



2015 ANNUAL REPORT

the *family* conservancySM

Helping Children. Strengthening Families.

A MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY

from the President and Board Chair of The Family Conservancy

Dear friend,

Our staff, our board, and most importantly, our clients, thank you from the bottom of their hearts for your support. With your generosity, The Family Conservancy has been able to change the lives of children and families in Kansas City.

We celebrated our 135th anniversary of helping children and strengthening families in 2015. We have served an estimated five million families since we were founded as The Provident Association in 1880 and plan to serve millions more with your help.

In 2015, your support allowed us to serve over 73,000 children and families – which was an increase of 13,000 served the previous year. Among those impacted were: Chloe, a homeless teen who was able to graduate from high school; the Medina family, who believed quality child care was out of their reach as they barely made ends meet; Jolene, a mother suffering from postpartum depression who you empowered to overcome her negative thoughts and share her inspiring story with the nation; Lee, who improved the safety and quality of her early education center, gaining national recognition – and so many more.

We look forward to even more growth in 2016. We will work to increase the number of families we serve with Early Head Start services. Our mental health resources to the Spanish-speaking

community will continue to grow. We will provide more child care centers with training and resources they need so that parents can go to work knowing their child is receiving the highest quality care to help them succeed in life. We want all parents and caregivers in the KC metro to hear the message: talk, read and play with your child every day.

You make a difference. With your support, we will work together toward our vision of strong families and Kindergarten-ready children.

Thank you sincerely,

Michael Luby
Chair, Board of Directors



Dean Olson
President and CEO



The Family Conservancy has been helping children and strengthening families in the Kansas City area since 1880. Our approach is a comprehensive one, focusing on quality early child care and education, mental health counseling, and anti-poverty and quality parenting initiatives.



HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START

Promoting the school readiness of children from low-income families — supporting mental, social, and emotional development of children birth to age 5.



ACCESS TO QUALITY CARE

Working with child care providers to enhance services and connecting parents with quality care so they have confidence their children have the best start possible.



TEACHING TEACHERS

Improving young children's achievement by providing a variety of research-based professional development opportunities to early educators.



COUNSELING & THERAPY

Meeting the mental health needs of young children, students, and parents by helping individuals overcome issues such as depression, trauma, and anxiety.



COMMUNITY- BASED PROGRAMS

Strengthening communities by supporting parents, youth, and families as they face life's challenges and work toward self-sufficiency.



HEAD START

What is Head Start?

Head Start promotes the school readiness of young children from low-income families by supporting the mental, social and emotional development of children from birth to age 5. In addition to education services, programs provide children and their families with health, nutrition, social and other supports.

Head Start encourages the role of parents as their child's first and most important teachers. Programs build relationships with families that support positive parent-child relationships, family well-being, and connections to their peers and community.

“Children who attend high quality early education programs are 20 percent more likely to graduate from high school.”



TFC Support Leads to Improved Services and Increased Capacity

Calls were coming in daily from parents looking for care, but there was nothing that could be done. The tight, aging Kansas City, Kansas, rental property that housed Lee Howell's child care center was at capacity. In addition to being small, the property presented many obstacles that limited Howell and her team — the infant room's proximity to a classroom caused frequent interruptions, the small amount of grass in the playground area was spotted with gravelly concrete slabs, and Howell constantly worried about the busy street at the doorstep.

That was before. Early on while seeking Kansas Early Head Start partners, Howell attended a recruitment event hosted by The Family Conservancy (TFC). She quickly completed the necessary paperwork and returned the application to begin providing Early Head Start services at her program. From that point the relationship developed quickly. Discussions began about facility issues and before too long it became clear the best plan of action would be to move her program to a new site.

“When we first met with Lee and her team at The Rock at Stony Point, it was apparent that they had true compassion for the children in their care and were already serving the families Early Head Start aims to reach. They did the best they could to provide high-quality care, but their facility and available funds were limiting,” explained TFC Head Start Director Pamela Black.

The new space, available through a partnership with The Rock Church of the Nazarene and upgraded with an investment from the Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships start up funds, is a true community collaboration. Black explains why the move was the right choice, “Instead of investing Head Start dollars in a rental property, it's going into an agency that will benefit the community in a larger way, and we were able to increase the number of children they could serve.”

With the improvements, The Rock at Stony Point is not only able to provide additional services to their

The Family Conservancy (TFC) administers Head Start and Early Head Start services in Missouri and Early Head Start services in Kansas through grant dollars from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

TFC's Head Start program fits the needs of the Kansas City metropolitan area by lifting up community early education programs — helping them to provide quality Head Start services. Our services are unique to the areas we serve, as we deliver Head Start and Early Head Start services via partnerships with centers, family child care providers and provide in-home visitation services to families.

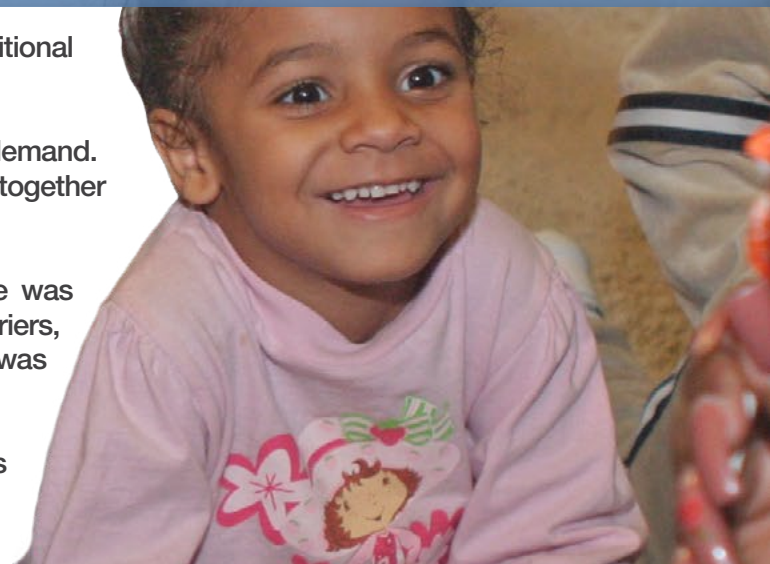
“Research shows that every dollar invested in early childhood education yields a return of \$7.”

families, but have more than doubled their capacity, increasing from 23 to 50 children. Seven of the additional spaces are serving infants and toddlers — an especially high need in the community.

