

2025

ANNUAL REPORT



**BOONE COUNTY COMMUNITY
SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

RELEASED JULY 2026





Table of Contents

4 Boone County Community Services Department (BCCSD) Overview

5 Letter from the Director

6 2025 Financial Summary

7 Boone County Children's Services Board Strategic Plan

8 2025 BCCSD Projects

10 2025 Funding Overview

12 Infant & Early Childhood Programs

20 School-Based Programs

28 Youth & Family Support Programs

40 Treatment Programs

46 Community Support & Basic Needs Programs

54 Grassroots Funding Opportunity

Boone County Community Services Department (BCCSD) Overview

The Community Services Department was created to oversee and coordinate the disbursement of the funds received from the Children's Services Fund sales tax and the domestic violence funds collected through court fees.

The mission of Boone County Community Services is to support the greatest possible level of independence and self-sufficiency of Boone County residents by promoting their physical, mental, and social well-being to cultivate a safe and healthy community.

Children's Services Fund

On November 6, 2012, the citizens of Boone County passed County of Boone Proposition 1, which created a Children's Services Fund for children and youth 19 years of age or less in Boone County. The Boone County Children's Services Board (BCCSB) has been appointed by the County Commission and entrusted to oversee this Fund. The Fund was created pursuant to RSMo §67.1775, RSMo §210.861, and the ballot language presented to the voters on November 6, 2012. RSMo §210.861 specifies the types of services that may be funded by the Children's Services Fund. The mission of the BCCSB is:

To improve the lives of children, youth, and families in Boone County by strategically investing in the creation and maintenance of integrated systems that deliver effective and quality services for children and families in need.

Domestic Violence Services Fund

State of Missouri statutes authorize counties to collect fees to fund shelters for victims of domestic violence. Per these statutes, the County of Boone (Boone County) collects fees on civil actions, marriage licenses, and criminal cases. These funds are then utilized to provide funding for shelters for victims of domestic violence. True North of Columbia, Inc. received \$23,818.00 in 2024 to provide victims of domestic and sexual violence with safe housing, advocacy, and support.

Letter from the Director

Positive change is rarely the result of a single initiative or organization. It is built through collaboration, persistence, and a shared commitment to serving the community. Throughout 2025, we continued working alongside partners across Boone County to strengthen services, implement new strategies, and invest in solutions that help children, youth, and families thrive.

Throughout the year, we advanced several initiatives designed to address the community's most pressing needs. The Upward Mobility initiative continued implementing strategies across all three thematic areas. These collaborative efforts reflect our commitment to addressing the root causes of challenges facing families and creating lasting, community-driven solutions.

One of the year's significant milestones was the launch of the Health and Justice Coordinating Council (HJCC). Following extensive planning, the HJCC held its first official meeting in the fall of 2025 and began establishing its purpose, governance structure, and priorities. By bringing together leaders across health, behavioral health, justice, and community systems, the HJCC is creating a stronger framework for collaboration and coordinated responses to complex community needs.

The Boone County Children's Services Fund also entered into new contracts that were awarded through the 2024 Open Request for Proposals (RFP) that began on January 1, 2025. Department staff conducted site visits with each funded organization to provide technical assistance, ensure performance measurement systems were in place, and support consistent data collection and reporting. These efforts help strengthen accountability while ensuring we can effectively measure the impact of taxpayer investments.

Our commitment to building community capacity also continued through the Grassroots Funding Opportunity. Throughout 2025, staff worked closely with the six funded organizations to strengthen data collection and serve the community. The goal is to prepare these organizations to reapply for future funding through the Children's Services Fund, expanding the network of organizations equipped to serve Boone County families.

The Boone County Children's Services Board (BCCSB) also took an important step toward the future by launching a comprehensive strategic planning process. Guided by recommendations from the 2024 Review and Assessment Report, the BCCSB contracted with a consultant to develop a strategic plan focused on strengthening board governance, enhancing department operations, and enhancing communication and engagement with the community. The resulting plan establishes a roadmap for continuous improvement, helping ensure the BCCSB and department remain responsive, transparent, and well-positioned to meet the evolving needs of Boone County. Additional information about the strategic planning process can be found in the 2025 Strategic Plan on the department's website.

As you read this annual report, you will see examples of how collaboration, thoughtful planning, and data-informed decision making continue to shape our work. While meaningful change takes time, the progress made throughout 2025 demonstrates what is possible when public agencies, nonprofit partners, and community members work toward a shared vision.

Thank you to the Boone County Children's Services Board, our funded partners, community stakeholders, and residents for your continued trust and partnership. Together, we are creating stronger systems of support and expanding opportunities so every child, youth, and family in Boone County has the opportunity to thrive.

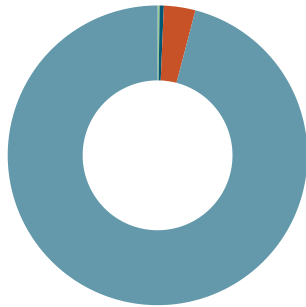


A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joanne Nelson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'J'.

Director
Boone County Community Services Department

2025 Financial Summary

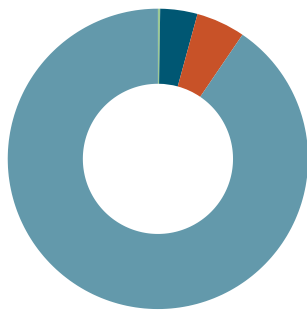
Revenues



Domestic Violence Fund	\$25,741 (<1%)
Other Contributions	\$50,980 (<1%)
Investment Income	\$389,875 (3.4%)
Children's Services Fund Sales Tax	\$11,000,678 (95.9%)

Total Revenues: \$11,467,274

Expenses



Professional Services	\$32,900 (<1%)
Operations Support & Fixed Assets	\$542,889 (4%)
Salaries	\$714,722 (5.3%)
Contracted Services For Children, Youth, & Families	\$12,268,140 (90.5%)

*Release of Prior Year
Encumbrances (\$95,503)*

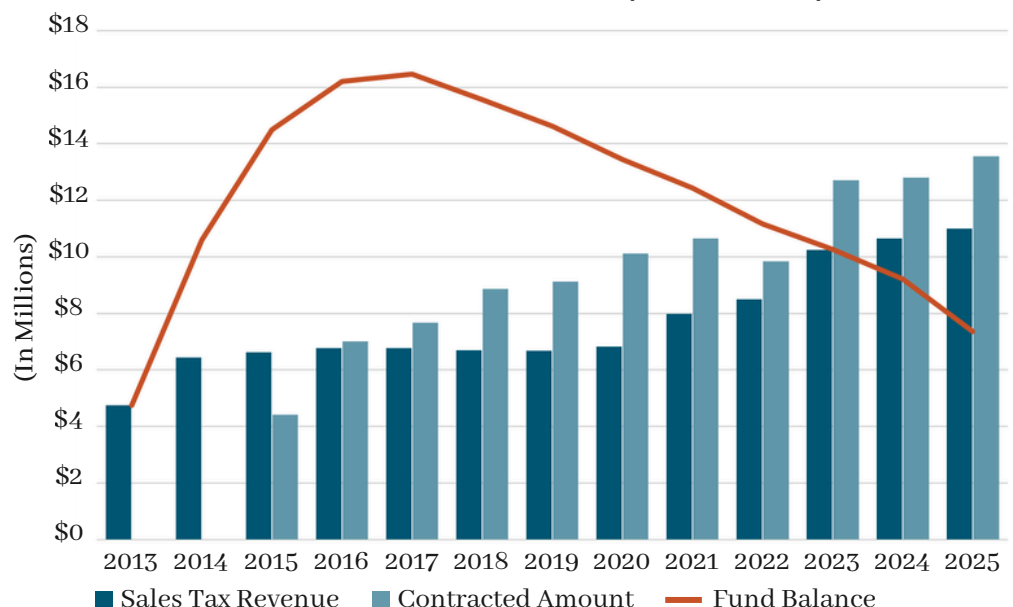
Total Expenses: \$13,558,651

By county policy, the BCCSB is required to keep 17% of BCCSF in reserves. The BCCSB has contracted out more than the sales tax revenue in an effort to sustainably lower the fund balance. The fund balance has displayed fluctuating trends over the years, starting at approximately \$4,746,689 in 2013 and peaking at approximately \$16,454,689 in 2017 before gradually declining to approximately \$7,368,373 by 2025.

The BCCSB has invested approximately \$88.2 million in Boone County since 2015.

The BCCSB has gradually decreased the fund balance by \$9 million over the last eight years.

BCCSF Sales Tax Revenue, Contracted Amount, and Fund Balance (2013-2025)



Boone County Children's Services Board Strategic Plan

The BCCSB undertook a strategic planning process to guide priorities, investments, and governance for the 2026-2029 period. The purpose of this work was to strengthen how the BCCSB sets direction, sequences initiatives, and stewards public resources in service of Boone County's children, youth, and families.

Three overarching goals were developed that relate to:

BCCSB Development
BCCSD Operations
Community Relations

The strategic planning process included:

- A review of prior Boone County Children's Services Fund (BCCSF) plans, evaluations, and related county and community reports (including the 2024 BCCSF Review and Assessment report).
- A qualitative Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis.
- An organizational capacity assessment using a modified McKinsey Capacity Assessment Grid.

Goal: Strengthen board governance and funding framework

Purpose: Ensure the Board is equipped to provide effective, transparent, and forward-looking governance by strengthening its funding framework, clarifying funding priorities and decision-making processes, and enhancing Board structure, leadership, and capacity to meet the evolving needs of Boone County youth and families.

Goal: Strengthen department operations and capacity

Purpose: Ensure the department is equipped to provide high-quality, efficient service by optimizing internal workflows, fostering a supported and skilled workforce, and implementing rigorous contracting and continuity practices that guarantee long-term stability and transparency.

Goal: Enhance collaboration, communication, and transparency

Purpose: Strengthening community trust and service impact by increasing awareness of available programs, clearly communicating funding strategies and measurable results, and fostering cross-system collaborations that ensure a trauma-informed, seamless network of support for Boone County families.

The outcome of this planning effort is a prioritized yet flexible strategic framework that emphasizes accountability, capacity alignment, and phased implementation. Going into 2026, the BCCSB is focused on clarifying funding priorities and developing a multi-year funding strategy. The BCCSB and BCCSD began implementing multiple strategies throughout the strategic planning process.

2025 BCCSD Initiatives

Boone County Upward Mobility

Throughout 2025, Boone County's Upward Mobility Initiative continued using Results-Based Accountability (RBA) to guide community-driven, data-informed solutions that improve upward mobility. More than 80 unique community partners collaborated to advance shared goals across the three thematic areas of early grade literacy, fair and inclusive housing, and jobs and workforce development. Key accomplishments include the developing of renter resources, advancing implementation of the Boone County/City of Columbia Housing Study, developing the Raising Readers early literacy campaign, and laying the groundwork for workplace readiness resources. These efforts have strengthened partnerships and continued building momentum toward lasting, systems-level changes for the residents of Boone County. More information on the Upward Mobility Initiative and recent reports can be found: <https://www.boonemo.gov/community-services/upward-mobility/reports-data.asp>.



