



## Mid-America Regional Council Community Services Corporation

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

**September 23, 2025**

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

**In-person attendees in MARC's Westview Room with a remote option via Zoom.**

### **AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. VOTE: Approve Minutes of the August 26, 2025, Meeting
3. REPORT: Review of 2024 MARC CSC Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990: Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax.
4. VOTE: Ratify an application for and acceptance of an award of \$400,000 from the Patterson Family Foundation to support the Double Up Food Bucks Program.
5. VOTE: Approve amendments to contractual agreements with partnering organizations which assist with implementing the Double Up Food Bucks program.
6. VOTE: Retroactively approve a grant application to the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation for a Capacity Building Grant to support economic mobility and workforce development.
7. Other Business
8. Adjourn



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### MEETING SUMMARY

August 26, 2025

Immediately following the Budget & Personnel Meeting

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Pro Tem Beto Lopez, Lee's Summit, MO - Chair of the MARC Community Services Corporation  
Mayor Damien Boley, Smithville, MO  
Commissioner Becky Fast, Johnson County, KS  
Council member Holly Grummert, Overland Park, KS  
Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick, Johnson County, KS  
Victor Hurlbert, Auditor, Clay County, MO  
Council member Bridget McCandless, Independence, MO  
Commissioner Jerry Nolte, Clay County, MO  
Commissioner Sheila Tracy, Ray County, MO  
Council member Marge Vogt, Olathe, KS

#### STAFF PRESENT

David Warm, Executive Director  
Carol Gonzales, Director of Finance and Administration  
Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment  
Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, Director of Aging and Adult Services  
Frank Lenk, Director of the Office of Economic Research  
Dr. Toni Sturdivant, Director of Early Learning  
Ashley Z Hand, Director of Local Government Services  
Kasey Lawson, Head Start Director  
Eric Winebrenner, Public Safety Communications Program Director  
Hassan Al-Rubaie, Technical Services Director  
John Davis, Fiscal Administrator  
Liz Meng, Grant Manager  
Brooke Taylor, Grant Accountant III  
McKenzie Neds, Executive Assistant

#### OTHERS

#### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Beto Lopez called the MARC Community Services Corporation Board of Directors meeting to order at 11:51 a.m.

Due to the meeting being conducted remotely and in-person, Mayor Pro Tem Lopez 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.

#### VOTE: Approve Minutes of the June 24, 2025, Meeting

VOTE: Ratify the submission of a proposal for an Administration for Community Living grant opportunity to develop and implement strategies for chronic disease self-management education programs.



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VOTE: Ratify acceptance of funds from the USDA Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program and other non-federal funders for a combined federal/non-federal amount up to \$11 million dollars for a 3-year period (2025-2028) to support the Double Up Food Bucks Program.

Council member Bridget McCandless motioned to approve, and Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick seconded. The motion passes.

### Other Business

### Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.



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September 2025

Item No. 3

Exemplary Core Capacities

**ISSUE:**

REPORT: Review of 2024 MARC CSC Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990: Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax.

**BACKGROUND:**

MARC CSC is formed as a 501(c)(3) organization and is required to file Form 990: Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax each for each fiscal year (January 1st to December 31st) with the IRS. A draft Form 990 is provided to the MARC CSC Board of Directors before being filed. The 2024 Form 990 highlights include \$6.6M of revenues, \$6.6M of expenses, and an ending fund balance of \$15K.

The 2024 Form 990 is prepared with the assistance of MARC's engaged public accountants, RubinBrown LLP. The Draft Form 990 is available for review on the MARC website at:

<https://www.marc.org/committees/marc-community-services-corporation-501c3>

**BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:**

The Board approved the agreement with Rubin Brown for continuation of Audit and Tax Services at the January 2024 board meeting. The cost to prepare the CSC 990 is included in the total 2024 audit and tax contract for \$86,349. Funds for audit and tax services are budgeted in the Indirect Costs Fund in the 2025 Budget.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

None. Information only.

**STAFF CONTACT:**

Carol Gonzales, Director of Finance and Administration



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September 2025

Item No. 4

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

### ISSUE:

VOTE: Ratify an application for and acceptance of an award of \$400,000 from the Patterson Family Foundation to support the Double Up Food Bucks Program.