“We get calls almost every day. Even if we had both locations, we wouldn't have enough room to meet demand. Many of the families in this community have multiple children and it's important to be able to keep them together — especially for infants,” noted Howell.

The transformation wasn't an easy task, but under the care of a local small business, the space was transformed in just two months — fresh paint was applied, walls were erected to provide sound barriers, changing stations and sinks were installed, new windows were installed, a toddler-friendly restroom was added, and they were even able to upgrade the children's safety with a fenced-in playground.

Howell sums up the impact of the project nicely, “The ways in which this new facility is helping these kids are too many to list, but each time I see them out on the new playground, smiling and playing, I know it has made a huge difference.”



KANSAS EARLY HEAD START

Success Starts at Birth

The Family Conservancy (TFC) is an Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership grantee agency for families living in Kansas. In 2015, TFC provided community-based Early Head Start services to 112 children, birth to age 3, and their families, by partnering with nine center-based programs and two family child care programs in Wyandotte and Johnson counties in Kansas.

Early Head Start programs are available to low-income families with

infants and toddlers. Services are provided until the child turns 3 years old and is ready to transition into Head Start or another pre-K program. Early Head Start helps families care for their children and prepare them for kindergarten through early, continuous, intensive and comprehensive services.

As an Early Head Start grantee, TFC creates partnerships with existing community child care programs and ensures programs provide high quality care and education. TFC provides support for programs to make facility improvements, offers professional development opportunities to teachers, assists with health and nutrition planning, and provides support and mental health consultations to Early Head Start families.

2015 Head Start and Early Head Start Partners

Missouri Center Based Partners:

Operation Breakthrough
St. Mark's Child & Family Development Center
Plaza de Niños Preschool
Easter Seals MidWest
DeLa Salle
Children's Therapeutic Learning Center
Learn A Lot
Child's Play

Missouri Family Child Care Partners:

Country Kids
Little Bear's Den
Toddler's Paradise
Wee Care

Kansas Center Based Partners:

Exploring Minds Academy
Hiersteiner Child Development Center
Parkwood Day School
Project EAGLE Educare of Kansas City
The Rock at Stony Point Learning Center
Tender Hearts Child Care

Kansas Family Child Care Partners:

Dansereau Child Care Service
Genesis Child Care
Busy Beez

Community Partners:

First Steps of Missouri
Infant Toddler Services of Wyandotte Co.
Infant Toddler Services of Johnson Co.
Jewish Vocational Services
Kansas City, MO, Health Department
Kansas Dept. for Children and Families
Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment
Mid-America Regional Council
Mother & Child Health Coalition
Truman Medical Center

MISSOURI HEAD START & EARLY HEAD START

Creating Successful Futures

The Family Conservancy (TFC) is a delegate Head Start agency under Mid America Head Start. TFC serves families living in Jackson, Platte and Clay counties in Missouri with Head Start and Early Head Start services. In 2015, TFC provided community-based Early Head Start and Head Start services to more than 650 children and their families by partnering with seven child care centers, three family child care providers and serving 119 families with home-based services — where a TFC education specialist visits children once a week in their own home and works with the parent as the child's primary teacher.

Center-based programs offer a traditional preschool setting in our community partnership sites. These programs — largely in the urban core — are great resources for families utilizing public transportation and can help connect them to an onsite social services. Centers in our network target specific populations such as teen parents, homeless families, children with special needs and Latino families.

Family child care is optimal for Head Start families seeking an intimate learning environment — ideal for sibling groups to remain together, children with challenging behaviors and children who thrive in smaller learning groups. The family-style learning atmosphere is a great stepping stone to a larger school setting.

TFC also provides direct, comprehensive Head Start services within the home in three languages. The home-based specialists are often the first introduction for parents to their child's school-readiness journey, providing early intervention and reaching families where they are. Specialists empower the parent to be their child's first teacher and the home their first classroom. Home-based services allow for individualization and personalization of curriculum, which also allows for cultural and linguistic preference.

In addition to general oversight, TFC provides nutrition education, literacy tools and mental health consultation to its Head Start/Early Head Start child care sites. TFC also draws expertise from our experienced professional development team who deliver on-site coaching, career development, research-based training opportunities and hands-on support to early education professionals. These efforts improve teacher-child interaction and transform learning environments ensuring that all children have access to quality early education through the Head Start Program.

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE

Making Child Care Better for Children, Families and Providers

TFC is making the child care system better for children, families and providers by helping parents locate and evaluate available care and working with child care providers to improve the quality and accessibility of care.

Helping Families Find Quality Care

TFC is a member agency of Child Care Aware of Eastern Kansas & Western Missouri® which validates quality services we provide to families. This partnership allows collaboration with the statewide call centers and offers families access to searchable online databases in Kansas and Missouri that guide families in finding and assessing child care options. Through this free service, each family can find services to meet their needs.

Improving Child Care Environments

For many children in our community, getting into high quality child care is a crucial opportunity. That may sound like a reach, but research suggests high quality early education can be the difference between a lifetime of success and a continuation of the cycle of poverty. The early years, when most children spend a considerable amount of time in child care, are integral to success in school and life. By the time a child enters kindergarten, 90% of brain development has already occurred (Rauch Foundation).

Recognizing the critical importance of educational experiences during the early years, TFC strives to improve early learning environments so all young children can access high-quality early care and education.

Work in this area includes accreditation and improvement consultations, playground audits and inspections, professional development and training for child care providers, and health and wellness projects. **In 2015, TFC conducted 1,273 on-site technical assistance visits with child care providers.**

Preventing Summer Learning Loss

In 2015, TFC's Child Care Resource and Referral team partnered with The Kansas City Star for the third consecutive year to publish the Summer Camp Guide — an online and print resource that compiles hundreds of local organization's summer activities for children into one, easy-to-use resource for parents. While the partnership is recent, TFC has been providing summer activity information to parents for over 30 years.

