

**ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS TAKEN OR PLANNED AND  
TO BE APPROVED BY THE BOARD AT THE AUGUST 26, 2026 MEETING**

**THRIVING OLDER ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES**

**Authorize grant application and acceptance of funds, if awarded, to the Elevance Health Foundation for up to \$600,000 dollars to support the KC Fresh Rx program.**

The KC Fresh Rx produce prescription program is currently funded by a \$500,000 three-year United State Department of Agriculture (USDA) grant, ending December 31, 2025. The KC Fresh Rx Collaborative, led by the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), would like to pursue an Elevance Foundation Food as Medicine grant to continue this highly successful program. The deadline for proposal submission is July 31, 2025.

Partners involved in the submission of this proposal include MARC, the University of Kansas Medical Center Research Institute, the University of Kansas Medical Center's Family Medicine and Internal Medicine clinics, Samuel Rodgers Health Clinics, and Advent Health Main Campus Clinic. Additional clinics will be recruited to participate, particularly in Missouri.

MARC staff will be responsible for financial management and reporting, coordination of the collaborative of partners, and coordination with the patients referred to the program. The University of Kansas Medical Center Research Institute will evaluate the program and will assist with the nutrition education efforts. The health clinics will recruit eligible patients and refer them to the coordinator at MARC. Currently eligible patients receive health insurance through Medicaid, have been diagnosed with pre-diabetes/diabetes and/or pre-hypertension/hypertension, and have reported experiencing food insecurity in the past 6 months. The amount requested in the proposal will not exceed \$600,000 over two years.

**QUALITY EARLY LEARNING**

**Authorize acceptance of funds and increased contract for the Mid-America Refugee Family Child Care Microenterprise Development Program (\$250,000).**

On July 1, 2025, the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) received notice from the US Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Refugee Resettlement that year two of the three-year non-competitive grant was available and due by July 15, 2025. MARC submitted a continuation application for an additional \$250,000 for program year running from October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026. MARC Early Learning would like to continue to contract with The Family Conservancy (TFC) to carry out the required child development and business education component of the grant. TFC's contract would not exceed \$51,365 for the second year of the grant.

**Authorize acceptance of funds from Child Care Aware of Missouri to serve as a Regional Community Partner (\$62,400).**

Child Care Aware of Missouri (CCAMO) selected the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Early Learning to serve as a Regional Community Partner for the Northwest region of Missouri through their Missouri Childhood Resource and Referral contract with the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. CCAMO will compensate MARC a total of \$62,400 for 1,240 hours of supporting families in the region with applying for childcare subsidy and connecting them to needed resources from July 7, 2025 through June 30, 2026. This one-year contract is renewable for up to four years.

**Approve a contract between The Family Conservancy and Mid-America Regional Council's Early Learning Department (\$57,889).**

The Family Conservancy (TFC) wishes to contract with the Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) Early Learning Department to provide quality assessments to the TFC's Start Young Program. The Start Young initiative is a public-private collaborative designed to improve childcare in Wyandotte County, KS by increasing access to high quality, full-day, full-year childcare for

working families. MARC contracts with Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) certified assessors to conduct observations in all Start Young participating classrooms to measure classroom quality. Most of the funding from this agreement will be passed through for classroom assessments and consultation visits. A portion of the funds will be used to support existing MARC staff time in the management and oversight of the project subcontracts and to support data entry and coordination of program supports. The contract period is July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026.

**Authorize a contract between Deb Bowman and Mid-America Regional Council Head Start Department (\$55,000).**

Deb Bowman is a licensed mental health professional who will provide on-site mental health support for teaching staff in Tier 1 and 2 programs as well as individual therapeutic mental health services for all children and families. This contract will impact Clay, Jackson, and Platte counties in Missouri and will serve from November 1, 2025 through October 31, 2026 for no more than \$55,000.

**Authorize a contract between Alyssa Howk and Mid-America Regional Council Head Start Department (\$69,009).** Alyssa Howk will provide support services for children with suspected or diagnosed disabilities that include on site observation and support for teachers and parents along with referrals and support in the implementation of Individualized Education plans and Individualized Family Service Plans in Tier 1 and 2 programs. This contract will impact Clay, Jackson and Platte counties in Missouri and will serve from November 1, 2025 through October 31, 2026 for no more than \$69,009.

**EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION AND QUALITY PLACES**

**Approve the 2025 3rd Quarter Amendment to the 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program.**

The Total Transportation Policy Committee (TTPC) considered an amendment to the 2024-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add 8 new projects and modify 6 other projects. Staff circulated the amendment for public review and comment per the Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) adopted Public Participation Plan requirements. Twelve comments were received during the comment period. The comments and responses were shared with the committee who unanimously recommended approving the amendment as presented. Additional details for this item are available at: [www.marc.org/TIP](http://www.marc.org/TIP)