



# United Community Services of Johnson County

## 2024 HUMAN SERVICE FUND RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT

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Human service programs are vital to the well-being, safety, and stability of Johnson County residents. United Community Services (UCS) commends city and County government leaders for recognizing the important role of local government in supporting human service programs. Together, Johnson County Government and 14 cities have budgeted \$463,190 for the **Human Service Fund (HSF)** in 2024.

This is a highly competitive grant year; HSF received twenty-two applications requesting a total of \$555,368 in funding. Three applicants are welcomed through the Small Grants Program, which provides grants of less than \$5,000 for new, growing, and grassroots organizations working to build their footprint and grant capacity. Thank you for making this work possible!

The HSF offers local governments a cost-efficient, accountable mechanism to support an array of services that help residents of every city and township who are facing difficult circumstances. Funding is competitive and is awarded to local nonprofit agencies which provide vital programs that meet the needs of Johnson County residents who live with income at or near the federal poverty level. Priority is given to programs that address work support services, emergency aid and shelter, child/adult abuse, child welfare, and health care. (See Appendix B for all funding priorities.)

Agencies recommended for grants demonstrate positive outcomes and are working collaboratively with other organizations in the community. Funding recommendations represent the maximum HSF award for the calendar year(s), and UCS is not responsible for reductions in grant awards that may occur due to reduction in allocated funds by participating jurisdictions.

Thanks to your support, in 2022, programs receiving HSF grants provided over 221,000 units of service to more than 61,000 Johnson County residents. In 2022, “units of service” included medical and dental appointments, mental health supports, nights of safe housing, counseling and case management, emergency rental and utility assistance, food pantries, employment training and more. These programs benefit more than just the individual and their family; the entire community, including local government, benefits.

Without a strong human service infrastructure to address issues such as unemployment, lack of childcare and transportation, homelessness, child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, and untreated medical conditions, our community will experience higher crime rates and lower tax revenue, a decline in the standard of living, and weakened economic health.

**Jurisdictions are asked to accept the funding recommendations by December 29, 2023.**



## 2024 Human Service Fund Applicant History and Recommendations

Small HSF Grant Applicant	2022 Grant	2023 Grant	2024 Recommended	HSF Small Grant Program Description
				Small grants new beginning in 2022, grants in amounts <\$5,000
Community Center of Shawnee	\$4,500	\$4,900	\$4,950	Food pantry, clothing, and emergency financial assistance for shelter, fuel, utilities, healthcare, and transportation to support basic needs, healthcare access, and employment in Johnson County.
Gateway of Hope	\$4,500	\$4,999	\$4,950	Sisters of Hope/Hermanas en la Esperanza: behavioral healthcare accessible to low income, under/uninsured teen girls and women in Johnson County through free and reduced fee services with services provided in English and Spanish.
Starfish	-	-	\$3,000	A Life With Dignity: provides necessities including clothing, hygiene products, meals, rent and utility assistance, and health screenings to families at or below poverty in Johnson County.

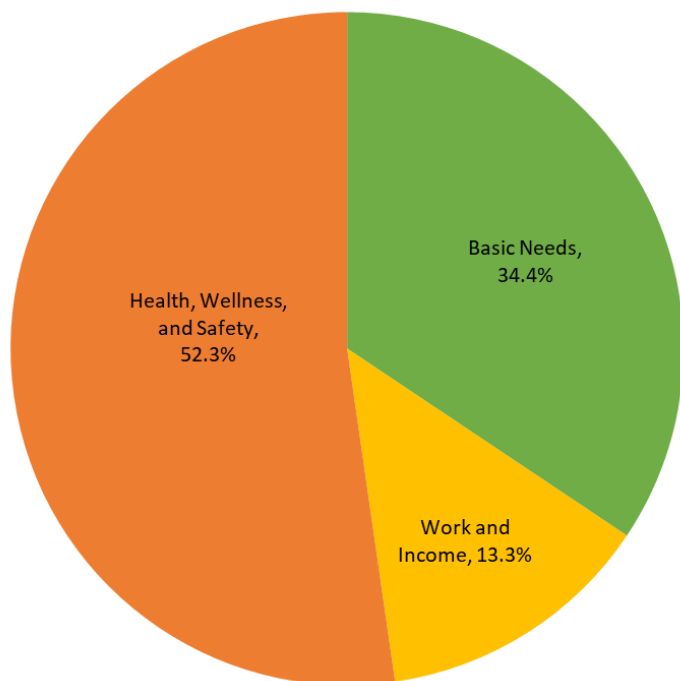
Regular HSF Grant Applicant	2022 Grant	2023 Grant	2024 Recommended	Program Description
CASA of Johnson & Wyandotte*	\$50,000	\$45,000	\$50,000	Child Advocacy: court-ordered intervention by trained volunteers for children determined by a judge to be a "Child in Need of Care" due to abuse or neglect, or as high concern for safety and placement.
Catholic Charities of NE Kansas*	\$68,500	\$68,500	\$67,000	Emergency assistance and supportive housing, including case management to meet basic needs of low-income families and help them work towards self-sufficiency.
Center of Grace	-	-	\$7,500	Free preschool for English language learner children, supporting caregivers as they attend JCCC classes at COG. COG is a community hub serving low-income, diverse families through emergency assistance, food, clothing, hygiene items, and connection to employment.
El Centro*	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	Johnson County Family Services Center supports low-income, under/uninsured households through economic empowerment (emergency assistance, financial literacy, assistance filing taxes), and access to healthcare (health navigation and health promotion).
FosterAdopt Connect	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$7,500	Reducing barriers to participation in Fostering Prevention, providing one-on-one services in the home with at-risk families to support behavioral and emotional management, stabilize housing placement, and reduce need for foster care.
Growing Futures EEC*	\$19,398	\$19,398	\$20,000	Wrap-around Care: Scholarships for pre-kindergarten childcare fees for low-income families, supporting full-time education/employment of caregivers, provides family support, and results in strong kindergarten preparedness.
Habitat for Humanity	-	\$5,000	\$5,000	Neighborhood Revitalization: minor home repair, critical home repair, and home weatherization projects for low-income clients, who provide "sweat equity," to support home retention and safe and adequate housing.
Health Partnership Clinic*	\$49,500	\$49,500	\$49,500	Free and sliding-scale health care, dental care, and behavioral healthcare, through a medical home model, for uninsured and low-income Johnson County residents.
Hillcrest Ministries*	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	Transitional housing for youth, single adults, and families experiencing homelessness; case management, budget counseling, and supportive services.
HopeBuilders	\$4,999	No Request	\$5,000	Supports adequate housing and retention of affordable housing stock by providing accessibility modifications and home repair for older adults and individuals living with disabilities in Johnson County.
JoCo IHN	\$9,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	Case management, including shelter, for single women and families with children experiencing homelessness.
Ks Children's Service League*	\$20,340	\$20,340	\$20,000	Healthy Families Program: Home-based education and family support for new parents whose children are at-risk for child abuse and neglect.
Kansas Parents as Teachers	-	\$5,000	\$5,000	Bright Futures: an in-home assistance program providing developmental, social-emotional, and health screenings for children and resources for families to support family health and reduce the need for foster care.

