

LINC Commission Meeting

July 20, 2015



Students from the LINC Summer School program at James Elementary in the KCPS visit the Shatto Milk Company. Photos courtesy of Eric Lanier.



LINC
Local Investment Commission

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, July 20, 2015 | 4 – 6 pm
Kauffman Foundation
4801 Rockhill Rd.
Kansas City, Mo. 64110

Agenda

- I. Welcome and Announcements
- II. Approvals
 - a. June minutes (motion)
- III. Superintendents' Reports
- IV. Kansas City Fall Book Distribution
 - a. Shannon Burke-Kranzberg – First Book
 - b. Community Outreach
- V. Apricot Data System Demonstration
- VI. Update Reports
 - a. LINC and Summer Programs
 - b. Hickman Mills video
 - c. Sprint Summer Reading Event
 - d. Woodland Early Learning Center
- VII. Adjournment



THE LOCAL INVESTMENT COMMISSION – JUNE 15, 2015

The Local Investment Commission met at the Kauffman Foundation, 4801 Rockhill Rd., Kansas City, Mo. Co-chair **Bailus Tate** presided. Commissioners attending were:

Bert Berkley
Sharon Cheers
Aaron Deacon
SuEllen Fried
Tom Gerke
Rob Givens
Anita Gorman

Richard Hibschman
Rosemary Lowe
Mary Kay McPhee
Richard Morris
Landon Rowland
David Ross

A motion to approve the May 18, 2015, LINC Commission meeting minutes was passed unanimously.

Superintendents' Report

- **David Leone** (Superintendent, Center School District) reported the district is serving 1,000 students in its summer school program; working with University of Missouri to develop positive behavior interventions; and planning for next school year.
- **Ralph Teran** (Superintendent, Grandview School District) reported the district is serving 950 students in summer school. The Grandview High School boys' track team has won the state title for the fifth year in a row.
- **Dred Scott** (Asst. Supt., Independence School District) reported the district is halfway through summer school, with 6,000 students K-8 enrolled; identifying schools for the Project Shine volunteer school clean-up initiative; and planning the Independence Community Heritage Festival with LINC support for the fall.
- **Allan Tunis** (Interim Supt., Kansas City Public Schools) thanked LINC for its partnership and reported the district's approach under his leadership will be to "stay the course." The board is working with a search firm to find a permanent superintendent.
- **Anthony Lewis** (Director of Elementary Education, Kansas City Public Schools) reported LINC is providing summer school programs at 17 sites and before and after summer school programs at three sites in KCPS. There are currently 9,100 students enrolled in KCPS summer school programs.
- **Terry Ward** (Board Member, North Kansas City School District) reported the district expects to name an interim superintendent by July 1. The new school year began three days ago for Crestview and Winwood elementary schools, which adopted an expanded school year with 208 days of instruction; 97% of students opted to stay at the schools.
- **Kevin Foster** (Executive Director, Genesis Promise Academy) reported 155 students are attending summer school. Genesis is adding 20 days to its school year; the fall semester will begin Aug. 1. Students are participating in the U.S. Tennis Association summer tennis camp at the courts on the Country Club Plaza.
- **Gayden Carruth** (Exec. Director, Cooperating School Districts of Greater Kansas City) reported 8 of the 29 CSDGKC districts are now undergoing leadership turnover; 18 of the 29 have undergone turnover in a three-year period.
- **Bob Bartman** (Director, Education Policy Fellowship Program) reported recruiting is under way for the 2015-2016 class of EPFP fellows. Next year's program will expand or add

experiences including the White House Decision Center at Truman Library.

Raise Your Hand for Kids

Tate introduced **Erin Brower**, Alliance for Childhood Education, who gave a presentation on Raise Your Hand for Kids, an initiative to invest in early childhood education and health that would be funded by raising the Missouri state tobacco tax by 50 cents. Brower reported on the projected economic impact, health benefits, and dividends to taxpayers; previous failed attempts to raise the tax; and the process, including polls and community input, of organizing the effort to have the initiative placed on the November 2016 ballot. Discussion followed.

LINC Summer Update

Caring Communities Supervisor **Jeff Hill** reported on LINC's distribution of 35,000 books to every elementary school student at LINC sites. The books were purchased from First Book; Independence School District provided building space for use as a fulfillment center; LINC staff and 51 community volunteers stickered the books, filled orders, and delivered books to the sites. A video of the effort was shown.

Caring Communities Supervisors **Janet Miles-Bartee** and **DeWayne Bright** reported on LINC before and after summer school, summer camp, and – the largest of these undertakings – the summer school program in KCPS, which required hiring 230 certified teachers. After hiring, fingerprinting, and training for summer positions, LINC has 1,000 total employees; 5,500 students are anticipated to attend LINC summer programs. A slide show of photos taken at KCPS summer school sites was shown.

LINC Deputy Director of Community Engagement **Brent Schondelmeyer** reported on the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer for Children program. This year LINC is helping the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture to distribute summer food benefits to 5,141 total children in the Center, Hickman Mills and Kansas City school districts. The initiative is also an opportunity for LINC to have a say in shaping summer food policy.

Information Systems

Oscar Tshibanda of Tshibanda and Associates reported that select groups, including Mo. Division of Youth Services, have begun to use the new Apricot data system; Educare is in process of implementing the system; full roll-out of the system is due in December 2015.

Mo. Family Support Division

Stephanie Fowler, Mo. Family Support Division Regional Administrator, reported on TANF policy changes resulting from state legislation including reduction in lifetime benefit limits from 60 to 45 months, immediate engagement of clients in work activities for four weeks before opening a case, standardized orientation; and increased sanctions for nonparticipation. In addition, adults without dependent children will be required to work 20 hours a week to receive food stamp benefits. Discussion followed.

Sharon Cheers gave thanks on behalf of the Commission to the superintendents of LINC partner school districts who are leaving this school year: **Mark Enderle** (Fort Osage), **Stephen Green** (KCPS), **David Leone** (Center) and **Todd White** (North Kansas City).

The meeting was adjourned.

First Book Statistics: Literacy in America



“Access to books and educational material is the single biggest barrier to literacy development in the United States and beyond. If we can solve the problem of access, we will be well on the road to realizing educational parity – a goal which has eluded this country for generations.”

-- Susan B. Neuman, Ph.D. University of Michigan, Ctr. for Improvement of Early Reading Achievement

The Importance of Access to Books

- Access to books is key to reading skills. Studies confirm that the number of books in the home directly predicts reading achievement. Children who grew up with books in their homes reached a higher level of education than those who did not. (*Family Scholarly Culture and Educational Success*)
- One study found that in middle income neighborhoods the ratio is 13 books per child; in low-income neighborhoods, the ratio is one book for every 300 children. (Neuman, Susan B. and David K. Dickinson, ed. *Handbook of Early Literacy Research, Volume 2*. New York, NY: 2006).
- Price is the #1 barrier to book ownership. Programs have limited funds and 94% of teachers use their own money to provide books & resources for their students.

