



Johnson County Government Expands Fair Chance Hiring Practices



Recently, Johnson County Commissioners endorsed a change to the county's hiring practices that will remove the conviction history check box from initial job applications, ensuring that qualified candidates are not denied a job opportunity solely based on past actions.

This Fair Chance Hiring practice, known as Ban the Box, has been adopted by 23 states and more than 100 jurisdictions across the country, as well as leading

private employers including Koch Industries, Walmart, Target, and Home Depot. Fair Chance Hiring offers a "second chance" to people with felony records, while simultaneously stimulating the economy, broadening the workforce, and supporting the well-being of families and children. We commend Johnson County Commissioners and the County Manager for adopting this practice.

This decision aligns with the UCS Framework for Reducing Poverty and Creating Opportunity. UCS has made nearly 30 presentations on the Framework to more than 600 Johnson County public officials, city leaders, and residents since June 2015. The presentations came with a call-to-action to the human service sector encouraging them to embrace policies and practices to reduce poverty and create opportunity, including Fair Chance Hiring.

To learn more about UCS' position on Fair Chance Hiring, visit our website. If you are interested in a presentation by UCS to your organization or group, contact us.

There is Still Time to Register for the 2016 Human Service Summit

The theme of the 2016 Human Service Summit is ***Reducing Poverty and Creating Opportunity: Expanding Income and Employability***.

It will be an informative and engaging event - you don't want to miss it! Come hear what the human service sector has accomplished by working together to reduce poverty. Learn the latest data on poverty trends and job growth projections. Join us in a discussion about ensuring that local residents can sustain their households through employment. Register today by credit card or check.



New Website Services Behavioral Health Prevention Efforts

Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) has recently launched the new Kansas Prevention Collaborative website. The collaborative was created to help integrate and innovate behavioral health prevention efforts. The partners that comprise the Kansas

Prevention Collaborative include [KDADS](#), [DCCCA](#), [Greenbush](#), [KU Work Group](#), [WSU's Community Engagement Institute \(CEI\)](#), [NAMI Kansas](#), and [Keys for Networking](#). Together, these partners are committed to expanding prevention efforts to be more inclusive of mental health promotion, suicide prevention, and problem gambling education and awareness.

The new website will serve as a communication hub for community coalitions across the state. Among the site's many features is a virtual library for prevention and behavioral health promotion, and a calendar of awareness campaigns and efforts.

Locally, Community Health Assessment Project (CHAP), Johnson County Suicide Prevention Coalition, and Olathe Communities that Care are three coalitions participating in the Kansas Prevention Collaborative.

Julie Brewer, UCS' New Executive Director, is Onboard



This is my first official UCS eNewsletter and I am thrilled to be onboard and a part of the UCS team. As I close out my second week, I've had the opportunity to begin getting to know many of our community partners through a number of meetings and events including: Trauma Informed Care Task Force, Human Services Coalition, Continuum of Care on Homelessness, United Way of Greater Kansas City's presentation on their 2017-2019 Investment Process and Advocacy Rules for Nonprofits seminar presented by the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City, REACH Healthcare Foundation, Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, Francis Family Foundation and Support KC.

I am looking forward to meeting more partners in our Health and Human Services community at our upcoming Human Service Summit on June 14.

Our mission: Provide data analysis, lead collaborative planning and mobilize resources to enhance the availability and delivery of health and human services.

Contact us at 913-438-4764 or www.ucsjoco.org

STAY CONNECTED

