November 26, 2019

Meeting begins at 12:00 noon or immediately following the MARC Budget & Personnel Committee meeting

MARC Conference Center - 2nd Floor - Heartland Room

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. VOTE: Approve minutes of the October 22, 2019 meeting
3. VOTE: Authorize a grant application to the Sherman Foundation to support the regional early learning system
4. VOTE: Update on the KC Degrees program and authorize the submission of grant applications to support and expand the KC Degrees program
5. Other Business
6. Adjourn
ISSUE:
VOTE: Approve minutes of the October 22, 2019 meeting

BACKGROUND:
The minutes of the October 22, 2019 meeting are enclosed.

RECOMMENDATION:
Approve the minutes of the October 22, 2019 meeting.
Meeting Summary
October 22, 2019
12:00 pm

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT
Commissioner Rob Roberts, Miami County, Kan., - MARC Board Chair
Commissioner Jimmy Odom, Cass County, Mo. - MARC Board 1st Vice Chair
Commissioner Harold Johnson Jr., Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kan. - MARC Board 2nd Vice Chair
Mayor Eileen Weir, Independence, Mo. - MARC Board Treasurer
Mayor Carson Ross, Blue Springs, Mo. - MARC Board Secretary
Mayor Carol Suter, Gladstone, Mo, MARC Immediate Past Board Chair
Commissioner Doug Smith, Leavenworth County, Kan.
Commissioner Bob King, Ray County, Mo.
Councilmember Curt Skoog, Overland Park, Kan.
Councilmember Fred Spears, Overland Park, Kan.

STAFF PRESENT
David Warm, Executive Director
Jovanna Rohs, Director of Early Learning and Head Start
Carol Gonzales, Director of Finance and Administration
Becky Hall, Financial Accounting Manager
Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment
Marlene Nagel, Director of Community Development
Bob Hogan, Manager of Aging Administrative Services
Frank Lenk, Director of Research Services
Amanda Graor, Chief Innovation Officer
Kerry Kudron, Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Eileen Weir called the MARC CSC meeting to order at 11:56 p.m.

VOTE: APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 2019 MEETING
Mayor Weir called for a motion to approve the minutes from the last CSC meeting held on June 25, 2019.

Mayor Ross moved for approval and Councilmember Skoog seconded. The motion passed.

VOTE: Authorize an application to the Health Forward Foundation of Greater Kansas City to support the community health worker project and amend the subcontractor’s agreement

Mayor Ross moved for approval and Councilmember Spears seconded. The motion passed.

VOTE: Authorize a grant application with the Health Forward Foundation to support organizations assisting residents to enroll in the federal health insurance marketplace
Commissioner Johnson moved for approval and Commissioner Odom seconded. The motion passed.

VOTE: Authorize the submission of grant applications and acceptance of funds if awarded, to support the Double Up Heartland Program for 2020

Mayor Suter moved for approval and Commissioner Roberts seconded. The motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS
None.

ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

MINUTES APPROVED:

____________________________________
Eileen Weir, Chair

____________________________________
Date
ISSUE:
VOTE: Authorize a grant application to the Sherman Foundation to support the regional early learning system

BACKGROUND:
MARC’s Department of Early Learning provides leadership for the development and implementation of a community-driven, outcomes-based plan for a comprehensive early learning system.

The Sherman Foundation grant will provide general operations support for efforts to develop, expand and strengthen the regional early learning system. Funds from this grant will be used to support personnel costs to:

- Pilot a newly created Family Child Care Profile
- Expand Early Learning Program Profile implementation
- Implement an entry-level early care and education pathway for parents and caregivers to address the need for more qualified teacher assistants in early learning classrooms
- Expand implementation of the Kindergarten Observation Form (KOF) and the Pre-Kindergarten Observation Form (PKOF) to measure school readiness
- Strengthen early learning and child health data available for decision making and community planning mechanisms