The Educational Challenges Faced by Children in Need

- Vocabulary development by age 3 has been found to predict reading achievement... By age 3, children from wealthier families have typically heard 30 million more words than children from low-income families. (*AEC, 2010*)
- Children from low-income families lack early interactions that lead to language development including being read to and access to books in the home. New data show that children from low-income families have one-fourth the vocabulary of children from wealthier homes. (*NPR, 2011*).
- By the time children from low-income families enter kindergarten, they are 12-14 months below national norms in language & pre-reading skills. (*AEC, 2010*)
- Reading scores have not improved in decades. 83% of low-income 4th graders score at “Below Proficient” levels vs. 55% of middle-income student cohorts. (*Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count 2010*)

High School Students and the Drop-out Rate

- Every school day, seven thousand students become dropouts. Annually, that adds up to 1.2 million students who will not graduate high school with their peers as scheduled. (*Alliance for Excellent Education*)
- The average annual income for a high school dropout in 2004 was \$16,485, compared to \$26,156 for a high school graduate, a difference of \$9,671 (*U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2005*).
- “Every student who doesn’t complete high school costs our society \$260,000 in lost earnings, taxes, productivity.” (*Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count 2010*)
- 78% of juvenile crime is committed by high school dropouts. (*National Children's Reading Foundation*)

NEW BOOKS FOR THE KIDS YOU SERVE



www.firstbook.org/join

First Book is a nonprofit social enterprise that can help you make a difference in your kids' lives with new, high-quality books—for free or at low cost.

HOW DO I GET BOOKS FROM FIRST BOOK?

Once you order your books, we'll ship them directly to your school or program. That's it!

You know your kids, so when you get books from First Book, you decide which titles will get them most excited about reading.

There are two ways to get books from First Book.

The First Book Marketplace: Choose from a wide selection of affordable, high-quality books. You can get an average of four books for just \$10.

The First Book National Book Bank: Select cartons of free books, donated by publishers. You pay only shipping and handling.

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WHO CAN SIGN UP WITH FIRST BOOK?

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MILITARY FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS



FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS



SHELTERS & CLINICS



LIBRARIES & MUSEUMS



AND MANY MORE!



First Book Partners with White House, Libraries and Publishers on Groundbreaking Effort to Bring Thousands of e-Books to Children in Need

WASHINGTON, April 30, 2015 – Through a new White House-led initiative, [First Book](#), a nonprofit social enterprise, is helping connect children in need across the country with access to thousands of e-books. The initiative, announced today by President Obama at the Anacostia Library in Washington, is part of a broad effort to ignite kids' love of reading by improving access to digital content and public libraries.

Through the initiative, called Open eBooks, major publishers are providing \$250 million worth of e-books to children from low-income families for free, including 10,000 of their most popular titles. The books will be accessible through an Open eBooks app, currently being developed by the New York Public Library, the Digital Public Library of America and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Together, the organizations will curate and deliver the e-books to programs and classrooms serving low-income students.

The app and all the e-books will be made available to programs and classrooms serving children in need through First Book. Anyone working in the lives of children in need is urged to sign up with First Book at www.firstbook.org/register.

“This historic partnership recognizes the need to increase access to books – in all their forms – to children growing up in low-income families,” said Kyle Zimmer, president and CEO of First Book. “Access to books is critical for children to develop their reading skills, yet books are scarce for millions of our children. First Book works directly with hundreds of thousands of educators and community programs serving children in need, and we are eager to help connect them and others with these digital resources to spread the joy of reading.”

Commitments from publishers include:

- [Macmillan](#): Providing unlimited access to all of the K-12 age-appropriate titles in their title catalog of approximately 2,500 books.
- [Simon & Schuster](#): Providing access to their entire e-catalog of books for children ages four to 14, comprised of 3,000 titles.
- [Penguin Random House](#): Committing to provide an extensive offering of their popular and award-winning books.
- [Hachette](#): Offering participating students access to a robust catalogue of their popular and award-winning titles.
- [Candlewick](#): Providing unlimited access to all relevant children's and young-adult e-book titles in their catalog.
- [Bloomsbury](#): Providing unlimited access to over 1,000 of its most popular titles.

- Lee & Low: The leading independent publisher of multicultural books is providing unlimited access to over 700 of its titles.
- Cricket Media: Offering full digital access to all of its market-leading magazines for children and young adults, including Ladybug and Cricket.
- HarperCollins: Providing a robust selection of their award-winning and popular titles.

Additionally, the participation of the partnering organizations and libraries includes:

- First Book: Will connect its growing national network of 175,000 classrooms and programs serving children in need with access to the Open eBook app, as well as work to bring new programs into the network.
- The Institute of Museum and Library Services: Investing \$5 million to support the development of the e-reader app and tools and services to help the public more easily access e-books and other digital content.
- The Digital Public Library of America: Their network of librarians will volunteer with the New York Public Library to help make sure popular books reach the most appropriate audience. DPLA, in conjunction with Recovering the Classics, is also adding age-appropriate public domain titles whose text and cover art have been redesigned by leading graphic designers and artists.
- New York Public Library: Developing a cutting-edge e-reader app and working with industry and technology leaders to improve the experience for students.

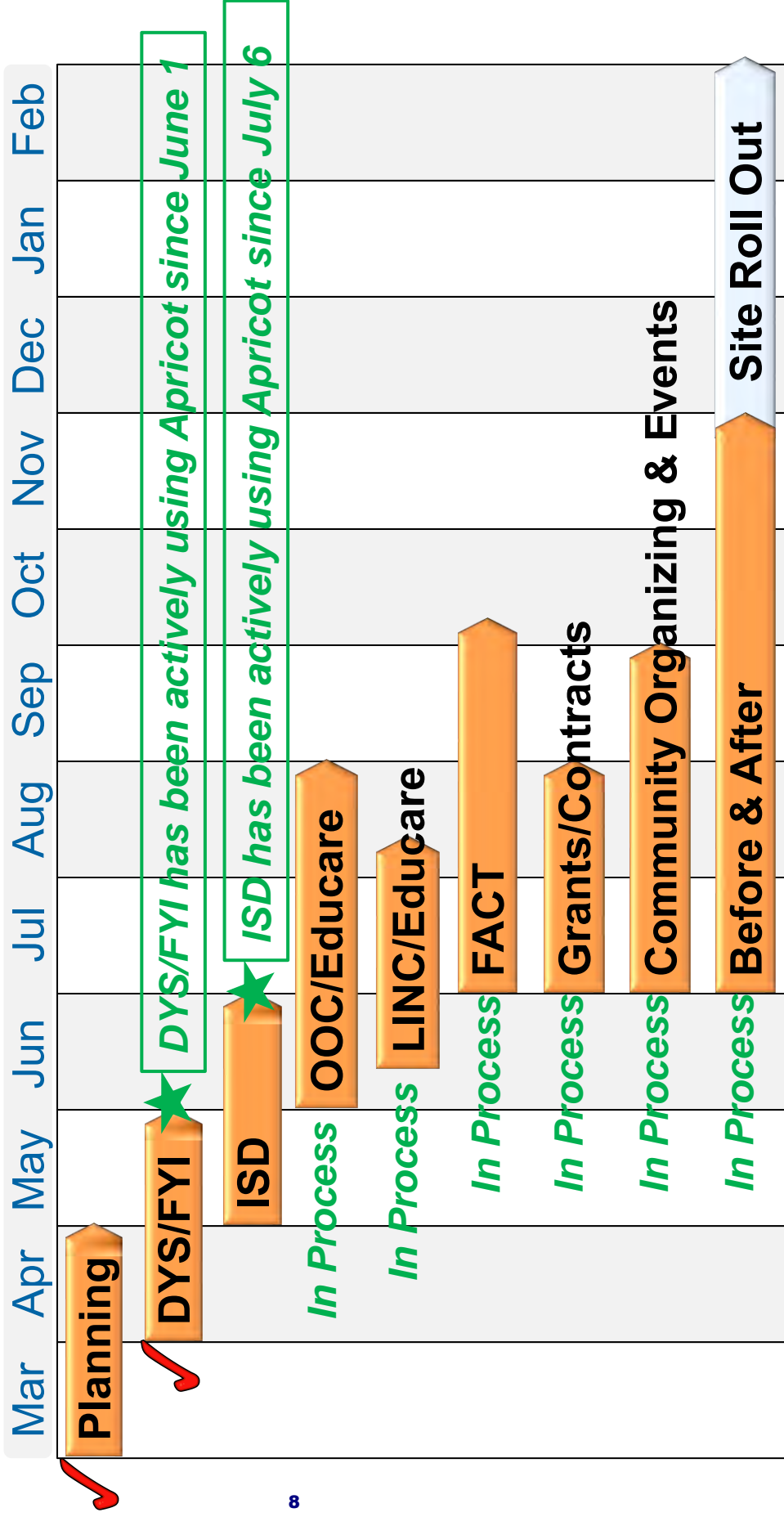
In addition to Open eBooks, the President also announced a complementary effort, the ConnectED Library Challenge, with more than 30 communities making a commitment to put a library card into every student’s hand so they can access the programs, learning resources and books available at public libraries.

