

Dear Neighbor,

Please plan on participating in next Saturday's virtual town hall meeting I am hosting with two of my House colleagues from Kansas City.

The link and call-in information for the ZOOM webinar that will run from 1 to 2:30 p.m. next Saturday, March 27, is below. I am co-hosting this with Representative Michael Johnson and Yolanda Young.

We will be together at the Black Archives of Mid-America so we can collaborate in person on answering questions from participants. We plan two more of these events later this year -- one when we will all be at Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center and one at Concord Fortress of Hope in south Kansas City.

Altogether, the three of us serve on 10 House committees and a Joint House-Senate committee so we should be able to answer questions about a variety of important topics.

Rep. Johnson serves on the House Economic Development Committee, House Health & Mental Health Policy Committee and House Insurance Committee.

Rep. Young serves on the House Children & Families Committee, House Special Committee on Criminal Justice and House Workforce Development Committee. I serve on the House Crime Prevention Committee, House Elementary & Secondary Education Committee, House General Laws Committee, House Special Committee on Urban Issues and Joint Committee on Legislative Research.

I had the opportunity to talk to Governor Mike Parson earlier today at the mega COVID-19 vaccination event on the grounds of Arrowhead Stadium and requested his assistance in scheduling a targeted vaccination event in south Kansas City in the near future at one of our larger houses of worship or another venue large enough to accommodate such an event. His response was positive, so I hope to report good news soon.

When residents of our metropolitan area have to take lengthy drives to locations in rural parts of the state to get vaccinated, it's a clear indication that more emphasis has to be placed on scheduling vaccination sites in our area where both the need and desire for vaccinations is higher than in many rural area.

In other breaking news, please scroll down and read about the reopening today of the totally renovated and enlarged Grandview Branch of Mid-Continent Public Library (MCPL) which now has a dedicated children's area, a community room and three smaller collaboration rooms. The Branch at 12930 Booth Lane has been closed for renovation and expansion since July 2020.

With that Branch now reopened, the Blue Ridge Branch at 9253 Blue Ridge Blvd. will close for long-awaited renovation at 6 p.m. tomorrow (March 20), and is expected to be closed until sometime next winter.

Having had the opportunity to use the new Red Bridge Branch at Red Bridge Shopping Center, I can personally vouch for how improved MCPL's new and renovated facilities are. Their dedicated children's areas and both large and small rooms for community or small group meetings are real assets to our area.

In one more item of breaking news, please read Gov. Parson's announcement today that this year's Missouri income tax filing

deadline for individuals for their 2020 taxes has been extended to May 17, matching an identical extension for individuals by the Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service March 17.

Email is probably the best way to reach my office. If you are unable to quickly reach me, my legislative aide, <u>Kaylee Bauer</u> is ready to help you.

Please scroll down to read about other state government matters and important upcoming local events.

Feel free to forward this newsletter to your friends and family who might want to know the latest news about what is happening in state government and about important local events. Be safe and God bless!

Yours in Service, *Mark A. Sharp*



Representative Sharp (second from left) and other area legislators pose with Governor Mike Parson (third from right) at today's mega COVID-19 vaccination event on the grounds of Arrowhead Stadium.



REP. MICHAEL JOHNSON | REP. YOLANDA YOUNG | REP. MARK A. SHA DISTRICT 23 DISTRICT 22 DISTRICT 36

You are invited to a Zoom webinar. When: Saturday Mar 27, 2021 01:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada) Topic: Legislative Town Hall

Description: Please join us for the first of this three-part series of Town Hall meetings offering important information and dialogue brought to you by Representatives Mark A. Sharp, Yolanda Young and Michael Johnson in partnership with the Black Archives of Mid-America, Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center and Concord Fortress of Hope Church.

