STATE OF KANSAS)
WYANDOTTE COUNTY)) SS
CITY OF KANSAS CITY, KS)

SPECIAL MEETING, THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2024

The Unified Government Commission of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, met in Special Meeting, Thursday, May 30, 2024, with nine members present: Bynum, Commissioner At-Large First District; Burns, Commissioner Second District; Ramirez, Commissioner Third District; Hill, Commissioner Fourth District; Kane, Commissioner Fifth District; Lopez, Commissioner Sixth District; Stites, Commissioner Seventh District; Davis, Commissioner Eighth District; and Garner, Mayor/CEO; presiding. Burroughs, Commissioner At-Large Second District; and Townsend, Commissioner First District; were absent. The following officials were also in attendance: David Johnston, County Administrator; Angela Lawson, Interim Chief Counsel (entered at 6:28 p.m.); Alan Howze, Assistant County Administrator; Casey Meyer, Senior Counsel; Shelley Kneuvean, Chief Financial Officer; Debbie Jonscher, Deputy Chief Financial Officer; and Monica L. Sparks, Interim Unified Government Clerk.

Mayor Garner said before I call the meeting to order I want to announce that we do have individuals attending remotely as well as on-site. All participants joining by phone, should please mute their phones at this time when not speaking to avoid background noise. During the meeting, make sure you announce yourself by name when called upon and title every time you speak so the public that is participating knows exactly who is speaking. This is critical given the number of remote participants and is also current guidance from the Kansas Attorney General’s Office. Please make sure to speak clearly and at an audible level into the microphone to ensure that your comments are heard and an accurate record of the meeting can be made.

Mayor Garner called the meeting to order.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, to be conducted in a hybrid format on Thursday, May 30, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the Fifth Floor Conference Room of the Municipal Office Building for a presentation regarding ARPA updates and end of winter warming shelter updates. Immediately following, there will be an

Executive Session regarding Litigation. Roll call was taken and there were nine "Ayes," Kane, Lopez, Stites, Davis, Bynum, Burns, Ramirez, Hill, Garner.

CONSENT TO MEETING of the governing body of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, accepting service of the foregoing notice, waiving all and any irregularities in such service and in such notice, and consent and agree that we, the governing body, shall meet at the time and place therein specified and for the purpose therein stated.

Mayor Garner said I will now turn it over to our County Administrator, David Johnson, and he will take the meeting from this point.

David Johnston, County Administrator, said Alan, do you want to start with the warming shelter please.

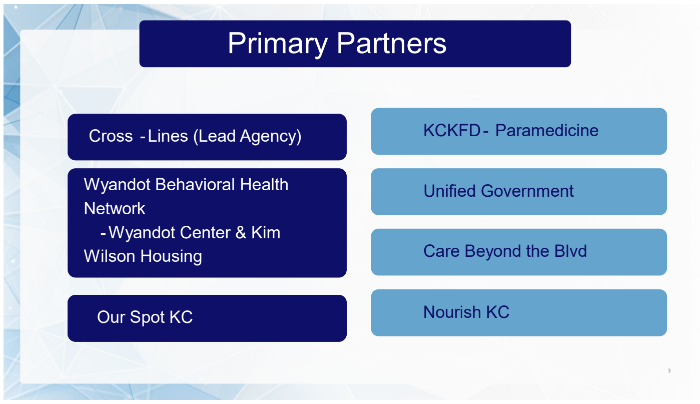
Alan Howze, Assistant County Administrator, said you'll hear first the report on this year's winter warming shelter. It's an effort that has gone on for the last four years and it saved kind of life and limb and every year it has gotten tighter in terms of the coordination and collaboration locally and regionally. Cross-Lines is our operator and I'll ask them to come forward to the table.

I also want to kind of recognize a couple of UG staff who were heavily involved in this. I appreciate the role of KCK Fire, Chief Rubin's willingness to step forward and especially community paramedic, Jessica Crouse, who showed up every time the shelter was opened to provide on-site medical care and our Community Development team. Yvette Miller has really lead the effort on funding, identifying funding, as well as our Budget team, so it really has been kind of a team effort. With that, I'm going to turn it over to Susila Jones, Executive Director of Cross-Lines.

Susila Jones, Executive Director of Cross-Lines, said I'm glad to be here today. With me is Rob Santel. We are going to give you an overview of the shelter activities this year as we seen it both in successes and the challenges we face. I'm going to turn it over to my colleague Rob.

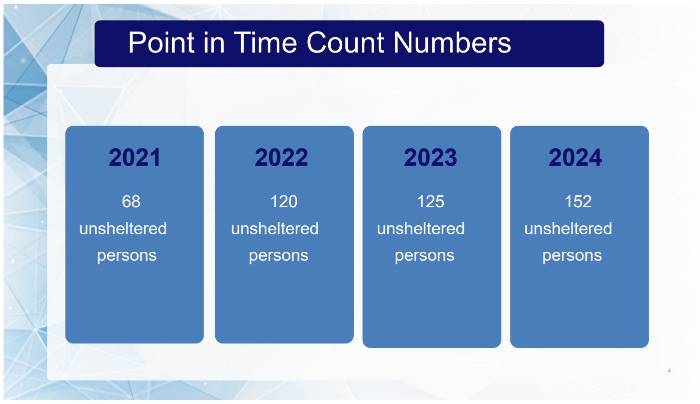
Rob Santel, Director of Program for Cross-Lines, said I would like to echo what Alan said about the Unified Government staff that helped support this. This project was supported by the group of people within the UG that were helping us in the planning process, but the actual operations of it was helpfully implemented by having the Health Department staff and then even while we were operating the shelter we did have KCK Fire Department that was present nearly every night that we were open and the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department were also extremely supportive in their Community Policing Office as well as their co-responders.

There is a video about the shelter. I won't labor you with that this evening, but you can access that. It kind of gives you an overview of that project and the community collaboration to help make that possible.



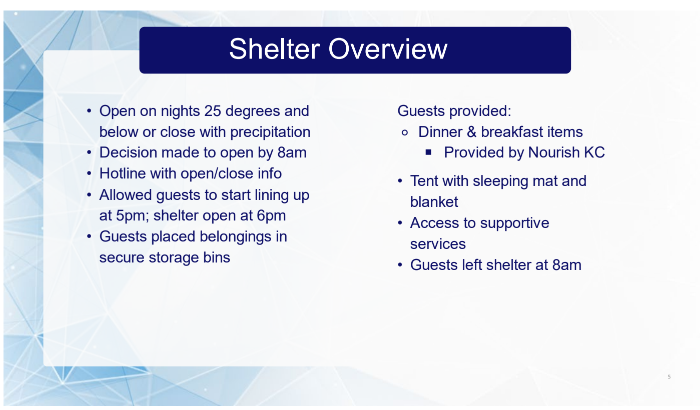
We are the lead agency for this project, but we do not take credit for this project. This project is only happening here in Wyandotte County because of the collaborations of the providers that are coming together to make sure that this can happen. We have a strong partnership with Wyandotte Behavioral Health Network, both Wyandotte Center & Kim Wilson Housing, in supporting the behavioral health pieces and substance use recovery and long-term housing support for folks that are experiencing homelessness. Our Spot KC, they're a LGBTQ run agency and work with LGBTQ youth that are experiencing homelessness and a distinctive part of this project that we are extremely proud of is all of the laundry needs that we had every night. There were logistic challenges to getting that laundry done because we're only open on nights that it was 25 and below and we couldn't always prepare for that, but that laundry need was taken care of by Our Spot KC. Their students would come in, they would gather the laundry, they would take it to Leah's Laundromat and then bring those laundered items back in, so it was also an employment piece for them providing engagement with those youth and getting them connected to this work as well.

Again, the Paramedicine Program through KCK Fire Department was extremely helpful. Care Beyond the Boulevard, they're an organization that provides medical care for folks that are experiencing homelessness on the streets and at least three or four different times that we were open they came in and did a clinic and kind of saw wraparound supports for individuals, help escalate them to higher levels of care if that was needed. Then, we did partner with Nourish KC for all the food, so they provided that nearly every night that we were open.



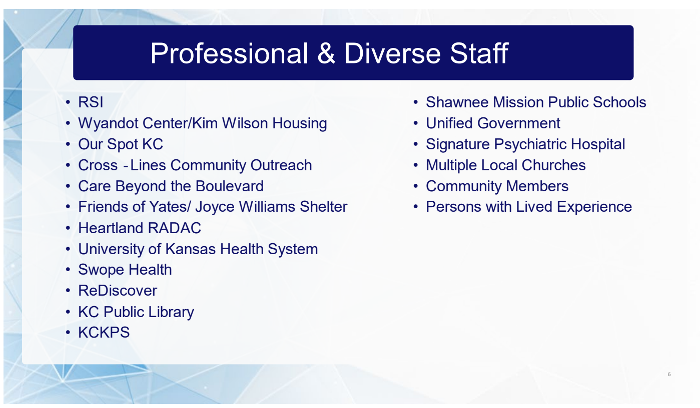
I want to direct your attention to the Point in Time Count Numbers. If you've heard me present before, you've heard me talk about the Point in Time Count. It's an annual census that we do, folks that are experiencing homelessness at any given point. We always choose a day in January, the coldest month, and during a 24-hour period of time we want to try to capture every person that is experiencing homelessness.

The data shows that in 2021 we had about 68 unsheltered persons, so these are persons that are sleeping outside on that night or a place that's not meant for human habitation. In 2022, that number dramatically increased to about 120 and in 2023 it was somewhat consistent with 125 and this last year we did see an increase up to 152 unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness here in Wyandotte County alone.

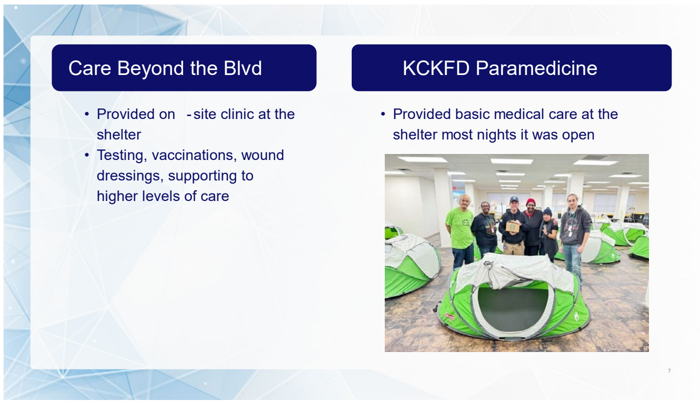


When you look at the Shelter Overview, it's open on nights when it's 25 degrees and below. There were some times when there was precipitation or rain or things like that or snow and we did make accommodations for us to be open. We make that decision by 8 a.m. each morning and then there is a hotline number that we activate that says yes the shelter is open or no the shelter is closed. Guests start lining up about 5 p.m. and then they can enter the shelter at 6 p.m. When guests come in, they put all their belongings into a storage tote that we then zip tie closed. It's twofold, partly to make sure that there is a security component that nothing is coming into the shelter that could potentially be dangerous, but it's also a security piece for the individuals that are accessing the shelter. Those guests know that their belongings will be secured for the evening and won't be stolen. There's a lot of theft that does happen when people do access shelters.