Early Grade Literacy (EGL)
workgroup meeting



Jobs and Workforce Development
workgroup meeting



Al Plummer, EGL facilitator and Enola-Riann
White, Upward Mobility Program Manager

*Al Plummer passed away on September 22, 2025
and was a part of the Upward Mobility Initiative
from the start of the Mobility Action Plan.*

Health and Justice Coordination

The Boone County Health and Justice Coordinating Council (HJCC) held its inaugural meeting on October 28, 2025, bringing together leaders from law enforcement, government, healthcare, and behavioral health organizations to strengthen collaboration across health and justice systems. Following more than a year of planning and partnership development, the council began establishing its governance structure, identifying shared challenges, and exploring opportunities for system improvement. The meeting was structured around the best practices for coordinating councils. Later in the year, members of the Douglas County, Kansas, Criminal Justice Coordinating Council shared lessons learned and best practices with the newly formed group. In 2026, the HJCC will continue developing its governance framework and begin addressing systemic gaps affecting Boone County residents.

Bringing Results-Based Accountability to Boone County

The BCCSD received funding from the Missouri Foundation for Health to train local leaders, including those in nonprofits, elected officials and department administrators within the county, and community members in the Results-Based Accountability (RBA) framework. RBA is an action-oriented and evidence-based methodology for producing measurable improvements for individuals and communities. The framework can be used both at a community level and within organizations and programs. The BCCSD held its final training in April 2025, resulting in 36 trained individuals. A Learning Lab was also held for those who attended the training, providing a refresher and additional skills to use RBA practices. Since 2022, the BCCSD has trained a total of 130 individuals across 50 organizations and industries.

Boone Impact Group

The Boone Impact Group (BIG) is a unique collaboration between the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services, the Boone County Community Services Department, and the Heart of Missouri United Way. This group shares information to prevent duplicating work as funders and to ensure that organizations are receiving adequate funding and support. Through this collaboration, BIG is playing a critical role in identifying resource gaps, helping organizations to maximize their services, and coordinating the strengths and abilities of the human services sector to tackle challenging social issues together.



The BIG partners utilize a taxonomy of services, which aligns the type and definitions of services to be consistent across local funders with the purpose of having a universal language for services being provided among organizations. BIG also has a list of common outcomes to help local funders better tell the story of how contracted services impact community-level issues and indicators. Alignment of outcomes shows the impact of services and programs across the community.

The BCCSD and BIG also meet regularly with additional local funders including Central Missouri Community Foundation, Veterans United Foundation, Beacon of Hope Foundation, William Guitar Little Foundation, Shepard McCaskill Foundation, and James and Annelle Whitt Entrepreneurial Development Foundation.

New Funding Management System

The BIG partners have shared the same funding management system since 2015, which houses all Request for Proposal cycles, contract information, and reports. After careful consideration, the BIG partners decided to transition to a new system that better fit the needs of organizations utilizing the system and themselves. The BIG partners selected Foundant Technologies' Grant Lifecycle Manager (GLM) as their new system. The system has alleviated several of the pain points organizations have experienced and still allows the close collaboration of the BIG partners. The BCCSD staff helped with this transition through researching products, contracting with Foundant, and leading the transition process to the new system. The BCCSD officially launched the new system to organizations in 2025.

Boone Indicators Dashboard

The Boone Indicators Dashboard (BID) presents a variety of health, educational, social, economic, and housing data for issues relevant to Boone County, Missouri. The purpose of the BID project is to make this information readily available to diverse community stakeholders who require data to more effectively inform and align community planning, resource investment, and performance management and monitoring.

Please visit www.booneindicators.org for more information, including BID's aspirational statements, local equity analysis, and data. This is a project of Boone County, the Columbia/Boone County Public Health and Human Services Department, the Heart of Missouri United Way, and the University of Missouri Institute of Public Policy.

2025 Funding

The BCCSD groups funded programs into five categories based on where services are delivered, focus area, or the population it primarily serves. Funded programs are required to submit interim and year-end reports to the BCCSD. Data from the year-end reports show how funding was utilized across funding and service categories, demographics of individuals served, and outcomes of program beneficiaries.

Total Funding Distributed in 2025

Funding by Category



Community Support & Basic Needs Programs	\$1,280,895.42 (10%)
Treatment Programs	\$1,559,461.10 (13%)
Infant & Early Childhood Programs	\$1,588,829.09 (13%)
Youth & Family Support Programs	\$2,809,987.46 (23%)
School-Based Programs	\$5,028,966.92 (41%)

Total Amount Utilized: \$12,268,139.99

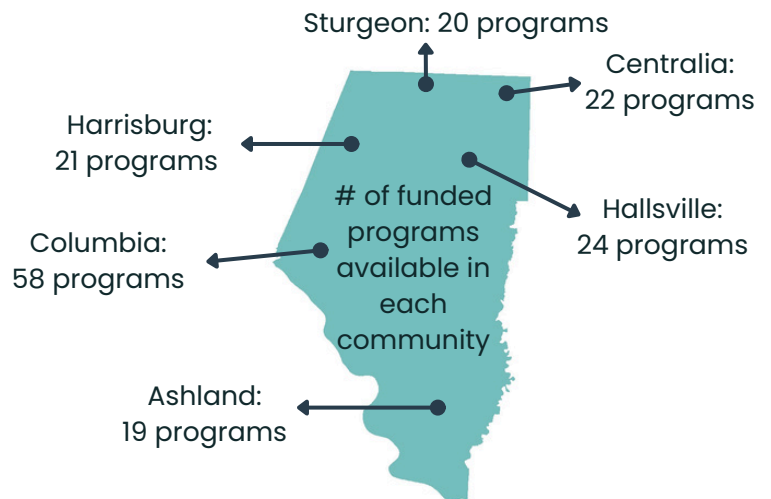
Access Across Boone County

96,932 BOONE COUNTY RESIDENTS SERVED*

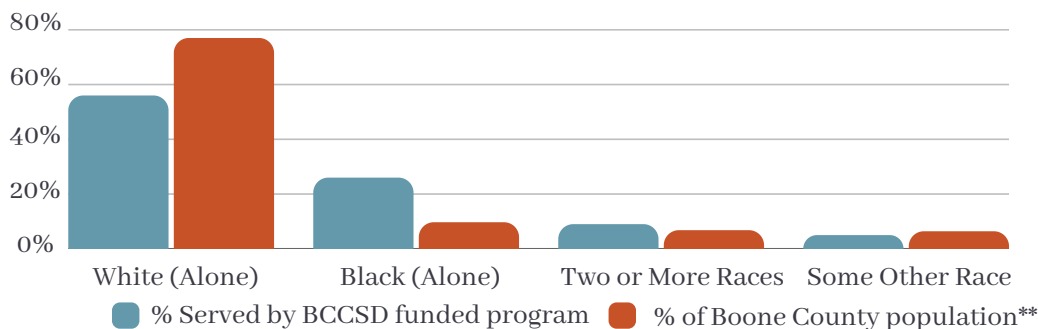
Of the people served in Boone County,

79% live in the City of Columbia*

21% live outside Columbia city limits*



Percent of Individuals Served by Race*



Income Demographics*

80%

of individuals served were at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)

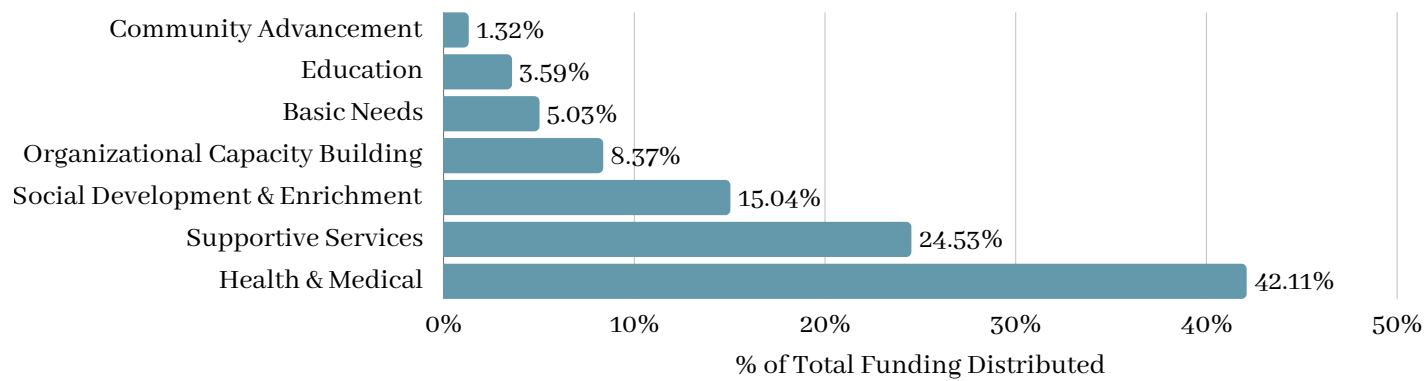
*May include duplicated number of individuals and/or served through other funding sources

**Source: Population by Race (2020-2024), Boone Indicators Dashboard

Overview

Program Service Categories

The BCCSD established the *Taxonomy of Services* in collaboration with the Boone Impact Group to streamline communication of the services funded by each partner. The BCCSD can identify how funding is allocated across different service categories and programs. The majority of funding paid for health and medical services, supportive services for families (i.e. case management, home visting, etc.), and social development and enrichment programming for youth. These service categories are funded throughout the five program categories established by the BCCSD.



Program Outcomes*

The BCCSD established common outcomes language across contracted programs to better tell the story of how, collectively, programs impact lives and community-level issues within Boone County.



*May include duplicated number of individuals and/or served through other funding sources

Infant & Early Childhood Programs

Programs provided developmental and behavioral screenings, trainings, evidence-based or best practices curriculum, and early childhood basic needs.