Please click the link below to join the webinar: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82888625922?pwd=ajU4a2xzQUE5WjZxK1Is</u> <u>UW5XaVc3Zz09</u> Passcode: 569361 Or iPhone one-tap : US: +13017158592,,82888625922#,,,,*569361# or +13126266799,,82888625922#,,,,*569361# Or Telephone: Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location): US: +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 669 900 6833 Webinar ID: 828 8862 5922 Passcode: 569361 International numbers available: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kiao5zTsO

WEEKLY CAPITOL UPDATE

Friday, March 19, 2021

MAJOR ISSUES AWAIT LAWMAKERS

Lawmakers return to the state capitol March 22 following their annual spring recess with all of the major issues of the 2021 legislative session still awaiting action, including passage of a proposed \$34 billion state operating budget for the upcoming 2022 fiscal year and a possible increase in the state fuel tax for the first time in a quarter-century.

Just eight weeks remain in the 18-week session, which ends May 14.

When he submitted his budget plan in January, Gov. Mike Parson included full funding to expand Medicaid eligibility to 138 percent of the federal poverty level as required by a constitutional amendment Missouri voters ratified last year.

As Medicaid expansion supporters had long predicted, Parson's budget doesn't require a tax increase or deep cuts to other programs, which opponents had long claimed would be necessary despite ample evidence to the contrary in states that had already implemented expansion. Under the federal Affordable Care Act, the federal government will pay 90 percent of the cost of Medicaid expansion. Monetary savings from more people having access to preventative care plus the economic benefit from the additional federal health care dollars flowing into Missouri are expected to more than cover the state's share. An estimated 275,000 additional Missourians will be eligible for Medicaid after expansion.

While the governor's support for expansion after years of opposition encouraged supporters, the fight for implementation may not be over. In a surprise turn, House Budget Committee Chairman Cody Smith removed Medicaid expansion from the regular budget process and placed it in a stand-alone appropriations bill. Isolating expansion funding from the rest of the Department of Social Services' budget could make it easier for opponents to block the necessary spending authority, even though 90 percent of the funding will come from federal dollars.

The budget process is behind schedule, with the various appropriations bills still awaiting final review by the House Budget Committee before they can advance to the full House of Representatives. After that, the process starts over in the Senate. Just seven weeks remain before the May 7 constitutional deadline for final passage of the budget.

Another issue awaiting lawmakers is a possible 12.5-cent-pergallon increase in the state fuel tax. Under Senate Bill 262, the tax gradually would rise from its current rate of 17 cents per gallon to 29.5 cents in 2025. The Senate approved the increase by a vote of 21-13 on March 11.

The measure would generate an estimated \$462.4 million a year for state and local transportation projects once fully phased in. Missouri last increased the fuel tax in 1996 under legislation enacted in 1992.

A separate tax issue involves long-sought legislation to allow the state and local governments to better capture sales tax revenue from online purchases that already is due under state law but

rarely collected.

Just before the spring recess, the House and Senate both passed their own versions of so-called Wayfair bills, named after a 2018 U.S. Supreme Court case that clarified the taxable status of on-line purchases. One or both of the bills must now advance through the other chamber before winning final passage.

So far during the 2021 session, lawmakers have granted final passage to just one bill, a supplemental appropriations bill for the current FY 2021 state budget that the governor signed into law February 11.

Missouri Governor — Michael L. Parson

Office of Communications

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 19, 2021

Governor Parson Announces Individual Tax Filing and Payment Deadline Extended to May 17, 2021

(JEFFERSON CITY, MO) – Today, Governor Mike Parson announced that the Missouri Department of Revenue is extending the state individual tax filing and payment deadline for the 2020 tax year from April 15, 2021, to May 17, 2021.

"As our state continues recovering from COVID-19, we understand that many Missourians are still feeling the effects of the past year," **Governor Parson** said. "Extending the filing and payment deadline by one month will provide additional relief to Missouri families and tax professionals as they work to meet their obligations during what has already been a challenging tax season." This decision mirrors Wednesday's announcement by the U.S. Treasury Department and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that individual taxpayers would receive automatic extensions to file and pay federal income tax for the 2020 tax year. The IRS has said it will issue formal guidance in the coming days.

The Department of Revenue will automatically provide this filing and payment relief, so filers do not need to take any action to qualify.

