

FAQs

What is the ballot question?

"Shall Wheeling Township levy an annual tax not to exceed 0.15% for the purpose of providing community mental health facilities and services including facilities and services for the person with a developmental disability or a substance abuse disorder, which levy will have a single additional tax of a maximum of 0.15% of the equalized assessed value of the taxable property therein extended for such purposes?" [405 ILCS 20/ Community Mental Health Act. \(ilga.gov\)](#)

How is the tax levy amount determined?

A needs assessment will be completed to assess the community service needs for mental health, substance use, and intellectual / developmental disabilities.

Who sets the levy and is in charge of this board?

Wheeling Township Supervisor and Trustees.

How did we choose \$1.5 million as an estimated budget?

There are currently 9 Community Mental health boards (CMHB) in Cook County. On average, they generate about \$1.5 million dollars in revenue. With that goal, the tax rate is 0.026%, which on the median priced home in Wheeling Township, would be approximately \$28 per year. Current Wheeling Township Trustees are very tax conservative and are highly unlikely to set the levy even close to the maximum level of 0.15%.

Once the tax levy is set, can it be changed?

Once set, the initial tax rate becomes the rate that is governed by the rate hike limits established by the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) [35 ILCS 200/18], which says the maximum increase is no more than either the CPI, consumer price index, or 5% increase of the tax, whichever is lowest.

Doesn't Wheeling Township already fund social service programs?

Yes, the Township currently provides some funding to about 23 agencies, which is helpful. However, there are still long wait lists and gaps in services.

We don't need another agency

A Community Mental Health board doesn't provide the services, but rather helps fund programs through existing agencies to fill gaps. They can help streamline the system to make it easier for families to find the help they need.

Doesn't the state already provide funding?

Illinois ranks very low, 43rd in providing services for disabilities and 35th for mental health services. Funds from a community mental health board stay in our area to help our neighbors.