do not hesitate to contact me at the Township offices.

Respectfully Submitted,
William T. Burke
Collector

**HANOVER TOWNSHIP
ROAD DISTRICT**

**158 TH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
REPORT**

**P. CRAIG OCHOA
TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER**

**MICHAEL E. KELLY
EX-OFFICIO TREASURER**

**BRIAN P. MCGUIRE
EX-OFFICIO CLERK**

APRIL 8, 2008

Once again, **THANK YOU VERY MUCH** to each and every resident within our Hanover Township for all your wonderful contributions to our over all success of our / your Highway Department !!! It is because of you and our dedicated staff that our Township looks as good as it does.

As you know, this was my 1st full year as your Highway Commissioner and I have been absolutely delighted to be working for you. What an honor!!!! From snow removal and salting of our "unincorporated" 26 miles of dual lane roads to mowing grass, refuse removal, brush pick up, sump grinding, asphalt repair and striping of roads, sign posting and repairs and tree & bush removal it has been a very, very busy yet productive year.

Once again, we cooperated very closely with our Senior Services Department (headed by Barb Kurth Schuld) and staff by washing their various buses that are used to transport our seniors within our community in addition to other financial support. We assisted our Food Pantry department (Headed by Mike Kelly & Aurea Picasso) with staffing for the various food pick up programs. Further, we offered our Highway Department staff and assistance to both our Mental Health Board (headed by Danise Habun) and to our Youth and Family Services Department (headed by Kathy Fox). And lastly, we donated staff, support and supplies to our "Support Our Troop" program (headed by Brian McGuire).

Another program I/we introduced is a program called "Highway To Feeding The Hungry". With the help and cooperation of our Township Supervisor, this program was introduced in late 2007 in conjunction with one of our local retail food stores who donates food for our Food Pantry around the major holidays (Christmas, Easter and Thanksgiving).

All of our staff within the Highway Department are truly committed to keeping a lid on spending. This is the 10th year in a row that we were able to operate our department without an increase in our Road District budget. This is a tremendous saving to all of us who are taxing paying residents. As head of this department I promise to do all I can to be "Fiscally Responsible" so we can keep our cost to an absolute minimum without jeopardizing our roads, bridges and other responsibilities within the Township and it's residents. I will do this by continuing to collect the levy of \$.08 cents for each \$100.00 in assessed valuation each year to meet eligibility requirements for the Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) fund.

As you already know, this has been quite a winter for all of us. I was told recently that it's Chicago's 11th worst winter since they have been keeping records. I am guessing that we are talking about over 100+ years. So a big, big THANK YOU goes to all our 3 highway department staff of Sam Santangelo (our Foreman), Rick Nelson and David Jimenez. With Sam's guidance, these fine gentlemen worked endless hours to be sure our roads were clear and clean of snow providing passage and safety for all of us. There were many, many times these gentlemen worked 18 hour days without complaints. I also want to THANK both the Village of Bartlett's Public Works and Village of Streamwood's Public Works departments for their wonderful cooperation during this very difficult time. Without their help and assistance we could never have accomplished our objective of

providing you / us with clean roads. In addition, this intergovernmental agreement saves all of us as tax payers a lot of money.

I also want to express my / our **THANKS** to James Barr (Administrator), Steve Spejcher (Director of Facilities & Maintenance), to all our four Township Trustees, the Supervisor and Clerk for their help, guidance, support and suggestions in helping us achieve our goals for 2006-07. I / we look forward to working with this fine group in 2008-09.

I want to continue my / our efforts of working closely with the governments, civic, private sector and various municipalities of Bartlett, Streamwood, Hoffman Estates, Hanover Park, Schaumburg, St. Charles, Elgin and South Elgin to insure a safer Township. I will continue with our joint programs with the U-46 School District and will look to add other beneficial opportunities to help our younger and older residents live a better life within our community.

If you have any positive or negative concerns I/we want to hear from you. I am available 24 / 7 / 365 days a year for you. I am here to serve you!!! I want you to be as proud of our Highway Department as I am with you and our wonderful Township. Have a great year everyone.

Best personal regards,

Craig Ochoa

Highway Commissioner



Pictured from left: Highway Commissioner P. Craig Ochoa, Richard Nelson, Highway Foreman Sam Santangelo and David Jimenez

**OFFICE OF THE
ADMINISTRATOR**

**158 TH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
REPORT**

**HONORABLE MARVIN J. KRAMER
LIAISON GENERAL SERVICES AND
ADMINISTRATION**

**JAMES C. BARR
ADMINISTRATOR**

APRIL 8, 2008

Office of the Administrator Annual Report

The Office of the Administrator's primary responsibility is to ensure effective implementation of Township Board policies through efficient professional management of all aspects of the township government. The Township Administrator serves as the organization's Chief Administrative Officer and in this capacity is responsible for the administration, coordination, and management of all township services and employees, except those reporting directly to an elected official, as well as maintaining a sound financial condition through preparation and management of Hanover Township's annual \$7 million budget.

Additional responsibilities of the Administrator's Office are Township Board support, staff leadership, financial management, human resources, communications including the resident newsletter and website, information technology, intergovernmental relations, capital improvement planning, emergency preparedness, and strategic planning.

Hanover Township continues to maintain a healthy fiscal condition. In the past year the Township has completed a major overhaul of our employee benefits including medical, dental, and vision while reducing costs to the taxpayers of the community. Additionally, new options have been made available to employees at minimal costs including an Employee Wellness Program, Employee Assistance Program, and the option of a Health Saving Account. The Township has adopted our first five year Capital Improvement Program providing a shared vision for the future development of facilities construction and renovation.

In November the Office of the Administrator organized a professionally facilitated Strategic Planning Retreat with active participation from elected officials and staff setting specific goals for fiscal year 2009. Also in the fall, the Township was recognized by the statewide organization, Township Officials of Illinois, as having the best resident newsletter in the state. Assistant to the Administrator John Acardo, who serves as editor of the newsletter, deserves much credit for this outstanding accomplishment.

In the year ahead, the Office of the Administrator is planning several major initiatives including implementing capital improvements as outlined in the five year Capital Improvement Program, establishing a Hanover Township Emergency Management Agency, and assisting the Township Board in developing 'green' policies and practices. We continue to work to upgrade technology use organization-wide, as well as researching resource development opportunities including grants and identifying potential cost savings in operations.

Hanover Township, our officials, staff, and many volunteers, continue to strive to meet the changing needs of the community and live the motto, *Hanover Township – where great service happens*. The Office of the Administrator is excited to provide leadership in serving the needs of our residents.

