Agenda

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT FY2017

Invocation – Breita Church, Love INC

Welcome

Dr. Loretta Prater
Family and Community Trust/Missouri Foundation for Health

Horizon Award

Kasten Award

Tribute to Tom Davisson

Installation of Council President and President-Elect

Upcoming Council Events
The **HORIZON AWARD** is given each year to an individual or a group who has given extraordinary service to the council in a specific area, whether it be committee work, a special project or as a volunteer to support a council committee, event or activity.

**Past Recipients Include:**
- 1993  Jerry Wilmath
- 1994  Ted Fedler
- 1995  None Awarded
- 1996  Jim Watkins
- 1997  Beth Schmucker
- 1998  Jim Maginel
- 1999  Leah Shrum
- 2000  Denis Rigdon
- 2001  Kevin Sexton
- 2002  Joyce Holekamp
- 2003  Nancy Jernigan
- 2004  Kay Azuma
- 2005  Stacy Taylor
- 2006  Roy Jones
- 2007  THRIVE Youth Development Committee
- 2008  Department of Social Work, College of Health & Human Services, Southeast Missouri State University
- 2009  Linda Garner
- 2010  Cheryl Ellis
- 2011  Jackson Public Schools
- 2012  Dotty Gholson
- 2013  Evangelical United Church
- 2014  Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri
- 2015  Tameka Kyles
- 2016  Nick and Jenny Barna
- 2017  Missouri Division of Youth Services Southeast Region
The **KASTEN AWARD** is the highest honor given to any council member. It is named for former Missouri State Representative Mary Kasten who founded the Community Caring Council. This award is given to an individual who exemplifies the strength and commitment to the community as stated in the Caring Council's goals and ideals, and whose work is recognized as a “building block” of support for the council through active membership or extensive work on council sponsored activities.

**Past Recipients Include:**
- 1993 Barb Stribling
- 1994 Jim Davis
- 1995 Lori Hayden
- 1996 Shelba Branscum
- 1997 Charlotte Craig
- 1998 Tonya Fambro
- 1999 Paul Schniedermeyer
- 2000 Frances Gould
- 2001 Mary Gosche
- 2002 Jo Boyer
- 2003 Kevin Sexton
- 2004 Shirley Ramsey
- 2005 Ellie Knight, Aging Committee
- 2006 Tom Davisson, Kay Azuma
- 2007 Jeff Brune, Cape Transit Authority
- 2008 Denise Lincoln
- 2009 Dr. Janet Ruopp & Dr. Patrick Ruopp
- 2010 Kathy Sweeney
- 2011 C. James Maginel
- 2012 Nancy Jernigan
- 2013 Project Homeless Connect
- 2014 Janice Jones
- 2015 EPIC Pals
- 2016 Dr. Michael Parker
- 2017 Books on Wheels Project in Cape Girardeau
Board of Directors

**FOUNDER**
Mary C. Kasten

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**
Tom Davison (through December 2016)
Kay Azuma, Interim Director (January – March 2017)

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT**
June O’Dell, Workforce Investment Board

**BOARD MEMBERS**
Chair: Gerald Hart, *Division of Youth Services*
Treasurer: Joy Rubi, *Neighborhood Representative*
Secretary: Janice Jones, *Neighborhood Representative*
Michael Parker, Southeast Missouri State University
Cheryl Klueppel, *Chateau Girardeau*
Gladys Mosley, *Neighborhood Representative*
Dan Johnson, Pastor, *Evangelical United Church of Christ*
Tara Holyfield, *First State Community Bank*
Tameka Kyles, *Southeast Missouri State University*
Adam Lorenz, *Lorenz & Lorenz LLC*

Mission & Purpose
The mission of the Community Caring Council is to support communities in developing and providing a continuum of resources to help empower individuals and families meet life’s challenges.

The purpose of the organization is to promote coordination and collaboration between all community groups in order to empower individuals and families to become more self-reliant, responsible and resourceful.

