



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-10/07/2026**

**For further information please contact:**

Randy Roberson, Compliance, [randy@steppingstonesrockford.org](mailto:randy@steppingstonesrockford.org), (office) 815-963-0683 X242 (cell) 815-974-7675  
Stepping Stones of Rockford, Inc., 4930 East State Street, Rockford, Illinois 61108  
<https://steppingstonesrockford.org>

**In collaboration with City of Rockford's Acting Mayor Janessa Neal, Illinois State Senator Steve Stadelman, Illinois State Representative Maurice West, the Greater Rockford Area Chamber of Commerce, the Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board, major facility contractors Schmeling Construction Company and the Larson & Darby Group, Hinshaw and the Junior League of Rockford; Stepping Stones of Rockford will conduct a Ribbon Cutting ceremony at our new corporate headquarters located at 4930 East State Street, Rockford, Illinois 61108 at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 29, 2026.**

**Stepping Stones of Rockford** is proud to announce it will hold a Ribbon Cutting ceremony on Thursday, October 29, 2026 beginning at 3:00 p.m. to mark the relocation of its corporate headquarters to a completely renovated facility. A short program featuring guest speakers will begin at 3:00 p.m. and will be followed by the opportunity to tour the facility. The public is welcome to attend and the event is expected to conclude at 6:00 p.m.

**About Stepping Stones' new corporate headquarters:** After thirty-five years at its previous location, this relocation was facilitated by the need for more space in order to accommodate the growing demand for the organization's mental health treatment services. The new facility is the organization's administrative headquarters, base for the award winning dramatic and visual arts program Stars of Light and center for client services. These include; admissions, telepsychiatry, nursing, counseling, community support group activities, pre-vocational training, outreach case management and related services. This new facility has 25,706 square of space and was designed to meet current and near future client service needs.

This new facility was made possible in part by a generous grant from the Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board (WCCMHB), whose funding is generated by a voter approved 1/2 cent sales tax to help fund mental health and substance abuse services throughout Winnebago County. Stepping Stones' services are prioritized for those who are eligible for Medicaid but are available to anyone in need who qualifies. To schedule an assessment or make a referral, please call 815-963-0683.

**Susan Schroeder, LCSW and CEO of Stepping Stones of Rockford, Inc. said about the new headquarters:** "I would like to first say thank you to our clients, employees, families, neighbors and friends who supported us for thirty-five years at our previous location. I will always cherish the relationships we established over the years and look forward to sustaining those and building partnerships here in our new neighborhood. I can't begin to express how excited I am about our new facility because I know the expanded space will allow us to further enhance services to individuals in our program and allow us to meet the future demand for the mental health treatment Stepping Stones provides. I am grateful to the voters of Winnebago County and the Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board for helping to make this new facility a reality. Change can be challenging for us all. We are fortunate to have such a caring and committed board of directors who recognized that we simply had outgrown our previous location and that it was time to offer an updated facility that our clients and community deserve.

**About Stepping Stones of Rockford, Inc.:** Stepping Stones of Rockford, Inc. is a private 501 ( c ) ( 3 ) nonprofit behavioral healthcare organization that provides mental health services to children aged six and older and adolescents with severe emotional disturbances and housing and psychiatric rehabilitation services for adults with serious mental illnesses. Since beginning as a single halfway house in 1969, Stepping Stones has grown to become northern Illinois' leading provider of community based residential programs designed to meet the housing and recovery needs of adults with serious mental illnesses. The organization owns and operates fourteen accredited facilities and operates seven other non-residential properties. To learn more about Stepping Stones, please visit <https://steppingstonesrockford.org>.

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