Respectfully Submitted,
James C. Barr
Administrator

**FACILITIES AND
MAINTENANCE
DEPARTMENT**

**158 TH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
REPORT**

**STEVE SPEJCHER
DIRECTOR**

APRIL 8, 2008

Facilities and Maintenance Annual report 2007-2008

The role of the Facilities and Maintenance Department first is to maintain the facilities and grounds of the three buildings which include the Administration building, Senior Center as well as the Astor Avenue Community Center located in Hanover Park. In addition, it is the responsibility of this department to oversee all maintenance of our 12 Township transportation fleet. The Facilities and Maintenance department also provides custodial services as well as oversee and maintain all contracts relating to housekeeping and any other maintenance services procured by the Township.

Over the last year as Director of Facilities and Maintenance I feel we have accomplished many of our goals and the maintenance staff and I are proud of the work we have completed, all to stay within our budget. From the creation of a maintenance department, to the order in which repairs throughout the Township are handled. But most of all to step out of the box and come up with as many in-house projects as possible! From our daily set ups and tear down of tables and chairs for the ever growing activities to our evening late shifts to cover all evening programs, our in-house painting program, seal coating of the Township parking lot, remolding and relocation of many offices, upgrading security systems to installation of panic buttons. The days are never the same and the job is never done!

As the new fiscal year begins we are excited about the addition of our new Operations Manager position that will provide the missing link to accomplishing many more in-house projects and on site construction projects as well as the possibility of handling the maintenance of the Mental Health Resource Center. We look forward to the completion of the new Community Health Nurse offices located in the lower level of the senior center and continuing to work with the Township Administrator on his capital improvement projects.



Pictured: Nurses Office Under Construction

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to work in this exciting and growing Township that we all in the Facilities and Maintenance Department are proud off.

Respectfully Submitted

Steve Spejcher

Director of Facilities and Maintenance

**HANOVER TOWNSHIP
MENTAL HEALTH BOARD**

**158 TH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
REPORT**

**HONORABLE KATY DOLAN BAUMER
LIAISON**

MARY ALICE BENOIT - CHAIRPERSON

**DANISE HABUN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
MENTAL HEALTH BOARD**

APRIL 8, 2008

HANOVER TOWNSHIP MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

**MARY ALICE BENOIT - CHAIR
BRIAN GORCOWSKI - VICE-CHAIR
KATY DOLAN BAUMER – TRUSTEE LIAISON
AND SECRETARY
RUTH BECKNER
GABRIELLE INFUSINO
RITA LOPIENSKI**

**DANISE HABUN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
MENTAL HEALTH BOARD**

APRIL 8, 2008

Hanover Township Mental Health Board FY08 Annual Report

Established by referendum in 1977, the Hanover Township Mental Health Board is comprised of 7 township residents including one trustee, appointed by the Township Supervisor with the consent of the Town Board, who volunteer their valuable time and energy to address the mental health needs of our most vulnerable residents.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Hanover Township Mental Health Board is to advocate for increasing the availability and quality of mental health services through the development of a comprehensive and coordinated system of effective and efficient program delivery, accessible to all residents of Hanover Township.

Vision Statement

The Hanover Township Mental Health Board ensures that services in the area of mental health, including developmental disabilities, addictions and substance abuse, are available to all residents of Hanover Township.

3 Year Strategic Plan

In FY08, the Hanover Township Mental Health Board completed a comprehensive strategic planning process that has set forth the direction of the board's activities for the next 3 years.

3 areas of focus for the strategic plan have been set forth:

1. **Development**-The Mental Health Board ensures that the quality of organizational and program development reflects the needs of all stakeholders and is aligned with the Mental Health Board mission and vision
2. **Delivery**-The Mental Health Board ensures that all mental health services are effectively and efficiently delivered and are accessible to all stakeholders.
3. **Awareness**-The Mental Health Board ensures that awareness of mental health issues and resources are communicated effectively to all stakeholders.

Strategic Plan Objectives

The Mental Health Board strategic plan objectives ensure that the strategic plan is aligned with the Mental Health Board mission and vision and that all action items are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time bound.

Objective 1-Impact

The Mental Health Board has a proven record of judicious distribution of funds

	Amount	Percent of FY08 Budget
Mental Health Fund	\$713,465	68%
Community Resource Center	\$190,00	18%
Administration	\$147,460	14%

Mental health funds were distributed to address the identified need:

Service	FY08	# of Residents Served	0-17 years	18 years +
Mental Health	\$309,591	2259	625	1634
Developmental Disabilities	\$105,336	284	111	171
Substance Abuse	\$60,750	220	99	121
Prevention	\$26,750	3552	3552	0
Transportation	\$59,000	33	0	33
Community Education	\$3,346	294	0	294

*Please note there may be an overlap in service categories

Monitoring related to the effectiveness of service delivery occurs through monthly reports that are completed by each funded organization for each program offered to township residents. Audits and site visits are part of the process. In FY08, staff conducted a formal audit review of 20 programs that were offered by 10 funded organizations to township residents. To date, all are in compliance with the standards set by the Hanover Township Mental Health Board.

Listed below is a demographic and residential service analysis based on statistics from April 2007-February, 2008. These are unduplicated numbers and do not reflect the participants attending prevention programs. The demographic information is currently incomplete. Complete information will be available after April 30, 2008

Clients by Ethnicity:	#	Percent
African-American	193	7%
Asian	51	1.0%
Biracial	50	1.0%
Caucasian	751	27%
Hispanic	1555	56%
Native American	4	.5%
Additional Groups	6	.50%
Unknown	153	6%
<i>Totals</i>	<i>2763</i>	<i>99% (due to rounding)</i>

Clients by Age#	Percent	
0-5 years	261	9%
6-9 years	165	6%
10-12 years	117	4%
13-17 years	294	11%
18-20 years	145	5%
21-30 years	551	20%

31-40 years	589	21%
41-50 years	374	14%
51-60 years	175	7%
61-64 years	36	1%
Over 65 years	48	1.5%
Unknown	8	--%
<i>Total</i>	<i>2763</i>	<i>99.50</i>

Clients by Residence	#	Percent
Streamwood	724	26%
Hanover Park	943	34%
Bartlett	176	6%
Schaumburg	40	1%
Elgin	828	30%
Hoffman Estates	52	2%
Total	2763	99% (due to rounding)

As noted above, The Hanover Township Mental Health Board has allocated funds toward the operation of the Hanover Township Community Resource Center which is located at 1535 Burgundy Parkway in Streamwood. 6 of our funded organizations offered offsite services at the Hanover Township Community Resource Center. In FY08, an average of 116 clients per month walked through the doors of the Resource Center and accessed programs related to sexual assault, mental illness, substance abuse, financial counseling, domestic violence and child abuse. The following agencies operated at the Hanover Township Community Resource Center during FY08:

Community Crisis Center
Epilepsy Foundation
Renz Addiction Counseling Center

Ecker Center for Mental Health
Family Service Association
Safe from the Start (CACNCC)

TIDE (Transportation keeps Individuals with Disabilities Employed) Ticket To Ride Program

Transportation has been repeatedly identified as a community need within Hanover Township. The Hanover Township Mental Health Board created the TIDE Ticket to Ride Subsidized Taxi Voucher Program to address the transportation needs of Hanover Township residents with disabilities to attend work or job training programs. The Mental Health Board subsidizes ½ half the cost of the trip to the work or training site. In FY08, the 3rd year of operation, 17 township residents who are disabled were provided 1205 rides to their work or training sites and have been able to be productive members of our community.

