



Mid-America Regional Council Community Services Corporation

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

October 28, 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 September 23, 2025, Meeting
3. VOTE: Ratify a grant proposal to Jackson County to administer Child Care Works program.
4. VOTE: Approve contractual agreements with partnering organizations which assist with implementing the Double Up Food Bucks program.
5. VOTE: Ratify a grant proposal to Jackson County to support expanding food as medicine initiatives.
6. Other Business
7. Adjourn



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MEETING SUMMARY

September 23, 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 Willie Dove, Leavenworth County, KS
Commissioner Becky Fast, Johnson County, KS
Commissioner Scott Fricker, Platte County, MO
Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick, Johnson County, KS
Victor Hurlbert, Auditor, Clay County, MO
Commissioner Jerry Nolte, Clay County, MO
Commissioner Sheila Tracy, Ray County, MO
Commissioner Sheila Tracy, Ray County, MO

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
Karen Clawson, Air and Mobility Program Manager
Kasey Lawson, Head Start Director
John Davis, Fiscal Administrator
Donna Martin, Public Health Program Manager
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 11:42 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 August 26, 2025, Meeting

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



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Ms. Gonzales explained that the CSC is required to file the 990 Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax each for each fiscal year. The 2024 Form 990 highlights include \$6.6M of revenues, \$6.6M of expenses, and an ending fund balance of \$15K and is prepared by the public accountants responsible for the overall MARC audit. There were no questions regarding the form 990.

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.

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

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

Commissioner Janeé Hanzlick motioned to approve, and Victor Hurlbert seconded. The motion passes.

Other Business

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:46 a.m.



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October 2025
Item 3
Quality Early Learning

ISSUE:

VOTE: Ratify a grant proposal to Jackson County to administer Child Care Works program.

BACKGROUND:

Jackson County released a request for proposals (RFP) due September 23, 2025. With approval from the Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) executive director, the MARC Community Services Corporation (CSC) and specifically the early education department, submitted a proposal to meet the RFP deadline.

The objectives of the Child Care Works (CCW) in Jackson County project are to foster community well-being and resilience in the county by supporting access and affordability to high-quality early learning programs through expanding Missouri Child Care Works in the county. These goals will be tackled in the following ways:

- Recruiting Jackson County employers to participate in Child Care Works through education and outreach,
- Funding the community/employer portion for infant/toddler childcare slots for residents utilizing Jackson County childcare programs, and
- Expanding access to high-quality early learning programs in Jackson County by providing targeted observations, assessments and coaching for participating early learning programs

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
Amount	\$229,685
Source	Jackson County
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$79,064
Contractual	\$2,750
Indirect	\$28,226
Other	\$119,645
Total Projected Expenses	\$229,685

COMMITTEE ACTION:

None.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts Jackson County, Missouri

RECOMMENDATION:

Ratify the submission of a proposal in response to the recent Jackson County RFP, and if awarded, acceptance of funds.



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STAFF CONTACT:

Toni Sturdivant, Ph.D., Director of Early Learning



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October 2025

Item 4

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Approve 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 through a collaboration between Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), K-State University Research & Extension, Cultivate KC, and the University of Missouri Extension. These partners provide 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. These 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. Additionally, Dr. Cheryl Gibson's team at the University of Kansas Medical Center assesses the impact of the program has on SNAP customers, farmers, market managers, and stores.

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 monthly.

MARC has had a contractual relationship with partnering organizations and grocery stores over the past four to eight years. As the program in 2025 transitions off the current USDA Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program grant funding to a new USDA NIFA grant, new contracts need to be established with all the partners and grocery stores involved with the program. In December 2024, the Board approved the receipt of funds from the state of Missouri and a variety of private funders and in June 2025 the Board approved those funds being utilized as match for a 2025 possible proposal to the USDA. MARC has confirmed that the program will receive \$5,034,000 from the federal government and the team has secured the 50% non-federal match to accompany the grant.