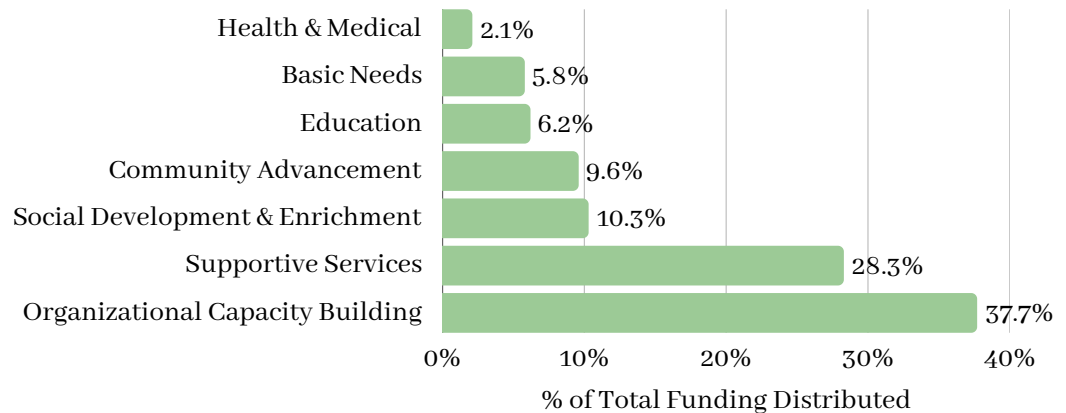
11
funded
programs



7,558

individuals were
served through
BCCSD funding

TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING BY SERVICE CATEGORY



Lend and Learn Library Success Story

“One caregiver shared that she first came to Lend and Learn during a period of intense isolation and stress while navigating early parenting and potty training with her toddler. She described feeling overwhelmed and hesitant to leave the house, worried about judgment and lacking a safe place where her child could play freely.

Through regular visits to Lend and Learn, she and her child began forming meaningful connections with other families and staff. Her child gained confidence interacting with peers, practicing sharing, and learning through play, while she built supportive relationships with other caregivers experiencing similar challenges.

She shared that the welcoming, judgment-free environment, along with flexible hours and a space that was ‘potty-training friendly,’ made it possible for her to keep coming back consistently. Over time, she reported feeling more confident in her parenting skills, more knowledgeable about child development, and significantly less isolated.

She described Lend and Learn as ‘critical to my sanity’ and a place her child now looks forward to as a regular, joyful part of their routine. For this family, Lend and Learn provided not only play-based learning, but also stability, connection, and improved mental well-being during a pivotal stage of early childhood.”

First Chance for Children
Lend and Learn Programming and Toy Library



500

childcare providers increased their capacity to utilize evidence-based and/or best practices



7,911

hours of professional coaching for childcare providers were funded

Program Collaboration Success Story

“Samantha Grotzinger was one of our very first Child Development Associate (CDA) students when our program began in 2017. At the time she enrolled, she wasn't sure she wanted to continue in the early childhood field. After finishing her CDA with us, she got a raise and was promoted to lead teacher at Mary Lee Johnston Community Learning Center (MLJCLC). She continued taking classes, eventually finishing her associates degree at MACC. With that degree, she was promoted to assistant director at her program.

She is now the program director, and she has inspired her teachers to fully embrace our program. Just this semester, five new teachers from MLJCLC began classes toward their CDA and 17 have been attending HighScope. The center is embracing the HighScope curriculum and even provides child care for their teachers who have young children and wish to attend our Saturday trainings.”

Moberly Area Community College (MACC)
Quality Childcare Initiative at MACC



1,403

home visits were funded for families with newborns and/or young children



2,296

parents and/or guardians reported reduced levels of stress or anxiety



2,762

individuals received basic needs items to care for their child(ren)



2,423

parents and/or guardians increased their knowledge of child development, behavior, health, and safety issues



16,990

hours of child care were funded

City of Refuge

City Preschool

The preschool provides a cross-cultural classroom for children ages 3-5 years. The program helps prepare children for kindergarten in a teacher-guided and child-led environment.

Amount Received:
\$29,999.64

Is anyone better off?



100%

of children maintained or improved kindergarten readiness



69%

of children served were racially diverse



5,682

hours of early childhood education were funded

First Chance for Children

Baby Bags

First Chance for Children provides a multi-faceted approach to addressing the needs of children and their families. Baby Bags, one component of this approach, provides education and basic necessities to meet a family's developmental, physical, and mental health needs. The goal is to strengthen families by helping them develop protective factors and providing basic necessities during times in need.

Amount Received:
\$94,306.00

Is anyone better off?



100%

of parents/guardians reported decreased stress after receiving services



100%

of parents/guardians reported having their immediate basic needs met



87%

of parents/guardians increased their knowledge of health and safety issues

First Chance for Children

Baby U Home Visitation Program

The Baby U Home Visitation Program provides home visiting services designed to ensure children are socially, emotionally, and academically prepared for kindergarten. The program facilitates family access to information regarding child development, community resources, and the support of healthy relationships.

Amount Received:
\$206,835.00

Is anyone better off?



100%

of parents/guardians
increased their knowledge
of child development and
behavior



100%

of parents/guardians
made progress on
their self-selected
goals



100%

of parents/guardians
felt equipped to
address postpartum
depression concerns

First Chance for Children

Lend and Learn Programming and Toy Library

The Lend and Learn Library provides a secure environment for young children and their caregivers to explore educational materials designed to support social-emotional, cognitive, motor, and language development. Additionally, the program hosts structured events featuring interactive parent-child activities.

Amount Received:
\$86,500.00

Is anyone better off?



100%

of parents/guardians
improved the effectiveness
of their parenting skills



100%

of parents/guardians
increased their
knowledge of child
development and
behavior



100%

of parents/guardians
felt their child
maintained or improved
kindergarten readiness

First Chance for Children

Safe C.R.I.B.S. (Community Resources, Infant Beds, and Support)

The Safe C.R.I.B.S. program supports families as they transition home from the hospital following the birth of a newborn. By providing essential health and safety items, the program ensures families have the necessary resources for infant care. Additionally, a trained counselor conducts home visits to address developmental, physical, and mental health needs, fostering a supportive environment that encourages participation in long-term home visitation programs. The program also trains community partners on safe sleeping practices.

Amount Received:
\$24,515.00

Is anyone better off?



100%

of children did not die due to sleep-related death during their first six months



95%

of parents/guardians increased their knowledge of health and safety issues



95%

of parents/guardians felt equipped to address postpartum depression concerns

Harrisburg Early Learning Center

Harrisburg Early Learning Center

The Harrisburg Early Learning Center provides year-round, affordable care for children in northern Boone County. The center's services include social-emotional screenings for participants in the early childhood program, structured before- and after-school programming, and summer enrichment opportunities for school-aged children.

Amount Received:
\$90,195.82

Is anyone better off?



87%

of children developed positive values, social competencies, and positive identities



100%

of school-aged children increased their academic performance in math, science, language, and/or social studies



100%

of preschool children increased positive social behaviors when interacting with their peers

Mary Lee Johnston Community Learning Center

Early Childhood Services

The Mary Lee Johnston Community Learning Center (MLJCLC) provides year-round, affordable childcare alongside comprehensive case management and resource support for enrolled families. The center's curriculum focuses on social-emotional development, language and literacy, cognition, and physical development. MLJCLC prepares children for a successful transition to kindergarten.

Is anyone better off?



of children are able to identify, manage, and express their emotions and behaviors appropriately for their developmental level

MLJCLC had limited performance measurement data for 2025 due to transitioning to a different teaching curriculum and students not being the same throughout the full program year. The organization has plans in place to collect data for 2026 programming.

Amount Received:
\$101,141.16



Contingency Funding

Part of the amount MLJCLC received in 2025 includes an additional \$10,000 from the BCCSB to replace the HVAC system with the goal to keep the organization operational.

“ Mary Lee Johnston Community Learning Center Success Story ”

“One of MLJCLC’s most meaningful successes involved a child with significant language delays who had previously been disenrolled from several local childcare centers due to unsafe behaviors, including biting, hitting, kicking, and spitting toward both staff and peers. When the child enrolled at MLJCLC over the summer, these behaviors continued during the first few months, creating challenges for the classroom and significant frustration for the child’s mother, who expressed concern that she had no remaining childcare options and urgently requested support.

In response, MLJCLC hired a part-time paraprofessional with prior experience as a teacher and administrator to provide targeted, one-on-one support. The para worked closely with the child throughout the day in both small- and large-group settings, offering instructional, behavioral, and non-instructional assistance. This support included reinforcing classroom lessons, managing challenging behaviors, supporting Individual Education Plan (IEP)-related goals, preparing materials, and assisting with daily routines, ensuring both the child and classmates could engage safely and successfully in learning activities.

During the initial weeks, the child’s mother shared that similar behaviors were occurring at home and asked for strategies to support consistency across environments. As consistent supports were implemented at school, incidents of hitting, biting, and spitting began to decrease. The child’s mother reported seeing the same positive changes at home during the same period. After approximately one month, the frequency and intensity of unsafe behaviors continued to decline, and the child began experiencing more positive days than challenging ones. Today, the child is thriving both at school and at home, demonstrating improved behavior, increased engagement, and greater success in a structured, supportive environment.”

Mary Lee Johnston Community Learning Center
Early Childhood Services

Moberly Area Community College (MACC)

Quality Childcare Initiative at Moberly Area Community College

MACC offers specialized support to enhance the quality of early childhood education in Boone County. The program provides scholarships and college-level coursework to help childcare providers and high school students earn their Child Development Associate (CDA) credential. Additionally, MACC provides training and coaching in HighScope, an evidence-based curriculum designed to improve instructional quality and developmental outcomes in early childcare settings.

Amount Received:
\$394,581.17

Is anyone better off?



100%

of teachers trained in
HighScope implemented
strategies in the classroom



91%

of early childhood
teachers obtained
their CDA credential



73%

of teachers improved the
effectiveness of teacher-
student interactions

University of Missouri – Department of Psychiatry

Boone County Early Childhood Coalition (BCECC)

The Boone County Early Childhood Coalition (BCECC) manages three primary initiatives: it organizes a professional coalition to build capacity among early childhood providers, delivers family support and partner training using the Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) curriculum, and conducts developmental screenings to connect children with necessary resources.

Amount Received:
\$208,743.86

Is anyone better off?



100%

of parents/guardians
receiving one-on-one
support maintained or
increased the use of positive
parenting strategies



95%

of professionals
increased their
knowledge of
behavioral strategies,
interventions, and
available resources



97%

of professionals
increased their
knowledge of best
practices to administer
screenings

University of Missouri – Department of Psychiatry

Early Childhood Positive Behavior Support (ECPBS)

ECPBS provides training and coaching to early childhood educators in Boone County to enhance program environments and improve overall quality. ECPBS utilizes a systems-based approach to implement the Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS), National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations (NCPMI), and Conscious Discipline (CD) frameworks. These services are delivered through program-wide education, on-site coaching, referral services, and by facilitating peer learning opportunities for both parents and teachers.

Amount Received:

\$176,452.44

Is anyone better off?



93%

of parents/guardians
increased confidence in
their parenting skills



92%

of early childhood
teachers increased their
knowledge of best
practices



40%

of early childhood teachers
achieved their goals to
implement best practices

University of Missouri – Division of Pediatrics, Department of Child Health, and MU Health Care

HealthySteps

HealthySteps integrates child development specialists into pediatric primary care teams to support families during well-child visits for children from birth to age three. The program provides comprehensive screenings for developmental, behavioral, and social-emotional health, alongside positive parenting guidance and early learning resources. Specialists offer care coordination, community referrals, and ongoing support between medical appointments to strengthen family protective factors and ensure a foundation for healthy long-term development.