KidsTLC	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$17,500	Thriving Communities: Crisis counseling, parent education, and assistance navigating health and mental healthcare, housing, and resources to support positive family outcomes.
NCircle	\$19,696	\$19,696	\$23,790	Reentry Program: intensive, on-site 60 day cognitive and behavioral therapy, skills training, financial literacy, and job placement assistance for clients in Department of Corrections custody assessed as at high risk of recidivism and unprepared to obtain/maintain employment.
Pathway to Hope	\$4,999	\$4,999	\$5,000	Reclamation Clubhouse empowers adults diagnosed with serious mental illness to secure and maintain stable employment and self-sufficiency through job training, transportation, work tools and attire, and employment support.
SAFEHOME*	\$21,000	\$22,310	\$24,000	Case management services for clients of the domestic violence shelter, including emergency shelter, housing assistance, therapy, legal services, and advocacy.
Salvation Army Family Lodge*	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	Olathe Family Lodge: transitional housing for families in Johnson County experiencing homelessness, including related services and comprehensive case management utilizing strengths-based case management.
Sunflower House*	\$46,898	\$46,898	\$47,000	Personal safety, education and prevention programs for children and youth. Prevention and education programs for childcare professionals and caregivers, including mandated reporters, provided both online and in-person.
<b>Subtotal Regular HSF</b>	\$391,832	\$397,142	\$421,790	
<b>Subtotal Small HSF</b>	\$18,998	\$14,898	\$12,900	
Administration	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$28,500	Fee for administration of HSF.
<b>Total</b>	\$437,830	\$439,040	\$463,190	The 2023 federal poverty level for a family of three is \$24,860

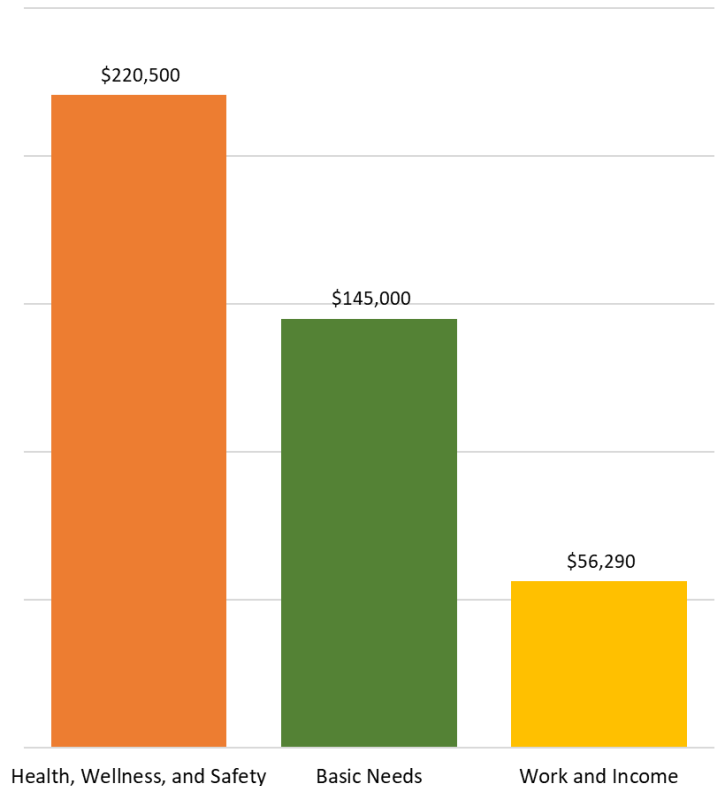
\*Applicants are returning grantees with established programs for which the UCS Board recommends two years of funding. The two-year funding recommendation is contingent on: continued agency performance and timely semi-annual reporting; jurisdiction funding commitment and review; and agency affirmation that it wishes to continue substantially the same program in 2025.

### Distribution of Human Service Funds by Program Type

Total Recommended Grants in 2023: \$412,040



### Human Service Fund: Funding by Program Type



## 2024 HSF *Small Grants* Recommendations

HSF Small Grants were developed and launched in 2022 after consultation with contributing jurisdictions. HSF Small Grants are for amounts less than \$5,000 for agencies that are new, growing, or grassroots and working to build their footprint and grant capacity in Johnson County. Like regular HSF applicants, these nonprofits must meet Human Service Fund guidelines (see Appendix B), including funding priorities, eligibility criteria, and reporting requirements. \$12,900 in total funding is recommended for these applicants for 2024.

