



**Village of Mount Prospect
Committee of the Whole
Meeting Agenda
50 S. Emerson St. Mount Prospect, IL 60056**

February 11, 2025

Village Hall - 3rd Floor Board Room

7:00 PM

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - 2.1. January 14, 2025 Committee of the Whole
- 3. ROLL CALL**
- 4. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**
- 5. DISCUSSION ITEMS**
 - 5.1. Review of Elk Grove Township Services and Developments in 2024
- 6. VILLAGE MANAGER'S REPORT**
- 7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**

ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING BUT BECAUSE OF A DISABILITY OR NEEDS SOME ACCOMMODATION TO PARTICIPATE, SHOULD CONTACT THE VILLAGE MANAGER'S OFFICE AT 847/392-6000, EXTENSION 5327

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**Village of Mount Prospect Meeting of the
Committee of the Whole
Tuesday, January 14, 2025 / 7:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hoefert called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. in the Board Room at Village Hall, 50 S. Emerson St.

ROLL CALL

Members present upon roll call by the Village Clerk: Mayor Paul Hoefert, Trustee Vincent Dante, Trustee Agostino Filippone, Trustee Terri Gens, Trustee Bill Grossi, Trustee John Matuszak, Trustee Colleen Saccotelli
Absent: None

MAYOR'S REPORT

3.1. PROCLAMATION: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - January 20, 2025

Mayor Hoefert read the proclamation into the record in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Randy Spitzer
Property owner, 2400 Terminal and 2411 E.Oakton

- Supports DiMeo Brothers moving into the area of Badger Drive and Oakton Street; he believes they will be good neighbors.
- Concerned about flooding in the area, MWRD (Metropolitan Water Reclamation District) has helped in the past and requested assistance from the Village.

Village Manager Michael Cassady responded, stating that staff is aware of this issue, and we are working on a solution. Director of Public Works Sean Dorsey briefly discussed the challenges to this issue as the property is privately owned, and MWRD will not fund private properties. He ensured that the Village is seeking a solution.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1. PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE FOR MELAS / MEADOWS PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

MAIN SPAN

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Director of Public Works Sean Dorsey stated that the purpose of the evening's discussion is to present conceptual drawings and renderings of four design options for the Melas/Meadows Pedestrian Bridge Main Span and to seek direction from the Board regarding the design and appearance of the main span. He stated that funding will also be discussed. Mr. Dorsey introduced Village Engineer Matt Lawrie, Public Works Deputy Director Jason Leib, Vice President of Ciorba Group Brett Sauter, and Salvatore DiBernardo, President of Ciorba Group, to answer questions and provide additional information (Ciorba Group performed Phase II Design Engineering for this project).

Mr. Dorsey provided the following details:

- The 200-foot-long bridge will connect Melas and Meadows Park. It will span Northwest Highway and the Union Pacific Railroad.
- A map depicting a broad overview of the bridge and approach ramps was shown.
- Mt. Prospect Park District (MPPD) has provided input; the MPPD subleases Melas Park for recreational purposes from the Village. The MPPD owns Meadows Park.
- A Phase I Engineering Study was completed, which is required before applying for grant funding.
- Phase II, Design Engineering, is underway; work includes coordinating meetings with Mt. Prospect Park District, MWRD (Metropolitan Water Reclamation District), IDOT (Illinois Department of Transportation), Union Pacific Railroad, and the Illinois Commerce Commission. Phase II also included initial designs of bridge approaches and lighting.

Mr. Dorsey presented four (4) alternatives for the Main Span. He displayed images of each design and noted that the images are conceptual, not final engineering.

1. Prefabricated trusses are cost-effective, easy to construct, and offer flexible design features; the funding gap (after grant funding) is \$1.7 million.
2. Vierendeel Truss is a unique design featuring an arch structure supported by two piers; the funding gap is \$2.0.
3. The Network Tied Arch is pricier than options 1 and 2. It stands 60 feet tall at its highest point, making it visible from great distances. The funding gap is \$2.9 million.
4. Cable Stay has the most unique design. The funding gap is \$4.8 million.

Mr. Dorsey discussed funding for the bridge project, stating that the Village has received \$61,946 from an Invest in Cook grant for Phase I and a Congressional Appropriation grant of \$517,400 for Phase II Engineering. For Phase III Construction and Construction Engineering, the Village has secured an Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) grant for \$3 million, a Surface Transportation Program grant in the amount of \$2 million and has applied for a Grade Crossing Protection Fund totaling \$2.9 million through the Illinois Commerce Commission. Mr. Dorsey provided further funding details.