Guidance on extension to file and pay individual income tax:

- Filing deadline extended: The deadline to file individual income tax returns has been extended from April 15, 2021, to May 17, 2021.
- **Payment relief for individuals:** The deadline to pay taxes owed on individual income tax returns with a due date of April 15, 2021, has been extended until May 17, 2021.
- This relief applies to individual taxpayers, including those who pay self-employment tax. However, it does not apply to estimated tax payments that are due on April 15, 2021; that deadline has not changed.
- Penalties and interest will begin to accrue on any remaining unpaid balances as of May 17, 2021. Individuals that file their return and pay their balance by May 17, 2021, will automatically avoid interest and penalties on the tax paid by May 17.
- Customers may still ask for an extension of time to file their individual income taxes. With that extension, the return will not be due until October 15, 2021. However, any payments must still be made by May 17, 2021.

Earlier this year, the IRS announced that the nation's 2021 electronic tax filing season would begin on February 12. On that date, the IRS began accepting and processing e-filed 2020 tax year returns. Since e-filed state returns are first sent to the IRS, the Department also began accepting and processing e-filed returns for the 2020 tax year on February 12.

"With a delayed start and recent tax code changes, this tax season is a particularly complicated one," said **Director of Revenue Ken Zellers**. "For Missourians who have yet to file, we strongly encourage you to file electronically and use direct deposit, as it will result in the most accurate return and the fastest refund. We appreciate your patience as we navigate this tax season together, and we stand ready to assist you in any way we can."

Department of Revenue online services and resources:

- The Department's <u>Tax Return Status Tracker</u> allows customers to enroll in automatic text and email alerts that are sent each time the status of their return is updated. Customers need their Social Security number, filing status, and anticipated refund or balance due to enroll and must re-enroll each year.
- Get answers 24/7 by reviewing the <u>Personal Tax FAQs</u> or with the help of the Department's chatbot, <u>DORA</u>, a virtual assistant programmed to respond to common taxation, motor vehicle, and driver licensing questions.
- Email questions to income@dor.mo.gov.

Missouri Governor — Michael L. Parson

Office of Communications

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 18, 2021

Governor Parson Announces Timeline for Activation of Phase 2 and 3 of Missouri's COVID-19 Vaccination Plan

(JEFFERSON CITY, MO) – During today's briefing at the State Capitol, Governor Mike Parson announced that Missouri will activate Phase 2 of the state's COVID-19 Vaccination Plan on Monday, March 29, 2021, and Phase 3 on Friday, April 9, 2021.

"With the progress we are currently seeing and vaccine supply expected to increase significantly in the coming weeks, we are well ahead of schedule with our vaccine plan," **Governor** **Parson** said. "Supply projections are subject to change, but it is critical that we start preparing for this potential influx and ensure there is a consistent number of people who are eligible and interested in receiving a vaccine."

The federal government has informed the state that COVID-19 vaccine allotments to Missouri are projected to significantly increase by the first week of April. The timeline for activating Phases 2 and 3 ensures that there is a consistent number of people who are eligible and interested in receiving a vaccine, allowing vaccinators across the state to continue vaccinating Missourians without delays due to those who are eligible but not seeking a vaccine.

