

NEW Mental Health Connection Member Meeting

Thursday, January 8, 2026



AGENDA

- Welcome!
- Spotlight: Roger's Behavioral Health
- Member 1:1 and 2026 Focus Areas
- Connected Fox Valley Recommendations
- Opportunities to get involved



The Connection
N.E.W. MENTAL HEALTH





The Connection's Agency Spotlight



Jody Richter
Community Relations Liaison
Roger's Behavioral Health

Rogers Behavioral Health Services

Appleton Clinic

5 Innovation Court, Suite 200

Appleton, WI 54914



*A nationally recognized, not-for-profit provider of evidence-based mental health and addiction services for **more than 115 years.***



Mission

We provide highly effective mental health and addiction treatment that helps people reach their full potential for health and well-being.

Vision

We envision a future where people have the tools to rise above the challenges of mental illness, addiction, and stigma to lead healthy lives. We bring this vision to life by constantly elevating the standard for behavioral healthcare, demonstrating our exceptional treatment outcomes, and acting with compassion and respect.

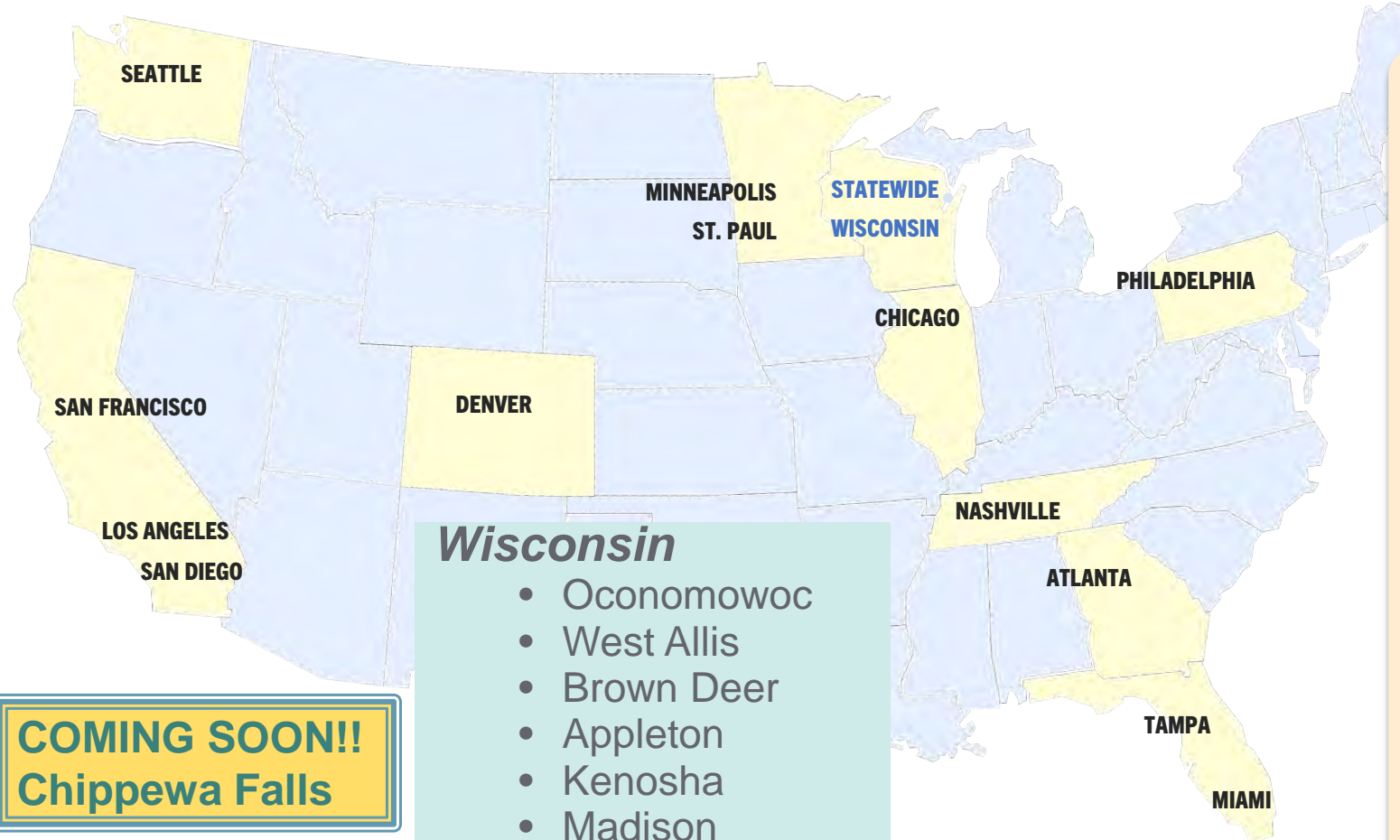
Values

Excellence—we are committed to continuous improvement including recruitment and retention of highly talented employees who deliver clinically effective treatments with the best possible outcomes.