About First Book

First Book is a nonprofit social enterprise that has distributed more than 125 million books and educational resources to programs and schools serving children from low-income families throughout the United States and Canada. By making new, high-quality books and educational resources available on an ongoing basis, First Book is transforming the lives of children in need and elevating the quality of education. For more information, please visit www.firstbook.org or follow the latest news on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

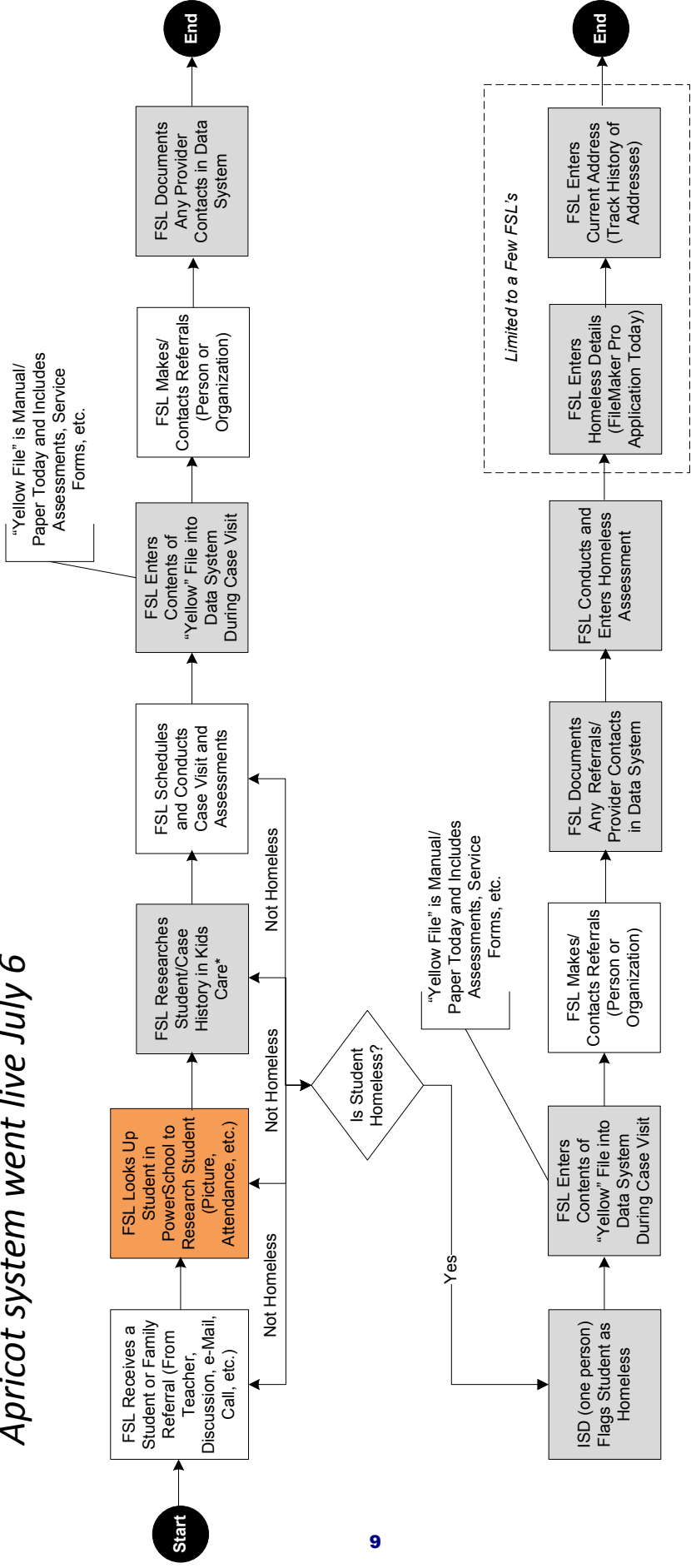
Data System Implementation Update

As we discussed at the last few Commission meetings, LINC is implementing the Apricot data system to replace NPASS.



Independence School District

Apricot system went live July 6



*The FSL may create a case group for a family and link/track multiple children for one family in a group

Legend

- Manual Process
- Apricot Enabled
- 3rd Party Application

- 25 Users
- 31,000 Existing and Prior Students
- 305,000 Prior Service Records Migrated



Kansas City Star – July 9, 2015

Kansas City Council moves closer to minimum wage hike



People in Kansas City have joined a nationwide push to increase minimum wage to \$15 per hour by 2020. Alex Bay (left) of Edgerton, Mo., and Austin Hoffman of Kansas City joined others in favor of such a change Thursday at City Hall, where the City Council set up a vote on a proposal to boost wages — but not to \$15 per hour. | ALLISON LONG along@kcstar.com

By LYNN HORSLEY

The City Council will decide by July 16 whether and how much to increase the city's current minimum wage. Many of the people in favor of increasing the minimum wage are participating in the "Fast for \$15" event on the south lawn of City Hall. A succession of low-wage workers and supporters plan to spend 24 hours each up until the meeting protesting on the south lawn and not eating.

"The goal in my opinion is to do some justice to those who need it, without doing damage to (business) people who have done no wrong," Mayor Sly James told his colleagues as he unveiled a more modest wage increase schedule.

For two months, the City Council has debated the merits of a grass-roots petition initiative that seeks to raise the minimum wage in the city to \$10 per hour by Sept. 1

and to \$15 per hour by 2020. Advocates for low-wage workers say an increase is essential to lift people out of poverty, while fast-food and other retail owners vow to fight the move in court, saying such a drastic change will only drive jobs and businesses out of the city.

Among key elements of the revised plan the council discussed Thursday:

- The minimum wage would rise to \$8.50 per hour on Aug. 24; to \$9.15 per hour by Jan. 1, 2017; and then in 65-cent increments annually to \$13 per hour by 2023.
- The wage would apply to all employers with more than 15 employees and more than \$500,000 in annual gross revenue, although James said that definition of small business may change.
- Failure to comply could result in Municipal Court prosecution with a maximum fine of \$1,000.

Council members emphasized this proposal will likely be tweaked again before a final vote next Thursday.

Proponents of a wage increase said it's too soon to know whether this version would be acceptable but indicated they would prefer a more significant wage raise, and sooner than 2023.

"We will continue to say we would like a \$15-per-hour wage. That's still below a living wage for Kansas City, for anybody but a single adult," said Donna Simon, pastor of St. Mark Hope and Peace Lutheran Church, which houses the Stand Up KC worker advocacy group that has pushed the minimum-wage increase.

"And 2023 is a long way away. People are hungry now."

Dana Wittman, a Subway employee who has worked in fast food for 20 years, agreed. She said she makes \$8.75 per hour and it's simply not enough to live on.