Amount Received:

\$175,559.00

Is anyone better off?



89%

of families demonstrated
improvement in
implementing positive
parenting practices



97%

of families reported
benefits from accessing
community resources



94%

of children were screened
to identify developmental
and social-emotional delays

School-Based Programs

Program services included training for teachers, after-school clubs, capacity building for student education, case management, social-emotional screenings, crisis intervention, and psychiatric services.

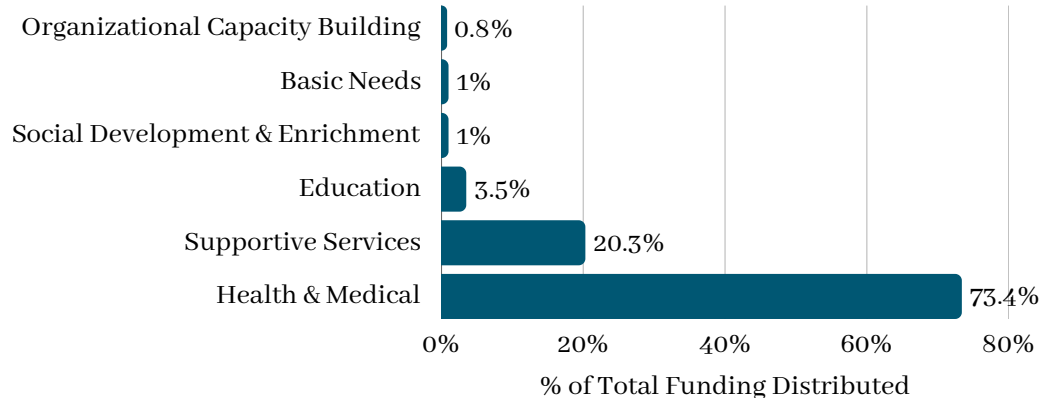
8
funded programs



36,307

individuals were served through BCCSD funding

TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING BY SERVICE CATEGORY



903

individuals received case management support through school-based programs



77,003

screenings or assessments were administered to identify risk for behavioral and/or social/emotional concerns



615

individuals were referred to and/or linked with services



447

individuals developed or made progress on their goals to address identified needs



338

individuals receiving therapeutic services were able to successfully manage mental and behavioral health conditions

BRIDGE Program Success Story

"Through the program's partnership with ProsperU, a participating family strengthened their financial knowledge and worked closely with a family success coach to set SMART goals focused on long-term stability.

Using skills and information gained through the partnership and education events, the family opened a new savings account at a separate financial institution to support consistent saving habits and build financial independence. Over the course of the program year, the family successfully applied these strategies and achieved a major milestone by purchasing their first home.

This accomplishment supports long-term housing stability and reflects increased financial empowerment, positioning the family for sustained economic security."

Central Missouri Community Action
BRIDGE Program

Farm to School Success Story

"My students love the farm-to-school lessons! I love them too and always learn new things, and I love seeing my students shine in a different way.

Something very special to me is that our tasting lessons have helped one of my students with extreme food sensitivities go from not being able to even think about vegetables to feeling comfortable looking at them and having them near him. I'm so happy that he is making progress at his own pace and is able to feel included and curious about food.

My other students who do not have such extreme sensitivities have also grown in their perceptions of food and what they like. They now want to pick the slightly unripe tomatoes to enjoy their natural sourness!"

Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture
Farm to School



179

individuals received crisis intervention services within schools



235

individuals were trained in school-based best practices



961

individuals improved or maintained their academic performance



16,685

hours of outdoor academic enrichment were funded

Central Missouri Community Action

BRIDGE Program

The BRIDGE Program supports families experiencing poverty during the first years of elementary school through a collaborative partnership with classroom teachers. The program utilizes social-emotional screenings to develop individualized Child Success Plans focused on the student's academic and social progress both at school and at home. To support stable caregiving, BRIDGE provides mental and behavioral health screenings for parents and facilitates referrals. CMCA also hosts family education activities and trainings to build community and increase access to health resources.

Is anyone better off?

Amount Received:

\$439,631.04



87%

of children improved or maintained their academic performance



95%

of children maintained or improved their age-appropriate social competencies



92%

of families made progress toward their goals to address identified needs

Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture

Farm to School

The Farm to School program delivers nutrition and garden-based education to Columbia elementary schools and the Columbia Agriculture Park. Through hands-on lessons, students participate in the full life cycle of gardening—observing, planting, growing, and harvesting a variety of fruits and vegetables. These activities are designed to help students master core scientific concepts, understand food origins, and learn about physical nourishment, ultimately fostering more positive attitudes toward healthy eating.

Is anyone better off?

Amount Received:

\$146,726.70



68%

of third grade students increased positive attitudes toward eating fruits and vegetables



95%

of teachers reported positive behaviors from third and fifth grade students during Farm to School programming



77%

of third grade students learned something new about gardening and nutrition

Columbia S.T.E.M. Alliance Foundation

Math Mentorship Program

This program supports students in advanced mathematics at Jefferson Middle School and Oakland Middle School. The goal of the program is to increase the number of students in advanced mathematics and their access to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) careers.

Amount Received:
\$19,998.00

Is anyone better off?



96%

of students improved
or maintained their
math grade



94%

of students retained
placement in
advanced math



64%

of children served
were racially diverse

Columbia School District 93

Boone County Nature School

The Boone County Nature School provides an immersive experience to connect students with their local ecosystem. Funding from the BCCSF supports an educator from Columbia Public Schools to provide programming to fifth grade students. All Boone County students are able to attend programming offered at the Nature School.

Amount Received:
\$57,501.15

Is anyone better off?



100%

of students increased their knowledge
of science topics discussed



99%

of students fully participated in
activities without discipline referrals

Compass Health, Inc.

School-Based Therapy

Compass provides school-based therapeutic interventions designed to bridge the gap between families, schools, and mental health services. The program includes direct therapy for youth, consultation with teachers and school counselors, and education for school staff to coordinate care and resources effectively.

Amount Received:
\$250,579.00

Is anyone better off?



72%

of students receiving therapy made progress toward goals to address identified needs



72%

of students were able to identify and appropriately express emotions



100%

of children and family members maintained or increased positive dynamics at home

“ School-Based Therapy Success Story ”

“When she first began therapy, Melanie was a high school student who felt overwhelmed by school expectations, social interactions, and her own racing thoughts. As a student with ADHD and autism spectrum symptoms (although undiagnosed), she often struggled with sensory overload, motivation, and anxiety about being misunderstood by peers, teachers, and family. These challenges affected her confidence and made it hard to advocate for herself.

Through consistent therapy, Melanie learned that her brain works differently. Sessions focused on understanding her neurodivergent strengths while building practical skills she could use daily. Melanie worked on emotional regulation strategies, such as recognizing early signs of anxiety and using grounding techniques to calm her body and mind. Over time, she became better at managing frustration and recovering quickly from stress.

Therapy helped Melanie develop executive functioning skills. Melanie practiced breaking assignments into smaller steps, learning physical activities that reduced overall anxiety, and creating strategies that worked for her, not against her. As a result, she felt more in control of her schoolwork, less anxious about deadlines, and more confident overall.

One of Melanie's biggest areas of growth was self-advocacy. Melanie learned how to communicate her needs clearly and confidently to teachers and parents. Melanie began requesting accommodations without guilt and expressing her boundaries in social situations. This led to improved relationships and a greater sense of belonging.

By the end of her therapy journey, Melanie showed increased self-confidence, emotional awareness, and resilience. Melanie embraced her interests, recognized her strengths, and understood that asking for support is a skill—not a weakness. Therapy empowered her to navigate high school with greater independence and to look toward her future with optimism. When Melanie ended therapy, she had moved out of her family home and begun a journey of empowerment, accepting her differences instead of faulting herself for them.”

Compass Health, Inc.
School-Based Therapy

The Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri, Inc.

Amount Received:
\$49,998.60

Children's Supplemental Food Programs

The Food Bank provides access to supplemental food in school buildings for children who are experiencing food insecurity.

Is anyone better off?



100%

of parents/guardians completing a survey reported receiving food from the program helped them eat more healthy foods



68%

of parents/guardians completing a survey reported receiving food from the program helped them meet their basic needs



2,816

Boone County children received food from the program at their school

“

“Our partnership with The Food Bank was critical this month [November], as families who qualify for SNAP benefits had a delay in receiving their funds. Food provided by The Food Bank, and other local donations, assisted students and families in our district. Requests for food assistance also increased during this time, and we were able to distribute food to all families facing food insecurity.”

”

“

“The program has been incredibly valuable for our students. Both students and parents have enjoyed being part of the food selection process and we’ve seen a significant reduction in waste. Each week, I check in with families to ensure they are receiving enough food, and they consistently share that their needs are being met and that they are grateful for the program.”

”

“

“Families were very appreciative of the resources available to them, especially earlier this month [November]. Some of our district families were struggling with the government shut down and having these options for them helped them have a little less stress.”

University of Missouri – Department of Psychiatry

MU Bridge Program: School-Based Psychiatry

Amount Received:
\$758,632.86

The MU Bridge Program provides school-based psychiatric services and nurse case management for children and adolescents in Boone County. The program is specifically designed to reduce wait times for school-age children in need of psychiatric care, ensuring faster access to mental health services and professional support.

Is anyone better off?



65%

of children participating in the MU Bridge Program demonstrated improvement in mood and/or attention, behavior, and activity level



62%

of teachers with students participating in the MU Bridge Program reported improved classroom behavior



84%

of children transitioned to established ongoing care

“ MU Bridge Program: School-Based Psychiatry Testimonial ”

“I am so incredibly thankful for the MU Bridge Program. My husband and I knew our son had ADHD by the time he was 4. My mother, a Special Education teacher, noted on more than one occasion that he was the most hyper kid she had ever seen. But because he masked at school and is very high functioning, no one else saw what we did.

We tried to get him diagnosed beginning in Kindergarten, and then again in 1st and 2nd grade. The first time we met with the Bridge Program, the doctor was able to clearly see his ADHD, as well as anxiety. I cannot begin to tell you how grateful we were that, finally, someone with expertise understood what we'd been trying to tell others.

I had feared that our son would go through school and, as each year got harder, he would find himself unable to focus; his grades would slip, and he would get into trouble for being distracted. I feared this would lower his self-esteem and make him feel inferior.

So when I say I'm grateful that the Bridge Program was able to help diagnose and treat his ADHD, I don't mean just surface-level gratitude. I mean they helped us prevent a future I feared was certain to happen.

