

LINC Commission Meeting

September 15, 2008



Quality Child Care

matters to **YOU**

YOUR CHILD and
YOUR COMMUNITY.

LINC is a partner in a new community campaign to increase awareness about quality child care.



LINC

Local Investment Commission

3100 Broadway, Suite 1100 - Kansas City, MO 64111 - (816) 889-5050 - www.kclinc.org

Local Investment Commission (LINC) Vision

Our Shared Vision

A caring community that builds on its strengths to provide meaningful opportunities for children, families and individuals to achieve self-sufficiency, attain their highest potential, and contribute to the public good.

Our Mission

To provide leadership and influence to engage the Kansas City Community in creating the best service delivery system to support and strengthen children, families and individuals, holding that system accountable, and changing public attitudes towards the system.

Our Guiding Principles

1. **COMPREHENSIVENESS:** Provide ready access to a full array of effective services.
2. **PREVENTION:** Emphasize “front-end” services that enhance development and prevent problems, rather than “back-end” crisis intervention.
3. **OUTCOMES:** Measure system performance by improved outcomes for children and families, not simply by the number and kind of services delivered.
4. **INTENSITY:** Offering services to the needed degree and in the appropriate time.
5. **PARTICIPANT INVOLVEMENT:** Use the needs, concerns, and opinions of individuals who use the service delivery system to drive improvements in the operation of the system.
6. **NEIGHBORHOODS:** Decentralize services to the places where people live, wherever appropriate, and utilize services to strengthen neighborhood capacity.
7. **FLEXIBILITY AND RESPONSIVENESS:** Create a delivery system, including programs and reimbursement mechanisms, that are sufficiently flexible and adaptable to respond to the full spectrum of child, family and individual needs.
8. **COLLABORATION:** Connect public, private and community resources to create an integrated service delivery system.
9. **STRONG FAMILIES:** Work to strengthen families, especially the capacity of parents to support and nurture the development of their children.
10. **RESPECT AND DIGNITY:** Treat families, and the staff who work with them, in a respectful and dignified manner.
11. **INTERDEPENDENCE/MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITY:** Balance the need for individuals to be accountable and responsible with the obligation of community to enhance the welfare of all citizens.
12. **CULTURAL COMPETENCY:** Demonstrate the belief that diversity in the historical, cultural, religious and spiritual values of different groups is a source of great strength.
13. **CREATIVITY:** Encourage and allow participants and staff to think and act innovatively, to take risks, and to learn from their experiences and mistakes.
14. **COMPASSION:** Display an unconditional regard and a caring, non-judgmental attitude toward participants that recognizes their strengths and empowers them to meet their own needs.
15. **HONESTY:** Encourage and allow honesty among all people in the system.



Monday, Sept. 15, 2008
Kauffman Foundation, 4801 Rockhill Rd.
4 – 6 p.m.
Kansas City, Mo. 64110

Agenda

- I. Welcome, Announcements & Recognitions**
- II. Approvals & Recognitions**
 - a. July minutes (Motion)**
- III. LINC President's Report**
- IV. Missouri Dept. of Social Services (pgs. 4-18)**
 - a. Deborah Scott, Director**
 - b. Dr. Ian McCaslin, Missouri HealthNet**
- v. Hickman Mills School District (pgs. 19-20)**
 - a. Dr. Marge Williams, Superintendent**
 - b. Other opportunities**
- VI. Other**
 - a. Morning Star Development Project (pgs. 21-25)**
- VII. Adjournment**



DRAFT MINUTES

THE LOCAL INVESTMENT COMMISSION – JULY 28, 2008

The Local Investment Commission met at the Kauffman Foundation, 4801 Rockhill Rd., Kansas City, Mo. Chairman **Landon Rowland** presided. Commissioners attending were:

Bert Berkley
Sharon Cheers
Jack Craft
SuEllen Fried
Rob Givens
Robert Glaser
Anita Gorman
Bart Hakan

Richard Hibschan
Judy Hunt
Rosemary Smith Lowe
Richard Morris
David Ross
Gene Standifer
Bailus Tate

Rowland announced that LINC Commissioner **Leo Morton** has been appointed interim chancellor of the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Bob Grant of the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce reported that the POWER (Partnering Organizations with Essential Resources) initiative is now recruiting businesses to participate as mentees in the **Herman A. Johnson** mentorship program.

Discussion followed.

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2008, and May 19, 2008, LINC Commission meetings was passed unanimously.

LINC staff **Brent Schondelmeyer** reported on the Community's Agenda for America's Public Schools, which seeks to advance community schools as a subject for national discussion and legislation in response to challenges in the educational system. Two related videos were shown:

- **Arne Duncan**, superintendent of Chicago Public Schools, testifying on community schools as anchors for neighborhoods
- **Randi Weingarten**, president of American Federation of Teachers, speaking on community schools

A motion to endorse and support the aims of the Community's Agenda for America's Public Schools was passed unanimously.

Johnson Elementary Caring Communities site coordinator **Onita Omorodion** and Hickman Mills School District superintendent **Marge Williams** reported on a joint endeavor to visit 1,000 homes in the Ruskin Hills and Ruskin Heights neighborhoods over the summer. The "Knock & Talk" effort aimed at gathering information about community needs and providing neighbors with information on resources available through Caring Communities.

LINC President **Gayle A. Hobbs** reported LINC Caring Communities held its largest-ever summer program operating or supporting programs at 28 locations with more than 4,200 students enrolled.

Hobbs introduced a presentation on the Extreme School Makeover held July 26-27 at the six schools in western Independence and Sugar Creek that were transitioned from the Kansas City,

Mo. School District to the Independence School District. A video and slideshow on the Extreme School Makeover were shown.

Independence superintendent **Dr. Jim Hinson** reported that the reach and depth of community participation in the event are a promising start for the schools as they become incorporated into the Independence district.

Commissioners **Richard Morris** and **Sharon Cheers** and LINC Neighborhood Services Committee co-chair **Susan Ramirez** reported on their experiences of the Extreme Home Makeover.

Bob Spradling, pastor of Maywood Baptist Church, also reported on the community event and thanked LINC for its involvement in the community.

Dr. John Ruddy, assistant superintendent of the Fort Osage School District, reported on the opening of a new school, Indian Trails Elementary, which will become a LINC Caring Communities site.

LINC staff **Rick Bell** reported that Covenant Presbyterian Church will become a LINC Caring Communities site. The new site will be the second site served by LINC in partnership with the City of Kansas City, Mo. At the first such site, Palestine Caring Communities, Bell reported, a paint program involving students at Central High School has painted 11 houses over the summer. Palestine is also working on applying for a federal Weed and Seed grant.

LINC staff **Brad Smith** reported that a recent Washington University evaluation of the Independence Child Welfare Initiative found that its early outcomes were positive.

LINCWorks co-chair **Terry Ward** reported that LINC has been asked to provide assistance in the Civic Council's Poverty Project. Mid America Regional Council researcher **Frank Lenk** will work with LINCWorks to connect with people who have experienced poverty first-hand.

Brent Stewart, President and CEO of United Way of Greater Kansas City, introduced his colleagues **Jason Wood** and **Pat Cundiff**, who reported on the United Way's 211 project. By dialing 211, residents can find information and referrals for human services issues.

A motion to move to close the meeting to consider matters pertaining to legal actions, causes or action or litigation was approved by all present.

The public meeting was closed.

The public meeting reconvened.