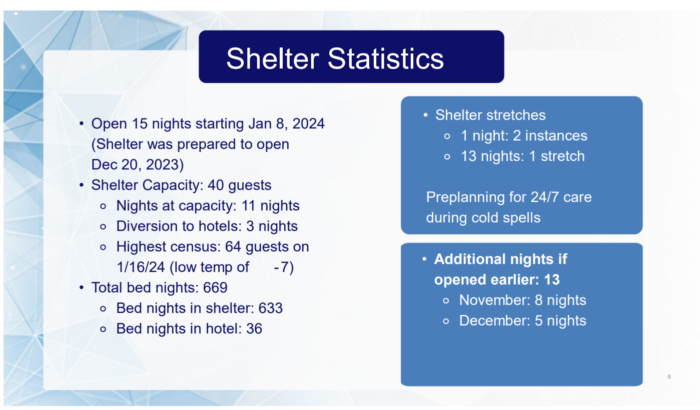
When they arrive they're given a dinner as well as breakfast items before they leave. We do have tents. If you see pictures of the shelter, you'll notice that tent piece. That was a COVID mitigation that we instilled when this project was first kind of operationalized by the partners and then we've realized that has significant impact on the behavioral health pieces as well. People are given a sense of dignity, a sense of security by being in a tent. That has made a huge difference for us and so that's part of the reason why those tents are there. We put a sleeping mat in it as well as a blanket. Another distinctive piece is having access to supportive services. We'll talk about that in a minute, but those supportive service pieces are extremely critical to the shelter operations and then guests left at 8 a.m. each morning.



We did have a very diverse staffing for the shelter. You can see this listing here and this list is not fully comprehensive. There are others as well, but you can tell that part of this project—the success of this project is due to the inclusion of staff that are coming from a diverse and wide array of experiences, both professionals that work in the field, many whom already know the significant part of the population that we're serving, but other people with lived experience, community members and really engaging those pieces. Most every profit that is touching homelessness in Wyandotte County is connected to this project in some way, either supporting it by making sure that their clients are accessing the shelter, but we have a very strong network of communication and collaboration here. That is very important and I will say on that note too, we have done presentations across the state and there are other communities that are looking to us here in Wyandotte County for how we are doing the shelter work and wanting to implement that in their own community. So, we are—I don't—I love to brag, but we are doing really good things here that other people are recognizing.



Again, I already talked a little bit about Care Beyond the Boulevard, the KCK Fire Department, and you'll notice in this picture we have the co-responder from KCKPD, and they came in several of the mornings. Mornings were sometimes the more chaotic piece of folks exiting back into the cold and so we having those crisis folks on staff was extremely helpful as well.

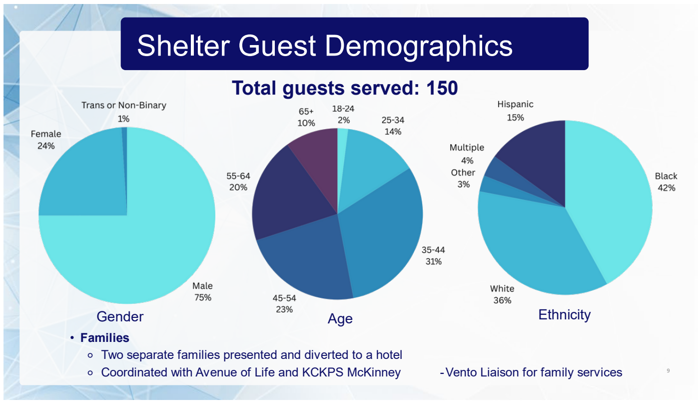


Here's a few statistics. We were open 15 nights and if you'll remember, the beginning of this year was exceptionally warm. It was one of the warmest winters that we've had here in Kansas City. I will say that we need to make sure that we're not making decisions in the future based on this winter because the other winters that we've experienced have had significantly more nights that we've been open, but this year we were open 15 nights. We did get everything set and ready because we were able to access that building on December 1st and by December 20th it was ready to go, but we didn't have any cold nights until January 8th and that was an extremely long stretch. You'll remember that kind of artic blast that came in through Kansas City.

The capacity of the shelter is at 40 and we hit that capacity 11 of the nights that we were open, so a significant number of those nights we were already at capacity. We would increase that capacity and also increase staffing on those nights because we want to make sure the people are inside and not outside and some of those nights that we were at our capacity, the highest we did divert some individuals to hotels. You'll notice that on January 16th there was a low temperature of -7 that evening and we did have 64 guests either in hotels or in the shelter piece. The hotel piece, sometimes it's asked why don't we just put people in hotels. Not every guest that we serve will be successful in a hotel and so that is a piece where we have to make sure who are the folks that are an appropriate fit to be in that kind of hotel setting. So, those are kind of those nights listed out here.

We did have a 13 night stretch and then we had kind of one nights that were elsewhere. During the artic kind of blast that we had, there was some preplanning that was happening and more preplanning going into the future winters will be important to make sure that we have 24/7 places for people to be inside during those times. That artic temperature, if you're in the—even outside waiting for more than 10 minutes, you can be exposed to frostbite and all those other pieces and so making sure that we have places for people to go during the day especially when there is snow and inclement weather, the library is not a place because they are closing off. So, we need to make sure that we have places outlined for people at all times during the day during those extreme days.

Before we were able to get the shelter up and running, there were 8 nights in November and 5 nights in December that would have met our criteria to be open had we not been open. We did experience some cold weather deaths here in Wyandotte County and those did occur in that late part of November and when cold temperatures were coming as well. I'm not aware of any other cold weather deaths that occurred after the shelter was able to be open.



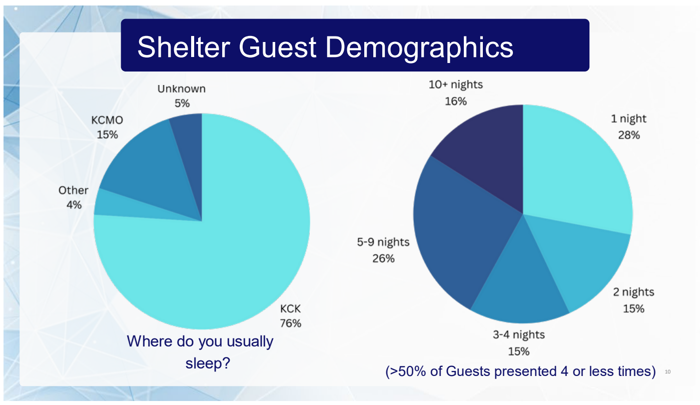
Here's a few demographic pieces just for your interests. Of those 15 nights that we were open we served 150 unique individuals, so that means 150 people accessed these services here in Wyandotte County amongst those 15 nights. You'll notice the gender piece is what we already know, about 75% male, 24% female and we are an inclusive shelter as well, so making sure that we are providing the space that is accessible for all persons, especially varying identifies, and so that is reflective in the guests that we did have stay in our shelter.

The age piece; I would like to draw your attention to if you look to kind of the left-hand side towards the top under age, you'll notice 20% between 55-64 and 10% 65 & up. So, that means 30% of the shelter guests were over 55. This is the trend that we're seeing across America and we call it the grain of homelessness, so folks that are falling into homelessness in that age category. It's extremely challenging and disturbing and we want to make sure that we are targeting resources and support for that population. We also had a few youth that showed up as well.

There's also the ethnicity breakdown. You see 42% Black, 36% White, 15% Hispanic. These numbers do not reflect the demographics of Wyandotte County as a whole, so we have to address that disparity, especially of Black men in our community that are experiencing homelessness in the long-term historical pieces that have led to that and continue with that today. So, that's important.

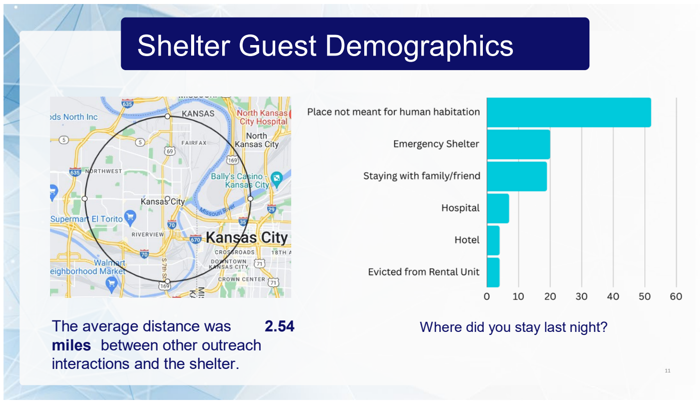
We only serve adults. We did have two different families that showed up at the shelter and we were able to partner with Avenue of Life and the KCK Public Schools to make sure that those households would be able to be diverted to another location or placed for that evening as well as get connected to wraparound support. One of those families is now in permanent housing and have been in permanent housing about two weeks after that incident and had been in a hotel during all of that stay and that's a huge success for the shelter.

Also, under age, one piece that I didn't put on here is the number of people over the age of 70. That is a disturbing number. We had one individual that was 78 years old, had significant barriers to finding housing and I can report to you now that individual is in permanent housing and is doing quite well.



We ask people where do you usually sleep. We try to get an idea, okay, are these folks—these 150 people are they coming from KCK or are they coming from outside of our community and accessing our shelter. We found that 76% of those individuals are here from KCK and that's consistent with our experience at Cross-Lines and through our Street Outreach efforts is the number of people that are falling into homelessness are falling into homelessness because they have lived here in KCK and are already here. We have only 15% coming from KCMO and we were able to work with providers in KCMO to make sure that those individuals were connected back to those projects and port of services in KCMO. So, the narrative around this increase of people coming from outside of our community is not correct. We find that the vast majority of folks that are experiencing homelessness here are from KCK.

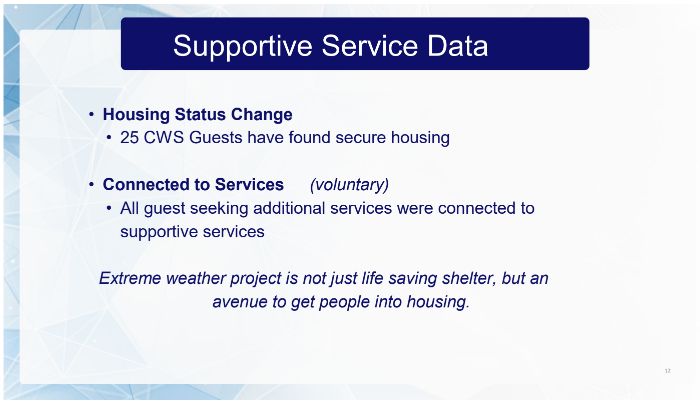
On the right-hand side, looking at the number of nights that a guest stayed, we had half of the guests, more than half of the guests were presenting four times or less and that indicates that a lot of folks are falling into homelessness during the wintertime and this is catching them and also connecting them back into those supports. So, helping them tap into their natural family supports, whatever that might look like, helping them connect in with permanent housing or other resources, but most of the guests that we're presenting only came to us a night or two and that is a significant piece as well.



