

**ADMINISTRATION AND HUMAN SERVICES
STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES
Tuesday, February 22, 2016**

The meeting of the Administration and Human Services Standing Committee was held on Tuesday, February 22, 2016, at 7:05 p.m., in the 5th Floor Conference Room of the Municipal Office Building. The following members were present: Commissioner Markley, Chairman; Commissioners Philbrook, Johnson, Kane, and Bynum. The following officials were also in attendance: Joe Connor, Assistant County Administrator; Gordon Criswell, Assistant County Administrator; Melissa Mundt, Assistant County Administrator; Dennis Laughlin, Director for General Services; Ken Moore, Chief Legal Counsel.

Chairman Markley called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken and all members were present as shown above.

Chairman Markley said a blue sheet was distributed last Friday indicating corrections to the Committee Agenda Item No. 1. The year was changed in a couple of places and the UG Parks JFK Recreation Center for Bridge Walkway Maintenance was added as an application not recommended for funding.

Approval of standing committee minutes for November 30, 2015. **On motion of Commissioner Kane, seconded by Commissioner Philbrook**, the minutes were approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Markley said we are going to do a little gymnastics with our agenda this evening because we have a presenter who needs to get home. We are going to do Item No. 3 first. That is our Choice Neighborhood Community Activity Grant item. I'll ask Melissa to make opening remarks and we will move to that item now.

Committee Agenda:

Item No. 3 – 16439...UPDATE: CHOICE NEIGHBORHOOD GRANT

Synopsis: Update the Choice Neighborhood Planning and Activity Grant, submitted by Melissa Mundt, Assistant County Administrator.

Melissa Mundt, Assistant County Administrator, said I wanted to introduce you to Cady Seabaugh, she's been working with Tib Laughlin and I and a variety of UG staff to get this grant submitted last Tuesday. It seems like it was an eternity ago but two weeks ago now. Time flies when you're having a lot of fun. As we were coming down to the wire on preparing for this grant there were a few things that came up that felt necessary to come back to you and discuss after our meeting in January. One of those was a commitment by the Unified Government for a certain amount of dollars for activities towards this grant. What we thought it would be best to do is Cady who is intimately aware of how these grants work and she's applied for several of them in the past and actually worked on implementation of a few of those, go through what the grant is in more detail and then explain to you where the UG is needing to kind of advocate during this 2017 budget for some dollar allocations.

Cady Seabaugh, McCormack Baron Salazar, Inc., said we're a national affordable housing developer across the country, but we also consult with cities and housing authorities to help them access dollars like the Choice dollars. I'm going to give you a brief overview of the grant.

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Choice Neighborhoods Planning+Action Grant

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What is Choice Neighborhoods?



- ❖ HUD's signature place-based initiative.
- ❖ Helps community partners rebuild neighborhoods, expand educational opportunities, create pathways to jobs, and strengthen families.
- ❖ Federal partnership supporting locally driven solutions for transforming distressed neighborhoods.

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Choice Neighborhoods is HUD signature place-based program. The point of the grant was to take the Hope 6 Program, which was focused on transforming obsolete public housing sites into functional, sustainable, mixed-income communities. It expands that sort of Hope 6 initiative into also focusing on the needs of the people in that community from a social service standpoint, from an economic development standpoint, and from a social stability standpoint, security standpoint as well as the other amenities that are needed in the neighborhood after housing. Housing is the first step. It's a foundation but HUD recognizes that you also need approaches to neighborhoods to provide certain services to the neighborhood to make a complete community. It's a federal partnership that supports locally driven solutions that are based on a community-based planning process to transform these distressed neighborhoods.

What is meant by "Place-Based"?



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What is meant by “Place-Based”?



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Really quickly what's meant by place-based, for a long time development looked like this. You had commercial development over here. You had community's and schools maybe developed over here. Single-family housing and retail and what HUD has figured out is that a complete community connects all of those things and also fill in the gaps with things like libraries, grocery stores, health care, senior living facilities, mixed-income housing in addition to just having these single-family homes, schools, retail, and commercial.

Challenges addressed by Choice Program



❖ Poor quality housing



❖ Inadequate schools



❖ Poor health



❖ High crime



❖ Lack of capital, jobs and other neighborhood investment

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Some of the challenges that Choice hopes to address. The primary challenge from HUD is addressing the poor quality housing public housing sites, inadequate schools, poor health, high crime, and lack of capital jobs and other neighborhood investments.