Mr. Dorsey mentioned that staff recommends the Vierendeel Truss option due to its distinct design and cost-effectiveness. He outlined a timeline for the next steps, starting with the main span design and leading to a scheduled bid letting in November 2025. He also indicated that

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staff will continue to explore funding opportunities to address the funding gap. Construction is tentatively set to commence in April 2026, with a target completion date of December 2026. Mr. Dorsey reiterated that the Village has secured over \$5.6 million in grant funding. Staff is requesting direction from the Board on the main span design.

Village Manager Michael Cassady suggested that the first and second options are the leading contenders, as options three and four are too costly.

Mr. Dorsey, Brett Sauter and Salvatore DeBernadro answered questions from the Board:

- All four options are designed with the same code standards to withstand extreme weather events.
- All four options have ramps that meet ADA (American Disabilities Act) guidelines, and there will also be stairs.
- Opportunities for branding will be discussed in greater detail at a later date.
- The Village has received written notices of award for grant funding to support this project.
- Staff is confident that grant money that has already been spent (approximately \$850,000) will not need to be refunded if the bridge is not built.
- Director of Finance Amit Thakkar stated he is confident the Village can fund the project through the current CIP (Capital Improvement Project) fund, off-setting grant funds.
- The Village has approval from the MPPD and MWRD to build the bridge but will not provide financial support.
- Elevators are significantly more costly than stairs and are not a viable option
- The Mt. Prospect Park District supports the proposed layouts.
- Fencing will be installed along the tracks.
- Mr. Dorsey stated that safety was identified in the grant applications to justify the bridge. In addition, it will join two regional recreational parks.
- The bridge was identified as a goal in the Village Strategic Plan.

Board comments:

- The Board has not yet approved building the bridge. It was clarified that the Village is moving forward, but a final decision will require approval from the Board.
- In favor of the bridge for safety reasons
- Suggested choosing a preferred design and finalizing the numbers to ensure a productive discussion on the next steps.
- Suggested seeking community input regarding design
- It is important to brand the bridge
- Commended staff for responsibly managing the project
- Supports the bridge's construction; the area taken up by the ramps isn't usable space, and the ramp will benefit pedestrians.
- Looks forward to future discussions regarding banding, material, and color scheme.

A discussion ensued regarding each Board member's preferred option. There was a consensus that option one (1), the Prefabricated Truss, is favored.

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Public Comment:

Louis Goodman
310 N. School St.

Suggested the construction of a tunnel under Northwest Highway and the railroad instead of a bridge or adding a stoplight in this area; both would be less expensive solutions.

Mr. Dorsey responded, stating staff explored the option of a tunnel, but the Railroad (Union Pacific) does not want tunnels and will not support this option, as they own the property. He added that IDOT (Illinois Department of Transportation) would not approve a traffic signal at this location. The overall cost of a tunnel is comparable to the construction of a bridge. The tunnel in Arlington Heights was built several years ago and would not receive approval today.

Steve Polit
601 N. Wilshire

- He noted that anyone has the right to call their congressional representative
- It was also stated that the need for the bridge must be justified and read a prepared statement

Jeff Nejd
313 N. MacArthur

- Supports building the bridge and believes the community will make use of it; it is a safer option for pedestrians.

No further discussion.

Mr. Dorsey stated he has a direction from the Board to move forward.

VILLAGE MANAGER'S REPORT

6.1. As submitted

No report.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

With no additional business to conduct, Mayor Hoefert asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Gens seconded by Trustee Dante motioned to adjourn the meeting. By unanimous voice vote, the January 14, 2025 Committee of the Whole Meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen M. Agoranos,
Village Clerk



Item Cover Page

Subject	Review of Elk Grove Township Services and Developments in 2024
Meeting	February 11, 2025 - MEETING OF THE MOUNT PROSPECT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Fiscal Impact	
Dollar Amount	
Budget Source	
Category	DISCUSSION ITEMS
Type	Presentation

Information

Illinois townships are sub-county units of government, while municipalities are incorporated under state law and perform many local government services. Townships may levy taxes, pass local ordinances and regulations, and provide various services as authorized by state statutes and elected officials. The residents of the Village of Mount Prospect are also served by Elk Grove and Wheeling Townships, with Central Road being the shared north/south boundary between the two townships.

Elk Grove Township's boundaries are: Central Road on the north, Mount Prospect Road on the east, Devon Avenue on the south, and Rohlwing Road (generally Route 53) on the west. The Township serves about 66% of Elk Grove Village, 55% of Mount Prospect, 20% of Des Plaines, 15% of Arlington Heights and 10% of Rolling Meadows. About a fourth of the geographic area of the Township is unincorporated, a large portion of which is forest preserve.

The Township's Assessor is Deputy to the Cook County Assessor and under direction from that office. The Elk Grove Township Assessor's Office has the unique position of being able to assist taxpayers with assessed value complaints along with other services, such as filing exemptions.

