## LINC Commission Meeting

## May 15, 2017


(above) The 2016-2017 Education Policy Fellowship Program (EPFP) Fellows stop for a photo on the steps of the U.S. Capitol. (below) EPFP Fellows visit with U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill.


The annual trip to Washington, D.C. for the national policy seminar brings together EPFP Fellows from cities around the nation.

## E <br> PFPPOLICY LEADERSHIP NETWORKING

## 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: D ecentralize 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, May 15, 2017 | 4-6 pm
Kauffman Foundation
4801 Rockhill Rd.
Kansas City, Mo. 64110

## I. Welcome and Announcements

## II. Approvals

a. April minutes (motion)
III. Superintendent Reports

# IV. Educational Policy Fellowship Program <br> a. Washington, DC policy trip <br> b. 2017-18 Recruitment 

## V. LINC Financial Committee

## VI. Closed Session*

## VII. Adjournment

* LINC Commission will go into closed session as provided under Missouri Revised Statute 610.021(1) to discuss potential legal actions and privileged communications with our attorneys and under Missouri Revised Statute610.021(3) to discuss "h]iring, firing, disciplining or promoting of particular employees... when personal information about the employee is discussed or recorded".

THE LOCAL INVESTMENT COMMISSION - APRIL 17, 2017

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<br>Sharon Cheers<br>Jack Craft<br>Aaron Deacon<br>Steve Dunn<br>Mark Flaherty<br>Herb Freeman<br>SuEllen Fried<br>Rob Givens

Anita Gorman
Richard Hibschman
Rosemary Lowe
Mary Kay McPhee
Ken Powell
David Rock
David Ross
Marge Williams

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2017, LINC Commission meeting was passed unanimously.

## Superintendent Reports

- Jason Snodgrass, Superintendent (Fort Osage School District), reported Fort Osage voters approved both school financing issues on the April 4 ballot. Fort Osage students participated in the Skills USA competition at State Technical College of Missouri, April 6-8; six students were selected to move on to the national competition.
- Dan Clemens, Superintendent (North Kansas City School District), reported Dr. Snodgrass was awarded new superintendent of the year by the Missouri Association of School Administrators. North Kansas City year-round schools were the subject of recent features on KCPT and KCUR. The district is planning for a $68 \%$ increase in students enrolled in AP courses next year. The district won a national award for its green school bus fleet. Construction will begin soon on three new schools.
- Merideth Parrish (Director of Family Services, Independence School District), reported Independence voters passed a $\$ 38$ million bond issue for the district on April 4. The district and LINC will partner on two upcoming events: 2017 International Day of the Child, May 6 at Hill Park; and the Project Shine volunteer project, June 6 at five schools in the district.
- Christy Harrison (Kansas City School District) reported an agreement for LINC to provide Before \& After School programming next school year will soon go before the board for approval. KCPS and Sprint are partnering to close the homework gap by providing Wi-Fi hotspots for 500 students. KCPS is getting families ready for Summer School with help from LINC staff.
- Kevin Foster, Executive Director (Genesis Promise Academy), reported 40\% of families attended Grandparents Day/Health Fair on March 24. The Jackson County Mental Health Levy awarded Genesis a $\$ 170,000$ grant to provide mental health services to students with trauma. Two Genesis students won USTA scholarships for tennis camp at University of Kansas.
- Gayden Carruth, Executive Director (Cooperating School Districts of Greater Kansas City), reported the districts are providing professional development opportunities for teachers to learn from experts in language arts and mathematics in "lab classrooms." The districts are following several issues in the legislature including charter school expansion, school district transfers, and virtual schools.
- Bob Bartman, Coordinator (Education Policy Fellowship Program), reported recruitment for the 2017-2018 EPFP cohort will begin in earnest in May, and will include participants from east and southeast Missouri. This weekend is the start of the EPFP Washington Policy Seminar, during which fellows will meet with area congressional members.