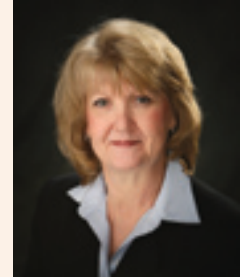
The public meeting was adjourned.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

February 2008

Dear Friends:

I am deeply honored to serve you and the good people of this great state as your Director of the Department of Social Services. Through Social Services, the state provides care and treatment to juvenile offenders; child protection, adoption, and foster care services; child support enforcement; and a number of needs based programs including MO HealthNet. To serve Missourians, the Department has a presence in every county in the state.



We are pleased to report that the Missouri Department of Social Services has received several national recognitions for the operation of our programs. The federal government recognized the Family Support Division for program integrity and stewardship of public funds for operation of the Food Stamp program, and the division set a new record for the collection of child support. All Children's Division offices are on track to achieve national accreditation by the end of state fiscal year 2009. The MO HealthNet Division in collaboration with the Department of Mental Health received national recognition for behavioral pharmacy management and continues to implement new innovations to improve the well-being of our citizens through the use of technology and promoting preventative care. And, the Division of Youth Services is recognized as a national model for the treatment and rehabilitation of troubled youth.

Working with and for thousands of Missourians alongside our partners is a responsibility we take very seriously. Day in and day out it is our mission to support individuals as they work to achieve the greatest level of independence and the best quality of life possible. I have challenged the department to live out the following guiding principles:

- Results for Missouri's people;
- Excellence in customer service;
- Proficiency of performance;
- Integrity of stewardship; and
- Accountability, above all.

As a department, we are here for one purpose and one purpose only – to serve the citizens of Missouri and each other with respect, compassion, efficiency and integrity. As we work better together, we will work better for the people who benefit from the services and supports offered through the department.

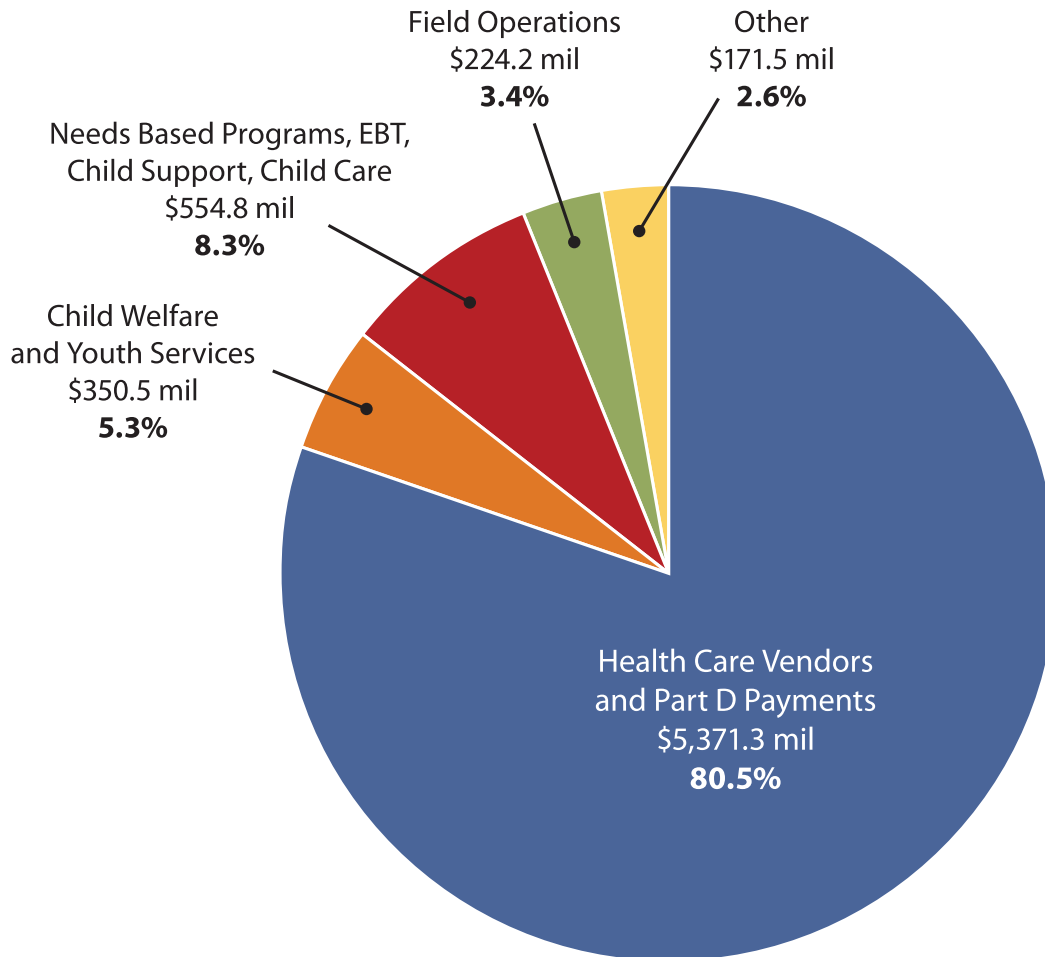
I encourage you to visit the local offices of the Department in your community and get to know our committed staff. Please let me know in what ways we can continue to strive toward excellence!

We look forward to working with you to strengthen the healthcare safety net, continue to improve our child protection system, and enhance our services to the individuals, children, youth and families of our great state.

Sincerely,

Deborah E. Scott
Director

2008 DSS Budget





2007 TOP ACHIEVEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Waste, Fraud and Abuse Recoveries

Cost avoidances and recoveries for MO HealthNet totaled \$196.9 million in SFY-2007. In addition, the Contract Compliance Unit reviewed 1,950 child care contracts. As a result, 186 contracts were closed and 80 providers were referred to the Department of Health and Senior Services for potential licensing violations.

Chronic Care Improvement Program

MO HealthNet launched the Chronic Care Improvement program to help the most chronically ill patients receive education on their illness and coordination of their care. Over 109,000 were enrolled by December 31, 2007, helping them to improve their health and achieve a higher quality of life.

Health Care Technology

Great advancements were made in the implementation of health care technology, including the launch and expansion of CyberAccessSM, an electronic health record for all MO HealthNet participants that includes all paid claims data, an electronic plan of care, e-prescribing and real time prior authorization for medications and durable medical equipment.

Emergency Preparedness

Department of Social Services (DSS) is the designated lead state agency for mass care during emergencies. All Family Support Division County Managers are charged with working with local emergency management directors, the Red Cross and Salvation Army to ensure adequate sheltering capacity is identified. During the December 2007 ice storm, DSS was second only to the National Guard in number of staff deployed, with over 150 employees staffing shelters across the state.

Food Stamp Accuracy and Participation

The Family Support Division received awards for being third in the nation in food stamp accuracy and second for participation.



USDA Under Secretary Nancy Montanez Johner presents a \$3.2 million bonus check to DSS Director Deborah Scott for Food Stamp program accuracy and efficiency.

Eligibility Redeterminations

The DSS Family Support Division maintained a 100% redetermination rate for 2007, ensuring that individuals' eligibility for MO HealthNet and other needs based programs is current.

Children's Division Accreditation

DSS Children's Division is on schedule to achieve statewide accreditation by 2009. As 2007 closed, 18 of the 45 circuits plus the central office and Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline have been found in compliance standards by the Council on Accreditation.

