

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

PIN PRESENTING SPONSORS

**RUSTY AND
SARA FOSZCZ**



PIN GOLD SPONSORS



PIN SILVER SPONSORS



**ROTARY CLUB
of Crystal Lake - Dawnbreakers**



**Northern Illinois
RECOVERY CENTER**

PIN BRONZE SPONSORS



BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE PIN PLANNING COMMITTEE:

22nd Judicial Specialty Courts

Birth to Five Illinois

Community Foundation for McHenry County

Community Partner: Sue Gru

Friends of McHenry County College Foundation

Illinois Department of Human Services

Independence Health & Therapy

McHenry County College

McHenry County Department of Health

McHenry County Mental Health Board

Northern Illinois Special Recreation Association

Pioneer Center for Human Resources

Resurrection Church

SOAR@Dorr



Scan this code to access
the 2026 PIN Directory.



Please scan the QR code
to complete a survey on
breakout sessions attended.

PIN

People in Need Forum

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 2026

8:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Hosted at McHenry County College

For information and resources
visit www.mchenry.edu/pin

Friends of
**McHenry
County College**
Foundation

AGENDA

8:30 A.M.–1 P.M. REGISTRATION, REFRESHMENTS, AND NETWORKING (CAFÉ)

EXHIBITOR BOOTHS OPEN (GYM AND HALLWAY)
All Exhibitor booths will remain open until 1 p.m.

9–10 A.M. BREAKOUT SESSION I

- Medicare 101: The Choices You Need to Make (A224)**
Susan Grossinger
Whether you are just going onto Medicare for the first time or have been on Medicare for a while, understanding your coverage and benefits can be overwhelming as you get bombarded by mail, media, and email about your choices. Come and learn to be a smart, educated consumer so you can access your healthcare in the way that is best for you!
- Updates from the McHenry County Sheriff’s Office (A221)**
Sheriff Robb Tadelman
McHenry County is consistently ranked among the safest counties in Illinois, with violent crime declining over the past decade. Sheriff Robb Tadelman will share an update on the current state of safety in McHenry County.
- Strategies for Supporting Caregivers of Older Adults and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (A222)**
Senior Services Associates, Independence Health & Therapy
Senior Services Associates and Independence Health & Therapy have partnered to support unpaid family caregivers in McHenry County. This presentation highlights the Caregiver Assistance Program for those caring for older adults, individuals with Alzheimer’s, or grandparents serving as primary caregivers for their grandchildren. Learn about available services such as care assessments, respite coordination, professional counseling, peer support groups, and caregiver training designed to promote sustainable, compassionate care.
- Trauma and Resilience in Youth (A211)**
Clarissa Bartlett
This training is for individuals who work with young people and examines how trauma affects development and daily functioning. Participants will learn about the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study, how trauma impacts the brain and executive functioning, and practical strategies for creating trauma-informed environments for the youth they support.
- Coping, Connection, and Compassion: Rethinking Addiction Together (A226)**
Dr. Caitlyn McClure
Addiction affects everyone, yet stigma often stands in the way of healing. This community conversation explores addiction through a compassionate, trauma-informed lens, inviting reflection on coping behaviors we all use. Participants will learn how empathy and language can reduce stigma and gain practical tools to support loved ones and build a more informed community.
- Introductory Overview of the McHenry County Specialty Courts (A220)**
Kelly Scimeca, MA, LCPC
This introductory session offers an overview of McHenry County’s Specialty Courts, including Drug Court, Mental Health Court, DUI Court, and the Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) program. Participants will learn how these courts operate, who they serve, and how they support public safety, rehabilitation, and long-term community well-being.
- McHenry County Workforce Network Resume Advisor (A215)**
Bob Lueders, Cory Vlahos
This presentation provides practical strategies to stand out in a competitive job market. Learn how to strengthen your resume, prepare for interviews, and communicate your experience with confidence through effective storytelling. Participants will leave with tools to articulate their value and navigate the hiring process successfully.