Objective 3-Advocacy

The Mental Health Board acts as a strategic advocate at the local, state and federal levels for all mental issues.

Being present “at the table” ensures that issues related to mental health are acknowledged and the voices of township residents are heard. Throughout FY08, the Hanover Township Mental Health Board has been an active and fully engaged member of the following coalitions, associations and networking entities representing social service and business partnerships and affiliations.

ACCESSO → local initiative seeking to increase social service capacity for Latino clients
The Association of Community Mental Health Authorities of Illinois-Legislative and Training Committees
Bartlett Chamber of Commerce
Child and Adolescent Local Area Network (LAN) 46
Disability Concerns Task Force
Elgin Hispanic Network
Far Northwest Suburban United Way-Community Impact Subcommittee and Economic Self Sufficiency Workgroup
Hanover Park Chamber of Commerce
Health and Welfare Consortium of Elgin
Illinois Coalition on Mental Health and Aging

Illinois Mental Health and Geriatrics Advisory Council
Mental Health Network of the Illinois Department of Human Services
North/Northwest Cook and Lake Counties Work Group for Persons with Developmental Disabilities
National Coalition of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Directors
Northwest Suburban Alliance on Domestic Violence
School District U-46 PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Strategies) Leadership Council
Safe from the Start Advisory Committee
Schaumburg Business Association
Streamwood Chamber of Commerce

Objective 4- Stakeholders

The Mental Health Board has strong relationships with all stakeholders.

The Hanover Township Mental Health Board completed a 3 year strategic plan during FY08. Part of the planning process involved obtaining information about the effectiveness of community efforts in addressing issues related to mental health. This information was obtained from township residents, social service staff, clergy, local and state political leaders, area business leaders, school personnel, consumers of services, law enforcement and other leaders from the municipalities that comprise the township. 43 "stakeholders" participated in a community planning meeting and needs assessment surveys were obtained from an additional 65 stakeholders. Our stakeholders were directly asked about the resources that would be needed to address current and future mental health needs.

The Hanover Township Mental Health Board incorporated this information into the 3 year plan and developed strategies to address the identified needs. Community stakeholder meetings will continue on an annual basis to ensure that the strategic plan aligns with the identified needs of the community.

Evidence of strong stakeholder relationship has been demonstrated by the inclusion of the Hanover Township Mental Health Board at various local and state public forums related to mental health issues.

Objective 5-Communication

The Mental Health Board ensures that there is an effective and efficient communication strategy that informs, inspires and engages all stakeholders.

Recognizing that part of communication involves active outreach into the community, in FY08 the Hanover Township Mental Health Board created the position of Community Resource Specialist. This staff person has been instrumental in communicating the mission and vision of the Mental Health Board to the stakeholders within the Township and in communicating the missions and visions of potential partner organizations back to the Mental Health Board.

To ensure that communication about mental health issues and available resources to address those issues are kept at the forefront, the Hanover Township Mental Health Board has actively participated in various community outreach activities. In FY08, these activities have included:

Faith Health Partnership s
Centro de Informacion's Mental
Health Fair

Mayor Ed Shock's Get Active Health
Fair in Elgin

*Recovery Matters Mental Health Fair
 co-sponsored with Elgin Mental
 Health Center
 Hanover Township's Student
 Government Day
 Streamwood Summer Celebration
 TIDE Transportation Planning
 Elgin Health Fair-sponsored by
 Representative Ruth Munson
 Association for Individual
 Development Telethon
 Kane County Transportation Planning
 RTA Transportation Planning for
 Cook County
 Far Northwest Suburban United Way
 Needs Assessment and Planning*

*Special Olympics Golf
 Community Forum sponsored by the
 Elgin Coalition of Religious Leaders
 Laurel Hill School Resource Fair
 School District U46- PBIS Leadership
 Team
 Domestic Violence Leadership
 Breakfast
 Illinois Disabilities Council Training
 Family Violence Coordinating Council
 DV Forum and Conference
 Elgin Hispanic Network Luncheon
 Bartlett Business Women's Council
 LULAC Conference*

In addition, the Hanover Township Mental Health Board began a faith community outreach campaign in FY08. Religious leaders from various congregations serving township residents met with the staff and Board to discuss the role of clergy in responding to issues related to mental health.

Objective 6-Allocation Strategy

The Mental Health Board demonstrates an openness of mind and flexibility for future service needs, as they relate to mental health issues. The kinds of programs funded continuously reflect the needs of the community, as they related to mental health.

During FY08, the Hanover Township Mental Health Board distributed \$713,465 in mental health funds to assist township residents. The following organizations received designated grants during FY08:

Alexian Brothers Mental Health Center	Northwest Center Against Sexual Assault
Association for Individual Development	Open Door Clinic
Bridge Youth And Family Services	PACE Transportation
Centro de Informacion	PADS of Elgin
Children's Advocacy Center	Renz Addiction Counseling Center
Clearbrook	Senior Services Association of Greater Elgin
Community Crisis Center	Summit Learning Center
Countryside	TIDE Ticket to Ride
DayOne Network, Inc.	WINGS (Women In Need)
Easter Seals of DuPage and the Fox Valley Region	Growing Stronger
Ecker Mental Health Center	
Epilepsy Foundation	
Family Services Association	
Greater Elgin Family Care Center	
Hanover Township Youth and Family	
The Harbour, Inc	
Lutheran Social Services of Illinois-Behavioral Health Services	

As part of its mental health grant allocations, 2 new funding categories were created in by the mental health board in FY08.

- 1) Capital grants became available as one time opportunities for a variety of capital projects: FY08 Capital Funds were disseminated as follows:

Organization	Project	Amount
Boys and Girls Club of Elgin	Clubhouse Project	\$5,000.00
Centro de Informacion	Copier & DVD for Glendale Terrace	\$4,286.00
DayOne Network, Inc	Barrier Free Entrance Way	\$5,000.00
Ecker Center for Mental Health	Records Scanning System	\$2,041.00
Epilepsy Foundation	Outreach Materials	\$4,250.00
Larkin Center for Children	Gutters for Group Home in HT	\$5,000.00
Little City Foundation	Horticulture Therapy for Group Homes in HT	\$5,000.00
Renz Addiction Counseling Center	Building Expansion	\$5,000.00
<i>Total</i>		<i>\$35,577.00</i>

- 2) Challenge grants were created to encourage the creation of pilot prevention or community education programs addressing priorities that emerged through strategic planning. FY08 Challenge Grants were distributed as follows:

Renz Addiction Counseling Center	All-Stars Prevention Program	\$9,000
Community Crisis Center	Strategies for Safety Education	\$8,000
<i>Total</i>		<i>\$17,000</i>

Objective 6-Valued Resource

Residents of Hanover Township and other stakeholders view the Mental Health Board as a valued resource for the community.