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What is the Planning and Action Grant?



- ❖ 3 Year, \$2 million grant
- ❖ \$500,000 for creating implementable plan (2 years)
- ❖ \$1,500,000 for "Action" project, which could include grocery store, YMCA, health clinic, early childhood education center, other

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The Choice Planning and Action Grant which is the one that we applied for two weeks ago is a three-year—this year they changed it to a \$2M grant. Previously it was just a \$500,000 planning grant, now it has a \$5.5M action component. The \$500,000 is meant to be leveraged so that you can do a community planning process at the same time, you get this \$1.5M to leverage an actual project. That really helps residents, stakeholders, potential investors in the community to see that there is something happening. To have that \$1.5 M that can jumpstart the project and people start to see change immediately instead of going through a three-year planning process and at the end of it still just having a plan that can sit on the shelf.

Ms. Mundt said Cady pointed this out, but during our actual discussion at the Housing Authority with residents and other stakeholders in the community that the folks working on this are actually the community members, but the point is that they would help select what that project is. It wouldn't be staff or someone sitting somewhere else. It's going to be those folks that are impacted by this.

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Commissioner Philbrook said you've already had some meetings about this I believe. **Ms. Mundt** said we had one meeting with the stakeholders in the area. **Commissioner Philbrook** said and we've heard about this before. **Ms. Mundt** said yes. **Commissioner Philbrook** said we're looking at a total of \$2M for the two years. **Ms. Seabaugh** said \$2M and it's a two-year planning process and then you get an extra year for your implementation. **Commissioner Philbrook** said if we say okay to you. **Ms. Seabaugh** said for your action. **Commissioner Philbrook** said you're asking for \$250,000 to complement that so that they know we have skin in the game. **Commissioner Philbrook** said I move we do that. **Commissioner Bynum** said second. **Ms. Mundt** asked do you want to go to that slide. **Chairman Markley** said we can do a roll call on that motion. I'm not sure technically if that's the appropriate course of action because we'll have to allocate it during the budget period.

Action: **Commissioner Philbrook** made a motion, seconded by **Commissioner Bynum**, to recommend allocating \$250,000 during the 2017 budget process to support several in-depth studies, staff time for a new planning action as well as dollars towards an early action activity all required for the grant if awarded by HUD. Roll call was taken and there five "Ayes," Philbrook, Johnson, Kane, Bynum, Markley.

Ms. Mundt asked did you want to know the breakdown. This is what the slide is. This is why Cady has waited all these minutes to be here today.

What is the Planning Process?



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Ms. Seabaugh said this is the planning portion of the grant. This is just the \$500,000 in Choice and how it gets leveraged. We have the CSO dollars that are already committed to the neighborhood with the wastewater dollars. That's the first committed source.

Who is involved?



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LISC has committed \$800,000 in the project that they are doing in the neighborhood and that also includes additional money that they're committing to the Healthy Campus Project. The \$250,000 is the UG that we just committed.

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Community-Based Master Planning Process



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The Housing Partner we recommend that any developer that's brought on as a housing partner as part of the project have some of their skin in the game so that's their \$30,000, and then we have a gap right now of \$78,000 that we believe we can fundraise from philanthropic sources in the community.

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What are the Planning Components?



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Neighborhood Approach



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Neighborhood Approach & Action Activities



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For the action portion we have \$1.5M from Choice. US Bank has already committed \$3.88M when we did the grant to support this activity in new market, equity, and debt. Then the \$5.2 other depends on what activity we choose, but that's typically first mortgage whoever the tenant is, but the portion of that activity is typically with the \$1.5M from the grant and the \$3.8M from the new market equity and debt; new market, equity and traditional debt; it's pretty easy to find the \$5.2M.