"I would say we were hoping for something more definitive," she said of the council's latest version. "That's not going to help me because I'm already above that."

Simon, Wittman and other worker advocates will be participating in a bit of political theater for the next week, staging a "rolling fast," with people fasting for 24 hours and groups rotating to spend day and night under a canopy on the south side of City Hall until next Thursday's vote.

Meanwhile, some opponents insist Kansas City has no legal authority to change the wage above the state-set minimum, and say they will go to court to get the new wage thrown out if the council insists on taking that vote.

One opponent Thursday said business owners can accept a 25-cent wage increase in August, and probably an increase to \$9 per hour by 2017, but anything beyond that is projecting too far into the future.

“Nobody knows what the economy will do,” said Jason Pryor, government affairs chairman for the Greater Kansas City Restaurant Association, adding that restaurant, hotel and other business advocates will fight mandated increases beyond 2017.

As the council weighed its options Thursday, it was clear the way forward is full of potential pitfalls.

Studies don’t agree on the impact of minimum-wage increases, said Scott Helm of the Henry W. Bloch School of Management at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Helm has moderated weekly discussions since June 1 between opposing sides in the debate.

“You’ve been handed a whole bunch of rough measures to make a very difficult decision,” he told the council, adding that it’s too soon to know the long-term effects in places like Seattle and San Francisco that are only now ramping up their minimum wages.

William Greiner, chief investment strategist of Mariner Holdings, told the council there’s no doubt that the purchasing power of the minimum wage has declined since its peak in 1980.

Those making minimum wage have definitely lost ground relative to average wage earners since then, he said, and a gradual increase to \$10 per hour over the next few years is very much justified.

But a more drastic increase, he warned, could have more adverse effects, including driving up youth unemployment.

Councilman Ed Ford acknowledged that any council action may prompt a lawsuit and said he personally has doubts that the council can raise the city’s wage above the state minimum.

While the city may be able to adopt a new minimum wage before Aug. 28 under state legislation that has yet to be signed into law, Ford questioned whether it can call for gradual increases past that date.

Meanwhile, Councilman Jim Glover said he thinks the city can implement a gradual increase over time as long as it enacts its ordinance before Aug. 28.

Ford said many other questions remain about the current council proposal, such as how it would be enforced. If a business fails to pay the new minimum wage, he asked, who will the city prosecute in municipal court, especially if a company is based out of town?

James said Kansas City could look to how Seattle is starting to enforce its higher minimum wage, but he acknowledged this is uncharted territory.

“Everyone is kind of learning this on the fly,” James said.

To reach Lynn Horsley, call 816-226-2058 or send email to lhorsley@kcstar.com.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTERED BENEFITS AT VARYING INCOME LEVELS

Benefits displayed are for a family of 3 (mother, infant, toddler). Mother works 30 hours /week; family pays \$500/month rent

Hourly Wage	\$7.65	\$10.00	\$12.50	\$15.00
Annual Wages (30 hrs/week)	\$11,934	\$15,600	\$19,500	\$23,400
2015 FPL (family of 3)	59%	78%	97%	116%
Food Stamps	\$465/month	\$358/month	\$241/month	\$124/month
Medicaid (Parent)	Not Eligible	Not Eligible	Not Eligible	Not Eligible
Medicaid (Children)	Eligible (no premium)	Eligible (no premium)	Eligible (no premium)	Eligible (no premium)
TANF Cash Assistance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Child Care (full day licensed center)	\$972/month	\$880/month	\$788/month	\$788/month

Missouri Department of Social Services Administered Programs

HealthCare.gov	Unsubsidized*	Unsubsidized*	Unsubsidized*	Subsidized
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- HealthCare.gov subsidies are only available for persons above poverty level; federal law assumes parents below 100% FPL will be covered by state Medicaid. Missouri has not expanded Medicaid coverage adults below 100% FPL.

Keep moving forward on a new minimum wage for Kansas City

The proposed increase to Kansas City's minimum wage likely will travel a bumpy road during City Council debate on Thursday. Ultimately, Mayor Sly James and council members should endorse a modest boost that will increase over time.

That would place the city among the leaders on the crucial issue of wage fairness, a battle being fought around the country.

Passage of a reasonable increase would help Kansas City improve its image as a desirable place to work. Meanwhile, employers would get some certainty on how much they ought to pay employees, while gaining access to hard workers who want to earn more than the lower wages that will continue to exist in other local communities.

James focused on the correct issue earlier this week during a strategy session with other council members. The city needed to "do what makes sense and what we think is right," he said. That came after council member Ed Ford warned that any increase by the city "is going to be struck down by the courts."

Maybe, maybe not. This is too important of an issue to be deterred simply by a potential legal challenge.

The council last week took initial steps toward setting the minimum wage at \$8.50 an hour this year, then moving toward \$13 an hour by 2023.

On Thursday, some council members are expected to offer amendments to speed up the implementation of the higher minimum wages, and to set the hoped-for goal of \$15 an hour somewhere along the line.

However, it appears that James and most council leaders remain dubious that this aggressive approach would be the right one in Kansas City.

Other amendments may be offered as well. We'd like to see one that prevents age discrimination when it comes to the minimum wage. Paying 16-year-olds the same minimum wage as 19-year-olds, for example, would deter businesses from packing their employee rolls with the youngest of workers.

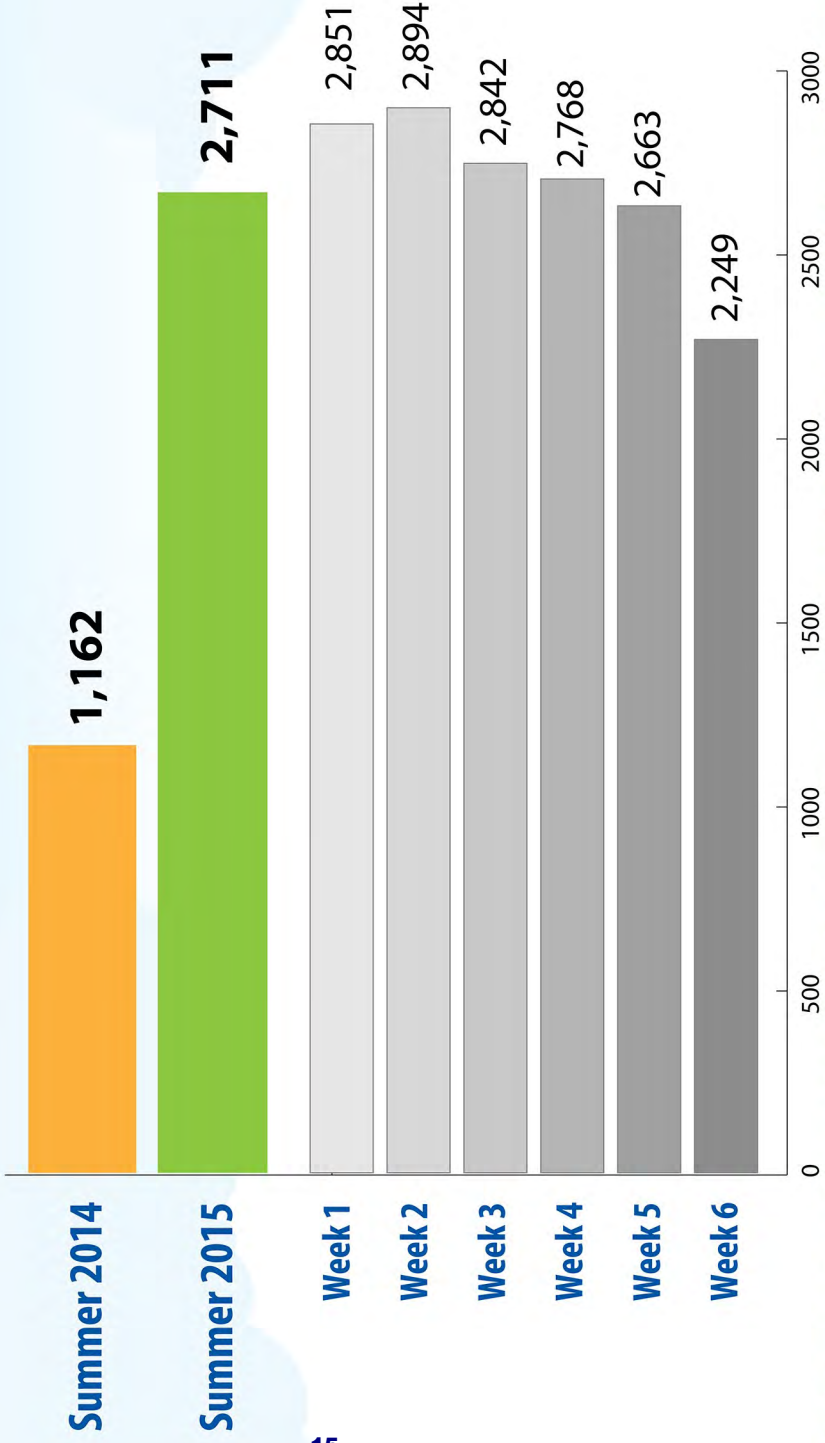
If they don't like the result of Thursday's council session, local citizens who support boosting the minimum wage even higher could try to force a public vote in the near future.