Compassion—we are dedicated to a healthy culture where employees, patients, and families experience empathy, encouragement, and respect.

Accountability—we embrace our responsibility to our patients, families, referring providers, payors and community members to provide care that is high quality, cost effective and sustainable.

Nationwide in-person and virtual access to life-saving mental health and addiction care



Internationally-renowned care

200+ industry leading providers

120,000+ lives changed in the past decade

2,900+ employees

3 hospitals and **21** clinics

17 residential programs

40+ programs, including telehealth

100 million data points collected yearly
building insights to personalize and
accelerate our care

\$51.6 million in community benefit (2023)

\$1.8 million in patient care grants (2023)

Coordinated care aligning with the lives of our patients and their families

A multidisciplinary team of experts guides care with experts in every field – psychiatry, medicine, nursing, psychology, social work, nutrition, and experiential therapy – ensuring treatment plans are successful and patients are at the right level of care.

Inpatient



highest, most intense level of care available for stabilization during an acute episode.

Partial Hospitalization

Up to 7 hours a day, five days a week and return to life between sessions.

Outpatient Services

Individual sessions with a psychiatrist or therapist either delivered virtually or in-person. Includes TMS in Wisconsin.

Residential



living on campus and receiving intensive treatment during entire stay (30 to 90 days).

Intensive Outpatient

3 hours a day, 4-5 days a week, for prolonging recovery, return to life between sessions.

What We Treat

OCD and Anxiety
Eating Disorders including ARFID
Depression & Mood Disorders
Substance Use Disorders
Trauma Recovery and PTSD
Emotional Dysregulation
Complex Medical & MH Conditions
Primary Behavioral Health
Severe Persistent Mental Illness

Treatment Approaches

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy CBT
Dialectical Behavior Therapy DBT
Behavioral Activation BA
Exposure & Response Prevention ERP
Exposure Therapy
Prolonged Exposure
Cognitive Restructuring
Primary Behavioral Health

Recovery Medications
Motivational Enhancement Therapy
Experiential Therapy
Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS)
Friends & Family University

Appleton Behavioral Health Treatment Center

5 Innovation Court, Suite 100
Appleton, WI 54914



Rogers Behavioral Health in Appleton, WI, is a place of hope and healing. Here, you can receive mental health treatment that helps you live for the moments that matter.



Current Programming at Rogers Appleton Clinic

Program	PHP	IOP
Depression Recovery	Adult	Adult
OCD & Anxiety	Adult	Adult
Eating Disorder	Adult	Adult
Mental Health & Addiction Recovery	Adult, Teen	Adult, Teen
Trauma & PTSD	Adult	Adult
Primary Behavioral Health	Adult, Teen	Adult, Teen

***Programs include outpatient psychiatric services and medication management as a part of the multidisciplinary team approach



How to refer to Rogers Behavioral Health

If you would like to refer to our telehealth programs, **PHP/IOP**, or residential programs: **Call 800-767-4411 or visit our [Refer a Patient](#) page on rogersbh.org**

1. Our Patient Access Team will call your patient back and conduct a 30-minute mental health phone assessment
2. The Medical Team reviews the screening and provides recommendation
3. Our Admissions Team calls patient with recommendation and works to admit as soon as possible

No doctor referral required!