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Housing Approach



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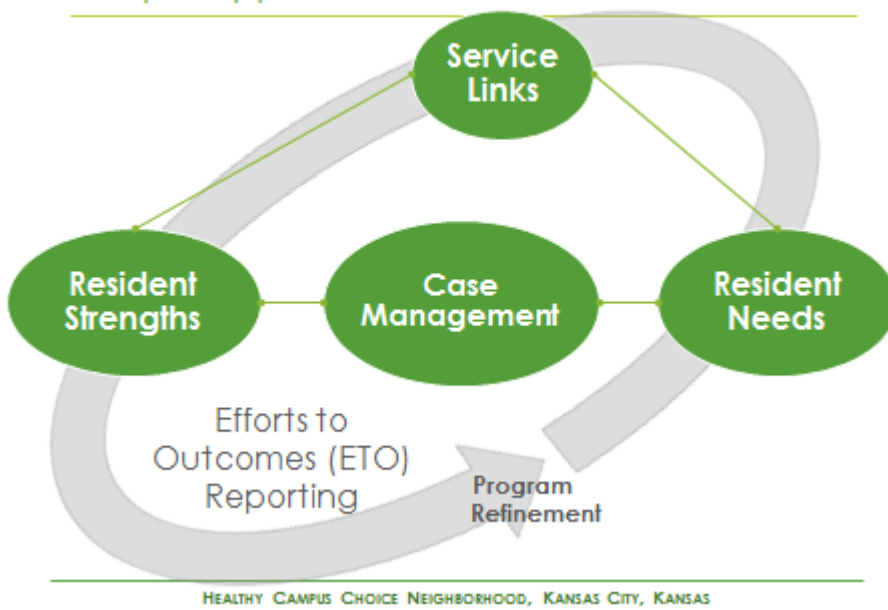
People Approach



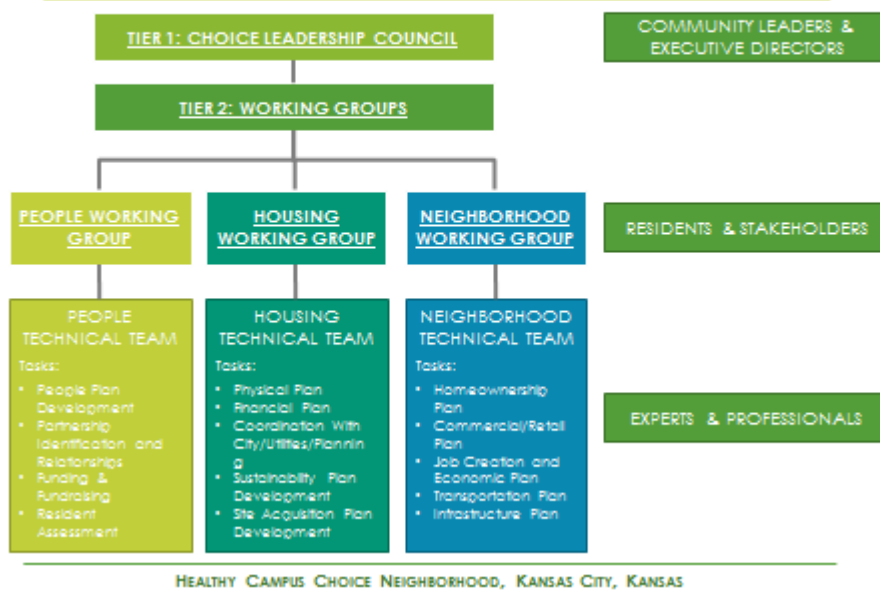
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People Approach



Governance Structure



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Timeline



Budget: Planning: Uses

Needs Assessment of Targeted Residents (LISC / Consultant):	\$ 75,000
Human Capital Plan Development (LISC / Consultant):	\$ 25,000
Neighborhood Needs Assessment (LISC):	\$ 50,000
Relocation Strategy Development (KCKHA + Housing Lead):	\$ 10,000
Market Assessment (Consultant):	\$ 12,000
Phase I ESA + Consultant Review (Consultants):	\$ 10,000
Housing & Neighborhood Master Plan/Technical Studies:	\$ 270,000
Housing Master Plan Coordination & Finance:	\$ 100,000
Neighborhood & CSO Infrastructure Master Plan:	\$ 1,285,000
Early Action Activities:	\$ 35,000
Community Outreach / Participation / Capacity Building	\$ 170,000
Marketing & Messaging:	\$ 50,000
Project Coordination and Administration:	
Selection of Partners:	\$ 6,500
Project Management:	\$ 255,000
Action Activity Planning:	\$ 25,000
TOTAL:	\$ 2,378,500

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Budget: Planning: Sources

Choice	\$ 500,000
UG CSO (Committed)	\$ 720,000
LISC (Committed)	\$ 800,000
USB Equity (Committed)	\$ -
USB Debt (Committed)	\$ -
UG (Uncommitted)	\$ 250,000
Housing Partner (Uncommitted)	\$ 30,000
Other (Uncommitted)	\$ 78,500
TOTAL:	\$ 2,378,500

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Budget: Action Activity: Sources & Uses

SOURCES	Choice	\$ 1,500,000
	USB Equity (Committed)	\$ 3,280,000
	USB Debt (Committed)	\$ 500,000
	Other (Uncommitted)	\$ 5,220,000
	TOTAL:	\$ 10,500,000
USES	Construction of Action Activity*	\$ 10,500,000
	TOTAL:	\$ 10,500,000

* Minimum amount; dependent on to-be-identified activity

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Questions, Comments, Observations



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Chairman Markley asked are there questions after the breakdown.