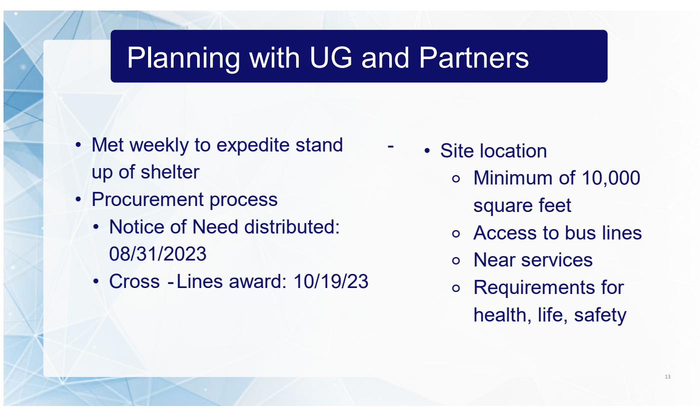
We have a data tracking system. It's called Show The Way that we use it. It's GO Location Services for our homeless outreach efforts and with that effort we found that when you look at the outreach interactions an individual has had in the past and then when they showed up to present at the shelter, the average miles that a person was coming to the shelter from was 2.54 miles.

We also asked where did you stay last night and the vast majority of folks are staying in places not meant for human habitation. There are a few people that were staying in shelter where they had been in a different shelter, so some of our folks that were experiencing homelessness here in Wyandotte County had to go to a different community to access shelter and then on the nights that we were open came back to Wyandotte County to access shelter here, so there was some of that. Some people were staying with family and friends and were unable to return that evening they showed up.

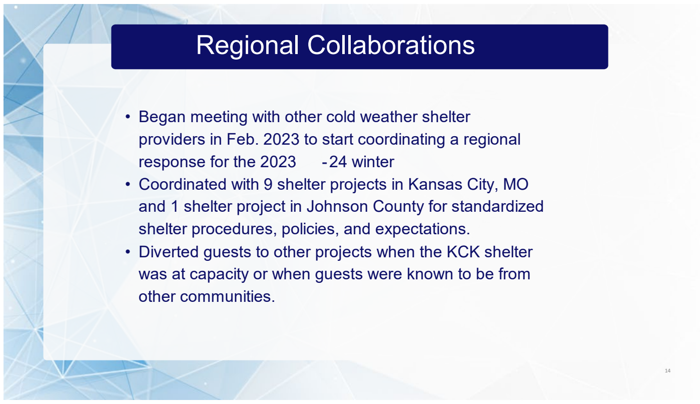
The biggest piece—not the biggest, but the most concerning part is that a lot of folks are getting discharged from a hospital. Many times they're showing up to us with higher levels of care needs than we're able to provide and it's trying to navigate what those pieces look like. The last piece here, the evicted from rental unit. We did find several people, most of them were seniors that had been evicted that day from their housing and were accessing shelter because of that eviction.



A component of this that we are most proud of is that while this is a lifesaving shelter and it is, and as Alan said, providing support from injury for cold weather injury to limbs or even death, we are also an avenue to getting people into housing. So, we have at least 25 individuals that we know of that has been able to secure housing through the work of our navigators in the community, both at Cross-Lines and other workers in the community as well, and that all guests that were coming to the shelter were able to connect to supportive services of some kind if they were interested. That was voluntary, but it required someone to be connected to those services, but that was available.

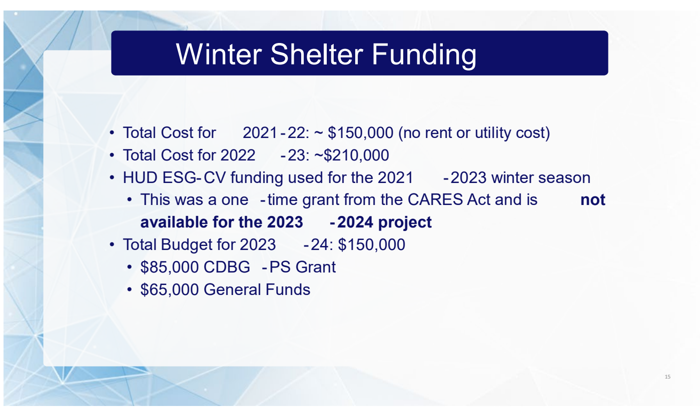


We did meet with the UG pretty consistently to make sure this project could happen, so there was a procurement process, a Notice of Need, we did respond to that Notice of Need and were awarded that contract. When we look at a location, these are some of the things on the right-hand side that we're looking for, so a space or a site that can have at least 10,000 square feet, have accessibility to the bus lines, be connected to services or be near in proximity to those services, and then requirements for health, life, and safety of that space.



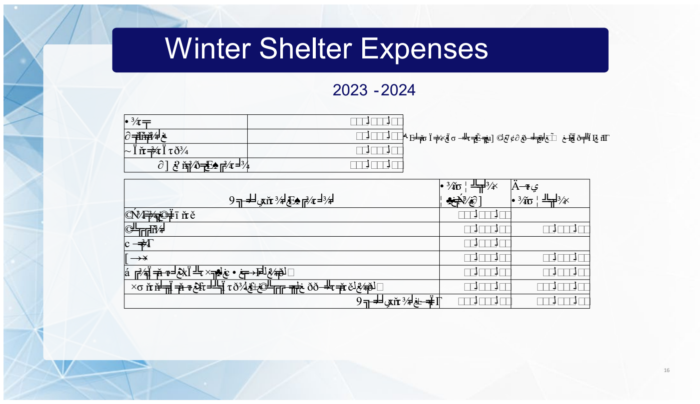
This year I'm very proud that we were able to have some strong regional collaborations so we worked with the city of Kansas City, Missouri who had really invested in cold weather operations this winter. We actually started meeting at the KCK cold weather shelter before we tore it down last winter or two winters ago. So, we were planning for this last winter for almost an entire year and we're working with projects on the Missouri side as well as projects in Johnson County making sure that we had standardized shelter procedures, policies, expectations, and then also lines of communication between the two. So, we did find that if someone was coming from outside of our community, we were able to connect them back to those other providers and have that kind of in real time.

I'll let Susila talk a little bit about the funding.



Ms. Jones said this is just an overview of the previous year's funding where Cross-Lines has been involved with the shelter. 2021-22 the cost was $150,000. That did not include rent or utilities. That was the year that we were at the Reardon Center, so those costs were not incurred. Two seasons ago was $210,000. Both of those years were covered primarily by CARES dollars and so were not available for us going to this season.

Thanks to the staff of the UG, specifically Yvette, to really hone in on what dollars could be used and through the budgetary process this year, we were granted $150,000 for the project. CDBG dollars covered $85,000 and $65,000 was allocated through General Funds.



This is our actual cost. This year we were under budget so the top lines you'll see for rent, utilities and maintenance. That was paid directly by the UG so Cross-Lines was not part of those. I believe John Kelly was able to negotiate with BPU to have a lower BPU cost, which is very appreciative and then the maintenance for the building.

The lower portion is what you'll see what Cross-Lines was reimbursed by the UG and what those direct costs were. Staffing is by far the largest expense. This is actually a lower number than previous years because we were open fewer nights, so staffing is where we're going to see fluctuation in budgets from year to year based on how many days we're open. The supplies, hotels, food and other costs.

On the right you'll see what Cross-Lines costs were that we incurred that were not reimbursed. The UG portion was right—was under the $150,000 that was set-aside, which I think is a win. As we move forward, we will have to look at—supply costs will probably increase. We did not invest in new tents or bedding this year, so as we move forward, supplies will be an area that we're probably going to need to look for further allocations.

In addition to what is not shown here, is also the in-kind support of our other agency partners, so both Wyandotte Center, Care Beyond the Boulevard also contributed to this project, which is not reflective here as well as a lot of the in-kind donations for both food, clothing, and other supplies. So, overall we were very happy. We were able to save money this year. That was a benefit to all of us.

I would defer to Yvette if she has anything else to add on the budget. I do want to appreciate Yvette for her work. She makes sure that we're all following the areas that we need to and just appreciate the work that she does to make sure that this has happened successfully.

I do believe that is what we have for our presentation. I do just want to remind that this is saving life and limb. I think many of us remember that even people who went to the Chiefs game lost limbs this year and folks that were on the street didn't have as much resources, so we were able to make sure that people stayed safe and then in the end, as Rob said, many of those folks are now into permanent housing. We appreciate the continued support of the UG, of our partners, to make sure that this has happened.

Commissioner Ramirez said I just want to thank Cross-Lines and all the community partners who work together to put this on. This is amazing work. It shows that it is working. As you mentioned in the presentation, 25 individuals now have permanent housing. This is a subject near and dear to my heart. I always say whenever we have the discussion, you know, our homeless population, they are still human. They are still residents of this city and county and they should be treated as such, so I thank you for all the work that you do.

This warming shelter is just a band-aid, it's not the cure. We have a long way to go and so as long as I'm here I'm ready to help in any way, shape or form, but thank you for all that you do.

Commissioner Hill said I just want to say thank you also. I had a chance to visit your cold weather shelter this winter. It was clean and I could just tell it was very well organized. I appreciate what you and the other volunteer organizations as well as community members are doing to help those that are less fortunate than ourselves. Thank you for your work.

Commissioner Burns said there's two other of us that are new on the Commission and you didn't give an address of where you're talking about. **Mr. Santel** said I can answer that. We were at 550 State Avenue for the last two winters. **Commissioner Burns** asked, are there adjoining neighbors around there? **Mr. Santel** said there are businesses on the south side of that street and then caddy-corner from it and then the federal courthouse is also next to that.

Ms. Jones said I would add that we know that location will not be available to us this coming year, so as we are moving forward with talk soon, we will have to identify another location. So, we do know that there's a tenant in that location and it will not be available to us.

Commissioner Burns said I also saw in there that 76% are Wyandotte County residents. Correct me if I'm wrong, but I'm speaking for the constituents that I represent, their concern that Wyandotte County is becoming a magnet for these poor people and I sympathize with their situation. I don't mean to be rash about it, but there is a concern that the more we help, the more are coming and I just want to know your opinion about that. **Ms. Santel** said I can touch that. This is a national problem that every city is dealing with, with this increase of folks experiencing homelessness. This is kind of across the board and so to that point, if we know someone is coming from out of our community, our hope is to get them connected back to that other place. So, there were at least four or five different individuals that we gave bus tickets to, to go back to their home community of origin. So, that did happen consistently that we were trying to make sure that wherever they were coming from that they were connected back to those supports. We have not seen necessarily that Kansas City is becoming a magnet. We're finding that people are falling into homelessness here locally is the biggest challenge.

Mr. Santel said, Mayor, can I say one more thing? **Mayor Garner** said yes, go ahead. **Mr. Santel** said we are planning to do a bus tour on June 21st, so we are inviting all of you. I'll send information to you later this week, but also legislators, we're inviting them to do this lunch and learn tour. We've been working with United Community Services out of Johnson County. They've been doing kind of these bus tours all around the state and they've decided they wanted to come here to Wyandotte County and we think it's a great idea and we've decided to do a bus tour. So, we want to show you kind of what the ecosystem of homeless services looks like here in Wyandotte County and that partnerships and collaborations that are working with each other to make sure that this is happening as well as some of the options like Eden Village which is a solution for folks experiencing homelessness. We'll invite you all to that to experience those other providers that we're working with as well.

Mayor Garner said when I first met you all I believe there was a little miscommunication, which is fine. I was a brand new Mayor, but I had looked at what Mayor Bloomberg had done when he became a new Mayor and there was a facility similar that dealt with the homeless population. One of the things he acknowledged and recognized, and he actually shut that facility down, I'm not saying that's what I wanted to do, but he shut it down and identified a better location with enhanced wraparound services. I believe that coming out of my first interaction with you, I can say that I am extremely pleased on your progress because after that initial interaction with me, I don't think you all knew a lot about me, but I was on the Housing Authority Board. I worked for the Housing Authority in Kansas City, Missouri as well, plus I was at one time over the Community Policing Unit and we dealt a lot and interacted with our unhoused population trying to get them the type of services that they needed.

