2016 Annual Report


AGENCY OF GREATER KANSAS CITY
Clay • Jackson • Platte
Executive Summary

Helping people.
We are passionate about helping people and changing lives. It's our mission to help those in our community who are struggling, to help them obtain whatever it is they need to get ahead and change their lives for the better.

Saving lives.
It is the children, the elderly, and those with disabilities who suffer most under the dark cloud of poverty. CAAGKC provides a ray of hope amid the darkness. We help meet basic needs so that even the most vulnerable in our society can find their way back into the light; leaving behind the fears, stresses, and anxieties of living in poverty.

Changing lives.
We partner with other nonprofit organizations and government agencies to ensure people have access to the multitude of programs and services available in our city. Working together we connect people to the resources that change lives right here in our community every single day.

Be part of our mission, our vision, and our passion. Commit yourself to working for the betterment of those in need. Whether you’re a volunteer or a donor, a member of the low income sector or a distinguished member of our Board, together, we can create a world without poverty.

Dr. Zavon Kanion, Board President
Clifton Campbell, Executive Director & CEO

Programs

Supportive Services
We work closely with our community, to learn about their unique needs and help them build an action plan for success. A dedicated case manager teaches financial education, goal planning, and problem solving; offers housing options, minor repairs, and financial assistance; resources for emergency food, clothing, and other household needs; and provides resources for education, job training, and employment.

Utilities Assistance
The Missouri Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) can help cover the costs of heating during the cold winter months and cooling during the heat of the summer. Whether a person needs help paying their utility bill just this one time, or they are in the midst of an energy crisis, we can help them restore or prevent the disconnection of their utilities.

Youth Services
Offered in several schools in the Greater Kansas City area, P.A.V.E. the Way (Project, Assets, Values, and Education) is a year-round program offering Missouri students the tools, support, and resources they need to successfully make it through high school and beyond. Services include work readiness, career exploration, leadership development, life skills, parenting education, community engagement, and so much more.
Weatherization Assistance

The Low Income Weatherization Assistance Program (LIWAP) provides homeowners and renters with cost-effective, energy-efficient home improvements free of charge. Our goal is to help lower utility bills and ensure children and families are living in healthy and safe conditions. Bonded and insured professional contractors help people feel comfy and cozy in their homes.

“There is no exercise better for the heart than reaching down and lifting people up.”

- John Holmes
By the Numbers

48,878 Food Assistance
We support more than 30 food pantries in the tri-county area, providing food security to thousands of families and hundreds of children.

31,754 Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP)
We help people keep the lights on and the heat and air conditioning blowing.

26,455 Toiletry Pantry
We supply basic personal hygiene and household products, from deodorant to detergent.

4,212 BackSnack
We won’t allow a child to go hungry. This program provides children a backpack full of nutritious and kid-friendly food to take home over weekends.

1,237 Transportation Services
We can offer bus passes, vehicle repairs, or other alternatives to help people get to their jobs, medical appointments, or wherever it is they need to go.

600 Housing Assistance
We believe everyone deserves a simple, decent place to live. We can help with mortgage payments or rent.

261 Case Management
We work to address the comprehensive needs of families and individuals, and develop a collaborative and holistic plan of action.

253 Fathering Life Skills
We work with young fathers to help them be present and engaged in their children’s lives.

238 Low Income Weatherization Assistance (LIWAP)
We help people reduce their energy costs by making their home more efficient.

188 Volunteer Program
We are honored to have so many passionate volunteers working with us in the community.

172 PAVE the Way
We have after-school and summer programs to help high school students graduate and show them the path to higher education.

112 College Scholarships
We provided educational scholarships for exceptional students who have overcome the challenges of poverty.

95 Healthy Starts
We have outreach and referral services for families with small children, to help them get the best start in life as possible.

10 Community Action Poverty Simulation (CAPS)
We work with numerous groups and companies to help their members and staff understand the realities of poverty through a role playing “game”.