With his ability to focus and remain calm at school, his confidence grew. Now, we talk about his super powers with ADHD, like the fact that he can strategize in chess well above his age level, that ADHD helps him quickly see patterns that others can't, and how it helps us think of creative and unique solutions to problems. It's a gift, not the curse he originally thought. On top of that, he had been having panic attacks, and it's incredibly difficult to watch your young child go through that. The doctor and nurse were not only understanding and supportive, but they helped us learn how to help our son—not only with medication, but with strategies as well.

This program is important for our kids and for the parents of those kids. Without it, we would be watching our son continue to struggle, and we, as parents, would feel helpless.”

University of Missouri - Department of Psychiatry
MU Bridge Program: School-Based Psychiatry

Family Access Center of Excellence (FACE)

Amount Received:
\$3,305,899.57

- FACE was established to meet the mental health needs of all children, youth, and their families in Boone County and to promote access to resources.
- FACE is a unique partnership between community and school partners.
- Programming is influenced by the FACE Board of Representatives, which includes Boone County representatives from across different sectors (schools, law enforcement, court services, faith-based community, disability services, pediatrician/family practitioners, early childhood education, etc.).

School-Based Services

- Regional Coordinators are assigned to all Boone County schools, including private/parochial schools, and provide services which include:
 - Administering early identification checklists to all students.
 - Providing multi-level interventions based on needs identified by the checklists.
 - Participating in problem-solving teams with school personnel.
 - Providing professional development for school personnel.
 - Offering group and individual supports (therapy, case management, etc.).
- Family Intervention Specialists are in all rural school districts and select Columbia Public Schools elementary schools and provide services which include:
 - Supporting de-escalation of behavior in schools.
 - Assisting families in completing a needs-based assessment and creating an action plan to address top concerns.
 - Providing intensive therapeutic case management across systems for families.
 - Completing suicide risk assessments and safety plans with youth and their families, when needed.

Is anyone better off?



24,708

students received an early identification checklist



100%

of schools implemented one or more evidence-based interventions



82%

of students receiving crisis services decreased severity of top problems

Community-Based Services

FACE Community-Based Services staff provide services which include:

- Supporting families in completing a needs-based assessment and assisting families in creating an action plan to address top areas of concern.
- Assisting families with accessing community-based resources to meet their needs.
- Completing suicide risk assessments and safety plans with youth and their families, when needed.
- Therapy Access Program (TAP), which offers access to more immediate, brief support for Boone County children, youth, and families with up to ten free therapy sessions to address mental health concerns. Families can be referred to TAP through the Community-Based Services side of FACE.

Is anyone better off?



61%

of individuals decreased severity of top problems



53%

of individuals engaged with outside providers



91%

of individuals referred from the juvenile justice system decreased severity of top problems

Youth & Family Support Programs

Programs are designed to strengthen the family, improve parenting practices, and support healthy development for children.

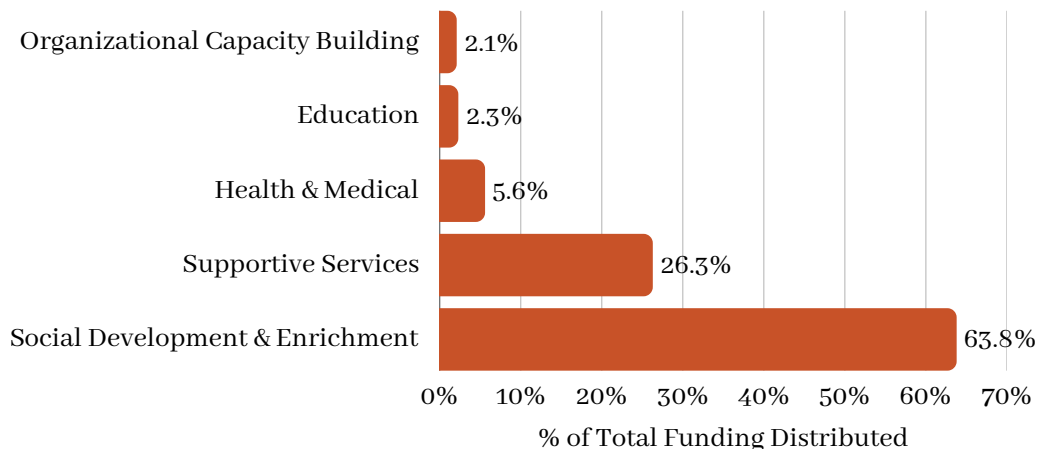
18
funded programs



3,992

individuals were served through BCCSD funding

TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING BY SERVICE CATEGORY



Healthy Home Connections Success Story

"The Healthy Home Connections (HHC) Program assisted a 19-year-old single father of two who was previously experiencing homelessness as he moved into the Kinney Point housing units. At move-in, the family had no household items beyond the clothes they were wearing.

An HHC Family Support Specialist provided immediate support by connecting the family to essential resources, including clothing, beds, food, and other basic-needs items necessary to establish the household. The specialist also supported the father in enrolling his children in their new school following the move.

To promote long-term stability, the Family Support Specialist connected the father to an employment-based program focused on job readiness and securing employment. These coordinated supports helped the family transition into housing and begin building stability."

CHA Low-Income Services, Inc.
Healthy Home Connections



86,929

hours of out-of-school programming were funded



657

individuals improved or maintained their academic performance

Big Brothers Big Sisters Success Story

“Zach and Dennis were matched in late 2022, when Zach was 13 years old. Zach’s mother enrolled him in Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) out of concern for his mental health. At the time, she shared that Zach was ‘disappearing.’ He was withdrawing from the world around him, no longer seeking friendships or connections, doing everything he could to avoid attention, and struggling academically. His confidence had reached a new low, and those who cared about him were deeply worried. Following a recommendation from Zach’s school counselor, the family began the enrollment process in May. Zach and Dennis were officially introduced that October.

Building the relationship took time. Engagement was slow, but one of the qualities Dennis demonstrated early on (and continues to show today) is persistence. With patience and consistency, Dennis created space for trust to grow. Over time, that steady presence developed into a meaningful bond.

Today, Dennis is the first person Zach wants to share good news with. When Zach landed his first job in 2024, after telling his mom, Dennis was his next call. Dennis had supported Zach long before that moment, offering encouragement, interview tips, and reassurance along the way. While Zach remains an introvert at heart, Dennis has helped him see the value of relationships and the importance of ‘chosen family.’

Zach is no longer disappearing. He continues to show up, take risks, and engage with the world around him. While the agency would never claim credit for all the hard work Zach has done over the past 3+ years, it is clear that the match between Zach and Dennis has had a profound and lasting impact.”

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Missouri
One-on-One Mentoring with BBBS



567

individuals developed and/or
made progress on their goals



11,036

hours of case management
were funded



291

children in foster care achieved or
maintained permanency



1,322

individuals developed positive
values, social competencies, and
positive identities

Access Arts

Youth Arts Program

Access Arts provides specialized programming designed to remove barriers to quality arts education for children from low-income households, children with disabilities, and those who otherwise lack access. Access Arts offers six-week classes and art camps that are open to the general public and provides after-school instruction exclusively for Benton Elementary students.

Is anyone better off?

Amount Received:
\$76,108.67



99%

of children reported having positive values, social competencies, and positive identities



99%

of youth felt feeling socially connected



99%

of youth maintained or improved their academic performance

Bethany Christian Services of Missouri

Safe Families for Children

Bethany Christian Services of Missouri provides respite services to families during crises to help prevent children from entering the foster care system. Case managers assist families in developing and implementing a plan to improve the situation and reduce risk factors of abuse and neglect.

Is anyone better off?

Amount Received:
\$24,653.00



84%

of children remained free from child abuse and neglect



100%

of children demonstrated improved quality of the relationship with their parent/guardian



100%

of families developed a plan to meet their goals

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of Central Missouri

One-on-One Mentoring with Big Brothers Big Sisters

Children participating in the program are matched with mentors who provide social, emotional, and academic support. The goal is to foster positive, enduring relationships that create a meaningful and lasting impact on the lives of the youth served.

Is anyone better off?



100%

of youth reported
doing well in
school was
important to them



93%

of youth reported
that school was
important to
them



83%

of youth reported they
feel good about
themselves when they
are at school

Amount Received:
\$67,836.00

Boys and Girls Clubs of the Columbia Area

Great Futures Start Here

The Boys and Girls Club offers after-school and summer programming focused on youth empowerment. The program is designed to help students excel academically, develop strong citizenship skills, and cultivate the habits necessary to lead healthy, productive lives.

Is anyone better off?



96%

of youth understood and
managed their behaviors,
identified strengths, and/or
identified good traits about
themselves



80%

of youth reported
having good grades
and/or the ability to
complete homework
independently



78%

of youth built teamwork
and leadership skills, the
ability to care for others
and the community, and/or
skills for conflict resolution

Amount Received:
\$299,999.34

Central Missouri Foster Care & Adoption Association (CMFCAA)

Amount Received:
\$9,347.20

Respite Care Odyssey Events

Central Missouri Foster Care & Adoption Association (CMFCAA) provides respite events tailored for children and youth currently in foster care or awaiting adoption. The program is designed to decrease family stress, enhance participants' social skills, and strengthen the foundational relationships within the home.

Is anyone better off?



100%

of parents/guardians reported respite events enhanced their emotional wellbeing



82%

of youth reported making a positive connection with a peer



100%

of parents/guardians reported respite events made a difference in keeping their foster, adoptive, and/or kinship placement stable

CHA Low-Income Services, Inc.

Amount Received:
\$118,367.00

Healthy Home Connections

This program provides case management and family development events specifically for households receiving housing assistance through the Columbia Housing Authority. The program aims to empower families to make measurable progress toward their personal goals while ensuring long-term housing stability.

Is anyone better off?



86%

of families made progress and/or reached their goals



87%

of families maintained their housing



100%

of individuals utilized one or more supportive service

CHA Low-Income Services, Inc.

Moving Ahead After-School and Summer Program (MAP)

The Moving Ahead Program (MAP) provides educational enrichment for children and youth whose families receive housing assistance from the Columbia Housing Authority. The program offers comprehensive out-of-school programming and essential support services designed to strengthen participating families.

Amount Received:
\$199,997.50

Is anyone better off?



100%
of students
reported having a
caring adult in
their life



97%
of students were
optimistic about their
future



100%
of students
demonstrated empathy,
sensitivity, friendship
skills, and competence
in helping others

Cor Columbia

Cor Columbia

Cor holistically serves male student-athletes, working to transform futures by providing the essential opportunities and resources needed for success. The program utilizes a combination of academic support, mentorship-based relationships, and life-skills training to help students develop and execute a clear post-secondary plan following high school graduation.

Amount Received:
\$219,992.23

Is anyone better off?



100%
of students were on
track to graduate



100%
of seniors established
post-secondary plans



100%
of youth reported
having a supportive
adult in their life

Coyote Hill

Family Stability Program

Coyote Hill provides supervised visitation services designed to support children and their biological families during periods of separation. In addition to visitation services, Coyote Hill provides comprehensive, ongoing support to foster families to ensure they have the resources and guidance necessary to provide stable and nurturing care.