Proven, evidence-based telehealth treatment

This evolution of Rogers' current telehealth offering:

- Rogers' evidence-based treatment in a virtual and HIPAA compliant environment
- Care teams deliver an engaging, safe, and connected experience for patients in real-time

Adult

Depression Recovery (IOP & PHP)

MH & Addiction Recovery (IOP & PHP)

OCD/Trauma Recovery (IOP & PHP)

Primary Behavioral Health (IOP & PHP)

Trauma Adult (IOP)

Fire Watch (IOP)

Eating Disorder Recovery (IOP)

All Ages

Outpatient Psychiatry & Counseling

Youth

Primary Behavioral Health (IOP –after school)



Trusted software platform with **10M+** users across **1,500+** institutions and **75** countries

We offer telehealth services state-wide for PHP, IOP, and OP medication management & counseling

WORTH-IT

Wisconsin Opioid Recovery Telehealth Immediate Treatment Program

Providing Fast and Convenient Access to Buprenorphine

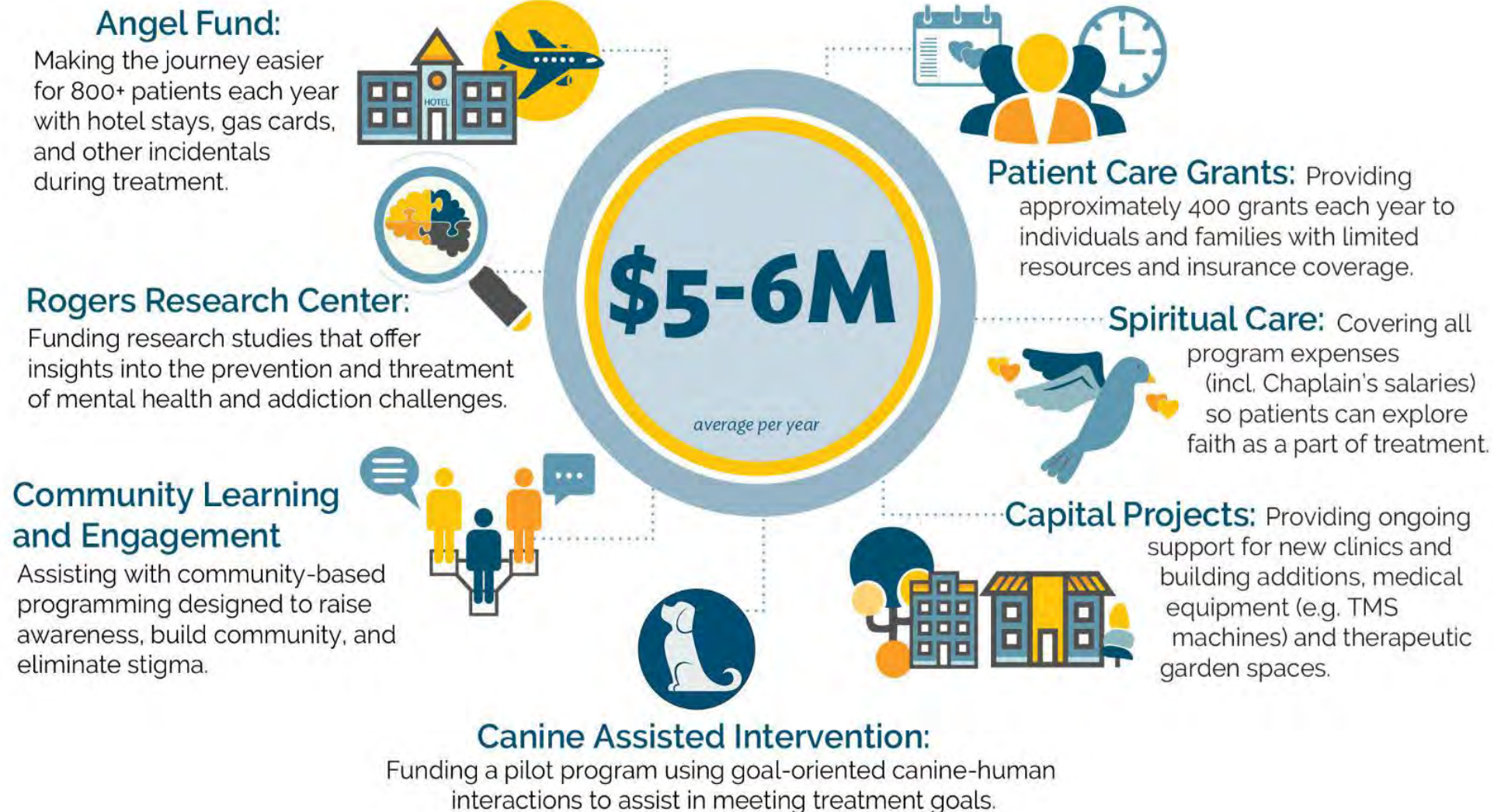
At Rogers Behavioral Health, we understand the challenges your patients face with opioid use disorder, and we are here to assist. Our Wisconsin-based program offers individuals quick and easy access to buprenorphine, an FDA-approved, gold-standard treatment for opioid use disorder including additional support services as requested. Our goal is to reduce traditional barriers like abstinence, urine drug testing or mandatory therapy that prevent individuals from getting the help they need. Now they can speak directly with a provider via a convenient and confidential telehealth appointment to get same-day access to buprenorphine.