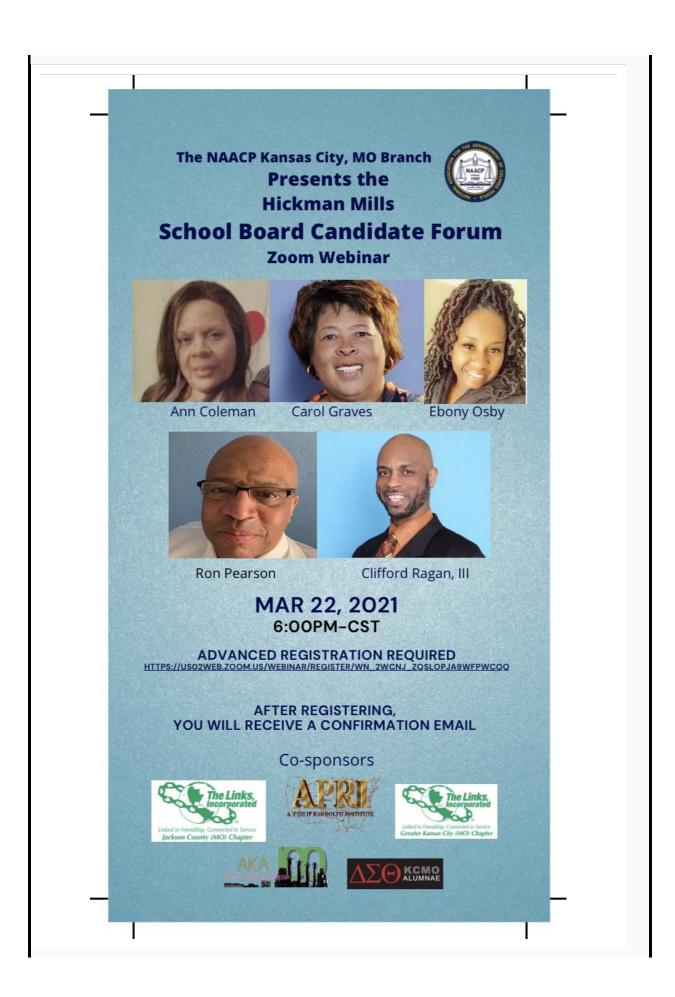
Activation of Phase 2 is estimated to extend vaccine eligibility to approximately 880,000 Missourians that are essential to equitable economic recovery, including those employed in construction, critical manufacturing, higher education, and remaining food and agriculture sectors. This also includes homeless and disproportionately affected populations with an emphasis on racial and ethnic minorities, among others.

Phase 3 will be open to all Missouri adults, extending vaccine eligibility to an estimated 1.1 million Missourians who were not activated under any other tier or phase. A complete list of populations included in each phase as well as activation status is available at <u>MOStopsCOVID.com/priority</u>.

With all phases of Missouri's Vaccination Plan activated, approximately 4.5 million Missourians will be eligible. The state estimates that approximately 60 percent of these Missourians are interested in getting a vaccine.

To date, one in four Missourians have initiated vaccination, and approximately 50 percent of Missouri's 65 and older population have initiated vaccination. Vulnerable populations in currently activated phases that have not yet received a vaccine will continue to be eligible as Missouri moves into Phases 2 and 3.

"Missouri's position is continuously improving on the COVID-19 front," **Governor Parson** said. "With over 1.2 million Missourians having initiated vaccination, large increases in vaccine supply, and the activation of Phases 2 and 3, we are confident that we are winning the battle against COVID-19."



SOUTH KANSAS CITY ALLIANCE

Invitation to Center School Board Zoom Candidate Forum March 25, 2021 6:30 pm Go to the League of Women Voters website <u>lwvkc.org</u> For the Zoom Link This will also be live streamed on <u>www.facebook.com/LWVKC/</u>

2 positions open—Candidates are Bryce T. Shields, Rebecca Lahann (incumbent) Julie Kramschuster, Kathleen Ramel



This candidate forum is co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of KC and South KC Alliance please visit lwvkc.org southkcalliance.org online nonpartisan voter guide at <u>www.Vote411.org/ballot</u>



News from the City Communications Office

City of Kansas City, Missouri kcmo.gov

New phone app connects residents with city services *myKCMO app makes it easier than ever to contact 311*

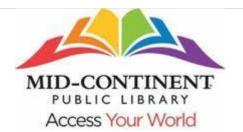
A new smartphone app, myKCMO, is now available so that KCMO residents can quickly request city services anytime and anywhere. Download the myKCMO app to request and track city services. Report potholes, illegal dumping, missed trash pickups and more.



"This cutting edge new app will enable residents and visitors to more conveniently access information and report local issues," said City Manager Brian Platt. "The more efficient workflow and request tracking system will allow us to respond quicker and more efficiently to concerns."