<b>Community Center of Shawnee</b>	<p>Funding is recommended to support transportation assistance and food pantry services to decrease food insecurity and increase self-sufficiency of Johnson County’s low-income residents as part of the emergency assistance program, which includes food, clothing, holiday meals, school supplies, and transportation assistance. Transportation is a recognized barrier to employment and healthcare access in Johnson County.</p>
\$4,950	
Recommendation	<p><b>2024 Results Projected:</b> Reduction of food insecurity in Johnson County through the provision of food and increase in transportation supporting employment, housing and employment retention, and access to healthcare by Johnson County residents.</p> <p><b>Outcomes Achieved 2022:</b> 9,181 individuals, including 3,361 Johnson County residents, were served in 2022 through provision of food to approximately 85 families per month, as well as transportation assistance, through gas cards in the amount of \$25 or \$30, to an average of 65 households per month. Transportation assistance supported households in maintaining employment, accessing healthcare, and securing shelter.</p>
<b>Gateway of Hope</b>	<p>Funding is recommended to subsidize the Sisters of Hope/Hermanas en la Esperanza program, which provides sliding scale and free quality behavioral healthcare to low-income, under/uninsured women in Johnson County, with an emphasis on Latina women and other women of color. Services are provided in English and Spanish. Access to behavioral healthcare services are an acute need for low-income women in Johnson County.</p>
\$4,950	
Recommendation	<p><b>2024 Results Projected:</b> Increased access to behavioral healthcare for low-income and under/uninsured women; reduction of depression and anxiety among clients; increase in client work attendance and productivity; and decrease in work absences among clients.</p> <p><b>Outcomes achieved during 2022:</b> 230 Johnson County residents were served through 1,498 hours of therapy or life coaching sessions. Based on surveys, 90% of clients reported that they were being provided the help they needed, 88% reported gaining insights and tools that help them transform their lives, and 90% reported an increase in self-confidence and ability to handle challenges.</p>
<b>Starfish Project</b>	<p>Funding is recommended for a new applicant, Starfish Project’s a Life with Dignity program, which supports retention of employment and housing by providing individuals with communal lunches, clothing, hygiene products and other basic necessities to low-income residents, homeless individuals, foster families, and grandparents caring for children in Johnson County.</p>
\$3,000	
Recommendation	<p><b>2024 Results Projected:</b> Retention of housing and employment for 5,000 individuals by providing necessities, allowing clients to divert income to rent/utilities and remain stably housed.</p>

## 2024 HSF Regular Grants Recommendations

Note: applicants designated with an asterisk (\*) are returning grantees with established programs for which the UCS Board recommends two years of funding. The two-year funding recommendation is contingent on: continued agency performance and timely semi-annual reporting; jurisdiction funding commitment and review; and agency affirmation that it wishes to continue substantially the same program at the same level of funding from HSF in 2025.

### CASA of Johnson and Wyandotte Counties\*

\$ 50,000  
Recommendation

A \$5,000 increase in funding, for a total of \$50,000, is recommended for the Child Advocacy Program, a court-ordered program that serves children from birth to age 18. Most children in the program are those whom a Juvenile Court Judge has determined to be a “Child in Need of Care” due to abuse or neglect by parent or caretaker (commonly placed in foster care). Children may also be referred by a Family Court Judge when child safety and placement are of great concern in a high conflict divorce or separation. In these cases, the judge determines if the child can reside in a safe placement without having to be placed in state custody (foster care). A trained CASA volunteer advocate regularly meets with the child and focuses on the child’s situation, including safety, mental health, education needs, etc. The volunteer also gathers information from the parents, foster parents, social workers, attorneys, and teachers, then with the CASA supervisor, identifies service needs. CASA submits a report to the judge which includes information about the child’s statements, behavior, and interaction with parents; these reports support judges’ critical decisions about where children should live and what services should be court-ordered.

**2024 Results Projected:** CASA anticipates serving 325 Johnson County children during 2024. 95% of children will be safe from additional findings of abuse or neglect. 98% of children will have a stable adult presence in their lives through their CASA volunteer, and 80% will graduate from high school.

**Outcomes achieved during 2022:** 299 Johnson County children were served. The presence of a stable adult is a key factor in building resilience from a history of trauma. 98% of children served by CASA had a stable adult presence through their CASA volunteer during their court involvement. While assigned to a CASA advocate, 99% of the children served did not have an additional affirmed or substantiated report of abuse to Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF). Of the CASA-served youth eligible for graduation, 92% graduated.

### Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas\*

\$67,000  
Recommendation

Funding is recommended for the Emergency Assistance and Supportive Housing program which operates out of two locations within Johnson County. The program provides direct assistance and strengths-based case management, without regard to religious affiliation, to families living at or below 150% of federal poverty guidelines. Emergency Assistance services include those that meet residents’ basic needs such as food, clothing, and shelter, as well as financial assistance with prescription medication and medical supplies, utilities, childcare, and transportation. The case management delivery model emphasizes practices to achieve self-sufficiency, including asset development/financial literacy, workforce development and job-seeking assistance, life skills, and referrals to other available community resources.

**2024 Results Projected:** The agency anticipates serving 17,950 Johnson County residents with assistance that includes food and/or financial support to maintain housing and

utilities. Every client who receives financial assistance will maintain stable housing for 30 days. 80% of households receiving direct financial assistance will receive referrals to other services and 40% are assisted in accessing other public benefits like WIC, SNAP, Medicaid and more. 90% of households receiving direct financial services will demonstrate an increase in financial knowledge during case management meetings.

**Outcomes achieved during 2022:** 16,458 Johnson County residents were served through 39,826 service encounters. Direct financial assistance enabled 748 individuals to maintain safe housing for at least 30 days. 892 individuals benefited from utility service assistance which enabled them to sustain utility services for 30 days. 91% of households who received direct financial assistance completed a financial assessment with their case manager and 81% of individuals who received financial assistance also completed at least one component of financial literacy education (Money Smart, Your Money-Your Goals), and received one-on-one budget coaching.

