

# January 2026 Fox Valley United Way Board Report

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

J.D. Ostergaard

### Operations

Met with Hased House on January 2<sup>nd</sup> to review the Holiday Assistance operational program efforts. It was discussed that there were some gaps and miscommunications on their end to making the gift purchases an effective and worthwhile endeavor. Changes will take place for next year with edits to the questionnaire, timeline, and thank you card procedures. They also mentioned a focus on exact gifts only and less need for the toy drive/surplus need.

Met with Aurora Financial Empowerment Center to examine how we could partner with them for Holiday Assistance next year. We discussed how their services should be at our intake interviews along with a follow up after gifts are delivered to the families. A follow up meeting is scheduled for February to discuss how a more effective partnership between us and them will be beneficial to the community for our ALICE families.

Met with Kane County Emergency Services department in finalization of the Disaster Ready Kane COAD (Community Organizations Active in a Disaster). By-laws have been written and will be voted on in February. J.D. will serve as interim treasurer on the board until elections wherein Kathy from Batavia will run as treasurer and Fox Valley United Way serving as the fiscal sponsor of the organization.

### Finances

Weber and Associates have stated they are completing the audit for our 2024-2025 fiscal year now and should have a report to us shortly.

Met with Rigo of Old Second on January 27 to discuss the transfer of our Repo accounts to a business savings account that should yield a much better interest rate for our money than currently accruing.

Finalized contracts with Comcast to finally be out of our old agreements and into our new 2 year signed rates. The costs beforehand were hovering around \$750 per month, with internet

costing roughly \$300 and phones costing roughly \$450. The new contract has internet at about \$140, phones at \$300, and a cellular phone for SPARK at \$50, for a total of roughly \$500. This should save Fox Valley United Way \$250 per month or roughly \$3,000 per year.

## Development

The website for Mom Made Me Do This 5K is now active. Edits were made after an introductory meeting with Rush Copley to discuss changes to the race this year. The race is going to focus more on fundraising and crowd involvement than an appeal for runners to gain record times for their personal running journeys.

J.D. attended the PrairieFest Preview in Oswego on January 21 to mingle and network with folks in Oswego.

## COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT

### Tricia Hoover

#### Dolly Parton's Imagination Library:

DPIL Numbers January 2026

	FOLLETT	KENDALL	TOTAL
January	4103	2487	6590

#### Dolly's Birthday Dance

It was reported by many that "We had so much fun!" YAY!

THRIVENT contributed a \$250 donation that went toward the food. And a hospitality donation of \$400 was made by Pastry Snobs for the desserts enjoyed by many! Additional support was given by Net Positive Consulting to provide the remaining supplies for the fundraiser.

Total revenue was \$3,989 with expense details being logged still for in-kind and monetary costs. Quantities for food/drinks will be reviewed for the next Dolly Birthday Fundraiser. Total tickets were 51. Two new volunteers came to help and will continue to help with new sign up events, including a potential intern. Very little was left over in terms of food and drinks. Everything was received well and the venue enjoyed having us there.

# KANE COUNTY - 211 Data Aurora Township for full year 12/31/24 - 12/31/25

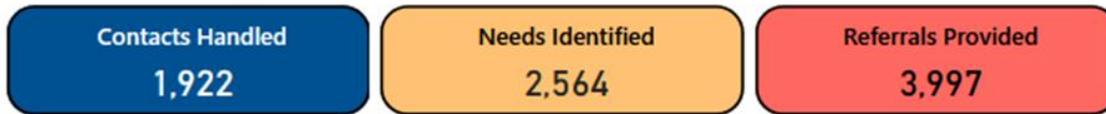
## 211 Illinois County Subdivision Report

Select a township/district and date range below.  
 Calendar button - choose date  
 Aurora Township  
 12/31/2024 12/31/2025

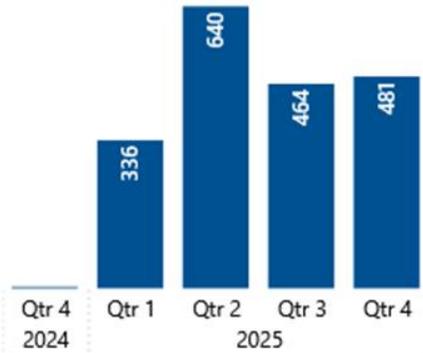


Between 12/31/2024 and 12/31/2025 the 211 Illinois network handled 1,922 contacts in Aurora Township\*. During these conversations, Resource Navigators identified 2,564 specific needs and provided clients with 3,997 referrals to community based organizations in their area.