Item No. 1 – 16437...REQUEST: REAPPROPRIATED CDBG FUND DISTRIBUTION

Synopsis: Request distribution of reappropriated CDBG funds to the following organizations, submitted by Wilba Miller, Community Development Director. **Chairman Markley** asked are there questions after the breakdown. It is requested that this item be fast tracked to the February 25, 2016 full commission meeting.

- Heartland Habitat for Humanity - \$250,000
- UG Public Works Safe Routes - \$280,000
- UG Public Works Transit Sidewalks and ADA Ramps - \$78,000

Wilba Miller, Community Development Director, said as you may remember we're talking about the 2015 CDBG application process. During the budget process last year we identified some \$608,000 of funds that needed to be reallocated and standing committee here helped me go

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through the process of developing an application form and we put it out to the public in October, I believe, and we accepted proposals.

Tonight I'm here to talk about those proposals. We received 15 proposals totaling \$3.1M. There were five that were public infrastructure, streets, curbs sidewalks, two that were public building facilities, four that had housing related activity, five that were building related whether they be centers or recreation centers and then one that was an economic development activity. During the budget process we discussed the fact that these should be brick and mortar activities. That they needed to be spent on a timely basis because we are under the gun for timeliness of CDBG expenditures. That criteria was used during the review of the applications. When the applications were reviewed, the summary of that was three applications are being recommended for funding. Due to those things, the timing, bricks and mortar, and helping low-mod people. Those three are in no particular order. \$250,000 to Heartland Habitat for Humanity. It's for exterior home repair for up to 25 single-family homes owned by low and moderate income persons. That is basically to eliminate slum and blight in neighborhoods. The UG Public Works Safe Routes \$280,000 for sidewalks for the Safe Route to School for Frank Rushton, Hazel Grove and Francis Willard Elementary Schools. Finally the balance of those funds that total \$608,000 is \$78,000 for partial funding for any one of the following sites for the UG Transit Sidewalks and ADA Ramp. You see the sites are Richmond Avenue and 4th Street, Kansas Avenue and S. 65th, North 3rd Street and Oakland, and North 13th Street and Troup Avenue. We will be sending letters after the Commission takes action to give the applicants reasons why whether it be timing based on expenditures or contingent on fundraising for their project, the historic preservation status of their building or things like extensive environmental reviews for some projects. We also have others that already have CDBG funding that haven't spent their funding out yet and we had some CDBG HOME, they both are HUD funded crossover as well as maintenance of building issue. This is being fast tracked to Thursday night upon your approval tonight and then we would send out letters so that these applicants can make changes or revise so the next round of applications they may have a better chance.

Ms. Mundt said ultimately they'll have more time with the next process. This process of course was a shortened timeframe because these are rollover dollars and in order to not lose funding

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moving forward, we need to get projects in the pipeline that are going to be able to be finished up.

Chairman Markley said I will say my first comment is hallelujah on the sidewalks. When I first came here I said we should be spending any CDBG on sidewalks. To put it delicately I was shushed into the corner. I'm happy it's happening. I think it's good use of the funds particularly in this case where we need to use them quickly and so I appreciate that.

I also like that there were UG park applications. We internally have all these needs for money so it's good to see the applications. I just want to draw attention to the fact that we discussed one of these in our committee previously which was the fitness center upgrade. Probably, maybe the timing wasn't the best for those and maybe there were other issues, but I think it's interesting for us to consider that maybe for that next round of applications because that's something this committee said yes, let's do that, but we don't have money for it; and that might be a good use of funds. I'm fine with the money as allocated this time, but I just thought that was interesting since it's something that we've heard about here at our committee before.

Commissioner Johnson said we have also the addition of the \$50,000 for JFK with this blue sheet. Is that part of this or no? **Ms. Miller** said they were inadvertently left off the bottom list of applicants who did not receive recommendation for funding. **Commissioner Johnson** said okay, it will not be.