48,878

31,754

26,455

4,212

1,237

600

261

253

238

188

172

112

95

10
These programs are funded with federal funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services provided by the Missouri Department of Social Services.
Outcomes

We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

It can happen to anyone. One day you are working at a good job, living life and raising your child, and the next moment everything you have worked for is in jeopardy. Margo and Demetrius had been high school sweethearts. They had just begun building their lives and a home together; working hard and saving what they could. Soon, little Meko was born and things were pretty typical; just your standard American working family. Like most of us, they didn’t put much thought into the “what ifs” in life. Every day just blended into the next. That is, until Margo got sick.

No one asks to get sick, it just happens. Margo suffered a stroke and was subsequently diagnosed with a serious heart condition. She was hospitalized for several months. Demetrius tried to keep up while Margo was in the hospital, but it was too much. He had missed too much work taking care of his young son and ailing wife, and was let go from his job. Margo was also released, as she was in no condition to work. The two were left with a pile of medical bills and nothing else. They lost everything: their apartment, their savings, and their livelihood. They were reduced to living in their car. All they had left was each other … and a little bit of hope.

Hope was what brought this family to the doors of Community Action Agency of Greater Kansas City. They needed help and were committed to getting back the life they had lost. We immediately began to work with them to secure safe and decent housing. We worked with them on their budget, went over a debt reduction plan, and showed them how to rebuild their savings. We worked with Demetrius to sculpt his resume and polish his interview skills. It was not an easy path to follow. They had to work hard and sacrifice. But the end goal was worth the price. With their drive to change their situation and our support services and caring staff, this family was lifted from poverty.

Today, Demetrius has a good, secure position at Ford Motor Company and Margo works as a private duty nurse. They have reestablished their credit and built up their savings enough to purchase their very first home. It is a dream come true for this courageous family and a far cry from being homeless and hungry. And the best part is that little Meko is happy and healthy, living with his mom and dad, and is looking forward to having a bedroom of his very own.

Although the lion’s share of our funding comes from the federal government, we also accept donations and grants from other agencies, businesses, and individuals living in the tri-county area. We are thankful for all the generous gifts we receive in support of our mission. **Together we can help people and change lives.**
2016 Board of Directors

CAAGKC is governed by a three-party board of directors which includes low income residents of Clay, Jackson, and Platte counties in Missouri, local business professionals, and civic leaders.

Executive Board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Dr. Zavon Kanion</td>
<td>Private Sector, Jackson County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Vice President</td>
<td>Dr. Patrick Dobson</td>
<td>Public Sector, Jackson County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Vice President</td>
<td>Jane Fowler</td>
<td>Low-Income Sector, Jackson County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Barbara Lunn</td>
<td>Low-Income Sector, Jackson County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Mark Lindsay</td>
<td>Public Sector, Platte County Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliamentarian</td>
<td>OPEN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Directors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deidre Anderson</td>
<td>Public Sector, Jackson County Executive’s Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judy Ellis</td>
<td>Low-Income Sector, Clay County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janet Rogers</td>
<td>Public Sector, Clay County Commissioner’s Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clyde McQueen</td>
<td>Public Sector, Jackson County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Service</td>
<td>Private Sector, Jackson County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debra Mann</td>
<td>Private Sector, Jackson County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deborah Pledger</td>
<td>Low-Income Sector, Jackson County</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Locations

Clay County
108 S. Thompson Ave. | Excelsior Springs, MO 64024 | 816.630.0037
3100 N.E. 83rd St., Ste.1201 | Kansas City, MO 64119 | 816.459.9615

Jackson County
6323 Manchester Ave. | Kansas City, MO 64133 | 816.358.6868
16995 E. Dover Ln. | Independence, MO 64056 | 816.994.2100

Platte County
412 Aller St. | Tracy, MO 64079 | 816.858.5153

www.caagkc.org