LINC Program Manager Andrew Weisberg led a panel discussion of LINC’s 21st Century Community Learning Centers, which have provided extended learning opportunities in STEM activities for students at 17 LINC sites. Goals of the initiative include: supporting academic achievement in math, reading and science; developing quality programming; and enhancing college/career development. Panelists included the following LINC site coordinators:

- Carl Wade, Ingels Elementary School (Hickman Mills School District)
- LaKeshia Lewis, Meadowmere Elementary School (Grandview School District)
- Jason Ervin, Santa Fe Elementary School (Hickman Mills School District)
- Brenda Newsome, ACCPA (Kansas City Public Schools)

Discussion followed.
Jack Craft introduced Randall Williams, director of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, who reported on the department's major health initiatives including: transition from volumebased to value-based system; increasing workforce in rural/underserved areas; disparities in women's health care; opioid addiction; and health care for the military and aging. Discussion followed.
Mark Flaherty introduced Bridget McCandless, President of the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City, who reported on health care issues affecting the Kansas City region including: uncertainties about the future of the Affordable Care Act, specifically the individual market and Medicaid coverage; rising deaths from opioid abuse; preventable disabilities, particularly as related to smoking; and healthy communities initiatives such as urban agriculture, school lunch quality, and walking school buses.

The meeting was adjourned.

## Leadership is the

capacity to translate vision into reality.
— Warren Bennis

## One who adapts his policy

 to the times prospers, and likewise one whose policy clashes with the demands of the times does not.- Niccolo Machiavelli


## Missouri-Kansas

## Education Policy Fellowship Program

## 2017-2018 Application Form

To submit your application online, visit www.kclinc.org/epfp


## EPFP Fellows:

- Develop a broadened understanding of the policy process and how it applies to practice
- Enhance their communication and decision making skills
- Refine their potential for leadership
- Expand their network of professional colleagues

EPFP
POLICY
LEADERSHIP
NETWORKING

Education Policy Fellowship Program


Cooperating School Districts of Grenter Kansas City

Missouri-Kansas Education Policy Fellowship Program 3100 Broadway Blvd., Suite 1100, Kansas City, MO 64111, (816) 410-8350

## Missouri-Kansas Education Policy Fellowship Program

The Education Policy Fellowship Program (EPFP) is a professional development program for individuals whose work record reflects strong leadership abilities and a concern for issues important to children and education.

Participants in the Fellowship Program hold fulltime positions in diverse organizations at the local, state, and national levels.

The program is available in Missouri-Kansas through the Local Investment Commission (LINC) and Cooperating School Districts of Greater Kansas City. The nationally recognized EPFP was established more than 50 years ago by the Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL) in Washington, D.C. IEL continues to support the program in the District of Columbia and through its network of state affiliates.

## How is the EPFP different from other professional development programs?

EPFP is supported by a national and state network of resource people and peers who have a track record of accomplishment in research, policy development, and effective practice in education, child development, and human services.

The EPFP provides a comprehensive approach to knowledge and skill-building with nine monthly seminars in Kansas City and one national policy seminar during a ten-month period.


The 2016-2017 EPFP program included a visit to the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library, where fellows participated in a simulation at the White House Decision Center.

The Missouri-Kansas Education Policy Fellowship Program is sponsored by:

Local Investment Commission (LINC)
3100 Broadway, Suite 1100
Kansas City, MO 64111
(816) 410-8350
www.kclinc.org
Cooperating School Districts of Greater Kansas City 3444 Broadway, Suite 401
Kansas City, MO 64111
(816) 753-7275
www.csdgkc.org
In collaboration with:
Institute for Educational Leadership
4301 Connecticut Ave NW, Suite 100
Washington, DC 20008-2304
(202) 822-8405
www.iel.org
For more information and to request additional applications, please contact:

Dr. Robert Bartman
(816) 410-8402

Dr. Gayden Carruth
(816) 753-7275

Enrollment is limited.

## Education Policy Fellowship Program

The Education Policy Fellowship Program brings together a diverse cohort of professionals from education, government, military, human services, business, and community organizations.

## You are invited to apply if you have:

- A commitment to personal and professional development on behalf of children and youth
- A track record of making things happen - inside and across agencies/organizations
- A full-time professional position and substantive work experience
- A bachelor's degree or its equivalent
- The endorsement and financial support of your employing organization


## What is my commitment if I am accepted as an EPFP Fellow?

- Attend and participate in all leadership forums and a national policy seminar
- Share your experience and knowledge with other Fellows through presentations, class discussion, and class projects.