### BACKGROUND:

As reported in August 2025, a program officer from the USDA's Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program reached out to indicate that they were considering rescinding the denial of our FY 2024 proposal. The program officer asked if the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) could still meet the required 50% match. The original proposal for FY2024 included match funds equal to \$5,034,223 and a federal ask of \$5,034,000. In preparation for the FY 2025 RFA, MARC staff have been communicating with funders to provide the necessary match dollars. Most funders have agreed to commit the same amount or more than their FY 2024 proposal commitment.

Staff met with the Patterson Family Foundation, whose catchment area for funding is the northwest corner of Missouri and several rural counties in Kansas. The Patterson Family Foundation had already committed \$100,000 to support the Double Up Food Bucks program and they invited MARC staff to submit a request for additional funding. With the expectation that the USDA would imminently be reaching out for more information about the match for our FY 2024 proposal, and with approval from the Executive Director, staff applied to the Patterson Family Foundation for \$400,000. The Foundation's board met on September 3, 2025, and approved the award. The Patterson funds will be used to support incentives at farmers markets and grocery stores in their catchment areas plus some administrative costs.

### BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
Amount	\$400,000
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Grocery store incentives	\$270,000
Farmers' market incentives	\$100,000
Printing, postage, media, etc.	\$30,000

### RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

Northwest Missouri counties and rural Kansas counties.

### COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Commission on Aging considered this at its September meeting and recommended board approval.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Ratify the application for and acceptance of an award of \$400,000 from the Patterson Family Foundation which will contribute to the required match for a USDA Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program award.

### STAFF CONTACT:

Donna Martin, Public Health Program Manager

Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, Director of Aging and Adult Services



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September 2025

Item No. 5

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

### **ISSUE:**

**VOTE:** Approve amendments to contractual agreements with partnering organizations which assist with implementing the Double Up Food Bucks program.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Double Up Food Bucks (DUFb) program is implemented by a collaboration between Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) and K-State University Research & Extension, Cultivate KC, and the University of Missouri Extension help by providing coordination with farm direct locations (farmers markets, farm stand and mobile markets) that want to offer the Double Up Food Bucks incentive to their SNAP (food assistance) customers. Those organizations also provide capacity building and technical assistance services to farm direct locations, interested but perhaps not ready to offer the incentive. The contracts with these three coordinating organizations include funds for administrative purposes (personnel, travel, supplies, etc.) and funds for incentives redeemed at the farm direct locations. The contract signed in January 2025 with the University of Missouri Extension included an ending date of August 31, 2025 due to uncertainty of funding sources.

In addition, MARC coordinates with grocery stores across Kansas and Missouri to implement the program. The grocery stores involved in the program range from small, independent grocery stores to mid-sized grocery chains. The program prioritizes grocery stores that commit to purchasing from local growers in the region at least during the local growing season. The grocery stores commit to reporting data, including the amount of incentives distributed and redeemed on a monthly basis. The Double Up Food Bucks contracts with the grocers in Missouri, outside of Kansas City, had ending dates of August 31, 2025, since we were not sure if there would be additional funding to support those locations after the USDA grants ended and we believed the Missouri funding allocated in FY 2025 would end June 30, 2025.

Since January 2025 when the current contracts with the University of Missouri Extension and the grocery stores in Missouri were signed, MARC received confirmation that the Missouri funds which were included in the FY 2025 budget could be spent after June 30, 2025. The funds left from the Missouri funding will support MU Extension into 2026 and the Missouri locations will be able to redeem the incentives until December 31, 2025.

