



Maine Township News Release

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Laura J. Morask, Supervisor

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Maine Township brings home nine awards from state conference

Singled out for excellence from among more than 1,400 townships across Illinois, Maine Township was originally expected to bring home multiple awards from the annual conference of Township Officials of Illinois (TOI) which was held in Springfield last month. But, by the end of the awards ceremony on Nov. 14, the township received nine recognitions for outstanding staff, departments, elected officials, volunteers and programs, the most awards ever received at a single event for the township which is often recognized by such statewide honors.

“This record number of awards is tangible evidence of the high quality of service we deliver every day at all levels that help make the lives of our residents better,” said Laura J. Morask, Township Supervisor.

One of the standouts was a program called Recovery Connection, which helps young adults in the community stay clean and sober. It was first recognized by TOI as the Best Township Program of the Year in the Mighty Message competition. Then, Recovery Connection was again recognized for excellence when it was awarded as the Best Overall Program in 2017 for townships over 50,000 in population.

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Maine Township state conference awards 2017 recap—add 1

“While we had no idea about the second Recovery Connection win, it was a delightful surprise and very well deserved by Director Marty Cook, his staff and volunteers for the excellent and worthwhile work they do for young adults in recovery. My proudest accomplishment in 17 years on the Township Board was being one of the members three years ago that understood Marty’s unique vision and strongly pushed for the township to fund the program.”

Three awards were presented by the Illinois Township Association of Senior Citizen Services Committees (ITASCSC). The MaineStreamers Newcomers Presentation was recognized as an Innovative Senior Program of the Year for helping newcomers feel that they are already part of the MaineStreamer experience. Marie Dachniwsky, MaineStreamer Program Coordinator, was recognized as Senior Staff Member of the Year for her tireless and creative efforts to bring new experiences to seniors. Susan Moylan Krey, Maine Township Assessor, was recognized as Elected Official of the Year for her strong passion to assist seniors who live on fixed incomes.

Another TOI award was for a photo of kindergarteners embracing seniors who were celebrants at the 90-Plus Birthday Party. It was recognized as the Best Photo of the Year.

Two awards were presented by the Association of Illinois Township Committees on Youth (AITCOY). Kelsey Coy was recognized with the 2017 AITCOY Youth Leadership Award for her genuine interest in each of the young people she has mentored in the Future Leaders Program since becoming a member in 2015. MaineStay Youth & Family Services was recognized with the 2017 AITCOY Youth Organization Award for its determination and dedication in discovering and meeting the needs of the youth in Maine Township.

Lastly, Maine Township was also given a 2017 Education Award for completing over 70 hours of training through TOI in the past year.

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Photo Caption

Singled out from among more than 1,400 townships across Illinois, Maine Township staff members, volunteers, elected officials and programs were recognized for their service and accomplishments. Pictured from left front row: Marie Dachniwsky, MaineStreamer Program Coordinator and Senior Staff Member of the Year; Marsha Warnick, General Assistance Director; Marty Cook, Recovery Connection Director; Laura J. Morask, Township Supervisor; Susan Moylan Krey, Assessor and Elected Official of the Year; Nick Kanehl, Recovery Connection Peer Support Advocate; Richard Lyon, MaineStay Youth & Family Services Director. Back row: Claire R. McKenzie, Trustee; Susan Kelly Sweeney, Trustee; David A. Carrabotta, Esq., Trustee; Kimberly Jones, Trustee; and Walter Kazmierczak, Highway Commissioner.