**Center of Grace**  
\$7,500  
Recommendation

Funding is recommended for a new applicant, Center of Grace’s English Language Learner Preschool, which provides free preschool classes to children while their caregiver(s) are attending Johnson County Community College (JCCC) English and workforce classes at the Center of Grace campus. All participants, caregivers and children, are English language learners. 85% of families are at or below 130% of the Federal Poverty Level. This is the only JCCC location that offers an English language learner preschool. Center of Grace also serves as a community hub supporting low-income Johnson County families through emergency assistance, food, clothing, hygiene items, dental care, childcare and connection to employment.

**2024 Results Projected:** During 2024, Center of Grace expects to serve 110 Johnson County residents through this program. Program results include increased parental engagement in their child’s education and development, students will improve notably in their academic performance, and students will make substantial progress in language acquisition.

**El Centro, Inc.\***  
\$25,000  
Recommendation

Funding is recommended for El Centro’s Johnson County Family Services Center located in Olathe where a set of safety-net services are provided to low-income and/or under/uninsured Johnson County individuals and families. Services promote self-sufficiency, well-being, and health. The Family Services Center provides economic empowerment supports through emergency assistance, financial literacy classes, assistance filing taxes; access to healthcare through health navigation and promotion, and support filing for benefits, like Medicaid, and policy education.

**2024 Results Projected:** During 2024, El Centro expects to serve 2,500 Johnson County residents at the Olathe office. Results include meeting clients’ basic needs (sustain housing and utility services, completion of financial classes), assisting clients with work and income supports (filing taxes, obtaining an Individual Tax Identification Number if needed) and clients leading healthier lives (successful access of community healthcare resources and increased knowledge of chronic disease prevention and healthy consumer behaviors).

**Outcomes achieved during 2022:** 2,007 unduplicated Johnson County residents were served through 2,893 service encounters. 83 households received utility assistance and were able to maintain utilities for minimum of 30 days; 61 households received rental assistance. 145 individuals completed financial empowerment classes. 67 people were assisted with the process that enabled them to receive an Individual Tax Identification Number and 921 supported in completing income taxes. 293 individuals were assisted with applying for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and received benefits; 413 enrolled in KanCare with assistance. In 2022, they continued virtual advocacy by reaching 12,368 views on COVID-19, economic empowerment, and public benefits videos.

**FosterAdopt  
Connect**

\$7,500  
Recommendation

Funding is recommended to support families participating in the Fostering Prevention program at FosterAdopt Connect. The Fostering Prevention program is an intensive in-home support program that utilizes Motivational Interviewing and the Nurturing Parenting Program model to increase the capacity of at-risk families to meet the needs of their children with the intent to stabilize housing placement and reduce the need for foster care. As of 2023, KDHE reports 52.7% of individuals in Johnson County have experienced at least one Adverse Childhood Experience and 19.1% have endured three or more. Supporting families and avoiding cost of foster care results in a return on investment on the overburdened foster care system as well as improved long-term outcomes for children and families.

**2024 Results Projected:** In 2024, FosterAdopt anticipates serving 40 Johnson County residents through 140 hours of service. 90% of children during services will maintain placement stability, 90% of families will be offered access to direct services, and 80% of parents who complete initial and post assessments will show improvement in parenting skills.

**Outcomes achieved during 2022:** In 2022, HSF funded a different program at FosterAdopt Connect – *Behavioral Intervention Program*; through that program, 18 Johnson County children were served through 5,126 hours of service. 80% of children showed a decrease in the need for redirection or safety holds as a result of maladaptive behaviors and 73% of those who demonstrated maladaptive behaviors qualifying them for admittance to an in-patient program, were able to maintain current housing and avoid residential treatment.

**Growing Futures  
Early Education  
Center\***

\$20,000  
Recommendation

A \$602 increase in funding, for a total of \$20,000, is recommended for Growing Futures' Scholarship Assistance for the Wrap Around Care (WAC) Program. WAC complements the Head Start program, providing full-day care and education from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Families served by Growing Futures are living at or below federal poverty guidelines. The majority of Growing Futures families speak English as a second language and half of families are single parent households. Through the HSF grant, childcare scholarships help low-income families experiencing financial hardships who are unable to pay their share of childcare fees and who are working or going to school for at least 30 hours per week. Scholarships allow for continuity of early childhood care and education while parents are working or attending school. Growing Futures also provides resources and support for the family to support self-sufficiency including connection to health, nutrition, social services, mental health services, parental education and parenting events. Affordable, quality childcare is an acute need in Johnson County.

**2024 Results Projected:** Through the extended WAC program, Growing Futures will provide over 4,700 hours of care for enrolled children, serving an estimated 120 Johnson County residents. With Growing Futures, children will maintain daily attendance rates of 85%, supporting caregivers in maintaining employment and/or education. Families will engage in family counseling and support with Growing Futures, resulting in 80% of families achieving at least one large family goal, based upon family determined strengths and needs. Despite the financial hardship of families, fewer than 10% of children will leave the program due to inability to pay tuition, ensuring that children obtain a high quality HeadStart education.

**Outcomes achieved during 2022:** 58 children and their families, a total of 200 residents, received short-term help or fee subsidies that allowed children to remain in quality full-time daycare while caregivers worked or remained in school. No children left the program due to inability to pay fees in 2022. 98.5% of families took steps toward completion of a large family goal, such as learning English, purchasing a first home, or working toward a G.E.D. 92% of children achieved kindergarten readiness. Attendance rates for 2022 were 85.25%.

