



BOONE COUNTY
UPWARD MOBILITY

Affordable Housing Coalition Workgroup Minutes
August 19, 2026, 3:00pm – 4:30pm
Love Columbia (1209 E. Walnut St., Columbia, MO) and via Zoom

Meeting Objective: Presentation from Mid-America Regional Council

Attendees: Jane Williams, facilitator (Love Columbia (LC)), Mary Jo Herde (Citizen), Al Tacker (Citizen), Andrew Devureaux (Boone County Resource Management), Mary Clark (LC), Andrew Grabau (William Guitar Little Foundation (WGL)), JT Baker (WGL), Gary Martin (St. Vincent de Paul), Mark Briley (Anderson Homes Foundation), Ben Burgett (Central Missouri Community Action (CMCA), Doug Hunt (Columbia Community Land Trust), Diane Suhler (Citizen), Julie Shoop (Citizen), Alejandra Pardini (City of Columbia), Scott Claybrook (Arise Dwellings), Sean Spense (Lakeside Ashland), Arthur Diaz (US Pretrial Office Kansas City), Lisa Driskel Hawxby (REDI), Betsy Peters (City of Columbia), Ituwa Lubani (American Lung Association), Ashley Switzer (PCE Construction) Conrad Hake (LC), Matt Copeland (Arise Dwellings), Lori Acton (LC), James Bayless (Fresh Start), Bill Rataj (City of Columbia), Joanne Nelson (Boone County Community Services Department (BCCSD)), Gina Jenkins (BCCSD), Enola-Riann White (BCCSD)

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Jane opened the meeting with introductions.
2. Housing Study Recommendations Update
 - a. City of Columbia
 - i. Bill Rataj shared that the City has passed code updates at the August 17 City Council meeting. Energy codes will be discussed at the September council meeting. He also shared his office is working on a US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant for lead paint remediation which would be applicable to rentals.
 - b. Boone County
 - i. Andrew Deuveraux shared that Jesse Stevens started on August 16th as the new Boone County Director of Resource Management.
3. Affordable Housing Research Group Updates
 - a. Mary Clark (Love Columbia) presented information from REDI's community meetings on opportunity zones. Four areas within Columbia/Boone County (2 from the University of Missouri, and 2 from REDI) were sent to the Governor for selection by the end of September. Lisa Driskel-Hawxby (REDI) provided additional insight about the process including the creation of an advisory council, if REDI's tracts were selected.
4. *The Greater Kansas City Regional Housing Partnership: Addressing Regional Housing Challenges through Collaboration and Collective Impact* presentation by Hannah Mitchell of the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC)
 - a. Jane Williams (Love Columbia) introduced Hannah as a speaker.
 - b. Hannah (MARC) presented on the Greater Kansas City Regional Housing Partnership and its collaborative approach to addressing regional housing challenges. Following the presentation there was robust discussion and questions. For copies of her presented slides email upward@boonemo.gov.



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5. Partner Updates

- a. Joanne Nelson (BCCSD) shared on September 9th 9:00-11:00 the Joint City/County Housing Work Session will be held at the Clary-Shy Welcome Center.
- b. Mark Briley (Anderson Homes Foundation) shared they have closed on two homes since the July meeting. They are finishing up the expansion at Granny's House, breaking group on a project with Woodhaven, and the 35-unit development at Spencer Hill has started.
- c. Doug Hunt (Columbia Community Land Trust) shared they have sold the house located on 8th street, have another home on the market, and have turned over the home on 3rd avenue
- d. Jane Williams (Love Columbia) shared they have had 9 individuals who have completed First Time Homeownership class have purchased homes (approximately ¼ of all who have completed the class).
- e. Ben Burgett (CMCA) shared that the Providence Landing homes are completed but have not sold yet.

6. Closing

- a. Jane closed the meeting reminding the workgroup they are welcome to join the research group meetings and welcomed anyone to stay for the Housing Summit planning discussion.

Next Workgroup Meeting: September 16, 2026, 3:00pm at Love Columbia in-person or via [Zoom](#)