Monthly Meetings
(Networking / Featured Speaker)
3rd Friday of every month except April, May, & December
7:30 – 8:30 A.M.
Kasten Community Development Center
937 Broadway, Suite 102 (Lower Level)
Cape Girardeau, Missouri 63701
COMMUNITY CARING COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Monthly Council Meetings

Conference Committee
Nominating Committee

Executive Director

Office Manager
Community Coordinator
Asset Coordinator
Community Case Managers
Housing Coordinator
Missouri Mentoring
Administered Programs

Health Coordinator
Community Plan
Priority Issue Councils

Transportation
Access to Medical Care
Alcohol & Drug Abuse
Family Issues

*Oral Health Care
*Youth

*Housing
*Independent Living
*Parent & Community Education
*Self-Sufficiency
*Youth Development
*THRIVE Initiative

*Community Mentoring (DYS)
*Educare (HB 1519)
*Emergency Solutions Grant
*Family Transition Team
*HUD Supportive Housing
*Missouri Housing Trust Fund
*Reentry Assistance Programs
*Show Me Healthy Women
*Successful Parenting
Funding Sources

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Cape Area Community Foundation
- Reentry Assistance Program

Cape Girardeau County Senior Citizens’ Services Fund Board
- Senior Lunch and Learn
- Senior Unmet Needs

Emergency Solutions Grant – Rapid Re-Housing

HUD – Permanent Supportive Housing Program

Local Fundraising/Donations

Missouri Department of Corrections (Ended January 2017)
- Community Reentry Funding

Missouri Department of Social Services
- Community Partnership
- DYS Community Mentors Grant
- EPIC
- Families and Schools Together
- Missouri Mentoring Partnership
- Show Me Healthy Women

Missouri Family Support Division – HB 1519 (Educare)

Missouri Housing Trust Fund
- Emergency Assistance
- Rental Assistance

United Way of Southeast Missouri
- Community Case Management Services
- Successful Parenting
- THRIVE Initiative
From the Interim Director

For those of you who may not be aware, our long-time Executive Director, Tom Davisson, retired effective December 31, 2016. I wish I knew where to start with a list of Tom’s accomplishments, but I do know it would be a long list. Suffice it to say that in his sixteen years of service to the Community Caring Council, many things stayed the same – our commitment to identify the needs of individuals in our community, our compassion to help others to the best of our ability, our timely response to unmet needs of clients and most importantly our reputation in the community as a respected community partnership, one of only 20 in Missouri.

But many changes did take place. Tom served the Community Caring Council during our greatest year of change in 2002, when funding mandated that the “Caring Communities Initiative” at Blanchard, Clippard, Franklin and Jefferson Elementary Schools in Cape be terminated. The focus of the Council then shifted from direct school-based services to community-based facilitation. This was a significant fiscal transition, going from a budget of over $700,000 to $250,000 and from a staff of more than 20 to a staff of four. Then came our first community-wide assessment, selection of our community’s Priority Issues, the formation of committees to address these issues, hiring of Shirley Ramsey as our first Housing Coordinator, and then a move from Cape Public Schools Administrative Offices to our current location at 937 Broadway.

Serving as Interim Director since Jan 1, 2017 has been a gift and a challenge. A gift in that I have gained a greater understanding of all of our funding sources and services and a greater appreciation of the progress the Council has made over the years. A challenge in that we have many grants, many funding sources and many programs, each with their own rules and guidelines, due dates and eligibility criteria. That’s a lot of information to keep sorted.

And that’s the beauty of the diversity of the council. Each employee implements different programs using different resources, plans different events, and serves different people of all ages, monitoring outcomes and staying on track. Then we come together as a team, supporting each other and lending a hand when help is needed. It has indeed been a privilege and an honor to serve as director of the Council, leading and learning at the same time.

In closing, it is with great pleasure that I welcome Melissa Stickel as our new Executive Director, effective April 3, 2017, and I offer my support for her success!

Kay Azuma
Interim Director
Aging Committee

Statement of Purpose
Guided by the mission of the Community Caring Council of Cape Girardeau County, this committee shall inter-link agencies and professionals to better serve older adults within the county.

Program Activities
Monthly meetings were held on the second Wednesday of each month (Sept - May) and provided members the opportunity to share information, network, and learn about existing programs and services. Case reviews were held if requested by attending members.

The Annual Breakfast Retreat was held in Aug 2016 to review outcomes and plan for the coming year.

The Senior Resource cards continued to be available for distribution and online at www.communitycaringcouncil.org

The Monthly Senior Calendar continued to be published and distributed throughout Cape Girardeau County as well as online at www.communitycaringcouncil.org

Senior Safety Committee continued to implement the "Durable Medical Equipment Program" to provide selected medical equipment to disabled and senior individuals in need in Cape Girardeau County.