Relative Placements and Foster Care

DSS Children's Division has stressed the importance of placing children with relatives whenever possible when children cannot safely remain at home. Relative and Kinship placements as of July 2007 were at 28.3%. The number of foster children in care reached an all time low, at 9,496 as of November 30, 2007, down from a high of 12,521 in May 2002.

Youth Services' Educational Outcomes

Graduations and GED success rates reached all time highs for young people in the custody of the Division of Youth Services, with 270 students completing their secondary education, including 23.28% of all discharges over age 16. Recommitment rates continued to be low at 7.3%. DSS Youth Services continues to share best practices with states across the nation, and has been featured prominently in national and international print and broadcasting over the past year including the New York Times, Associated Press, National Public Radio and British Broadcasting Corporation.



Governor Blunt speaks at the 2007 Heart Gallery End of Year Celebration as Children's Division Director Paula Neese looks on.

Program Divisions

MO HEALTHNET DIVISION



615 Howerton Court
P.O. Box 6500
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 751-3425

Dr. Ian McCaslin, M.D.
MO HealthNet Division Director
Ian.McCaslin@dss.mo.gov

GOALS

- To purchase and monitor health care services for low income and vulnerable Missouri citizens;
- To assure the provision of quality health care for MO HealthNet participants through the development of service delivery systems, standards setting and enforcement, and education of participants and providers; and,
- To be fiscally accountable for maximum and appropriate utilization of resources.

PROGRAMS

MO HealthNet

MO HealthNet is the state's health coverage program for low-income citizens. This program provides care for children, pregnant women, the aged, blind and disabled and some low income families.

Chronic Care Improvement Program

This program improves the quality of care for participants with chronic illnesses, decreases complications associated with chronic illness and reduces costs associated with delivering care to this population. Participants receive one on one attention and education about their disease from their health care home and health care coordinator.

MoRx

The Missouri Rx Plan (MoRx) is Missouri's State Pharmacy Assistance Program. MoRx coordinates benefits with Medicare's (Part D) Prescription Drug Program and provides additional assistance for prescription drug costs to Missourians in need whose incomes are under 200 percent of the federal poverty level. MoRx pays for 50% of members' out of pocket costs after their Medicare Prescription Drug Plan pays. It pays for 50% of the deductible, 50% of the co-pays before the coverage gap, 50% of the coverage gap, and 50% of co-pays for catastrophic coverage.

MoRx Price Compare

The MoRx Price Compare website lists prescription medication prices for the most commonly used prescription drugs in Missouri based on the usual and customary price reported by local pharmacies. This is the retail price an uninsured, cash-paying customer would normally pay without any discounts. The price compare website is available for all Missourians to help them be informed consumers of prescription drugs at www.morxpricecompare.mo.gov.

2007 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MO HealthNet replaced the state's Medicaid program and is a new direction in health care focused on health, wellness and prevention for participants.

The Chronic Care Improvement Program, the inaugural component of MO HealthNet, was launched and is matching participants suffering from chronic illnesses with a health care coordinator and health care home to develop an individualized plan of care. More than 109,000 people are enrolled and 130,000 participants are expected to be enrolled by July 2008.

Through MO HealthNet, every participant will soon have a health care home. A health Care home is the participant's home base for health care where the patient, their family and caregivers work together to address medical, behavioral and psychosocial needs.

A physician services' rate increase was implemented July 1, 2007. Increasing reimbursement rates is essential to attract and retain health care providers to participate in MO HealthNet and assure access to care for participants.

The CyberAccess® program has been implemented giving physicians a web based electronic health record tool that puts patient history at their fingertips and improves efficiency.

Greater access for children's health care coverage is underway because of MO HealthNet for Kids. Redefining affordable health care opened access to an additional 6,349 children.

Managed care has been expanded to an additional 17 counties allowing for an additional 37,000 MO HealthNet participants to receive coordinated care.

2008 INITIATIVES

Inter-Operable Records:

Inter-Operable Records will eliminate the wait for receiving full patient histories when a MO HealthNet participant meets with a new health care provider. This system will allow health care providers instant access to a participant's health record regardless of the system in which the information was entered. This will lead to better service for participants. This will ensure duplicative tests aren't being performed, dangerous prescription combinations aren't being given and the participant's plan of care is being followed. Health care professionals will also greatly benefit from this system by having patient history at their fingertips.

Expanded outreach and Enrollment for Children:

The Governor is proposing \$4.8 million (\$1.2 million GR) to expand health care access for Missouri children. This would allow services to be expanded to more than 3,700 children. Working with community partners, the MO HealthNet and Family Support Divisions are reaching out to Missouri's eligible families to encourage their enrollment.

2007 MO HEALTHNET DIVISION *Fast Facts*

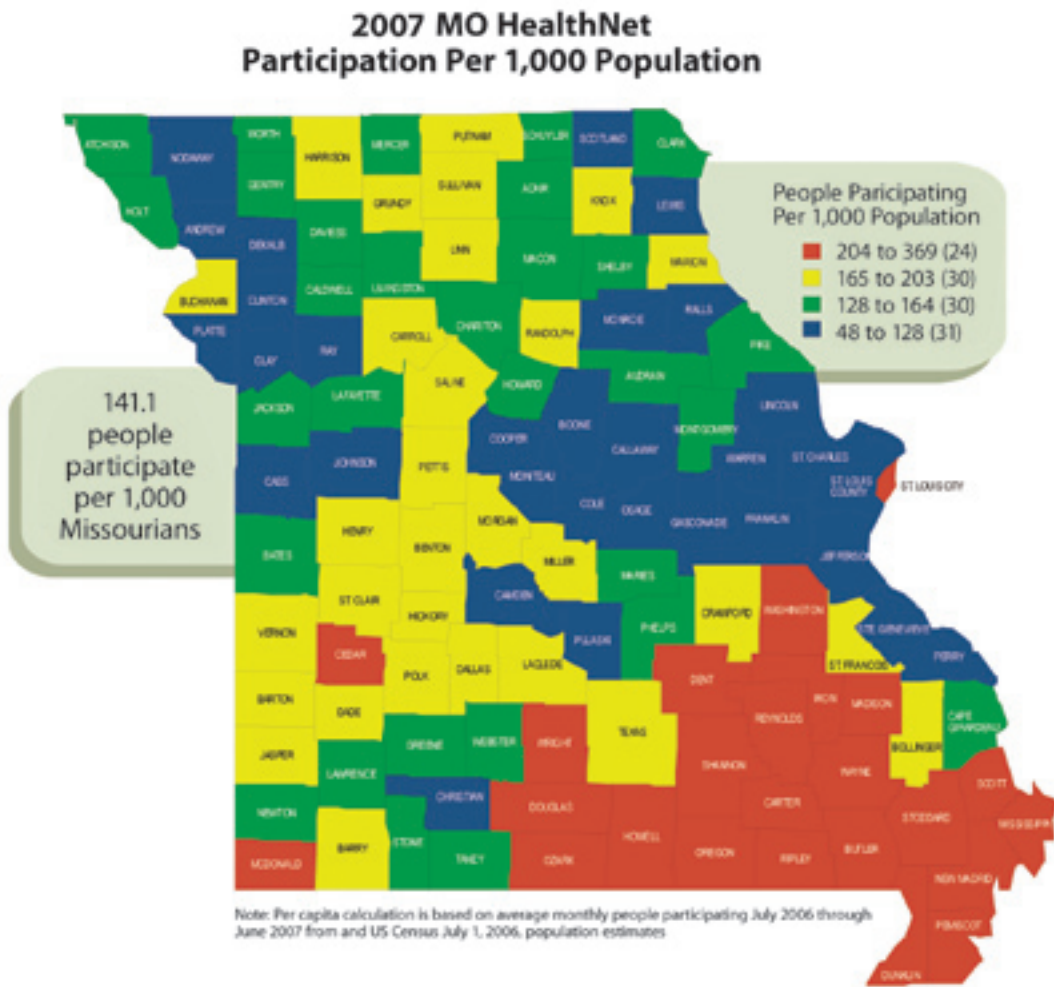
Average monthly enrollment of 829,000

109,000 patients enrolled for the first time in Chronic Care Improvement (Jan 2008)

