



## Report to the Supervisor and the Board of Trustees

Jeanne Winsted Rosser, LCSW

May 22, 2018

### ANGEL FUND (AF):

From March 1, 2018 through May 15, 2018, \$2,600 in Angel Funds were disbursed for two cases assisting three persons. Both Angel Fund cases involved persons with disabilities and/or serious medical issues. Several Angel Fund applications are pending review and approval by Supervisor Alan Goldberg.

### CHILDCARE SCHOLARSHIPS:

On May 9<sup>th</sup>, the Childcare Scholarship Committee met to review summer camp applications from 28 families on behalf of 46 children. The Committee and this worker made recommendations which were reviewed and approved by Supervisor Alan Goldberg. Scholarships ranging up to \$1,300 (depending upon camp program costs as well as financial aid received from camp programs) will be disbursed directly to administrators of 7 summer camp programs: Glencoe Park District, Kenilworth Park District, JCC, Northfield Park District, NSSRA, Steve and Kate's Camp, and Wilmette Park District. Families will be notified of scholarship awards during the week of May 14<sup>th</sup>, and checks are anticipated to be mailed that same week.

Please note that demographic information related to the 2018 Summer Camp Scholarship Program is attached to this report. Social Services intern, Gracie Fernandez, did the analysis from the spreadsheet prepared by this worker for the May 9th Childcare Scholarship Committee meeting. For Item #6, Family income breakdown, two families were approved; each with an AGI (based on 2017 income taxes) outside income limits. Both families are experiencing extremely serious medical issues, resulting in extraordinary out-of-pocket expenses, and each is receiving scholarship help from their respective Park District.

### CJE SENIOR LIFE:

Esther Craven, CJE Senior Life Consumer Resource Specialist, held office hours at the Township on Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, for seniors and persons with disabilities requesting help with programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, and other state and federal benefit programs. Ms. Craven was able to assist a General Assistance applicant with an application for SNAP benefits as well as to clarify the process required to change to a different Medicaid Managed Care Organization.

### CONGRESSWOMAN JAN SCHAKOWSKY:

Maribeth Stein, Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky's Constituent Advocate, held office hours at the Township on Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Stein will be the subject of an article by Communications Director, Jack Macholl, to be featured in the upcoming Courier.

The goal is to spread the word that she is available to talk with Township residents of all ages who require assistance with Federal benefit programs such as Social Security and Medicare.

### CONNECTIONS FOR THE HOMELESS:

On Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, Liz Novak, Manager of Institutional Giving, and Nia Tavoularis, Director of Development, met with this worker and social services intern, Gracie Fernandez, to provide an update on

the expanded programming which Connections can now provide to individuals and/or families who are homeless and/or are in danger of losing their housing. One of the key additions to Connections' service delivery is the hiring of a "housing locator", whose function is to develop relationships with landlords and help clients find suitable housing. A tour of Connections' transitional shelter and its daytime programming facility, Hilda's Place, is planned for May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **CRISIS REPOSE TEAM MEETING:**

On Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, this worker attended the Crisis Response Team meeting, held at Trinity United Methodist Church in Wilmette. Representatives from social services provider and first responders located in New Trier and Northfield Townships were in attendance. A variety of topics were discussed, including the development of a Crisis Response Kit (to be held at the Wilmette Police station) containing a variety of materials to be used in helping persons to process trauma in the aftermath of a catastrophic event.

### **DHS:**

On April 26<sup>th</sup>, this worker attended the Community Quality Council (CQC) meeting at the Skokie DHS office. This meeting was chaired by Diane Doherty, Executive Director of the Illinois Hunger Coalition; attendees had the opportunity to hear from Angelique Wisler, Local Office Administrator, and Kettle Lockett, Service Coordinator, as well as to ask questions about issues which clients are currently experiencing with their DHS applications.

Ms. Wisler estimated that the Skokie office is currently seeing approximately 300 clients per day, as well as processing applications received online and/or via fax and regular mail. She stated that the Skokie office is currently serving over 85,000 households annually with a staff of 94.