Program Outcomes
Topics presented at meetings included Estate Planning, Healthcare Needs of our Aging Population, Community Counseling Center Services, Immunizations for Seniors, DHSS In-Home Services and Elder Abuse, Paying for Care Services, Cape Senior Center Services, Adaptive Technology and Assistance for Veterans.

Average monthly attendance = 15

Annual Retreat was hosted by and held at Capetown Assisted Living by Americare on Aug 10, 2016 with 14 in attendance. Program for 2016-2017 was planned.

Approximately 1500 Senior Resource Cards were distributed.

Collaborating Partners
President – Les Tainter
Vice President – Liz Yokley
AARP, Aging Matters, APPLE, Around the Clock Alarms, Cape County Public Health, Cape County Senior Citizens’ Tax Board, Cape Police Department, Cape Public Library, Cape Senior Center, Capetown Assisted and Independent Living by Americare, Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri, Chaffee Nursing Center, Community Counseling Center, Cross Trails Medical Center, Crown Hospice, Hoover Center, Innovative Insurance Team, Jackson Senior Center, Legacy Hospice, Life Care Center, Love INC, Lutheran Family and Children’s Services, MO Department of Health & Senior Services, Preferred Hospice, Regional Arthritis Center at Saint Francis Medical Center, RSVP/VIC, Safe Harbor Hospice, SEMO Alliance for Disability Independence, Southeast Hospice, Southeast Missouri State University, The Lutheran Home, University of MO Extension, VetAssist Program, and interested individuals

Barriers
Reaching those seniors who have no support systems continues to be a challenge.

Approximately 250 copies of Senior Calendar are provided each month to clients by service providers.

Senior Safety Committee provided assistance to one individual for a shower chair, valued at $60.

Noteworthy
The Aging Committee is an active and dedicated group committed to addressing senior issues. Representatives from over 30 agencies participate.

Thanks to Cape County Public Health Center for hosting our meetings for over eleven years!
Statement of Purpose
Facilitate community-wide awareness and use of 40 Developmental Assets Initiative to increase number of positive assets in youth.

Program Activities
- Provide asset information and education opportunities for various sectors in the community.
- Maintain a resource library of more than 300 asset-based materials and games.
- Facilitate weekly group discussions and activities at ECHO Community Resource Center and with two groups at the Girardot Center for Youth and Families.
- Facilitate activities with two groups at New Madrid Bend Youth Center every other month.
- Provide continuing support of Division of Youth Services (DYS) staff and student use of the Developmental Assets and resource materials in the Southeast Region.
- Provide continuing support of Asset Building Champions (ABC) parent reading program at St. Vincent de Paul Parish School for elementary classrooms.

Program Outcomes
Asset Coordinator and initiative members provided training/conference days featuring Superhero Conference for the DYS youth and staff in the Southeast Region. An estimated 1200 people received asset information during these events.

Worked with members of student advisory committees and school sponsors at Girardot Center (54 students), and ECHO (10 students) to infuse assets into the school and facility environments.

Worked with students and staff at New Madrid Bend Youth Center (52 students) to build Developmental Assets on their campus every other month.

Provided monthly Support Group for 7 parents/caregivers of DYS youth at ECHO.

Provided asset information and support during three annual DYS events in the Southeast Region for approximately 175 additional DYS youth and their staff members.

Distributed a monthly e-newsletter called Activating Assets to approximately 200 people per month, and provided information via our Cape County THRIVE and Parent THRIVE Facebook pages.

Distributed approximately 1,000 books to youth during local back-to-school fairs (Cape Girardeau and Jackson).

Collaborating Partners
Cape Girardeau Public Library, Cape Girardeau Public Schools, EPIC (Early Prevention Impacts Community), Jackson R2 Schools, Lutheran Family and Children’s Services, MO Division of Youth Services, MO Mentoring Partnership, Safe House for Women, Southeast HEALTH/Building Blocks, Southeast Missouri State University, United Way, University of MO Extension, parents and youth from the community.