## How will my organization benefit from my participation in the EPFP?

Employers gain:

- Access to a professional development program with a proven track record
- Better informed, more skillful employees
- Employees who are ready to assume more leadership responsibilities
- Expanded networks that enhance the organization's ability to access key leaders and decision makers who shape policy on behalf of children and education.


## What is my employer's commitment in supporting my participation?

- Provide release time for your participation in the Kansas City seminars and the national seminar
- Pay a tuition fee of $\$ 2,650$ plus all travel-related costs for the Kansas City and national seminars


## Meeting Dates and Tentative Topics

All sessions will be held in the LINC Conference Room, 3100 Broadway, Suite 1100, unless otherwise noted.

## Session Dates for 2017-2018:

- September 19, 1 p.m.-September 20, 12 p.m. - EPFP Retreat
- October 18, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- November 15, 1 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
- December 13, 1 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
- January 17, 1 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
- February 14, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- March 18-21 - Washington, D.C., Policy Seminar
- April 18, 1 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
- May 16, 1 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
- June 13, 1 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

There are three main strands for EPFP programs:

- Public Policy Processes, Issues, and Key Participants
- Leadership and Skill Development
- Networking

All of the sessions will focus on an aspect of public policy processes, issues, key participants, leadership, and skill development. Networking is interwoven into all of the sessions.

## Session Topics will include the following:

- Assessing Leadership Styles
- Leadership Development and Strategic Thinking (with the US Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth)
- Policy Development - How and Why?
- Leadership and Local Policy Making
- Leadership and State Policy Making
- Leadership and Federal Policy Making
- Major Policy Issues related to children's success in schools
- Working Together for Children and Families
- Health and Mental Health Policies and Strategies
- Higher Education Policy
- Communication and Messaging
- Diversity, Inclusion, and Public Policy
- Political Simulations and Political Decisions


EPFP fellows from around the country met in Washington, D.C., for the 2017 Washington Policy Seminar on Navigating Education Policy Change.

## Schedule at a Glance

## Retreat

Starting: September 19, 1 p.m.
Ending: September 20, 12 p.m. Jefferson City, Mo. Details TBA

## Monthly Seminars

LINC Office, 3100 Broadway, Suite 1100, Kansas City, MO 64111

- October 18, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- November 15, 1 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
- December 13, 1 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
- January 17, 1 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
- February 14, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- April 16, 1 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
- May 16, 1 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
- June 13, 1 p.m.-4:30 p.m.


## Washington Policy Seminar

March 18-21, 2018

Local Investment Commission (LINC)
3100 Broadway, Suite 1100
Kansas City, MO 64111
(816) 410-8350
www.kclinc.org

Cooperating School Districts of Greater Kansas City 3444 Broadway, Suite 401
Kansas City, MO 64111
(816) 753-7275
www.csdgkc.org

Dr. Robert Bartman, Director
(816) 410-8402
bbartman@kclinc.org


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- Enhance their communication and decision making skills
- Refine their potential for leadership
- Expand their network of professional colleagues



## Missouri-Kansas EPFP Fellows 2015-2017

## Class of 2015

Mike Bartig
Kearney School District
Jessica Bassett
Kansas City Public Schools
Jim Dunn
Missouri Star School
Christy Harrison
Kansas City Public Schools

## Class of 2016

Sean Akridge
Local Investment Commission
Natalie Allen
Missouri Children's Division
Patricia Amick
Metropolitan Community College
Matthew Bonnot
U.S. Army General Command and General Staff College

Keith Brown
Genesis School
David Buchmann
Local Investment Commission
Jennifer Collier
Kansas City Public Schools
Jeanette Cowherd
Park Hill School District

## Class of 2017

## Stephanie Amaya

Park Hill School District

## Jen Beutel

Platte County School District

## Steven Boylan

Command \& General Staff College
Angela Currey
Kearney School District
Deborah Delsemme
North Kansas City Schools
LaTanya Franklin
Hickman Mills C-1 School District
Larry Gray
Kansas City Public Schools

LEADERSHIP NETWORKING

David Oehler<br>Metropolitan Community College<br>Andrea O'Neal<br>LINC Works<br>Torree Pederson<br>Alliance for Childhood Education<br>Bob Poisal<br>Belton School District