Child and Adult Care Food Program

TFC is also a sponsor of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) — which provides aid to child care providers so they can offer nutritious foods that contribute to the wellness, healthy growth and development of young children. In 2015, TFC provided CACFP services to 232 family child care providers in Missouri and Kansas. **Approximately 2,320 children were impacted by this service in 2015.**

“ 7,454 families from Missouri and Kansas received assistance finding appropriate care for their children in 2015. ”



TEACHING TEACHERS

Better Teachers, Better Environments

Driven by an increase in the number of working women, changes in family structure, and the desire to provide young children with educational opportunities, the demand for early education and care continues to grow. As increasing numbers of children spend more time in child care, ensuring available programs are delivering high-quality services is more important than ever.

TFC strives to ensure that every young child has access to high-quality early education, regardless of social standing. One highly-effective way to improve the

**“In 2015, 3,097
early educators
were trained
through
156 training
opportunities.”**

Fall Symposium Marks 10th Anniversary A Decade of Teaching Teachers

For the past 10 years, The Family Conservancy has been bringing professional child care providers and early educators from the across metro area together to advance their knowledge of best practices in early education.

The Early Childhood Fall Symposium began in 2005 as an effort to meet a community need. “Fall Symposium started because there was a need in the community. Providers needed an easy way to get high-quality training. We had great talent here at TFC, so we stepped up,” explained longtime event chair, Heather Waterfield.

In both Missouri and Kansas, teachers working at licensed child care facilities are required to complete professional development training annually.

Each year at Symposium there are as many as 15 different presentations covering a variety of topics related to caring for, educating and connecting with infants and toddlers. Since the beginning, the talented TFC team has been responsible for preparing and administering the trainings. In 2015, more than 200 attendees learned to promote social-emotional development with compassionate communication, understand the impact of trauma on young children, practice hands-on activities for stimulating development, and much more.

Over the years, the event has become known in the community for offering relevant and innovative trainings. “We have people who come every year because they get valuable information they can put to use,” mentioned Waterfield.

In addition to the quality training opportunities, Fall Symposium has also become a place for providers to connect with one another and collaborate.

quality of early education programs is by supporting educators with professional development opportunities.

Professional Development Services

TFC offers a variety of training opportunities for early education professionals — ranging from basics like CPR and first aid, to Child Development Associate course work and beyond. Professional development opportunities are available in a variety of formats to fit program and individual needs — face-to-face in the community, on-site at programs, as well as 250 courses of on-demand training online.

In addition to providing training, TFC offers one-on-one coaching to improve teacher-child relationships and interactions in the classroom. In 2015, **TFC coaches worked with 147 early education programs. These quality improvement efforts had a direct impact on the lives of approximately 8,400 children.**

Directors Leadership Academy Preparing Child Care Leaders for Success

In 2014, TFC's professional development team piloted a new opportunity for early childhood program directors by holding the first cohort of the Director's Leadership Academy (DLA). The focus was on new directors and assistant directors of child care centers who lacked experience or education in early childhood administration. The curriculum focuses on components that are vital to a director, to successfully performing their job, but can be difficult or cost prohibitive to seek formal training, such as: budgeting, human resources, and family engagement. In 2015, TFC specialists worked with 50 directors and assistant directors to sharpen their skills. The program has been praised by graduates and continues to be in high demand.



Kansas City Pre-K Landscape Study

TFC Commissioned for Early Care and Ed. Research

Research shows high-quality child care and early learning programs have a significant, positive impact on school readiness and later success in life. With that knowledge, the Early Education Funders Collaborative (formerly Kansas City Pre-K Collaborative Fund) commissioned TFC to conduct a landscape survey to better understand the existing early care and learning programs within Jackson County, Missouri.

The study and resulting report, which was released in December 2015, is just one of the many ways the collaborative is hoping to ensure

kindergarten readiness is a reality for Kansas City children.

The report presents data from early child care and education programs within Jackson County, Missouri, to provide concrete information for future planning and investment to schools, centers, funders and policy makers; by identifying program characteristics such as: teacher compensation, teacher turnover, accreditation status, percentage of children receiving subsidies, percentage of special needs children served, and percentage of minority children served.

Work on phase two of the Kansas City Pre-K Landscape Study, focusing on programs in Johnson and Wyandotte counties in Kansas, will begin in February 2016. The collaborative has once again chosen TFC to lead the study.

CLINICAL

Counseling and Therapy Services

The Family Conservancy strives to increase the number of people receiving the mental health services they need. While TFC serves clients with a wide variety of mental illnesses, the majority of TFC's work focuses on meeting the mental health needs of vulnerable populations — young children, domestic violence victims and parents of young children.

Counseling services are provided in Spanish and English at three area locations. Specialties include: depression, anxiety, grief, trauma, domestic violence, parenting, child behavioral issues, child counseling and more. TFC has been providing individual and family therapy for over 50 years and it is the cornerstone of our mental health services.

Overcoming Tragedy TFC Expands Highly Effective Trauma Treatment

As soon as Melissa turned the knob she realized something wasn't right, she began retracing her morning for a fragment of a memory confirming she had left the door unlocked. She hadn't. As she stepped inside, she very quickly realized her home had been burglarized.

Perhaps it wouldn't have been as traumatic of an experience had this been her first experience with theft and crime, but as a convenience store clerk, Melissa had already experienced two armed robberies. Now as she stood looking into her ransacked home, the paralyzing fear and feeling of violation returned.

Melissa tried to move on as she had before, but this time was different. She used to feel her home was a safe refuge — now she was assured she was in danger at all times. She was convinced that at any moment she would be thrust into the horrifying, helpless situation — that someone would sneak up behind her in the parking lot and steal her car, maybe this time they would pull the trigger.

The feeling stayed with her for several days. She couldn't go to work, she didn't want to be home alone, every small noise put her on edge, she was constantly afraid. That's when Melissa decided to seek help. She called The Family Conservancy and made an appointment, and soon found herself across the table from a therapist. Melissa's traumatic experiences made her the perfect candidate for Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) therapy.

During EMDR treatment, the clinician asks the client to recall the traumatic event while tracking the therapist's hand as it moves back and forth across the client's

In 2015, TFC mental health professionals provided nearly 7,000 hours of quality counseling and case management services to 824 participants

Dame La Mano Services

A growing element of TFC's mental health work is our Dame La Mano program, which offers services to our Spanish-speaking community. The Dame la Mano program includes mental health counseling, case management and nutrition classes. More than 600 Spanish-speaking clients are served annually through Dame La Mano services. In Fall 2015, two bilingual staff members were re-trained to be Certified Application Counselors to help uninsured to find coverage through the Insurance Marketplace.