The unhoused and our indigent population has always been a value to me because they are our residents, but what I can say is that I believe I had a special meeting after that initial interaction. One of the things that came out of that was the lack of transparency, education as far as interaction with our neighborhoods, but what I can say, as you all have progressed to this point today I'm very pleased that as you have grown into providing this service, the transparency is on point. The education is on point. The information given to our neighborhoods and our neighborhood groups is on point. Your sharing this information with this body and answering these questions is on point and those were the things that I was looking for, but more importantly, the wraparound services because some of the initial questions I had asked concerned me about what were the wraparound services that were there. My concern wasn't so much for the service you provided as opposed to making sure it was the right service provided to our residents to make sure that they had the right wraparound services in that facility.

I think it was a learning experience for myself as well as for you all and I'm glad to see that you all have partnered to make sure the best you can with limited resources and limited funds to try and provide those wraparound services for that population. The collaboration is really on point and thank you for being involved in the task force. That's even more important because I think those relationships have been key as well.

These are questions and I will go through them, but is there any process for determining an assessment needs of these individuals as—okay. Number one what are their needs so you can stabilize them? That's something I learned when I went to San Antonio and looked at their facility and then what services are you looking at or do you provide to stabilize them and then the biggest determining factor is, do you all look at why they're homeless in the first place and why that's so important is because I think it's incumbent upon all of us to try and find out how these individuals got into the situation they're in. Then, trying to get them from some point of poverty to self-sustainability and so that's the first question.

This next question goes in line with Commissioner Burns. That's a concern from people that I've heard especially when you talk about Wyandotte County tax dollars is making sure that we prioritize our residents. When you look at Wyandotte County we have almost 20% of our individuals living in poverty and then you add on top of that our homelessness of population and there is a huge migration. You can talk to any Community Police Officer that deals with homelessness. You can also talk to a lot of the service providers, even yourself. A lot of that has to do with the state of Missouri and some of the legislative actions that they've taken and so we're seeing a migration to Wyandotte County as well as Johnson County. I believe Lenexa as well as the county of Johnson have also looked at opening facilities to address the concern as well. When we talk about that, I believe you all did mention that you kind of triage too or you're looking to enhance and build upon that and so I was glad to see that.

The other big thing and the third question is, I know that we talk about the detrimental effects of the weather has on these individuals, getting them out of the cold, giving them a warm place to sleep, and making sure they have a hot meal and it's a safe place for them to rest comfortably, which is great. But if it's 10 degrees at night and it's 10 degrees in the morning and we release these individuals, they still have the risk of exposure that is no different from the evening. So, I'm willing to work with you all and, hopefully, identify maybe even with the task force, what do we do to accommodate these individuals beyond the hours of 8 a.m. when they're back out on the street?

Then, even more so, I believe the last time I've talked to one of you is, if Tyrone Garner is homeless and I've got a bed, I start from zero and I've got to get back in line and hope that I get a bed that following night, so I'm literally hanging around in close proximity to the shelter so it's easy for me to traverse to get back to and, hopefully, I can get a place in line to where I can have a place to sleep tonight. I don't know what the solution is for that, but I think that should be a big concern too is if I can get frostbite at night, I can get it in the morning as well and I know that people have died, but I think the risk is similar.

One of the things that I believe that you all know and I believe commissioners know and staff and this is for the general public. One of the things that I'll be recommending is an enhanced Willa Gill Center as we look for a move that will improve the services provided by Willa Gill and also, hopefully, enhance the services to have improved wraparound services to provide all those things that I'm talking about. Maybe extended hours, things that have showers, laundry, mail service, hot meals, job placement opportunities, mental wellness evaluations, limited medical care, expungement programs for those individuals that may need that service, addition referrals or counseling. Those are some of the things that come to mind when we enhance those services that maybe can go on into this new and improved Willa Gill Center wherever it will go and, hopefully, that something could be worked out where the partnership that you have will continue as well as with the extreme weather facility.

I know that funding is always an issue and it's no secret to this Commission and to our staff and probably a lot of our residents that I believe this is a beneficial service of the Unified Government, but it is not in my opinion an essential service of the Unified Government when you talk about what are the basic essential services that most municipalities are required to provide to the public. I believe that one of the goals, and I know that I heard that yesterday in our meeting, is that we want to make sure that we're getting these individuals from some level of poverty to self-sustainability. So, the goal should always be if I was a non-for-profit servicing this population to individuals to eventually service myself out of a job because we're getting close as we can to 100% self-sufficiency of the population that we have. I don't know if that's a goal, but I ask that all our social service agency that they really assist these individuals at least work towards that end.

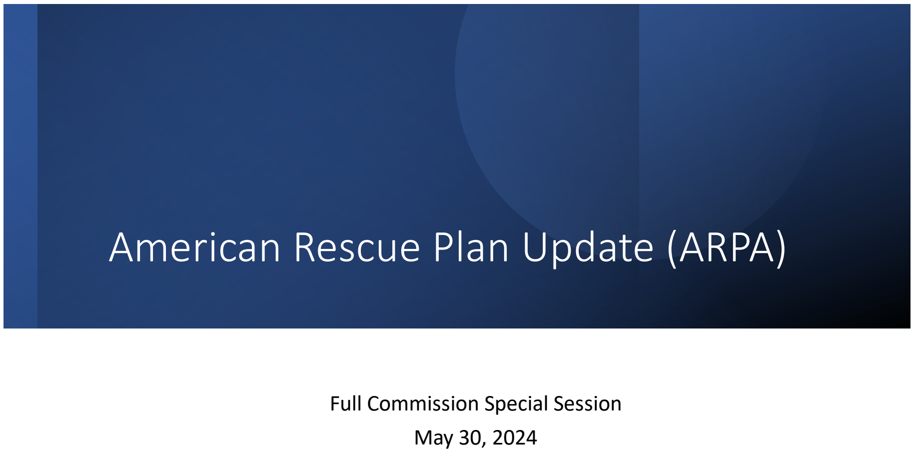
When you talk about funding, one of the recommendations I've given to some of our commissioners and to our Administrator is looking at Casino funds and dedicating it to help with the sustainability of the facility, a potential sales tax. I know I mentioned that to the 4Core group, recommended it. It was partially, I guess accepted, but not fully, but a bi-state sales tax that could really service and provide the financial resources to most of the counties within the Kansas City metropolitan area. So, those are just some of the ideas that I'm thinking and any ideas that you can think of because we want to make sure that if we're going to have these facilities, that they can be sustainable for the long run because we are talking about people's lives.

I did also talk about philanthropic type of program, that maybe we call it Dotte Cares and where we can have the type of programming and events to allow residents, churches, and corporations to pour money into a fund that can be directly allocated to the services that you talked about for your facility.

I was glad to see you talk about housing and the transitional aspect of that because that is really key. It is a problem nationally. I believe I mentioned that to you all yesterday. I've talked to several Mayors and it's not just an isolated problem here in Wyandotte County, the Kansas City metro. It is a national problem and the problem with that problem is nobody that I've talked to in D.C. appears to have a solution that is viable and sustainable that really gets us to the goal of mitigating this crisis in a way that really you can say, okay, we have gauged significant success. Different communities have tried different things. I believe that some have been successful at managing it so it's not as problematic, but it's still a problem just as it is for us.

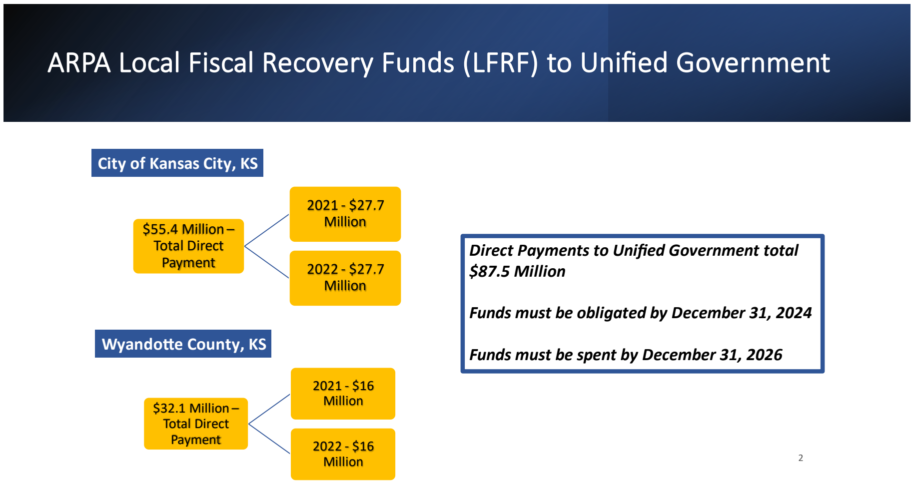
I just want to say that I thank you for your service. Just know that me and my staff and I believe this Commission and the staff here at the Unified Government and a lot of good folks in this community, we do care about our people and we are willing to help, but we want to do so in a way that's responsible as well as fiscally responsible in a way that, hopefully, we're meeting the needs of our residents with the ultimate goal of getting them to some level of self-sufficiency. That's all I had to say, but thank you for your presentation.

Mayor Garner said our second presentation is an ARPA update. Mr. Johnston, do have some remarks?

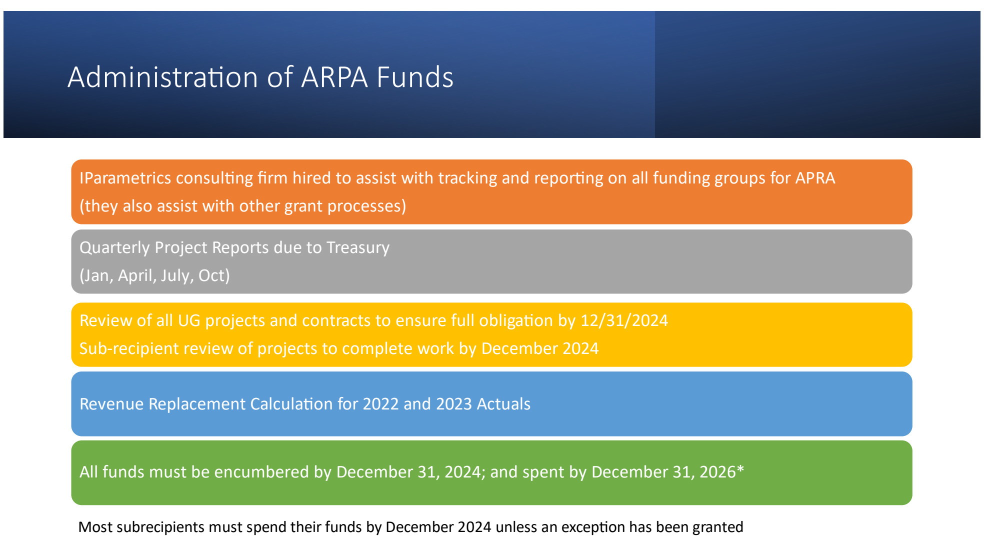


David Johnston, County Administrator, said many of you have been curious of where we are on the ARPA money that was distributed to the UG in 2022. The Commission seated at the time took action to distribute it to various subrecipients, stakeholders in the community as well addressing some of the needs within KCK and Wyandotte County. So, Dr. Kneuvean is prepared to give you an update of where we are. Just to let you know, we do have operational deadlines set by the federal government that those funds must be—operational money needs to be spent by 2024, December 31. Capital can go forward if it's encumbered by that date through December 31, 2026. So, with that little intro, Dr. Kneuvean.