Township residents are eligible to access programs and services to help them through physical or financial challenges. Residents are offered a wide variety of helpful services, from transportation and employment to passports and parking placards designed to save community members time and energy. The township is seeing a substantial increase in demand in all its areas of service. This includes social services, adult & family counseling and youth services. Of particular note is the increase in families served by the township's client choice food pantry. The pantry is currently experiencing over 1,000 monthly family visits.

The Township completed construction of the Youth Programs Challenge Course as well as a new Community Room in 2024. The Youth Services Department announced the launch of two dynamic new programs designed to promote physical activity, teamwork, and essential life skills among the youth: the Bike Safety Course and the Challenge Course.

Discussion

Township Supervisor, George Busse, will be present to provide a review of Township services and developments in 2024.

Alternatives

1. Review of Elk Grove Township services and developments in 2024.
2. Discretion of the Village Board.

Staff Recommendation

This is an informational presentation and there is no staff recommendation.

Attachments

1. Elk Grove Township presentation Feb 11 2025

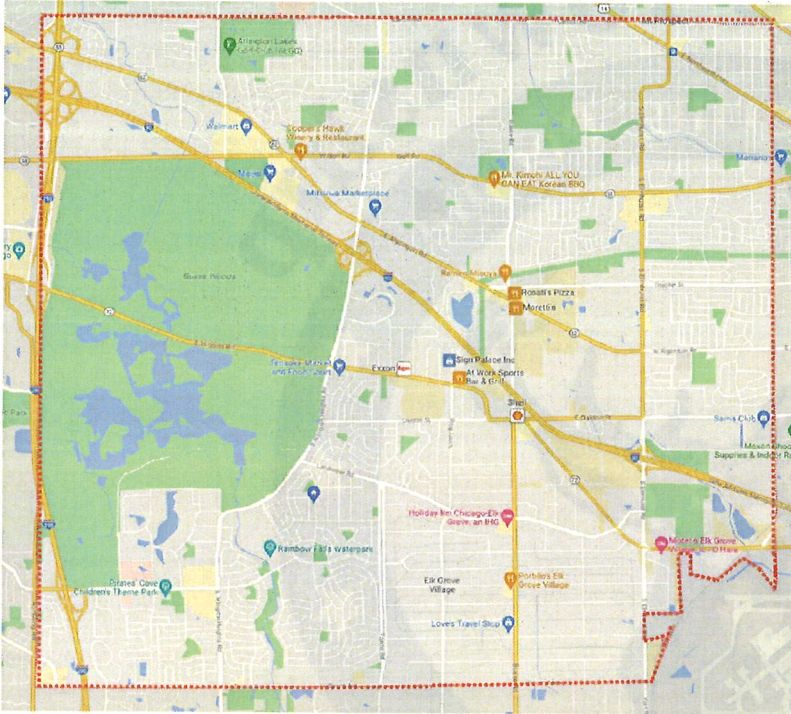


Village of Mount Prospect

February 11, 2025

Presented by
Supervisor George K. Busse
Social Services Director Corey Dewey

Service Area and Approach



Elk Grove Township is located in Northwest Cook County within the Chicago area. Elk Grove Township is the same geographic size as most townships in Illinois, 28 square miles, and is home to 95,000 residents.

The Township borders are:
North- Central Road
East- Mt. Prospect Road
South- Devon Avenue
West- Route 53/Rohlwing Road