Is anyone better off?

Amount Received:

\$134,894.60



100%

of biological families made progress on achieving/maintaining permanency



100%

of foster, adoptive, and/or kinship families reported services helped keep placement stable



93%

of foster or adoptive families made progress toward their goals

Destiny of H.O.P.E.

Youth Empowerment

This program provides targeted life skills classes for students who are at risk of involvement with law enforcement, focusing on personal development and decision-making. These sessions are held in-person at the P.E.A.C.E. and H.O.P.E. Center for Youth and the Juvenile Justice Center to ensure easy access for participating youth. By addressing the root causes of behavioral challenges, the program aims to prevent initial entry into the juvenile justice system and reduce recidivism rates for those already involved.

Is anyone better off?

Amount Received:

\$113,350.73



80%

of individuals increased their sense of self-worth



75%

of individuals increased their communication skills



90%

of individuals increased their knowledge of their legal rights and/or obligations

Fresh Start Sober Living Programs

Fresh Start Family Reunification Program

The Fresh Start Family Reunification Program offers parents in recovery case management services, a support group, and support from certified peer specialists. The goal of the program is to help parents meet their goals and achieve or maintain guardianship of their child(ren).

Amount Received:

\$161,991.50

Is anyone better off?



93%

of individuals made progress on their goals or addressed identified needs



65%

of individuals achieved or maintained reunification or guardianship of their child(ren)



82%

of individuals were able to acquire and/or maintain permanent housing

“ Youth Empowerment Success Story ”

“When Marcus first entered the program, he was a high school student facing suspension, academic failure, and increasing pressure to affiliate with peers involved in street activity. He had experienced multiple traumatic events, including exposure to community violence and incarceration in the Juvenile Justice Center. At school, Marcus was labeled as ‘disruptive’ and ‘unmotivated,’ but beneath the surface, he was overwhelmed, angry, and disconnected.

Through his participation with the H.E.A.T. Squad Mentorship Program, Marcus was provided with structure, consistency, and something he had not experienced in a long time—mentors who listened without judgment. At first, Marcus resisted engagement. Over time, consistent mentoring and trauma-informed support helped him open up about his experiences. He began to recognize how unresolved trauma was influencing his behavior and choices.

Through group discussions, one-on-one mentoring, and skill-building exercises, Marcus learned healthier ways to manage anger, resolve conflict, and set personal goals. He was recently inspired to seek employment and started his new job today.”

Destiny of H.O.P.E.
Youth Empowerment

Fun City Youth Academy

Fun City Youth Academy

Fun City Youth Academy provides comprehensive out-of-school programming and academic instruction designed to help students achieve grade-level proficiency in reading and math. Beyond academics, the program is dedicated to the holistic well-being of its participants by supporting mental health and fostering a positive self-image.

Is anyone better off?

Amount Received:

\$150,000.00



79%

of students maintained or increased their educational performance in reading



76%

of students maintained or increased their educational performance in math



82%

of students demonstrated an increase in self-control methods

Grade A Plus, Inc.

Out of School Program Staffing

This program offers targeted tutoring services for children requiring academic assistance. The program aims to boost academic performance and ensure students remain on track with their grade-level goals.

Is anyone better off?

Amount Received:

\$95,344.00



88%

of children improved or maintained their motivation for learning



88%

of children improved or maintained their scores in reading



81%

of children improved or maintained their scores in math

Heart of Missouri CASA

CASA Child Advocacy

Heart of Missouri CASA provides dedicated child advocacy services for children involved in court cases related to abuse and neglect. Through the use of highly trained volunteers, the program works to ensure these children's voices are heard within the legal system. The primary goal of these services is to advocate for the best interests of each child, helping them find safe, permanent, and nurturing homes as quickly as possible.

Amount Received:

\$250,779.15

Is anyone better off?



94%

of children with a
CASA volunteer
achieved a permanent
outcome upon case
closure



96%

of the CASA
volunteers'
recommendations
were accepted by the
family court judge



99%

of children with a CASA
volunteer remained free
from re-abuse while in
foster care

Kingdom Konnections

Kingdom Konnections

This program provides comprehensive parenting skills training specifically designed for families who have had children removed from the home or are currently at risk of removal. The program aims to reduce the risk of future child abuse and neglect while actively working toward the safe and permanent reunification of families.

Amount Received:

\$108,868.34

Is anyone better off?



100%

of individuals achieved
and maintained
permanency with their
child(ren) for at least
three months



90%

of individuals developed
and/or met their goals to
rebuild and maintain
connections with their
family



83%

of individuals developed
and/or made progress on
their goal to address
mental health and/or
substance use concerns

Powerhouse Community Development Corporation

Healthy Choices

Powerhouse offers comprehensive programming for youth within schools, after-school settings, and during the summer, focusing on the development of essential life skills, leadership, and employment readiness.

Is anyone better off?

Amount Received:

\$250,876.96



93%

of youth improved their strengths and supports linked to healthy development and future success



94%

of youth improved their leadership skills



89%

of youth improved or maintained positive relationships with peers

True North of Columbia, Inc.

True North Children's Program

This program offers parent-child intervention through Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) for families who have experienced domestic or sexual violence. Specifically serving residents of the emergency shelter, the program provides evidence-based skills to help parents and children process trauma together. The primary objective is to foster healthy attachment, increase emotional resilience, and promote long-term family stability by reducing the lasting impacts of abuse and neglect.

Is anyone better off?

Amount Received:

\$25,463.92



100%

of parents/guardians learned a new parenting technique



90%

of parents/guardians achieved at least one of their parenting goals



100%

of children gained confidence in themselves

University of Missouri – Department of Occupational Therapy

Amount Received:

\$30,536.32

SWIM: Swimming and Water Instructions Modifications

The SWIM Program is designed to enhance water safety awareness and provide inclusive community-based recreational opportunities for children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). The program offers tailored instruction to help participants build confidence and motor skills in a supportive aquatic environment.

Is anyone better off?



63%

of children increased their swimming skills



63%

of parents learned new strategies for water safety and drowning prevention

“ Coyote Hill Success Story ”

“In 2025, Coyote Hill saw 27 children adopted into Coyote Hill-supported foster homes. One of these homes welcomed their first foster child, an eleven-year-old girl, just this past year. In less than 12 months, this foster child not only found a stable foster home but was also adopted into the household by this first-time fostering family.

The newly adoptive mother stated, ‘From the moment (my daughter) arrived, I knew she needed more than a home. She needed a safe place to let herself feel, to trust, and to know that she truly belonged. I wanted her to have the security I wish I had at that age, and I was determined to advocate for that every step of the way.’

Not only was this foster family able to provide her with love and support, but she was also poured into through the respite events hosted by Coyote Hill staff and benefited from the resources staff connected her to when trying to remain in contact with her biological brother, find a therapist, and receive after-school care.

Coyote Hill staff noted, ‘We were here for the little things and the big things. From finding resources to capturing the adoption day celebrations, every step was about helping (the foster child) and the (foster) family feel supported and celebrated.’”

Coyote Hill
Family Stability Program

Treatment Programs

Programs provide physical and mental health treatment to children, youth, parents, families, and adults.

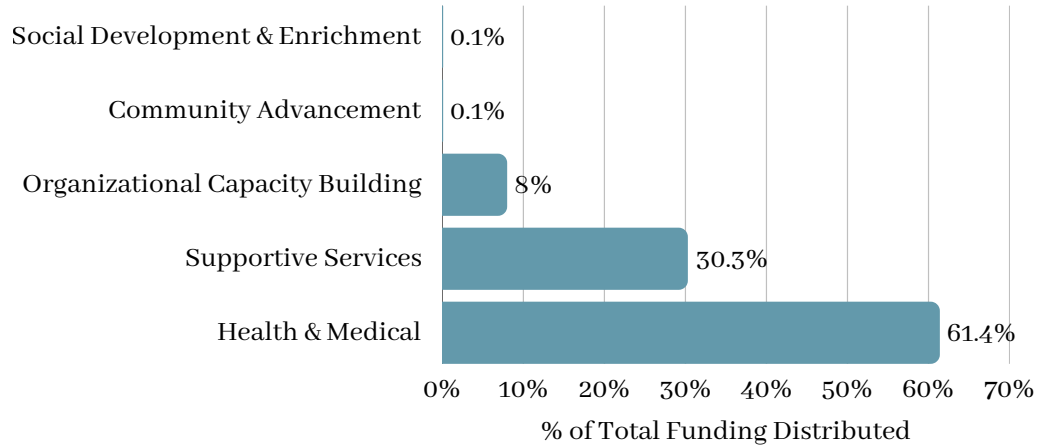
7
funded
programs



962

individuals were
served through
BCCSD funding

TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING BY SERVICE CATEGORY



HOPE Program Success Story

"When Maria came to our program, she was parenting two young daughters completely on her own. Adopted from foster care as a child, Maria had no connection to her biological family and no ongoing relationship with her adoptive family. Without a support system, she was navigating parenting, employment, and housing instability while carrying unresolved childhood trauma. She expressed a deep desire to create a different future for her daughters but lacked the stability and emotional support to do so on her own.

Through our wraparound approach, Maria was connected with our therapist, who provided trauma-informed counseling focused on processing her experiences in foster care, grief related to family disconnection, and building healthy coping strategies. As Maria began healing, her confidence and emotional regulation improved, strengthening her parenting and overall well-being.

Simultaneously, her case manager worked closely with her to address practical barriers to stability. Her daughters were enrolled in Head Start, ensuring access to early childhood education and allowing Maria to pursue consistent employment. The case manager also assisted Maria in identifying safe, affordable housing and navigating the application process. With advocacy and support, she secured an apartment where she and her daughters feel secure.

Today, Maria is employed full time for the first time in her life and has maintained stable housing. Her daughters are thriving in a structured early learning environment, and Maria reports feeling hopeful and empowered in her role as a parent. By addressing both emotional healing and concrete needs, our program helped break a cycle of instability and positioned this family for long-term success."

KVC Behavioral Healthcare Missouri, Inc.
HOPE Program

Child Trauma Initiative of Boone County (CTI-BC) Success Story

“In early 2024, two young brothers were referred to CTI-BC for Child-Parent Psychotherapy (CPP) following an unspeakable tragedy: their father had shot and killed their mother. Both children presented with significant developmental concerns, severe emotional regulation difficulties, and high levels of trauma-related symptoms across all domains (intrusion, avoidance, negative affect, and hyperarousal). At the start of treatment, they could barely tolerate attending therapy sessions and were easily overwhelmed.

Complicating treatment, the children were in the process of being adopted, requiring extensive case management and coordination across child-serving systems. Transportation barriers and demanding schedules interfered with attendance. To reduce barriers and increase access, services were transitioned to in-home CPP sessions, improving engagement, caregiver participation, and emotional safety.