Shelley Kneuvean, Chief Financial Officer, said I've been here for a couple of months now and one of the first areas that Mr. Johnston asked me to look at was ARPA and how we were doing in terms of the progress on the funds that the UG was allocated. This presentation is intended to give you an update of all things ARPA.



So just a quick reminder, we got about $87.5M in total that came to the city of Kansas City, Kansas as well as Wyandotte County. That was about a 63% and a 37% distribution and that happened over two years, over '21 and '22 and as was stated we do have the need to obligate funds by December 31, 2024. You'll see that we're well on our way, but we have some work to do and I just want to assure you and the key takeaway for you out of this presentation is that we will hit that deadline and we will not leave any money on the table. We will make sure we spend all of the funds that we were allocated.



Real quickly, we have a partner in Administration of ARPA funds and it's been very beneficial. An RFP process was done and a company called IParametrics was selected that does the assistance with tracking and reporting with a real focus on our subrecipients and so they've been very helpful in helping to review requests for funding, ensure the funds are being used in a way that's compliant with their agreement and collecting data in terms of the impact that these dollars are having.

They also, as with all grant funds, there's compliance issues, so they help us with compliance. We have quarterly reports that are due to Treasury—to the United States Treasury and then they'll help us through closeout. So, through a little past 2026 we'll be partnering with them.

As I said, we've been reviewing all of the projects and the contracts and we also have worked with them to do something called Revenue Replacement and you may be familiar with that term for those that have been here. Initially Revenue Replacement was exactly what you think it is. It's revenue replacement. Because of COVID cities, counties, institutions of higher ed expected revenues that didn't manifest and so in order for these organizations to make themselves whole, there was some Revenue Replacement dollars that were made available. We'll talk through how those dollars have been used and then there's a go forward plan for '23, but really the use and the focus of that has evolved over time. In fact a lot of the rules for ARPA has evolved over time. It's kind of like the federal government's been flying an airplane while they're building it in midair. So, we've been trying to keep up and spend the dollars as they were intended.

ARPA ALLOCATIONS APPROVED

Board of Commission Actions | Date	KCK	WYCO	TOTAL
US Treasury ARPA Allocation	**$ 55,383,872**	**$ 32,132,644**	**$ 87,516,516**
Revenue Replacement | 2020-2021	(21,789,896)	(9,366,502)	(31,156,398)
Immediate Needs | Public Health *	(2,166,581)	(11,200,973)	(13,367,554)
Immediate Needs | Housing Assistance*		(1,850,000)	(1,850,000)
Immediate Needs | Grant Support *	(885,478)	(502,246)	(1,387,725)
Capital Improvement Needs | 2022 *	(18,360,278)	(6,612,922)	(24,973,200)
Sub-recipient Awards | 2022 *	(12,181,639)	0	(12,181,639)
Other Wyandotte County Cities	0	(2,600,000)	(2,600,000)
Subtotal -ARPA Funds Allocated	**$ 55,383,872**	**$32,132,644**	**$87,516,516**
TOTAL ARPA AVAILABLE	**0**	**$0**	**$0**

63% awarded to Kansas City, Kansas & 37% awarded to Wyandotte County

This next slide shows you an allocation of all the different categories that were undertaken. The Revenue Replacement, we'll talk about here in a minute, was an initial allocation that was distributed. We have immediate needs that were between Public Health and Housing Assistance. Grant support was an allocation that the Commission identified. We have Capital Improvement needs which those are for the UG specifically. We have partnerships with nonprofits that are subrecipient awards and then there was an allocation by the Commission to our two cities here in Wyandotte County for them to undertake some infrastructure. I'm going to give you an update on all of these.

Initial 2020-2021 Revenue Replacement Categories

Wyandotte County	Total Allocated	Spent	Remaining
Salaries and Operations	9,366,502.00	9,366,502.00	-
Total Revenue Replacement - WYCO	**9,366,502.00**	**9,366,502.00**	**-**

Kansas City, Kansas	Total Allocated	Spent	Remaining
Salaries and Operations	14,789,896.00	14,789,896.00	-
Kansas Avenue Bridge	3,500,000.00	-	3,500,000.00
Grant Match (grant list below)	3,500,000.00	1,261,000.00	2,239,000.00
Total Revenue Replacement-KCK	**21,789,896.00**	**16,050,896.00**	**5,739,000.00**

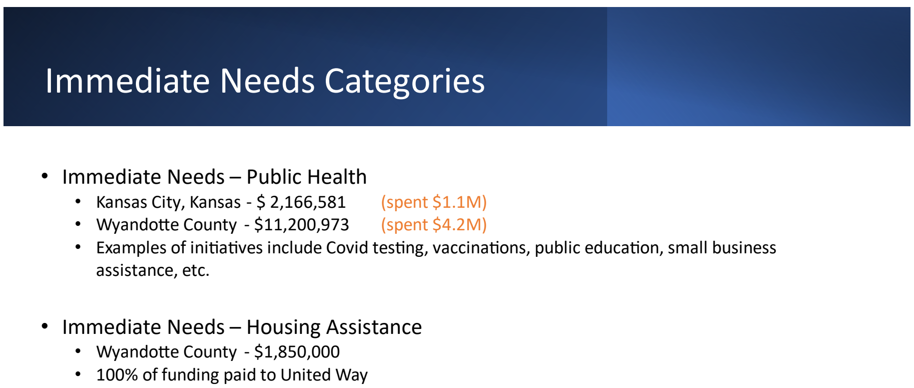
Grant match list:			
Bi-State Corridor Planning	350,000	-	350,000
County-wide Vision Zero Action Plan	200,000	-	200,000
State Ave Transit Enhancements	200,000	-	200,000
Edwardsville Micro-transit	43,800	-	43,800
7th Street Corridor Improvements	227,200	-	227,200
NE KCK Heritage Trail Phase I	240,000	-	240,000

- 2022 revenue replacement completed; projects designated from original list of initiatives (See Exhibit 1)
- 2023 revenue replacement calculations underway but not finalized as of this date

The Initial Revenue Replacement categories are listed out on the screen. A significant amount of this money was allocated towards salary and operations, so it was to help shore up the FY21 and 22 budget because we were able to demonstrate that we lost revenue as a result of COVID and so this helped us fund our operations. So, between those two numbers, that was about $24M and that was already allocated, approved, and considered spent.

We had also two initiatives that the Commission had identified specifically. There's Kansas Avenue Bridge and initially that was identified for temporary improvements to that bridge, but as they did more study and research it was discovered, as you all probably know, that more extensive needs have been identified on that bridge and so some grants were sought, but we have not been able to achieve getting those grants. So, I'm in discussions with Public Works about how we can utilize and get those dollars under contract for Kansas Avenue Bridge by December and we'll have a plan to move forward.

The second thing was the Commission identified a pot of money that they wanted—that you all wanted to have for grant match and that's been successful. It's still something that we're working on, but we've been able through 1.3 roughly million dollars of the grant match allocation, that has actually leveraged and this isn't on the slide, but it has actually leveraged another $9.774M. Because we identified these dollars for these grants, it leveraged other dollars, federal dollars, that we otherwise would not have gotten.



For the Immediate Needs Category and this is an area at the top on Public Health where we have some work to do. Originally we had about $2.2M for Kansas City, Kansas and about $11.2 for Wyandotte County, so between the two of them about $13M identified as Public Health needs and examples were a variety of different kinds of testing. There was an incentive for employees to get testing, there was mobile testing, vaccination clinics that were undertaken, public education, there were a number of positions that were funded in the Health Department focused solely on COVID, education and some small business assistance, etc.

We haven't spent a whole lot of this money. We've spent about $5.3M and so this is an area of focus, and as I said when I started, I will assure you we will find a plan to bring forward that will spend all of this money. It'll get uncovered because we don't ever want to give money back to the federal government, so a little work to do there. Most cases in looking at the details, it was estimates of what we would do and the cost that we would spend were high and the cost came in lower. It's not that they didn't do the effort, it's that the cost was less than what they had originally expected. But again, keep in mind, this was on the heels of 2020 with COVID. Money was coming out very quickly. People were putting the plans together very quickly, so they were rough estimates and so that's getting refined over time.

The Immediate Needs Housing was a successful partnership. We partnered with United Way and through September of '21 through March of '22 they were able to spend all of their funds, $1.8M. They assisted 1,299 individuals working with 12 nonprofits and it was primarily housing assistance for low-income households, families with children, persons under 24, pregnant women, domestic violence shelters, etc. It was all focused on housing, people that in particular were at-risk or already unhoused.

Capital Improvements Projects

$24,973,200 identified for capital improvements - 74% City and 26% County

City
- Five HVAC projects (City Hall, Armourdale Rec, Lee Rec, Kensington Rec, & Parkwood Rec)
- One sanitary sewer and two storm sewer projects
- Bus shelter improvements & Microtransit Pilot Program
- KCKPD Real Crime Center Initiative
- Two parks (Klamm & Quindaro) and Parkwood Pool improvements

County
- Three HVAC projects (Courthouse, Public Health Center, and Jail)
- Two trails (Wyandotte County and Pierson Park)
- Technology project for parks
- Sheriff Air Quality Filtration

100% will be encumbered by December 2024, all projects to be completed by December 2026 (or sooner)

The next category was Capital Improvements and there were a variety of things that were identified for the Capital Improvement money. It was about $25M, 74% of that was identified as City projects, 26% was identified as County projects and this just provides you a summary of the nature, the type of projects that were identified. You can see that we had five HVAC projects, which as we've gotten into those, they're all HVAC projects, but they've also included some energy efficiency improvements. For example, at one of the rec centers there's an air-conditioning unit that's being replaced in the basketball court and they need to replace the windows in that area as well so that we get the best out of that new unit and we get the energy efficiency. Those are ready for PO's to be issued, so that work is about to commence, but not yet quite under contract, but will be by next week.

City Hall was one of those and they're looking at the scope one more time to make sure they've got a good scope that's within budget and then they will be able to move forward through contracting.

There was the Sanitary and Storm Sewer projects. Those have been designed and surveyed and inspections are underway so work is happening on those projects. There were shelter improvements, bus shelter improvements, and Microtransit Pilot programs. The bus shelters, those have all been purchased and are going to be installed in the next month or two and the Microtransit Pilot program, they have an RFP ready to issue and so they'll be getting that out on the street to fine partners to work with on that initiative.

You can just see there—I won't go through all of these, but we do have information on all of them if you're interested in any in particular, but we finished out, for example, Quindaro Park was something that we did complete. That was turning some tennis courts into a basketball court there to better meet the needs and demands of the area.

Then, we have the County projects, which were HVAC projects, two trails. There was a technology project which was cameras that were installed in a variety of rec centers and then some filtration improvements on the HVAC for the Sheriff's Office. We will meet the deadlines on these.

As I said, we're well underway and we'll have everything under contract by December of '24 and then we have until December of '26 to complete them, but I think they'll be done sooner than that.