Primary Township Responsibilities

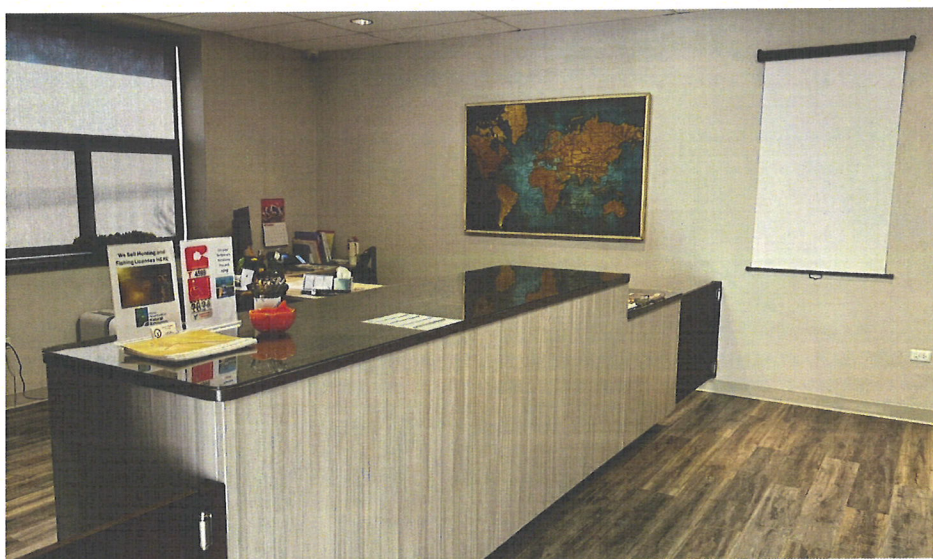
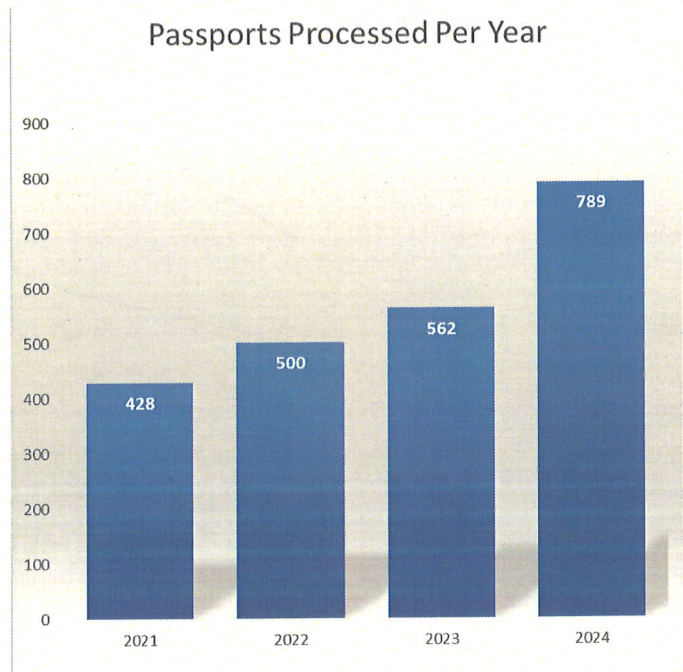
- ▶ **General Community Services**
- ▶ **Unincorporated Road and Bridge Management**
- ▶ **Community Social Services and Wellness**
- ▶ **Taxpayer Advocacy**

General Community Services

Elk Grove Township provides a range of administrative services to both residents and non-residents. The most popular service is passport procurement, with agents fluent in English, Spanish, and Polish.

New Community Services Office!

- Passport Applications
 - New Passports
 - Minor Renewals
- Passport Photos
- Temporary Handicap Placards
- Notary Public
- IDNR Licenses
 - Fishing
 - Hunting
- Sewer Billing Payments
- Voter Assistance
 - Absentee Ballot Applications
 - Voter Registration



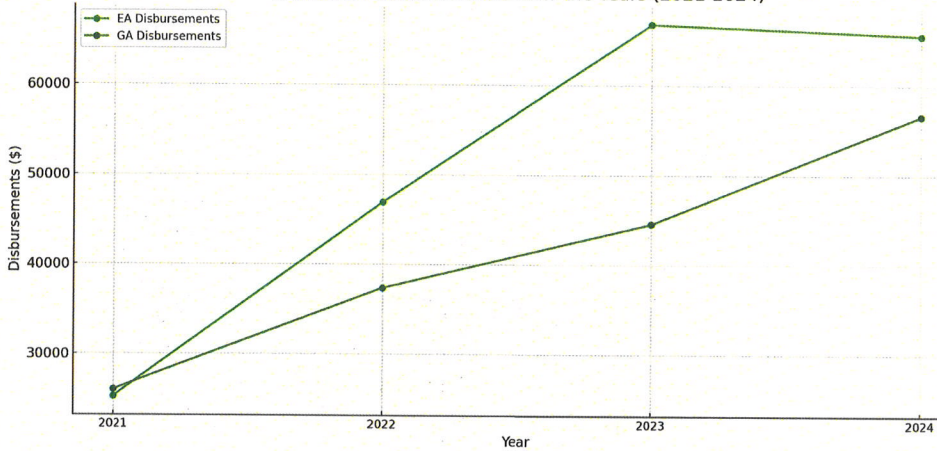
Community Social Services

Department of Social Services

This department offers a variety of free programs and services to help residents regain control of their lives and achieve self-sufficiency.

- Financial Assistance
- General & Emergency Assistance
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Nicor Sharing
- Medical Lending Closet
- Medicare/Medicaid Assistance
- Mobile Dental Clinic
- Veteran Services Officer

EA and GA Disbursements Over the Years (2021-2024)