Chairman Markley said I do appreciate that you are going to send letters to those individuals as well to tell them what they might be able to do to improve their application because some of those may well be ones that we're considering again during budget season.

Commissioner Bynum said it's time to move right into 2016, right? Was that next or can you just give us the notion of the timeline of now. **Ms. Miller** said actually we were going to come to you and say this process, if it gets approved Thursday night, then our staff will jump into developing contracts and working with Public Works and everyone. However, Thursday night is also our first public hearing for this year's budget process and consolidated plan. It's a matter of

since this was a onetime reallocation, now it's a matter of setting up a format for future rounds of the applications.

Ms. Mundt said I know that when we were with you last month we discussed the concept of actually having a kind of pre-application meeting for individuals to come and ask some questions. We picked up some common threads on why some of these aren't being funded due to primarily timeliness. Even on our own UG facilities, there's a maintenance exclusion that is there from HUD on public buildings. I know Commissioner Bynum is nodding her head, but we have some things that our staff, if they're looking to apply in the future need to be trained on, our intuitive for those of us that work around this, but not intuitive for those of us that don't. I think those are types of things that when we sit down with individuals that are interested in applying before we send out the applications and have the firm deadline that we actually spend that time letting them pick our brains and get the understanding that Wilba and her staff have about how these projects will work or what could be a hang up that they would need to figure out how they're going to resolve to get the money expended timely as well. **Chairman Markley** said much appreciated.

Chairman Markley asked any other Commission comments. Are there members of the public who are interested in commenting on this item?

No one appeared.

Action: Commissioner Bynum made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kane, to approve the recommendation of the three CDBG applications brought forward for funding by staff and fast tracked to the Thursday, February 25 full commission meeting. Roll call was taken and there were five "Ayes," Philbrook, Johnson, Kane, Bynum, Markley.

Item No. 2 – 16438...PRESENTATION: MERGER OF CONTINUUMS OF CARE

Synopsis: Presentation by the Wyandotte Homeless Services Coalition regarding the possible merger of the Wyandotte County, KS and Jackson, County, MO Continuums of Care into a

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single bi-state Continuum of Care, submitted by Wilba Miller, Communication Development Director.

Wilba Miller, Community Development Director, said I want to start out by introducing Kerry Wrenick, who is the chairperson of our Wyandotte Homeless Services Coalition and Jason Bohn who is working through MARC to be our Wyandotte County Administrator right now. They want to talk to you all about the possible merger of our KCK Continuum of Care agencies with Kansas City, MO agencies to make a regional Continuum of Care. I'll let them give you a five or ten minute proposal.

Kerry Wrenick, Chairperson of Wyandotte Homeless Services Coalition, said thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight on behalf of the Wyandotte Homeless Services Coalition. I have worked in homelessness with youth and families for about six years. I feel we are at a very exciting time and have a unique opportunity to take advantage of something that only a few communities and Continuums have done in the United States. We hope to gain your support for a bi-state merger with the continuum in Jackson County in Kansas City, Missouri. I believe each of you got a colorful packet put together by Jason with MARC so thank you for doing that. I want to kind of reference just the first one page when you open the packet with just the Wyandotte Homeless Services Coalition logo at the top. I think first and foremost I want to just make sure that everybody has a pretty good understanding of what a Continuum of Care or I refer to it as CoC is. He did a really great job of outlining kind of the overall mission duties and responsibilities of a CoC, but a CoC is basically mandated by HUD, which consists of a regional or local body that coordinates housing and services funding for homeless families and individuals. We are mandated by HUD to have a Continuum here in Wyandotte County.

As most of you know, the Wyandotte Homeless Services Coalition was established in 2006 as a response to the Mayor's initiative to end homelessness and to address the needs here in KCK. The coalition does secure about \$1.5M that comes into our community to address the needs of our homeless individuals and families. The position of coordinator for the Wyandotte Homeless Services Coalition resigned last year. This kind of presented us an opportunity to step back and evaluate what the best approach and practices around end homelessness may be in our community. When we look at Kansas City as a whole, I believe we can agree on a few things as

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it pertains to homelessness. We need an accountable, responsive infrastructure to address homelessness, that's promotes collaboration and coordination. We do have a HMIS Governing Board, our Homeless Management Information System that is already across Continuum collaboration with Johnson, Wyandotte, and Jackson counties. We need to raise awareness and resources to effectively support our work to end homelessness. We need to build support among local elected officials to increase political leadership around homeless issues. We need to identify partners and enhance connections with other community initiatives and we need to identify ways to track best practices that lend itself to the design and implementation of an outcome measurement process. Thus, this determinacy effectiveness of services and areas requiring additional focus.

