



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

2016 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 2016, 13 nonprofit organizations were awarded \$301,965.

This report provides an overview of the programs supported by the Human Service Fund during 2016. Please note in the report we have highlighted the number of Johnson County residents served (some programs also serve individuals living outside of Johnson County). Approximately 57,572 Johnson County residents benefited from programs designed to offer support or create opportunities to help people avoid or escape poverty.

2016 Human Service Fund Priorities:

1. Programs funded by the HSF must deliver measureable 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 Community Initiatives Director, 913.438.4764, [maryas@ucsjoco.org](mailto:maryas@ucsjoco.org).

2016 Funding	
Johnson County Government	\$121,275
15 Cities	\$204,890
Total Dollars	\$326,165
UCS Administration	-\$24,200
<b>Grant Awards</b>	<b>\$301,965</b>

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.



## 2016 Human Service Fund Year-End Report

### **CASA of Johnson and Wyandotte Counties**

Number of Johnson County residents served:  
305 children  
\$25,465 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 315 children from within and outside of Johnson County,

**Outcomes achieved during 2016:** During the year, CASA supervisors guided and managed 211 volunteers who advocated for children (some volunteers volunteer for more than one case). 98% of children served by CASA had a stable adult presence in their CASA volunteer during their court involvement. 99% of children served were not reported to Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) as concern for abuse or neglect. In July DCF returned to a three-tiered system of case findings (unsubstantiated, affirmed and substantiated). CASA is monitoring how this system change affects case findings, and continues to work to support volunteers taking more than one case.

### **Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas**

Number of Johnson County residents served: 27,318  
\$70,000 Grant

Through two centers in Johnson County, Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas provides an emergency assistance and transitional housing program for families living at or below 150% of federal poverty guidelines (\$30,240 in 2016 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 program includes temporary child care assistance for low-income parents who are working, attending school full time or searching for employment. Strength-based case management, coupled with financial education and asset development, helps families identify the strengths they possess and move toward stability and economic self-sufficiency. The program served 28,775 individuals from within and outside of Johnson County.

**Outcomes achieved during 2016:** Visits to Catholic Charities for food assistance totaled 64,977. This included assistance with applications for SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, previously known as Food Stamps), and food from the agency's pantry. Direct financial assistance enabled 1,383 individuals to maintain housing for at least 30 days. 2,090 individuals benefited from utility service assistance which enabled them to sustain utility services. 80% of individuals who received financial assistance completed at least one component of financial literacy education, and all of the individuals who received direct financial assistance (3,473) also received budget coaching that included a financial assessment.

**El Centro, Inc.** 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 emergency assistance (help with basic needs such utility and housing), health navigation (help with accessing health services, obtaining prescriptions, health care case management), and economic empowerment (building economic self-reliance through asset building, tax assistance, financial literacy education). The program served 1,625 individuals from within and outside of Johnson County.

Number of Johnson County residents served: 1,545

\$20,000 Grant

**Outcomes achieved during 2016:** Clients’ basic needs were met: 120 households received utility assistance, and 30 households received rent assistance which enabled them to be stably housed. Healthcare access for uninsured clients was improved: 200 clients were assisted with healthcare needs such as finding specialty and surgical care, and access to medications and eye-care services. Twenty-five 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) The Human Service Fund helps support families enrolled in Growing Futures Early Education Center’s Wrap Around Care (WAC) Program by providing fee subsidies for low-income families who are either working or in school, and having financial difficulties which threaten their children’s enrollment in Growing Futures; and, crisis intervention for families in need of short-term help with housing and food. WAC provides extended day-care (before and after regular-hour care) for families in Growing Futures’ preschool for three- to five year-olds. Fee subsidies allow children whose parents are having financial difficulties to maintain their Growing Futures enrollment, and enables parents to remain in school or working which is vital to the family’s financial stability.

Number of Johnson County residents served: 100

\$8,500 Grant

**Outcomes achieved during 2016:** 42 families received fee subsidies which allowed parents to remain working or in school while facing financial challenges. Four children withdrew for financial reasons during the year. Children made progress in school readiness as indicated by the following gains in developmental domains: 88% made gains in language/literacy, 92% in science and technology, 94% in social/emotional skills, 88% in language, literacy and communications, 89% in math, 94% in creative arts, 100% in English language learning (English Second Language students), and 94% in approaches to learning.

**Harvesters – The Community Food Network** 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. In Johnson County Harvesters collaborates with 24 community partners, many of which are faith-based.

Number of Johnson County residents served: 2,130 children

\$8,000 Grant

**Outcomes achieved during 2016:** Harvesters added 4 schools to the BackSnack program in Johnson County, bringing total number of Johnson County schools that Harvesters collaborates with to 54. Harvesters provided 68,136 backpack carriers of

food to Johnson County children. The most recent program evaluation, which was 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**

Number of Johnson  
County residents  
served: 11,537

\$45,300 Grant

The Health Partnership Clinic (HPC) provides comprehensive safety-net health care services for low-income and uninsured patients who would otherwise not have access to primary/preventative health care. HPC health care services include pediatric and adult care, and dental and behavioral health services. Specialty care is provided through a network of providers. HPC helps patients access affordable prescription drugs through partnerships with local pharmacies, and through its 340B Pharmacy which opened at the Olathe HPC Clinic. HPC served 16,868 patients from within and outside of Johnson County.