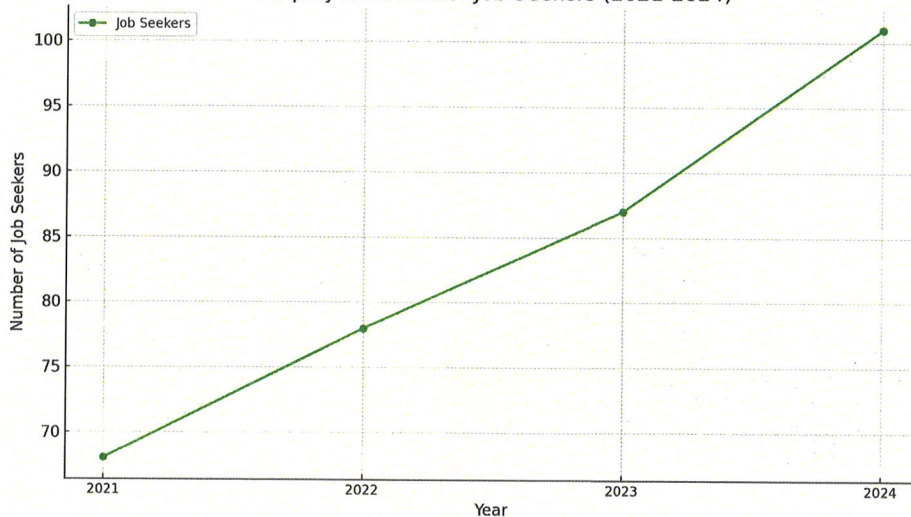


Year	Emergency Assistance	General Assistance
2021	\$25,273	\$26,041
2022	46,941	\$37,404
2023	\$66,779	\$44,575
2024	\$65,548	\$56,605

Employment Center

- 'In-Transit' Community Job
- Board Resume building Interview skills

Employment Center Job Seekers (2021-2024)



Year	Appointments
2021	68
2022	78
2023	87
2024	101

Food Pantry

The Elk Grove Township Food Pantry aims to support individuals and families who are struggling with food insecurity in our community. The 'Client's Choice' model lets residents choose the items they prefer like fresh produce, hygiene products, essential household products, and non-perishable food items. All Elk Grove Township residents are invited to use the food pantry, all that is needed is a valid Food Pantry Card.

- Clients can shop by appointment Tuesday through Friday with extended evening hours one day a week.
- Home Deliveries are offered to home bound clients on Mondays.
- A total increase of 340% of households served since 2019.



An average of 230 households served per month in 2019 to an average of 1,011 Households served in 2024



Dairy Products

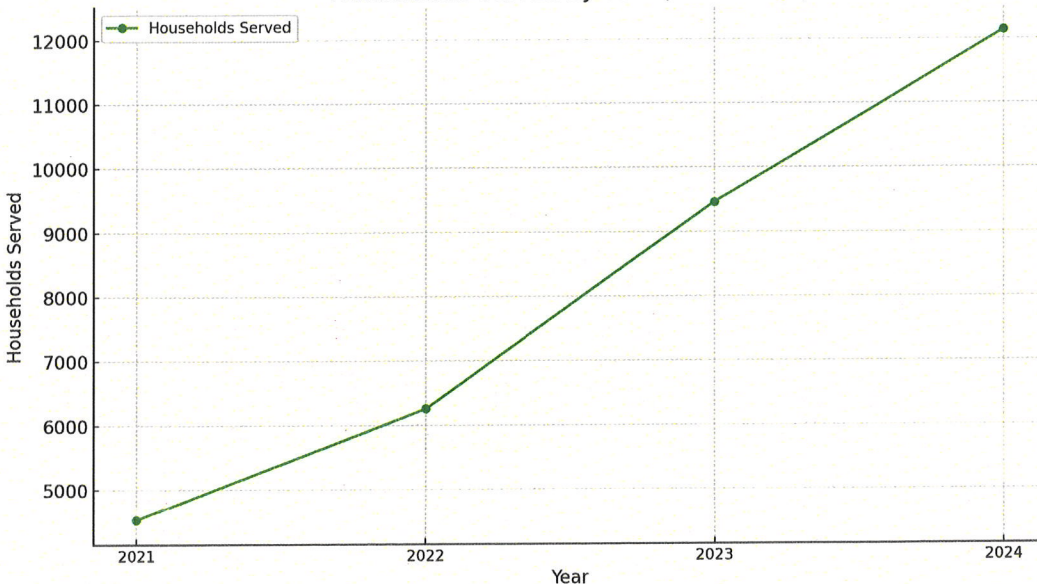


Household Essentials



Fresh Produce

Households Served by Year (2021-2024)



Calendar Year	Household Served
2021	4,522
2022	6,259
2023	9,463
2024	12,135

Older Adult Benefit Specialist (position created in June 2022)

- Answers questions and provides assistance dedicated specifically to seniors.
 - Medicare Options
 - Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP)
 - Benefit Access Program
 - SNAP Applications
 - Mobile Dental Clinic
 - Emergency Assistance
 - Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

588 Applications for SHIP and State Benefits

Senior and Disabled Bus Service

- Helps Seniors (55+) and disabled persons (18+) get to their destinations whether is a doctor’s appointment, place of employment, visit to the grocery store, senior center, and more.
- Launching Ecolane Evolution Software in February 2025 to create more efficient scheduling for both residents and drivers.