10:30–11:30 A.M. BREAKOUT SESSION II

- Supporting Our LGBTQ+ Friends and Neighbors: An Introduction to Allyship (A215)**
Elexis Richardson
This session explores the role of allies in supporting LGBTQ+ inclusivity and highlights key resources for continued learning. Participants will gain an understanding of affirming terminology, diverse experiences, and current challenges facing the LGBTQ+ community, and leave with practical tools to help foster more inclusive environments.
- Find Food IL (A221)**
Dale Kehr
This presentation introduces the Find Food IL Map and how to use it effectively. Participants will learn how to quickly locate food pantries, meal sites, and nutrition assistance across Illinois, and discover how organizations can use this tool to connect individuals to resources and support efforts to reduce food insecurity.

- The Empowered Caregiver: Communicating Effectively (A220)**
Aileen Zei
This session explains how dementia affects communication and provides practical strategies for communicating effectively with individuals living with dementia, as well as with family members and health care professionals to ensure the individual’s needs are understood and met.
- Wealth and Well-Being (A224)**
Kathrine Pfister
Emotions, habits, education, and ingrained beliefs shape financial success in ways we often overlook. Learn to move beyond simple budgeting by recognizing patterns that may hinder wealth building and discover practical strategies to align your behaviors and resources with your financial goals.
- The Illusion of Trust: Grooming, Manipulation, and Human Trafficking (A226)**
Misty Marinier
Examine the tactics traffickers use to manipulate and control victims. Using a trauma-informed perspective, participants will learn how grooming affects disclosure, immediate responses, and long-term recovery.
- Inside the Adolescent Mind (A211)**
Dr. Melissa Katz
Explore how adolescent brain development shapes behavior. Learn about current youth behavioral health trends and gain practical strategies for supporting adolescents through effective communication and coping techniques.
- From Scroll to Soar: How Communities Convert Digital Challenges into Thriving Opportunities (A222)**
Allison Kranich
Today, individuals—including children and teens—face rising rates of depression, anxiety, and loneliness, often complicated by reliance on smartphones and social media. Despite perceived benefits, these devices can increase isolation and relationship challenges. This workshop explores these impacts and offers evidence-based strategies to help slow or reverse these trends.

NOON–1 P.M. BREAKOUT SESSION III

- Salud Mental y Bienestar en la Comunidad Latinx (A222)**
Edith Sanchez
Esta presentación ofrece una introducción a la salud mental y al bienestar general en la comunidad Latinx. Los participantes aprenderán qué es la salud mental, por qué es importante y cómo afecta cada aspecto de nuestras vidas. La sesión promueve la comprensión, la conciencia y la compasión al explorar maneras prácticas de cuidar nuestra salud mental, apoyar a los demás y reducir el estigma dentro de nuestras familias y comunidades.
- The Enpowered Caregiver: Building Foundations of Caregiving (A220)**
Aileen Zei
Explore the challenges and rewards of caregiving. Learn strategies to build a strong support team, manage stress and burnout, and maintain your well-being while providing compassionate, long-term care.
- Teen Dating Violence Today: An Introduction to Teen Dating Violence and the Current Trends in the McHenry County Area (A221)**
Tiffany Hutson, Gwen Gallagher
Join Turning Point staff to learn about Teen Dating Violence (TDV). This session defines TDV, examines current trends, and explores healthy relationship components. Participants will discuss teens’ unique challenges, safety planning, and how trusted adults can provide effective support.
- McHenry County Transportation Options for People in Need (A226)**
Ana Valenzuela Ruiz, Drew Duffin, Scott Hennings
Explore McHenry County’s transit services beyond roads and bridges. Learn about MCRide, Connect (in partnership with Pace), and the Senior Care Volunteer Network’s Drive Program, and hear how Illinois’ 2025 transit legislation will shape the future of local and regional transit.
- Fraud Protection: Ways to Protect Your Identity (A211)**
Susan McGuffin, Kristal Johnson, Chad Golden
Learn how to protect yourself from scams and fraud. This presentation covers warning signs, common tactics used by criminals, and expert guidance on recovering from identity theft, providing resources to stay informed and safeguard your financial well-being.