In FY08, approximately 15 requests per week for mental health resource information were received by staff of the Hanover Township Mental Health Board. Requests for assistance ranged from transportation, connection to domestic violence shelters and programs, suicide prevention, help with substance abuse and addictions, connections with resources for persons with developmental disabilities, connections for persons with severe mental illness and therapy services.

A priority request emerging from the strategic planning process has been the creation of a web-based resource directory. The Hanover Township Mental Health Board has conducted research into the development of such a directory and has indicated the web-based directory as an objective to be achieved during FY09.

Objective 7-Mental Health Board Diversity

The Mental Health Board reflects the diversity and perspective of the Hanover Township community, which includes demographics, geographic, socio-economic and mental health field knowledge.

Staff and the all-volunteer members of the Hanover Township Mental Health Board come from a variety of backgrounds: including business, law enforcement, education, social service, community based not for profits, municipal government and the geriatric field. The communities of Bartlett, Streamwood and Elgin are represented by staff and board. The Hanover Township Mental Health Board takes pride in the fact that communications with our residents can occur in both English and Spanish languages.

Township Mental Health Board FY08

Staff Members:

**Executive Director-Danise Habun
Community Resource Specialist-Faust Villazan**

Hanover Township Mental Health Board Members-FY08

**Mary Alice Benoit
Katy Dolan Baumer
Brian Gorcowski
Gabrielle Infusino
Ruth Beckner
Rita Lopienski
Sandy Deenihan (Appointed Trustee 11/2007)**



From Left to Right
Ruth Beckner, Sandy Deenihan, Mary Alice Benoit, Brian Gorcowski, Gabrielle Infusino, Katy Dolan Baumer, Rita Lopienski, Danise Habun

Respectfully prepared and submitted by:
Danise Habun
Executive Director
Hanover Township Mental Health Board
03/28/08

**SENIOR SERVICES
DEPARTMENT**

158 TH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING REPORT

**HONORABLE ROBERT J. GOFFINSKI
LIAISON**

**KARLENE SUHRBIER – CHAIRPERSON
SENIOR CITIZENS SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**BARBARA KURTH SCHULDT
DIRECTOR**

APRIL 8, 2008

HANOVER TOWNSHIP
SENIOR SERVICES CITIZENS COMMITTEE

KARLEEN SUHRBIER - CHAIRPERSON
CHARLENE AHLIN - VICE CHAIRPERSON
MARY LOU ELDER - TREASURER
PATTI LOOMIS - SECRETARY
ROBERT GREENE - MEMBER
LILLIAN HENSCHER - MEMBER
ROBERT SALVESON - MEMBER

APRIL 8, 2008



Hanover Township Senior Services

Barbara Kurth Schuldt, Director

Senior Committee Members 2007-2008

Karleen Subrbier, Chairperson, Charlene Ahlin, Vice-Chairperson, Mary Lou Elder, Treasurer, Patti Loomis, Secretary, Robert Greene, Robert Salvesen, Lillian Henschel

Dolores Johns, a valued member of the Senior Committee who served as Treasurer, passed away May 12, 2007.

Patti Loomis was appointed by the Board to complete Dolores' term.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to act as an advocate for seniors; to empower older adults by providing information, emotional support, social opportunity, nutrition and transportation to maintain an independent lifestyle within the community. Our foremost goal is to offer an additional support system in which a senior feels a sense of belonging and can grow through choices which enhance the joy of living as he/she adapts to the continuum of life changes.

Senior Services Annual Report April 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008

Although the Township statute defines a senior as 55 years of age or older, participants in our program are usually 60-90 years of age. The Senior Services Department is designed to give the elders in our Township what they most want and need. Our active Senior Citizens Services Committee meets with us monthly and staff directly addresses suggestions from the seniors, often implementing their ideas into our services. Our skilled staff members are knowledgeable and experienced in working with mature adults and get to know most on a first name basis, building friendly and supportive relationships.

Our newest venture called, "Meet, Eat and Greet!" exemplifies our Mission Statement, "helping seniors find an additional support system where they feel a sense of belonging". Meet, Eat and Greet will be a regular gathering of seniors and staff, enjoying good food and conversation. Whether new to our Township, or a long-time resident, many seniors struggle to find their place in our community. Our hope is that this program will engage seniors with people they do not already know, providing a positive social experience.

Senior Services Committee

This advisory committee to the Hanover Township Board of Trustees is made up of residents who represent the senior population of the Township on issues and concerns of interest to seniors. President, Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer are elected positions. The committee meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 12:30 p.m. to discuss programs and services and meetings are open to the public. Current members of the Senior Committee are on the first page of our report.



The fundraising arm of the committee operates "Ye Olde Gift Shoppe" located in the reception area of the Senior Center. Profits from their sales are used to sponsor programs, pay for entertainment and purchase raffle prizes.

The Senior Services Department makes available to our residents four very diverse yet equally indispensable types services: 1. Transportation, 2. Social Services, 3. Nutrition, and 4. Programming and Volunteer Opportunities.

TRANSPORTATION

Dial-A-Bus Services

Hanover Township Senior Services Dial-A-Bus has a fleet of 8 vehicles, 5 of which are accessible for disabled persons. These vehicles are transport Township residents 55 years of age and over as Township residents with a permanent disability, and older. The Dial-A-Bus service is provided throughout the Township as well as five miles beyond. Our dispatch hours are Monday – Friday 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and our service hours are Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. .



use to
as well
age 18

from

doctors

Transportation to medical appointments such as offices, dentists and therapy may be made up to six weeks in advance. Reservations for personal business and scheduled mall or grocery trips may be requested up to one week in advance. Transportation is provided on a first-come first serve basis. Every effort is made to accommodate each request. A donation of .75 cents one way and \$1.50 roundtrip is suggested. We pride ourselves on our personal Curb-to-Curb Service

Another Transportation Option: THE TRIP PROGRAM

We are pleased to be able to offer our residents an additional service: TRIP (Township Riders Initiative Pilot) offers Inter-Township transportation for medical purposes only for senior citizens and persons with disabilities. This service operates in Hanover, Elk Grove, Wheeling, Palatine and Schaumburg Townships Monday-Friday 5:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. and Saturday 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Transportation is also provided to Stroger Hospital, Hines Veterans Hospital and the Loyola campus. Costs of these trips do not exceed \$10.00 each way. For registration and for more information, contact the Hanover Township Dial-A-Bus staff at 630-483-5658. This program was recently funded through the passage of the transportation bill by the state legislators and we are pleased to continue this service as funding permits.