Moving Beyond Depression

Moving Beyond Depression works with home visiting programs to identify mothers who are suffering from postpartum depression and provides intensive, in home therapy. In 2015, 72 moms were served in the Moving Beyond Depression program. In addition to achieving outcomes well above those demonstrated in the clinical trials, clinicians provide training and consultation to partnering home visiting teams in Wyandotte County to increase the home visitors' ability to support their clients with mental health concerns.

field of vision. During this process, associations arise and the client begins to process the traumatic memories. Unlike traditional therapy, the insights clients gain in EMDR therapy result not so much from clinician interpretation, but from the client's own accelerated intellectual and emotional processes (EMDR Institute).

Recalling these memories was very difficult and often overwhelming for Melissa. When therapy became too much, she used a "safe place" activity to regulate and manage the emotion. In the exercise, Melissa pulled a calming, safe place from her memory and imagined herself there using each of her senses. She found this activity so helpful she taught her children the same technique.

After just eight sessions, Melissa's fear and insecurity was transformed into a feeling of empowerment. She returned to work and is able to be home alone without fear. ■



A Positive Approach to Parenting

The Incredible Years is an evidence-based parenting program that builds positive parent-child relationships and teaches parents to use positive parenting skills to prevent conduct disorders, academic under achievement, delinquency, violence and drug abuse. In 2015, Incredible Years parenting programming was **provided to 148 parents and 14 early education providers.**

Early Childhood Mental Health

Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (ECMH) promotes healthy social and emotional development, and teaches children resiliency and coping skills for managing stress which can lead to classroom challenges. In addition to working directly with children, the program works with teachers to increase their ability to identify and support the needs of the children in their classroom. **The ECMH team provided consultation services to 332 children and 56 teachers at five early learning sites in Wyandotte County in 2015.**



Family Asset Building

Helping Families Gain a Financial Footing

The Family Asset Building (FAB) program provides financial education and matched savings for low and moderate income families who save for homeownership, business capitalization, or higher education and training. Innovative strategies focus on helping families acquire appreciable assets that will help them achieve greater economic stability and brighter futures.

Since 1999, the program has helped over 550 Individual Development Account (IDA) holders save over \$1.5 million.

Healthy Parents, Healthy Kids

Providing the Knowledge to Overcome Parenting and Environmental Challenges

The Healthy Parents, Healthy Kids program provides weekly parenting education and family support on-site at public housing developments. Class activities focus on helping parents learn how to manage their own health and stress, learn appropriate parenting strategies, form connections with other families with children and gain trusted resources for information and services. **Approximately 100 families are served annually** through weekly group sessions covering a variety of healthy lifestyles issues. These sessions include information about nutrition and exercise for parents and other adult family members.

Healthy Parents, Healthy Kids continues to exceed expectations in reaching this high-risk, fragile population of Juniper Gardens and St. Margaret's Park in Wyandotte County, Kansas. Through effective door-to-door recruitment, on-site program services and small incentives for attending classes, the program has established credibility and trust among the underserved Juniper Gardens residents. Healthy Parents, Healthy Kids was the program first served by TFC's annual drive for diapers, baby wipes and other baby care items, and parents continue to earn "baby bucks" for use in our Mother's Market today. The ability to access this benefit supports class lessons and provides much needed assistance to families living in these developments, where the average annual income is below \$5,000.

Student Assistance Program

Helping Homeless Youth Graduate

The Student Assistance Program keeps the doors of opportunity open by helping at-risk teenagers, who do not live with and are not financially supported by their parents, complete their high school education.

To support these students, TFC provides case management, free mental health counseling and a small monthly stipend to help with much needed living expenses. It is expected that participating students will maintain at least a "C" grade average and attendance as verified through school records and regular communication between program staff and school personnel.

In 2015, the Student Assistance Program served 64 homeless youth. Six were teen parents.

Talk, Read, Play with your child every day

A Simple Message to Support Child Development

A child's most important teachers come long before they enter the traditional classroom — parents, grandparents, siblings and caregivers play a vital role in preparing young children for success in school. Before most children begin kindergarten, 90 percent of brain development has occurred (Rauch Foundation).

Talk, Read, Play is a public awareness campaign with a simple, yet important message: talk, read and play with your child every day. By encouraging these easy everyday interactions, parents and caregivers help children develop language and literacy skills that are vital for school success.

In 2015, more than 12,000 campaign materials were distributed and the *Talk, Read, Play* message was shared throughout the community via a variety of campaign partnerships.

Talk, Read, Play Receives VISTA Support

Through our partnership with Turn the Page KC to help support kindergarten readiness in the metro, we were able to introduce an Americorps VISTA volunteer to support the *Talk, Read, Play* program in 2015.

Carolyn Tragasz began work on the campaign in November 2015, when she started to implement procedures and practices which will help to move the message forward for many years to come. This VISTA volunteer made it a priority to create toolkits that volunteer groups and campaign partners can use to support *Talk, Read, Play*.

"Play is the part I'm most passionate about. There are adults who don't have memories of their parents playing with them as kids. When I first learned this it broke my heart. If I can change that story for even one family, my work on the *Talk, Read, Play* campaign will have been worth it," commented Tragasz.

VISTAs are volunteers that make a year-long, full-time commitment to serve on a specific project at a nonprofit organization or public agency. Once Carolyn's term is over, she will pass the torch to a new VISTA who will continue the hard work.

Volunteers Continue to Support TRP

For the past four years, a group of passionate volunteers have been demonstrating the positive impact of generosity while delivering a powerful message to parents and caregivers throughout the Kansas City Metro.

The group, formed by Village Presbyterian Church, has been a driving force... *Continued on page 16*



“Research shows that children who have rich interaction from birth to age 5 are far more likely to enter kindergarten ready to learn.”

