



## Mid-America Regional Council Community Services Corporation

600 Broadway, Suite 300 • Kansas City, Missouri 64105 • Phone 816/474-4240 • Fax 816/421-7758

**August 24, 2021**

**Meeting begins immediately following  
the MARC Budget & Personnel Committee meeting**

**Hosted remotely via Zoom conference call**

### **AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. VOTE: Approve Minutes of the June 22, 2021 Meeting
3. VOTE: Authorize Acceptance of a Grant from Anthem to Support Double Up Food Bucks
4. VOTE: Authorize an Application for a Safety Net Grant from Health Forward Foundation to Support the Community Health Worker Program
5. VOTE: Authorize Acceptance of Pass-Through Funds from Everytown to Support Aim 4 Peace
6. VOTE: Accept a Grant from the Bloch Charitable Foundation to Support the Regional Housing Partnership
7. Other Business
8. Adjourn

## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC CSC Board of Directors

August 2021  
Item No. 2

**ISSUE:**

VOTE: Approve Minutes of the June 22, 2021 Meeting

**BACKGROUND:**

The minutes of the June 22, 2021 meeting are enclosed.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the minutes of the June 22, 2021 meeting.

**STAFF CONTACT:**

David Warm

Karina Bielecki



## Mid-America Regional Council Community Services Corporation

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### MEETING SUMMARY

June 22, 2021

Immediately following the Budget & Personnel Meeting

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Harold Johnson, Jr., Unified Government of Wyandotte/Kansas City, Kan. -  
MARC Board Chair  
Mayor Carson Ross, Blue Springs, Mo. - MARC Board 1st Vice Chair  
Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick, Johnson County, Kan. - MARC Board 2nd Vice Chair  
Commissioner Rob Roberts, Miami County, Kan.  
Commissioner Doug Smith, Leavenworth County, Kan.  
Councilmember Curt Skoog, Overland Park, Kan.  
Councilmember Fred Spears, Overland Park, Kan.  
Commissioner Brian McKiernan, Unified Government of Wyandotte/Kansas City, Kan.  
Commission Chairman Ed Eilert, Johnson County, Kan.

#### STAFF PRESENT

David Warm, Executive Director  
Carol Gonzales, Director of Finance and Administration  
Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment  
James Stowe, Director of Aging and Adult Services  
Marlene Nagel, Director of Community Development  
Jovanna Rohs, Director of Early Learning and Head Start  
Kristin Johnson-Waggoner, Public Affairs Program Director  
Lauren Palmer, Assistant Community Development Director and Local Government Services  
Director  
Steven Lewis, Mid-America Head Start Program Director  
Catherine Couch, Public Affairs Coordinator  
Karina Bielecki, Executive Assistant  
John Hwang, Network Administrator II  
Katelyn Click, Financial Accounting Manager  
Joanne Bussinger, Grant Manager  
Darlene Pickett, Accountant II

#### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Carson Ross called the MARC Community Services Corporation Board of Directors meeting to order at 11:46 a.m.

Due to the meeting being conducted remotely, Mayor Ross provided instructions for participation. He reported that staff would present on all the agenda items, provide an opportunity for comments and questions after each item and ask for approval of all agenda items with one vote at the end of the meeting. Members would have an opportunity to abstain or object to any items necessary during the final vote.

## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC CSC Board of Directors

VOTE: Approve the Minutes of the May 25, 2021 Meeting

VOTE: Authorize Applications to Various Foundations to Support the KC Health Equity Learning and Action Network

VOTE: Authorize Receipt of Grant Funds from the Menorah Heritage Foundation for an Indoor Air Quality Engineer

VOTE: Authorize Acceptance of Grant Funds from the Francis Family Foundation to Support the Regional Early Learning System

MOTION: Councilmember Curt Skoog moved for approval of all items and Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick seconded. All were in favor of approving agenda items 2 through 5. The motion passed.

### OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carson Ross, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# AGENDA REPORT

MARC CSC Board of Directors

August 2021

Item No. 3

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

## ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize Acceptance of a Grant from Anthem to Support Double Up Food Bucks

## BACKGROUND:

On April 14, 2021, the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) extended an invitation to MARC as an existing grantee of the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP) to apply for the GusNIP COVID Relief and Response (GusCRR) funding opportunity, which will distribute \$75 million appropriated to the USDA by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Act 2021 passed by Congress in January 2021. A proposal was submitted in mid-May 2021 to expand the Double Up Food Bucks program in both Kansas and Missouri. The proposal included a proposed budget of \$5 million. In late June 2021, MARC staff were notified that the proposal was being recommended for approval. NIFA staff communicated that only 93% of the proposed budget was being recommended for an award (a reduction of \$364,352). A revised budget was submitted to USDA, taking into consideration the comments of the review committee to maximize the use of federal funds for the nutrition incentives and reduce the amounts for communications and outreach. These reductions were expected to impact the program's ability to reach people who could benefit from the program's rollout in new communities. Thus, staff applied to the Anthem Foundation to see if funding could be secured to make up for at least part of the reduced amount. The Anthem Foundation agreed to provide \$100,000 to support communication efforts for a one-year time frame (August 1, 2021-September 30, 2022).

## BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
Amount	\$100,000
Source	The Anthem Foundation, Inc.
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Other (Printing, Postage, Media)	\$100,000

## RECOMMENDATION:

Accept \$100,000 from the Anthem Foundation to support communication and outreach for the expanded Double Up Food Bucks program for a one-year time period (August 1, 2021-September 30, 2022).

## STAFF CONTACT:

Marlene Nagel  
Donna Martin

# AGENDA REPORT

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MARC CSC Board of Directors

August 2021  
Item No. 4

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

## ISSUE:

VOTE: Authorize an Application for a Safety Net Grant from Health Forward Foundation to Support the Community Health Worker Program

## BACKGROUND:

MARC supports the Regional Community Health Worker Collaborative and has worked with KC CARE Health Center on an initiative to deploy Community Health Workers (CHWs) at hospitals and clinics, to serve MARC's Area Agency on Aging clients with chronic disease education, and to identify resources to address client needs (food, transportation, medicine, utility/rent assistance, other). MARC and the KC CARE Health Center worked together last year on an application to the Health Forward Foundation through the competitive Safety Net process, and \$250,000 in foundation funds were awarded to enable KC CARE Center to hire, supervise, and deploy CHWs during calendar year 2021. KC CARE Center is working with several health organizations including University of Kansas Medical Center, St. Luke's Hospital, Children's Mercy Kansas City, UMKC, and Rose Brooks. CHWs will be assigned to non-elderly disabled identified through MARC's Adult and Aging Services program as needing support.

KC CARE's partnership with MARC is improving access to care for underserved patients across the metro. The program will reach a total of 2,750 patients through 20,000 encounters, with 600 enrollments in 2021. Community Health Workers will connect patients to a health home for primary care and accompany them on their journey to self-sufficiency.

KC CARE has asked MARC to apply to continue the program for 2022, serving 2,500 patients. On behalf of a collaboration between MARC and KC CARE Health Center, MARC will request \$325,000 from the Health Forward Foundation (HFF) to support the salary of four Community Health Workers, a portion of the salary for program supervisors, administration and leadership, program supplies, and equipment. The Care Coordination program targets clients with significant barriers to accessing and participating in care and who are at high risk of falling out of care. The program targets the uninsured and underinsured, low-income residents at or below 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL), BIPOC, and other populations who face multiple obstacles to care. The target population is from a geographic area that spans the Greater Kansas City metro within both Missouri and Kansas. The program strives to: (1) improve the participants' experience of receiving care and healthcare management; (2) improve the health outcomes of uninsured, underinsured, and underserved Kansas City residents; and (3) reduce overall healthcare costs.

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, KC CARE has learned that patients' motivation to change things that are not actively in crisis has diminished. As a result, KC CARE will continue their approach to reach more individuals and focus on their top needs, by allowing the patient to define the intensity of the intervention needed. Major outcomes have included percent of patients demonstrated improved self-sufficiency, through an improved aggregate score (CY19 actual: 89%), and percent of patients reporting a decrease in emergency department utilization while in the program (CY19 actual: 55%).

## BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

## AGENDA REPORT

MARC CSC Board of Directors

REVENUES	
Amount	\$325,000
Source	Health Forward Foundation
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$15,000
Pass-Through - KC CARE Health Center	\$310,000

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Authorize the application, and acceptance if awarded, of a grant from the Health Forward Foundation for a Regional Community Health Worker Initiative in the amount of \$325,000. If grant is awarded, authorize an agreement with KC CARE Health Center in an amount not to exceed \$310,000.

**STAFF CONTACT:**

Marlene Nagel

## AGENDA REPORT

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MARC CSC Board of Directors

August 2021  
Item No. 5  
Safe and Secure Communities

**ISSUE:**

VOTE: Authorize Acceptance of Pass-Through Funds from Everytown to Support Aim 4 Peace

**BACKGROUND:**

The Kansas City, Missouri, Health Department supports a violence-prevention initiative, Aim 4 Peace, and has asked MARC CSC to assist the department and its program by serving as the fiscal agent for charitable contributions. A national organization, Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund, has awarded Aim 4 Peace a two-year \$100,000 grant. At the discretion of the fund, Aim 4 Peace may be eligible for an additional \$40,000 contingent grant.

Funds may be used for infrastructure and operating expenses to support any activity that strengthens the organization's capacity to successfully address gun violence. Aim 4 Peace will work with targeted hospitals to send outreach workers to emergency rooms to meet with family and friends of gunshot victims and support them to reduce retaliation or escalation of violence. MARC CSC will accept the funds, retain \$1,000 for administrative expenses, and pass through the remaining funds to the Kansas City, MO Health Department on behalf of Aim 4 Peace.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Authorize a grant application to the national organization Everytown for Gun Safety on behalf of Aim 4 Peace in the amount of \$140,000. If awarded, authorize a contract with the Kansas City, MO Health Department to implement the program through Aim 4 Peace in an amount not to exceed \$139,000.

**STAFF CONTACT:**

Marlene Nagel



# AGENDA REPORT

MARC CSC Board of Directors

August 2021  
Item No. 6  
Effective Local Government

## ISSUE:

VOTE: Accept a Grant from the Bloch Charitable Foundation to Support the Regional Housing Partnership

## BACKGROUND:

MARC is partnering with Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Greater Kansas City to organize the Regional Housing Partnership (RHP). The RHP will mobilize individuals and organizations to enact systems-level change to grow the supply of affordable housing for cost-burdened households. This will be accomplished through seven elements of an effective regional housing system: (1) data and analysis; (2) networked leadership; (3) financing tools; (4) production capacity; (5) rental & homeowner resources; (6) policy; and (7) education.

MARC requested funding from the Marion and Henry Bloch Charitable Foundation to launch the partnership even as fundraising continues to expand and sustain the work. The grant award will fund a full-time employee to staff this initiative and part-time support from MARC's local government services and research services. The key first year deliverables include:

- Develop a feasibility assessment for a regional housing trust fund and regional housing land bank/trust aimed at supporting small to mid-sized communities.
- Explore and develop strategies to support successful attraction and investment of new federal housing resources in the region.
- Establish partnerships with non-profit development partners to facilitate rehabilitation and production in multiple communities across the region.
- Explore and develop strategies to expand capacity of personal financial support services to serve first-time home buyers.
- Launch a Regional Housing Data Hub to define housing problems at the local and regional scales and track effectiveness of various housing strategies to support housing solutions.
- Establish and coordinate the Regional Housing Partnership Steering Committee to help set regional goals and advise on priorities for each element of an effective housing system.

## BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
Amount	\$560,000
Source	Marion and Henry Bloch Foundation Grant
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$300,000
Contractual	\$260,000

## RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize acceptance of a grant in the amount of \$560,000 from the Marion and Henry Bloch Foundation for the Regional Housing Partnership, to be administered through MARC Community Services Corporation.

# AGENDA REPORT

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MARC CSC Board of Directors

**STAFF CONTACT:**

Lauren Palmer