Community Involvement –
Asset Coordinator:
- Books on Wheels Committee
- ECHO Community Resource Center Community Liaison Council
- EPIC, Board Vice President, Advocacy Committee, Youth Outreach Committee
- Girardot Center Community Liaison Council, Chair
- Messy Morning Planning Committee (2016)
- Parent and Community Education Committee, Chair

Youth Specialist:
- Books on Wheels Committee
- ECHO Community Resource Center Community Liaison Council, Chair
- EPIC, Coalition member, Youth Outreach Committee
- Girardot Center Community Liaison Council
- Messy Morning Planning Committee (2016)
- Parent and Community Education Committee

Noteworthy
THRIVE members worked closely with FirstBook.org to bring a truckload of 40,000 new books to low-income youth in Southeast Missouri. With the help of DYS, over 43,000 books were distributed to youth in Southeast Missouri and the surrounding area! This project could not have been completed without the help from DYS!

Reading for pleasure is asset #25.
Community Case Management

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT FY2017
By Carrie Mott

Statement of Purpose
The purpose of the Community Case Manager is to create a collaborative relationship through assessment and evaluation that will meet the client’s needs. The Community Case Manager will also help the client exercise his or her choices by establishing goals and solutions while providing a sense of empowerment through identifying strengths.

Program Activities
- Triaged "walk-ins" according to needs and available resources.
- Assessed families/individuals for strengths, resources, abilities, support systems, and resources being used in addition to multiple needs.
- Processed referrals from other service providers and self-referrals.
- Disbursed rental and deposit grant funds to families/individuals in need of housing assistance.

Program Outcomes
- Approximately 1,272 phone calls and 694 walk-in clients were assessed and processed.
- Approximately 187 individuals and families were assisted with household items from the Community Closet.
- Approximately 101 households were assisted with rent/deposit assistance through our program.

Collaborating Partners
Birthright, Building Blocks, Cape County Public Health Center, Cape County Transit Authority, Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri, Community Counseling Center, Cross Trails Medical Center, East Missouri Action Agency, Family Counseling Center, First Call for Help, Gibson Recovery Center, Love INC, Lutheran Family and Children’s Services, Mending Hearts, Safe House for Women, Salvation Army, SEMO Alliance for Disability Independence, Southeast Missouri State University, St. Vincent de Paul, Southeast Health, United Way of Southeast Missouri

Barriers
Lack of necessary funding to meet client needs: rent, utility, & water assistance are the largest number of requests with little to no funding available. There was a noticeable increase in requests for rent assistance and closet supplies, such as hygiene and baby items.

Noteworthy
Southeast Missouri State University has been a longtime supporter of the Community Caring Council, and this year, they have really shined.

The Community Caring Council facilitates a community closet that contains a variety of hygiene items, basic cleaning supplies, and everyday necessities. The university and its multitude of groups, clubs, and other student organizations have played a key role in keeping the closet stocked for the neediest individuals/families in our community.

The university offers more than donations as well. Often, the council partners with the university to provide internship opportunities. This past year, the council provided two students with the experience. The students provided over 600 hours of service combined. Their service was valued at approximately $13,000. The internship for one student became a career opportunity, and he is now a full-time employee with the Council.

In addition, the University’s Social Work Department has produced three of the social workers now employed at the Council.

The Community Caring Council looks forward to maintaining and strengthening the partnership with Southeast Missouri State University.
Community Coordinator

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT FY2017
By Kay Azuma

Statement of Purpose
The purpose of this position is to manage and facilitate the implementation of the Priority Issue Councils and Committees in order to address the goals and objectives of the Community Plan.

Additionally, the implementation and oversight for several Council programs and grants is the Community Coordinator's responsibility. The Community Coordinator further serves as a liaison between the Council and the community in the interest of avoiding duplication of services and increasing access to available resources and services.

Program Activities
- Maintained and sustained Priority Issue Committees under the Community Plan.
- Assisted with strategy implementation as needed.
- Tracked and reported progress of Community Plan goals, objectives and strategies.
- Managed the use of the Kasten Community Development Center.
- Facilitated the monthly Council meetings and represented Community Caring Council on several community committees and advisory boards.
- Facilitated the Senior Lunch and Learn Program.
- Produced three monthly calendars - Family Fun and Learning Activities Calendar, Successful Parenting Calendar and Senior Activities Calendar.
- Planned and implemented fall and spring sessions of Building Strong Families parent curriculum.
- Completed and submitted relevant grant requests.

