



DuPage County  
Office of the County Board  
421 North County Farm Road  
Wheaton, Illinois 60187-3978

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**MEMBER INITIATIVE PROGRAM APPLICATION** - Please complete all sections for submission

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**SECTION I Organization Information**

Organization	Support Over Stigma
Contact Person	Zoeie Kreiner
Address	250 S Gary Av
City	
Phone Number	
Email	

**SECTION II Project Description**

Project Title	Valor 360
Cost of the Project	\$10,000
Brief Description of the Scope of Initiative <small>The full text in this section is on the attached page</small>	The Support Over Stigma (SoS) Valor360 Mental Health program for Veterans, Military Personnel, First Responders, and their families aims to address the multifaceted challenges faced by individuals who have served in the military or worked in emergency response roles. Grounded in both a community and clinical perspective, this program offers a range of tailored interventions designed to enhance physical health, mental well-being, and
Desired Outcomes <small>The full text in this section is on the attached page</small>	Increase education and suicide prevention awareness by 15% among military families, veterans, and first responders in DuPage County.  This will be achieved by:  Expanding community outreach and education efforts.

**SECTION III Signature**

Member Name	Sheila Rutledge
District	

**SECTION IV Supplemental Documents**

Please attach the following (if applicable)

- Letters of Engagement from all involved organizations
- Vendor Ethics Disclosures
- Bid Documents
- Proof of Good Standing with IL Secretary of State for all partner organizations
- Tax Documents (such as W-9 forms, where applicable)

### **Brief Description of the Scope of Initiative**

The Support Over Stigma (SoS) Valor360 Mental Health program for Veterans, Military Personnel, First Responders, and their families aims to address the multifaceted challenges faced by individuals who have served in the military or worked in emergency response roles. Grounded in both a community and clinical perspective, this program offers a range of tailored interventions designed to enhance physical health, mental well-being, and vocational success among these populations.

The program encompasses five key components:

Suicide Prevention

Family & Social Support

Education & Outreach

Physical Health Management

### **Desired Outcomes**

Increase education and suicide prevention awareness by 15% among military families, veterans, and first responders in DuPage County.

This will be achieved by:

Expanding community outreach and education efforts.

Providing accessible suicide prevention resources and peer support.

Strengthening partnerships with local organizations.

Using data to track progress and improve impact.

By increasing awareness and support, Valor360 will help reduce stigma, prevent suicide, and improve overall well-being.



April 8, 2025

Jeremy,

On behalf of Support Over Stigma and our Valor 360 program, I am submitting the following request for the Membership Initiative Program grant for the creation of a food pantry dedicated to veterans and first responders. Too often, these brave individuals face food and housing insecurity in silence, unwilling or unable to seek help through traditional channels.

The enclosed proposal outlines our plan to create a respectful, judgment-free space where veterans and first responders can access essential food, hygiene items, and household necessities. With an initial investment of \$10,000, we will be able to fully stock and equip the pantry, with sustainability ensured through ongoing community donations.

Your support will make a powerful impact in honoring those who have served and protected us by ensuring they never go without the essentials.

Thank you for considering this important initiative. We would be honored to partner with you in supporting those who have given so much.

Sincerely,

Zoeie Kreiner

Founder

Zoeie@SupportOverStigma.org



supportoverstigma.org



(630) 492-0308



info@supportoverstigma



## Grant Proposal Summary: Valor 360 Food Pantry for Veterans & First Responders by Support Over Stigma

Support Over Stigma is committed to supporting our nation's veterans and first responders, recognizing their dedication and sacrifices. Despite their service, many of these individuals face significant challenges, including food and housing insecurity which adds to their mental health challenges. Most are reluctant to seek assistance from traditional food pantries, often enduring hardship in silence. To address this urgent need, our Valor 360 program proposes the creation of a dedicated food pantry tailored specifically for veterans and first responders, ensuring they have access to essential resources in an environment that helps them with these and other needs.

### Statement of Need

Food insecurity among veterans and first responders is a pressing concern. Studies indicate that approximately 11.1% of working-age veterans live in food-insecure households, with 5.3% experiencing very low food security, leading to disrupted eating patterns and reduced food intake. Furthermore, veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan are nearly twice as likely to be food insecure compared to the general population.