**Habitat for  
Humanity Kansas  
City**

\$ 5,000  
Recommendation

Funding is recommended for Habitat for Humanity Kansas City's Neighborhood Revitalization: Home Preservation Program, which supports home retention and safe and adequate housing through home maintenance assistance. The Home Preservation Program provides minor home repair, critical home repair, and home weatherization. All clients are low-income and engage in "sweat equity" as well as financial literacy counseling as part of the program. This program also provides energy audits and education. Retention of existing housing stock through home repair and modification is highlighted as a need in the Johnson County Housing Study. Currently, Habitat has a waitlist of more than 80 Johnson County families in need of assistance from the Home Preservation Program; Habitat is a member of the Johnson County Home Modification Coalition and has a 5-year strategic plan to address home repair needs in the region.

**2024 Results Projected:** Habitat for Humanity anticipates serving additional Johnson County families in 2024. 85% of clients will report satisfaction with services, 70% will experience improved financial security, and 85% will experience improved quality of life. These measures will be assessed with follow-up surveys upon project completion and a year later.

**Health  
Partnership  
Clinic (HPC)\***

\$49,500  
Recommendation

Funding is recommended for primary and preventative medical care, which are provided at Health Partnership Clinic's office in Olathe, a pediatric clinic in Shawnee Mission, and a school-based clinic in Merriam. Funding helps to support a Nurse Practitioner providing care to uninsured patients at the Olathe Clinic. HPC's patients are primarily low-income, and the majority are uninsured or publicly insured. HPC is Johnson County's largest safety-net clinic and only Federally Qualified Health Center; it utilizes a medical home model which emphasizes prevention and health maintenance while providing a broad scope of services including care for patients with chronic diseases. HPC also provides dental and behavioral health services, and works in partnership with homeless shelters, delivering onsite health



care services and case management. Specialty care is provided through a network of providers.

**2024 Results Projected:** Anticipated program results include access to a medical and dental home for low-income and uninsured residents, patients achieve better health outcomes and are satisfied with services they receive, and patients continue to utilize HPC as their health home. During 2024, HPC anticipates serving 9,394 Johnson County residents through 25,251 patient office visits or encounters.

**Outcomes achieved during 2022:** 12,365 Johnson County residents were served through 23,368 patient office visits and/or clinical encounters. Over 90% of patients surveyed indicated they were either satisfied or very satisfied with the care they received as a patient. HPC also provided 4,322 dental screenings through Johnson County school districts and immunizations to 303 community members who are not HPC patients. HPC provides school-based services at Shawnee Mission West High School.

**Hillcrest  
Ministries of  
MidAmerica\***

\$ 10,000

Recommendation

Funding is recommended for Hillcrest’s Transitional Housing – Homeless Youth and Families Program. Transitional housing for homeless youth, up to age 24, families with children, and single adults will be provided in seven apartments located in Johnson County. Hillcrest uses either the U.S. Housing and Urban Development or McKinney-Vento definition of homeless and clients are at or below federal poverty guidelines. The program provides housing and food, case management, budget counseling and connection to community services to address immediate and ongoing needs, such as medical, dental, vision, mental health, substance abuse treatment, employment training, tutoring, and mentoring.

**2024 Results Projected:** 26 homeless children, youth, and adults will be provided transitional housing and achieve at least one goal from their assessment plan. Homeless youth will work toward achieving an education goal and adults will maintain or improve employment.

**Outcomes achieved during 2022:** In 2022, 23 residents of Johnson County were served through 2,004 nights of transitional housing. All clients completed individual service assessments and completed at least one achievement goal. Of those, 6 youth worked toward achieving education goals and 4 moved into permanent housing. 9 adults improved and maintained employment and 8 households obtained permanent housing.

**HopeBuilders**

\$5,000

Recommendation

HopeBuilders is a former HSF small grantee transitioning to the regular HSF grants pool. Funding is recommended for HopeBuilder’s home repair/home accessibility program. Hopebuilders provides free home repair, modification, and home accessibility projects for low-income older adults and individuals with disabilities. Projects include critical home repairs as well as home modifications that make it possible for individuals to remain in their homes safely. A recommendation of the 2021 Johnson County Community Housing Study, home modification and repair are an important component of maintaining existing housing stock in our region.

**2024 Results Projected:** HopeBuilders will continue to expand its footprint in Johnson County, providing additional home safety, accessibility and mobility repairs and modifications to support low-income, older adults and individuals with disabilities remaining safely in their own homes. Clients will report a 75% reduction in falls and 100% will report feeling safer in their homes.

**Outcomes achieved during 2022:** As a small grantee in 2022, HopeBuilders served 22 Johnson County residents through 12 home repair and modification projects. Throughout the region, HopeBuilders served a total of 200 individuals through a range of home repairs and modifications, including 42 accessibility ramps, 73 accessibility modifications (such as replacing tubs with zero-entry showers, installing handrails and grab bars), 6 full bathroom modifications, and 100 critical home repairs (such as roofing and guttering, siding and weatherization, and replace or repair of HVAC units).

**JoCo IHN**  
(Previously,  
Johnson County  
Interfaith  
Hospitality  
Network)

Funding is recommended for shelter, meals, transportation and case management for families and single unaccompanied females experiencing homelessness at JoCo IHN. Area congregations provide shelter and meals at congregational sites on a rotating schedule while JoCo IHN staff helps families regain self-sufficiency and independence. Human Service Funds are used to support case management which includes assistance with transportation, referrals to other community resources, assistance with budgeting, money management, and job and housing searches.

\$8,000  
Recommendation

**2024 Results Projected:** During 2024, the agency expects to serve 40 Johnson County residents with 2,500 days of shelter and case management. Clients completing the program will increase their economic resources by 25%, and approximately 50% will move into homes of their own within four months of entering the network. 75% of volunteers will increase their awareness of human service needs in Johnson County.

