



Human Service Fund
A Collaborative City/County Partnership
Managed by United Community Services of Johnson County

2017 Year-End Report

Since 1990, United Community Services of Johnson County (UCS) has worked in partnership with cities and Johnson County Government to support programs that improve the quality of life through human service strategies. For 2017, 14 nonprofit organizations were awarded \$310,965.

This report provides an overview of the programs supported by the Human Service Fund during 2017. Please note in the report we have highlighted the number of Johnson County residents served, although some programs also serve individuals living outside of Johnson County. Approximately 55,000 Johnson County residents benefited from programs designed to offer support and create opportunities to build self-sufficiency and well-being.

2017 Human Service Fund Priorities:

1. Programs funded by the HSF must deliver measurable outcomes which benefit Johnson County residents and, in the long-term, benefit local governments by avoiding, deferring, or preventing costs that otherwise might be incurred by local government.
2. Programs funded by the HSF must fit the definition of "Safety Net or Work Supports." Priority is given to programs that address child care, job training, emergency aid and shelter, child/adult abuse, child welfare, and health care.
3. Priority will be given to programs that serve individuals and/or families with income below or near the federal poverty level.
4. Priority will be given to programs that are not primarily funded or delivered by local, state or federal governments.
5. Priority will be given to programs that demonstrate innovation and/or collaboration in program delivery.

The UCS board of directors, funded programs and program participants thank the Board of County Commissioners, and Mayors and Council Members who make these funds available. For additional information, contact Marya Schott, UCS Director of Resource Allocation, 913.438.4764, maryas@ucsjoco.org.

2017 Funding	
Johnson County Government	\$121,275
15 Cities	\$213,890
Total Dollars	\$335,165
UCS Administration	-\$24,200
Grant Awards	\$310,965

Participating jurisdictions include: Johnson County, De Soto, Edgerton, Gardner, Leawood, Lenexa, Merriam, Mission, Olathe, Overland Park, Prairie Village, Roeland Park, Shawnee, Spring Hill, Westwood and Westwood Hills.



2017 Human Service Fund Year-End Report

CASA of Johnson and Wyandotte Counties

Number of Johnson County residents served: 312 children
\$32,000 Grant

CASA's (Court-Appointed Special Advocate) Children in Need of Care (CINC) program is a court-ordered program that serves children involved in cases where conflicting case information has been presented to the judge, there is extreme neglect or abuse, or there are concerns about implementation of services. A trained CASA volunteer advocate focuses on the child's needs. The volunteer gathers information from significant adults in the child's life, and with a CASA supervisor, submits a report to the judge who is then able to make a more informed decision regarding the child's future. The CINC program served 327 children from within and outside of Johnson County,

Outcomes achieved during 2017: The presence of a stable adult is a key factor in building resilience from a history of trauma. Ninety-five percent of children served by CASA had a stable adult presence in their CASA volunteer during their court involvement. While assigned to a CASA advocate, 99% of children served did not have an additional affirmed or substantiated report of abuse to Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF). Of the CASA-served youth eligible for graduation, 87% graduated.

Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas

Number of Johnson County residents served: 25,147
\$70,000 Grant

Through two centers in Johnson County, Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas provides an emergency assistance and supportive housing program for families living at or below 150% of federal poverty guidelines (\$30,630 in 2017 for a family of 3 – the average family size served). Emergency assistance protects and promotes the well-being of families and children by meeting basic needs such as food, shelter and clothing, as well as prescription medication, utility payments, and gasoline for emergencies or job transportation. The case management delivery model emphasizes modes of self-sustainment, including asset development/financial literacy, education on life skills and connection to other resources.

Outcomes achieved during 2017: Visits to Catholic Charities for food assistance totaled 56,311. This included assistance with applications for SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) and food from the agency's pantry. Direct financial assistance enabled 1,412 individuals to maintain safe housing for at least 30 days. 1,709 individuals benefited from utility service assistance which enabled them to sustain utility services for 30 days. Seventy-five percent of individuals who received financial assistance completed at least one component of financial literacy education, and all individuals who received direct financial assistance completed a financial assessment with their case manager.