Program Outcomes
Seven Priority Issue Committees remained active committees addressing priority issues through the implementation of Community Plan strategies, annual evaluation of progress and ongoing revisions of the community plans. See individual reports for each priority issue for more information.

Kasten Community Development Center provided two meeting rooms available to the community for meetings and trainings. During the past year, the Center was used for an average of 17 meetings each month. About 65% of these meetings were community meetings and about 35% were Council meetings.

Seven Council meetings were held with an average of 21 in attendance. In addition, our Annual Breakfast in April 2016 had 65 in attendance and our Annual Open House in December 2016 had 45 in attendance.

The 27th Annual Community Caring Conference in Jun 2016 was entitled “A Home for Everyone”. Over 90 individuals were in attendance. Thanks to Missouri Inclusive Housing Development Corporation for financially supporting this event and thanks to the Department of Social Work at Southeast Missouri State University for hosting our conference on campus for the past ten years.

The Community Coordinator represented the Community Caring Council as a member of the following: Cape County System of Care, Domestic Violence Community Response Task Force, ECHO Community Liaison Council, EPIC Coalition, Family Transition Team, Healthy Communities Coalition, Jackson Chamber of Commerce/Non-Profit Alliance, Missouri Children's Division - Family Support Team, Reentry Steering Team, Teen Pregnancy Responsibility Network, and United Way's Community Investment Committee.

Collaborating Partners
Approximately 155 representatives from community organizations and agencies serve as members of our Priority Issue Councils and Committees (some duplication across committee rosters). See individual reports for list of participating entities.

Barriers
Due to state budget cuts in Jan 2017, our grant for Community Reentry Funds was terminated effective immediately on Jan 17, 2017. All unspent money was returned to Missouri Department of Corrections.

Noteworthy
The overall accomplishments of the Priority Issue Councils continue to be significant.
Statement of Purpose
The Council’s Housing Assistance Programs strive to help residents of Cape Girardeau County obtain housing that is affordable, accessible, safe, and decent.

Program Activities
- Community Caring Council has undergone staff changes within the last year. Calvin Garner who was previously a Community Case Manager has now transitioned into the Housing Coordinator position. This position oversees each of the housing programs but more specifically works with the implementation of the ESG (Emergency Solutions Grant – Rapid Re-housing) and Permanent Supportive Housing Program. Carrie Mott and Shelly Grovenor are the Community Case Managers and have the primary responsibilities of administering the MHTF (Missouri Housing Trust Fund) Rental Assistance and Emergency Assistance Programs.

- The Housing Needs Committee held approximately ten monthly meetings. The Housing Needs Committee provides local agencies and community members a forum to share housing information and continuous support to improve housing in the Cape area. Discussions always include updates from HUD Supportive Housing grants, Emergency Solutions Grant, Missouri Housing Trust Fund (MHTF) grant and member agencies.

- Point in Time counts conducted annually in January indicated a slight increase in the number of homeless in Cape Girardeau County. The Housing Needs Committee continued to provide key leadership in helping our region report numbers to the state.

- The HUD Supportive Housing Program (SHP) grant supported a Community Case Manager and a Housing Coordinator. The current grant serves 27 individuals and families who have been identified as homeless and disabled by HUD standards. Current annual funding for the program is $204,449.00. We have also been approved for Fiscal Year 2017 in the amount of $210,700.00. These funds will begin in September 2017.

- Approval of grant funding in the amount of $85,000 from Missouri Housing Development Commission (MHDC) will provide housing services to meet housing needs of Cape Girardeau County’s most vulnerable and at risk of homelessness.

- The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) is funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and facilitated by Missouri Housing Development Commission (MHDC). Program funding was approved for $46,400.00 for fiscal year 2017. This funding is a partnership with the City of Cape Girardeau, Safe House for Women, Catholic Charities, and The Salvation Army.

Program Outcomes
- ESG-Rapid Re-Housing funds assisted in the transition from "literally homeless" individuals and families by transitioning from their homeless status into a housing unit. These funds are currently assisting eight households. Two households have recently undergone transition from the program due to time and/or income limits of the funding.

- The HUD-SHP grant provided housing and case management for a maximum of 27 units, which included 30 adults and 12 children. This program seeks to serve those who are chronically homeless and with a disability (developmental disability, substance abuse, HIV/AIDS, mental health, or physical disability). Over the course of the thirteenth operating year, our agency has continued to serve participants from all of the special needs categories. Over ten other community agencies partner to help our clients remain connected to community programs and resources. Our program has become a true permanent housing program.

