



Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 27, 2016

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Children's Advocacy Center presents award to Hanover Township Mental Health Board

The Hanover Township Mental Health Board was presented with the Darwin Adams Award by the Children's Advocacy Center at a breakfast on May 25 at the organization's office in Hoffman Estates.

Named after the Center's founder and current board member, Darwin Adams, it is the most prestigious recognition the agency awards to a child advocate that exemplifies his vision to promote, develop, and support services that benefit abused children.

"The Mental Health Board is honored to receive this award from the Children's Advocacy Center," said Mary Alice Benoit, Hanover Township Trustee and Mental Health Board Member. "The CAC provides some of the most crucial programs and services to our most vulnerable residents and we are lucky to have them in our community."

As a result of the state budget crisis, CAC is at least owed \$121,500.

In FY16, the Mental Health Board awarded over \$158,000 dollars in emergency grant funding to assist agencies, including the CAC, in keeping their doors open during the state budget crisis.

"The Hanover Township Mental Health Board is committed to ensuring that residents of the Township have access to high quality services, which is particularly important in this time when these services are in jeopardy because of the state budget impasse," said Carrie Estrada, Assistant Director of the Children's Advocacy Center. "We are pleased to recognize the Mental Health Board for their leadership and their support for our Safe from the Start Program and the services provided for child survivors of abuse and family violence. The Center provides programs for child sexual abuse evaluations and assessments, crisis intervention, counseling services and support groups, among others."



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The Mental Health Board meets monthly at the Township offices, 250 S. IL Route 59 in Bartlett.

The volunteer board advocates for increasing the availability and quality of mental health, developmental disabilities and substance abuse services by allocating funds to nonprofit agencies that provide services to Township residents. Last year, the board approved over one million dollars in funds to local agencies.

Hanover Township serves over 101,000 residents in portions of the Cook County communities of Streamwood, Elgin, Bartlett, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates and Schaumburg.

For questions about the Mental Health Board or to learn more about their funded agencies, please call (630) 837-0301 or visit www.hanover-township.org/MHB.

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