The following is a list of the three-year contracts proposed with Double Up Heartland collaborative partners:

Collaborative Partner	Contract Amount
Kansas State University Research and Extension	\$899,447
Cultivate KC	\$898,160
University of Missouri Extension	\$844,022
University of Kansas Medical Center	\$958,616
Total	\$3,600,245



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The following is a list of the three-year contracts proposed with the grocery stores currently implementing the Double Up Food Bucks program. These contracts include funds for reimbursing the Double Up Food Bucks incentives plus some technical assistance funds for twelve of the grocers which allow their stores to implement the Double Up Food Bucks program.

Grocery Store Company	Contract Amount
Barnes Heartland	\$15,159
CBKC Eats	\$53,860
Checkers/Hillcrest Foods	\$150,315
City Greens	\$2940
Farmer's Market	\$143,235
Four B	\$2,122,697
G&W Foods	\$290,161
G&W2, LLC	\$36,158
Harps Food Stores	\$195,866
Hays Food Town, Inc.	\$137,110
Hired Man	\$7,118
Local Harvest	\$23,990
Mace's Supermarket	\$36,725
Main Street Mercantile	\$1,590
Malay's	\$12,685
Mildred	\$1,180
Mize IGA, Inc	\$7,455
Mr K's/R&O Partnership	\$16,620
Mr. Mc's	\$5,880
Peabody	\$4,115
Rhodes Grocery Store, Inc	\$24,480
Schroetlin Enterprises/Kinsley Food Pride	\$16,377
T&C Foods, Inc.	\$1,162,950
W.H. Koch, Inc	\$37,210
White's Foodliner, Inc	\$98,183
TOTAL	\$4,604,059

Total amount in contracts: \$8,204,303

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

The funding to support the above contracts will be from a new federal award from the USDA and non-federal sources contributing to the required match of the USDA funding opportunity. The non-federal sources include nine private foundations, K-State University - Olathe, and the state of Missouri. K-State Research & Extension is also contributing \$38,932 of in kind to the match.



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REVENUES	
Total federal and non-federal supporting entire program	\$11,001,854
Source	USDA NIFA, private funders, K-State, state of Missouri
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$886,336
Travel	\$18,000
Subrecipient (not including farmers market incentives) and Evaluation Services contracts	\$2,308,337
Farmers Market Incentives	\$1,291,908
Grocery Store Incentives (current participating grocers)	\$4,508,860
Technical Assistance funds for grocers	\$95,198
Expansion funds for incentives	\$1,278,766
Other (supplies, printing, etc.)	\$308,000
Indirect	\$306,449
TOTAL	\$11,001,854

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Commission on Aging considered this at its October meeting and recommended Board approval.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

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

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve contractual agreements with partnering organizations 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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October 2025

Item 5

Thriving Older Adults and Communities

ISSUE:

VOTE: Ratify a grant proposal to Jackson County to support expanding food as medicine initiatives.

BACKGROUND:

Jackson County released a request for proposals (RFP) due September 23, 2025. With approval from the Mid-America Regional Council's (MARC) executive director, the MARC Community Services Corporation (CSC) and specifically the aging and adult services department, submitted a proposal to meet the RFP deadline.

The proposed collaborative approach builds on the experience of MARC, the Community Support Network (CSN), multiple community-based organizations (CBOs), and health care entities. The proposed design aligns with a key RFP priority for Jackson County to address food security and access to nutritious foods. MARC's Area Agency on Aging and its partners previously served over 486,000 meals in Jackson County that already meet dietary guidelines and requirements. This funding would support expanding food as medicine initiatives and build on existing workflows and supply chain to offer accessible options that are diabetic and renal friendly, heart healthy, vegetarian, and gluten-free in support of improved health outcomes.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS:

REVENUES	
Amount	\$748,570
Source	Jackson County
PROJECTED EXPENSES	
Personnel (salaries, fringe, rent)	\$229,263
Contractual	\$420,000
Indirect	\$81,847
Other	\$17,460
Total Projected Expenses	\$748,570

COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Commission on Aging considered this item at its October meeting and recommended Board approval.

RELATED JURISDICTIONS:

This item impacts Jackson County, Missouri

RECOMMENDATION:

Ratify the submission of a proposal in response to the recent Jackson County RFP, and if awarded, acceptance of funds.



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STAFF CONTACT:

Kristi Bohling-DaMetz, Director of Aging and Adult Services

Bethany Reyna, Nutrition Program Manager