Year	Number of Round Trips
2021	3,748
2022	3,842
2023	4,215
2024	4,292

15% increase since 2021 in round trips completed

Township Riders Initiative Program (TRIP)

- Seniors (60+) traveling outside of the Township for doctor’s appointments can register for this program.
- TRIP is a partnership with PACE and five surrounding townships.



Community Outreach

The Community Outreach department is dedicated to increasing visibility and expanding programming to better serve our residents. Through a variety of initiatives, we connect the community with essential resources and meaningful opportunities to give back.

Programming Includes:

- Thanksgiving Basket Distribution
 - *\$14,000 raised and nearly 900 families served*
- Holiday Programs
 - Senior Angel Tree (*over 250 senior wishes fulfilled*)
 - Holiday Gift Card Drive (*nearly 200 children received gift cards*)
 - Toy Distribution (*over 2,450 toys distributed*)



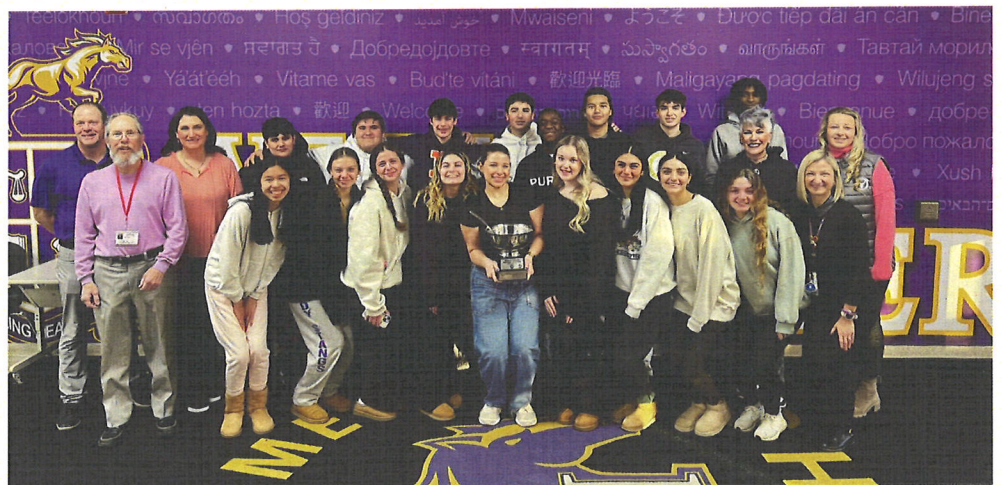
Events Include:

- Free Flu Shot Clinics
- Community Services Day
- Mobile DMV Unit
- Shredding Events
- Senior Education Day



Donation Drives Include:

- Cereal Bowl (7,050 boxes in 2024)
- "Souper" Bowl
- Mac Madness
- White Christmas



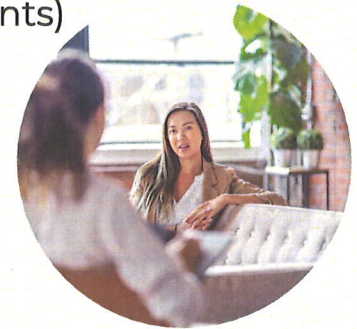
Services focused on Community Wellbeing and Mental Health

Adult and Family Counseling

This department provides counseling, assessments, and therapy. Services are provided by licensed counselors and family therapists. Sessions can be family-focused or individualized and client-centered. Counseling currently offering in English, Spanish, Hindi, and Gujarati.

Services include:

- Individual, Couples, and Family Counseling (3 Full-time & 2 Part-time)
- In-person & Teletherapy appointments
- Psychiatric/Medical Management (15 current patients)
- ADHD Screenings
- Drug Abuse Counseling
- Parenting Seminars (English and Spanish)