**Outcomes achieved during 2022:** During 2022, 35 Johnson County residents accessed 2,164 nights of shelter through a combination of hotel rooms and congregation partnerships due to continued COVID-19 precautions. 47.5% of families moved into homes of their own or transitional housing within four months and 85.5% reported increasing their income by 25% or more while in the program. 94% of volunteers trained in 2022 reported increased awareness of human service needs in the community.

**Kansas Children's  
Service League  
(KCSL)\***

\$ 20,000  
Recommendation

Funding is recommended for Healthy Families Johnson County, a child abuse prevention program which provides intensive home-based education and family support services to parents who are experiencing extreme stress and are "at-risk" for abuse and neglect. Eligibility is based upon risk factors, not income, however, most of the families are low-income. Participants receive routine at-home visits, case management, referrals to community resources and services, child development and parent education, and linkage to health care services. Parent engagement includes Parent Cafés, parent support groups, and a parent advisory group.

**2024 Results Projected:** During 2024, 250 Johnson County individuals are expected to be served. Anticipated outcomes include: 95% of families will not have any substantiated child

abuse or neglect while in the program; 90% of children will be covered by health insurance; and 90% of children will have had a developmental screen in the last six months.

**Outcomes achieved during 2022:** 165 Johnson County residents were served. 98% of the families served remained free from substantiated abuse and neglect while in the program. 100% of children enrolled for at least six months had health insurance and 86% had a developmental screening.

**Kansas Parents  
as Teachers  
Association  
(KPATA)**

\$5,000  
Recommendation

Funding is recommended for the Bright Futures program, an intensive in-home program providing developmental, social-emotional, and health screenings for children and supports and connection to resources for at-risk families referred by the Department of Children and Families. Regular home visits provide over 105 hours of in-home support per year per family. This program supports family health, helps alleviate poverty, and reduces child abuse and family displacement, reducing the burden on the foster care system, reducing costs to the legal system of increased Child in Need of Care cases, and resulting in better outcomes for families and children.

**2024 Results Projected:** During 2024, 25 Johnson County families (estimated 100 individuals) will be served through approximately 802 home visits. As a result of this intensive program, children will be able to maintain housing placement and families will complete home visits and have increased access to needed services. Parents will set and complete a goal within 120 days of enrollment.

**KidsTLC**

\$17,500  
Recommendation

Funding is recommended for KidsTLC Thriving Communities program which offers resource referral, parent support groups, and health care navigation to families who face behavioral and mental health issues with their children. The program serves families in the community and families who have children in one of KidsTLC's programs. Eligibility is not based upon income, however, most of the families are low-income (75% of KidsTLC's clients are on Medicaid). The program serves as the navigation arm for the agency, helping families find mental health/health care, housing, and community resources/support. It also provides education and support to Spanish-speaking families, partly through the Que Onda Familias program. The program receives referrals from the Greater Kansas City Hispanic Collaborative, health clinics, mental health centers, school districts and additional programs which serve youth and families who are at-risk for homelessness. The goal of Thriving Communities is to educate families about health issues, trauma, and raising healthy children; and, to provide health navigation resources so parents can raise healthy children.

**2024 Results Projected:** KidsTLC estimates serving 233 Johnson County residents through this program. Anticipated outcomes include: 75% of clients referred to health providers will keep their initial appointment, 60% referred to health care providers or medication management will remain in services for 30 days, 70% will initiate benefits or public assistance services, and 75% of clients will express increased awareness of resources.

**Outcomes achieved during 2022:** Through crisis intervention, housing support, and health navigation, the Thriving Communities program served 396 individuals in and outside of Johnson County and provided 44 Que Onda Familias online classes with 5,554 views by clients. 80% of clients reported an increase in knowledge of their needs and resources available, 88% of families kept their initial appointment for a service they were referred to and 79% remained in those services after 30 days.

**NCircle**  
\$23,790  
Recommendation

A \$4,094 increase in funding, for a total of \$23,790, is recommended for a new program at NCircle: the Reentry Program. The Reentry Program, a private-public partnership offered in coordination with Johnson County Department of Corrections, is an intensive sixty-day program offered on-site at the Adult Residential Center. This program is for individuals in custody who are scheduled for release and have been assessed as at high risk of recidivism and unprepared to obtain or maintain employment. The focus of the program is to break the cycle of incarceration and support clients in successful reintegration. Staffed by certified Offender Workforce Development Specialists (OWDS) the program provides critical cognitive and behavioral therapy to support employment readiness as well as career track assessment, Essential Skills for Workplace Advancement (10 hours/week), job coaching (10 hours/week), Lifeskills (3 hours/week). Program participants will demonstrate an increased rate of employment, increased income, and decreased recidivism, as compared to nonparticipants, resulting in costs savings for local government and judicial system.

**2024 Results Projected:** NCircle plans to serve 40 Johnson County residents through this program. Participants will obtain employment prior to release from program, improve their job stability, exhibit improved career readiness skills, as indicated by the Employment Readiness Assessment (ERS), and reduce recidivism rates (tracked over three years) as compared to nonparticipants.

**Outcomes Achieved in 2022:** In 2022, HSF funded NCircle’s College of Trades program in which the organization served 67 individuals through 4,842 hours of training and case management. Clients of the program earned 64 certificates such as OSHA 10, Construction Basics, Welding, Shop Blueprint, Customer Service, Skills for Professional Assistants, MS Word, MS Excel, and Forklift certificates. Upon completion, based on ERS pre- and post-assessment, clients demonstrated a 33% improvement in career decision-making, 35% increase in ability to search for a job, and a 37% increase in ability to manage their career even during unexpected changes. Post-program assessments also indicated that clients demonstrated an average of 17% improvement in self-efficacy, 34% improvement in understanding social networks and supports, and a 12% improvement in understanding what it takes to obtain and maintain employment. Program graduates also had reduced recidivism as compared to non-program participants – 90% of program graduates had no revocations and 97% had no new convictions.