Its features will help residents:

- Report and track 311 requests more easily
- Upload photos to show us the problem
- Connect directly with the staff member responding to the problem
- Make payments through the app
- Receive alerts when your 311 case is updated, and for other city emergencies



Mid-Continent Public Library's Grandview Branch to Reopen 3/19 Library Branch to Resume Services After Renovation, 4,400 Square-Foot Expansion Grandview, MO – Mid-Continent Public Library's **Grandview Branch** (12930 Booth Lane, Grandview, Mo.) **will reopen to the public on Friday, March 19, at 10:00 a.m.** after being closed since July 2020 for renovations. The branch received numerous upgrades, including an expansion of nearly 4,400 square feet.

"We're so happy to welcome customers back to

the Grandview Branch and know they will love the new building," said Ashley Durkee, Grandview Branch Manager. "The branch not only looks beautiful, but offers designated spaces that will enable us to meet customer needs in new and exciting ways."

The Grandview Branch building, which was built in 1988, received a variety of improvements in addition to the expansion, including:

- New dedicated children's area
- Additional windows for improved natural lighting
- Enhanced entry and native landscaping
- New paint, carpet, and ceilings
- New community programming room*
- Three meeting/collaboration rooms*
- Improved Wi-Fi coverage and access
- Parking lot repairs

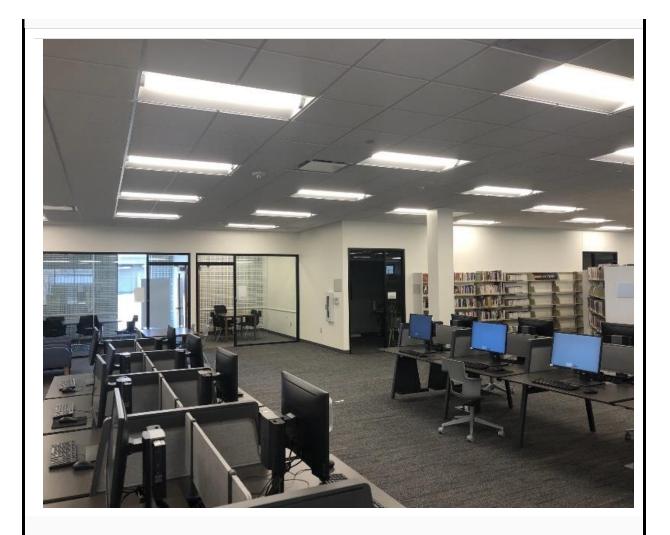
Customers are welcome to come in with a mask on throughout their visit and independently browse and check out materials as well as use technology services (Wi-Fi, public computers, copiers, and fax machines). Wi-Fi continues to be available outside the branch 24/7, and hotspots are available for checkout through MCPL's new <u>Wi-Fi To</u> <u>Go</u> service.

Curbside service is also available to pick up held items that customers have been notified are ready. All materials must be returned to one of the Library's indoor or outdoor book drops. Grandview Branch customers who have been picking up their materials at the Library's nearby Red Bridge Branch will have their holds automatically transferred back to Grandview unless they request otherwise. The **Grandview Branch's Read and Feed program**, which provides free meals to kids ages 18 and under, in partnership with Harvesters – The Community Food Network, **will resume Monday, March 22**. Meals will be available through the branch's curbside service Monday – Friday from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

As the Grandview Branch reopens, **the Library's Blue Ridge Branch** (9253 Blue Ridge Blvd., Kansas City, Mo.) prepares **to close on Saturday, March 20,** for renovations. During the closure, Blue Ridge Branch customers will have their materials automatically transferred to the Library's Raytown Branch (6131 Raytown Road, Raytown, Mo.) unless they request otherwise.

Both renovations are part of MCPL's ongoing Capital Improvement Plan, which it launched following the passage of Proposition L in 2016. The Library is working with Sapp Design Architects, Helix Architecture + Design, and JE Dunn to upgrade all of its existing branches and add two new units of service by the end of 2022. Prop L funding has also allowed the Library to expand branch hours, enhance special services, augment early literacy efforts, and buy more materials.

More information about all of the Library's construction projects can be found at **mymcpl.org/Community**.



This shows some of the numerous public computer workstations in the roomy interior of the just reopened Grandview Branch of the Mid-Continent Public Library that was totally renovated and expanded by about 4,400 square feet.

