

Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Health and Human Services Committee at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to the meeting minutes when these minutes are approved to obtain any changes to these minutes.

DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Health & Human Services Committee Minutes
February 3, 2020**

The Health and Human Services Committee of the DeKalb County Board met on Monday, February 3, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Outreach Building's Conference Room West in DeKalb, Illinois. Vice-Chair Little called the meeting to order. Those Members present were Mr. Scott Campbell, Ms. Rukisha Crawford, Mrs. Karen Cribben, Ms. Linda Slabon, Mr. Larry West, and Vice-Chair Maureen Little. Chairman Chris Porterfield was absent. A quorum was established with six Members present and one absent.

Others present were Deanna Cada and Amanda Christensen.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Ms. Crawford, seconded by Mr. West and it was carried unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Ms. Slabon, seconded by Mrs. Cribben and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the November 4, 2019 Committee Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments made.

SENIOR SERVICES TAX LEVY FY21 TIMELINE

Community Mental Health Board Director Deanna Cada joined the Committee to provide the Fiscal Year 2021 Funding Application Timeline for the Senior Services Tax Levy Allocations that happen in April.

Wednesday, January 29, 2020	Funding Applications Released
Monday, February 24, 2020	Funding Applications Due
Monday, March 2, 2020	HHS Committee – First Looks
Monday, April 6, 2020	HHS Committee – Agency Hearings 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Monday, April 13, 2020	HHS Committee – Agency Hearings 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Monday, May 4, 2020	HHS Committee – Approve Funding for FY21 Applications
Wednesday, May 20, 2020	Full County Board – Approve Funding for FY21 Applications

The Committee additionally received the allocation worksheet. She reminded the Committee that last year the Committee agreed that over the next 3-4 years they would implement a Planned Spenddown of their Senior Tax Levy Reserve Fund until their Fund Balance was down around \$10,000. Due to this commitment, their FY21 recommended allocation amount would be \$425,000.00, which is slightly higher than last year.

The Committee all agreed with the timeline that was provided to them.

Ms. Cada also shared with the Committee that the Mental Health Board has purchased and is now utilizing an online grant application platform and wanted the Committee to think about using this same platform next year during Senior Tax Levy Application time.

REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION ANNUAL REPORT – [Link to Full Report](#)

Regional Superintendent Amanda Christensen joined the Committee to present her 2018-2019 Annual Report. Ms. Christensen highlighted that the Regional Office of Education (ROE) assists teachers seeking an Illinois Professional Educator License including applications, registrations, endorsements, and renewals. The ROE continues to be the resource for local educators who have licensure questions or who need training on the Educator Licensure Information System (ELIS). According to the ELIS statistics report, 870 educators registered a total of 901 licenses, 555 new teacher licenses were issued, 107 new endorsements were issued, and 127 new paraprofessional licenses were issued.

The ROE maintains a database of all substitute teachers in DeKalb County. It also maintains the records for substitutes such as their blood-borne pathogens training, mandated reporter acknowledgement, criminal history records information, and proper licensure. All substitute teachers can guest teach in all of the school districts and private schools in DeKalb County. During the FY19, 356 substitute teachers took advantage of this service. The ROE continued its efforts to recruit and retain substitute teachers; an informational workshop was held on April 18, 2019. The ROE provided 3 additional opportunities for substitutes to attend a workshop to prepare them on topics such as student safety, classroom management, instructional strategies, and social emotional learning. DeKalb County Schools are still experiencing a substitute shortage.

The Regional Office of Education has a digital fingerprinting system that allows a quick return of criminal background information to the local school districts at a cost of \$55.00 per employee, substitute, or student teacher. The ROE also provides this service to bus drivers, healthcare workers, school volunteers, and county jail volunteers. The office conducted a total of 1328 fingerprints and criminal history records checks in FY19 which was on par with FY18 services.