## Rob Gardner

Platte County School District
Dale Herl
Independence School District
David Horn
Local Investment Commission
Bryce Johnson
Blue Springs School District
Mindy Johnson
Metropolitan Community College-Penn Valley
Drew Lane
Shawnee Mission School District
Sharon Nibbelink
Center School District
David Schwarzenbach
Kearney School District

## Tammy Henderson

North Kansas City Schools
Jeff Hill
Local Investment Commission
Tony Lake
USD 229 Blue Valley School District
Tristan Londre
Metropolitan Community College
Janet Miles-Bartee
Local Investment Commission
Steven Potter
Mid-Continent Public Library

## Angela Price

Center School District


Gurbhushan Singh<br>Metropolitan Community College<br>Dawn Smith<br>Hickman Mills School District<br>\section*{E. Hayet Woods}<br>Hickman Mills School District

## T.J. Spalty

Missouri Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education
Sabrina Tillman Winfrey
Hickman Mills School District
Earl Williams
Kansas City Public School s

## John Robertson

Mo. Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education
Angela Rolofson
Knob Noster School District
Michael Schumacher
Shawnee Mission School District
Jose Verduzco
Kansas City Public Schools
Andrew Weisberg
Local Investment Commission
Jerrod Wheeler
Knob Noster Public Schools




(2)

| LINC |  |
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| Before and After LINC began services | $1,060 \begin{gathered} \text { Toand Licensed } \\ \text { Capacity } \end{gathered}$ |
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| Caring Communities School Sites <br> Crestview Elementary was the | Total Licensed Capacity opping Elementary |
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| LINC at Lee. A. Tolbert Community Academy |
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| 1998 200 <br> LiNC Caring Communities <br> began at Tolbert. Licensed Capacity |



## LINC Caring Communities Sites



# Afterschool funding preserved in proposed FY2017 spending bill, still under attack for 2018 

By Erik Peterson

May 8, 2017 update: The President signed the FY2017 spending bill into law last Friday. Read Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant's statement on the law.

May 4, 2017 update: Today, Congress passed its final fiscal year (FY) 2017 omnibus spending bill. The bill passed with bipartisan support in both chambers by a vote of 309-118 in the House and 79-18 in the Senate. The president is expected to sign the bill into law during the next 24 hours. For details from the omnibus bill on FY 2017 funding levels for afterschool and summer learning programs, please read below.

Late on the night of April 30, after a weekend of negotiations, the House released a \$1.070 trillion omnibus spending bill which will fund the government through September 30, 2017. Votes on the measure are expected this week, as failure to pass a spending bill by the end of the day on Friday, May 5 would lead to a government shutdown.

## What's in the bill?

Congress increased $21^{\text {st }}$ Century Community Learning Centers funding by $\$ 25$ million over the FY2016 level, to $\$ 1.19$ billion-a win for children, families and the country. The proposed increase means doors to quality local afterschool and summer learning programs will stay open for 1.6 million students and families. Additionally, it will make programs available for 25,000 of the 19.4 million students currently waiting for access.

This increase is especially noteworthy following President Trump's proposal to eliminate the program in his FY2018 budget preview, which drove friends of afterschool to reach out to Congress with more than 57,000 calls and emails, energized supporters to turn out at town halls in their communities, and prompted more than 1,400 local, state, and national organizations to sign a letter in support of Community Learning Centers. Champions of the program on Capitol Hill showed strong support for Community Learning Centers as well, with 81 members of the House coming together across party lines and signing a letter in support of the program. A huge thank-you to all who worked so hard in support of Community Learning Center funds.

Other funding streams that can be used to support afterschool and summer learning programs were largely supported in the proposed omnibus:

- Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG): \$95 million increase up to \$2.9 billion. Typically about one-third of children served through CCDBG are provided with school-age afterschool care. This funding builds on the consistent funding increases in recent years to help states implement quality improvement reforms in the CCDBG Act of 2014.
- Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS): AmeriCorps and VISTA are funded at last year's level. In addition, the bill includes expanded resources for state commissions to build the capacity of national and community service programs at the local level. AmeriCorps and VISTA positons can be used to support afterschool programs.
- Full Service Community Schools: \$10 million, level with last year's funding. FSCS grants support community schools and often leverage afterschool and summer learning supports.
- Title I: $\$ 15.5$ billion, a $\$ 550$ million increase above FY2016. Title I funds can be used to support school district-provided afterschool and summer learning programs.
- Title IV Part A Student Support Academic Enrichment Grants: Funded at $\$ 400$ million, an increase of $\$ 122$ million over the total for the consolidated programs in 2016 but less than the $\$ 1.65$ billion authorized by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015. These grants were changed so that states will offer them competitively to districts rather than as formula grants, as originally authored in ESSA. Afterschool STEM is an allowable use of the grants, as are physical education, community school coordinators, and a wide range of mental health supports and education technology.
- National Science Foundation (NSF): The legislation funds NSF at $\$ 7.5$ billion- $\$ 9$ million above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. NSF targets funding to programs that foster innovation and U.S. economic competitiveness, including funding for research on advanced manufacturing, physics, mathematics, cybersecurity, neuroscience and STEM education.
- Youth Mentoring Initiative: $\$ 80$ million decreased by $\$ 10$ million from FY2016. These grants funds support mentoring initiatives for young people in and out of school.
- Perkins/Career Technical Education: Funded at $\$ 1.135$ billion, an increase of $\$ 10$ million, to support older youth career and workforce readiness education.

The funding level meets the base discretionary spending caps provided by the Bipartisan Budget Act with $\$ 551$ billion in base defense spending and $\$ 518.5$ billion in base non-defense spending. Discretionary funding for the Labor-HHS-Education bill (Division H of the package) is cut by $\$ 1.1$ billion below the 2016 enacted level. The Department of Education (ED) receives $\$ 68.2$ billion, a net cut of $\$ 1.1$ billion after including the bill's rescission of $\$ 1.3$ billion from the Pell grant reserve (i.e., previously appropriated funding for Pell grants that is saved as a surplus until it is needed).

## What comes next?

The House Rules Committee is meeting on Tuesday at 3:00 p.m. - an initial step needed to clear the bill for a vote by the full House. The bill could come to the House floor for a vote as early as Wednesday, May 3. The Senate would follow with votes in anticipation of passing the fiscal year 2017 spending bill before the continuing resolution expires this Friday night, May 5.

With both the House and Senate expected to vote on the omnibus spending bill this week, friends of afterschool can reach out to their senators and representatives to weigh in on the importance of the bill.

Though Community Learning Centers see increased funding in this year's bill, our field must not stop speaking out. We need afterschool supporters to make your voices heard as Congress begins looking to FY2018, the year when President Trump wants to eliminate funding altogether. With your help, we'll continue seeing wins like the one we're celebrating today for America's kids and families.

## The GLR Campaign and National Civic League recognize Kansas City, Missouri, as a 2017 finalist for the All-America City Awards.

The GLR Campaign and National Civic League recognize Kansas City, Missouri, as a 2017 finalist for the All-America City Awards. A five-time winner of the All-America City Award, Kansas City is cited for reporting measurable progress in school attendance, summer learning and overall grade-level reading for children from low-income families, as well as for exemplary efforts in promoting civic engagement and inclusiveness. Working with over 50 partner organizations, Turn the Page KC (Kansas City's locally branded third-grade reading initiative) has dramatically increased public support for early learning. Several key organizations have integrated the initiative's goals into their work, and there has been an increase in the percentage of philanthropic support focused on literacy from birth through age 8. The Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce, for example, adopted kindergarten readiness as one of its "Big 5 Initiatives." In order to address the school absence issue, Lead to Read KC recruited, trained and placed over 1,000 volunteers to serve as caring adults in the school building. This includes teams of volunteers from more than 25 businesses who read in 48 classrooms and 74 volunteers from the Kansas City Police Department (KCPD) who read with students every week. As a result of its efforts, Kansas City has reduced chronic absence for $\mathrm{K}-3$ students attending Title 1 elementary schools from 15 percent in the 2012-13 school year to 12 percent in the 2015-16 school year. For low-income children ages 5-8, 44 percent increased an average of 23 Lexile points during the summer of 2016, compared with only 7 percent who increased an average of 19 Lexile points during the summer of 2013. Finally, the percentage of students enrolled in Title I schools scoring proficient or above on the thirdgrade ELA assessment increased from 30 percent in 2012 to 41 percent in 2016.