### 211 Traffic Summary



Contacts by Quarter

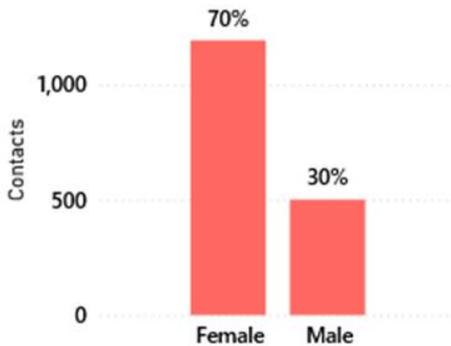


Top Needs

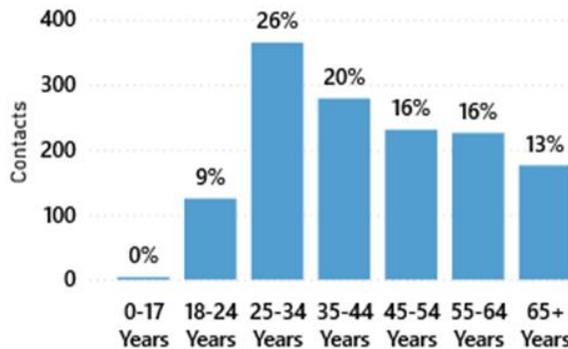
Need Description	Needs	% of Total
Information and Referral/211 Services	361	14%
Rent Assistance	344	13%
Utility Payment Assistance	315	12%
Homeless Shelter	154	6%
Low Income/Subsidized Rental Housing	84	3%
Temporary Financial Assistance	78	3%
Housing Search Assistance	69	3%
Transportation Expense Assistance	43	2%
Specialized Information and Referral	41	2%
Automotive Repair and Maintenance	38	1%
Food Pantries	36	1%

### Client Demographics

211 Client Gender



211 Client Age



\* 211 Illinois contact centers collect clients' residential zip code. This report uses Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) crosswalk files to estimate 211 activity in Illinois Aurora Township based on zip code. If 10% or more of the Township's

# KENDALL COUNTY - 211 Data Bristol Township for full year 12/31/24 - 12/31/25

# 211 Illinois County Subdivision Report

Select a township/district and date range below.

Bristol Township

12/31/2024 12/31/2025



Between 12/31/2024 and 12/31/2025 the 211 Illinois network handled 866 contacts in Bristol Township\*. During these conversations, Resource Navigators identified 1,190 specific needs and provided clients with 1,396 referrals to community based organizations in their area.