The brothers also exhibited severe behavioral concerns at school, including aggression toward teachers and peers. Their CTI-BC clinician collaborated closely with school personnel and teachers to support trauma-informed strategies and consistency across settings.

Over time, both children demonstrated substantial improvement in emotional regulation, relational functioning, and trauma symptoms. They developed the capacity to talk about their mother’s murder and their father’s incarceration in a more regulated, adaptive manner.

By termination, the brothers were living in a safe and stable adoptive home. They were doing well in school, and school staff reported little to no behavioral incidents. Trauma symptoms significantly decreased, and emotional responses were developmentally appropriate and manageable with caregiver support.”

University of Missouri - Department of Psychiatry
Child Trauma Initiative of Boone County



212

individuals were able to successfully manage mental and behavioral health conditions



108

individuals developed healthy relationships with family members/caregivers



345

mental health providers were trained in evidence-based and/or best practices or received professional coaching



\$30,854

was utilized for medical financial assistance to reduce financial barriers for families

Heart of Missouri CASA

Foster Care Speech-Language Therapy Program

The program provides speech and language screenings, assessments, and therapy services for children and youth (ages 0–18) in foster care. The goal is to support early identification and intervention for speech and language development while reducing barriers to accessing care. In addition to direct services, the program offers community trainings designed to increase awareness of trauma-informed approaches to speech, language, and communication support.

Is anyone better off?



The program was funded as a pilot through the Strategic Innovation Opportunity Fund and began in September 2025. The first term of the contract was focused on building the program and developing the referral system.



30

individuals were trained to understand how to identify speech and language difficulties and how to make a referral

Amount Received:

\$16,906.92

HeartSpace Clinic

Safe and Sound Protocol

The Safe and Sound Protocol is an evidence-based listening therapy designed to significantly reduce sound sensitivity and improve auditory processing. The therapy is particularly effective for individuals navigating the challenges of trauma, anxiety, and sensory processing disorders, fostering a greater sense of safety and emotional resilience.

Is anyone better off?



71%

of participants age six and older decreased trauma symptoms



71%

of participants age six and older decreased anxiety symptoms



100%

of participants age five and under had improved mood and/or social functioning

Amount Received:

\$141,848.00

KVC Behavioral Healthcare Missouri

HOPE Program

HOPE provides prevention services for Boone County children and families prior to abuse, neglect, and/or traumatizing removal of a child from their home. The program provides home visiting and therapeutic services with the goal of preventing child abuse and neglect, improving parent-child relationships, and reducing the risk of out-of-home placement.

Amount Received:

\$79,400.18

Is anyone better off?



100%

of individuals experienced a reduction in negative mental health symptoms



88%

of families showed reduction of risk for abuse and neglect



94%

of parents/guardians maintained a home environment that allowed their child(ren) to remain at home

Counseling and Parenting Services Success Story

"Daisy was a fifth grader referred to counseling because of her parents' divorce. She was experiencing depressive symptoms and reported feeling sad, as well as worrying about her family. She was having trouble concentrating in school. The therapist worked with Daisy to help her understand divorce, reframe her negative thoughts, and reduce self-blaming thoughts. She learned coping skills to manage and regulate her emotions and uses these skills in school. Daisy and her mom have both reported positive progress and say that she is getting used to living in two separate houses."

Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri
Counseling and Parenting Services

No Family Left Behind Client Quotes

"We had a very positive experience with the program and truly appreciated the opportunity to work with two people who were genuinely invested in our son's well-being. Through the program, we noticed that our son became better at expressing himself in healthier and more effective ways. We saw meaningful improvements in his behavior and are extremely grateful for the support we received. We would highly recommend this program to others and would gladly refer anyone we feel could benefit from these services."

"The biggest thing this program gave us was stability. The staff didn't just 'check in'—they worked alongside us, helped us set realistic goals, and followed through every step of the way. We saw improvements in our child's attitude, decision-making, and willingness to accept support. Our family routines became more consistent, and conflict decreased significantly. We also felt heard and respected throughout the process. We're thankful for the progress we've made and would absolutely recommend these services to other families in need."

The Heriford House Foundation
No Family Left Behind

Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri

Counseling and Parenting Services

This program provides evidence-based counseling to parents, children, and families. The organization also offers the Parenting Program, which provides case management, home visiting, and supportive counseling for women who are pregnant or parents of young children.

Amount Received:

\$394,667.02

Is anyone better off?



72%

of adults decreased or maintained depression symptoms



100%

of children maintained or improved relationships with their family members



80%

of individuals made progress toward reducing risk factors for child abuse and neglect

The Heriford House Foundation

No Family Left Behind

This program provides Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST), an evidence-based intervention, to youth with involvement or at imminent risk for involvement, with the juvenile justice system.

Amount Received:

\$421,296.71

Is anyone better off?



67%

of individuals showed improvements in mental health conditions



64%

of individuals lowered involvement with personal and property crimes



83%

of individuals showed improvement in problem behavior

University of Missouri – Department of Psychiatry

Child Trauma Initiative of Boone County (CTI-BC)

The CTI-BC focuses on supporting and strengthening the bond between children and their caregivers following a traumatic event. Utilizing Child-Parent Psychotherapy (CPP), the program works to restore a child's cognitive, behavioral, and social functioning by placing the caregiver-child relationship at the center of the therapeutic process.

Is anyone better off?

Amount Received:

\$177,167.91



90%

of children had a reduction in emotional and behavioral difficulties



95%

of caregivers had a reduction in depressive symptoms



98%

of individuals developed and made progress toward goals to address identified needs

University of Missouri – Psychological Services Clinic

MU Psychological Services Clinic Center for Evidence-Based Youth Mental Health

This program provides evidence-based assessment and treatment for children, adolescents, and their families for a variety of emotional and behavioral difficulties. Training and workshops on evidence-based practices are also offered to community mental health providers.

Is anyone better off?

Amount Received:

\$328,174.36



91%

of individuals showed improvements in symptoms, emotions, and behaviors



100%

of individuals showed improvement in adaptive functioning



87%

of individuals showed improvement in caregiver-reported symptoms

Community Support & Basic Needs Programs

Programs included provision of basic needs, vocational training, emergency shelter, health education, and services to support independent living for seniors.

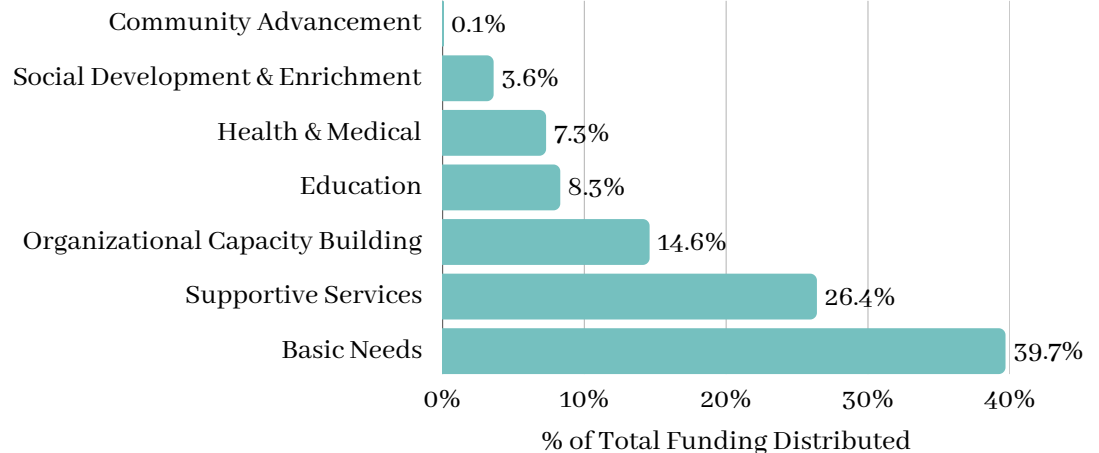
13
funded
programs



22,341

individuals were
served through
BCCSD funding

**TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING BY
SERVICE CATEGORY**



Opportunity Gardens Success Story

“Andrew was facing a broad set of challenges. Andrew and his daughter both had serious medical conditions. Andrew’s condition caused him frequent severe pain, and the medications he took to manage his condition made it difficult for him to keep down food. If that weren’t enough, medical bills made it difficult for Andrew to afford the food he needed.

In the past, Andrew had observed that it was easier for him to keep down whole, fresh vegetables when his medication made it difficult to eat. These vegetables were expensive at the store, so Andrew couldn’t always afford them when he needed them. Despite his tumultuous circumstances, Andrew came up with a creative and resourceful solution: growing the food he needed at home.

Andrew joined CCUA’s Opportunity Gardens program. CCUA helped Andrew build a backyard garden for free. CCUA’s educators collaborated with Andrew to make a plan for his garden. With CCUA’s help, he planted fruits, vegetables, and herbs that he and his garden mentor identified as potentially helpful for his symptoms.

A year later, Andrew’s garden has had a significant positive impact on his life. Andrew’s grocery bill has gone down, freeing up money for him to spend on medical bills and other urgent needs. Andrew’s daughter will sometimes help him in the kitchen, cooking meals that almost always incorporate something from their garden. Andrew’s family now eats almost twice as many fruits and vegetables as they did before he had his garden. With consistent access to fresh vegetables, Andrew can keep all of his food down for weeks at a time, significantly improving his quality of life.”

Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture
Opportunity Gardens

Path Forward Success Story

"The police department brought a single dad, Darrell, and his two school-age boys to Love Columbia for assistance with housing, employment, and transportation. Darrell was referred to the Path Forward program, received financial assistance to pay for a hotel room, secured employment, participated in housing coaching, and has now moved into permanent housing.

The family received furniture from The Love Seat. Darrell told us he is excited to have a kitchen to cook meals after staying in a cramped hotel room for the past several months. Darrell said, 'Love Columbia has helped me tremendously to get back on my feet. You helped me move forward from some tough times. I especially appreciate how you helped me navigate the application process and secure housing.' Through our career coaching, Darrell secured a food service job within walking distance and hopes to continue to advance his career once he obtains a car. He shared, 'I enjoy cooking and helping, but I would like to get a warehouse or moving job that will allow me to do more for my family.'

Darrell plans to enroll in credit-building and money management coaching once he is settled in. His goal is to raise his 590 credit score, buy a car, and eventually a home. Darrell is a gentle soul who enjoys cooking, bowling, and collecting sports cards. His faith is important to Darrell, and he has made a church connection since moving here earlier this year. He looks forward to getting his boys established in school activities and sports.

Darrell encourages others to seek help through Love Columbia: 'If you want help and are willing to put forth the effort, Love Columbia is a great place.'