7,554 prescribers (i.e.: health care providers) and 2,053 Sites (i.e.: doctor's offices, hospitals, DME providers) enrolled and utilizing CyberAccess®

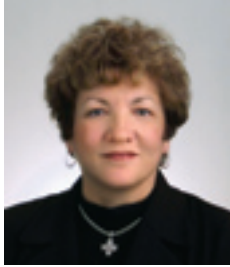
Health Care Home:

A health care home is a participant’s home base for primary care. Currently those enrolled in the Chronic Care Improvement Program, approximately 109,000, are enrolled in a health care home and are taking part in an individualized plan of care. This concept will be used across the state of Missouri with enrollment beginning along the I-70 corridor and progressing statewide. Health care homes allow participants to build a relationship with a health care provider, establish a plan of care and be more involved in their health. The Division plans to have all MO HealthNet participants enrolled in a health care home by July 2008.



Program Divisions

CHILDREN'S DIVISION



615 Howerton Court
P.O. Box 88
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 522-8024

Paula Neese
Children's Division Director
Paula.Neese@dss.mo.gov

GOAL

To partner with families, communities and government to protect children from abuse and neglect and assure safety, permanency and well-being for Missouri's children.

FUNCTIONS

The Children's Division is the arm of the Department charged with responding to reports of child abuse and neglect and administering a system of care for children who cannot safely remain at home. The Division also promotes early childhood and prevention programs in partnership with other key stakeholders.

2007 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Using savings generated as a result of the department's new child care compliance reviews and other methods, Governor Blunt reinvested \$19.5 million in the Child Care program to increase eligibility from 110% of the federal poverty level to 127% and to improve rates.
- The Council on Accreditation visited eight additional circuits in 2007. With several notifications still pending, the Division closed 2007 with 18 of 45 circuits achieving accreditation along with the division's central administration and Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline.

PROGRAMS

Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline

The Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline is the public's resource for reporting suspected incidents of child abuse and neglect. The hotline, which operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, fields calls of suspected abuse and neglect and then refers reports to local county offices for investigation.

Family Centered Services

The goal of family-centered services is to prevent child abuse or neglect and the possible removal of the child from the home, by stabilizing the family and improving family functioning. This is done through preventative family-centered and preservation services such as Intensive In-Home services.

Foster Care

When children cannot safely remain at home, services are provided to children who need alternative care. This is accomplished through foster care homes, group facilities, residential treatment facilities and transitional living services.

Adoption Services

When parental rights are terminated through the courts, finding safe, permanent and loving homes for children becomes the priority of the Children's Division.

Residential and Foster Care Licensure

The Children's Division is responsible for the inspection, licensing and approval of foster care homes and residential facilities.

Early Childhood and Prevention Services

The Children's Division administers early childhood care and child abuse prevention programs. These programs provide child care subsidies to low-income families as well as quality improvement and professional development activities for child care programs and staff.

2007 CHILDREN'S DIVISION *Fast Facts*

1,275 adoptions finalized

127,263 calls taken by the Child Abuse Hotline

1,728 families received Intensive In-Home Services

9,656 children were in the custody of the Children's Division

2,652 families were licensed to provide foster care

Over 80% of services are provided through contracted providers

2008 INITIATIVES

Accreditation:

The Children's Division will continue with its plan to achieve statewide accreditation of the state's child welfare system by 2009. An additional 16 circuits will undergo extensive reviews in FY 2008 by the Council on Accreditation.

Early Headstart Expansion:

The Governor is proposing an expansion of Early Headstart using savings accrued through efficiencies. Services would be expanded to nearly 100 eligible children with an impact on the quality of care for hundreds more.

Child Care Rate Restructuring:

This proposed initiative would realign licensed and inspected provider child care rates to reflect the market for the first across-the-board adjustment in a decade. The proposal is to bring infant and toddler rates to 65% of market and all other rates to 55%.

Program Divisions

DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES



3418 Knipp, Suite A-1
P.O. Box 447
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 751-3324
Fax (573) 526-4494

Tim Decker
Division of Youth Services Director
Tim.Decker@dss.mo.gov

GOAL

To allow youth to fulfill their needs in a responsible manner with respect for the needs of their families and their communities.

FUNCTION

The Division of Youth Services' (DYS) primary function within the Department is to provide treatment and educational services to rehabilitate young people that have become involved with the juvenile justice system.

2007 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

DYS is nationally recognized as a model for youth treatment and rehabilitation. Over the past year, DYS has been visited and regularly contacted by other states seeking assistance and has been featured in national publications including National Public Radio, the New York Times, Associated Press and British Broadcasting Corporation.

The National Evaluation and Technical Assistance Center for the Education for Children and Youth Who are Neglected, Delinquent or At Risk (NDTAC) found DYS and Juvenile Court Detention Centers rank well above the national average in many categories pertaining to the educational success of delinquent youth including:

- 91% of Missouri youth in juvenile corrections or detentions earned high school credits as compared to 46% nationally;
- 15% of these youth earned GED certificates as compared to 6% nationally; and,
- In SFY 2007, DYS awarded 237 GED certificates and 32 high school diplomas, making it one of the most successful years on record.

PROGRAMS

Case Management

Case Management provides assessment, treatment planning, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of services for youth and their families, as well as transition supervision with the ultimate goal of returning each youth to their family and community as a productive and responsible citizen.

Day Treatment

Day Treatment provides a structured alternative education program supported by individual, group or family therapy.

Family Therapy

DYS family therapists provide counseling to adjudicated and non-adjudicated youth and their families.

Community-Based Residential Programs

DYS group homes provide treatment and education in a residential environment; staff provides 24-hour supervision in a home-like setting with capacity for 10 young people in each group.

Moderate-Care Residential Facilities

These facilities provide a structured environment for DYS youth who cannot function well in the community and require a more structured setting. Traditional school programs are offered on site.

Secure Care Residential Facilities

Secure care facilities are for those youth who have a history of more serious offenses and require a more structured setting. Seven, highly structured, secure care programs offer on-site education, vocational training and intensive treatment services.

Dual Jurisdiction

The Dual Jurisdiction program allows for an alternative sentencing option for certified youth, who receive adult and juvenile sentences with the adult sentence being suspended pending their progress in the juvenile system.

Aftercare

Aftercare provides supervision, counseling and support services that help youth make a smooth transition back into their communities.

2007 DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES *FastFacts*

1,273 youth committed

DYS recommitment rate was 7.3%

84.3% of all DYS discharged youth were productively involved in education or employment

2,276 young people were served in 32 residential centers operating 24/7

703 youth were served in 10 Day Treatment Centers operating year-round

2,817 youth received case management services

Juvenile Court Diversion projects operated in 39 out of 45 Juvenile Court Circuits

2008 INITIATIVES

Juvenile Court Diversion:

In SFY 2006, 49% of the youth committed to DYS were committed for non-felony offenses. Many of these youth were committed to the division for repeated status and misdemeanor law violations because the courts had limited community-based interventions. The first line of defense should be to serve young people within their community whenever possible. The goal is to improve and expand local intervention services by engaging and supporting communities to divert young people from division custody, which is best for the young people and cost effective. DYS continues to work with the courts and communities to divert young people from state custody, as appropriate.