Since August 2015, our chair, I was vice-chair at the time, met with Jackson County chair and vice-chair and we began discussions around what a true merge of Continuums would look like and what actions would need to take place. We met with our local HUD office in late November to gain their insights and thoughts on a merger and basically they said yes, please go forward because this is where HUD is going and we would love to see this collaboration. All of this when I presented it to our Wyandotte Homeless Services membership, I did acknowledge that it seemed fast, but that was purely on what HUD recommended to us. Just looking at that one page, we just outlined our current challenges that our current Wyandotte Homeless Services Coalition faces and then our benefits.

Under the challenges, the current workload to manage a CoC that ensures \$1.5M comes into Wyandotte is more than a single average person can handle. The overflow is burning out our volunteers who need to focus on housing homeless individuals and families and staff does not have the margin for systems change work that our new federal regulations are requiring. I think that that is noticed in a recent cutback in one of our homeless services providers here in our community. We are really jeopardizing the funding streams that are coming into Wyandotte.

Our second is a lack of a unified system and fluidity of those living in homeless situations. They go back and forth across state lines, that means absolutely nothing to our population. They are accessing resources wherever they can travel to. The state line has absolutely no relevance to them.

Just kind of a personal side, the point-in-time count is what we submit to HUD every year that kind of shows what our homeless numbers are, but working for an educational entity our

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homeless numbers are not included in that point-in-time count. It says we have 100 something homeless people in Wyandotte County, no. I am serving over 850 kids right now in our school district and we are in February. Last year for USD #500 we served about 1,400 kids and none of those are included on our point-in-time count. Our numbers of family and youth is our fastest growing population where right now funding is headed so we are wrapping up 02016 addressing veteran and chronic homelessness. Our next benchmark will be children and families 20/20. Funding Obama just put \$11M in his mandatory budget that will be directly related to children and families. I just think this would be a remarkable time to be ahead of the game and already show HUD that we have systems in place to address these needs.

As far as an economic impact you know our school district, and this is what I know so this is what I can speak most too, our school district had to budget about \$500,000 last year to pay for transportation so that money comes from somewhere and we have to provide that service to our families. We are not just impacting our community and what we see, we are impacting our educational system.

The benefits to why we feel this is a great idea. First, we're going to have access to a fuller range of homeless services and better coordination. We're going to have the ability by pooling our resources with Jackson County. We're going to have the ability to recruit and high an exceptional leader who is truly dedicated to be a change agent in addressing homelessness across our region. We're going to be able to seek opportunities from foundations and private funders who require a collaborative and regional approach. We unfortunately lost an opportunity to access a large amount of funding last year because we did not have a collaborative system with strong and counties in place. That person will be a single point of contact to engage our new partners and enhance connections with other community initiatives bringing everything together.

Ms. Miller said they made the presentation to me and I said you know whenever you do something that's bi-state or regional it needs to come to Commission because there are other ramifications other than the benefits and the things that they have here. I had a feeling that this is going to happen quickly because they want to do it in May or June. **Ms. Wrenick** said we'd like to submit to HUD by March to hopefully get a response before our next open cycle which would be early summer. That would be our hope.

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Commissioner Bynum said on your cover page HMIS stands for? **Ms. Wrenick** said Homeless Management Information System. **Commissioner Bynum** said thank you. Kerry, I'm familiar with the work you do in KCK so I really appreciate the information you brought forward. My concern that I want to share is, I have seen other merger type activities with service providers. I won't name them, two specifically that I can think of, that serve Wyandotte and the result of those were there is no longer a Wyandotte location for those service providers and my feeling is that Wyandotte is no longer served. If it is, it is served in a very marginal way. I would really want you to somehow reassure me and my fellow commissioners that that is not the case with this situation. I cannot imagine that you or Wilba or anybody associated with this would let it be the case, but I've seen it twice before and so it concerns me. **Ms. Wrenick** said I think I can speak directly as far as funding goes. Current funded programs and agencies that receive HUD funding are not in jeopardy of losing that funding. Funding will remain as is as long as the program is able to meet it's outcome and really still serving the population that it's meant to serve. Wyandotte County is not in jeopardy of losing currently funded programs or activities.