The additional amount needed for the University of Missouri Extension equals \$215,061. \$105,000 of that amount is for incentives redeemed at farmers markets. Some of the contract amendments for the Missouri grocers extend just the amount of time the grocers can implement the program until the end of the year. Those grocers have incentive budgets from their original 2025 budgets which will likely last the rest of the year. Other grocery stores will need both an extension of time (until the end of the year) and an additional incentive budget to provide the program until the end of the year. The following table lists the amendments for the Missouri grocers needing additional incentive budget:



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Grocery Store Company	Amendment Amount	New Contract Amount
G&W Foods (Missouri stores only)	\$6,000	\$44,000
Harps Food Stores (Poplar Bluff store)	\$20,000	\$68,000
Hays Food Town, Inc.	\$15,000	\$58,200
Local Harvest	\$2,400	\$9,600
T&C Foods, Inc.	\$125,000	\$475,000
W.H. Koch, Inc	\$6,000	\$14,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$174,400</b>	<b>\$668,800</b>

In addition, there are grocery stores in Kansas City and Kansas that are coming close to exceeding their contracted amount for incentives redeemed. Additional funding for those locations is available from private funding and the new USDA grant award we are expecting. The following is a list of the Kansas City metro area and Kansas grocers needing amendments to increase their incentive budget:

Grocery Store Company	Amendment Amount	New Contract Amount
CBCKC Eats	\$14,000	\$39,000
Farmers Market/Leeker's	\$20,000	\$57,040
Malay's	\$1,400	\$4,840
Mize IGA, Inc	\$564	\$2,704
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$35,964</b>	<b>\$78,584</b>

**Total amount in contract amendments (MU Extension + Grocery stores): \$425,025**

### BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

The combined funding to support the above contract amendments will be from a variety of different sources: state of Missouri funds appropriated in 2024 for one year, private funders and a new USDA GusNIP award expected to be finalized soon.

REVENUES	
Amount	Estimated \$11,092,905
Source	Variety of funders
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	
Contractual	\$110,061
Pass-Through (incentives, Grocery and farm direct)	\$314,964
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	
Total Expenses related to contract amendments	\$425,025

### RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

Kansas and Missouri communities with participating Double Up Food Bucks locations.

### COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Commission on Aging considered this at its September meeting and recommended board approval.



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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve contract amendments with University of Missouri Extension and a variety of grocery stores in Missouri and Kansas which assist with implementing the Double Up Food Bucks program.

**STAFF CONTACT:**

Donna Martin, Public Health Program Manager  
Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, Director of Aging and Adult Services



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September 2025  
Item No. 6  
Competitive Economy

**ISSUE:**

**VOTE:** Retroactively approve a grant application to the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation for a Capacity Building Grant to support economic mobility and workforce development.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Kauffman Foundation issued a call for applications by nonprofit organizations to support efforts to build capacity that enables the organization to address one of the foundation's priorities - workforce development, career readiness and post-secondary attainment and entrepreneurship. Through the Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) economic and workforce development efforts, the organization has supported efforts around economic data and analytics, workforce and career readiness, post-secondary attainment, etc. This opportunity is a one-time grant for up to \$250,000 and the application was due September 12, 2025 and was submitted on time. Staff are asking for a retroactive approval of the application submission.

Funding from this grant, if awarded, would enable MARC to achieve the following objectives over 18 months:

- Enhance MARC's capacity to better integrate the organization's work across departments and programs that support economic mobility and workforce development (local government services, economic development planning, economic research, data and analytics, transportation, and early education).
- Evaluate the use of AI and other data and analytical tools to enhance the organization's work around economic and workforce development and using data licenses to be able to test new tools.
- Engage community stakeholders to better understand their data and analytical needs around workforce development and economic mobility, and use their input to guide MARC's work, using convenings by stakeholders in focus groups and a steering committee.
- Evaluate how this work will strengthen data and analytics that could be shared through webinars / convenings and develop a business plan for a stronger Government Training Institute.

**BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:**

REVENUES	
Amount 18-months	\$250,000
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, indirect, rent)	\$153,000
Training (GTI support)	\$20,000
Data Tools	\$20,000
Consultants	\$57,000



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**RELATED JURISDICTIONS:**

This item impacts all counties in the MARC region.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Retroactively authorize the submission of a grant application to the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 and accept the funds if awarded.

**STAFF CONTACT:**

Marlene Nagel, Director of the Office of Resource Development  
Ashley Z. Hand - AIA, Director of Local Government Services  
Frank Lenk, Director of the Office of Economic Research