Several factors contribute to this issue:

- **Low Income and Employment Challenges:** Transitioning from military service can present difficulties in securing stable employment, impacting financial stability.
- **Physical and Mental Health Conditions:** Service-related health issues can hinder the ability to maintain consistent employment, exacerbating financial and food security challenges.
- **Reluctance to Seek Assistance:** Many veterans and first responders are hesitant to utilize traditional food pantries due to stigma or a desire for self-reliance. They often prefer to "make do with what we got," leading them to endure hardship rather than seek help.

### Project Description

Valor 360 aims to establish a dedicated food pantry designed to serve veterans and first responders with dignity and respect. The pantry will provide:

- **Nutritious Food Supplies:** A selection of non-perishable and perishable items to meet diverse dietary needs.
- **Hygiene and Personal Care Products:** Essential items including toothpaste, body wash, laundry detergent, fabric softener, toilet bowl cleaner, diapers, feminine hygiene products, toilet paper, and paper towels.





## Budget

The initial setup and procurement of supplies are estimated as follows:

- Refrigerator: \$1,500
- Freezer: \$1,500
- Heavy-Duty Shelving: \$200
- Pushcart: \$75
- Initial Stock of Food and Hygiene Items: \$6,725

Total Estimated Cost: \$10,000

Following the initial setup, the pantry will be sustained through community donations and partnerships, ensuring ongoing support for our veterans and first responders.

## Conclusion

By establishing this dedicated food pantry, Valor 360 seeks to address the crucial issue of food insecurity among veterans and first responders in a manner that respects their service and acknowledges their unique challenges. This initiative will provide immediate relief and foster a supportive community, encouraging individuals to seek assistance without stigma. We respectfully request funding to bring this vital project to fruition, honoring and supporting those who have dedicated their lives to serving our nation.

Respectfully,

Zoeie Kreiner

Founder – Support Over Stigma

[Zoeie@SupportOverStigma.org](mailto:Zoeie@SupportOverStigma.org)





DuPage County  
Finance Department  
Procurement Division  
421 North County Farm Road  
Room 3-400  
Wheaton, Illinois 60187-3978

## REQUIRED VENDOR ETHICS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

### Section I: Contact Information

Please complete the contact information below.

BID NUMBER:	
COMPANY NAME:	SUPPORT OVER STIGMA, INC.
CONTACT PERSON:	ZOEIE KREINER
CONTACT EMAIL:	ZOEIE@SUPPORTOVERSTIGMA.ORG

### Section II: Procurement Ordinance Requirements

Every contractor, union, or vendor that is seeking or has previously obtained a contract, change orders to one (1) or more contracts, or two (2) or more individual contracts with the County, shall provide to the Procurement Division a written disclosure of all political campaign contributions made by such contractor, union, or vendor to any incumbent County Board member, County Board chairman, or Countywide elected official whose office the contract to be awarded will benefit within the current and previous calendar year. The contractor, union, or vendor shall update such disclosure annually during the term of a multi-year contract and prior to any change order or renewal requiring approval by the county board. For purposes of this disclosure requirement, "contractor or vendor" includes owners, officers, managers, lobbyists, agents, consultants, bond counsel and underwriters counsel, subcontractors, and corporate entities under the control of the contracting person, and political action committees to which the contracting person has made contributions.

Has the Bidder made contributions as described above?

☐ Yes

☒ No

If "Yes", complete the required information in the table below.

RECIPIENT	DONOR	DESCRIPTION (e.g., cash, type of item, in-kind services, etc.)	AMOUNT/VALUE	DATE MADE

All contractors and vendors who have obtained or are seeking contracts with the County shall disclose the names and contact information of their lobbyists, agents and representatives and all individuals who are or will be having contact with county officers or employees in relation to the contractor bid and shall update such disclosure with any changes that may occur.

Has the Bidder had or will the Bidder have contact with lobbyists, agents, representatives or individuals who are or will be having contact with county officers or employees as described above.

☐ Yes

☒ No

If "Yes", list the name, phone number, and email of lobbyists, agents, representatives, and all individuals who are or will be having contact with county officers or employees in the table below.