KCMO EMERGENCY RENTAL & UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Tenants can apply for emergency rental relief through a new **\$14.8 million assistance fund**.

The City of Kansas City is working with community agencies to distribute rent and utility assistance in a fair, fast and equitable way across our community.



If you need help now, contact one of these agencies for **IMMEDIATE** assistance:

Metro Lutheran Ministry
 Call 816-514-2683 or
 Fill out the online application:
 www.mlmkc.org/rent---utility.html

Paper applications available at 3031 Holmes, KCMO 64109 & 1100 NE Vivion, KCMO 64118

- Journey to New Life
 Call 816-960-4808 or email agrove@jtnl.org
- reStart
 Call 816-886-9153 or
 email rentalassistance@restartinc.org
- Community Assistance Council (CAC) 816-763-3277 x-108

The full list of agencies and eligibility requirements is posted at **kcmo.gov/renthelp**

Funding is provided by the second Congressional COVID-19 relief package.

Apply for assistance:

communitycarelink.com/cares-act-assistance-sign-up

For more info and other neighborhood services visit: **KCMO.GOV/RentHelp**



CITY OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI



KCMO Public Works invites you to a

Virtual Community Meeting

to collect your feedback and ideas on

Blue Ridge Boulevard Streetscape Improvements and kick off the

Bannister Road Corridor Study

6-8 p.m. on Thursday, March 25, 2021 via Microsoft Teams

Meeting Agenda

- Introduction and Overview (10 minutes)
- Blue Ridge Boulevard (50 minutes)
- Bannister Road West (25 minutes)
- Bannister Road East (25 minutes)
- Conclusion and Next Steps

View the back of the page for an overview of the projects. For more information, contact:

Maggie Green, Public Information Officer maggie.green@kcmo.org (816) 513-2612

To access the Virtual Community Meeting:

Microsoft Teams: http://bit.ly/2MoMRTo or connect by phone at (872) 212-5076 Conference ID: 893 531 888#



Blue Ridge Boulevard Streetscape Improvements: 87th Street to Bannister Road



The Blue Ridge Boulevard Improvement Project consists of design of improvements along Blue Ridge Boulevard from 87th Street to Bannister Road.

The goal of the project is to design infrastructure and streetscape improvements that will serve the needs of the surrounding community. The hope is that these improvements will spur redevelopment along this corridor and improve connections to area businesses and services.

Blue Ridge Boulevard is an important connector in Kansas City. The project includes commercial nodes at 87th Street and Bannister Road, with residential areas in between - including the Loma Vista neighborhood. Blue Ridge Boulevard is currently four lanes with a center turn lane at the commercial nodes at 87th and Bannister Road. Access the project website at: https://www.kcmo.gov/Home/Components/ FacilityDirectory/FacilityDirectory/213/360

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, no in-person meetings are scheduled at this time. Opportunities for public involvement will be provided through on-line services that will be made available as the Blue Ridge Streetscape Improvements project and Bannister Road Corridor Study progress.

Bannister Road Corridor Study

SHARE YOUR IDEAS

What transportation issues and improvements should be considered for Bannister Road? The Kansas City Public Works Department is kicking off the Bannister Road Corridor Study to identify existing and future needs. You can view study area maps, comment on them, and participate in an opinion survey on the website (www.tinyurl.com/kcmobannister). Please tell your friends and family about it.

BACKGROUND

The Bannister Road Corridor study area is 7 miles long, spanning from I-435 on the west to State Route 350 on the east. The study team is working with community members and others through 2021 to review previous recommendations, understand current issues and desires, develop concepts, identify a preferred alternative, and estimate improvement costs. Currently, no funding is available for design and construction of recommended improvements, but continued planning is necessary for Bannister Road's future if and/or when funding becomes available.

Join us at for the March 25 virtual kick-off and/ or comment via the website through April 30, 2021. Your feedback will help the study team understand the transportation issues and improvements that should be considered to support surrounding neighborhoods and businesses.