SOCIAL SERVICES

There has been a tremendous growth in the need for our Senior Services social services. Listed below are the state and federal programs that our caseworkers help seniors with regularly. Our staff has increased to three positions: Social Service Manager, Social Service Specialist and Social Service Liaison. A case load of 779 seniors is shared among the three.

- 1) **LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program)** – State funded program, based on a monthly income requirement (\$1,276 for an individual and \$1,711 for a couple) that provides energy assistance by providing a one time benefit to eligible households to be used for energy bills.
- 2) **Access to Care Program**- A primary health program that offers basic health insurance to low income individuals who do not qualify for Medicare or Medicaid. In order to qualify for this program, family income must be less than the 200% federal poverty level.

Patients are charged \$5 per doctor's visit, \$5 for lab and radiology tests, and \$10-30 for prescriptions.

- 3) **Medicare Counseling-** Medicare Counselors and Social Services staff are available by appointment to provide information on Medicare, Medicaid, supplemental insurance and prescription drug plans. In addition, Social Services staff assists with Public Aid applications. (Medicaid, Food Stamps, Medicare Savings Programs)
- 4) **Circuit Breaker/Illinois Cares Rx-** Circuit Breaker is a state program that provides pharmaceutical assistance (Illinois Cares Rx), property tax rebate and a \$54 license plate sticker discount. You must be disabled or at least 65 years of age or older and meet yearly income eligibility requirements.
- 5) **Lending Closet-** Our Lending Closet consists of medical equipment such as wheel chairs, walkers, bath chairs and shower benches that are loaned to residents. A refundable deposit is required when picking up equipment. (\$25 for wheel chairs and \$10 for all other equipment)
- 6) **PAL (People Against Loneliness)-** The PAL Companion Program offers companionship to seniors residing in Hanover Township who might not have a support system such as friends, family or a caregiver. Our PAL volunteers provide friendship over the telephone, personal visits in the home or meet at the Senior Center for lunch or an activity. Social Services conduct a background check for volunteers interested in participating in the PAL program.
- 7) **Adopt-A-Senior-** Our Adopt-A-Senior program is intended to serve low income residents who do not have family in the area. Social Services staff partners with the community to collect monetary donations to purchase Christmas gifts and create care packages of non-perishable food items and gift cards to make the holiday season special for our seniors. Social Service staff personally delivers the care packages
- 8) **Home Visits-** Our Social Services Staff will provide home visits to Hanover Township residents who are homebound to assist with governmental programs and to conduct assessments to determine appropriate referral to Catholic Charities or other local agencies.
- 9) **Educational and Wellbeing Seminars-** Social Services coordinates with outside agencies to conduct presentations and discussions on nutrition, depression senior safety, diabetes, memory screenings and much more. Social Services host a minimum of 2 seminars a month, and are listed in the Club 59 newsletter.
- 10) **Information and Referral-** Social Services can provide information and referrals to link seniors and their family with services that promote a more independent lifestyle.
- 11) **Benefits Check-up-** A web-based tool to screen for Federal, State and Local programs for possible individual eligibility. Examples include, food stamps, Medicaid, Medicare Savings Programs, Weatherization program, Section 8 housing etc. Real Benefits provides the application for food stamps, Medicaid and Medicare Savings Programs. Social Services staff assists residents in filing for these programs.
- 12) **Senior Citizens Will Program-** Hanover Township Senior Services has partnered with the Chicago Bar Association for the Senior Citizens Will Program to offer low cost preparation of Living Wills and Durable Power of Health Care and Property. The lawyer comes to the Senior Center monthly to assist clients with Living Wills and assists with other legal issues.

- 13) **RTA Site-** Hanover Township Senior Center is now an RTA site for seniors who need to obtain a reduced fare card in order to participate in the Senior Ride Free program. Social Services staff completes the application and provides photo service for \$1. Each week applications are mailed to RTA, and the senior is expected to receive their reduced fare card in the mail within 2-3 weeks.
- 14) **Meet, Eat and Greet Program-** Social Services staff has coordinated a new program for seniors who are new or want to get "plugged" into the Senior Center. This gathering will be offered every couple months that provides food, door prizes, good conversation and ice breaker games for other residents to connect with one another.
- 15) **Blessing Bartlett and Beyond, "Handyman Group"-** Social Services has partnered with Alliance Bible Church in assisting seniors with handyman projects, yard work, cleaning and providing meals to the sick.

We also have a varied selection of well-being programs on topics such as care giving, Osteoporosis, vision and hearing screening, colon rectal cancer awareness, heart and stroke assessment. We offer the Rules of the Road program, a Senior Citizen Law Enforcement Academy and even Brain Games!

NUTRITION

Community Nutrition Network, Inc. (CNN) operates a nutrition site at our facility. A daily hot lunch and/or deli-bar are available Monday-Friday at 11:45 a.m. for a suggested donation of \$2.50. Volunteers deliver Meals-On-Wheels to the homebound frail elderly. Assessments for that service are conducted by Catholic Charities Northwest located in Arlington Heights, Illinois. In addition the Township subsidizes the cost of a monthly evening meal catered by Cuisine America. These "Supper Club 59" dinners are served with candles and tablecloths and an array of entertainment is offered as well.

PROGRAMMING AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Our Senior Services Programming has grown by leaps and bounds this past year.

The seniors embarked on a three-day tour of Springfield, Illinois, custom designed by our Program Manager to meet the needs of seniors. Thirty seniors took in the sights of all things Lincoln via motor coach. The response to this trip was overwhelmingly positive.



The Senior Center held a weeklong Art Show, "Got Art".

The Senior Center was filled with 200 pieces from local artists and senior citizens in the Township. We have two art instructors, one specializing in three dimensional clay projects and the other offering fine art classes such as aerial perspective, oil, under painting, watercolors and studio. Both of them share knowledge of all arts and field trips to the Art Institute or the Botanic Gardens to sketch are part of the program. Our latest venture was an Art Show at the Village of

Bartlett gallery where a reception was held by "Arts in Bartlett" showcasing the oil paintings our seniors.

A 30 vendor craft show was held in November and attended by hundreds of Township residents for the two-day show. The craft show also kicked off sales of the "Home Made in Hanover" cook book with over 300 recipes compiled from the Township seniors. We sold out of our 300 copies before the craft show ended!

Hanover Holiday Revue variety show showcased the talents of over 30 of our seniors at our annual Holiday Luncheon. Our luncheon was highly attended with 300 seniors, the most ever! The variety show will become an annual event engaging the talents of our seniors.



Silver Belles Choral Group: This group rehearses their repertoire weekly and performs for local nursing homes, schools, and other organizations. New members are always welcome.

Card Playing: There are groups that gather to play Bridge, Pinochle, Canasta, Euchre and Poker as well as Scrabble, Mah Jongg, Cribbage and Mexican Dominos.