Addressing Mental Health Needs of DYS Young People:

DSS wants to increase collaboration with mental health providers who are able to serve delinquent young people in residential settings. DSS is working collaboratively with the Department of Mental Health to address the mental health needs of young people committed to DYS custody.

REGIONAL CONTACTS:

Larry Strecker
Regional Administrator
1240 E. Brown School Road
Columbia, MO 65202
(573) 449-2939
Fax (573) 449-8766
Larry.Strecker@dss.mo.gov

Courtney Collier
Regional Administrator
1410 Genessee St.
Kansas City, MO 64105
(816) 889-2428
Fax (816) 889-3850
Courtney.L.Collier@dss.mo.gov

John Creson
Regional Administrator
1735 W. Catalpa, Suite B
Springfield, MO 65807
(417) 895-6485
Fax (417) 895-6633
John.Creson@dss.mo.gov

Paula Shaw
Regional Administrator
1903 Northwood Drive
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
(573) 840-9540
Fax (573) 686-9461
Paula.K.Shaw@dss.mo.gov

Lew Mueller
Regional Administrator
Room 331, Wainwright Building
111 North Seventh Street
St. Louis, MO 63101
(314) 340-6904
Fax (314) 340-7721
Lewis.Mueller@dss.mo.gov

FAMILY SUPPORT DIVISION



615 Howerton Court
P.O. Box 2320
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 751-3221

Janel Luck
Family Support Division Director
Janel.R.Luck@dss.mo.gov

GOAL

To maintain or improve the quality of life for the people of Missouri by providing the best possible services to the public, with respect, responsiveness and accountability enabling individuals and families to fulfill their potential.

FUNCTIONS

The Family Support Division (FSD) has two primary functions within the Department: 1) eligibility determination for various needs based programs, and 2) child support enforcement.

2007 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Food Stamp Awards: Missouri was again recognized for efficient and accurate delivery of nutrition services to families. Missouri's Food Stamp payment error rate is one of the best in the country at 2.59% while the national average is 5.99%. The state was also recognized for being one of four states in the country for best program access.

FSD maintained a 100% MO HealthNet eligibility reinvestigation rate.

Child support enforcement was restructured resulting in improved efficiency and a five percent increase in collections.

MAJOR PROGRAMS

Blind and Visually Impaired Services Program

FSD administers six programs to blind and visually impaired persons: vocational rehabilitation, prevention of blindness, independent living rehabilitation to adults, older blind services, children services and the blind enterprise program.

Community Services Block Grant

The Community Services Block Grant is a federally funded program administered in partnership with local community action agencies to impact six causes of poverty conditions: unemployment, inadequate housing, inadequate education, malnutrition, income and unmet emergency needs.

2007 FAMILY SUPPORT DIVISION *Fast Facts*

Nearly 1,000,000 applications processed

Maintained reverifications
for MO HealthNet at 99%

Child Support Collections have increased
each year for the last ten fiscal years. In
FY 07, \$586,424,767 was collected in child
support payments.

More than 4,000 visually impaired people
increase and maintain their independence
through services offered by the Rehabilita-
tion Services for the Blind Unit.

Food Stamps and Food Distribution Programs

The Food Stamps program is designed to help low-income families increase their purchasing power for buying nutritious food for their families.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

LIHEAP is a federally funded program to help with payment of energy bills; eligibility for assistance is based on household income, the number of persons residing in the household and the heating source. For the third consecutive year, Governor Blunt recommended that the program be supplemented by state Utilicare funding.

MO HealthNet

FSD performs eligibility for MO HealthNet which provides medical services for eligible children, pregnant women, aged, blind or disabled individuals and some families.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

TANF provides support on behalf of needy children who have been deprived of parental income and who are living in homes maintained by parents or close relatives. Temporary financial assistance may be provided for up to sixty months while the adult in the home transitions to self-sufficiency.

Supplemental Aid to the Blind and Blind Pension

FSD administers two additional programs for the blind: the Supplemental Aid to the Blind and the state-financed Blind Pension Program.

Supplemental Nursing Care

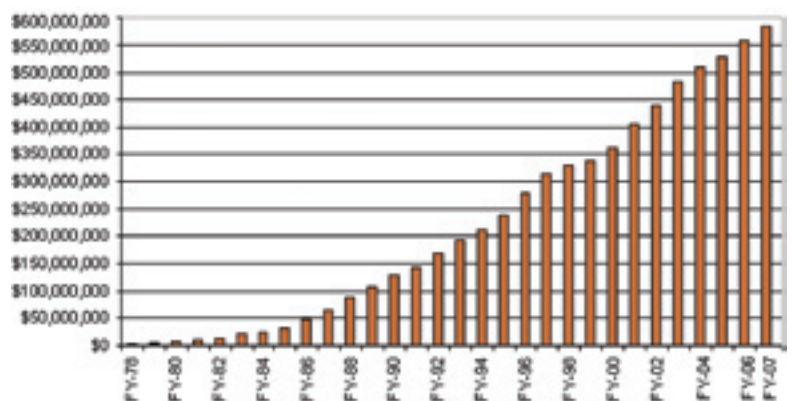
This program provides medical services to people who meet requirements in accordance with standards based on state law. Certain adults who are medically eligible and who reside in residential care, assisted living, or licensed nursing facilities may receive monthly benefits.

Child Support

The Child Support program works to assist families with the following: locating parents, establishing paternity, establishing child and medical support orders, monitoring and enforcing compliance with support orders, receiving support orders for modification and distributing child support collections.

For Fiscal Year 2007 (the period extending from July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007) collections totaled over half a billion dollars. The figure represents a five percent increase in collections over the previous year.

Missouri's Child Support Collections



Refugee Resettlement

The goal of the Refugee Resettlement program is to promote economic self-sufficiency within the shortest possible time after a refugee's entrance into the state. This is accomplished through the planned and coordinated use of support services as transitional aid.

2008 INITIATIVES

Electronic Funds Transfer and Child Support Portal:

DSS is proposing a new electronic process for employers to remit child support payments. Additionally, DSS is proposing a child support portal that will allow employers to transfer new hire information electronically. Electronic transfer of data will improve employer reporting, reduce manual data entry and help the FSD with collection efforts. Legislation is proposed.