For more information on the Blue Ridge Boulevard Streetscape Improvements Project, or the Bannister Road Corridor Study, contact:

Maggie Green, Public Information Officer maggie.green@kcmo.org (816) 513-2612



AVILA UNIVERSITY Be Inspired.

Institute for Professional Studies

Avila University is pleased to announce the introduction of the **Workforce Development Academy @ Avila University**, a dynamic and strategic initiative designed to meet the evolving needs of businesses and professionals in Kansas City through upskilling workshops, new certificate programs, and education partnerships with companies and organizations.

Administered by the **Avila Institute for Professional Studies**, the Workforce Development Academy (WDA) will begin workshops on March 25. The initiative is tailored to working professionals through three primary focus areas: Workplace Education Benefits, Skill Workshops, and Certificate Programming.

These workshops and certificate programs will be taught by working professionals and adjunct faculty with extensive experience in their respective fields. The Institute for Professional Studies' ongoing standards of quality teaching, rigor, and assessment will be expected for all WDA offerings.

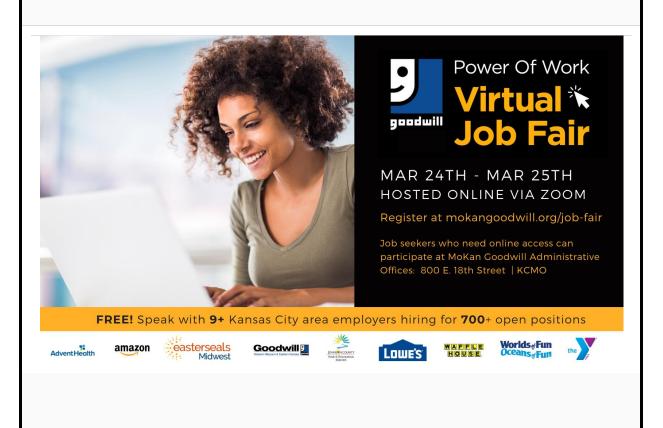
For more information on workplace education benefits, upcoming workshops, certificates & certification, pricing and registration visit the <u>Avila website</u>.

The first two workshops start on March 25 - "Effective Listening for Workplace Results" and "Resiliency: Overcoming Obstacles and Tackling Stress" - <u>Click here to register</u>

Alumni will receive a discount for the workshops.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Virtual Job Fair Coming Up!!!



DONATE BLOOD







Every 3 seconds, someone in the United States needs a blood product.

Nearly 600 units of blood products are needed daily in CBC's service area.

A single car accident victim can use as many as 100 units of blood products.



donation has the potential to save up to three lives.

POINTMENT

South Kansas City Chamber Thursday, April 8th 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM St Peter & All Saints Episcopal Church 100 E Red Bridge Rd. Kansas City, MO 64114

For information regarding CBC's response to COVID-19, visit savealifenow.org/coronavirus.



Book your appointment today at **savealifenow.org/group**, enter **Group Code: EH36**. For additional details contact Angela Alesi at (816) 761-7660 or aalesi@southkcchamber.com.

Medical eligibility questions? Call 1.800.688.0900



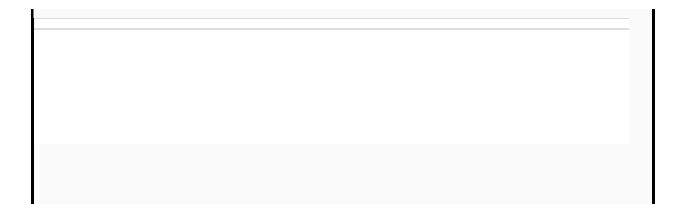
MISSOURI EMERGENCY RENTAL ARREARS PROGRAM

The state of Missouri's new rental assistance program using funding through the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) was passed by Congress in December 2020. On February 11, 2021 Governor Parson signed HB 16 into law, which provides more than \$324 million in funding for rental and utility assistance for Missourians. Missouri Housing Development Commission will administer this funding under the State Assistance for Housing Relief (SAFHR) program. Please click below for more information.

Please Click Here For Program Information

Please note that the Missouri Emergency Rental Arrears Program (ERAP) is a separate program from above, and is utilizing ESG-CV funding authorized through the CARES Act. This program is open to landlords seeking rental arrears for qualified tenants.