**Outcomes achieved during 2016:** During 2016 there were 33,169 face-to-face patient visits by Johnson County residents. Ninety-five percent of patients surveyed indicated they consider HPC as their ongoing source of care (medical home). Patients achieved positive health outcomes as indicated by 73% of diabetic patients who achieved HgA1c (blood glucose) level of 9.0 or below, and 58% of hypertensive patients who achieved blood pressure readings less than 140/90.

**Johnson County  
Interfaith Hospitality  
Network**

Number of Johnson  
County residents  
served: 61

\$9,000 Grant

Through partnerships with 35 faith congregations, Johnson County Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) provided shelter, meals, transportation, case management, and employment assistance to homeless families and single women. IHN served 64 individuals from within and outside of Johnson County.

**Outcomes achieved during 2016:** Of those completing the program, 96% reported increasing their income by 25% or more while in the program, and 53% moved into homes of their own within three months of entering the network. Johnson County residents received 2,642 days of shelter and strength-based case management.

**Kansas Children's  
Service League**

Number of Johnson  
County residents  
served: 96

\$19,800 Grant

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.

**Outcomes achieved during 2016:** All of the families remained free from substantiated abuse and neglect while in the program. At the end of the year, all of the children in the program had health insurance, and 96% had a developmental screening.

**KidsTLC**

Number of Johnson County residents served: 61

\$15,400 Grant

KidsTLC Street Outreach Services Program (SOS) serves runaway and homeless youth between the ages of 12-24. The overarching goal of the program is to get homeless and runaway youth into safe and stable housing. In addition, the young peoples' immediate needs for food and hygiene items are met; youth are educated about sexual abuse, sexual exploitation and domestic violence; case management services are available. In addition, through presentations to area businesses, churches, law enforcement, etc., adults in the community are educated about youth homelessness (including available resources and how to help). SOS served 108 youth from within and outside of Johnson County.

**Outcomes achieved during 2016:** SOS safely housed 32 youth and 25 youth were engaged in case management. Youth were housed in transitional living (4), shelters (20), and permanent housing (8). SOS provided basic supportive services (food, drink, clothing, health/hygiene items) to homeless and near homeless youth. SOS also made presentations and taught Positive Youth Development focused life skills classes (24 total). Participants in life skills classes included students in five Johnson County public school districts. 3,178 written materials, which include information about SOS and other resources for homeless youth, were provided through outreach efforts (such as in theatres and skate parks, where youth gather).

**SAFEHOME**

Number of Johnson County residents served: 197

\$18,000 Grant

SAFEHOME provides shelter and other assistance to victims of domestic violence. Human Service Funds support the Economic Empowerment program. Three hundred eighteen 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 women 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.

**Outcomes achieved during 2016:** After 10 weeks of participation in the Job Search track, 83% of participants completed a career assessment inventory, 100% had a least 2 job interviews, and 90% secured employment. After 5 weeks in the Budgeting track, 96% of participants set budgeting goals, 100% made plans to address credit problems, and 96% set up a realistic budget. After 5 weeks in the Training/Education track, 30% of participants had contacted a job training, or a college or degree completion program.

**The Salvation Army, Olathe**

Number of Johnson County residents served: 196

\$15,000 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. Intensive Case Management, which utilizes a strengths-based model, is provided to each family. Weekly crisis counseling is provided if needed.

**Outcomes achieved during 2016:** The Family Lodge provided 42,367 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. One hundred percent of eligible families applied and were approved for mainstream

services (medical assistance and SNAP). All participants who successfully completed the program increased their skills or income. Of those, 35 parents participated in Love & Logic parenting classes and implemented new skills, 48 families increased their income, and 52 families increased their financial literacy.

**Sunflower House**

Number of Johnson County residents served: 13,201

\$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* (formerly *Let’s Talk about Personal Safety*) for PreK-5<sup>th</sup> grade students; 3) *E-Safety* (formerly *Let’s Cyber Chat*), an internet safety program delivered to 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and parents; 4) *Keeping Kids Safe Online*, education for parents; 5) *P.S. It’s My Body*, a curriculum which includes lessons on personal safety, bullying, and sexual abuse; 6) *Abusive Head Trauma Prevention* for parents and others; 7) *Stewards of Children*, a child abuse prevention training for adults; 8) *Child Protection*, a new parent-focused child sexual abuse prevention program; and, 9) *Mandated Reporter Training* for early childhood professionals, home visitors, court-appointed advocates and others. The program served 19,649 individuals from within and outside of Johnson County.

**Outcomes achieved during 2016:** In post-program surveys, 99% 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, 96% of children indicated they know how to report abuse to an adult even when told to keep it a secret. Ninety-three percent of participants in the Mandated Reporter training correctly identified three indicators of abuse.

**The Family Conservancy**

Number of Johnson County residents served: 596

\$15,000 Grant

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 Model was implemented at Olathe Head Start and JoCo Community College Hiersteiner Child Development Center. 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, 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 each center received over 100 books to create a lending library for families.

**Outcomes achieved during 2016:** Pre and post-tests indicated that as a result of program, parents increased understanding of the importance of reading daily to their child, making time to play with their child, and being aware of the amount of time they actually talk to their child, as opposed to giving directions. Teachers in both programs also increased intentional talking with children, and their informal reading to individuals and small groups also increased.