



PRESS RELEASE

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CFCI and Gilmore Foundation Partner to Award \$2.4 Million Grant for Behavioral Health Needs

February 22, 2022— The Community Foundation of Central Illinois (CFCI) announces that it is partnering with the Gilmore Foundation to award a total of \$2.4 million to UnityPoint Health – UnityPlace to help service behavioral health and psychiatric needs in the central Illinois community.

Of the \$2.4 million grant, CFCI will be awarding \$1.2 million. The Gilmore Foundation has committed to contributing a matching amount. The grant dollars will support the development and provision of a comprehensive and accessible array of services, delivered where people need them the most and ensuring access to vulnerable populations across central Illinois. By partnering with other mental health services in the Peoria area, UnityPlace is able to meet rapidly growing mental health and substance abuse needs in ways that were not previously possible. Further, by embracing the use of phone consultations and virtual appointments, they are helping to make services easier to access and more readily available.

“The need for behavioral health and psychiatric services in the community has never been higher and has been greatly exacerbated by COVID-19. We are proud to partner with the Gilmore Foundation in assisting UnityPlace in addressing these important needs in our community,” says Mark Roberts, President and CEO of the Community Foundation of Central Illinois.

“Gilmore Foundation is pleased to enter a commitment to address the immediate behavioral health crises in the community, and to advance a sustainable workforce for behavioral health treatment and mental health services provided by Unity Place in the Tri-County area. This collaboration is a fundamental component of the Gilmore way forward and a starting place from which we hope to build upon for the future,” states Laura Cullinan, President Gilmore Foundation.

About the Community Foundation of Central Illinois

Established in 1985, the Community Foundation of Central Illinois is a philanthropic resource committed to connecting people who care with causes that matter. For more information, please call 309-674-8730, email carley@communityfoundationci.org or visit <http://www.communityfoundationci.org>.

About the Gilmore Foundation

The Gilmore Foundation is a private foundation established in 2009 which supports the development and improvement of the tri-county community — Peoria, Tazewell and Woodford counties. For more information, please visit <http://www.gilmorefndn.org>.

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