



BOONE COUNTY
UPWARD MOBILITY

Housing Access and Support Alliance Agenda
March 4, 2026, 3:00pm – 4:30pm
Love Columbia (1209 E Walnut St, Columbia MO) and via [Zoom](#)

Meeting Objective: Review and define steps for a landlord engagement program/initiative.

Attendees: Garnett Matthews (Mid-Missouri Legal Services), Bronwyn Miller (Doorways), Onni Flint (Central Missouri Community Action (CMCA), Becca Westhues (Voluntary Action Center – VAC), Lori Action (Love Columbia), Tionna Lawson (Voluntary Action Center – VAC), Scott Buis (Truman VA), Gina Jenkins (Boone County Community Services Department (BCCSD)), Enola-Riann White (BCCSD)

1. Welcome
 - a. Enola started the meeting by welcoming everyone and adjusting the agenda to start with partner updates.
2. Partner Updates
 - a. Onni Flint (CMCA) shared the Community Needs Assessment survey is active until March 15. She said there will be two Boone County community conversations one in Columbia and one in Hallsville, dates are TBD.
 - b. Lori Acton (Love Columbia) shared more about the March 14 “Super Saturday” at Love Columbia. It will feature Rent Well, estate planning, fraud prevention, home maintenance, and growth mindset sessions. On March 21 they will hold the Frist-Time Homebuyer session.
 - c. Gina Jenkins (BCCSD) shared March is Social Work month. A proclamation will be issued and read at the Boone County Commission Chambers at 1:30pm on March 12.
 - d. Enola-Riann White (BCCSD) reminded the workgroup of the Affordable Housing Coalition’s *There Is No Place For Us* Book Club. They will meet following the Affordable Housing Coalition meetings on March 18.
3. Follow up from last meeting
 - a. Enola reported the broken “Ready to Rent/Ready to Move In” links on the Upward Mobility website have been repaired by Gina.
 - b. Enola and Gina met with Bill Rataj and Leigh Kotwitz in the City’s Office of Neighborhood Services to catch them up on what HASA had done since the previous meeting in 2024. They were supportive of HASA’s landlord engagement work and want to stay informed. They also expressed a strong interest in incorporating trauma-informed care into landlord engagement/education programs to help them better understand the populations they serve.
4. Landlord engagement
 - a. The workgroup spent time defining the purpose of landlord engagement programs. Members were asked to share their top two to three goals for engaging with landlords. The workgroup agreed the goal is to increase affordable housing stock that is available to people with higher barriers by recruiting more willing landlords, reducing evictions thought landlord and tenant relationships and education, and decreasing stigma toward voucher programs and tenants with complex needs.
 - b. Members briefly reviewed existing programs (such as the National League of Cities’ engagement resources and local programs like Love Columbia’s Rent Well) and discussed what is realistic given the

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workgroup's capacity. Potential tools and methods emerged including a landlord survey to understand current experiences and barriers, a landlord-focused training or panel that combines trauma-informed practices with 'peer' landlord voices and tenant impact stories; strengthening and promoting tenant education materials; and continued networking with landlord groups.

5. Next Steps

- a. At the April meeting the workgroup will choose one primary tool (survey or training) and begin designing the tool.
- b. In preparation workgroup members were asked to reflect on their organization capacity considering what they can realistically commit to in the next 3 – 6 months (hosting events/training, communication/networking, drafting materials, etc.)

6. Closing

Next Workgroup Meeting: April 1, 2026, 3:00 pm – 4:30pm via Zoom or in-person at Love Columbia (1209 E Walnut St, Columbia, MO) and via Zoom