At this point, James and the City Council have a limited yet important role to play. They can accomplish that by mandating a higher minimum wage in Kansas City.

Read more here: <http://www.kansascity.com/opinion/editorials/article27355438.html#storylink=cpy>



Average Daily Attendance



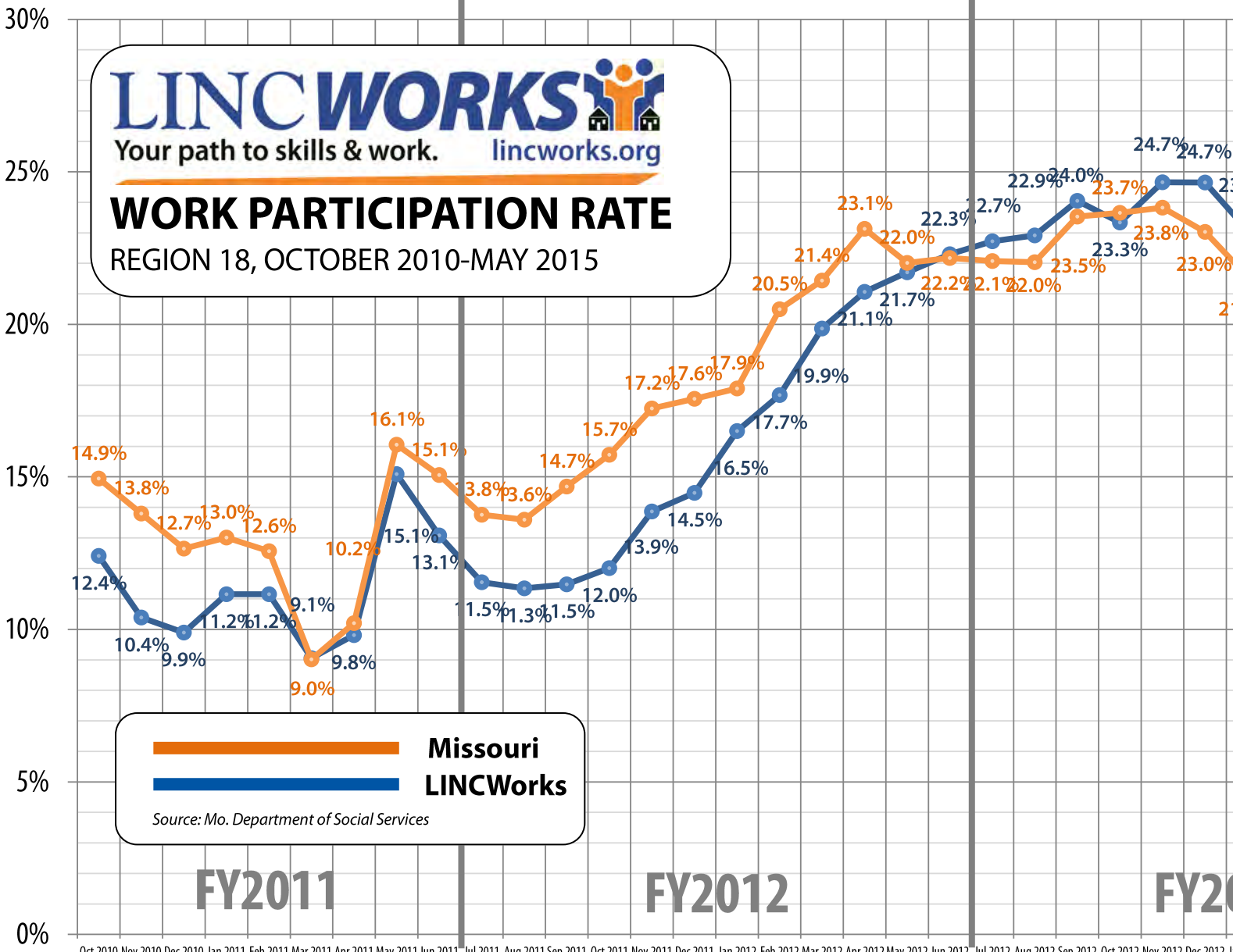
78,619
Days of Care

29
Day Program



WORK PARTICIPATION RATE

REGION 18, OCTOBER 2010-MAY 2015



— Missouri
— LINCWorks

Source: Mo. Department of Social Services

REGION 18 AT A GLANCE (FY2015 TO DATE)

CASELOAD (AVG.)

3,302

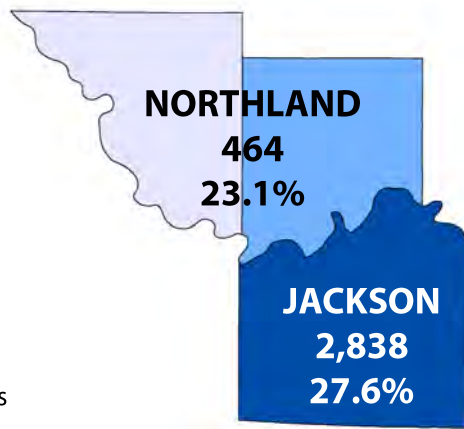
Adult single-parent household TANF cases subject to work requirement

PARTICIPATION (AVG.)