- The Missouri Housing Trust Fund dollars were able to assist over 90 households in the Cape Girardeau region this year. Each of the households met income eligibility standards being 50% or below the Area Median Income (AMI) for the Cape Girardeau Region. Community Caring Council was able to provide financial assistance and case management services to participants in attempting to attain self-sufficiency.

Collaborating Partners
- The Housing Needs Committee, composed of over 40 individuals from various community agencies that support our grants, continued to provide ideas to improve efforts to fulfill our purpose.

- Working relationships with over 100 landlords helped us to serve our clients more efficiently and effectively.

- Emergency shelters continue to operate at capacity in Jackson (the Revival Center) and in Delta (the Amen Center). They are working very hard to serve homeless families and individuals by providing both short and long-term shelter. Each of these shelters help to service the growing numbers of homeless in our community.

Barriers
- Progress has been made in emergency and transitional housing resources, but a significant need remains. Existing shelters are operating on limited budgets and the community needs to assist in gathering
Community Housing Assistance

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT FY2017
By Calvin Garner

statistics on the homeless population that they are working hard to serve.

• Increase in rental costs and decrease in the number of rental units presents a challenge to persons seeking affordable housing. All of our housing efforts need increased funding to meet the increased need for housing assistance.

• All of our housing grants: ESG, HUD-SHP and MHDC funding have become increasingly more competitive over the years. The risk of reduced funding and a lack of funding are true challenges and a reality we face in attempting to meet the ever-demanding needs of our community.

Noteworthy
Through the ESG (Rapid Re-housing) Grant, our agency was able to assist a young pregnant mother from living in her car into her very own apartment.

The young mother slept in her car at night and groomed herself in local restrooms by day in order to look for employment. Her “literally homeless” status, along with other criteria, made her eligible for the assistance.

Within a week or two of the client’s initial intake, this young lady was out of the elements, housed and gainfully employed.
Statement of Purpose
Cape Girardeau Educare Programs are an early childhood initiative of the Missouri Department of Social Services. Educare’s focus is school readiness and this is achieved through programming for child care providers and low income parents. Cape Educare has the following three grants: Educare and two grants for Home Visitation. The counties served are Cape Girardeau, Scott, Perry, Bollinger, Stoddard, and Mississippi.

Program Activities
Educare offered a variety of training and technical assistance to child care providers in our service area. The staff education component of Accreditation can be met by completing the Child Development Associate (CDA) Class offered each year at Educare. Educare provides training and technical assistance to providers receiving subsidized childcare through Division of Social Services. This would include unlicensed registered providers, licensed home cares and licensed exempt programs. Monthly provider support groups were offered throughout the year. Educare also offered an Emotional Beginnings Curriculum Class once this past year. This curriculum focuses on working with infants and toddlers.

Educare had both the non-competitive Home Visitation Grant (Cape), and the competitive Home Visitation Grant (SE Region serving Bollinger, Perry, Scott, Mississippi, Cape & Stoddard) for this fiscal year. These grants are called the P.E.P. Program (Positive Educational Parenting) and serve families with children prenatal up to age three. In P.E.P., families received home visits, group meetings, and toy incentives. Families networked with each other and referrals were made as needed to other agencies. Families must meet income guidelines to participate in P.E.P.

Educare also maintained its Resource Room that contains books, videos, toys and other materials for child care providers and parents to check out.

Program Outcomes
The following were outcomes for FY 17 YTD (July to Present)
- There are 12 child care providers in Educare’s CDA Class.
- Educare offered 171 on-site technical assistance/trainings with registered providers, licensed exempt programs and licensed homes in four counties.
- Educare offered monthly support groups for registered providers and licensed providers.
- 121 families participated in the P.E.P / Home Visitation Program since July 1.

Collaborating Partners
Cape Educare is a partnership of Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau Public Schools, and Community Caring Council. CDA Classes are funded through United Way of Southeast Missouri.

Barriers
None noted.

