



Message to the Community

United Community Services of Johnson County was founded nearly 50 years ago by civic leaders who wanted Johnson County to be a place where all people had the opportunity to achieve their full potential. That lofty vision still guides UCS, even though we know that a local community cannot successfully remove every barrier, or offer the safety net and work supports that every individual might need.

What we can do is promote a set of beliefs and offer opportunities to work together to collectively improve the community’s response to health and human service issues. UCS believes:

- Every individual has unique needs that may benefit from a health and human service response.
- Health and human services are essential components of “quality of life” and contribute to the economic vitality of the community.
- Community planning can produce focused, strategic change and positively improve the quality of life.
- All individuals and entities contribute to and share responsibility for the common good.
- Health and human service infrastructure represents a joint public – private venture requiring adequate investment of public resources.
- Improving access to health and human services requires a constituency that will support and advocate for the policies and funding which affect health and human services. UCS’ purpose is to enhance the availability and delivery of health and human services.

These beliefs are translated into action in the UCS mission statement: UCS provides data analysis, leads collaborative planning and mobilizes resources to enhance the availability and delivery of health and human services.

On behalf of the UCS board and staff, thank you for working with us to strive for a community where all people have the opportunity to fully participate in work and community life.



Jill Quigley, UCS Board President

Karen Wulfkuhle, Executive Director

UCS Board of Directors

Jill Quigley, President
Becky Tilden, Vice President
Doug Davidson, Secretary
Matt Scholfield, Treasurer

Jennifer Bruning
Mary Estrada
Mike Hockley
Tom Robinett

Hon. Ron Shaffer
Paul Snider
Maury Thompson
Eric Wade

Tom Wertz
Rev. David Whetter
Eugene Wilson
Marc Wilson

UCS Staff

Karen Wulfkuhle
Executive Director

Valorie Carson
Community Planning Director

Marya Schott
Community Initiatives Director

Christie Corbin
Administrative Assistant



Major Accomplishments

Reducing Poverty and Creating Opportunity

Challenges of living with limited financial resources cut across every health and human service issue. Reducing the number of individuals and families living with very low incomes will require creating more opportunities – opportunities for good jobs, opportunities for education from the earliest years forward, and opportunities to connect to safety net supports and services when needed.

In 2014, the Johnson County Board of County Commissioners and executive team members adopted reducing poverty as Johnson County Government’s top strategic priority. UCS is partnering with County Government to identify effective strategies to reduce poverty and create opportunities. This work continues into 2015.

UCS analyzes data and raises awareness of human service issues.

Activities to raise awareness included:

- Hosted the 13th Annual **Human Service Summit** on June 10. The 160 people in attendance heard strategies to tackle suburban poverty from Elizabeth Kneebone, author of *Confronting Suburban Poverty in America* and one of the nation’s leading experts on suburban poverty.

Kneebone’s message to the audience was “Let’s change the way we confront poverty in America.”



- Provided **informational presentations** on Johnson County and regional human service trends to various groups. Many of the presentations are available on the UCS website.
- **Communicated information** about human service needs and issues by way of a regular electronic newsletter and traditional newsletter mailings. UCS-produced Fact Sheets were included with newsletters and posted to the UCS website.

To raise awareness and **recognize contributions** that improve the quality of life for Johnson County residents, UCS celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Human Service Fund by honoring the local governments that make contributions to the Human Service Fund. Twenty-five year participants include Johnson County Government, Gardner, Leawood, Lenexa, Mission, Olathe, Overland Park, Shawnee and Spring Hill. Every city has participated over the course of the fund’s history. The list of 2014 contributors is on page 4.

2014 Financial Review

| Revenue | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| United Way of Greater KC | \$165,000 |
| Human Service Fund | \$268,100 |
| Government Grants & Contracts | \$191,412 |
| Private Grants & Contributions | \$107,053 |
| Miscellaneous | <u>\$ 10,038</u> |
| Un-audited Total | \$741,603 |
| Expenses | |
| Community Planning | \$278,020 |
| Drug & Alcoholism Council | \$ 75,570 |
| Human Service Fund Grants | \$268,100 |
| Admin/Fundraising | <u>\$ 65,125</u> |
| Un-audited Total | \$686,815 |

Audited Financials for 2014 will be available in June 2015.
For additional financial information, contact UCS.

UCS leads collaborative planning and mobilizes resources to enhance the availability and delivery of health and human services. Specific areas of focus are families and children, poverty and homelessness, and substance abuse.

The Children's Coordinating Council. To better address the needs of vulnerable children and families, UCS convenes a collaboration of 30 service providers in order to increase their knowledge of community issues and resources; enable them to make better referrals; strengthen relationships among local organizations; and promote positive changes that improve the community's human service response. A project to review the literature on "cross-over" youth was completed. "Cross-over" youth are those who are already or likely to become involved with both the criminal justice and child welfare system.

The Johnson County Continuum of Care on Homelessness. UCS acts as the convener for the Continuum, which is made up of 40+ service providers. The Continuum, with UCS' support, is responsible for submission of Johnson County's application for federal homelessness funding and the biennial homelessness count. In 2014, local agencies were granted \$587,357 from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to support transitional housing, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing projects. Overall homelessness numbers continue to decrease since the high of 2011, in part due to the adoption of rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention practices.