El Centro, Inc.

Number of Johnson County residents served: 1,411
\$20,000 Grant

El Centro's Johnson County Family Services Program provides a set of safety-net services to low-income, under-/uninsured Johnson County residents. Services include economic empowerment (emergency assistance, budgeting, asset-building, income tax assistance, financial literacy classes), health navigation (help with accessing health services, obtaining prescriptions, health care case management, translation), health education, and classes on workplace safety and health hazards. The program served 1,665 individuals from within and outside of Johnson County.

Outcomes achieved during 2017: Clients' basic needs were met: 96 households received utility assistance and were able to maintain utilities for 60 days, and 40 households received rent assistance which enabled them to sustain housing for minimum of 30 days. Healthcare access for uninsured clients was improved: 328 clients were assisted with healthcare needs such as finding specialty and surgical care, and access to medications and eye-care services. One hundred thirteen people were assisted with the process to receive an Individual Tax Identification Number, enabling them to file income taxes.

**Growing Futures
Early Education
Center**

(previously known as
Head Start of
Shawnee Mission)

Number of Johnson
County residents
served: 121

\$9,265 Grant

The Human Service Fund helps support families enrolled in Growing Futures Early Education Center's Wrap Around Care (WAC) Program which provides extended day care (before and after regular-hour care) for families in the preschool program. Human Service Fund scholarships pay WAC fees for low-income families who are either working or in school, and having financial difficulties which threaten their children's enrollment in Growing Futures. This enables parents to remain in school or working which is vital to the family's financial stability. Crisis intervention is also provided with Human Service Funds for families in need of short-term help with housing and food.

Outcomes achieved during 2017: Forty-nine fee subsidies were provided to families which allowed parents to remain working or in school while facing financial challenges. Three children withdrew for financial reasons during the year. Children made progress in school readiness as indicated by the following gains in developmental domains: 91% made gains in language/literacy, 91% in science and technology, 91% in math, 94% in social/emotional skills, 95% in creative arts, 100% in English language development (English Second Language students), and 92% in approaches to learning.

**Harvesters – The
Community Food
Network**

Number of Johnson
County residents
served:
2,145 children

\$10,000 Grant

Human Service Funds support Harvesters BackSnack program within Johnson County schools. Low-income children are given a backpack of food to take home over the weekends. Harvesters purchases food for the backpacks, transports the food to community partners and links schools to community partners. School staff identify children who are in greatest need of food assistance. Harvesters collaborates with 54 schools in Johnson County.

Outcomes achieved during 2017: Harvesters provided 37,822 backpack carriers of food to Johnson County children. A program evaluation conducted metro-wide by UMKC Midwest Center for Nonprofit Leadership, found that during the 2012-13 school year, discipline incidents among participants were reduced by 54%, participants had 9% fewer tardies, grades improved in all four subject areas, and visits to the school counselor or social worker were reduced by 19%.

**Health Partnership
Clinic of Johnson
County**

The Health Partnership Clinic (HPC) provides primary and preventative medical care, and dental and behavioral health services for low-income and uninsured patients who would otherwise not have access care. HPC health care services include pediatric and adult care, and dental and behavioral health services. Specialty care is provided