Capital Project Spending Update

Capital Needs Allocations	Department	Allocation Amount-City	Allocation Amount-County	Encumbered	Spent	Remaining
Kansas City Kansas Projects:						
City Hall - Air Handling Systems P069	Buildings & Logistics	4,733,563		4,733,563	-	-
Armourdale Recreation Facility-Air Handling P070	Buildings & Logistics	219,916		219,916	-	-
B. Lee Recreation Facility-Air Handling P071	Buildings & Logistics	18,165		18,165	-	-
Kensington Recreation Facility-Air Handling P072	Buildings & Logistics	731,994		731,994	-	-
Parkwood Facility Recreation Facility-Air Handling P073	Buildings & Logistics	203,491		203,491	-	-
Combined Sewer Separation 15 & 18, Jersey Creek Basin P079	PW Engineering	2,000,000		755,730	-	1,244,270
Wyandotte High Lombardy Drive Area (Storm) P080	PW Engineering	3,365,907		397,242	27,683	2,940,982
Green Infrastructure - 8th Street Park (Storm) P081	PW Engineering	6,201,492		813,755	774,173	4,613,564
UG Transit - Bus Shelter Improvements	Transit	100,000		-	48,753	51,247
UG Transit - NE Microtransit Pilot	Transit	318,417		-	-	318,417
UG KCKPD - Real-Time Crime Center	KCKPD	157,333		-	30,698	126,635
UG Parks and Recreations - Klamm & Quindaro Parks	Parks	160,000		-	80,000	80,000
UG Parks and Recreation-Parkwood Pool	Parks	150,000		-	-	150,000
Wyandotte County Projects:						
Courthouse - Air Handling Systems P074	Buildings & Logistics		2,500,000	2,500,000	-	-
Public Health Center - Air Handling Systems P075	Buildings & Logistics		154,834	154,834	-	-
Jail - Air Handling Systems P076	Buildings & Logistics		2,323,474	-		2,323,474
Wyandotte County Parks Trail P077	Parks		700,000	-	-	700,000
Pierson Park Trail P078	Parks		700,000	-	-	700,000
UG Knowledge Dept - Parks facility public safety	Technology		194,114	-	84,971	109,143
UG Wyandotte County Sheriff-Air Quality Filtration	Sheriff		40,500	-	40,500	-
Total Capital Needs Allocations		**18,360,278**	**6,612,922**	**10,528,690**	**1,086,778**	**13,357,732**

You do have a revised slide that was distributed to you. As we've been going through our financial system we've been refining this list and when we originally sent this out we showed some funds that are encumbered that aren't quite encumbered and so we had to modify that as well as the updated cost estimates in particular for those HVAC projects at the rec centers. So, we shared that with you through the Clerk's Office. I apologize for that, but we just wanted to make sure we got the most complete and accurate information to you as possible.

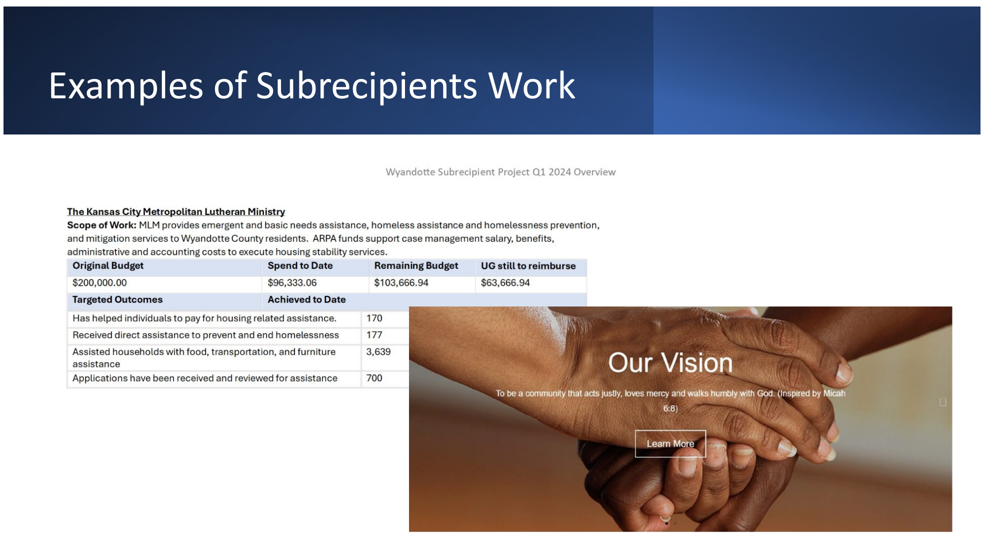
Sub-recipient Spending Update

Sub-recipient Allocations	Allocation	20% payment	Spend to Date	Remaining	UG to reimburse
Avenue of Life	1,225,438	245,088	1,189,295	36,143	-
Catholic Charities	41,000	8,200	41,000	-	-
Local workforce Investment Area III Inc	1,191,285	238,257	853,243	338,041	99,784
El Centro Ice	500,000	100,000	157,781	342,219	242,219
Mission Adelante	35,635	7,127	24,306	11,329	4,202
Friends of Yates	390,450	78,090	2,785	387,666	309,576
Our Spot KC	1,000,000	200,000	669,425	330,575	130,575
Mt Carmel Redevelopment	1,000,000	200,000	91,748	908,252	708,252
KC Metropolitan Lutheran Ministry	200,000	40,000	96,333	103,667	63,667
Cross Lines Community Outreach (Community Market)	250,000	50,000	207,334	42,666	-
Cross Lines Community Outreach (Housing Stabilization)	387,500	775,000	330,421	57,079	-
The Toolbox Small Business resource Center	22,360	4,472	5,611	16,749	12,277
The Family Conservancy	2,000,000	400,000	973,925	1,026,075	626,075
Community Housing of WYCO (CHWC)	400,000	80,000	400,000	-	-
Hillcrest Ministries of MidAmerica (Hillcrest Trans Housing)	645,000	129,000	252,067	392,933	263,933
The Village Initiative	325,000	65,000	260,000	65,000	-
Argentine Betterment Corporation	113,000	22,600	-	113,000	90,400
Salvation Army	336,071	67,214	-	336,071	268,857
KUMC Project Eagle	1,500,000	300,000	330,684	1,169,316	869,316
Young Women on the Move	618,900	-	-	618,900	618,900
Total Sub-recipient Allocations	**12,181,639**	**3,010,048**	**5,885,958**	**6,295,681**	**4,308,032**

- 19 outside agencies funded by the Commission (2 initiatives awarded for Cross Lines Community Outreach)
- All funds to be expended by December 2024 unless an exception has been granted
- Exhibit 2: Detailed progress reports attached for each agency

The next category was Subrecipient Spending and this is an update on spending by the subrecipients. We had 19 agencies that were funded and all of these funds also have to be either—

these are a little bit more aggressive. They have to by contract be expended, not just encumbered, but expended by December of '24 unless an exception has been granted and we did have three that we had an exception that was granted for KU, the Argentine Betterment Council, and the Young Women's on the Move initiatives. Those are through—they're different dates. One's through December of '25, one's through July of '25 and one's through '26. All of them are on track to spend their money and move forward.



The Kansas City Metropolitan Lutheran Ministry
Scope of Work: MLM provides emergent and basic needs assistance, homeless assistance and homelessness prevention, and mitigation services to Wyandotte County residents. ARPA funds support case management salary, benefits, administrative and accounting costs to execute housing stability services.

Original Budget	Spend to Date	Remaining Budget	UG still to reimburse
$200,000.00	$96,333.06	$103,666.94	$63,666.94
Targeted Outcomes	**Achieved to Date**		
Has helped individuals to pay for housing related assistance.	170		
Received direct assistance to prevent and end homelessness	177		
Assisted households with food, transportation, and furniture assistance	3,639		
Applications have been received and reviewed for assistance	700		

We thought what would be important is not just to tell you the numbers, but to tell you the impact of what these dollars are doing and have done. I randomly just picked three. They happen to be three in my head. They were alphabetical, but they're actually not. It was how our consultant had ordered their report. The first one was the Kansas City Metropolitan Lutheran Ministry. This was one that we had authorized $200,000. They've spent about half of that to date and you can see the numbers there in terms of how many people that they've been able to help and how many thousands of households they were able to help with food, transportation, and furniture. This was primarily around the Unhoused Assistance Program, the wrap-around services that the Mayor just spoke about. That's what they were focused on.

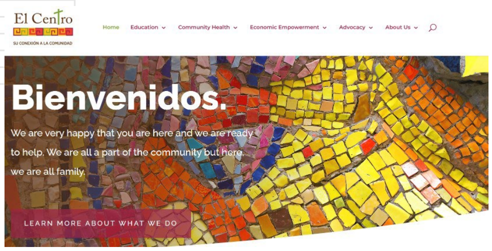
Examples of Subrecipients Work

El Centro

Scope of Work: Economic Empowerment Programs address workplace skill barriers, financial barriers, and language barriers through job training programs, weekly hiring events, and emergency assistance

Original Budget	Spend to Date	Remaining Budget	UG still to reimburse
$500,000.00	$157,780.77	$342,219.23	$242,219.23

Targeted Outcomes	Achieved to Date
Emergency assistance to households out of 60 households	23
Job training has been provided to _ out of 80 individuals.	122
Hiring events have served _ out of 250 individuals.	441
Total Additional services provided	485
Budget Coaching	94
ITIN Applications	44
VITA Assistance (services other than tax preparation)	22
Tax Preparation	325



The next one is El Centro, which is an important partner of the UG and in our community and their initiative was a little different. This was all about workforce skills building to help people get jobs and help people understand financial—be more literate about financial matters, how to set up a bank account, how to balance a bank account; those sorts of things.

They had originally $500,000. They've spent about $157,000, but in that time and in that amount of money they've helped 1,556 people through their different programs. As we get to the next six months, you can imagine, because we'll be working very closely with them on the strategies to get that money spent and how many more thousands of people that they're going to be able to assist in the coming months.

Examples of Subrecipients Work

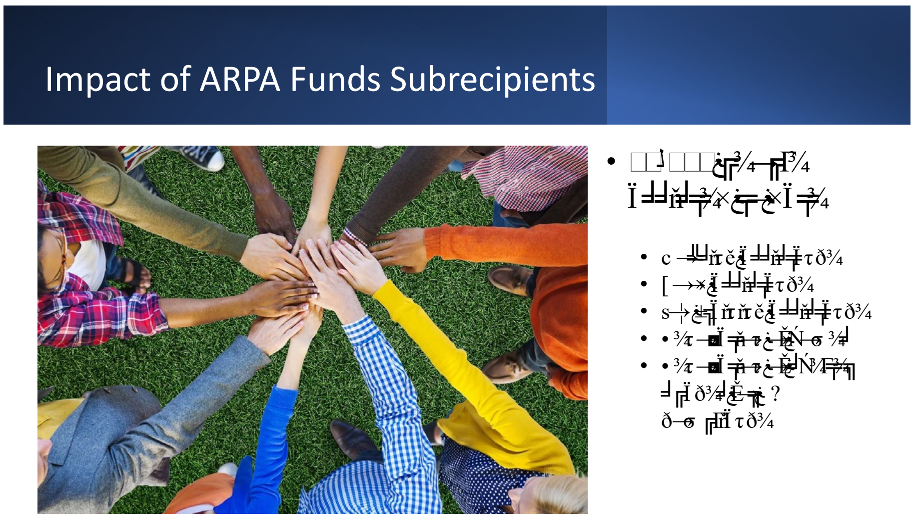
Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas Inc

Scope of Work: CCNEK serves men experiencing homelessness through their Shalom House Transitional Program. Through the reopening of the Sanctuary of Hope, the resident capacity increases and can now offer two ADA compliant rooms. The addition of classroom space is for community engagement activities, employment and asset development services, life skills, and other topics of education that address the root causes of homelessness.