## The Economist explains How St Louis became America's chess capital

A declining city finds an unlikely speciality


May 2nd 2017
ST LOUIS is a troubled, shrinking city in the American Midwest. Its population peaked at 850,000 in the 1950s. Decades of middle-class flight have left it with only 315,000 residents, of which almost one-third live at or below the federal poverty level. It has America's highest percapita murder rate and remains one of its most segregated cities. In 2014 riots erupted in Ferguson, a suburb, after a white police officer fatally shot a black teenager. It therefore seems an unlikely candidate to become a mecca for chess. Yet in May 2013, the United States Congress declared St Louis the chess capital of the country. How did this happen?

The rise of St Louis as a centre for chess dates to 2008, when Rex Sinquefield chose the promotion of chess in his home town as a retirement project after making a fortune pioneering stock-market index funds. (Mr Sinquefield is also politically active as a campaigner for the abolition of income tax and a sponsor of right-wing think-tanks.) In 2008 he founded the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of St Louis, which, in recent years, has become the headquarters of American chess. The 6,000-sq-ft centre includes a hall for tournaments, classrooms, a library and play areas. Some 1,000 members of all skill levels attend classes such as "Pure Beginners Ladies' Knight". In 2011 he helped bring the "World Chess Hall of Fame" (pictured) to St Louis.

Its was set up, according to its website, "to educate visitors, fans, players and scholars by collecting, preserving, exhibiting and interpreting the game of chess and its continuing cultural and artistic significance".

Mr Sinquefield's perseverance paid off. The club began hosting the American championship, the nation's top tournament, in 2009, bringing grandmasters galore to the city. (Before that it was held in different cities.) The Sinquefield tournament, set up by its namesake, started in 2013 with a prize fund of $\$ 170,000$. It attracts the world's top players and by last year was watched by some 1.5 m online viewers. Several universities in the St Louis area now offer chess scholarships. (Wesley So, the world number two, attended the city's Webster University on one such scholarship.) Local high schools, including in and around Ferguson, promote after-school classes. This year Webster University won the national championship at the President's Cup collegiate chess tournament in New York for the fifth time in a row. St Louis University finished third.

The revival of chess in St Louis has helped make America one of the world's top chess nations again. In 2008 no American was in the top ten players, according to the World Chess Federation (The first American on the list appeared at in 17th place.) Today, three of the top ten players in the world (numbers two, four and seven) are American. Indeed, one of them, Fabiano Caruana, moved to St Louis in 2015.

## NPR - All Tech Considered

## The Daredevils Without Landlines - And Why Health Experts Are Tracking Them



Source: CDC/NCHS, National Health Interview Survey Updated May 4, 2017
Credit: Alyson Hurt and Alina Selyukh/NPR

For the first time in history, federal researchers report that a majority of U.S. homes rely on cellphones alone for a telephone connection, without a landline.

The number of cellphone-only households predictably has been climbing over the years, surpassing the households with both a landline and a mobile phone and now reaching almost 51 percent. And it's tracked by - of all agencies - the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The CDC's National Center for Health Statistics records all kinds of trends about the state of Americans' health. One of its surveys traces the decline of landlines and what kinds of health habits are common to mobile-only homes. (Hint: the drinking and smoking kind.)

As a note, the CDC's definition of a landline does account for Internet-connected phones - also known as Voice-over-IP or VoIP phones - because the question that is asked in the survey is, "Do you have a telephone in your home that is currently working and is not a cellphone?"

How did the CDC become the expert on the rise of cellphone use? In 2015, I spoke with Stephen Blumberg, who has been leading this research. The interview below originally ran on Dec. 3, 2015, and had been edited for length and clarity.

## So you're the guy who's basically monitoring the slow death of the landline.

Stephen Blumberg, associate director for science in the division of Health Interview Statistics at the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
I guess I am.

## Why does the CDC study this?

You're definitely not the first one to ask that. Back in 2003, we recognized that the telephonebased surveys conducted by the CDC would be missing an ever-growing segment of the population (that didn't have a landline phone). We looked to find a survey that would answer the questions about who this population is and what their health characteristics are.