<p>Number of Johnson County residents served: 11,968</p> <p>\$42,000 Grant</p>	<p>through a network of providers. HPC helps patients access affordable prescription drugs through partnerships with local pharmacies. HPC served 15,546 patients from within and outside of Johnson County.</p> <p>Outcomes achieved during 2017: During 2017 there were 35,078 patient office visits and/or clinical encounters by Johnson County residents. Ninety percent of patients surveyed indicated they consider HPC as their ongoing source of care (medical home). Patients achieved positive health outcomes as indicated by 61% of diabetic patients who achieved HgA1c (blood glucose) level of 9.0 or below, and 59% of hypertensive patients who had their blood pressure under control with readings less than 140/90.</p>
<p>Hillcrest Transitional Housing of Kansas</p> <p>Number of Johnson County residents served: 5</p> <p>\$5,000 grant</p>	<p>Hillcrest’s Transitional Housing – Homeless Youth program provided transitional housing for homeless youth in four apartments located in Overland Park. Youth received individual case management and budget counseling, and were connected to community services to address their health needs.</p> <p>Outcomes achieved during 2017: Five homeless youth were provided safe, stable transitional housing and worked toward achieving education goals. Their work toward those goals continues. All youth received an individual assessment and achieved at least one goal from their assessment plan. Over 1,000 hours of volunteer time and \$25,000 in in-kind donations were contributed to the program.</p>
<p>Johnson County Interfaith Hospitality Network</p> <p>Number of Johnson County residents served: 42</p> <p>\$9,000 Grant</p>	<p>Through partnerships with 35 faith congregations, Johnson County Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) provided homeless families and single women with shelter, meals, transportation, employment assistance, and case management which included assistance with budgeting and money management.</p> <p>Outcomes achieved during 2017: Of those completing the program, 82% reported increasing their income by 25% or more while in the program, and 35% moved into homes of their own within three months of entering the network. Johnson County residents received 3,264 days of shelter and strength-based case management.</p>
<p>Kansas Children’s Service League</p> <p>Number of Johnson County residents served: 74</p> <p>\$19,800 Grant</p>	<p>Kansas Children’s Service League Healthy Families Johnson County, a child abuse prevention program, provides intensive home-based parent education, support, and case management to first and second time parents who have been identified as being high risk for child abuse and neglect.</p> <p>Outcomes achieved during 2017: All of the families served by the program remained free from substantiated abuse and neglect while in the program. By the end of the year, all children in the program had health insurance and a developmental screening.</p>

KidsTLC

Number of Johnson County residents served: 150

\$15,400 Grant

During 2017 KidsTLC Street Outreach Services Program (SOS) modified the way in which it reaches its target population of homeless/at-risk youth and families. In the past the program utilized a street-based approach, focusing on runaway and homeless youth between the ages of 12-24. During the 2017 grant period KidsTLC's primary focus became partnering with local school districts to identify homeless youth and families (although referrals from other sources continued). The SOS social worker attended sessions of Olathe School District's IMPACT Olathe and Shawnee Mission District's Project HOME to meet with youth and families, and provided resource support, crisis counseling, connection to KidsTLC's mental health programs and assistance with permanent housing. The overarching goal of the program is to get clients into permanent and rapid re-housing, or refer them to shelter and transitional living programs.

Outcomes achieved during 2017: One hundred thirty-three Johnson County individuals entered KidsTLC housing services. Of those, 17 were referred to shelter, 3 were referred to a Transitional Living Program and 113 were permanently housed. Eighty percent of individuals permanently housed did not experience further episodes of homelessness. Thirty-nine of youth who were permanently housed met at least one of their education goals. Through SOS 356 at-risk youth received direct crisis intervention which included basic supportive services (food, drink, clothing, health/hygiene items). (For the Human Service Fund, KidsTLC counts the number of clients served as those who received ongoing case management and housing services.) SOS made 11 presentations at local high schools and colleges to educate students about homelessness.

SAFEHOME

Number of Johnson County residents served: 181

\$18,000 Grant

SAFEHOME provides shelter and other assistance to victims of domestic violence. Human Service Funds support the Economic Empowerment program. Three hundred twenty-seven individuals from within and outside of Johnson County were served in the program. Through education, support, housing advocacy, and referrals to community agencies, the program helps victims find safe and affordable housing, and to take control of their finances and move towards financial independence. The program includes financial literacy classes and/or an economic assessment, followed by participation in a track(s) - Job Search, Training/Education, and/or Economic/Budgeting. SAFEHOME served 327 clients from within and outside of Johnson County.