Senior Center Activities: Bingo with cash prizes, Bunco, weekly movies, musical performances, line dancing, plastic canvas, knit & crochet club, Walking Fit, Zumba Gold exercise class, Healing Hearts (a widow/widower's support group), Harmonica Club, Pool Lessons and Eat, Meet & Greet!

Trips and Parties: Cultural events, gambling casinos, museums, theatres, restaurants and river cruises are included in our scheduled monthly trips. Six holiday parties include prizes, raffles, games, music for listening and dancing as well as a delicious meal!

Special Events: Senior Services Department lends it hand in programming and staffing events for the Township, such as Student Government Day and Support Our Troops!

2 Straight years in a row, our senior's were the proud winners of the Village of Streamwood's Summer Celebration Parade for the "Most Unusual Entry". In 2007 the theme was Fifties and Fabulous. This picture shows our "Recycle Teenagers" float.





Hanover Township was the proud recipient of the "Sid Granet Aging Network Achievement Award" in 2007. The committee believed that our organization exemplified Sid's philosophy of "Be all that you can be."

Hanover Township Senior Services is proud of the more than 230 active and giving individuals who either contribute to, or participate in, outreach and community projects. At the end of the last fiscal year, the Volunteers of Hanover Township Senior Center reported over 17,000 hours of time dedicated to various projects. Some of those projects include Tax Aide Counselors, Home Delivered Meals, Medicare Counseling, and P.A.L. program. Outreach projects include Christmas gift wrapping, Easter baskets, handmade hats and scarves for needy Township children, knit infant hats and blankets for area hospital patients, school classroom aides, and a Senior Sleuth Program.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Kurth Schuldt

Senior Services Director

Senior Services Fiscal Year 2007/2008 Report

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Rides Given	1436	1639	1620	1471	1696	1722	1764	1571	1303	1421	1393	1372	18,408
Individuals Served	229	184	190	245	258	265	235	263	227	253	317	265	2,931
New Passes Issued	15	33	33	33	37	28	36	20	22	35	24	27	343
Individual Refusal Of Services	50	62	38	61	25	30	55	45	55	60	85	66	632
On Waiting List	29	35	23	20	10	22	3	5	10	5	25	13	200
Rides Under 60	119	125	2	87	130	114	135	101	95	120	106	107	1,241
Rides by Disabled	166	157	2	140	172	132	170	129	124	175	151	150	1,668
Rides w/wheelchairs	49	32	50	56	44	18	35	26	33	50	37	40	470
Rides to Dialysis	173	175	186	235	248	176	234	205	187	181	172	180	2,352
Victory Center Rides	17	23	20	45	49	43	58	42	77	163	115	118	770

Social Services

Active Cases	577	588	614	650	655	679	694	720	737	759	764	8,025	
Contacts with Active Cases	557	300	367	452	453	521	592	419	462	450	693	560	5,826
Medicare Counseling	13	0	3	0	0	0	0	4	18	8	14	12	72
Circuit Breaker appointments	66	62	47	65	40	19	64	49	48	17	162	77	716
Assist with Medicare Part D	12	48	50	38	20	8	19	36	66	23	26	43	389
Home Visits	7	10	11	8	3	9	5	1	5	0	6	2	67
Referral to Other Agencies	12	55	60	59	99	86	99	89	33	74	57	53	776
Elder Abuse Referrals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Outside Resources Contacted	106	144	106	103	139	75	108	140	187	233	268	103	1,712
Office Appointments	109	83	72	141	60	168	156	94	87	41	139	83	1,233
Lending Closet Transactions	36	43	29	47	49	49	27	30	29	47	56	24	466
Number of Telephone Calls	448	511	473	481	601	518	596	460	495	709	897	613	6,802

Recreation

Planned Programs:													
At Senior Center	74	97	71	64	73	77	72	40	59	81	90	68	866
Program Participants	1254	1340	1043	774	2160	1949	827	663	695	1064	1078	1012	13,859
Names Added to Newsletter	128	82	72	63	105	15	101	72	31	31	53	62	815
Trips Taken	4	7	5	7	5	7	7	5	5	5	5	6	68
Participants On Trips	131	315	164	193	286	185	365	127	385	158	135	262	2,706
On Waiting List	39	47	47	61	4	118	188	86	63	58	87	62	860

Volunteers

New Volunteers Assigned	6	7	8	3	5	8	6	11	10	13	4	9	90
Volunteers Reporting Hours	95	87	80	84	105	94	78	65	62	77	96	78	1,001
Newcomers Luncheon	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
New Requests for Volunteers	36	38	51	123	44	41	64	47	45	50	89	61	689
Volunteer Hours Reported	1330	1161	1399	1719	1455	1338	1181	1245	979	2045	1256	1426	16,534
Meals Delivered by Volunteers	862	1042	1064	1098	1130	960	1118	857	755	1070	994	939	11,889
Congregate Meals Served	635	868	760	770	817	704	948	744	1055	554	568	725	9,148

**VETERAN AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT**

158 TH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING REPORT

**WILLIAM TIKNIS
VETERANS ADVOCATE**

APRIL 8, 2008

**Veterans Affairs Department
2007-2008 Annual Report**

I am pleased to say that the situation regarding our veterans and the benefits and care they are entitled to has greatly improved this past year.

During the year, Dr. James B. Peake was appointed as the new secretary of Veterans Affairs. It appears that he is devoted to improving services to our veterans and is interested in new programs to help them. Some of them will not affect what we can do for our veterans, but overall, it will help many more veterans in need.

As an example, they have opened 14 new VA Medical Clinics throughout the country, including here in Illinois. They have developed a program to have mobile pharmacies available to support veterans and their families during major emergencies, especially natural disasters.

A combat veteran returning home from duty previously was entitled to two years of free medical care. This has now been extended to five years. I feel that this is a major improvement.

Because of a shortage of nurses in the VA Medical system, a "Travel Nurse Program" has been created. This allows nurses to travel and work throughout the VA's system wherever they are needed.

The number of homeless veterans dropped by 21 percent because of services offered by the VA, its partners in the community, and other faith based organizations.

Illinois veterans need to know that two new free legal clinics offering comprehensive services have opened recently in Chicago. The Veterans Law Project, 111 W. Jackson Blvd. (312-347-8340), and the Veterans Legal Support Clinic of the John Marshall Law School, 315 S. Plymouth Ct. (312-427-2737), ext. 346, are agencies spearheaded by young, dedicated attorneys and they are determined to help our veterans receive any benefits they are entitled to.

Here in Hanover Township, we will continue to help our veterans in any way we can. If you need help, or have questions, please come in to see me, or give me a call. If we can't help you, we will try to find someone who can.

Thank you for supporting our veterans and our troops all over the world. We appreciate your help and support, and we know that our military friends do too.

