

FILED

MAR 07 2025


Sangamon County Clerk

AGREEMENT

11-1

THIS AGREEMENT, effective March 12, 2025, is made and entered into by and between Sangamon County ("County") and KIND Consulting, LLC (owned by Sara Wojcicki Jimenez, who will be collaborating closely with Dr. Stacy Grundy on this project), hereinafter referred to as "Consultant."

Background: The Sangamon County Board adopted a resolution on January 13, 2025, to establish a commission of not more than nine people to "assess the need for mental health services in our community, study the successful implementation of a Mental Health Board in other communities, and educate our community about the costs and benefits of establishing a Mental Health Board for Sangamon County." The resolution further states that the commission should submit its final report of findings by December 1, 2025.

Purpose: The purpose of this Agreement is to assist the County is establishing the Mental Health Commission, to take the lead in providing staff support for the commission's meetings, to educate the public periodically about mental health needs in Sangamon County and the benefits of a Mental Health Board, to be the liaison on a community survey on mental health needs and services, and to prepare reports – especially the final report – for the commission's consideration.

The County and Consultant mutually agree as follows:

Article I - Scope of Services

Consultant agrees to provide the following services and oversee the work of Stacy Grundy:

1. Work with the County and commission chair to prepare for up to six monthly meetings for the commission (April through October).
2. Communicate with commissioners about meetings, agendas, reports, subject matter experts, recommendations, and findings. Prepare agendas and meeting reports.
3. Advise on posting requirements, agenda publications, deadlines, notices, open meeting and FOIA sensitivities, and work with the county for proper postings.
4. Respond to research requests from the commission.
5. Conduct a comprehensive literature review of previous health assessments that measure: physical, mental, spiritual, financial, and overall health in Sangamon County; mental health best practices and existing support structures; mental health board elements and their connection to health culture; and taxes.
6. Conduct analysis of findings relevant to mental health issues from existing listening sessions, interviews, and other sources
7. Identify best practices and experts regarding establishing a county wide mental health board
8. Prepare materials and documents in a timely manner for posting on the County's website about the commission's membership and work.

9. Assist the County in coordinating the development of a community survey with the University of Illinois Springfield Survey Research Office, which has experience in conducting community surveys in Sangamon County. The survey would seek quantitative and qualitative data on mental health service needs and issues in Sangamon County. (UIS would enter into its own separate contract with Sangamon County.)
10. Staff all commission meetings and prepare minutes.
11. With the commission, identify commission members who will become spokespeople for the commission and develop a plan to educate the community about its findings and mental health services and issues in Sangamon County.
12. Prepare announcements about commission progress as needed.
13. Assist in preparing the commission's final report and publicize its findings, utilizing the designated commission spokespeople and County officials.

Article II – Professional Experience



Sara Jimenez will be the primary liaison with the Mental Health Commission under this agreement and will collaborate extensively on all aspects of community engagement on this project with Dr. Stacy Grundy, who has the academic and public health credentials necessary for this work.

KIND Consulting was founded in 2021 by Sara Jimenez and offers communications, consulting and advocacy services to clients. She specializes in community engagement. Previous experience and current projects include staffing the Massey Commission in Sangamon County, working with Hanson Professional Services to get community feedback on the Third Street Greenway project, advising the developers of the Scheels Sports Park and serving Sangamon County on community engagement needed for the development of The Hub. Sara brings her experience as a reporter, anchor and producer in local television news outlets, as well as her executive and legislative branch experience in state government, to all her professional engagements. She served as the press secretary to House Minority Leader Tom Cross (R-Oswego), as downstate press secretary to Illinois Treasurer (now Secretary of State) Alexi Giannoulias (D), as chief of staff to Illinois' First Lady Diana Rauner, and on the communications team of Comptroller Judy Baar Topinka (R). As a communications professional and former elected member of the Springfield Park Board and Illinois House of Representatives, Jimenez is proud to have represented the same soil in Sangamon County that Abraham Lincoln represented in the Illinois General Assembly. In performing these roles, she has developed a vast network that includes important business, philanthropic, civic and government leaders in the Springfield area. She creates strategies that result in increased visibility, strengthened reputations and effective solutions. She is a superb communicator who crafts effective short- and long-term strategies, as well as media training, speech writing, and reputation-building. She understands public relations and knows how to craft meaningful messaging on all media

platforms. Based in Springfield, KIND was developed as a way for Jimenez to use her experience to give back to organizations in Illinois in order for them to achieve their governmental relations and communications goals. She has a bachelor's degree in communications from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville and a master's in Public Affairs Reporting from the University of Illinois Springfield. She also taught communications as an adjunct at the former Benedictine University-Springfield.