What can someone expect:

- Immediate Access: Prescriptions filled the same or next day depending on the time of the telehealth appointment.
- Fewer Barriers: Abstinence, urine testing, or mandatory therapy not required.
- Telehealth Convenience: Access care from anywhere.
- Optional Support Services: Additional resources and support such as case management, therapy, referrals for housing and food assistance, medical care, and enrollment in health insurance, available upon request



Rogers Foundation: Core Initiatives



Rogers: No Cost Community Initiatives

For treatment providers, community organizations, and those wanting more mental health resources

Community Partners

- WISE Program: <https://eliminatestigma.org/>

No cost toolkits for organizations to utilize to promote compassion resilience, provide stigma education, and curriculum that helps people make choices on whether and how they share about mental health and other conditions

- Free Virtual CE Programs
 - <https://rogersbh.org/events/free-webinar-series/>

General Population

- Rise Above Podcast: <https://rogersbh.org/series/rise-above-podcast/>
- Free Support groups: <https://rogersbh.org/why-choose-us/support-groups/>
 - Virtual: Mental Health and addiction support (individuals and family members), OCD/Anxiety, Depression/Trauma and Parent/Caregiver support group
- Sheboygan Strength Over Addiction Recovery (SOAR) workshop (ages 6-15)
 - Fun activities with peers while learning about substance use, stigma, and resiliency while gaining coping and resiliency skills: <https://rogersbh.org/events/strength-over-addiction-recover-soar-workshop>

*Contact me to learn more and schedule
a presentation or clinic tour:*



Jody Richter
Community Relations Liaison

jody.richter@rogersbh.org
920-809-7258

Need help with referral coordination?
Contact me!

Member 1:1 Themes





The Connection

N.E.W. MENTAL HEALTH

2025 Take Aways

Revitalize relationships, trust and collaborative efforts-convene partners

Creative opportunities to develop philanthropic relationships

Changing landscape and unpredictable times

Leverage Big P policy

Access to care issues in changing landscape-focus on equity



2026 Focus Areas

Networking: Reboot “The Business of Mental Health” and “Outreach Speed Dating”

Funding: Create opportunities to “mingle” developing support between company team members/ stakeholders and non-profits

Topic Conversations: Host content area experts and panel discussions regarding legislative impacts

Policy: Explore how The Connection leverages the coalition in Big P policy work around the mental health

Increased demand: Mental Health Workforce strategy-two prongs a) recruit and retain; b) Community Health Workers and Peer Supports

Updates to The Connection’s membership process and structure as well as organizational website

Rural Health Transformation Program



\$1 BILLION over the next 5 years into WI

FY 26
\$203 Million

- **Wisconsin has 3 main focuses**

- **Rural Talent Recruitment and Retention**

- **Rural Workforce Grants-2027** Dept of Workforce Development (\$150M)
- **Community Health Worker Integration-** pilot ROI beginning in 2026; Medicaid reimbursable by 2028; DHS grants to pay for CHW services (\$60M)
- **Workforce Readiness-**career pathways investment; paid training (\$127M)

- **Drive Rural Technology and Innovation-** upgrades to rural provider systems, digital infrastructure, and develop a digital rural health care collaborative (\$329M)

- **Population Health Infrastructure**

- **Care Coordination Grants- 2027** Transform delivery through innovative regional partnerships by Healthcare Emergency Readiness Coalitions
- **Behavioral Health Innovations-** 2026 emphasis on rural youth mental health and certified community behavioral health clinics (\$5M)
- **Medicaid reforms and other strategic investments-** 2026 Tribal investments; Medicaid reform (\$44M)

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) via the Working Family Tax Cut legislation part of OBBBA

- There is risk for “claw back” of funds based on adherence to administration health care policies



Connected *Fox Valley*

Strengthening Social Connection & Belonging Across Calumet, Outagamie and Winnebago Counties

**Wendy Harris, Project Coordinator
The Connection**

**Karen Iverson Riggers, co-founder
Ebb & Flow Connections Cooperative, and
The Community Living Room**





Bringing You Up to Speed

- What we've been doing over the past year
- What we've been hearing from the community
- Where we're headed next

Today's Conversation

- Advisory Group & listening process
- Community insights & key themes
- New website to capture the work
- Moving into action

Connected *Fox Valley*

Mission:

Convene diverse community partners and residents to understand and address social isolation and loneliness in Calumet, Outagamie and Winnebago counties.