REGIONAL CONTACTS:

Income Maintenance:

Darrell Deken
SE Missouri Field Liaison
P. O. Box 8
1903 Northwood
Poplar Bluff, MO 63902
(573) 840-9200
Darrell.L.Deken@dss.mo.gov

Bob Fant
St. Louis Region Manager
9900 Page Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63132
(314) 426-9600
Bob.L.Fant@dss.mo.gov

Debbie Jones
SW Missouri Field Liaison
P. O. Box 186
Dallas and Oak Streets
Hermitage, MO 65668
(417) 745-6491
Debra.O.Jones@dss.mo.gov

Marge Randle
Kansas City Region Manager
615 East 13th Street
Kansas City, MO 64106
(816) 889-2500
Marge.Randle@dss.mo.gov

Jim Simmons
NE Missouri Field Liaison
505-B N Ridgeview
Warrensburg, MO 64093
(660) 543-7900

Child Support:

Jim Carney
Eastern Region Field Liaison
7545 S. Lindbergh, Suite 150
St. Louis, MO 63125
(314) 416-2100
James.R.Carney@dss.mo.gov

Jeanine Zumalt
Western Region Field Liaison
301 East Armour Blvd, 5th Floor
Kansas City, MO 64111
(816) 889-5110
Jeanine.G.Zumalt@dss.mo.gov

Rehab Services for the Blind:

Mark Laird
Acting Deputy Director, RSB
149 Park Central Square
6th Floor - Room 640
Springfield, MO 65806
(417) 895-6386
Mark.Laird@dss.mo.gov

Hickman Mills School District LINC Caring Communities Site Coordinators



Erma Wright
Santa Fe Elementary



Tasha House
Dobbs Elementary



Treva Kinney
Truman Elementary



Freddie Cheirs
Warford Elementary



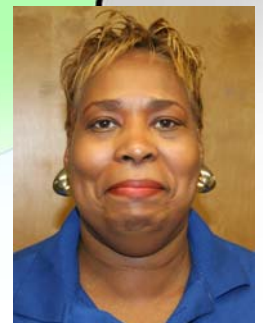
Crusita Fuentes
Burke Elementary



Angela Myres
Ingels Elementary

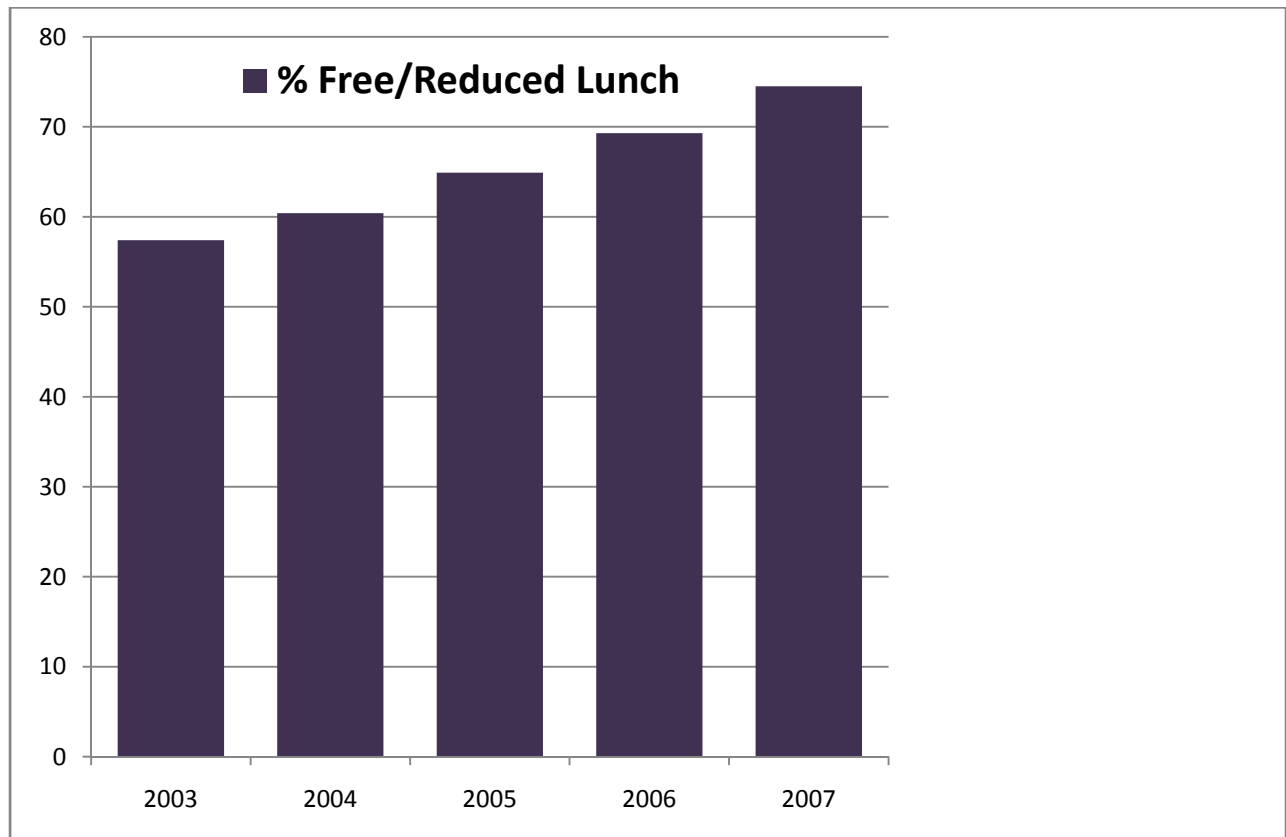
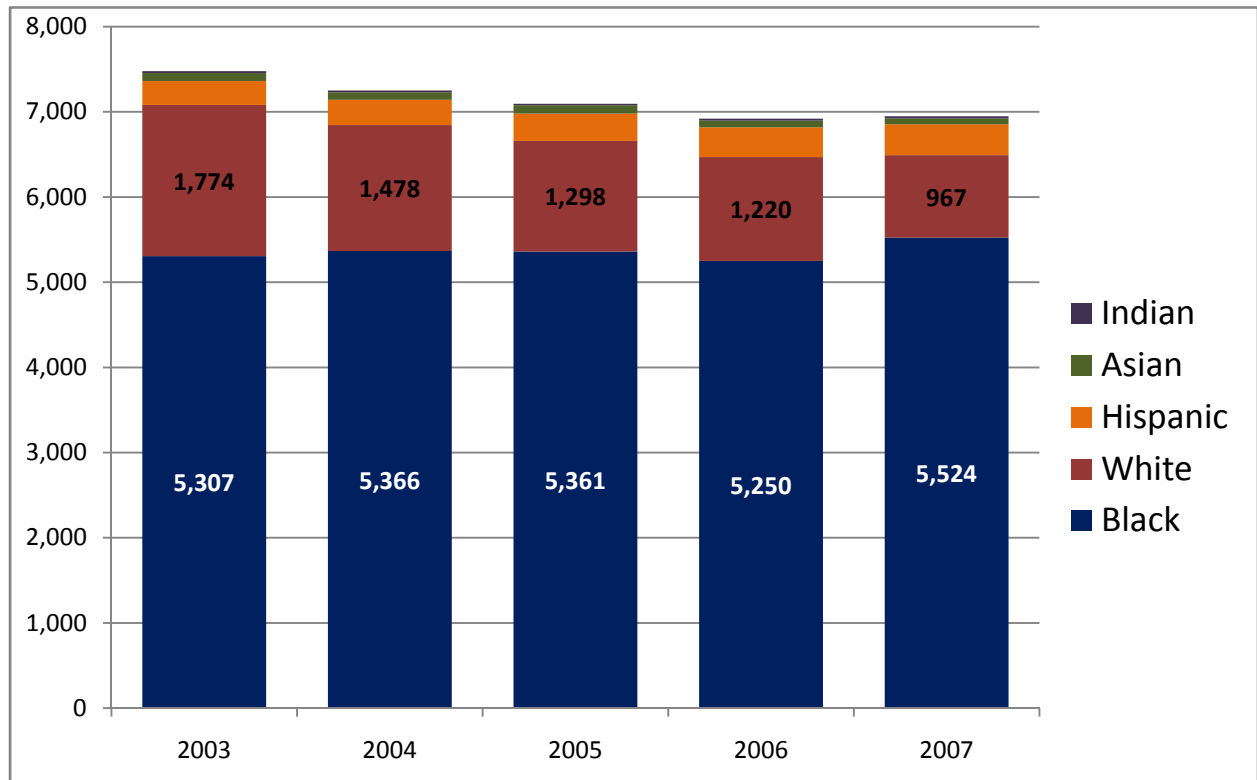


Onita Omorodion
Johnson Elementary



Wanda Thompson
Symington Elementary

Hickman Mills School District Demographics: 2003-07



July 7, 2008

Pastor works to turn around 27th and Prospect

By MIKE HENDRICKS - The Kansas City Star

We were talking, the Rev. John Modest Miles and I, about what passed for everyday occurrences at 27th Street and Prospect Avenue when he first visited the corner 20 years ago.