She stated that there is a backlog in processing cases for medical benefits; part of the issue is that applicants who first apply for insurance through the Federal Marketplace are diverted to Medicaid if they are under the income thresholds for the Affordable Care Act. She stated that the Skokie office has no control over when they receive those applications, i.e. an applicant could apply through the Marketplace in November, but their application may not arrive at DHS until January.

In terms of SNAP (Food Stamps) applications, Ms. Wisler stated the Skokie office is processing applications received as of March 12<sup>th</sup>. She specifically urged attendees to remind clients not to wait to the last minute when submitting documents requested by DHS as part of an initial application and/or a redetermination of existing benefits.

### **EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE (EA):**

**From March 1, 2018 through May 11, 2018**, 11 EA cases assisting 40 persons were reviewed and approved by Supervisor Goldberg. Assistance requests disbursing Emergency Assistance funds totaling \$40,921.96 were then processed. Of those cases, approximately 90% involved families with minor children and/or persons (individual applicants and/or family members) with serious medical conditions and/or diagnosed disabilities.

Of those total Emergency Assistance disbursements to-date, housing assistance accounted for 72%; utility assistance: 18%; medical: 4%; work-related assistance: 6%. This worker routinely receives phone calls from residents requesting assistance..

### **FOOD PANTRY:**

This worker continues to receive weekly contacts from residents requesting Food Pantry services.

### **GENERAL ASSISTANCE:**

**As of May 11, 2018**, there are 5 General Assistance cases.

*NOTE: Persons remain eligible for General Assistance until: (1) they are deemed eligible for SSI/SSDI benefits, (2) they secure full or part-time employment generating more than the maximum monthly benefit for an assistance unit of their size and demonstrated need, or (3) no longer reside in the Township.*

**WARMING HOUSE:**

On May 11<sup>th</sup>, this worker attended the annual Warming House Benefit held at the Kenilworth Club; members of the community, the Warming House Board of Directors, volunteers, and clients were all in attendance.

Warming House is a program which offers a welcoming environment and various social activities to area youth in grades 8 through 12, five days per week. 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders are welcomed on Saturday evenings.

Respectfully Submitted: Jeanne Winsted Rosser  
Jeanne Winsted Rosser, LCSW, Social Services Administrator

5/15/18  
Date

**Attachment: 2018 Summer Camp Applicant Demographics**

**Summer Camp Assistance Program Demographics 2018 –  
New Trier Township  
Social Services Administrator**

**28 families / 46 children**

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**1) Of the 28 families that were served:**

- 3 reside in Northfield
- 19 reside in Wilmette
- 2 reside in Winnetka
- 2 reside in Glenview
- 2 reside in Glencoe

**2) Of the 46 children that were served:**

- 35 children will attend camp at the Wilmette Park District
- 1 child will attend camp at the NSSRA
- 2 children will attend camp at JCC Apache
- 2 children will attend camp at the Northfield Park District
- 2 children will attend camp at the Glencoe Park District
- 1 child will attend camp at the Kenilworth Park District
- 3 children will attend camp at the Steve & Kate camp

**3) What is the average age of children that are served through the Summer Camp Program?**

- 8.7 years old

**4) What is the average household family income for residents who are eligible for the Summer Camp Program?**

- \$35,848.04

**5) What is the average summer camp program cost?**

- \$1,731.57

**6) Family income breakdown**

- Under \$10,000 → 4 Families
- \$10,001 - \$20,000 → 4 Families
- \$20,001 - \$30,000 → 4 Families
- \$30,001 - \$40,000 → 4 Families
- \$40,001 - \$50,000 → 6 Families
- \$50,001 - \$60,000 → 4 Families
- \$60,001 - \$70,000 → 0
- \$70,001 - \$80,000 → 0
- \$80,001 - \$90,000 → 0
- \$90,001 - \$100,000 → 1 Family
- Over \$100,000 → 1 Family

**NOTE: 22 FAMILIES (79%) RECEIVING SCHOLARSHIPS HAVE INCOMES OF \$40,000 OR LOWER**