Noteworthy:
Due to new Health and Safety Requirements for child care providers receiving payments from Missouri Department of Social Services for the care of subsidized children, Educare has offered monthly child care provider trainings resulting in 122 providers attending Pre-Service Training and 92 providers attending In-Service Training since November 1, 2016. Trainings will continue through the end of the fiscal year.
Statement of Purpose
The mission of this coalition is to join together in a common effort to build a healthy and safe community, reducing the risks of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs while promoting the healthy attitudes and behaviors of youth in Southeast Missouri.

Program Activities
EPIC continued to provide prevention materials on a weekly basis to approximately 200 youth who received assistance from the food bank backpack program. Materials included literature, information about safe drug disposal opportunities, as well as school and hygiene supplies with prevention messaging.

The EPIC Advocacy Committee continued to host quarterly Breakthrough Breakfast events for local service providers. These events featured speakers who discussed issues relevant to substance abuse prevention. The Breakthrough Breakfasts remained popular with increased participation and support. To date there have been a total of thirteen Breakthrough Breakfasts.

The “What’s in Your Cabinet” project was developed in conjunction with students from the Department of Health, Human Performance and Recreation at SEMO. The students created bag stuffers and postcards that included statistics on youth prescription drug use and misuse, information about the permanent drug drop boxes and awareness of the upcoming drug take back event. Fourteen local pharmacies agreed to display the information as well as include it in prescription bags. Additionally, the pharmacies were recognized as EPIC pharmacies in the Southeast Missourian for being willing to disseminate the information.

EPIC worked with local police and the Drug Enforcement Administration to host a Prescription Drug Take Back event that allowed community members to safely and legally dispose of unwanted medications. EPIC also worked on a public education initiative to increase awareness and provide education on safe and effective drug return, including continued media on local drop boxes and take back events, information on securing medications in your home, and talking to teens about medication abuse.

EPIC’s Advocacy Committee established the EPIC Schools Project in 2014 to encourage local schools to employ extraordinary youth substance abuse prevention efforts. Area schools demonstrating such exceptional efforts are given banners and window clings identifying their school as an “EPIC School” that supports community efforts to reduce youth substance abuse. Qualifying schools are also recognized in local media for their efforts. In December 2016, the third annual EPIC School designations were awarded and this year we had four schools receive the designation: Jackson Middle School, Nell Holcomb R-IV, Notre Dame Regional High School and St. Mary Cathedral School.

EPIC PALS program relies on the human-animal bond to create caring and confident kids. The program pairs the Multi-grees Curriculum with a structured dog training component to build assets in local young people while working to get shelter dogs adopted. EPIC has been offering the PALS program for over two years now, and has served youth in the Missouri Division of Youth Services ECHO and Girardot Center programs.

Program Outcomes
At the October 2016 Prescription Drug Take Back Event, 47 community members safely and legally disposed of almost 722 pounds of unwanted prescription medications.

A PSA was created in the spring of 2016 that promoted awareness of underage drinking during the prom and graduation season. The PSA ran on the EPIC Facebook page as well as Fox 23 immediately prior to proms and graduations in April 2016.

A Town Hall Meeting was held on December 1st at the Osage Center. The event was titled “Through Their Eyes: Youth Perspectives on Underage Drinking.” We asked young people to share photos that they took in our community and reflected messages they receive about the use of alcohol in their environment. Their photos were displayed and discussed. Twenty-four adults attended the meeting and nine youth!

EPIC’s annual “Youth Day at the Park” served approximately 100 youth and adult community members in June 2016.

Three Breakthrough Breakfasts were held with an average of 50 people attending each of these events.

EPIC Pals held four graduations with 15 youth/dog pairs graduating from the program. Groups were held with students from the Big Brothers Big Sisters program, the Cape Girardeau County Juvenile Office and the Girardot Center.

EPIC Pals is now also offered in humane education groups without the dog pairing component. During the past year, groups were completed at Cape Central
Middle School with eight students participating, Girardot Center with seventeen students participating, Jackson Middle School with eight students participating and Prodigy Leadership Academy with an average of eight students participating.