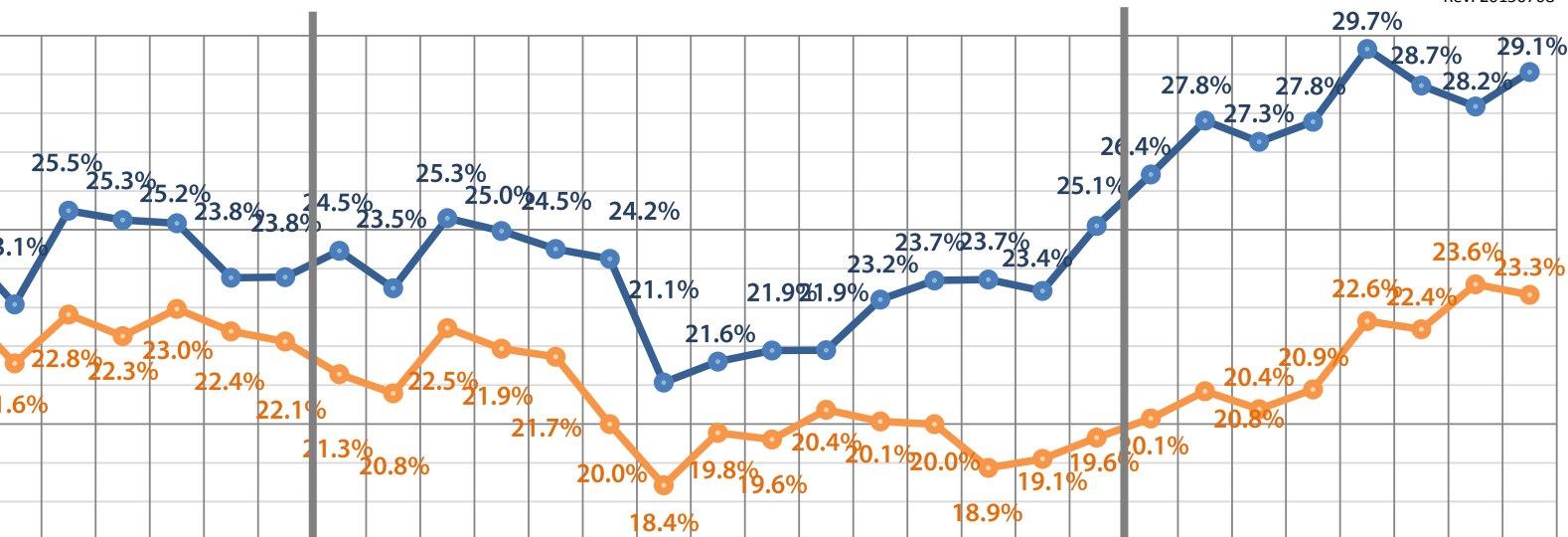
27.0%

Clients engaged in countable work activities

Average FY2015 caseload and participation within Region 18



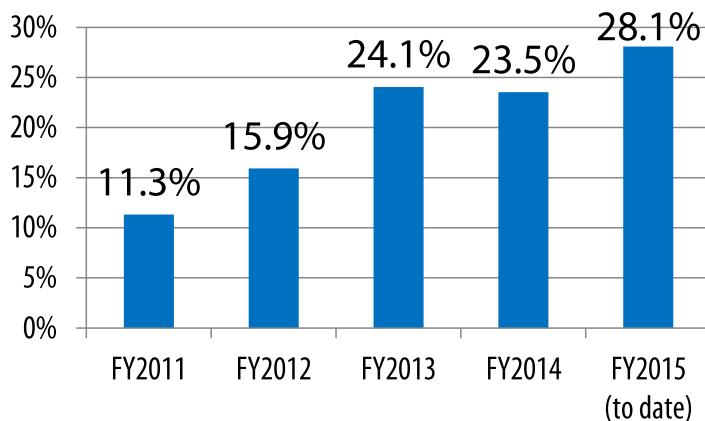
While the Region 18 MWA population resides predominantly in urban Jackson County, LINCWorks also serves participants in the Northland (Clay and Platte counties), where the population is more rural.



The line graph above shows the work participation rate from October 2010 (the beginning of the contract) to May 2015 (the latest month with available data). Since June 2012, LINCWorks has consistently enhanced the statewide participation rate.

Note on Fiscal Years: Prior to FY2015, July 1 was the first day of the fiscal year. As of FY2015, October 1 is the first day of the fiscal year. To reflect this change, FY2014 includes the 15-month period June 2014-September 2015 for the purpose of calculating the FY yearly average work participation rate in the graph at right.

**LINCWorks Work Participation Rate
Yearly Average, FY2011-2015**



2013

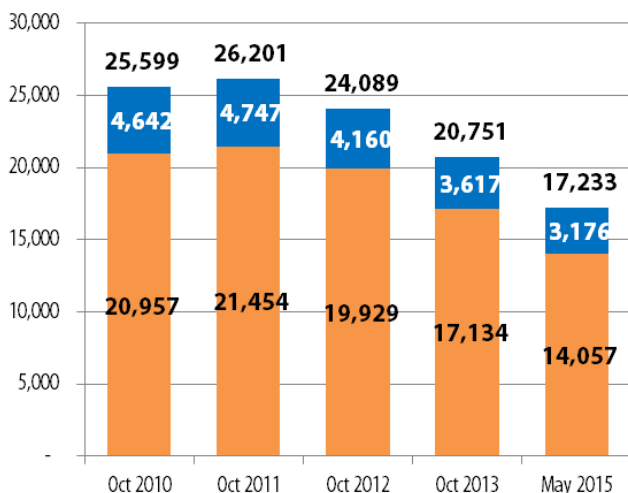
FY2014

FY2015

Oct 2013 Feb 2013 Mar 2013 Apr 2013 May 2013 Jun 2013 Jul 2013 Aug 2013 Sep 2013 Oct 2013 Nov 2013 Dec 2013 Jan 2014 Feb 2014 Mar 2014 Apr 2014 May 2014 Jun 2014 Jul 2014 Aug 2014 Sep 2014 Oct 2014 Nov 2014 Dec 2014 Jan 2015 Feb 2015 Mar 2015 Apr 2015 May 2015

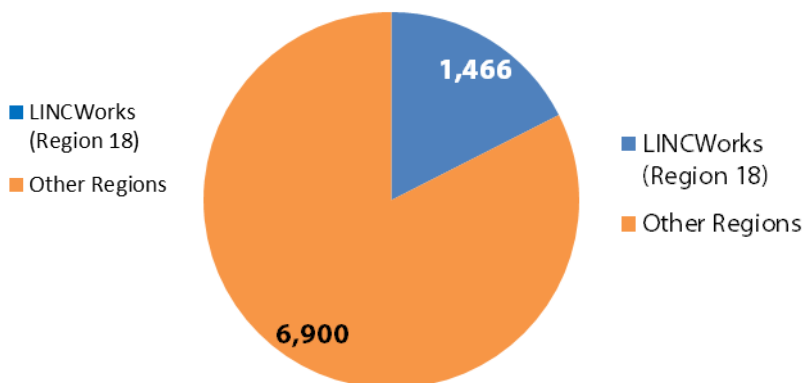
MWA CASELOAD REDUCTION, OCTOBER 2010-APRIL 2015

MWA caseload, Oct. 2010-May 2015



Decrease of Region 18 MWA caseload, Oct. 2010-May 2015, as a share of statewide total

Statewide decrease = 8,366



Your Temporary Assistance Cash Benefits Are Ending!

Read about Changes Due to a New Law!



What are the changes?

- ◆ **As of January 1, 2016:** Your lifetime limit drops from 60 to 45 months. Because of this, you will no longer get a Temporary Assistance cash benefit.
- ◆ These changes affect most TA recipients, with few exceptions.

Does this impact other benefits?

- ◆ No. This only affects Temporary Assistance benefits. It does not apply to Food Stamp, MO HealthNet (Medicaid) or other benefits.



We can Help!

- ◆ Contact your Missouri Work Assistance (MWA) provider to participate in eligible activities.
- ◆ Go to dss.mo.gov/fsd/missouri-work-assistance.htm to find the nearest MWA office or see listing on back of this flyer.
- ◆ Search for job openings based upon your individual skills and download the mobile app at jobs.mo.gov.