**Pathway to Hope**  
\$5,000  
Recommendation

Pathway to Hope is a small HSF grantee transitioning to the regular HSF grant pool. Funding is recommended to support the Reclamation Clubhouse, the local chapter of a national program, which provides a day program and free education and employment training as well as work tools, clothing, and transportation for adults with a diagnosis of serious mental illness to support stable employment and self-sufficiency. HSF funding will support club members in addressing specific work and housing-related needs that serve as a barrier to employment and housing stability.

**2024 Results Projected:** In 2024, 200 Johnson County residents will be served by Pathway to Hope. Clients will report increased confidence in themselves and will show positive steps toward becoming employed, gaining knowledge towards work goals, maintaining employment, maintain and/or improving housing. In 2024, the number of members

employed will increase from an average of 18% to 25%. 70% of individuals will report that funds were successfully utilized to keep utilities/rent up to date, complete minor home repairs, and/or keep major appliances functioning.

**Outcomes achieved during 2022:** As a small grantee in 2022, Pathway to Hope served 68 Johnson County residents through 8,105 hours of support. 19 clients were in part-time or full-time paid work and were supported through transportation assistance and subsidization of work-related attire. 62 clients built skills to support them in obtaining paid work, including training on data processing programs such as Sheets, Access, Docx, and Slides.

**Safehome\***

\$24,000  
Recommendation

A \$1,690 increase in funding, for a total of \$24,000, is recommended for Safehome's Shelter. Safehome provides shelter, case management, and other assistance to survivors of domestic violence living in its emergency shelter. Safehome clients are provided case management as well as therapy, legal services, hospital advocacy, and a hotline. Employment assistance and financial literacy will continue to be supported through case management services for shelter clients.

**2024 Results Projected:** Safehome will provide emergency shelter to 110 Johnson County residents for a total of 6,770 bed nights. 30% of residents will transition from Safehome to permanent housing, 60% for those at the shelter for at least 90 days and 60% will remain housed 6 months after leaving. 50% of residents will report looking for work, 80% will work on a budget with a case manager, and 65% of those in the shelter for at least 4 weeks will make a plan to pay off past due bills. 85% of clients in the shelter for at least 2 weeks will know more about a plan for safety and domestic violence and 50% in therapy for 4+ sessions will show an average decrease in symptoms by 5%.

**Outcomes achieved during 2022:** In 2022, 76% of clients reported looking for work while in the shelter, with 73% in residence for at least 4 weeks working on a budget and 66% making a plan to pay off past due bills. 94% reported knowing more ways to plan for their safety and 80% of clients who completed 4+ therapy sessions showed a decrease in symptoms. 78% of clients in residence for at least 90 days transitioned into permanent housing and 75% reported remaining housed 6 months later.

**Salvation Army  
Family Lodge –  
Olathe\***

\$25,000  
Recommendation

Funding is recommended to assist low and very-low-income homeless families in Johnson County with food and shelter at the Salvation Army Family Lodge in Olathe. In most cases, the Lodge provides up to 90 days of shelter (with a maximum stay of 180 days in some circumstances). Residents meet weekly with a case manager who utilizes the strengths-based case management model. Classes and/or skill building opportunities include parenting, financial literacy, maintaining employment, housing searches, daily living/life skills, developing a support system, and navigating mainstream resources.

**2024 Results Projected:** The Family Lodge anticipates serving 125 Johnson County residents in 2024. 90% of those who exit the program will enter permanent or transitional housing, 80% will increase income or decrease housing barrier debt. 10 children will receive financial assistance for daycare services as a work support for guardians and 5 families will

receive financial assistance for past utility or eviction debt, employment barriers, car repairs, required shoes or uniforms and more.

**Outcomes achieved during 2022:** The Family Lodge provided 19,206 nights of shelter, meals, and hygiene kits to 105 Johnson County residents. 78% of families exiting the program moved into transitional or permanent housing. 83% of families increased their income and decreased their housing debt to support living in permanent housing. 13 children and 15 families were served through childcare tuition supports and reduction in past due eviction or utility debt, which, if not addressed, often serves as a barrier to securing new permanent housing.

**Sunflower House\***

\$47,000  
Recommendation

A \$102 increase in funding, for a total of \$47,000, is recommended to support the Personal Safety Education Program, a child abuse prevention education program. Sunflower House provides child-based education and mandated reporter training free of charge; without grant support, these programs are not sustainable. The program includes: 1) *Happy Bear*, an interactive drama in Spanish and English for children ages four to seven enrolled in public and private early childhood centers and elementary schools; 2) *Think First and Stay Safe*, a curriculum for grades PreK-5 that reinforces personal and digital boundaries and emphasizes that bullying and sexual abuse are against the law; 3) *E-Safety*, provides middle school students with information about how to protect themselves from online predators, and includes safety topics such as sexting, bullying, child exploitation, and social networking; 4) *Keeping Kids Safe Online*, a workshop for parents and caregivers provided in partnership with the FBI Cyber Crimes Unit; 5) *Stewards of Children*, a child sexual abuse prevention and education training for adults; 6) *Mandated Reporter Training* which teaches attendees to recognize signs of sexual abuse, correct procedures/laws for reporting, and how to handle a child's disclosure; and, 7) *Child Protection Project*, a presentation designed to raise the awareness of child sexual abuse among parents and caregivers, and give them tools needed to be proactive in protecting children.

**2024 Results Projected:** The agency anticipates reaching 29,000 Johnson County residents during 2024. Age-appropriate person safety/abuse education will be provided to at least 30,000 children; 8,000 adults will be educated on child abuse indicators and reporting abuse, 95% will indicate that they gained new information; youth and adults will increase their knowledge of online crimes against children, including online safety steps and proper reporting. 95% of adults indicate they will more closely monitor electronic communications of children in their care. Sunflower House has added Spanish-based mandated reporting and has developed an online training academy to provide mandated reporter training to local school districts and other agencies, such as Girl Scouts.