NAME	PHONE	EMAIL

### **Section III: Violations**

A contractor or vendor that knowingly violates these disclosure requirements is subject to penalties which may include, but are not limited to, the immediate cancellation of the contract and possible disbarment from future County contracts. Continuing and supplemental disclosure is required. The Bidder agrees to update this disclosure form as follows:

- If information changes, within five (5) days of change, or prior to county action, whichever is sooner;
- 30 days prior to the optional renewal of any contract;
- Annual disclosure for multi-year contracts on the anniversary of said contract
- With any request for change order except those issued by the county for administrative adjustments

The full text of the County's Ethics Ordinance is available at:

[http://www.dupagecounty.gov/government/county\\_board/ethics\\_at\\_the\\_county/](http://www.dupagecounty.gov/government/county_board/ethics_at_the_county/)

The full text of the County's Procurement Ordinance is available at:

[https://www.dupagecounty.gov/government/departments/finance/procurement/procurement\\_ordinance\\_and\\_guiding\\_principles.php](https://www.dupagecounty.gov/government/departments/finance/procurement/procurement_ordinance_and_guiding_principles.php)

### **Section IV: Certification**

By signing below, the Bidder hereby acknowledges that it has received, read, and understands these requirements, and certifies that the information submitted on this form is true and correct to the best of its knowledge.

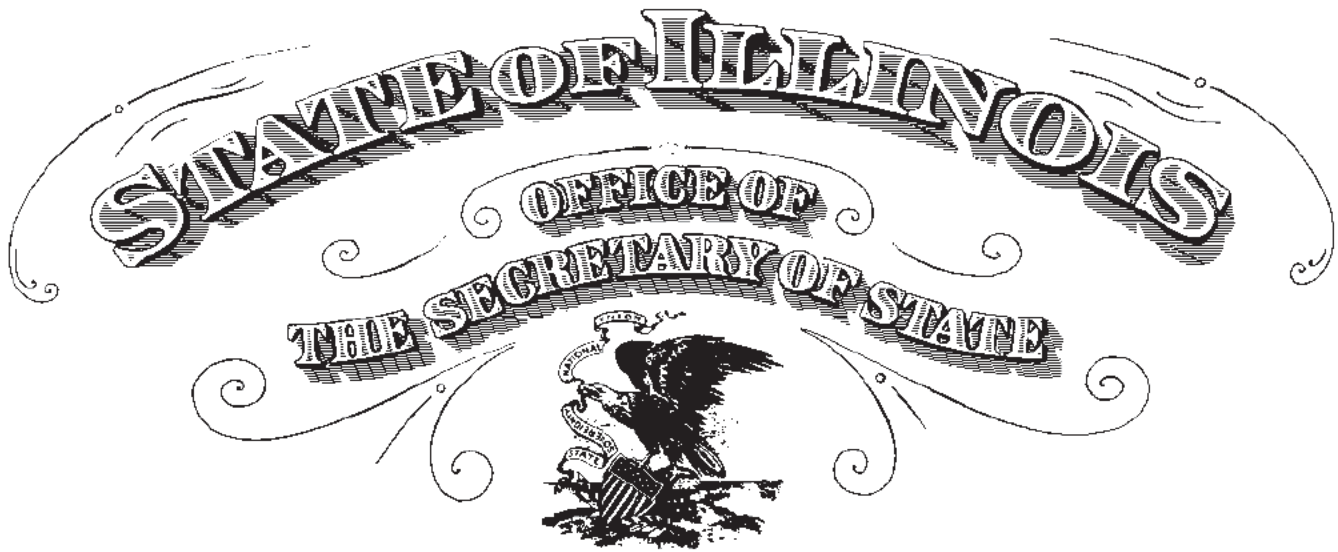
Printed Name: Zoeie Hreiner

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: CEO

Date: April 9, 2025





***To all to whom these Presents Shall Come, Greeting:***

*I, Alexi Giannoulis, Secretary of State of the State of Illinois, do hereby certify that I am the keeper of the records of the Department of Business Services. I certify that*

SUPPORT OVER STIGMA, INC, A DOMESTIC CORPORATION, INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF THIS STATE ON JULY 27, 2020, APPEARS TO HAVE COMPLIED WITH ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THE GENERAL NOT FOR PROFIT CORPORATION ACT OF THIS STATE, AND AS OF THIS DATE, IS IN GOOD STANDING AS A DOMESTIC CORPORATION IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.



***In Testimony Whereof, I hereto set***  
*my hand and cause to be affixed the Great Seal of*  
*the State of Illinois, this 31ST*  
*day of MARCH A.D. 2025 .*