Questions?

Visit dss.mo.gov/fsd or call 855-373-4636

Relay Missouri: 711

If you need help with a language other than English, call 1-855-373-4636 and tell the representative the language you need.

The Family Support Division is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you feel you have received this notice in error, please contact the FSD at 855-373-4636.



Missouri Department of Social Services
FAMILY SUPPORT DIVISION

Your Temporary Assistance Cash Benefits Can Be Stopped!

**Read about Changes
Due to a New Law!**



What are the changes?

- ◆ **As of August 28, 2015:** Your benefits will be cut in half and then stopped if you do not participate in work activities.
- ◆ These changes affect most TA recipients, with few exceptions.



Does this impact other benefits?

- ◆ No. This only affects Temporary Assistance benefits. It does not apply to Food Stamp, MO HealthNet (Medicaid) or other benefits.

We can Help!

- ◆ Contact your Missouri Work Assistance (MWA) provider to participate in eligible activities.
- ◆ Go to dss.mo.gov/fsd/missouri-work-assistance.htm to find the nearest MWA office or see listing on back of this flyer.
- ◆ Search for job openings based upon your individual skills and download the mobile app at jobs.mo.gov.

Questions?

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Missouri Department of Social Services
FAMILY SUPPORT DIVISION

Your Temporary Assistance Cash Benefits Are Ending Soon!

**Read about Changes
Due to a New Law!**



What are the changes?

- ◆ **As of January 1, 2016:** Your lifetime limit drops from 60 to 45 months. Because of this, your Temporary Assistance cash benefits will expire soon.
- ◆ These changes affect most TA recipients, with few exceptions.

Does this impact other benefits?

- ◆ No. This only affects Temporary Assistance benefits. It does not apply to Food Stamp, MO HealthNet (Medicaid) or other benefits.



We can Help!

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 *Missouri Department of Social Services*
FAMILY SUPPORT DIVISION

PewResearchCenter

JULY 14, 2015

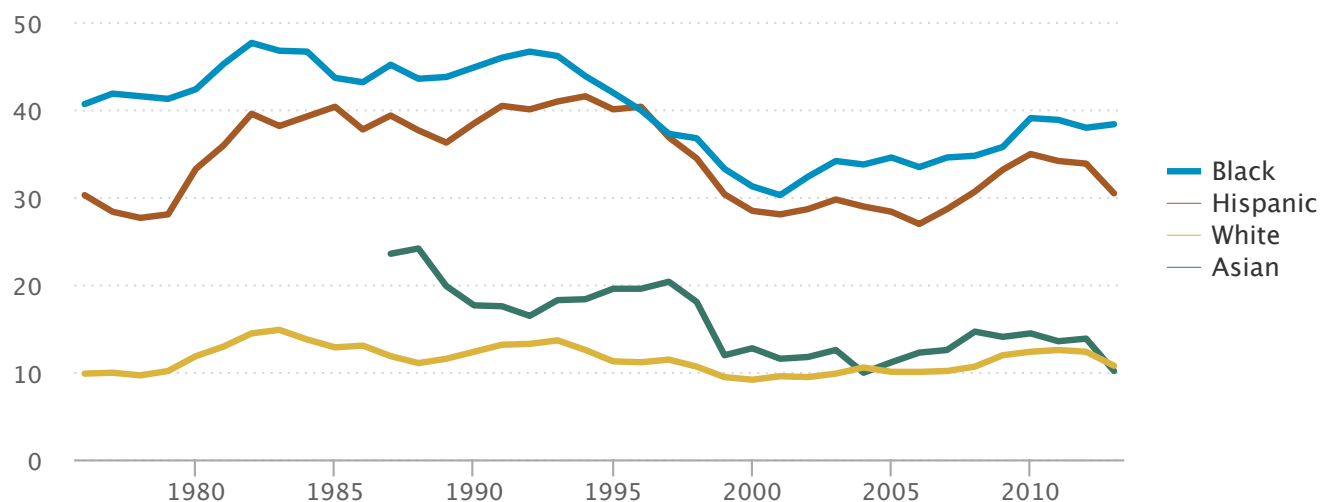
Black child poverty rate holds steady, even as other groups see declines

BY EILEEN PATTEN ([HTTP://WWW.PEWRESEARCH.ORG/AUTHOR/EPATTEN/](http://www.pewresearch.org/author/epatten/)) AND JENS MANUEL KROGSTAD ([HTTP://WWW.PEWRESEARCH.ORG/AUTHOR/JKROGSTAD/](http://www.pewresearch.org/author/jkrogstad/))

Child Poverty Rate Stable Among Blacks, Drops Among Other Groups

Chart Data Embed

Child poverty rates, by race and ethnicity



Pew Research Center

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 'Income and Poverty in the United States: 2013'. Note: Children are younger than 18. Whites include only non-Hispanics. Blacks and Asians include both the Hispanic and non-Hispanic components of their populations. Hispanics are of any race. In 2001 and earlier, respondents were only allowed to report one race group, and Asians include Pacific Islanders. From 2002-2013, respondents could choose more than one race; whites, blacks and Asians include only the single-race components of their populations in these years.

The share of American children living in poverty has declined slightly since 2010 as the nation's economy has improved. But the poverty rate has changed little for black children, the group most likely to be living in poverty, according to a new Pew Research Center analysis of Census Bureau data

(<http://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2014/demo/p60-249.pdf>) .

Overall, 20% of children in the U.S., or 14.7 million, lived in poverty in 2013 – down from 22%, or 16.3 million, in 2010. (Poverty in 2013 was defined as living in a household with an annual income below \$23,624 (<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/about/overview/measure.html>) for a family of four with two related children.) During this period, the poverty rate declined for Hispanic, white and Asian children. Among black children, however, the rate held steady at about 38%. Black children were almost four times as likely as white or Asian children to be living in poverty in 2013, and significantly more likely than Hispanic children.

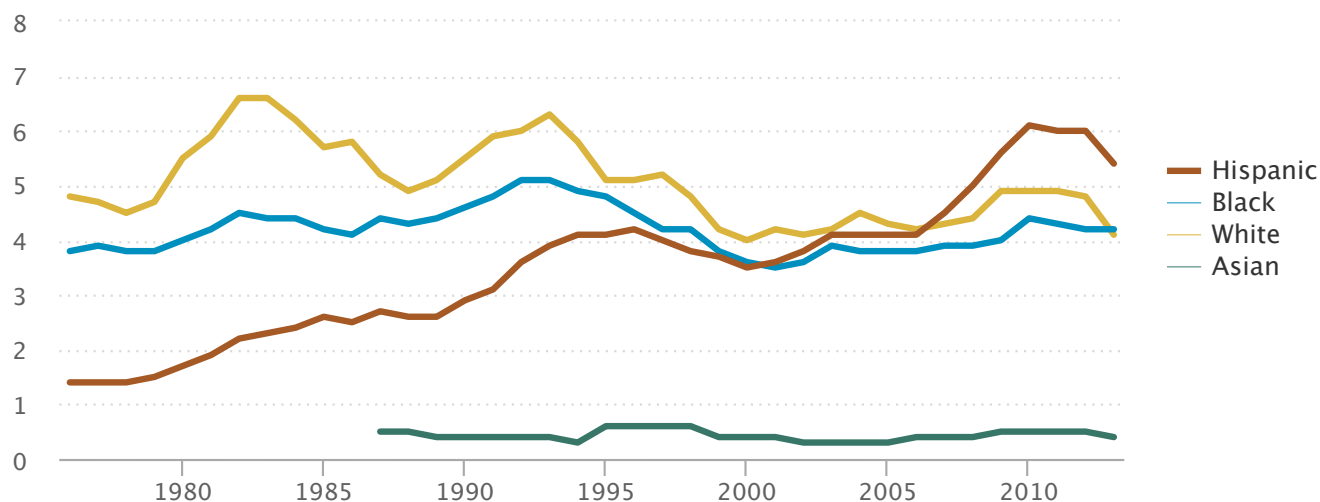
Number of Black Children in Poverty May Have Eclipsed Whites for First Time on Record