In 2018-2019, DeKalb County ROE built a Family and Community Engagement (FaCE) team that consists of Program Coordinator for Basics DeKalb County, Community Outreach for Early Learning, and Family Success Liaisons. The purpose of Community Outreach for Early Learning is to increase awareness of and engagement in quality, early learning opportunities. To reduce barriers for families, the FaCE team goes into the community and meets families where they are at community events, resource fairs, food pantries, and school events. Additionally, they promote Basics DeKalb County to all community members with the shared goal of community saturation. Community Outreach for Early Learning staff participate in the Coordinated Intake Collaborative for home visiting to recruit families to county-wide home visiting programs. As part of the DeKalb County Kindergarten Readiness Collaborative, they work closely with school districts and community-based childcare providers to better align the early learning continuum. One event to help achieve this was the Early Learning Summit on May 14, 2019. Since the inception of the FaCE team in October 2018, Community Outreach workers interacted with over 300 families at 15 different events in 5 of the local municipalities. This outreach resulted in 12 referrals submitted to Coordinated Intake for home visiting for Birth – 3-year old's in partnership with Children's Home and Aid and Community Coordinated Child Care as well as increased public awareness about importance of early learning.

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The ROE has continued to address the needs of the County's youngest children. After formally adopting the Boston Basics into the local initiative now named Basics DeKalb County, funding was secured from The Robert F McCormick Foundation. A coordinator was hired in March 2018 to carry out saturation of the 5 evidence-based nurturing tools that promote brain development in children ages 0-5. Since then a logo has been designed, a website has been developed and published, a social media campaign has begun, along with the development of many marketing tools such as branded magnets, buttons, informational handouts, and more.

Ms. Christensen and the Committee spent some added time on DeKalb County's Truancy Intervention. She shared that this was the 32nd year that DeKalb County was part of the Truants' Alternative Optional Education Program. DeKalb County Truancy Intervention Program was renamed and rebranded as the DeKalb County Student Success Team. Truancy services have traditionally been funded through a grant from the Illinois State Board of Education; however, need has grown to such a degree without increase State funding that the ROE began seeking local donations. These donations allowed for the piloting of Family Success Liaisons who provide more intensive family engagement and support, especially for student in K-3. These supports included regular home-visits, building relationships between the schools and families, and identifying and mitigating barrier to regular school attendance.

Total student enrollment in public schools was 16,875; 5% of all DeKalb County public school students were referred to DeKalb County Student Success Team. This percentage has increased from 4% in FY18, 3.2% in FY17 and 2.6% in FY16. Out of the 896 referred, 38% were Black or African American, 22% were Hispanic or Latino, and 34% were White. Males constituted 51% and females were 49%. The grade from which the greatest number of referrals came was 12th, followed by 1st, K, 3rd, and then 11th and 2nd. As can be seen in the Annual Report, the crisis of chronic absenteeism is happening at the earliest grades, Ms. Christensen shared.

The Committee spent some additional time discussing the possible reasonings behind the crisis of chronic absenteeism and the locations within the County where these children reside. The North Annie Glidden Corridor within the City of DeKalb that attend DeKalb CUSD 428 have one of the highest populations of chronic absenteeism and some possible reasons identified were due to it being a mobile population, transportation barriers, and childcare issues.

Ms. Christensen lastly provided some additional details regarding Basics DeKalb County to the Committee. She passed out the 2019 Impact Report for the Committee to review (attached).

The Committee thanked Ms. Christensen for joining them and noted that it may be beneficial for the entire Committee of the Whole to get a presentation on Basics DeKalb County in the near future.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Ms. Crawford, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Maureen Little, Vice-Chair


Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary

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DeKalb County Government
Senior Services Tax Levy Allocation Worksheets
July 1, 2020 thru June 30, 2021

							\$425,000
	Agency	07/01/2018 - 06/30/2019	07/01/2018 - 06/30/2019	07/01/2019 - 06/30/2020	07/01/2019 - 06/30/2020	07/01/2020 - 06/30/2021	07/01/2020 - 06/30/2021
		Request	Allocated	Request	Allocated	Request	Recommended
1	Barb City Manor	\$13,260	\$10,000	\$13,260	\$10,000		
2	DeKalb County Community Gardens	\$0	\$0	\$9,415	\$3,000		
3	Elder Care Services	\$70,000	\$60,500	\$70,000	\$60,500		
4	Family Service Agency	\$60,000	\$56,500	\$60,000	\$56,500		
5	Fox Valley Older Adult Services	\$85,162	\$59,000	\$68,090	\$59,000		
6	Hope Haven	\$15,489	\$15,000	\$20,197	\$15,000		
7	KishHealth System Hospice Care Givers Class/Transitions Program	\$4,908	\$0	\$0	\$0		
8	Kishwaukee Family YMCA Silver Sneakers to Music & Splash / Yoga	\$3,634	\$1,500	\$3,913	\$1,500		
9	Opportunity House	\$34,400	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000		
10	Prairie State Legal Services	\$4,200	\$3,000	\$5,000	\$3,000		
11	Voluntary Action Center Meals on Wheels / Transportation	\$232,225	\$175,500	\$232,225	\$181,500		
	TOTAL	\$523,278	\$406,000	\$507,100	\$415,000		\$0