2015 SUPPORTERS

Donors, Organizations, Volunteers

The successes outlined in this report would not be possible without the generosity of the following individuals and organizations:

\$100,000 and Up

Jackson County Community Mental Health Fund
Kansas Child & Adult Care Food Program
Kansas City Pre-K Collaborative Fund
Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Kansas Governor's Grant Program
Mid-America Regional Council
Missouri Child & Adult Care Food Program
United Way of Greater Kansas City
US Dept of Health & Human Services Administration for Children & Families

\$50,000 to \$99,999

Francis Family Foundation
Kansas Children's Cabinet
Kansas City Kansas Unified School District
Kansas Health Foundation

\$10,000 to \$49,999

BPU Employee's Charity Golf Corporation
Charles and Marisa Bryson
Google Grants
Hallmark Corporate Foundation
Hartwig Legacy Foundation/KC Healthy Kids

Harvest Ball Society
Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City
Hollywood Casino
Downtown Kiwanis Club
LINC Educare
Mader Family Foundation
Menorah Legacy Foundation
Montana Cahill Foundation
Oppenstein Brothers Foundation
Save the Children Federation
Tradebot Systems, Inc.
United Community Services of Johnson County - Alcohol Tax Fund
United Way of Wyandotte County
Women's Foundation of Greater Kansas City
Wyandotte Health Foundation

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Bank of Kansas City
DST Systems
Fraternal Order of Eagles KCK
Mary Gunter
Ted and Kimbrough Bean Higgins, Jr.
J B and Anne Scott Hodgdon
Project 39 Volunteers
R.A. Long Foundation
Sosland Foundation
United Community Services of Johnson County - Human

Service Fund
Vivian & Hymie J. Sosland Charitable Trust

\$1,000 to \$4,999

Bank of America
Dennis J. and Elizabeth Barnett
Tracy Benteen
BKD, LLP
Pamela Black
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City
BlueScope Foundation
Leeann and Randy Blundell
Mark Box
Brotherhood Bank & Trust
CertainTeed Corporation
Constructive Playthings
Darden's Restaurant Community
Delta Dental
Nick and Lynn Douthat
Robert and Ellen Duckworth
Brian and Lynn Dunn
Arthur J. and Carolyn Elman
Faith Outreach Foundation
Frances Gershon Freiden Klein
Fund of the Jewish Community
Foundation of Greater Kansas City
Janel K. and Jeffrey Thimgan Frisch
Jason and Meggie Fuehne
GBA Architects + Engineers
Stephen and Kristin Graue
David F. and Laure Guyot
Donald Hall
Cherie Meyer and Joe Harmon
Hartley Family Foundation
Henry E. Wurst Family

Foundation
Renee and Brian Herrmann
Ira and Florita M. Brady Foundation Fund
J.E. Dunn Construction Co.
Robert B. Jones, Ph.D
Kansas City Power & Light Co.
Lockton Companies
Michael and Vicki Luby
Julie and Brian Matlage
Missouri Children's Trust Fund
Mothers of Young Children - Curé of Ars Church
Mutual of America
Richard and Linda Nixon
Dean Olson
Kaye Otten
David and Connie Ross
Maggie Ross
Stinson Leonard Street
Strawberry Swing Indie Craft Fair
Tom Syverson and Sandra Willsie
Pat and Sarah Thelen
Truman Heartland Foundation
UMB Financial Corporation
US Bank
Betsy and Joe Vander Velde
Visitation - A Catholic Community
Waddell & Reed Financial, Inc
Cami and Greg Walker
Neila and Marshall Whitt
Cheryl and Bernard Williams
Barry and Brenda Wood

\$500 to \$999

Jerry and Josephine Applegate

Marla Ann Baldwin
Brew for Books attendees
Erin Brower
Linda Castle
Ken Davis and Cheryl Carpenter-Davis
Mark Garrett
James and Tiffany Goudy
Charles Greenwood
Tony and Rebecca Jackson
Gary and Stephanie Jankowitz
Dan and Michelle Stark Kaufman
Amanda and Matthew Keller
Glenn and Barbara Ladd
Lawrence and Ronnie Lerner
Karl and Erika Martens
Justin and Jayme McCrary
Luann Meeker
Clarence Merrill
Chris and Diandra Meyers
Nick and Becky Nash
Paul Yanics and Paula Neth
Stephen and Shannon Nixon
Morris J. and Jeannie Nunn
Pamela Raffurty
Barry Schneider
Ted and Pauline Sleder
Nicole Stejskal
Mark and Lisa Terry
Matthew and Liz Webb
Gerald and Muriel Woodburn
Richard D. and Mary Linna Woods
Yarco Companies

\$100 to \$499

Dan and Pam Adams
Diane Allen
Erin Altenbernd
Zack and Sara Anthony
Don and Traci Ash

Russell E. and Carolee Atha, Jr.
 Emma Bart-Plange
 Olushola Bodie
 Laura Bratt
 Mary Breed Brink
 Prudence Brito
 Eloise Brockschmidt
 Pete and Connie Brower
 Colin Brownlie
 John and Mary Buchanan
 Bret and Kalinda Calkins
 Becki Carroll
 Church of the Holy Cross
 Jonthan Cohn
 Martha Connell
 T A Cummings
 Terry and Patricia D'Amore
 Patrick Davis and Essie Eisenfeld Davis
 Antoni M. and Sybil Diehl
 Deborah Drotts Anderson
 Joseph and Elizabeth Edmonds
 Louise Eisenbrandt
 Katrin Ellefson
 Jeannie R. Evans
 Margaret and William Fetter
 Orville and Ann Finnigan
 Jennifer Frank-Dull
 Doice Franklin
 Kevin Gabriel
 Marty Gage Elton
 Garmin International
 Janet Gelsinger
 Sherry Golden
 Laurel Groh
 Kevin and Cheryl Gross
 Leigh and Shawn Gruber
 Phillip and Heather Gudgel
 Renee Hall
 Claudia J. Baker and Joseph B.
 Hallauer
 Marcia Haskin
 John Hatton
 Nancy Heathman
 John and Mary Higdon
 Ruth Hinsdale
 Diana Holland
 LeeAnn Hollister
 Rick and Stacey Homuth
 Honeywell Hometown Solutions
 Employees
 Adam Huggins