Chart

Data

Embed

Number of children living in poverty, by race and ethnicity (in millions)



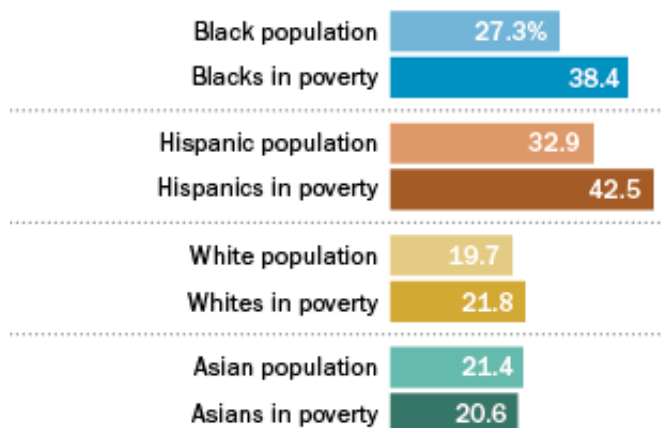
Pew Research Center

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 'Income and Poverty in the United States: 2013'. Note: Children are younger than 18. Whites include only non-Hispanics. Blacks and Asians include both the Hispanic and non-Hispanic components of their populations. Hispanics are of any race. In 2001 and earlier, respondents were only allowed to report one race group, and Asians include Pacific Islanders. From 2002-2013, respondents could choose more than one race; whites, blacks and Asians include only the single-race components of their populations in these years.

In fact, the number of impoverished white children (4.1 million) may have dipped below the number of impoverished black children (4.2 million) for the first time since the U.S. Census began collecting this data in 1974, though this difference was not statistically significant. This is despite the fact that there are more than three times as many white children as black children living in the U.S. today.

Children a Disproportionate Share of Poor Blacks and Hispanics

Children's share of ...



Note: Whites include only single-race non-Hispanics. Blacks and Asians include both the Hispanic and non-Hispanic components of the single-race black and Asian populations. Hispanics are of any race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, "Income and Poverty in the United States: 2013"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

(http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/07/14/black-child-poverty-rate-holds-steady-even-as-other-groups-see-declines/ft_15-06-30_poverty_310px/) In terms of total numbers, there were still more Hispanic children living in poverty in 2013 (5.4 million) than any other group, as has been the case since at least 2008

(<http://www.pewhispanic.org/2011/09/28/childhood-poverty-among-hispanics-sets-record-leads-nation/>) . This is because the Hispanic population is larger (and younger) than any other minority racial or ethnic group, and the Hispanic child poverty rate is relatively high, at about 30%.

Children make up a larger share of America's impoverished than of the population as a whole – those younger than 18 make up about a quarter of the total population, but make up about a third of all Americans in poverty.

Black and Hispanic children in particular are overrepresented: Children make up 27% of the black population, but 38% of blacks in poverty. And children account for 33% of all Hispanics, but 42% of impoverished Hispanics. By contrast, children make up roughly equal shares of the white and Asian populations and of whites and Asians living in poverty.

Eileen Patten (<http://www.pewresearch.org/author/epatten/>) is a research analyst focusing on Hispanic, social and demographic trends at Pew Research Center.

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Kansas City Star – July 16, 2015

ConnectHome program will bring free Internet service to Kansas City public housing residents

WASHINGTON - A new program to connect public housing residents to the Internet and outfit them with Web-capable hardware will launch this year in Kansas City and 27 other communities across the country.

In conjunction with [a White House announcement](#), Google Fiber said it will deliver free hookups in the Kansas City area as part of the program, which is aimed particularly at children and at training low-income families to make use of the Internet.

The ConnectHome program will link 275,000 households, and 200,000 children, with broadband access in 28 communities. Those include the Choctaw Nation in Oklahoma, where President Barack Obama traveled Wednesday evening to introduce the program.

“It’s not just making the Internet more accessible,” Housing and Urban Development Secretary Julián Castro told reporters as the White House unveiled the program. “It’s making it more meaningful for students and parents by providing digital literacy training.”

Google Fiber didn’t say when it will wire the housing units or how many it will connect to the Internet, [but the company said its efforts](#) will resemble work it has done in Austin, Texas, where it has begun to offer free service — with no installation fees — in public housing.

The company already offers what it bills as “free” service to residential customers in neighborhoods where it sells more expensive, and faster, broadband. In those cases, customers who pay \$300 for installation — broken down into \$25 monthly payments for a year — pay no other fees for service for at least seven years.

That service, and the no-installation-fee service it provides to public housing in Austin, delivers download speeds of 5 megabits per second and 1 mbps uploads.

“This is just what you need to close the digital divide” between Internet haves and have-nots, said Michael Liimatta, the co-founder and CEO of [Connecting for Good](#). His organization has provided free wireless Internet connections to 400 households in the Kansas City area, delivered some 2,000 refurbished computers to the poor and given computer literacy training to 3,000 people since 2011.

“If you want to make an impact on the digital divide,” he said, “you want to do it with the people in public housing.”

Edwin Lowndes, executive director of the Housing Authority of Kansas City, Mo., applauded the effort.

“Affordable Internet service is necessary in today’s world in order to access education, employment opportunities and fully participate in our communities,” he said.

The White House Council of Economic Advisers says 4G wireless broadband is available to 98 percent of Americans. However, many low-income households are unable to take advantage of this even if they own a computer because they do not have home Internet subscriptions. Almost three-fourths of students in Kansas City Public Schools have no Internet service in their homes.

“ConnectHome will help bridge the digital divide at its widest point,” inside the home, said Jeff Zients, director of the National Economic Council.

Communities were chosen for the pilot program based on a record of trying to increase broadband access in the past. Zients and Castro said the program could be expanded in the future if it is successful.

The program will be a partnership among communities, the federal government and the private sector, with most of the funding coming from nonprofits and private companies. The only federal funding comes from a \$50,000 U.S. Department of Agriculture grant and will go entirely to program operations in the Choctaw Nation, where Obama visited Wednesday.

Google Fiber, CenturyLink, Cox Communications and Sprint will offer free or discounted home Internet access to qualifying homes in the selected cities. Nonprofits and businesses such as Best Buy, GitHub, the 80/20 Foundation, Age of Learning Inc. and the Boys & Girls Club of America will provide free digital literacy training and online educational children’s programs.

The program, along with the federal [ConnectED](#) focused on online education, aims to get Internet access into 99 percent of American schools by 2017. It’s part of Obama’s pledge to upgrade the country’s technical capabilities and make it more internationally competitive.

“Participation in the global economy requires access to the tools of the digital economy,” Zients said.

Castro echoed the point, noting that 90 percent of college applications and 80 percent of job listings are now online.

“Technology has truly transformed how we live, how we learn and how we work,” he said. “We need to ensure America remains the land of opportunity in a changing global landscape.”

While the ConnectED program has gotten more Internet access in schools, that “level of access needs to follow our children from school to home,” Castro said.

The Star’s Scott Canon contributed to this report.

Read more here: <http://www.kansascity.com/news/government-politics/article27340471.html#storylink=cpy>

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