BASICS

DeKalb County

Impact Report

2019

Basics DeKalb County is a community saturation initiative in which five simple, fun, and powerful tools are used by parents, caregivers, and community members to give every child a great start in life.

Special Thanks to Our Partners:



 **DeKalb County**
Regional Office of Education



DEKALB COUNTY
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

ROBERT R.
MCCORMICK
FOUNDATION



NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Center for Nonprofit
and NGO Studies

Kindergarten Readiness Collaborative

Our Vision...

All DeKalb County children have equitable opportunities to be prepared for school and life success.

Our Belief...

- > Child Development includes wholistic wellness and can be positively impacted.
- > Inequities in early life negatively impact children's learning outcomes.
- > Families are the child's first teacher.
- > The collaboration of schools, early childhood educators, families, community service providers, and policy makers improved access to high quality early opportunities.

2018 KIDS Assessment Data

The three developmental areas are

- > Social & Emotional Development
- > Language & Literacy
- > Math

Statewide 26% of Kindergarteners were ready in all three areas.

DeKalb County Kindergarten Readiness

Genoa Kingston	13%	DeKalb	22%
Indian Creek	73%	Hinckley-Big Rock	22%
Hiawatha	7%	Sandwich	35%
Sycamore	28%	Somonauk	27%

data from www.isbe.net

Basics DeKalb County

is based on The Boston Basics, a set of five evidence-based, nurturing practices that help all infants and toddlers thrive cognitively, socially and emotionally.

Every child from every background can benefit.



100,000+ people were in attendance at the Sycamore Pumpkin Parade

June 2018: Kindergarten Readiness Collaborative determined BASICS initiative as the best fit for DeKalb County after founder of Basics, Inc, Dr. Ron Ferguson, presented to Prek/K educators in DeKalb.

July 2018: Soft-launch of Basics DeKalb County.

December 2018: Awarded program funding from Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

March 2019: Hired Program Coordinator, Courtney Hill.

April 2019: Increased program exposure, awareness, saturation, and community engagement.

July 2019: Began tracking program offerings and interactions with parents, caregivers, and community members.

Socioecological Saturation

People live in social ecologies made up of the people, settings, and norms that shape their everyday interactions, and consequently, their knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors. Basics DeKalb County aims to saturate the social ecology around each family and to engage the whole community, so that everyone knows the Basics and every parent or caregiver receives encouragement and support for using them. Every type of setting and organization in the image to the right is a place for sharing the Basics.



Parents and children practicing the Basics at a pop up picnic event hosted by the Sycamore Public Library



DeKalb County Demographics

- 2017 Population 104,733
- 40 Schools
- 18,000 K-12 students
- 8 Public School Districts
- 24 Elementary Schools
- 15 Municipalities

Free Reduced Lunch Rates

Genoa Kingston	36%	DeKalb	60%
Indian Creek	25%	Hinckley-Big Rock	6%
Hiawatha	42%	Sandwich	38%
Sycamore	23%	Somonauk	30%

Implementation

Community saturation occurs by embedding the Basics into existing organizations.



The interactive Basics wall at the DeKalb County Health Department provides signage giving caregivers tips for each of the 5 Basics, manipulatives for children to interact with, and a free board book for every child to take home



Maximize Love, Manage Stress



Talk, Sing, and Point



Count, Group, and Compare



Explore Through Movement & Play



Read and Discuss Stories



BASICS
DeKalb County

DeKalb County
Regional Office of Education

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www.BasicsDeKalbCounty.org

www.dkroeedteam.com/



facebook.com/basicsdekalbcounty

Open House at
University Village
Apartments in DeKalb