Outcomes achieved during 2017: After five weeks of participation in the Job Search track, 100% of participants completed a career assessment inventory, had a least two job interviews, and secured new or better employment. After five weeks in the Budgeting track, 100% of participants set budgeting goals and made plans to address credit problems; after 10 weeks 100% of participants set up a realistic household budget. After five weeks in the Training/Education track, 100% of participants had contacted and were enrolled in job training, or a college or degree completion program.

**The Salvation Army,
Olathe**

Number of Johnson
County residents
served: 151

\$18,000 Grant

The Salvation Army Johnson County Family Lodge assists homeless and near homeless families with temporary housing and food at the only homeless shelter in Johnson County. Each family received strengths-based case management where they developed an individualized stabilization plan and were assisted in locating affordable housing, and establishing savings so they were prepared to move into their own rental housing at program completion. Weekly crisis counseling was provided if needed. Families were also assisted with childcare costs to allow parents to work while their applications for State childcare assistance was being processed.

Outcomes achieved during 2017: The Family Lodge provided 34,008 units of service which it defines as “one bed night and/or one meal provided.” Ninety-three percent of families who moved out of the lodge moved into transitional or permanent housing. Ninety-seven percent of eligible families applied for mainstream services (medical assistance and SNAP). All participants who successfully completed the program increased their skills or income. Of those, 35 families increased parenting skills, 40 families developed a working budget, five families accessed educational supports, and four families increased their self-care skills for managing chronic illnesses.

Sunflower House

Number of Johnson
County residents
served: 13,061

\$32,500 Grant

The Human Service Fund supported Sunflower House’s child abuse protection program – the Personal Safety Educational program. The program includes: 1) *Happy Bear*, an interactive play for children ages four through seven in public and private early childhood centers and elementary schools; 2) *Think First and Stay Safe* for PreK-5th grade students; 3) *E-Safety*, an internet safety program delivered to 6th through 8th grade students and parents; 4) *Keeping Kids Safe Online*, education for parents; 5) *Stewards of Children*, a child abuse prevention training for adults; 6) *Child Protection*, an adult-focused child sexual abuse prevention program; and, 7) *Mandated Reporter Training* which teaches attendees to recognize signs of sexual abuse, the correct procedures/laws for reporting, and how to handle a child’s disclosure. The program served 21,714 individuals from within and outside of Johnson County.

Outcomes achieved during 2017: In post-program surveys, 94% of middle school youth indicated they would report unwanted/inappropriate electronic communications or materials, and identified how/where to report; 97% of children correctly recognized welcome and unwelcome touches; and, 97% of children indicated knowing to report abuse to an adult even when told to keep it a secret. Ninety-eight percent of participants in the Mandated Reporter training indicated they learned at least one new fact, concept or strategy as a result of the training, and they would report suspected abuse to the appropriate authorities.

**The Family
Conservancy**

Number of Johnson
County residents
served: 204

The Family Conservancy’s “Talk, Read, Play” (TRP) is a parent-child initiative with special emphasis on reaching low-income parents where research suggests it has potential to have a greater impact on children’s healthy development. The TRP Intensive project was implemented at Bugs Early Learning Center in Olathe which serves families who receive state subsidy for child care costs. TRP trains child care providers and addresses parents’ basic abilities to support their child’s early learning and literacy development. It helps parents interact intentionally with their children,

\$10,000 Grant

furthering at home the lessons child development educators begin building with children in the classroom. TRP materials were distributed to families, on-site parent activities were held, and the center received 350 books to build their library which is shared among all classrooms, and from which children may “check out” books after they have been read in their classroom.

Outcomes achieved during 2017: Pre and post-polls indicated that as a result of program, parents increased the frequency of talking, playing and reading with their child. The number of parents who “Talk, Read, Play” with their child 2-3 times or less per week decreased from 59% to 39%; the number of parents who “Talk Read Play” with their child daily increased from 41% to 59%. Child care providers reported an increase in the utilization of TRP strategies in the classroom.