

Mental Health Referendum

Mental illness, developmental disabilities and substance use disorders affect a significant number of our neighbors. In Schaumburg Township, mental illness issues alone conservatively cost **\$550** per capita or **\$68,800,000** per year. *

1 What is the problem?



1 in 5 adults experiences a mental illness in a given year.



1 in 6 children have a developmental disability such as cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, Down's syndrome, or other neurological conditions.



1 in 5 youth aged 13-18 experiences a severe mental health disorder at some point during their life.

1 in 10

youth aged 12 and older have used an illicit drug such as heroin, cocaine or marijuana in the last month.

2 What will passing this referendum mean to you and your family?

- ✓ Comprehensive local support of services targeted to the needs of the local community to ensure that preventative and therapeutic programs are streamlined, accessible, and affordable for all residents in the Township.
- ✓ Screening for prevention and early detection.

- ✓ Reduce or eliminate gaps in service such as long waiting lists or arbitrary cut-off limits.
- ✓ Ability to act quickly when families are in crisis.



And...the State of Illinois is ranked 35th among all states in spending on mental health and 43rd in spending for developmental disabilities.

3 What you can do?

In November of 2022, we have an opportunity to support a small property tax increase to establish a Community Mental Health Board that would ensure that all residents of Schaumburg Township have equal access to a high quality, comprehensive care delivery system for people affected by mental illness, addiction, or developmental disabilities.

In Illinois, Community Mental Health Boards are created by a referendum approved by the voters. The volunteer Board consisting of 7-9 local residents with a vested interest in the community would be appointed by the Schaumburg Township Supervisor.

4 What does it cost?

Under Illinois law, the maximum property tax rate increase for this Board is 0.15% of the property's current assessed value. The actual rate may be significantly less based on community needs...but never more than 0.15%. For example, to raise \$1.5 million dollars for these vital services, the average priced home would pay only \$25 annually.

Shall Schaumburg 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 .15% of the equalized assessed value of the taxable property therein extended for such purposes?



*SAMSHA Projections of Expenditures for Treatment of Mental and Substance Use Disorders 2010-2020.



Mental Health Referendum: Creation of a 708 Board

Forming a 708 Board will support mental health, intellectual/ developmental disabilities, and substance misuse services in Schaumburg Township.

We are hoping to gain your support.

Visit: Advocatefor708.org

Contact Us: SchaumburgMentalHealth@gmail.com

What is a 708 Board?

A 708 Board is a Community Mental Health Board governed by the Illinois Community Mental Health Act. They are unique to Illinois.

These volunteer boards are appointed by Township Supervisors, governed by the Illinois Community Mental Health Act, and are accountable to the citizens of their community. 7 to 9 members serve 4-year terms. There are more than 80 708 Boards in Illinois.

The goal of a 708 Board is to evaluate needs, allocate funds, and coordinate a comprehensive system of mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities, and substance use disorder services to benefit the citizens of a township.

708 Board funding is used to fill gaps in service and is only utilized by township residents.

How are they funded?

Funding is through a small property tax. Funds go directly to the 708 Board, not through the State. The Illinois statute mandates that the rate may not exceed 0.15% of the equalized assessed value of your home.

The actual rate levied will be recommended by the Community Mental Health Board as determined by the needs of the community and approved by the Township Board. As an example, to raise \$1.5 million, most homeowners in Schaumburg Township would pay \$25 or less per year based on a median home value of \$276,500.

This is truly our system at its best - funds raised go directly back into the community, and how they are used is determined by the residents themselves.

How can a 708 Board help?

A 708 Board can fund existing agencies and organizations to help create and expand programs filling gaps as identified by periodic needs assessments. Examples of what other 708 Boards are doing:

- Improved social work services for police referrals
- Child and adolescent mental health screenings
- Senior mental health services

How can you help?

- Contact us to join our team!
- Help collect signatures to get this referendum on the ballot in November 2022.
- Spread the word!