"We're talking about prostitution," he said.

"We're talking about drugs. We're talking about murder."

Fresh from Arkansas, Miles, now 63, was then the new pastor of a church one block to the west at 2411 E. 27th St., Morning Star Missionary Baptist. And what he soon learned was the immense challenge facing anyone hoping to turn around that neighborhood at the height of the crack epidemic.

Better be wearing thick-soled shoes, he told me, when walking into one of the drug houses next door to his church.

"The drug needles were just stacked up on the floor," he said.

In another ramshackle apartment building, empty liquor bottles were quantified not by the case but by how many bushel baskets it would take to cart them out.

Yet last week, as Miles and I walked across the vacant lot where those crime-ridden buildings once stood, and where later Miles erected a mock cemetery as a witness to homicide victims, he smiled and proclaimed that a new day is coming to 27th and Prospect.

"We bought 28 buildings in this neighborhood and tore them down," he said. "Twenty-four of them were on the site where we're going to build our youth and family life center.

"We wanted to create a sense of 'I can make it' for the children in this neighborhood."

No Kansas City intersection more symbolizes decay and desperation, as well as hope, for Kansas City's inner city. Mayor Mark Funkhouser often says that our goal ought to be to ensure that 27th and Prospect is someday as safe and prosperous as 63rd Street and Brookside Boulevard.

Wonderful idea, though it almost seems impossible as you tour streets lined with battered houses, abandoned storefronts and gangbangers in their rides looking for trouble.

Still, some see the beginnings of a rebirth in the project that Morning Star Missionary Baptist has been working toward for much of two decades.

"This is one of the most important things happening in this city in the toughest neighborhood in town," said Bill Nelson, chairman of George K. Baum Asset Management and one-time head of a downtown bank, the former Boatmen's National.

Nelson and Miles became friends in the late 1980s, when Nelson was also new to his job and was looking for ways Boatmen's could invest in the poverty-stricken inner city. One way, he learned, was for Boatmen's to foreclose on two abandoned buildings at 28th Street and Wabash Avenue and donate them to Miles' youth and family life center project.

And the two men have been working on the project ever since. First, by clearing the block of blight, then having plans drawn up for a community center, complete with gym, whose programs would include counseling, job training and recreation for young people, as well as activities for seniors.

According to the plan, the center would also include some kind of branch office of the Police Department.

"We think this will be a beacon of hope for the neighborhood," Nelson told me.

"I think it is sorely needed," agreed 3rd District Councilwoman Sharon Sanders Brooks.

As usual, money is the holdup. So far, City Hall has contributed more than \$600,000 to the project, of which \$373,000 was spent on land clearance and \$250,000 is set aside for sidewalk repairs.

Sen. Kit Bond secured a \$753,000 commitment from the federal government. A couple of more requests for city funds are in the pipeline for public works improvements. Plus, the project has the backing of the City Council, City Manager Wayne Cauthen and the mayor.

Calling Miles "a solid guy," Funkhouser said: "We need community anchors like the one he has in mind.

"I'm committed to making it happen."

However, it's a commitment from the philanthropic community that's most needed. With at least another \$4 million to be raised, Nelson and Miles are going to have to convince charitable foundations not only of the need for the project but the chances of its success.

They know it won't be easy. Yet nothing ever is at 27th and Prospect, even if it is just living from one day to the next.

Districts: (click on map markers for school information)