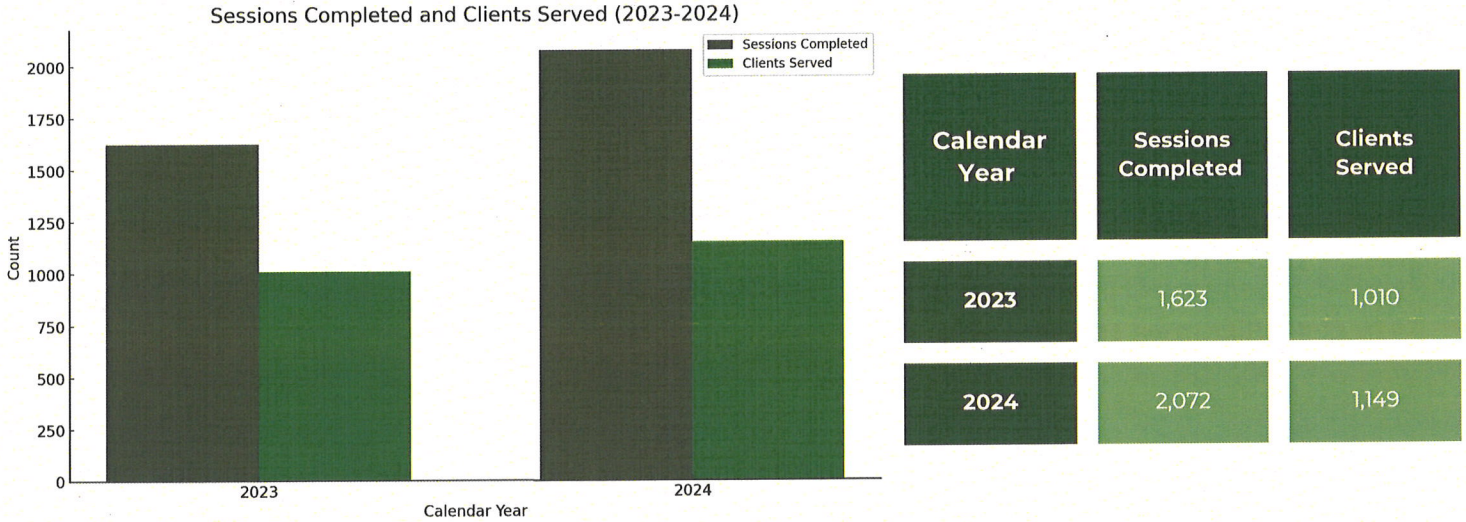
Youth Services

Elk Grove Township's Youth Services Department provides a variety of high-quality programs both on-site and in the community for Township youth and their families. All programs are designed with the Social Emotional Learning goals of the Illinois State Learning Standards and can be modified for specific school group needs.

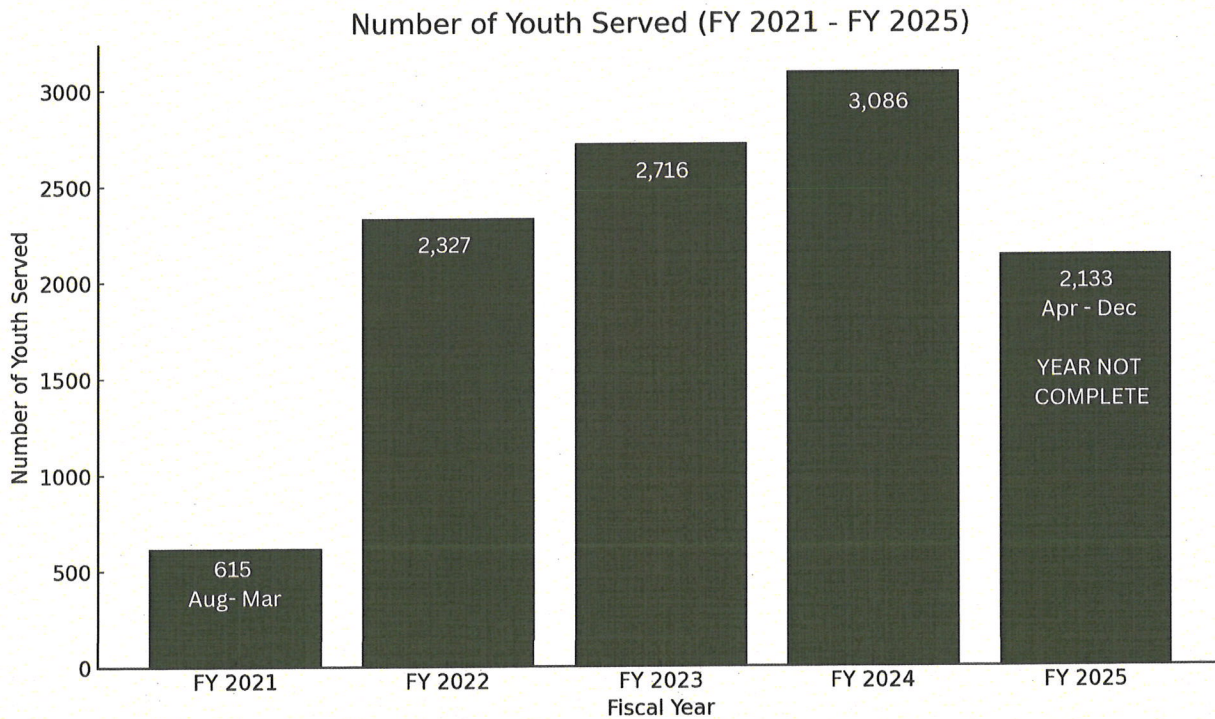
Programs include:

- On-site programs
 - Girls Empowerment, Social Empowerment, Bullying Prevention, Social Skills.
 - On-site programs include use of low ropes "Challenge Course."
- IGA with School District 57 - Various Programs
- Ongoing partnership with School District 59 - Newcomers Program and Future Leaders Program
- Elyssa's Mission - Signs of Suicide
- Partnership with District 214 Life Program (Students with Disabilities)
- Student Government Day
- Bicycle Safety classes onsite and in the community

Adult and Family Counseling



Youth Services



Mental Health and Wellness Committee

- Who is considered for funding?