Original Budget	Spend to Date	Remaining Budget	UG still to reimburse
$41,000.00	$41,000.00	$0.00	$0.00

Targeted Outcomes	Achieved to Date
Served residential participants out of the expected 40	37
Facility is at % complete and as equal to provide capacity for 50 recipients.	100% Completed with the renovation of the two ADA rooms and 100% complete with the classroom space
Renovation is at % of the 2 ADA rooms and % complete with classroom space.	100% completed
Individuals have utilized our intensive employment and asset development services	13
Men who received support to grow their financial knowledge	4 new banking accounts, 8 others learned better financial habits

The next one as a highlight was Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas. This was also—it just ironically was kind of a little different type of initiatives that are showcased here, but this was to renovate a classroom and also to have two rooms converted to be ADA compliant. So, that was something that was done. They've completed 100% of their work and that has benefited 37 individuals since the work's been completed, so when you think about two rooms, 37 people, that's a pretty good high impact even though it's a small number.



There's a report attached to this presentation and if you go through that report and you add all of the people that have been assisted to date, not including the United Way that I had mentioned before, it's almost 29,000 people that have been assisted with these ARPA funds over the last year to year and a half through housing assistance, food assistance, job training, renovation of homes, or of shelter spaces to be ADA compliant. It's pretty remarkable how much this has helped these agencies assist people.

Other Wyandotte County Communities

- **Bonner Springs, Kansas – $1,300,000**

  Water main / fire hydrants located along the following corridors:
  - W. 2nd Street from S. Bluegrass Drive to Elm Street
  - S. Nettleton Avenue from W. 2nd Street to Oak Street
  - Elm Street from W. 2nd Street to W. Front Street
  - W. Front Street from Elm Street to Oak Street

  Bid opening in June 2024; work to be completed by December 2024

- **Edwardsville, Kansas - $1,300,000**

  Preconstruction costs related to the construction of new government facilities, specifically the Edwardsville Municipal Complex ("Project 1"); and

  Preconstruction and construction costs for sidewalks to improve mobility and increase pedestrian access throughout the community of Edwardsville, specifically on 104th Street, which is an area devoid of any built environment enabling pedestrian mobility ("Project 2").

Another category was to allocate some funds to the communities of Bonner Springs and Edwardsville and we worked closely with both of those communities to identify the infrastructure projects that they wanted to pursue.

For Bonner Springs, they're doing a water main and fire hydrants that are along those corridors. They've actually finished their design and they're bidding the project next month, so that work will be underway and we'll meet that, not just the encumbrance by December of '24, but they expect the actual work will be done by December.

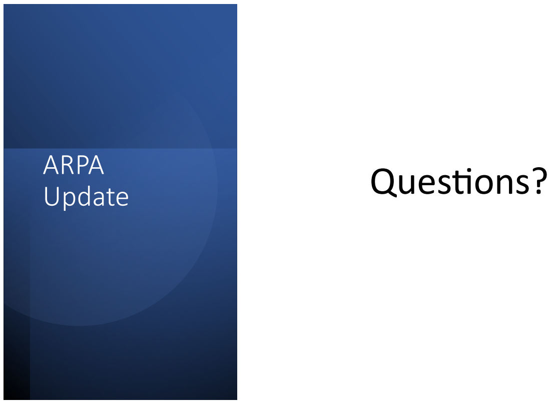
Edwardsville is doing some construction as well. They're doing some preconstruction regarding a new governmental facility, City Hall type facility, and then also a sidewalk initiative throughout the community on 104th Street. They're also in the process of design and construction and so we have confidence that those projects will get done too on time.

ARPA Allocation Overall Summary Update

ARPA Funding	City	County	Sub-Total	Encumbered	Spent	Total
Revenue	55,383,872	32,132,644	87,516,516	-	-	87,516,516
			-			-
Expense Allocations:			-			-
Revenue Replacement: 2020 & 2021	21,789,896	9,366,502	31,156,398	-	31,156,398	-
Immediate Needs: (PH, NEI, DI)	2,166,581	11,200,973	13,367,554	-	5,251,890	8,115,664
Immediate Needs: Housing (UW)	-	1,850,000	1,850,000	-	1,850,000	-
Immediate Needs: ARPA Grant Support	885,478	502,247	1,387,725	690,653	697,072	-
Capital Needs: May 2022	17,474,528	6,378,308	23,852,836	10,528,690	1,086,778	12,237,368
Capital Needs: November 2022	885,750	234,614	1,120,364			1,120,364
Sub-recipient Awards 2022	12,181,639	-	12,181,639		5,885,958	6,295,681
Other Wyandotte County Cities	-	2,600,000	2,600,000	-	-	2,600,000
Total	**55,383,872**	**32,132,644**	**87,516,516**	**11,219,343**	**45,928,095**	**30,369,077**

The overall summary, $87M is how much we got and we've spent about $46M, which when you think about it that way, that's a lot to go. But we have a plan of action in terms of our Capital projects to get them encumbered, under contract by December and then we have two more years to actually expend that money to do the projects, but we're proceeding aggressively to get those things done. We're not saying we want to wait until '26, it's that we're moving forward. We have confidence that we'll be able to spend these dollars down.

Like I said, we have some areas that we need to focus on and come up with some strategies in order to make sure that we can spend these monies in particular in that Public Health category and we've got meetings already scheduled to have those conversations to figure out what are the initiatives that are going on now. Did we capture all the cost and what are some of the additional things that we might want to be able to do and then we would bring that plan back to you all to consider.



With that, I'll stop and see if you have questions. Like I said, there's a couple of information items in your packet in terms of the overall allocations as well as the detailed reports on the progress of our subrecipients is in your packet. I'm glad to answer questions if you have any.

Commissioner Ramirez said first question, the report, is it in our agenda packet? **Ms. Kneuvean** was inaudible. **Commissioner Ramirez** said okay, I'll have to check that. The other question I had, you kind of touched on it towards the end, was the Immediate Needs to Public Health, the ones that we dedicated to the Public Health Department. During this time ARPA was—the majority of the funds were kind of—we were during the time of COVID, do those now that we're out of COVID, do those funds have to be COVID related expenses or can they be for general purposes of the Public Health Department? **Ms. Kneuvean** said it's an excellent question and I'm going to have to circle back on that because of when these were allocated. The rules kept changing over '21 and '22, so we'll need to confirm that, but my impression is that we have some flexibility with the funds to focus on. For example, if the Public Health Department has some Capital needs, that might be something that we could redirect those dollars because the feds later in the process said infrastructure, Capital projects, are eligible. We need to confirm that though, but first we want to meet with the partners and with the Health Department because it's not all the department, there's some partners in here too and understand what their plan of action is and what their strategy is to make sure we can kind of get on course to spend. Then, see what we have to then come back with some ideas.

Commissioner Ramirez said that was—when you mentioned about that meeting and coming back with a plan, okay.

Commissioner Davis said thank you for this presentation. Just for the community's awareness, I think when people see that presentation and they see the amount of dollars, dollars unspent, and then dollars encumbered, it would be like oh my goodness UG, you've had millions of dollars and you've not done anything with them and we've got all these needs. So, in layman's term, can you explain the difference between what it means for us to have—well, let's just go with the deadlines. By 2024 dollars to be encumbered and then for some folks those dollars need to be spent by the end of this year. Then, for UG those particular dollars need to be encumbered by the end of this year. I'm even confusing myself, so can you just explain the difference because I can already hear people saying what have you all done in the past 18 months, 20 months with these dollars. **Ms. Kneuvean** said encumbered means under contract, so it does not necessarily mean all the work is done. The requirement of the federal government is that all these dollars are under contract by December of '24 because remember, some of these dollars weren't even coming out until '22, so then in '23 was when a lot of the work started in terms of figuring out how to use the funds with the rules that were continuing to evolve and then into '24.

Then, you're right that there is until December of '26, the federal government has allowed certain kinds of expenditures to continue through '26, but not if they're not under contract by this December. As of this December, we would have all $87M would either be under contract or spent and then we would have a plan moving forward in terms of then spending it down. The best example might be a Capital project, so our HVAC. There's been a lot of stuff done on the project because there's a lot of work that goes into it before you ever get to contract. They have to figure out the scope, they have to work their partners on what's needed, what's recommended and then they have to bid the project or get a proposal on the project and then they get to the contracting step. So, there's a lot of work that is occurring that the numbers don't tell you that story.

On a Capital project, we have to have it under contract by December and then we have up to December of '26, end of '26 to complete the project. That's the most simple way. For our subrecipients, for all but a couple, we put a requirement because we wanted to get the money out there to people to be impacted directly as quickly as possible and so their contracts say that they have to spend the money by the end of '24, so December of '24 with those couple of exceptions.

I know it's confusing in terms of the takeaway, but that's why my suggestion if you get asked questions about this, is that by '24 every single dollar will be under contract. It's just when do the dollars actually have to be spent because a Capital project takes a little bit longer, so we have permission from the federal government to take that time to do the project. Everything will be under contract.

Commissioner Davis said two more questions. Do we have alternative projects or initiatives ready to go in the event or a plan in the event subrecipients aren't able to submit eligible costs for their ARPA allocation? **Ms. Kneuvean** said yes. Our partner, IParametrics, we've been meeting—Debbie and I have met with them several times in the last few weeks and they do performance reports and audits of each one of our subrecipients. Some of them are right on track, some of them are a little behind, so the plan is that they will work with that subrecipient to say okay, specifically what are we going to do to spend this money down. If they can't, then we'll have an alternative, which honestly we would probably be looking to some of the nonprofits that were on that list to bring it back to you all for consideration. But, the ones that have already spent their money and to see if they have a need and I'm sure that they do.

So, instead of going through another big process working with our existing partners and focusing on the ones that has successfully completed or nearly completed their initiative, but it's working with all of them. I don't have a sense that any of them won't be able to meet their objectives. In a couple cases I think it is much like we ran into with HVAC where people put together their initial estimates, they did what they said they were going to do, but it cost less and so then it's opportunity and figuring out how do you then advance that and make sure we take full advantage of these dollars.

Commissioner Davis said I would just say if we can have another update maybe sometime in the fall, kind of early fall, maybe September or October, around that time just so we know. It has been a very long time since we voted on this and now hearing this. I think myself and Commissioner Bynum were the only ones that served on that subcommittee, so that's why I'm asking these kind of really in-depth questions. I would appreciate more updates as we get to that end of 2024 deadline.

Commissioner Kane said, Mayor, I just think we found some of the money to build that park in Piper. We've had multiple meetings with the Piper School District, we've got a couple more. We're pretty close to coming up with an agreement and then that way we wouldn't have to take that out of the General budget. If I could make a motion, I would.

Commissioner Bynum said the presentation slides, I've not received them in any way. I have two pieces of paper and no email with slides in it. **Monica L. Sparks, Interim County Clerk,** said, Commissioner, they were attached in your notebook for tonight. They were in your pocket attached to the Notice of this meeting. **Commissioner Bynum** said they're attached in the Notice of the meeting. **Ms. Sparks** said you should have received them when you got your Planning & Zoning book. **Commissioner Bynum** said okay, so I don't get a paper book, but you're saying they're in electronic files somewhere. **Ms. Sparks** said they are.

