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For more information, please contact:

Dawn Caldwell

Assistant Village Manager

(815) 886-0279

[dcaldwell@romeoville.org](mailto:dcaldwell@romeoville.org)

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**Romeoville Launches New Opportunity Matters Initiative**

Opportunity Matters is an ambitious and exciting new program targeting the youth in Will County. The goal is to create the next generation of leaders through programs that encompass mentorship, academics, health and wellness, career training, and economic development.

## OPPORTUNITY MATTERS

The Romeoville Initiative

“The values that kids learn and practice between the ages of 10-19 are what will shape them as adults,” stated Mayor John Noak. “If we can build a strong foundation for them to establish good character, a healthy lifestyle, and insight into the workplace, we will have accomplished our goal.”

Opportunity Matters will present programs on character, diversity, sports and recreation, youth obesity and nutrition, job training, and more during its first two years. In years 3-5, they will target career development, web based technical training, college readiness, in addition to other topics.

The key to success lies in the community. The program hopes to partner with non-profits, religious organizations, local businesses, other local jurisdictions and education organizations. If you are an organization that would like to lend a hand to the program, please contact Noel Maldonado at [nmaldonado@romeoville.org](mailto:nmaldonado@romeoville.org). Youth looking to enroll in the program can contact Marc Howard at [mhoward@romeoville.org](mailto:mhoward@romeoville.org).