Kevin and Julie Hutchinson
 Mark M. and Tammi Iba
 Veronica Jaster
 JJB Creative Design
 Sarah Jones
 Rick Kahle
 Kenny Keefer
 David and Amy Kempfe
 Vanessa Kendrick
 Joe and Mekaela Kramer
 Matt and Jenn Krawczyk
 Kristy Ladd
 John E. and Mary Lawless
 Nick and Gretchen Lawless
 Barbara Leach
 Tom Lewin
 Kimberly Lyman
 Kathryn Mabry
 J. R. and Ruth Majors
 Sarah Manriquez
 Diana Martínez
 Juan Martínez
 Holly Mattox
 Robert and Patty McCall
 Margaret E. McCorkendale
 Angela Miratsky-Figas
 Rhonda Mordy
 Jocelyn and Josh Mourning
 Pat and Jeff Mourning
 Michael and Joe Betts Murphy
 Tom Murray
 Russell and Kami Myrick
 Marc and Janise Naughton
 Charles and Sally Neal
 Network for Good
 Steve and Marcia Nicely
 Stephanie Noland
 Sharon and William O'Neill
 Sandra Olivas
 Ron and Pat Ott
 Ryan and Brooke Patton
 Kathy Pinkmen
 Jonathan and Pauline Pintado
 PolySource
 Nicholas Powell
 Jennifer Pozzuolo
 Raytown/Lee's Summit Kiwanis
 Natalie Regan
 Dana Rewalt
 Aaron Rickley
 Sally Roberts

Arthur W. Robinson
 Jovanna Rohs
 Ami E. Schlader
 Robert O. and Carla Schock
 Mary Schuler
 Scoobie LLC
 Richard W. and Linda Seagraves
 Daniel and Barbara Settles
 Scott and Jen Seyller
 Cynthia Shaw
 Gerald M. Shechter
 John Shuchart
 Robert D. and Betty Shuttee
 Ken Simons and Mary Anne
 Murray Simons
 Catherine and Troy Smith
 Debbie Sosland-Edelman
 Jane M. Sosland
 Margo C. Soule
 Margaret Stamps
 State Street
 Arthur and Barbara Stern
 Amy Stiglic
 Lisa Stone-Muntz
 The Polished Edge Fine Jewelry
 Megan Toal
 Susan Tuttle
 UBS
 Jenna Unruh
 Dan and Cyndi Van Cleve
 Teresa M. Vander Velde
 Tom A. and Heather Vrabac
 Robert and Heather Waterfield
 Lesley Weaver
 David and Linda Weerts
 Michael and Elizabeth Weinrich
 Sheila and Eric Weiss
 David and Sarah Whitacre
 Phil and Kim Witt
 Angela and David York

\$50 to \$99
 Mark and Jennifer Adams
 Erin Albright
 Linda Arnold
 Jack and Andy Barry
 Paula Barry
 Libby Baughman
 Angela Black
 David and Virginia Bondurant
 Ben and Olga Burwell

Brian Case
 Gil Charney
 Clark Christensen
 Casey Cooley
 Denise Coppaken
 CRB Kansas City
 Jayme and Jennifer Cullinan
 Leanne Daley
 Carol Perry Davis
 John A. and Nancy Dillingham
 Mary Diskin
 Anthony Durone
 Nicole and Edward Ellermeier
 Craig Ellis
 Mark and Anne Emert
 Jessica Endaya
 Kathy Francois
 Seth and Robyn Freiden
 Barbara Friedmann
 Jill Gibson
 Jeff and Leslie Glasco
 James and Tashina Golden
 Mary Gosney
 Bridget Grams
 Kevin and Megan Guertin
 Stacy Hamilton
 Trenton and Janet Hampton
 Brian Harcombe
 Matthew and Amy Hearst
 Dawn Hein
 Lindsey Heinz
 Joel and Michelle Herring
 Christina Higgins
 Lee Hoffman
 Jennifer Hooper
 Michael J. and Katie Horner
 Jen Houston
 Caroline Howard
 Brandon and Mandi Hunter
 Richard and Lisa Jacober
 Gary and Joy Jones
 Torrance Jones
 Bradley Killeen
 Thomas Killian
 Brett and Marci Knoff
 Shane Koch
 Kamille Konold
 Anna Ladd

Sandra Lamb
 Jacques LeBlanc
 Gary and Cindy Linton
 Jana Luetje
 Lisa Martin
 Laura Matlage
 John McConnell
 Christine McMullen
 Erin Meoli
 Susan Mikkelson
 Craig and Trinh Miller
 Jeff Monger
 Nathan Mull
 Barbara Myers
 Steven and Sandra Myers
 Carol Nelkin
 Kathleen Nemecheck
 Hubert and Barbara Neth
 Jacob Nicholls
 Regina Norris
 Sharon O'Neill
 Mary Page
 Cara Paul
 Marcia Phares
 Chris Potthast
 Joan Yanjun Pu
 Andrea Raines
 Scott Ramsey
 Jimmie and Diana Reid
 Allison and Derek Sandstrom
 Heather Schrotberger
 Dr. Robert Shears
 Patricia Sheldon
 Melinda Sperry
 Melinda and Tim
 Spurgeon

Luke Stanker
 Terri Stanker
 Lisa Rossi Stillman
 Stacy Stotts
 Ron Stricker
 Ted and Sue Sullivan
 Robyn Tenney
 Jill Thessen
 Dave and Theresa Thornhill
 Susan Toussaint
 Carol Trammell
 Jessica Triggs
 Mary Triggs
 Matthew and Mary Verssue
 Susan Weinrich
 Candice Westphal
 William D. and Janet Wheaton
 Mary Ruth Williams
 Elizabeth and Kent Yanders
 Jennifer Yarbrough

Up to \$50

Renana Abrams
 Brenda Althouse
 AmazonSmile Foundation
 Anonymous
 Back Rack Grill
 Camella Bailey
 John W. and Cindy Ballard, III
 Gretchen Beilharz

Ashley Blair
 Mary Kay Brooks
 Jeffrey and Jennifer Burns
 Jane Carrigan
 Joseph and Julie Close
 Jeanne Cockayne
 Kyla Cody
 Jack Cornelison
 Amy Cornwell
 Kerry H Cosner
 Paula Darnell
 Elizabeth Davidow
 William and Susan Early
 Mark and Amy Ellis
 Lynn and David Ferguson
 Margaret Foley
 Diane Frazee
 Jeffrey and Laurie Gates
 Jane Girson
 Steve and Kimber Myers Givner
 David and Anissa Glickman
 Jeanne Gorman
 Jerry Greene
 William and Tanya Hanna
 Scott Hanson
 Jill Harmon
 Julie Heinking
 Cole and Ellyn Helbert
 Grace Ann Hernandez
 Levi Hilligas
 Lori Hogan
 James and Susan Hubbard
 Amy Hughes
 Sarah Hughes
 James M. and Debra Humphrey,
 DVM
 Doug and Julie Hyde
 Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy
 Ralph and Susan Joest
 Grant John
 Beck Johnson
 Lara Johnson
 Greg Kalik
 Kurt Kellermeyer
 Katherine Kreutziger
 Abbey Kurt
 Mary Kuske
 Rebecca Laird
 Marnie Lang
 Kelly Larson
 Jennifer Libeer