Debbie Jonscher, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, said the two sheets you received tonight were updates that we made to the slides.

Mr. Johnston said I just want to conclude this presentation is to remind you that many of us who have had to live through this COVID and dealing with CARES and ARPA money. When it came time for ARPA, Dr. Kneuvean is right in saying that many cities started allocating and spending their money before the final rules of the federal government were made and then the federal government expected local governments to comply post award and it's like we had to work with our legislative delegations who do it. When I worked in Kentucky my colleagues all over the country were working to say this is unfair, this idea of creating rules after you awarded the money. So it was pretty much trying to create order out of chaos and I think by and large we've done a fantastic job on that.

Some of our Capital projects hadn't been started yet because some of the purchasing rules changed during the process and so we had to have our departments readjust bid packets and things like that. They were ready to go, but at the time of the award. Some of that you'll see in the fall better numbers, better catch-up. When we went to those workshops, we had federal folks come and say local governments, please understand one thing, ARPA is a jobs bill and so allowing us to keep revenue replacement because of revenue we lost due to deflated property during COVID, to lost sales tax revenue due to COVID, we were able to keep employees employed.

The same thing with our subrecipients, to keep their services going into the community we were allowed to provide them funding to respond to social services in the crisis and sometimes related due to COVID related issues, but it kept people employed. The Capital projects were to keep certain contractors employed during this crisis.

I think one of the things that we've all had to deal with since this started, I believe in 2020 with CARES money and then came ARPA money, many communities got spoiled with the significant amount of free cash and to deal with it. Then, when President Biden, I believe it was last year, made the proclamation the crisis is over, that was a strong message that the new federal funding is not coming. For those who received funding through CARES or through ARPA, you get spoiled and you enjoy this free money and you're able to do more into your community because of this unexpected federal funding, well then it stopped and you have to get back to a new equilibrium.

In some not-for-profits who we worked with, some of our own departments, it's like well you're going to keep the ARPA funded programs when ARPA funding is gone. I'm like no, not really, and that was a hard reality for people to look at, but I think we need to focus on the benefits. Employees were able to be employed whether in our government, whether not-for-profits, whether with contractors. People were able to keep jobs and keep food on the table, their bills paid because we never experienced a pandemic like this before.

It was a learning process. Many emergency management plans were adjusted. That's a benefit of this. The crisis is over. COVID is still around, but it's not to the level of what it was and we now know how to deal with it in better ways if it crops up again at a higher rate.

I think the message that Dr. Kneuvean is talking about, and we've seen it in cities and counties throughout our country, a lot of good work was allowed to be done during the crisis and post crisis because of this federal funding. So, we thank our federal legislative delegation and both Presidents to saying thank you for opening the door to keep our economies moving, our employees employed, and good things happening in our community.

Mayor Garner said I have a question. The Administrator alluded to the CARES act. Do we know how much the Unified Government got? That was before I became Mayor. What was that amount? **Ms. Jonscher** said I believe it might have been around $32M. **Mayor Garner** said $32M, so just from COVID relief, between two Presidential administrations, over $100M. Do we, just coinciding with Commissioner Davis's request, have we given an update to your recollection on the allocations for the CARES Act as well? **Ms. Jonscher** said I believe that was done back, I think, before the ARPA money came in. **Mayor Garner** asked, has that money be spent? **Ms.**

Jonscher said yes, that was spent. I believe we only had a couple of months to spend that money. It was by the end of 2021 I think.

Mayor Garner said the last question. You mentioned that there may be some residual funds available. Do we have an estimate of that, what that would look like and I'm talking more in line of what we would give out grant wise to non-for-profits, community organizations. What would that look like? **Ms. Kneuvean** said we don't have an update on that yet, but that's the very next step of meeting with each one of these agencies because the goal would be that the ones that were allocated the funding, they spend their funding. We may need to get a strategy together with them of how to get that done, but through those conversations we'll identify if there's any opportunities there and that's the follow-up that we'll provide.

Alan Howze, Assistant County Administrator, said I might just add one little piece of context on the immediate needs from the ARPA funds. Those were—there's a significant chunk of that, $5M or so, that was for vaccinations and that sort of thing, but through the work of our Health Department and our Emergency Management and Finance, they were actually able to submit those for FEMA reimbursement, so those dollars didn't actually get consumed—the ARPA dollars didn't get consumed. They got reimbursed through the federal government, so I think that fiscal stewardship has now created the opportunity to redeploy those ARPA funds to the benefit of the community, so that's part of what you're seeing here as well.

Mayor Garner said I say that and I know Commissioner Bynum and I think Commissioner Davis was on the task force that Commissioner Markley, I believe, chaired. I'm not really sure, and excuse my ignorance to that account, but how we prioritized or identified the recipients of the ARPA funds. Just maybe, as a reminder to the public, how we arrived at that. I say that because I have gotten complaints from some folks in the community, either they didn't know or they weren't involved or they did know and were involved and they didn't get awarded and they claim that their needs were just as great, if not greater, than some of the organizations that were allocated funds, particularly some folks that come from some of the most distressed zip codes in Kansas City, Kansas, which happens to be the eastern portion of our city. I'll just give you one facility, the Vernon Center, the services they provide to seniors and the historic nature of that facility.

Questions have been raised and just a little clarity, not just for me, but maybe for the public. If those funds are available, and I know we don't want to go through an entire process all over again, but is there a list of these organizations that maybe didn't receive funds, that maybe now may have an opportunity? And is there a window of opportunity for some identified Unified Government recognized social service agencies within the county, such as the Vernon Center, that may have an opportunity to apply and maybe get something if there's a residual amount of money left over that would be a benefit?

Ms. Jonscher said they did put out an application process. It was advertised I think on the website. We set up a specific ARPA website and gave a certain amount of time for applications, so we should have that information. The applications were reviewed by everyone on the committee and then the committee determined which ones were going to get funding and which ones did not. I do know there were a lot of applications. There were a lot more requests than there was money available, so we should have that information on all the groups that submitted applications. **Mr. Howze** said there was 172 applications for $84M in requests that were submitted through that process. **Someone** asked, how many got funded (inaudible)? **Ms. Kneuvean** said it was 19.

Mayor Garner said so I guess the question is for staff and maybe the Commission, if there are residual funds, would it be an opportunity for this Commission to maybe allocate to those funds to other agencies beyond the 19 that didn't get the initial influx of funds?

Commissioner Bynum said I would say yes, but it would be quite urgent, you know, with looming deadlines. I think the other piece that is really important is the 172 applications totaled $84M in requests and the first round of review was our consultant reviewing them for eligibility. They had to be eligible. It has to be an eligible application and once that was done, then the team did review rounds two and three and even yet then it was really, really difficult to just narrow it down to this group that got funded. As you saw on the slide, you have some groups that are not yet spending their money because everything about this process is extremely complex in my opinion. So, yes and it's a qualified yes, because spending the money will just be absolutely urgent just because of the looming deadline. Then, again, they would need to work with our staff to identify whether it's an ARPA eligible expenditure.

Mr. Johnston said I guess I'm just going to add, what you're getting from Dr. Kneuvean and Debbie is, they're going to work with all these subrecipients and if those meetings will show that they're not going to spend their allocated—because we're going to talk turkey to them now because of that timeline, Commissioner Bynum, is that you got to make some certain decisions sooner than later. If you're not going to accomplish what you said you're going to accomplish, we need to know sooner than later and have a drop-dead date with an amount that's going to be left over.

Once we have that information we can come back to the Commission and ask for redistribution to those other eligible ones that may not have received it and then say, okay, you got a short period of time to show that you can do it because December 31st is one of those non-negotiable deadlines that we have to deal with.

Ms. Kneuvean said just to add a little bit. We've got about $12.2M that are under contract and that's an important point. We are in a contract with these agencies, so these dollars aren't available right now even if they haven't spent them, but we've got to get a plan of action with each of them to be able to spend those dollars in the way they said. To be honest, if they're not going to be able to meet that deadline, so that then we can look at what other opportunities and what direction we go at that point. My hope is it would have to happen sooner than September, October, it would probably be in the next month or two. Well, I guess that would be August, no, this is only May, so in June and July I'm like what day is it, in June and July that we would be able to come back with an assessment on that of okay, here's how many dollars we think might yet still be available.

Commissioner Davis said I'll just add one more thing. I'm really thankful for folks because I know the numbers don't tell the whole story. I mean if they were able to save money and that means—and that's reflective of the numbers, they're to be commended. Our staff, the subrecipients, they're to be commended for that work. So, very thankful for those that were able to say you know what, we thought we needed x, but we actually found ways to get the work done for less. I mean that's saving us dollars so that we can reallocate it towards other purposes, so very thankful for that.

Mayor Garner said thank you staff. I know in the interest of time—thank you so much, great presentation and great information. I know there's a request made from the Commission to continue to have ongoing updates before we hit the drop-dead and I know our Administrator is taking notes, so it's already approved by me to Special Session these updates as it's convenient for staff to do so.

Mayor Garner said at this time the Commission will go into Executive Session regarding litigation. Do we have a motion for Executive Session?

Commissioner Ramirez made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Burns, to go into Executive Session until 7:00 p.m. in the 5th floor conference room to consult with our attorneys and to discuss confidential matters related to pending and potential claims and litigation, as permitted under the Kansas Open Meetings Act; and that David Johnston, County Administrator; Angela Lawson, Acting Chief Counsel; Casey Meyer and Sheri Courtney, both Senior Counsel, Chief Karl Oakman; Deputy Chief Ken Anderson, Police Department; and Dave Wimberly, Risk Manager; and Emma Lee, Human Resources; be present to participate in the discussion and that we reconvene in open session at 7:00 p.m. here in the 5th floor conference room. Roll call was taken and there were eight "Ayes," Kane, Lopez, Stites, Davis, Bynum, Burns, Ramirez, Hill.

Mayor Garner said I would like to let the public know we will be late this evening. Normally, we would have our 7:00 p.m. Commission meeting. It's still going to take place, but it will probably take place, I'm guessing, at probably about 7:20-7:25 p.m. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we get through our Executive Session.

Present for the Executive Session: Bynum, Commissioner At-Large First District; Burns, Commissioner Second District; Ramirez, Commissioner Third District; Hill, Commissioner Fourth District; Kane, Commissioner Fifth District; Lopez, Commissioner Sixth District; Stites, Commissioner Seventh District; Davis, Commissioner Eighth District; and Garner, Mayor/CEO, presiding. **Staff present:** David Johnston, County Administrator; Angela Lawson, Interim Chief Counsel; Casey Meyer and Sheri Courtney, Senior Counsel; Chief Karl Oakman, Police Department, Deputy Chief Ken Anderson, Police Department; Dave Wimberly, Risk Manager. Emma Lee, Human Resources, entered at 7:10 p.m.

Mayor Garner reconvened back into Special Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Ramirez made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Davis, to extend the Executive Session until 7:20 p.m. Roll call was taken and there were eight "Ayes," Kane, Lopez, Stites, Davis, Bynum, Burns, Ramirez, Hill.

Mayor Garner reconvened back into Special Meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Mayor Garner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bynum, to adjourn. Roll call was taken and there were seven "Ayes," Kane, Lopez, Stites, Bynum, Burns, Ramirez, Hill.

MAYOR GARNER AJOURNED
THE MEETING AT 7:21 p.m.

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Monica L. Sparks
Interim Unified Government Clerk

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