By grounding our work in lived experience, local data, and cross-sector collaboration, we align efforts and advance practical strategies that strengthen social connection as a foundation for mental health and well-being.

We Aim To:

Embed an equity perspective in our approach by focusing on the following central questions:

- Who has not been in the conversation?
- Who is most at risk?
- What are the root causes that have contributed to our current condition of social connection?

Did you know?

- Loneliness is as harmful to health as obesity and physical inactivity, and smoking up to 15 cigarettes per day.
- Social isolation increases dementia risk by up to 50%.
- Belonging is linked to longer life expectancy and better mental health.

Source: Our Epidemic of Loneliness & Isolation: The U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory on the Healing Effects of Social Connection and Community

Why This Work Matters:

- Social isolation and loneliness are powerful drivers of:
 - Mental health
 - Physical health
 - Emotional well-being
- Connection and belonging influence life expectancy, chronic disease, and resilience

Our Role:

- Convener and backbone for regional alignment
 - Bring people together across sectors
 - Support alignment and shared priorities
 - Create a path forward for our community



How the Work Was Grounded

Our Approach

- Lived experience and deep listening
- Local qualitative and quantitative data
- Cross-sector collaboration
- Research and national frameworks, adapted locally

Advisory Group

Who Was at The Table



Their Role:

- Inform and plan community listening sessions
- Surface important themes
- Identify community assets, barriers, and opportunities
- Explore how social disconnection affects different populations in different ways
- Dream out loud about what could be possible
- Keep the work grounded in our LOCAL reality

- ADRC (Aging & Disability Resource Center) of Calumet County
- Appleton Health Department
- Chilton Public Library
- Diverse & Resilient – Appleton
- ESTHER
- First Five Fox Valley
- Fox Valley Literacy Coalition
- Heads Up
- LEAVEN Fox Cities
- Menasha Joint School District
- Multicultural Coalition
- NAMI Fox Valley
- NeighborWorks Green Bay
- NEW Hmong Professionals
- Oshkosh Community YMCA
- Oshkosh Pride
- People of Progression
- Pillars
- Pointtters Community Initiatives
- Rainbow Alliance Advocacy
- Thompson Center on Lourdes
- Valley Transit
- VPI Community Outreach Center
- Winnebago County Health Department



Key Themes That Emerged

- Survey fatigue and over-consultation
- Need for meaningful inclusion from the start
- Policy landscape impacting safety and trust
- Basic needs and belonging are intertwined
- Scarcity undermining collaboration
- Strong desire to see the full landscape together

Theme: Engagement, Trust & Inclusion

What People Told Us

- Listening sessions and community surveys can feel extractive without follow-through
- Relationship-building matters!
- Inclusion often comes too late in decision-making
- Lived experience is expertise

Clear call to action: Engage early. Share power. Build trust.

Theme: Safety, Basic Needs & Belonging

Connection Looks Different in Times of Stress

- Policy landscape affecting safety and participation
- Fear and withdrawal impacting daily life
- Basic needs and belonging are deeply interconnected

Key insight


- Connection doesn't wait until stability exists
- Belonging shows up in food pantries, shelters, mutual aid, crisis spaces

ConnectedFoxValley.org

- Why the Work Matters
- Community Insights
- Who is Most Affected
- Recommendations
- Strategy Hub
- Advancing the Work
- Stories & Perspectives

Connected Fox Valley

A Community Initiative to Improve Social Connection
Across Calumet, Outagamie & Winnebago Counties



[Overview](#) [Community Insights](#) [Who is Most Affected](#) [Recommendations](#) [Strategy Hub](#) [Advancing the Work](#) [Stories & Perspectives](#)

How do we improve social connectedness across Northeast Wisconsin?