Please Click Here For Program Information







Expanded, After-Hours Food Appointments Available

Beginning in March, CAC has food appointments available 9 to 2:30 pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. This month after-hours are 4 - 6 pm, Wednesday, March 24 and 9 am to noon, Saturday, March 27.Call 816-763-3277 x 100 for a food appointment. Hygiene items are distributed with food and diapers are available the same hours during the week. Call the same number to register for diapers.

Child Protection Project Class:

March 23, 1 – 2 pm

Class is free and open to anyone. This presentation is for parents and caregivers on child sexual abuse awareness in our community, safety tips and effective methods to talk with children about personal safety. Register for class **HERE** for ZOOM for phone link.

• Presented by Christina Sell, Bilingual Child Abuse Prevention Educator,,Sunflower House, Shawnee, KS

How can we be proactive in protecting children?

• At what age should parents start talking to their child about personal safety?

If a child discloses abuse, what should I say?

Contact Julie Reid, julie.reid@cackc.org, 816-763-3277 x 110 with questions.

Save the Date - Community Cleanup June 12

Sixth District Community Cleanup Day will be 8 am to noon, June 12. Locations and more details to come.

Thank you to The Telegraph newspaper and all its wonderful readers! From February 11 to today, with generous reader and community support, donations to In From the Cold allowed CAC to provide week-long hotel stays for dozens of families, during some of the worst cold in Kansas City. this is especially significant since there is no homeless shelter in south Kansas City. We are so grateful for the support. Please know it helped make people's lives a little easier and warmer. THANK YOU.

South KC Mobile Food Pantries

With so many people out of work due to the coronavirus pandemic, a growing number of families in south Kansas City are being forced to rely on community food pantries such as Community Assistance Council's to have enough to eat.

Fortunately, Harvesters (the community food network) brings the semi-truck that

serves as its mobile food pantry to five sites in south Kansas City monthly to distribute fresh produce and other healthy food to families in need. The sites are:

Center District Warehouse, 8701 Holmes Rd., from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. the second Friday of each month. Persons should go to the entrance to the Center Administrative Office and drive through the bus parking lot to the warehouse where volunteers will load the food. Persons should take the Troost Ave exit. The event is sponsored by the Center Education Foundation in partnership with the Center School District.

Evangel Church, 1414 E. 103rd St., from 7 to 8:30 a.m. the second Saturday of the month. Persons may remain in their vehicles, and food will be brought to them.

United Believers Community Church, 5600 E. 112th Terr., with vehicles liningup at 8:30 a.m. and contactless food distribution running from 9 to 11 a.m. thethirdWednesdayofthemonth.

Ruskin High School, 7000 E. 111th St., from 4 to 5:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month. Vehicles should line up on Ruskin Way on the east side of the school, and food will be loaded in the vehicles when they reach the school by staff and student volunteers. This event is sponsored by the school and Community Assistance Council.

Colonial Presbyterian Church, 9500 Wornall Rd., with registration beginning
at 8 a.m. and food distribution running from about 8:30 to 10 a.m. on the third
Saturday of the month. Families are asked to bring two cardboard boxes for
volunteersvolunteerstoputthefoodin.

Center High School, 8715 Holmes Rd., from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. as long as food is left on the third Saturday of the month. The event is sponsored by Three Trails Community church in partnership with the Center School District.

Coronavirus Facts and Resources

Kansas City

If you would like to receive updates about what the City is doing in response to the coronavirus, **text COVIDKC to 888777** or go online to<u>kcmo.gov/coronavirus</u>

Missouri

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services is operating
a hotline for residents and health care providers to call for information
andguidanceaboutCOVID-19.

The statewide hotline number is **<u>877-435-8411</u>**. The hotline is being operated by medical professionals and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.





State Representative Mark A. Sharp

Missouri House of Representatives Room 102-BA 201 W Capitol Ave Jefferson City, Mo 65101 Phone 573-751-9469

Email

mark.sharp@house.mo.gov

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any feedback, questions or ideas!