The Johnson County Trauma-Informed Care Task Force was launched in April 2012. In 2014 Task Force member staff trained as trainers instructed their organization's staff in trauma-informed theory, and practices and policies. Task Force member organizations began measuring outcomes for clients and staff. Additionally, new organizations from the social services, early childhood education, municipal law enforcement and substance abuse sectors were recruited. In September, 37 Task Force and community members from Johnson County attended a training by SAMHSA's National Center for Trauma Informed Care specifically targeting the criminal justice and substance abuse sectors. The Task Force continues to raise awareness of the relationship

between childhood trauma and poor adult health outcomes. The project is funded by the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City.

UCS' 2014 Public Policy Platform focused on influencing policy choices that promote positive outcomes for people. Key advocacy areas were improving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and Medicaid expansion. A 2015 platform was adopted in November. UCS co-hosted a public policy forum with United Way of Greater Kansas City in December to prepare for the 2015 legislative session.

The **Human Service Fund** is managed by UCS to leverage resources for programs that target economic security and personal safety. With funding from 15 cities and the Board of County Commissioners, \$268,100 was awarded to 13 nonprofit agencies. More than 64,000 people benefited from these programs.

The Drug and Alcoholism Council of Johnson County. On behalf of the Board of County Commissioners and nine cities, the Council oversees the allocation of local **Alcohol Tax Funds** to substance abuse prevention and treatment programs. More than 71,000 people benefited from programs funded in part by Alcohol Tax Funds. For 2014, jurisdictions allocated \$1.5 million to 22 programs for direct services. Four cities collaborated to award one-time funding of \$380,000 to 16 organizations for capacity building.

On a contractual basis, UCS staff provided **United Way of Greater Kansas City** with regional data collection and analysis. A set of 70 key indicators is updated annually for Johnson and Wyandotte counties in Kansas, and Cass, Clay, Jackson and Platte counties in Missouri. Needs assessments for United Way's three impact areas - education, income and health -were completed.

Council of Advisors

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Gary Anderson | Jeffrey O. Ellis | Rabbi Mark Levin | Elaine Tatham, PhD |
| Mary Birch | SuEllen Fried | Janis McMillen, PhD | Stephen Tatum |
| Dick Bond | Ellen Hanson | Carol Sader | Tom Trigg, PhD |
| David Cook, PhD | Terrie Huntington | Joe Sopcich, PhD | David Warm |
| Ben Craig | Betty Keim | Brad Stratton | Ron Wimmer, PhD |
| Hon. Peggy Dunn | Audrey Langworthy | Charles T. Sunderland | Hannes Zacharias |
| Hon. Ed Eilert | | | |

Drug and Alcoholism Council

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Lee Jost, Chair | John Elder | Sgt. Lee Krout | Sara Sautter |
| Roxann Kerr Lindsey, Vice Chair | Ryan Erker | Cathy Lawless | Samantha Shannon |
| Marcy Knight, Secretary | Jennifer Granger | Mary Moss | Heather Smith* |
| Jeanna Allen | Nicolette Green | Capt. Rick Newson | Jennifer Wilson |
| Dr. Wendy Biggs | Risé Haneberg* | Marie Ramirez | |
| Chief Michael Daniels | Joe Karlin | Debbie Rulo | *non-voting member |

Major Funding Support



United Way of Greater Kansas City

Corporate, Foundation, Government and Other Contributors

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Ash Grove Cement Company | Johnson County Government | Reser's Fine Foods |
| AT&T | Johnson County CDBG | Spencer Fane Britt & Browne |
| Colonial Church | Johnson County Mental Health Center | REACH Healthcare Foundation |
| Health Care Foundation of Greater KC | KCP&L | Westar Energy |
| | Mid-America Regional Council | |

Individuals

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Gary Anderson | Michael Hockley | Paul Snider |
| Mary Birch | Terrie Huntington | Michele Manne Neylon |
| Jennifer Bruning | Audrey Langworthy | Jon and Christie Stewart |
| Ben Craig | Fred and Carol Logan | Charles T. Sunderland |
| Doug Davidson | Janis McMillen | Elaine Tatham |
| Peggy Dunn | Jill Quigley | Maury Thompson |
| Jeff and Carol Lynne Ellis | Tom Robinett | Becky and Jim Tilden |
| Mary D. Estrada | Carol Sader | David Warm |
| SuEllen and Harvey Fried | Matthew Scholfield | Thomas Wertz |
| Dolores Furtado | Marya Schott | Rev. David Whetter |
| Carol Gonzales | Henry Sewing | Eugene Wilson |
| Ellen Hanson | Ron Shaffer | Marc Wilson |
| Robert Hester | Carol J. Smith | Karen Wulfkuhle |

Alcohol Tax Fund and Human Service Fund Partners

Alcohol Tax Fund participating jurisdictions: Gardner, Leawood, Lenexa, Merriam, Mission, Olathe, Overland Park, Prairie Village, Shawnee, and Johnson County Government.

Human Service Fund contributing jurisdictions: De Soto, Edgerton, Gardner, Leawood, Lenexa, Merriam, Mission, Olathe, Overland Park, Prairie Village, Roeland Park, Shawnee, Spring Hill, Westwood, Westwood Hills, and Johnson County Government.

UCS is a 502(c)3 organization. Contributions to UCS are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Every attempt was made to ensure the accuracy of this list. Please report any errors to us so that we may correct our records.