Dr. Stacy Grundy, DrPH, holds a B.S. in Human Nutrition from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, a MPH in Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences from the University of Texas School of Public Health, and a **Doctor of Public Health** degree from the University of South Florida College of Public Health. Her professional accomplishments include service as the Interim Director and a Research Assistant Professor for Southern Illinois University (SIU) System Office of Community Engagement and the School of Medicine. Dr. Grundy developed and directed SIU's COVID-19 Pandemic Health Worker Program for 66 counties, using innovative health technology in urban

and rural communities. Dr. Grundy served as the Downstate Community Engagement Lead for the Illinois Healthcare Transformation Plan. Findings from the plan informed new state legislation and created a \$150 million fund for quality of care services.

Dr. Grundy is a respected public health practitioner, community-based researcher and social entrepreneur and has devoted her career to improving healthcare access and quality for underserved communities. She is committed to health systems integration with the goal of improving outcomes for patients, providers, and health systems. She has a distinguished career that reflects continual advancement, a depth of valuable and diversified experience, and consistent achievements in driving innovative, cost-effective health strategies within healthcare systems and diverse communities. She is also the founder and co-CEO of the Route Museum in Springfield, which tells the often-untold stories of Black experiences and the significant contributions of Black businesses in and near Springfield during the time of the underground railroad, the Jim Crow era, the Great Migration and along Route 66.

Article III - Compensation

Sangamon County agrees to compensate Consultant in the manner described below:
The total compensation for services provided March 12, 2025 through December 31, 2025 will be \$50,000. KIND Consulting and Stacy Grundy will provide up to 50 hours of service per month for this fee. KIND Consulting will split the fee evenly with Stacy Grundy.

The fee is all-inclusive for the Scope of Services. Any other expenses incurred by Consultant, County or commissioners in fulfilling the Scope of Services (e.g., for graphic designers, photographers, printing/copying, videographers, food/drinks, AV services, space rental, meeting expenses or other expenses) will be billed directly by those vendors to Sangamon County or to another organization specified by the County whenever possible. In situations

where Consultant incurs external expenses that are not billed directly, Consultant will be reimbursed for expenses at cost, without markup. In some cases, County may direct Consultant to utilize specific external services or vendors. The County's obligation to pay any expenses under the terms of this paragraph is limited to those expenses incurred with the County's preapproval and supported by invoices.

Consultant anticipates that County will seek to develop a separate contract with UIS for the community survey, and this will be an important aspect of the commission's work.

Article IV - Invoicing and Payments

Consultant shall submit an invoice of \$5,000 to Sangamon County at the end of each month beginning March 31, 2025 and ending on December 31, 2025. Sangamon County agrees to pay Consultant the fee of \$5,000 within 14 days of receipt of invoice. KIND will pay sub-consultant Stacy Grundy \$2,500 monthly for her services after receiving the payment from the county. County pre-approved expenses supported by invoices will be paid within 14 days of receipt.

Article V - Termination

The performance of services under this Agreement may be terminated, in whole or in part, by Sangamon County or Consultant with 30 days' notice.

Article VI - Disputes

Any disputes arising under this Agreement that are not settled informally shall be settled by appropriate legal, equitable or administrative proceedings.

Article VII - Conflict of Interest

Consultant, by signing this Agreement, covenants that Consultant has no public or private interest, direct or indirect, and shall not acquire directly or indirectly any such interest that does or may conflict in any manner with the performance of Consultant's services and obligations under this Agreement.

Article VIII - Compliance with Laws

Consultant agrees that it will comply with all federal, state, municipal, and local laws, rules, and regulations that may be applicable to this Agreement.

Article IX- Entire Agreement

This consultant Agreement is the entire agreement between Sangamon County for the Expressed services. It supersedes all prior communications, understandings and agreements, whether written or oral. Amendments to this Agreement must be in writing and signed by both County and Consultant. The Agreement may be extended beyond the final date by mutual written consent of the County and Consultant.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement as of its effective date.

For KIND Consulting, LLC

Sara Wojcicki Jimenez, owner

Date

For Sangamon County

Date

(Printed) _____

Title: _____