Sincerely,
Bill Tiknis
Veterans Advocate

**WELFARE SERVICES
DEPARTMENT**

158 TH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING REPORT

**MICHAEL E. KELLY
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR**

**AUREA PICASSO
DIRECTOR**

APRIL 8, 2008

**Welfare Services
Mission Statement**

*To improve the welfare of needy residents;
To serve them promptly with dignity and fairness.*

Welfare Services Staff



**Mike Kelly,
Supervisor**



**Aurea Picasso,
Director of Welfare Services**



**Linda Richmond
Caseworker I**



**Sheila Gillis
Admin. Coordinator**



Peter Kiriluk



Frank Penczek



Delia Almanza

Part Time Food Pantry Coordinators



**Norma Smith
2007 Volunteer of the Year**

"Thank You, Norma, for the time and energy you have given to the Food Pantry!"

Welfare Services Statistics

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emergency Assistance	18	16	44	52	138	246	210	97
General Assistance	35	38	60	18	30	43	34	52
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Incoming calls	5001	5100		6880	8353	11720	16750	17625
Answered calls					6128	8220	11250	11525
Messages					2225	3500	5500	6100
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Liheap	255	294	369	462	848	1030	1049	1088
Regular (LIHEAP)				417	786	880	887	452
Emergency Assistance (LIHEAP)				45	62	150	162	32
Reach Program								30
Weatherization								52
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Kid Care/All kids				82	90	142	173	80
Access to Care	432	68	49	75	118	96	192	170
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Food Pantry Yearly	720	800	1000	5940	4800	9420	14400	17160
Average monthly per family					400	785	1200	1430
Average service units x4					19200	37680	57600	68640
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Salvation Army	24	36	11	33	111	320	469	480
Residential Fires				3	7	5	5	6
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Donations				10000	15000	100000	120000	150000
Pickups					1800	5000	8000	9200
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Families adopted				350	480	550	600	610
Toys available				2600	3200	3800	3500	3800

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Coat drive						501	850	1152
Winter gear sets						200	345	651
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Homelessness						128	192	140
Domestic Violence f/l				0	16	28	62	15
Job Training /Counseling						360	420	481
Legal Aid						45	41	22
LIHEAP (other counties)						38	24	10
Substance Abuse						24	78	35
Community Assistance						185	201	485
Mental Health(other agencies)						33	35	14
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Senior Services						62	48	35
Family counseling/YFS						15	16	3
Tutoring/YFS						22	42	20
Open Gym/YFS						50	66	45
ESL (other agencies)						180	121	53
Immigration(el centro)						105	326	402
Insurance/Medical bills						20	35	85
Car Repairs						2	6	8
Safer Foundation (ex Felon)						15	39	58

After reviewing our stats, and considering the square footage our General Assistance Welfare Services Department actually has, our "numbers" have grown immensely!

We are extremely fortunate to have such generous benefactors! The volunteers, agencies, schools, libraries, troop leaders and residents, etc., who we have become so dependant upon, have never let us down! Whenever we are in need of funds, food, or clothing, they ALWAYS come through, and go far beyond our expectations. For this we are forever grateful.

Sincerely,

Aurea Picasso

Director of Welfare Services

**YOUTH AND FAMILY
SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

158 TH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING REPORT

**HONORABLE SANDRA WESTLUND-DEENIHAN
LIAISON**

JUDY WALSH – CHAIRPERSON

**KATHY FOX
DIRECTOR**

APRIL 8, 2008

HANOVER TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE ON YOUTH

**JUDY WALSH- CHAIRPERSON
WILLIAM H. PETERSON - SECRETARY
GREG HERBERT – TREASURER
MICAELA TEN HOVEN - MEMBER
ASHLEY TYSZKIEWICZ – MEMBER
ROBERT WOJTOWICZ- MEMBER
CHRISTINA ZIMA - MEMBER**

APRIL 8, 2008

HANOVER TOWNSHIP YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT
2007-2008

This year Hanover Township Youth and Family Services expanded services in spite of a hiring freeze. We were able to offer more services as well as some new services, thanks to the creative collaboration among our staff, and to the support from the Committee on Youth and other Township departments.

Expansion of our services included the continuing development of needed programs at the Astor Avenue Community Center, and the expansion of our Youth Outreach Services. New and innovative services included intergenerational programming, employment assistance, a pilot school/ Open Gym program, and a series of celebrations of the cultural diversity in Hanover Township.

Kids of all ages and their families enjoyed making crafts, sampling traditional African food and seeing a movie about African heritage at one of the popular cultural events at the Astor Avenue Community



The Astor Avenue Community Center has really become a community center in the past year. Over 250 different individuals come in every month to visit with staff and one another, and to take advantage of programs designed to build skills and a stronger sense of community. Residents of all ages feel welcomed by Astor Avenue staff and are telling their friends and neighbors about the opportunities at the Community Center. The numbers of residents served has grown steadily. The word is out that the Astor Avenue Community Center is a safe, warm, inviting environment where members of the community gather for group activities, classes, social support, public information and referrals.

The physical enhancement of the building this year was accomplished with new HVAC systems; fresh paint in the garage/gym; and seal coating of the gym floor donated by Assessor Tom Smogolski.

The services requested by the community in needs assessments are in place and in demand. They are the following:

- An After School Program for students in grades 3-6.
- English as a Second Language and Adult Basic Education classes from ECC.
- Teen activities including Teen Café, dances, and special events.
- Family Nights with a variety of positive activities for all ages.
- Computer Classes and one-on-one computer/Internet help.
- Employment Assistance including job fairs, resume help, and job search assistance.
- A Homeowner's Seminar by the Assessor's Office.

- Free Health Screenings by the Township's community health nurse.
- Cultural Celebrations.
- Linkage to all services offered by the other Township departments.
- Information and Referral.

An Advisory Committee of parents, a teen, two school principals, and a social worker meets monthly with the Astor Site Manager and the Committee on Youth Chairperson to identify needs of the Astor Avenue community, and plan how to respond to them. The committee recently recommended that we outreach to men in the neighborhood to offer employment assistance and social supports, and consider after school programming for middle school students. Our small, but mighty, staff team is brainstorming about these possibilities.

Our **Youth Outreach Services** were expanded by the department's converting a 10 hour family therapist position to a 15 hour outreach worker position. Although not an easy decision, we believed it was time to answer a longstanding request from the community to provide more mentoring, small group services, and advocacy for youth and teens. With a freeze on any additional positions, staff agreed on this creative solution. We hired a bilingual, female worker to complement the well-established services provided by our Outreach Services Coordinator. We now provide weekly services to 1,400 youth, a 200% increase in numbers served.

The new services are the result of the collaborative efforts of our clinical, outreach, and prevention staff together with the Committee on Youth and other Township staff. Intergenerational programming was spearheaded by Committee on Youth member Christina Zima, a senior at Elgin High School. Christina read literature on the topic, and proposed that we find a way to introduce the Astor after school program students to the seniors. On Valentine's Day the Senior bus brought our students to the Senior Center to enjoy an afternoon together baking cupcakes and decorating valentines. A positive experience for all and something to build upon.