Sarah Luby
 Allison Lundquist
 Megan Mann
 Rosemarie Marsalla
 Gretchen Martens
 Amelia Meyers
 Richard Morado
 Kathleen Morton
 Missy Murray
 Nicole Mustain
 Rebecca Nash
 Lee and Kevin Neenan
 Ellen Neidlinger
 Craig and Abbie Nelson
 Heather Orth
 Deborah Pearson
 Karen Peterson
 Dallas and Amy Polen
 Carol Porter
 Anna Price
 Joe and Nikki Privitera
 Kathryn Pruessner
 David T. and Kim Raden
 Erika Rater
 Rob and Angela Reed
 Michael and Barbara Reynolds
 Mary Judith Robinson
 Chelsea Rohde
 Jessica Rudnick-Kaseff
 Brenda Sanders
 Debra Schneider
 Valerie Schlosser
 Casey Sharp
 Leslie Slaughter
 Sheila Sonnenschein
 Frances Spearman
 David and Lois Steward
 Debra Sullivan
 Abbey Thomas
 Edward and Elizabeth Thompson
 Monica Tiffany
 Ryan P Triggs
 Michelle Trouve
 Maggie Trujillo
 Virginia Trujillo
 Jocelyn Villanueva
 Jim and Jill Wehner
 Mary Wier
 Jill Wiggins
 Ann Wilkinson
 Spencer and Amanda Wood

The Provident Society

An estate or planned gift can help you touch the future. The following friends of the agency have named The Family Conservancy in their will or estate plans.

Albert "Ace" and Molly Bean
 Bob and Alissa Glaser
 Bob and Kathy Rogers
 David and Julie Shafer
 Dennis and Cindy Reynolds
 Dick and Mary Linna Woods
 Erin Brower and Matt Gauldin
 Frank and Barbara Haar
 Frank L. Hall for Provident
 Association Charitable Trust
 Jerry and Jeannie Nunn
 Jim Pyle and Diane Doran
 Joe and Betsy Vander Velde
 Martha Comment

Randy and Leeann Blundell
 Richard and Linda Nixon
 Ruth L. and William F.
 Warmington Memorial
 Patricia A. Lloyd Foundation
 Terry and Linda Ward



Anne Yarnell
 Rebecca Yocum

Donors of Merchandise & Services

Amigoni Urban Winery
 Linda Arnold
 B & B Theatres
 Claudia J. Baker and Joseph B.
 Hallauer
 Dennis J. and Elizabeth Barnett
 Beauty Brands
 Tracy Benteen
 Bijin Salon and Spa
 Black & Veatch Employees
 Olushola Bodie
 Breakout KC
 Brew for Books Attendees
 Brigabon Candy Co
 Brotherhood Bank & Trust
 Buffalo Lodge
 Char Bar
 Circle Sideways
 Claridge Court
 Compass Minerals
 Constructive Playthings
 Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurant
 Cordish Company
 CRB Kansas City
 Ken Davis and Cheryl Carpenter-

Davis
 Earthen Vessel Handmade
 Jessica Endaya
 Fine Folk Shop + Studio
 Fiorella's Jack Stack Barbecue
 First Book
 Fitform Pilates
 Foxy Hardware
 Frankly Basic
 Garmin International
 Girl Scouts of NE Kansas and NW
 Missouri
 Goody Tickets
 James and Tiffany Goudy
 Grand St. Cafe
 Stephen and Kristin Graue
 Green Leaf Massage Therapy
 Mary Gunter
 David F. and Laure Guyot
 Hallmark Cards, Inc.
 Hallmark Corporate Foundation
 Hammerpress
 Cherie Meyer and Joe Harmon
 Renee and Brian Herrmann
 Horizon Elementary
 Miranda Horrell
 Kansas City Power & Light Co.
 Kansas City Repertory Theatre
 Kansas City Steak Company

Kansas City T-Bones Baseball Club
 KC Threads
 KU Athletics
 Lanmou Chocolates
 Little Freshie
 Lost and Found Design
 MARC
 Julie and Brian Matlage
 Matthew Keller Design
 May We Fly
 Chris and Diandra Meyers
 Milton Eyeware
 Mission Sewing Group of Village Church
 Missouri Botanical Garden
 Jocelyn Mourning
 Museum at Prairiefire
 Nick and Becky Nash
 Hubert and Barbara Neth
 Notes to Self
 Our Sassy Pantry
 Owen/Cox Dance Company
 Ashley Peaches
 Lori Peaches
 Peruvian Connection, LLC
 Pinstripes
 Pizza 51
 Powell Gardens
 Project 39 Volunteers
 PRP Wine International
 PT's Coffee
 QuikTrip Corporation - Kansas City Division
 Raw Power Yoga & Fitness
 Refresh Medical Day Spa
 República - Bread & Butter Concepts
 Jovanna Rohs
 Maggie Ross
 Shine Candle Co.
 Silpada Designs, Inc.
 SPC Portrait Art
 Spin! Pizza
 Starlight Theatre
 State Street
 Students at Turner Elementary
 Sweet Kiss Brigadeiro
 Tom Syverson and Sandra Willsie
 Taco Republic
 Tammy Smith Design
 The Gents Place

Continued from page 12

...since the infancy of the *Talk, Read, Play* initiative, In fact, it was thanks to funding from the Village Church Missions Committee that the campaign received a kick start in 2012.

Over the past three years, they've worked to improve literacy in Kansas City — reaching thousands of parents and children across the Kansas City Metro with a simple, powerful message: *Talk, Read, Play with your child every day.*

"It's a simple message," explains volunteer Marilyn Borel, "You are your child's first teacher, you can really affect change in this child's readiness to start school if you simply talk, read and play. You don't need to have to plan, just do it throughout the day — as you drive to school or at bath time."