Any non-profit social service agency that has been in existence for at least one (1) year, that provides services within the boundaries of Elk Grove Township and whose services address the social service needs of Elk Grove Township residents may apply for Township funding.

- Who are the committee members?

The Mental Health and Wellness Grant Committee consists of the Township Clerk (Chairman), one (1) trustee rotating annually and appointed by the Supervisor and, the Adult & Family Counseling Clinical Director, the Social Services Director and up to three (3) Elk Grove Township residents.

This year the committee has proposed grants totaling \$620,000 to 29 agencies, a 3% increase over last year. Agencies we support include, but are not limited to, Wings, Little City, Salvation Army, Kenneth Young Center, Shelter and Clearbrook. All funded agencies provided services that support current Township needs and whose services are utilized by the township departments.

Fiscal year	Grant Totals
2021	\$514,850
2022	\$607,750
2023	\$513,550
2024	\$608,050
2025	\$600,000
Upcoming Fiscal year 2026	\$620,000

Assessor's Office Providing Quality Tax Payer Advocacy

From applying for tax exemptions to filing property tax appeals, the Elk Grove Township Assessor's Office can help you get answers to questions about your property tax bills.

SERVICES

- **Applications:**
 - Division of Consolidation of Properties
 - Certificate of Error
 - Tax Deferrals
- Assessed Value Complaints
- Board of Review Complaints
- Name Change on Tax Bill
- Notary Service
- Property Characteristic Changes
- Property Location Changes
- **Appeals**
 - Cook County Assessor's Office
 - Cook County Board of Review
 - Property Tax Appeal Board
- **Exemptions**
 - Disabled Veterans'
 - Disabled Persons'
 - Homeowners
 - Returning Veterans
 - Senior Citizen
 - Senior Freeze

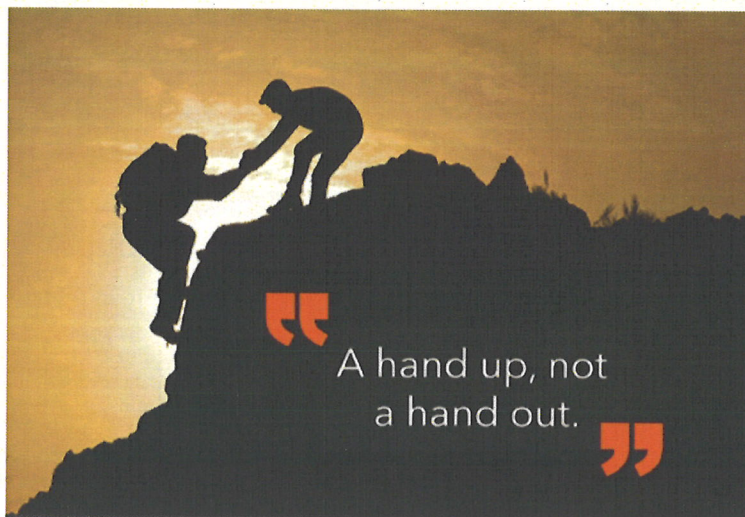
Year	Exemptions	Appeals	Walk-ins
2021	1,926	381 ★	2,968
2022	735 ★★	1,470	2,828
2023	1,929	2,131	3,602
2024	2,420	996	2,705
Total	7,010	4,978	12,103

★ Third year of Appeals reassessment Cycle

★★ 2021 Senior Freeze was renewed automatically due to covid

Holistic approach to community social services!

Personalized, holistic approach to social services with the goal of assisting individuals to return to their community as a self supporting, productive members. More empowering assistance and less transactional assistance.



Always fiscally responsible.

- Increased levy only one time in the last 12 years.
- Elk Grove Township receives less than 1% of the County Property Tax Bill.
- Average tax payer in Elk Grove Township pays anywhere between \$5,000 to \$7,000 annually which equals less than \$75 to Township Tax.

Township Elected Officials and Department Directors

George Busse
Supervisor

Connie Carosielli
Assessor

Suellen Satern
Clerk

Richard Keenley
Trustee

Brian Maye
Trustee

Dale Niewiardowski
Trustee

David Perns
Trustee

Izabela Manzo
Township Administrator

Samantha Trigger
Director of Administrative Services

Corey Dewey
Director of Social Services

Luanne Pross
Director of Adult and Family Counseling

Renee Dorn
Director of Youth Services