Funding for these projects will expand efforts to increase access to quality early learning programs, address critical early learning workforce needs, provide a greater context for understanding school readiness factors and the availability of early learning services, as well as equity and access issues affecting children and families in the Greater Kansas City Metropolitan area.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:
Funding from this general operations grant will be included in the FY20 budget.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUES</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td>Sherman Foundation</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>PROJECTED EXPENSES</th>
<th>Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)</th>
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<td>Contractual</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pass-Through</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (supplies, printing, etc.)</td>
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RECOMMENDATION:
Authorize MARC to submit a grant application to the Sherman Foundation for a total of $35,000 to support the regional early learning system, and if awarded, accept and disburse grant funds.

STAFF CONTACT:
Jovanna Rohs
Kyle Matchell
ISSUE:
VOTE: Update on the KC Degrees program and authorize the submission of grant applications to support and expand the KC Degrees program

BACKGROUND:
MARC launched KC Degrees, a program designed to increase the number of adults who complete a postsecondary degree, in September 2016. The initiative is a partnership between MARC, 17 two-year and four-year postsecondary institutions, and an array of workforce partners committed to supporting adult learners in the community. In its first three years of implementation, KC Degrees has assisted almost 1,400 adults with information about the program, supported 432 of them with enrollment in a post-secondary program, and recognized 97 graduates (with either a high-quality certificate or a college degree). The program offers services in four areas: 1) recruiting and supporting adults who are interested in learning more about the program, 2) offering college navigators to help students identify the degree program and institution best suited to meet their needs, 3) providing ongoing support while the adult is enrolled, to encourage completion, and 4) identifying and securing resources to help adults remove barriers to participation.

Funding for the first 18 months of the program was initially provided by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. At the same time KC Degrees was being launched, the Kauffman Foundation launched KC Scholars, a program that offers scholarships to traditional middle and high school students and adults.

The KC Scholars program began awarding scholarships to adults in 2016 and the KC Degrees program began assisting those scholarship recipients to address their readiness to return to college, exploration of college programs and enrollment in one of the 17 partner institutions. Ongoing support has been provided to the adult students, to assist them in completing a credential or degree and meeting the scholarship requirements. KC Scholars became its own nonprofit organization, and funding to support KC Degrees was transferred to KC Scholars. A large share of the adults supported by KC Degrees have received scholarships from KC Scholars (345 current scholarship recipients).

Over the past year, KC Degrees has been looking to expand its operation to support adults enrolling in post-secondary programs in four ways:

1) Continue to support recipients of the KC Scholars’ adult scholarship program, to ensure that they successfully enroll in a post-secondary program and graduate with a high-quality certificate or a degree
2) Work with the region’s workforce investment boards to help adult clients evaluate and select a course of study, to complete a high-quality certificate or degree to be able to secure employment
3) Assist area employers who desire to support their current employees with enrollment in a post-secondary program and complete a high-quality certificate or degree
4) Assist a new technical program, Skilled KC, to help adults enroll in a certificate program and support them to address barriers to completion
MARC has been in discussions with KC Scholars, two workforce investment boards, the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, area employers, post-secondary educational institutions and others, for funding to support the expansion of KC Degrees in 2020.

**BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:**
The major cost components for the program are staff salaries, contract college success navigators, marketing costs to inform adults about the program, service agreements for technology and technical support. MARC is requesting funding from KC Scholars, workforce investment boards, area foundations and educational institutions to support the expanded program. The current annual budget for KC Degrees is approximately $441,400. To meet expansion objectives and serve new partners, it is estimated that the annual program budget would increase to $650,000 by the end of 2020.

**RECOMMENDATION:**
Authorize the executive director to submit funding proposals to KC Scholars, the workforce investment boards, post-secondary institutions and other organizations to support and expand the KC Degrees program in calendar year 2020.

**STAFF CONTACT:**
Anita Davis  
Cedric Deadmon