



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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ONE FAMILY ILLINOIS (FORMERLY SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES ILLINOIS) AWARDED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH GRANT FROM COOK COUNTY HEALTH

June 10, 2024 (Chicago, IL) – One Family Illinois, a 501(c)3 child-welfare agency that serves at-risk youth and children in foster care, is pleased to announce that it is the recipient of a grant from Cook County Health's Stronger Together: Building a More Equitable Behavioral Health System in Cook County Initiative.

One Family Illinois was awarded \$ 976,956 for its project titled, "RiseUP" (*Revitalizing Interventions that Strengthen and Enhance our Understanding.*) RiseUP will expand access to the detection and treatment of mental illness in children in grades K-8 in the Back of the Yards, Auburn Gresham, and Englewood neighborhoods of Chicago. Through strategic partnerships with six elementary schools, RiseUP will deploy a team of highly trained clinical therapists and a case manager to each school setting to provide group and brief individual therapy sessions focused on mental health, substance use, violence prevention, and health-related social needs. RiseUP recognizes the crucial role of parental involvement in supporting youth wellness and will actively engage parents in the process of their children's care. Over the next two school years (2024-2025 and 2025-2026), RiseUP will offer individual therapy to about 300 children, twenty-four (24) 6-week group sessions that serve 240 children, and about 22 (4-6 per semester) workshops for parents/guardians. In addition, the case manager will make referrals for 90% of the parents/guardians who have children in therapy with RiseUP to support the families' health-related social needs.

"We know that for our children to thrive, we must support the whole person, which includes prevention and intervention for social and emotional support and healing. The challenges our children face are monumental, and this grant is a key component of our



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network of community support. I thank President Preckwinkle and the Cook County commissioners for their vision and action,” said Delphine F. Rankin, CEO of One Family Illinois.

The Stronger Together Initiative aims to address behavioral health inequities across the region’s system of care through increased systems alignment, enhanced system quality, and the expansion of access to early intervention and prevention, treatment, support, recovery, and crisis assessment and care.

Fifty-three organizations were selected, with applicants that serve communities that score the highest on the Social-Vulnerability Index receiving priority.

This initiative, led by the Office of Behavioral Health at Cook County Health (CCH) is supported by funds from the U.S. Department of Treasury, under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) allocated to CCH by Cook County Government.

“This initiative highlights how government and other sectors of our community can work together to benefit the greater good,” Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle said. “This is a historic opportunity to make meaningful change in Cook County for generations.”

“I am grateful to President Preckwinkle, and the Cook County Board of Commissioners for entrusting us as stewards of these funds to help address the broad behavioral health needs we see across Cook County,” said Cook County Health Interim CEO Dr. Erik Mikaitis. “The community-focused institutions awarded today will make a significant impact in expanding access to comprehensive, culturally appropriate behavioral health prevention, treatment, and recovery services. As a leader and convener in this space, Cook County Health knows that we are truly stronger together.”

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About One Family Illinois

One Family Illinois (formerly SOS Children’s Villages Illinois), founded more than 30 years ago, is a 501(c)3 child welfare agency that keeps siblings together by providing an individual licensed home in a supportive, community environment that marshals all the resources needed to help children heal, thrive, and achieve their permanency goals.



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About Cook County Health

One of the largest public health systems in the nation, Cook County Health (CCH) serves as the safety-net for health care in Chicago and suburban Cook County. CCH is comprised of two hospitals, a robust network of more than a dozen community health centers, the Ruth M. Rothstein CORE Center, the Cook County Department of Public Health, Correctional Health Services, which provides health care to individuals at the Cook County Jail and the Juvenile Temporary Detention Center, and CountyCare, a Medicaid managed care health plan. Through the health system and the health plan, CCH cares for more than 500,000 individuals each year, and its physicians are experts in their fields, committed to providing their patients with comprehensive, compassionate and cutting-edge care. Today, CCH is transforming the provision of health care in Cook County by promoting community-based primary and preventive care, growing an innovative, collaborative health plan, and enhancing the patient experience.

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