Love Columbia
Path Forward



1,751

individuals developed and/or made progress toward goals to address identified needs



283

individuals increased their vocational or job readiness skills



19,486

individuals received supplemental food



843

individuals received case management to address housing insecurity

Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture (CCUA)

Opportunity Gardens

This program teaches low-income families how to grow their own fresh food and prepare healthy meals. The program empowers participants to improve their nutritional security and develop long-term self-sufficiency by providing the tools and knowledge needed to maintain a home garden.

Amount Received:

\$83,126.56

Is anyone better off?



97%

of individuals reported they always eat the food grown in their garden



93%

of individuals reported they spent less money on food because they eat from their garden



76%

of individuals reported achieving one of their self-identified goals

Columbia Farmers Market

Food Incentive Programming at Columbia Farmers Market: Access to Healthy Food & Produce Prescription Program

The Access to Healthy Food & Produce Prescription Program (AHF) provides a financial match for SNAP and WIC participants to use at the Columbia Farmers Market (CFM), making fresh, local food more affordable. Additionally, low-income individuals who are at risk for or currently managing diet-related chronic diseases can receive a six-month 'prescription' for fruits and vegetables at the CFM through the Family Health Center. By increasing food security and the consumption of fresh produce, the program aims to improve overall health outcomes while reducing the need for healthcare utilization and related expenses.

Amount Received:

\$190,638.70

Is anyone better off?



84%

of participants reported a reduction in stress levels after enrolling in the program



100%

of participants reported a positive change in health for at least one family member



91%

of participants reported being better able to afford fresh food items

Fostering Life-Changing Opportunities (Flourish)

Flourish Prep Internship Program

The Flourish Prep Internship Program provides paid internships paired with professional development and comprehensive supportive services to enhance economic and social mobility for marginalized youth. The program provides dedicated case management to create sustainable pathways for professional and personal growth.

Is anyone better off?

Amount Received:

\$80,061.82



100%

of interns increased self-awareness of positive values, strengths, and social competencies



100%

of interns made progress toward and/or completed their goals by the end of the program



75%

of interns increased their employment skills

Job Point

AmeriCorps

This program provides academic instruction for participants to take the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET). The goal is to support young adults in obtaining a high school diploma equivalency, leading to economic independence.

Is anyone better off?

Amount Received:

\$96,252.04



40%

of students obtained a high school diploma or equivalent



3,613

hours of basic education were funded for youth



\$70,695

were matched by federal funding to support the program

Job Point

Boone County Builds Youth

The Boone County Builds Youth program offers a dual-enrollment model in partnership with public schools and Job Point. While the public school provides the core academic coursework necessary for students to earn a high school diploma, Job Point delivers specialized vocational certificate courses and comprehensive job readiness training. This collaborative approach ensures that students complete their secondary education while simultaneously gaining the professional skills and certifications needed for the workforce.

Is anyone better off?



63%

of program graduates
obtained employment



75%

of construction trade
participants completed
their trade's certificate
program



73%

of other vocational
training participants
completed their
certificate program

Amount Received:

\$139,759.68

Boone County Builds Youth Success Story

"Joseph was referred to Job Point as a senior at Columbia Public Schools for Job Point's HVAC program. He was 17 years of age at that time. Joseph attended high school during the day and our programming two nights a week for six months. Joseph did well academically in our programming; however, he did have some issues with social interactions while in programming, especially during his internship at a local HVAC company. Staff provided coaching regarding his behavior, and he improved. Joseph successfully graduated high school and Job Point in May 2025. He secured employment at the maintenance department of Columbia Housing Authority on October 16, 2025, and has been proudly working there for over 90 days."

Job Point
Boone County Builds Youth

The Food Bank Market Quotes

"There have been times I needed to choose between gas and groceries. By visiting The Market, I was able to have food to cook and still have transportation."

"Food from The Market has helped me and my kids get by, especially on mornings when cooking a meal was difficult."

"With recent changes, The Market has helped drastically because that's what me and my kids survive off during the month."

The Food Bank for Central and
Northeast Missouri, Inc.
*The Food Bank Market Children
& Families*

Love Columbia

Path Forward

This program provides dedicated case management support to families who have children and are experiencing housing insecurity. This stabilization effort focuses on addressing immediate housing needs while building a foundation for family and economic security.

Amount Received:

\$225,057.21

Is anyone better off?



99%

of families who obtained permanent housing maintained their housing for at least six months



93%

of unhoused families obtained temporary housing within 30 days



89%

of participants made progress on achieving at least one goal

The Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri, Inc.

The Food Bank Market Children & Families

The Food Bank Market provides food and groceries to those in need in Boone County. The goal of this program is to reduce food insecurity by providing supplemental food to low-income individuals in Boone County and increase access to nutritious foods by distributing foods such as fresh produce, protein and dairy.

Amount Received:

\$119,998.61

Is anyone better off?



93%

of individuals reported eating more healthy foods



92%

of individuals reported receiving food from The Market allowed them to redirect their income to other bills



92%

of individuals reported receiving food from The Market allowed them to have a meal when they otherwise wouldn't have had one

Voluntary Action Center (VAC)

VAC Basic Needs Program

This program provides a variety of services that meet needs for assistance with health, employment, and safety for low-income Boone County residents.

Amount Received:

\$148,000.00

Is anyone better off?



96%

of VAC clients surveyed
reported their level of stress
was significantly lowered upon
receiving basic needs items



99%

of VAC clients surveyed
reported their basic need was
met by receiving services

Woodhaven

EnCircle Technologies

Operating under Woodhaven, EnCircle Technologies provides individuals with autism and other forms of neurodiversity an opportunity to learn technology and develop soft skills through classes and internships.

Amount Received:

\$30,973.80

Is anyone better off?



93%

of individuals
mastered skills as
defined by individual
class objectives



100%

of individuals made
progress on their
employment goals



100%

of businesses gained
knowledge in
supporting youth
with barriers

Miscellaneous Funded Projects

The Source Summit Global

2025 Source Summit - Youth and Families Symposium

The BCCSB provided funding through the Strategic Innovation Opportunity Fund to support the Youth and Family Symposium held on November 14, 2025, as part of the 2025 Source Summit. The symposium featured a youth-centered panel, youth engagement workshop, and a keynote speaker. The Source Summit convenes community-based organizations, corporations, and the faith-based community to influence economic and social change for individuals within the Columbia community.

Amount Received:

\$2,250.00

Missouri Network of Child Advocacy Centers, Inc. (MO-NACA)

Child Advocacy Center of Central Missouri

The BCCSB provided funding through the Contingency Fund to MO-NACA to establish the Child Advocacy Center of Central Missouri in Boone County after the sudden closing of Rainbow House. The following are highlights from 2024 activities:

- All state funding contracts were transferred, resulting in no lost state resources.
- A regional advisory council was created to provide oversight until a board could be established.
- The Child Advocacy Center of Central Missouri obtained an Employer Identification Number (EIN), filed articles of incorporation, drafted bylaws, opened new bank accounts and developed procedures for fiscal responsibility, secured a new office space, and hired an Executive Director and staff members.

Amount Received:

\$22,000.00

True North of Columbia

Shelter for Victims of Domestic Violence

True North provides a safe shelter for victims of domestic and sexual violence, and their minor children, who are fleeing abusive situations. Boone County provides funding for shelters for victims of domestic violence through fees collected from civil actions, marriage licenses, and criminal cases.

Amount Received:

\$23,952.00



Boone County
residents were
served



referrals were made to medical,
psychological, financial, educational,
vocational, child care, or legal services

Grassroots Funding Opportunity

6
funded
programs

Programs included case management support, positive youth support, out-of-school programming, and provision of basic needs. Funding also supported capacity building and nonprofit consultation services for the grassroots organizations.

Columbia Supreme

Case Management for At-Risk Youth

Columbia Supreme provides structured athletic programming for youth, enhanced by comprehensive support services including mentorship, positive youth development, workforce readiness training, and individualized case management.

Amount Received:

\$36,440.00



Case managers supported families with accessing housing resources and food assistance, and provided educational advocacy, healthcare navigation, and transportation assistance



Parents noted reduced stress after receiving help navigating systems and resources

Destiny of H.O.P.E.

P.E.A.C.E and H.O.P.E Center for Youth

The Center operates during the week to support children and youth who are facing expulsion or suspension from school, alongside a dedicated after-school program. It serves as a comprehensive resource hub, offering academic support, mental health services, and workforce development to help students stay on track.

Amount Received:

\$158,896.00



The Center provided summer programming that included classes and out-of-town field trips



The program improved by establishing clear schedules, expectations, and behavioral guidelines

Do Something Right Now

Hogan House Food Pantry and Support Center

This program provides a neighborhood food pantry and support center for residents who live near Demaret Drive. The center offers programming and activities for children and youth.

Amount Received:

\$118,825.00



Youth programming was expanded by launching the "Youth on Fire" mentorship program



The program held two community cleanups and 12 neighborhood family nights, and installed a backyard playground at Hogan House

Dream Tree Academy 573

Passport to the Arts Program

This program fosters creativity and self-expression for youth and includes components aimed at promoting entrepreneurship and financial literacy. The program includes music engineering workshops, poetry sessions, dance classes, entrepreneurship and financial literacy classes, and trips to local museums/galleries.

Amount Received:

\$172,500.00



The program utilized college service learning students to deliver programming



The organization updated the program curriculum to reach younger participants

Grade A Plus Incorporated

Family Leader Support

This organization primarily provides tutoring and youth development programming. Funding allowed for the addition of case management for social and emotional well-being support to family leaders.

Amount Received:

\$36,570.00



The program developed a family leader committee to develop activities to support families enrolled in the program



Consultant conducted a literature review and developed practices to guide family leader support programming

Mid-Missouri Center Project, Inc.

Expansion of Prism Youth Programming and Resources

The Center Project is Mid-Missouri's only LGBTQIA+ community center that provides a large array of programming and services. Prism offers educational programming, resources, support, and mentorship for LGBTQIA+ youth.

Amount Received:

\$67,175.00



The organization increased the average number of youth attending Prism meetings



The organization developed a therapeutic support group for youth called BURST

Community Services Department Staff

Joanne Nelson, Director
Kristin Cummins, Deputy Director
Enola-Riann White, Program Manager
Victoria Woods, Program Manager
Gina Jenkins, Data and Performance Analyst
Kerby Webb, Program Specialist
Michelle Thompson, Program Specialist
Ben Lee, Administrative Coordinator

Former Staff Members:

Verna Laboy (Program Manager until June 2025)
Emilio Ayala Youngblood (Administrative Coordinator until June 2025)

Boone County Commissioners

Kip Kendrick, Presiding Commissioner
Justin Aldred, District I Commissioner
Janet Thompson, District II Commissioner

Boone County Children's Services Board Members

Leigh Spence, Chair
Rodney Dixon, Vice Chair
Connie Leipard, Treasurer
Robert Aulgur
Lynn Barnett
Gregory Grupe
Michele Kennett
Sebastián Martínez Valdivia
Wiley Miller

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