Ms. Miller said but to get these funds they have to go through a NOFA process and their application it is very time-consuming and I know that there is going to be struggling because the people that have been working, the lady that was our coordinator last year left. Some of the people that were helping her have also gotten out of the process. If an application, for instance, for one our agencies doesn't get approved, then those funds might become available, might; for anyone in that bi-state area. As Kerry knows I had a big concern about that because to me if we're getting approximately \$1.5M every year, then in a way all of our agencies should be able to go after those funds. However, they pointed out to me, the coalition pointed out to me, that a lot of our agencies are bi-state agencies like Kim Wilson Housing or Catholic Charities. Are you losing them to Kansas City, Missouri or are your same agencies still able to go after them. Tonight was just for information. I did not want this to come up in May or June or March even and hit without somebody knowing something and giving you the ability to ask questions and find out what's going on. **Commissioner Bynum** said I appreciate that. That was really my only concern.

Chairman Markley said I was going to say I assume some sort of by-laws or something could also address some of those issues. **Ms. Wrenick** said we have everything already drafted. We

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got a final copy today. I'd be happy to share that. I didn't want to inundate you with paperwork tonight. Wilba will definitely have a copy of our merger, our by-laws and then the resolution to merge. All three documents have already been formulated.

Commissioner Philbrook said I'm new to this game, but I am on their board I guess, if that's what you want to call it for now. I like the work that they're doing, but I'm right along with you, Commissioner Bynum, in concern to make sure that at least for two to three years that there's a—because I haven't read the new by-laws or anything yet, I haven't had the chance, that we are guaranteed that those monies are not just handed over to another group. While we work out our differences and our agreements between Jackson and us and get a good working relationship going and create a whole new entity I think Wyandotte County has to understand that the Commission and the folks that care about the homelessness are watching over that, that's all. I don't want somebody coming to me just like Commissioner Bynum and going oh, so you're just handing all of our money away so they can take it across the state line. Now having said that, I would say that I can't say that I've enjoyed my time learning about homeless because that wouldn't be accurate, but I would say that I have learned a lot and that this HMIS which is the backbone of keeping track of who is homeless, what kind of care they have had, therefore Continuum of Care, so they don't get lost in the system because they like to move all over the place. They go wherever the best place is for them, you can't blame that, that's just the way it is. The HMIS is so forward thinking and I'm so excited that I believe Johnson County is involving themselves in that too, Jackson County and us. Aren't there a few other counties that are signing on to that too? **Ms. Wrenick** said the HMIS? Currently just those three. **Commissioner Philbrook** said just the three for now. **Ms. Wrenick** said for now. **Commissioner Philbrook** said well I know we'd like to have Clay and Platte and kind of surround ourselves as a regional area to be involved with that. The HMIS is very, very important because that way we're not spending money two or three times. We know where the money is going and we can help the people stay in that care so I really appreciate all the work you're doing. Thanks, Jason, for coming back to us after having twins. Of course, that's your wife that had them but you know. Thank you guys, I appreciate it.

Jason Bohn, MARC, said one of the things we will hold, and it may not be as individual dollars, but the outcomes will be required to be held by that whole area. The outcomes that are being

met now would have to be held by the whole region that's there. I think that's an important thing to remember because as your building a system you don't want one side or the other to get out of wack. We got to rise the whole thing up and I think that's part of what this could benefit the whole team.

Commissioner Johnson said just for the sake of redundancy and for the sake of prosperity, I just want to pile on to what my fellow commissioners have said. It is vitally important that we make sure that there is a presence whether that be bricks and mortar and/or human capital in Wyandotte County. I can appreciate and I certainly am an advocate for efficiencies and making sure that we're using our dollars most effectively. I want to reiterate what's already been said just for the sake of prosperity that we make sure that we are being represented here. **Ms. Wrenick** said let me rest assure that it has been included in the bylaws. So the money does stay with the two NOFA cycles and three representatives from Wyandotte and three representatives from Jackson will make up our first board so equal representation from both counties so there is an even evaluation of the needs. **Commissioner Philbrook** said I want to thank you very much for that.

Chairman Markley said this item is not up for action tonight. I think they were just looking for feedback and I think they received that. I appreciate your time and I appreciate you staying here so late this evening.

Chairman Markley adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

tk