## 211 Traffic Summary

Contacts Handled

**866**

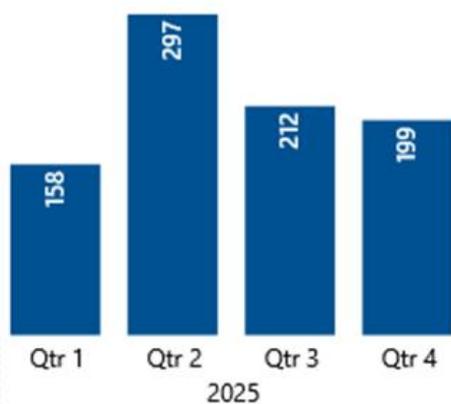
Needs Identified

**1,190**

Referrals Provided

**1,396**

Contacts by Quarter

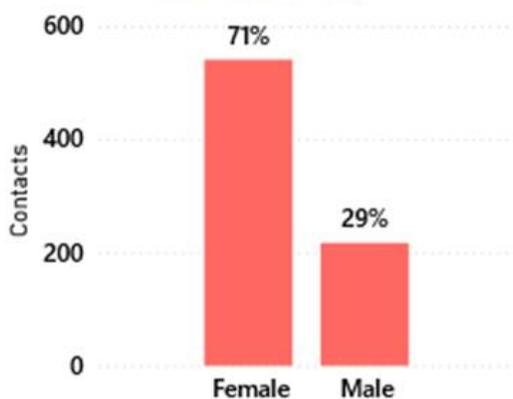


Top Needs

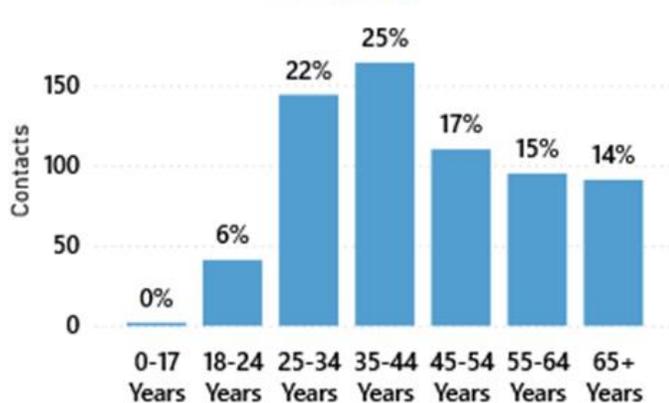
Need Description	Needs	% of Total
Rent Assistance	192	16%
Information and Referral/211 Services	176	15%
Utility Payment Assistance	123	10%
Homeless Shelter	41	3%
Specialized Information and Referral	38	3%
Housing Search Assistance	34	3%
Low Income/Subsidized Rental Housing	30	3%
Mortgage Assistance	28	2%
Rental Deposit Assistance	27	2%
Temporary Financial Assistance	27	2%
Food Pantries	21	2%

## Client Demographics

211 Client Gender



211 Client Age



\* 211 Illinois contact centers collect clients' residential zip code. This report uses Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) crosswalk files to estimate 211 activity in Illinois Bristol Township based on zip code. If 10% or more of the Township's

## Community Partner involvement

01/25/26 – NLC – This is the National League of Cities where we are advisors as the City of Aurora in terms of bringing technology and communication through collaboration. We sit with other cities in the nation to discuss best practices.

01/30/26 – Grant inquiry – We found a list of grants that Annika and I will review to begin eliminating those that will not work for our organization.

## **Holiday Assistance**

Thank you cards went out to donors. We are still waiting for Thank You Cards from Hesed House. We tried what we thought was historically effective, but with new management and a disconnect with their social workers and the program, thank you cards were not prioritized. This has been discussed as something in need of rectifying next year. We have reviewed the entire process with Hesed House leadership and everything will be modified for next year.

13 S. Broadway is organized for next year.

Day of Service for 04/17/26 to prep the area for 2026 Holiday Assistance.

## **S.P.A.R.K.**

### **Rosaisela Sida**

#### **SPARK programs**

##### **1. Play Group (School Year Session - Indoor)**

- a. Location: New England Church, 406 W. Galena Blvd Aurora 60506
- b. Partner Agency: World Relief, New England Church, VNA WIC
- c. Timeline: Fridays from 9:30AM-11:00AM

##### **2. Play Group (Year-Round - Indoor) \*Temporarily Under Renovation**

- a. Location: Aurora Public Library District Eola Branch 555 S. Eola Rd Aurora 60504
- b. Partner Agency: Aurora Public Library District
- c. Timeline: Tuesdays (2x/month) from 11:00AM – 12:00PM

### **3. Play Group (Year-Round - Indoor)**

- a. Location: Aurora Public Library District Santori Branch, 101 S River St. Aurora, IL 60506
- b. Partner Agency: Aurora Public Library District
- c. Timeline: Tuesdays (1x/month) from 11:00AM – 12:00PM

### **4. Play Group (Year-Round-Indoor)**

- a) Location: North Aurora Library 113 Oak St, North Aurora, IL 60542
- b) Partner Agency: TBD

### **5. Play Group (Year-Round - Indoor)**

- a. Location: Northern Lights Youth Center, 551 4th Ave. Aurora, IL 60505
- b. Partner Agency: Aurora Housing Authority, DuPage Children’s Museum & Therapy Dogs International
- c. TimeLine: Mondays 11:00AM-12:00PM
- d. Notes: Year-round indoor play group (weather, holiday and school breaks permitting)

## **SPARK Outreach**

No activity for January

## **Training and Professional Development**

- First Aid Mental Health Training (January 16, 2026. From 9-3pm)
- Healing Circles Training (January 24-25, 2026, from 11-3pm)

## **Collaboration**

1. The Basics Monthly Meetings
2. Birth to Five monthly meetings
3. AOK Meeting

## **Grants and Founding**

- Blue Cross and Blue Sheild (completed)
- Kellogg Foundation (completed)
- Dunham Foundation (completed)
- Cudahy Foundation (completed)

## New funding opportunities

- R3 grants new opportunity
- PNC Foundation