**Outcomes achieved during 2022:** 24,984 Johnson County residents were served. Due to passage of House Bill 2662, requiring parental permission for all non-educational surveys administered to children, Sunflower House is no longer able to administer surveys measuring the impact of their programming to children. Surveys are still administered to adults who participate. 8,146 adults, including 3,699 within the special needs community, were trained regarding child abuse. 98% of participating adults indicated that they gained new information. After completing online safety training, 100% of adults indicated that they would more closely monitor the electronic communications of children in their care.

**APPENDIX A: 2024 HSF PARTICIPATING JURISDICTIONS AND GRANT COMMITTEE**

<b>JURISDICTION</b>	<b>CONTRIBUTION</b>
Johnson County	\$162,500
De Soto	\$3,030
Edgerton	\$3,000
Gardner	\$7,300
Leawood	\$19,000
Lenexa	\$23,500
Merriam	\$11,000
Mission	\$10,500
Olathe	\$70,000
Overland Park	\$99,000
Prairie Village	\$10,500
Roeland Park	\$6,360
Shawnee	\$33,000
Spring Hill	\$2,500
Westwood	\$2,000
<b>Total from County Government &amp; Cities</b>	<b>\$463,190</b>
UCS Administration	\$28,500
<b>Total Available to Allocate</b>	<b>\$434,690</b>

**2024 HUMAN SERVICE FUND GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE**

UCS Board Members

- Janet Barrow, *Committee Chair*, WaterOne
- Dr. Putul Allen, Children’s Mercy
- David Brown, Haystax
- Don Roberts, City of Edgerton Mayor
- Jeff Short, Overflow

UCS Council of Advisors

- Pat Colloton
- Hon. Steve Tatum (ret’d)

Community Volunteers

- Katie Werner, Black & Veatch
- Jennifer Pozzuolo, Garmin
- Josh Hill, Foulston Siefkin

Staff support: Christina Ashie Guidry, UCS Director of Policy & Planning and Erika García Reyes, UCS Director of Resource Allocation.

## APPENDIX B

### 2024 HUMAN SERVICE FUND GUIDELINES

The Human Service Fund is a competitive process that awards grants to nonprofit organizations for operating health and human service programs that promote self-sufficiency, well-being and/or personal safety of Johnson County residents who live with income at or near the federal poverty level. Funded programs provide pathways and opportunities for building a healthy community where every resident is empowered to reach their full potential. Components of the safety net investment that are supported by the HSF are: 1) basic needs, 2) work and income supports, and 3) health, wellness, and personal safety.

#### FUNDING PRIORITIES 2024

Health and human service programs funded by the Human Service Fund must:

- promote self-sufficiency, well-being and/or personal safety of Johnson County residents and fit within safety net investment components of basic needs, education/training, work, and income supports, or health.
- offer county-wide services or fill a gap which results in county-wide benefit.
- offer equal access to all clients and prospective clients who could benefit from the program.
- deliver measurable outcomes which benefit county residents and, in the long-term, benefit local governments by avoiding, deferring, or preventing costs that otherwise might be incurred by local government.

Priority is given to programs that:

- address emergency aid and shelter, adequate housing, child/adult abuse, child welfare, health and mental health, work support services such as transportation, childcare and early childhood development, and job training.
- serve individuals and/or families with income below or near the federal poverty level.
- demonstrate innovation and/or collaboration in program delivery.
- are consistent with an evidence-based program, best practices, or promising practices, or replicate a successful model.
- build the capacity of neighborhoods and local jurisdictions to support equity in the social determinants of health.

#### ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants must deliver direct services to Johnson County residents, be recognized by the IRS under section §501(c)(3), provide health and human services programming as their primary mission, and be in good standing in Kansas or Missouri as a nonprofit corporation, i.e., may not be an entity of city or county government.
- Agency must provide most recent IRS form 990 and, if requesting \$5,000 or greater in HSF funds, an independent certified audit of the previous year's financial records, or, if total agency revenues were less than \$250,000, an independent review of financial statements prepared by a Certified Public Accountant. The audit or review must have been completed within nine (9) months of the close of the fiscal year. Upon request, the agency may need to provide additional financial information.
- The applicant complies with Agency Standards.



- Applicant affirms compliance with any applicable nondiscrimination ordinances and/or policies of the municipalities that provide resources to the Human Service Fund.
- Funded program must:
  - promote self-sufficiency, well-being and/or personal safety of Johnson County residents and fit within safety net investment components of basic needs, work and income supports, or health.
  - primarily serve Johnson County, Kansas residents who live with income at or near federal poverty level. However, programs that do not meet this criterion may still be eligible if the program addresses child/adult abuse, and/or leads to the prevention of poverty, and primarily serves Johnson County residents.
  - clearly define and measure outcomes for participants.
  - benefit local governments by avoiding, deferring, or preventing costs that otherwise might be incurred by local government.
  - offer county-wide services or fill a gap which results in county-wide benefit.
  - offer equal access to all clients and prospective clients who could benefit from the program.
- Only one HSF application may be submitted by an agency. Applications will not be accepted for both the HSF and Substance Use Continuum of Care Fund (SUF, managed by Drug and Alcoholism Council, a program of UCS) for the same program during the same funding cycle. However, applications may be submitted for both funds by the same agency or department for discrete programs during the same funding cycle. Criteria of discrete programs include, but are not limited to, programs for which expenses are recorded separately for purposes of functional accounting, programs that, if serving a population targeted by another program, serve a distinct need of that population, and/or employ distinct strategies and projected outcomes.
- Applications for substance abuse programs are not accepted and should be directed to the SUF.