That is the central question behind Connected Fox Valley, a community initiative focused on strengthening social connection and belonging across our tri-county region – Calumet, Outagamie, and Winnebago counties.

Connected Fox Valley, launched in 2025, was born of our community's shared desire to strengthen social connectedness and respond to the growing recognition that loneliness and isolation are pressing public health concerns. Across Wisconsin and the nation, we have become acutely aware – especially since the COVID-19 pandemic – that being socially connected is fundamental to our mental, emotional, and physical health. During the pandemic, we experienced firsthand the profound effects of social isolation, revealing how deeply our well-being depends on one another.

In 2023, the Wisconsin Division of Public Health named social connectedness and belonging as one of the state's five priority health areas, calling for upstream, communitywide investments that build the conditions for health. Local city, county, and hospital systems across the Fox Valley affirmed this direction through their Community Health Assessments and Improvement Plans, identifying connection and belonging as essential to health and resilience.

The Northeast Wisconsin Mental Health Connection made a strategic decision to take on this work as part of its role as a collective-impact backbone for the region. We saw an opportunity to better understand the full landscape of social connectedness efforts already underway, build on past efforts, align shared interests across sectors, identify gaps, and create a roadmap that honors both community voice and community readiness.

Over the past year, dozens of local partners have come together to explore social



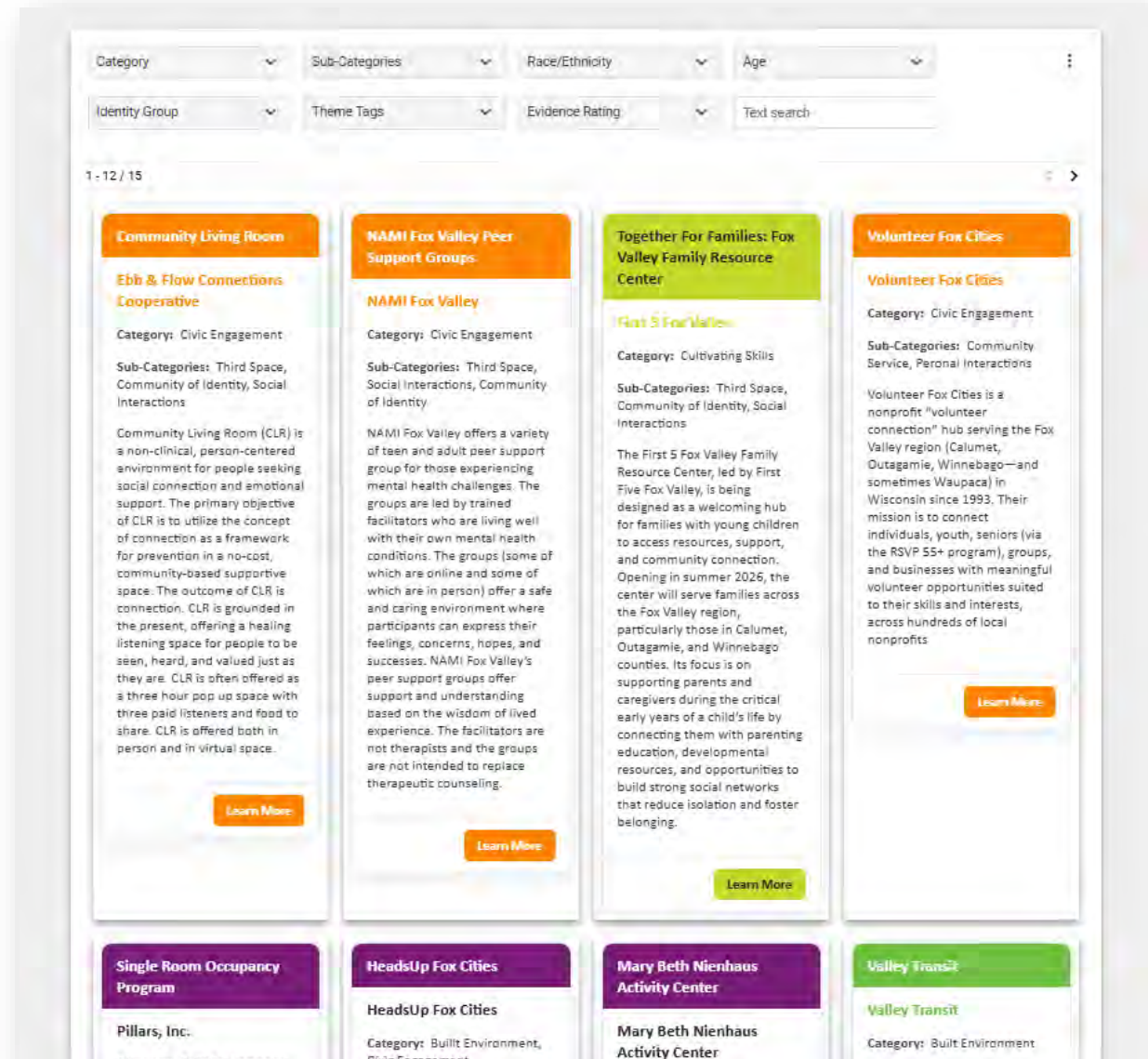
What is social connection?