You may think the whole idea of talking, reading and playing is common sense, but that's not always the case. "I've had people, you can tell by the look on their face, that have never thought about talking to their infant or toddler," commented volunteer Gail Arther.

The group of consists of about 20 members, who are willing to do whatever it takes. They attend school open houses, conduct classes to demonstrate parent-child activities, provide one-on-one reading sessions through a mentorship program and partner with other churches and schools to deliver books and their important message.

The Kansas City Chiefs
 The Polished Edge Fine Jewelry
 The Vintage House
 Pat and Sarah Thelen
 Toys for Tots
 Transform Barre & Pilates
 UMB Bank
 UPS
 Betsy and Joe Vander Velde
 Village Presbyterian
 Waddell & Reed Financial, Inc
 Waldo Pizza
 Dr. John and Mrs. Waldron
 Christi and Kevin Weaver
 Archie and Teresa Wesley
 Neila and Marshall Whitt

William Grant & Sons Inc
 XIKAR, Inc.
 Yelp

Mother of All Happy Hours

The Mother of all Happy Hours is an annual donation drive that collects items for struggling families with small children.

Area volunteers host "Happy Hour" parties, inviting friends to donate items like diapers, wipes and detergent.

In 2015, hosts collected 16,335 diapers, 40,328 baby wipes, 5,629 loads of detergent, toys, clothes and more.



The Betty Jeanne Hess and Arthur Weaver Robinson Fund

The Betty Jeanne Hess and Arthur Weaver Robinson Fund is an endowed fund restricted to support the core infrastructure needs of The Family Conservancy. Betsy Vander Velde established this fund in memory of her mother and father, in order to support children and families in the metro for years to come.

Dan and Pam Adams
 Carolee Atha
 John W. and Cindy Ballard, III
 David and Virginia Bondurant
 Prudence Brito
 Becki Carroll
 Martha Connell
 Terry and Patricia D'Amore
 John A. and Nancy Dillingham
 Arthur J. and Carolyn Elman
 Mark and Anne Emert
 Margaret and William Fetter
 Barbara Friedmann
 Jeanne Gorman
 Mary Gosney
 Stephen and Kristin Graue
 Phillip and Heather Gudgel
 Mary Gunter
 Hartley Family Foundation
 John and Mary Higdon
 Ted and Kimbrough Bean Higgins, Jr.
 Ruth Hinsdale
 Caroline Howard
 James and Susan Hubbard
 Gary and Joy Jones
 Robert B. Jones, Ph.D

J R. and Ruth Majors
 Gretchen Martens
 John McConnell
 Luann Meeker
 Chris and Diandra Meyers
 Rhonda Mordy
 Jocelyn Mourning
 Missy Murray
 Charles and Sally Neal
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 Morris J. and Jeannie Nunn
 Carol Perry Davis
 Nicholas Powell
 David T. and Kim Raden
 Mary Judith Robinson
 Maggie Ross
 Robert O. and Carla Schock
 Dr. Robert Shears
 Robert D. and Betty Shuttee
 SkillBuilders Fund
 Arthur and Barbara Stern
 Carol Trammell
 William D. and Janet Wheaton
 Richard D. and Mary Linna Woods
 Joan Yanjun Pu

LEADERSHIP

Board of Directors and Executive Team

2015 Board of Directors

Executive Committee

Michael Luby, Chair
Neila Whitt
Dennis Barnett
Julie Matlage
Stephen Nixon
Amanda Keller
Larry Lerner

Members

Anthony Andrews	Brian Dunn	Ryan Patton
Sara Anthony	Joe Harmon	Jovanna Rohs
Don Ash	Renee Herrmann	Maggie Ross
Tracy Benteen	Vercie Lark	Pat Thelen
Olushola Bodie	Phillip McKnight	Cami Walker
Erin Brower	Nick Nash	Christi Weaver
Cheryl Carpenter-Davis	Sandra Olivas	Matt Webb
		Archie Wesley

Executive Staff

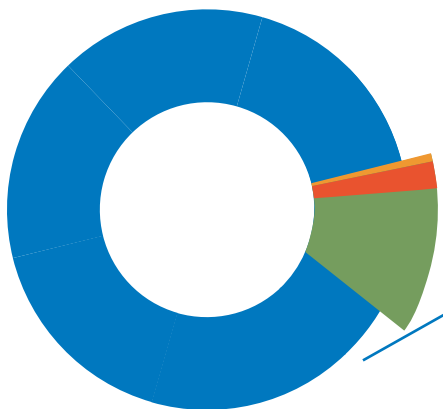
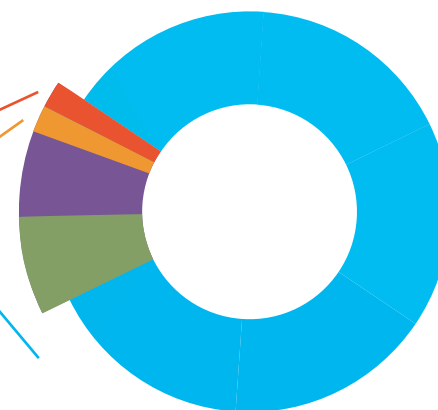
Dean Olson, President and CEO
Paula Neth, Vice President of Programs
Kristin Graue, Vice President of Administration and Finance (retired 2015)
Christopher Potthast, Vice President of Administration and Finance
Jocelyn Mourning, Vice President of Development and Communications
President and CEO Emeritus - Betsy Vander Velde
Executive Director Emeritus - JR Majors

FINANCIALS

Agency Revenue and Expenses

Revenue

Investments	\$-23,514 (-0.17%)
Fees	\$227,673 (1.66%)
Contributions/Events	\$257,780 (1.88%)
United Way	\$785,307 (5.73%)
Grants	\$779,660 (5.69%)
Government	\$11,687,406 (85.22%)
Total Revenue	\$13,714,312



Expenses

Community Awareness	\$146,355 (1.06%)
Fundraising	\$301,295 (2.19%)
General & Administration	\$1,139,428 (8.29%)
Programs & Services	\$12,159,069 (88.45%)
Total Expenses	\$13,746,147



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