The National Health Interview Survey is an in-person survey with more than 40,000 households annually. And because it's conducted face-to-face by Census Bureau interviewers, it contacts landline households, wireless-only households, households that have no service at all. That made it an ideal vehicle for tracking the prevalence of the characteristics of the wireless-only population.

Since then, all of the major telephone surveys that CDC conducts now include cellphone numbers ... but we're the one survey in the federal statistical system that is tracking this estimate, and so we continue to do so.

## In effect it started out of your own necessity?

That's correct. For telephone surveys, at first we were able to make adjustments for the exclusion of the individuals, or what's known as coverage bias - because we knew that they were younger, they were more likely to live in rented housing, they were more likely to be lowincome. And so we could make adjustments.

What we started to recognize, however, fairly quickly, is that, in fact, their health characteristics were different, even when you controlled for all of those demographic differences. People who are wireless-only are more likely to smoke, they're more likely to binge drink, they're more likely to be uninsured. In effect, they are more likely to engage in risky behaviors.
(Editor's Note: The latest report from May 2017 does, however, say that compared to adults in households with landlines, wireless-only adults were "more likely to have their health status described as excellent or very good.")

## All the daredevils are dropping their landlines!

You know, we can't say for certain; perhaps at that time dropping the landline was, in effect, risky behavior.

It would make sense for it to be a factor of youth, no?
Well, except when we controlled for age, we still saw these differences. Essentially, if we just looked at young people, we still saw that those young people who were wireless-only were more likely to drink and more likely to smoke than young people who had landlines.

Somebody once suggested that it would be interesting to try to extend preventive health messages to wireless-only individuals and try to target them for health promotion activities, but I don't know that anybody has actually done that.

## So is it related to income?

We know that there's an income effect; however, part of that, if not all of that, is a function of age and living status. So young adults living in rented housing are more likely to be wirelessonly. Those people are also more likely to have lower incomes than older adults who own their home.

We certainly see that lower-income households are more likely to be wireless-only. We think that's primarily the function of age and household tenure, but we also recognize that it costs money to have both a landline and a wireless phone, and those people who are looking to save money may recognize that a wireless phone gives them more functionality than a landline phone.

Are you still seeing that correlation with risky behavior, or are we maybe approaching a point where only having a cellphone is more of a factor of convenience?

We still see it in the general data, so if you take a look at the report, you can see that 29 percent of wireless-only adults are binge drinkers whereas only 18 percent of adults living in landline households drink heavily.

## And what's the value of this information to the CDC?

It's a reminder to us that for our telephone surveys we still need to be vigilant to include proper proportions of wireless-only households. That's the primary benefit at this point.

We continue to track (the information about wireless-only households) because it increases the accuracy of the health data we collect in our survey.

In the years that you've studied these households, has something about the data surprised you?

I don't know that surprise is the word. But we've been tracking this for 12 years now. I think we had expected that by now we would see some leveling off in the prevalence of wireless-only households - we don't see any evidence yet that that's occurring.

## So people are still dropping landlines?

That's correct.
I would have actually thought that by now, we would only see a small percentage of people even having landlines.

I'm guessing you're fairly young.
I haven't had a landline in a very long time. Though I'm talking to you over a landline now. And yet I'm talking to you on a cellphone!

## LINC Chess T O U R N A M E N T



## Saturday, May 13 Check-in: 8-9 am

Pre-register at kclinc.org/chess by Wednesday, May 10 at Noon. Any player who is not pre-registered and not checked in by 9 a.m. will not be able to play in the first round! All participants must play for the school they attend.

## Center High School

8715 Holmes Rd, Kansas City, MO 64131

## Schedule:

First round begins at 9:30 a.m.
Last round ends by 4:30 p.m.
Players who pre-register and are on time will participate in all five rounds.


## Divisions:

K-2, K-5, K-8, and K-12
All Kansas City area K-12 players are welcome to participate. All players must know how the pieces move and how to make a checkmate.

## Awards:

Top seven players in each division and top three teams will receive trophies. Each player will receive a medal.

## Lunch:

A FREE lunch will be provided to players and families.

## For more information:

Ken Lingelbach, LINC Chess Coordinator klingelbach@kclinc.org, (816) 650-7525

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