

## Standards

As we develop our strategic priorities, we will uphold our underlying commitment to serve all Township residents in the most equitable, fair, and unbiased manner by:

1. Continuing community involvement through committees and leadership positions
2. Employing excellent staff and support personnel
3. Supporting and improving existing programs
4. Continuing to provide oversight of funded agencies
5. Serving as a clearinghouse/referral center
6. Providing updated information to our residents
7. Maintaining fiscal responsibility
8. Maintaining open and accessible government

## Mission Statement

New Trier Township's mission is to provide leadership, advocacy and resources to benefit the physical, mental and social well-being of Township residents.

## Strategic Priorities

We will focus our resources and efforts over the next five years on these five areas of concern. The Township officials developed these strategic priorities in consultation with Township residents, care providers, non-profit leaders, Township staff, legal representation, and legislative leaders. These priorities represent a continuation in the Township focus, and reflect what we believe to be the changing needs of the Township. We have attempted to address areas of weakness that keep us from achieving our mission, and we will focus our efforts and resources on the following areas:

### Aging In Place

Since many more seniors are choosing to stay in their own homes, the Township will support and adapt the services and programs we maintain to reflect the needs of our seniors and the changing demographics of the Township. We need to explore transportation needs, health care, community engagement and multigenerational neighbor to neighbor volunteerism to create a healthy vibrant community for all ages.

### Low Income Families/Working Poor

We are seeing an increase in working poor families in our community. These families need assistance and support for adult education, childcare, employment training, transportation, health care and other areas that will assist these residents in helping themselves and their families.

### Youth Services

The Township believes our youth have much to offer their local community - and efforts to develop local multigenerational projects are underway. We are also exploring a greater role for the youth drop-in centers in dealing with issues of stress and the need for emotional support. Identifying youth as contributors vs. consumers is one of the best ways to develop emotional resilience and skills for the future.

### People With Disabilities

Individuals with disabilities have the right to remain in their local community and to choose the type of services they want to receive to enhance their life. The Township needs to respond to this federal mandate with new programs and a money follows the person paradigm shift.

### Projects of Township Significance (POTS)

The Board has created POTS to respond to the changing needs of the Township by providing seed money for programs responding to the changing needs of our Township, recruiting new agencies and funding money follows the person initiatives. Our Community Support Grant for Persons with Disabilities is our first POTS project with more innovative programs to follow.