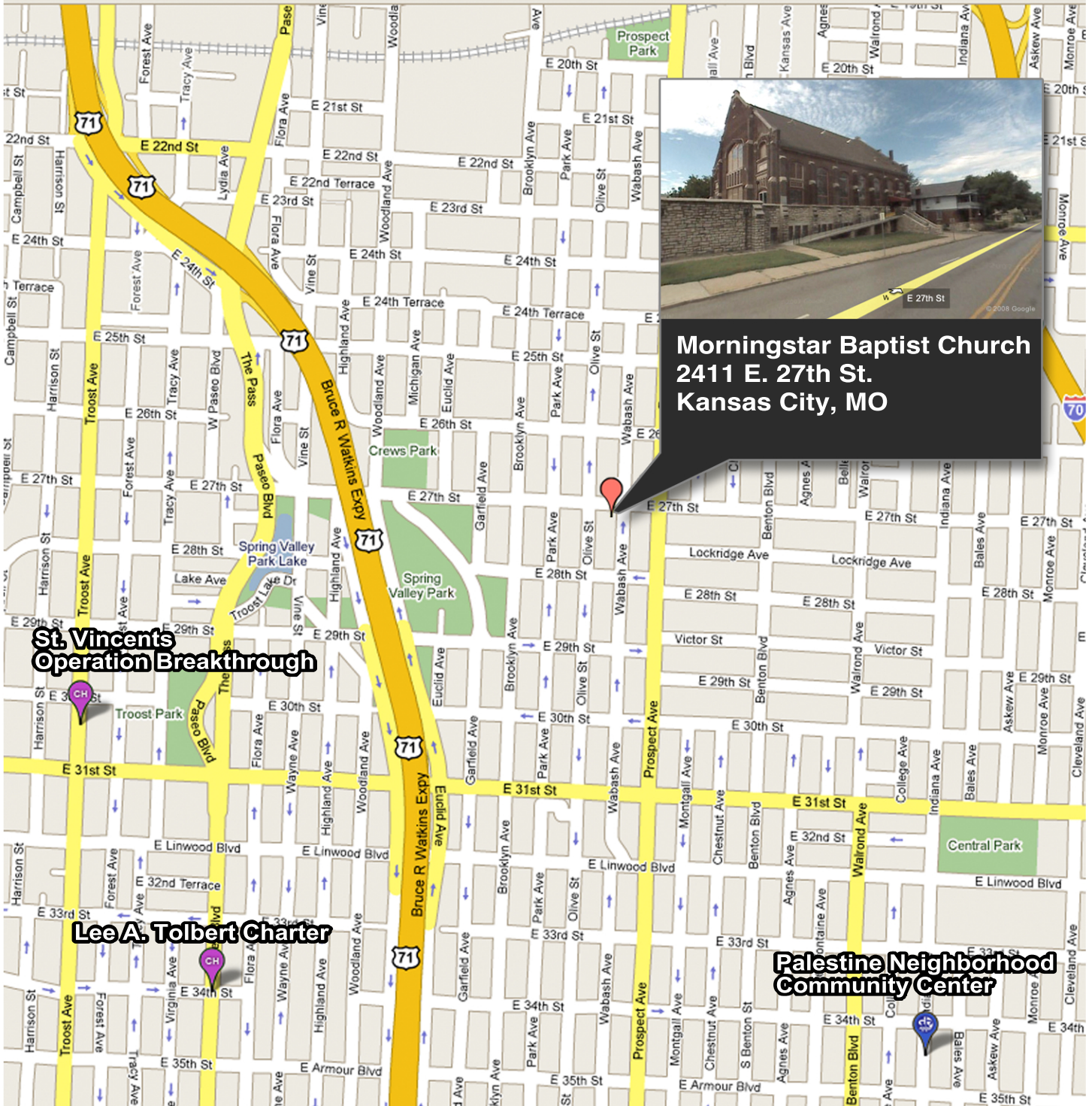
NKC North Kansas City
IN Independence

HM Hickman Mills
FO Fort Osage

GV Grandview
CH Charter Schools

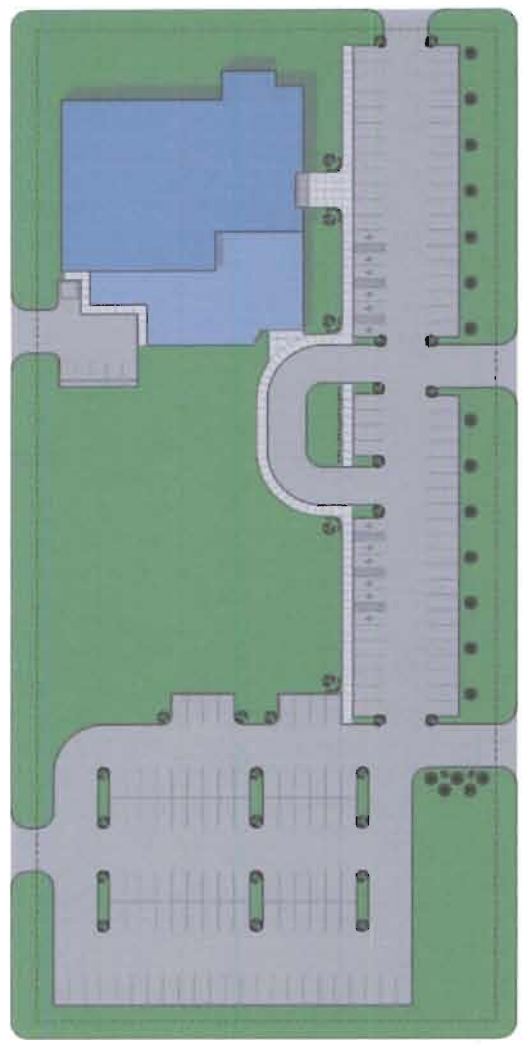
C Center
3 LINC Sites

OC Other Contracted

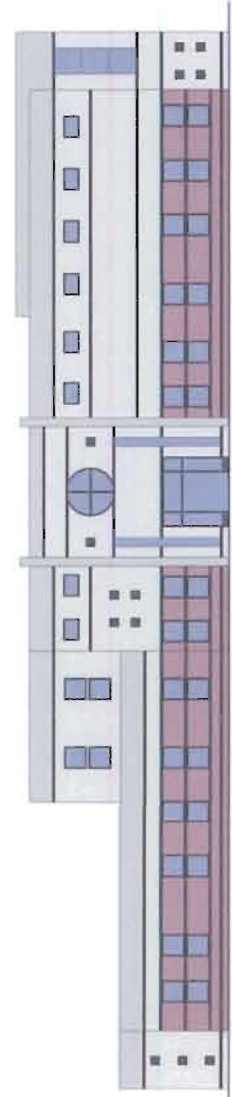


Morningstar Baptist Church
2411 E. 27th St.
Kansas City, MO

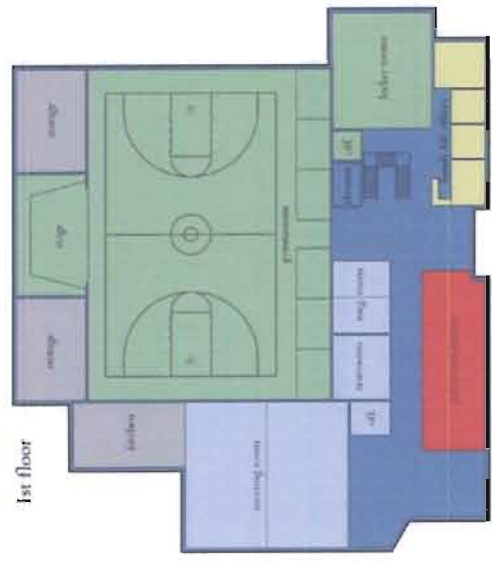
morning star community center



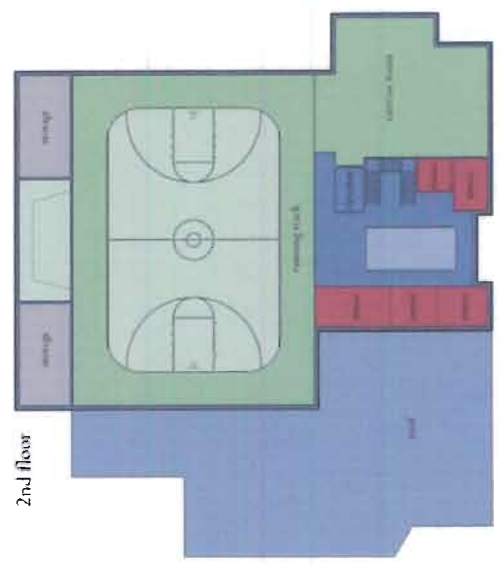
site plan



front elevation



1st floor



2nd floor



JACK BALL ARCHITECTS, PC
 ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING
 444 SOUTH CAMPBELL AVENUE
 SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI 65806
 P. 417.866.1104 F. 417.866.3693
 www.jbapc.com

MorningStar's Development Company, Inc.

Statement of Need

Out-migration has increased the social isolation of this low-income community, leaving it with a disproportionate concentration of people living in poverty. A large portion of the target community is in Kansas City's Enhanced Enterprise Community (EEC). The EEC designation indicates that the area is truly in need of an economic boost.

The targeted area consist of a large percentage of people living in poverty, up to 55 percent of children; low educational achievement, with up to 56 percent of adults over 25 who have not graduated from high school, a high vacancy rate for housing and a significant population loss.

The target population to be served by MorningStar's Development Company (MSDC) is in great need of social services and affordable housing. They also need basic education and job training. The services that will be provided by MSDC and its partner agencies will assist families in meeting basic needs for food, clothing, shelter and to create a brighter future.

There is a void of programs and basic services for youth and families in this undeserved community. Due to this void, most youth seek recreational and other developmental activities outside of their community. Youth under the driving age and those without access to transportation have little incentive and often resort to hanging out wasting valuable time and energy rather than developing basic human interaction skills and job readiness skills to assist them in becoming educated and productive citizens.

Historically, the neighborhood surrounding the Morning Star Church has been in decline. This is evident in abandoned and decaying buildings, a lack of community resources, job opportunities, affordable housing and rehabilitation of homes in the area.

MSDC believes that this situation can change with funding support and a commitment to reinvent the urban core by empowering the community and families with basic tools and resources to overcome poverty and improve the quality of life.

Lights On Afterschool



Artwork by Sarah, age 13, Young Rembrandts, Greater Cleveland-West afterschool program.

Truman
Caring Communities
Thurs., Oct. 16
4:30 - 6:00 p.m.



LINC
Local Investment Commission
www.kclinc.org