Our Outreach Services Coordinator and Astor Avenue Site Manager developed our first "**Youth Job Fair**" which provided valuable resume writing and interviewing skills training, along with actual job interviews with local employers. The success of two events led to the current planning of a Job Fair/Job Expo for all ages to be held on May 21st at Tefft Middle School. Trustee Westlund-Deenihan volunteered to help recruit businesses and employers.

One of our Family Therapists and our Outreach Services Coordinator were invited by staff at Sunnysdale Elementary School to pilot an open gym program, modeled after our own, except the school served as the lead agency and we donated on-site consultation and support. All 100 student slots were filled immediately. There were no rental fees for us under this unique arrangement which we plan to evaluate for effectiveness.

Another new opportunity we pursued was to celebrate with families the richness of diversity in Hanover Township. Astor Avenue Community Center staff developed family night events around Martin Luther King's birthday, Casimir Pulaski Day, Black History Month, and St. Paddy's Day. We plan to continue to increase awareness and appreciation of the different cultures in the community.

Other wonderful examples of positive things happening for Township youth and families because of collaboration and creativity:

- Our Clinical Director serves on a new committee with staff from the Administrator's Office, Welfare Services, and Senior Services to coordinate services and share resources.
- The Township Administrator joined the Department Head at Streamwood High School to promote Student Government Day to all the civics classes.
- The Astor Avenue Community Center staff worked at the Open Gym Program one day per week last summer.
- The Community Health Nurse provided a flu shot clinic at Astor Avenue.
- Committee on Youth members Judy Walsh, Christina Zima, and Micaela Ten Hoven volunteered at the Astor Avenue Community Center.

Our **Family Therapy Services** continued to have a waiting list. 2,200 family therapy sessions were provided with 140 assigned cases seen in ongoing therapy. We have been able to provide services to Spanish-speaking and Polish-speaking families due to our active recruitment of bilingual staff. Many, more families we see are struggling with financial stressors in addition to concerns about their children and teens. Our **STEP parenting classes** are a good resource to enhance parenting skills.

Debbie Swiatek hams it up at the Halloween party for students in our Tutoring Services program which celebrates its 10th Anniversary on May 8, 2008



Tutoring Services will celebrate its 10th year in May. This year 120 students in grades 2-9 received weekly tutoring assistance from a team of certified teachers. Written feedback from referring teachers was very positive on students' academic progress.

The **Open Gym and Fun Program's** attendance was over 3,000 this year, a 15% increase from last year. Outreach staff went into school classrooms to promote the program and Astor staff promoted Open Gym at the Community Center.

Group Services were provided to teens at Streamwood High School and to Spanish-speaking parents at Laurel Hill School. Participants reported the groups to be of benefit in discussing relevant issues and exploring positive choices in a safe setting.

All staff contributed to the many (3,000+) phone and face-to-face contacts with community partners. These contacts assist us in our ongoing assessment of the community's needs as well as our planning in responding to those needs. The **Committee on Youth** met monthly with the Department Head and Trustee Liaison to give input and advice on current services as well as ideas for future services. The topic of violence prevention has been a recent focus of discussion.

The department was pleased to receive two awards for service to youth and families. **Kathy Fox, MS**, Director, received the 2007 Elgin YWCA Marie Grolich Individual Leadership Award for Social Service. **John Parquette, LCSW**, Clinical Director received the 2007 Youth Staff Worker of the Year Award from the Association of Illinois Township Committees on Youth.

Plans for 2007-2008 include improved staff retention; enhanced coordination of our clinical, outreach, and prevention services; a community resource fair at a local elementary school; a 10th anniversary celebration of the Tutoring Services program; exploration of more possibilities for collaborative efforts with Township departments and community agencies.

We would like to thank **Trustee Bob Goffinski** for his dedicated service as our Trustee Liaison until December 2007 when **Trustee Sandy Westlund-Deenihan** was appointed Trustee Liaison to our department and the Committee on Youth. We also thank all our Elected Officials and Departments.



Trustee Westlund-Deenihan (standing second from right) and the other Elected Officials hosted the annual Committee on Youth appreciation dinner. In attendance were (standing left to right) Bill Peterson, Director Kathy Fox, Judy Walsh, and Rob Wojtowicz. Seated are Micaela Ten Hoven, Christina Zima, and Ashley Tyskiewicz. Not present was Greg Herbert.

We extend our appreciation to the **Committee on Youth** for its rich, collective experience and advice: **Judy Walsh** (Chairperson), **Bill Peterson** (Secretary), **Greg Herbert** (Treasurer), **Ashley Tyskiewicz**, **Christina Zima**, **Micaela Ten Hoven**, and **Robert Wojtowicz**. Our thanks too goes to Sgt. **Craig Essick** and **Richard Clyburn**, former members.

Our staff and intern provided the day-to-day commitment to quality service for which I am most grateful: **John Parquette** (Clinical Director), **Carmen Chavez** (Office Manager), **Debbie Swiatek** (Astor Avenue Site Manager), **Susan Alborell** (Internship Coordinator and Family Therapist), **Brian Fask**, **Karen Low**, **Suellen Shively-Mack**, **Angela Gallo**, and **Anita Chlipala** (Family Therapists), **Michael Cohen** (Outreach Services Coordinator), **Mary Beahan** (Administrative Assistant), **Andrea Freerksen** (Astor Program/Volunteer Coordinator), **Lisete Bonilla** (Astor Administrative Assistant), **Mariana Gutierrez** (Outreach Worker), **Susan Grafty** and **Kira Sardinias** (Secretary/Receptionists), **Laura Schoen** (Astor Tutor), **Kristin Langer** (graduate student intern).

Many thanks too to our Tutoring Services teachers: **Debbie Swiatek**, **Rich Olivarez**, **Patricia Maynard**, **Maria Petrov**, and **Kristi Holm**; and Open Gym Program Assistants: **Sharon Befus**, **Kelly Richards**, **Laura Schoen**, **Diana Turk**, **Flavio Ramirez**, **Sarah Skrabacz**; and police officers of Bartlett, Hanover Park, Streamwood and Elgin, Renz Addiction Counseling Center and volunteers.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Fox, MS
Director
Youth and Family Services



Hanover Township

250 S. Rt. 59

Bartlett, IL 60103

(630) 837-0301

www.hanover-township.org

Administration

Assessor's Office

Clerk's Office

General Assistance/Welfare Services

Highway Department

Mental Health Board

Astor Avenue Community Center

7431 Astor Avenue

Hanover Park, IL 60133

(630) 540-9085

Community Resource Center

1535 Burgundy Pkwy.

Streamwood, IL 60107

(630) 837-6445

Senior Services

240 S. Rt. 59

Bartlett, IL 60103

(630) 483-5600

Youth & Family Services

250 S. Rt. 59

Bartlett, IL 60103

(630) 483-5799