What is social isolation?

Strategy Hub

- Living inventory of local programs and initiatives
- Searchable by strategy type, sub-category, age group & demographics
- Helps identify gaps, overlaps, and opportunities
- Highlights promising strategies for investment and growth
- Includes summary, outcomes, lessons learned, resources



What's Next & How to Engage



Three Work Groups

- Neighborhood Cohesion
- Policy
- Mutual Aid

How to Get Involved

- Join a work group
- Follow along and share feed back!
- Suggest program for the Strategy Hub



Opportunities to get involved!



Pop Up Taskforce Opportunities

Connection Membership Taskforce:

- Provide feedback on updates to Connection membership benefits
- Contribute to defining tangible value of being a member of The Connection
- Max 4 meetings

Workforce Taskforce

- Increase access
- Recruit and retain talent
- Role of Community Health Workers and Peer Support
- Career pathways and partnerships
- Frequency and number of meetings TBD

N.E.W. Mental Health Connection
Pop-Up taskforces





WE ♥ YOU

Recovery in Our Community

SAVE THE DATE: March 4, 2026

Registration Opens January 4th

[Click to Register](#)

Time: 9:30am-3pm

Location: University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Culver
Family Welcome Center (625 Pearl Ave, Oshkosh, WI
54901)

Cost: FREE

Keynote: Mark Sanders, LCSW, CADC

Emcee: Tom Farley

Multiple Break Out Sessions



MHAP
MENTAL HEALTH ACTION PARTNERSHIP

A coalition focused on equitable access and continuous improvements in integrated mental health care

•Virtual Learning Session:

- Friday, February 20th from 2:30-4 pm on *Chapter 51.15 Emergency Detention: Issues and Effective Practices*. [Register here.](#)

•Workgroups:

- Criminal Justice**- TAD Expansion; protection of rights and mental health access for folks who are incarcerated
- Data**- [proposal for data integration](#) to the Governor's Interagency Council on Mental Health and strategies. UW Madison's La Follette School of Public Affairs who recently [presented their findings](#) (excellent 24 min YouTube video) on the importance of data integration both from the service recipient and policy perspectives.
- Medicaid & Workforce**- an informational resource on [Adult Peer Recovery Programs](#) to support advocacy for (among other peer resources) [Medicaid reimbursement for peers](#) and funding for [Clubhouse](#) programs.

•Summits:

- In-person in Madison in September 2026 – more details to come!

<https://www.mhapwi.org/>



**US 2 BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH CARE INC**
EVERYONE | HEALTHIER | TOGETHER

Ethics & Boundaries: Practicing Self-Care in An Era of Moral Distress

ALL YEAR long

WHEN: Friday, January 16th from 8:30am-12:30pm

WHERE: via Zoom- www.newmentalhealthconnection.org to register

WHO: Members of The Connection

HOW MUCH: **FREE CEUs** for Members!



What's coming up...

Direct Practice & Advocacy for Transgender Individuals

Two-Part Series
Tues., Feb. 10, &
Tues., March 10,
2026

Addressing Family & Support Systems of Transgender Individuals for
Helping Professionals

Two-Part Series
Tues., April 14, &
Tues., May 12,
2025



The Connection
N.E.W. MENTAL HEALTH

Slide deck & recording of
today's meeting can be
found at:

www.newmentalhealthconnection.org



Enjoy yourself –
it's later than you think.
Socrates

Next Meeting:

March 12, 2026

in person at Catalpa 7:30-8:30 or Zoom 11:30-12:30PM