**Collaborating Partners**
Bethel Assembly of God Church, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boys & Girls Club, Busch’s Pet Products, Cape Arts Council, Cape Christian School, Cape County Health Department, Cape County Juvenile Office, Cape County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office, Cape County Sheriff’s Department, Cape Girardeau Parks and Rec Department, Cape Police Department, Cape Trails Apartments, Cape Safe Communities, Cape Public Schools, Cash Book Journal, Charter Communications, Community Caring Council, Cup ‘N’ Cork, Delta Public Schools, Drug Court, Drury Southwest Signs, Family Counseling Center, Fort Law Firm, Gibson Recovery Center, Holloway Floor & Carpet, Isle of Capri Casino, Jackson Police Department, Jackson Public Schools, KBSI-TV, KFVS-TV, KRCU Radio, Mississippi Mutts, Mississippi River Radio, Missouri Army National Guard, Missouri Children’s Division, Missouri Division of Probation and Parole, Missouri Division of Youth Services, Missouri Foundation for Health, Missouri Mentoring Partnership, Missouri Running Company, New Vision Counseling, Notre Dame High School, Oak Ridge Public Schools, Prodigy Leadership Academy, Rust Media, Safe House for Women, Saint Mary Cathedral School, Shawnee Community Center, Southeast Drug Free Communities Coalition, Southeast Food Bank, Southeast Missourian Jr., Southeast Missourian, Southeast Regional Support Center, Southeast Missouri State University, THRIVE, TRH Accounting, United Way of SEMO, Withers Broadcasting, interested youth and adults

**Barriers**
Youth participation in EPIC remains limited.

An additional barrier is our difficulty obtaining school participation in surveys that will allow EPIC to report on our core measures to our primary funder, Drug Free Communities, and to assist us in developing appropriate drug abuse prevention strategies for the community.

In September 2015, EPIC was awarded the Drug Free Communities (DFC) grant for the second cycle. We are in our seventh year of this grant which will end in September 2020. After this second cycle ends, EPIC will no longer be eligible to apply for this grant. In an effort to develop a sustainable coalition, EPIC’s Resource Committee has developed two successful fundraisers. The third annual "Off the Wall" art auction raised over $7,000 last April and the fourth event is being planned now. In December, EPIC hosted the third annual EPIC Glow Run on New Year’s Eve. This allowed us to provide an alternative activity for youth and adults in the community on a holiday often known for excessive alcohol consumption while also raising over $2,800 for the Coalition. We anticipate both of these events will continue growing in popularity and will allow EPIC to promote creative and healthy behaviors in the community while becoming more financially self-supporting.

EPIC PALS has graduated four groups of teenagers and dogs since last year and EPIC is now offering a humane education version of EPIC Pals to students in the community. During the past year we have offered the EPIC Pals program to over 50 young people! Funding for this program is primarily provided through a Special Projects grant from the Missouri Foundation for Health. The Community Caring Council has also requested funding through the Missouri Department of Social Services and the Missouri Division of Youth Services for EPIC Pals and that funding has been awarded three years in a row now!
Family Transition Team

Statement of Purpose
The Family Transition Team is an inter-agency staffing team that processes cases of individuals and families in need of financial assistance. Family Transition Team comes together in order to process needs of those in our community who cannot seek specific assistance elsewhere.

Program Activities
- Staffing of referrals for unmet needs of individuals and families
- Annual Garage Sale
- Solicitation of donations to maintain adequate supplies in the Community Closet
- Continuation of resource identification and education
- Ongoing search for funding to assist populations that have unmet needs

Program Outcomes
- Received and processed 58 referrals from March 2016 to February 2017 concerning needs such as: birth certificates, state identification cards, rental assistance, transportation, eye glasses, and various medical concerns.
- Raised approximately $2035 at Garage Sale fundraiser in May 2016.
- Solicited over $2500 in donations to the Community Closet.
- Solicited over $450 in donations in gift cards.
- Submitted and received approval for grants for transportation assistance, childcare assistance, and senior assistance in Cape Girardeau County.
- Family Transition Team members attended case management workshops and other informational meetings to stay aware of resources and community issues.

Collaborating Partners
Birthright, Cape County Senior Citizens’ Fund Board, Cape Girardeau Public Schools, Centenary Methodist Church, Cross Trails Medical Center, Educare, First Call for Help, First Presbyterian Church, Jim Watkins, Love INC, Lutheran Family and Children's Services, Missouri Children’s Division, Missouri Division of Youth Services, Missouri Mentoring Partnership, Missouri Reentry Steering Team, Southeast HEALTH Building Blocks, Southeast Missouri State University – Residence Life, St. Andrew Lutheran Church, St. Vincent de Paul Church, United Way of Southeast Missouri

Barriers
Funding is limited and can only assist so many families. Additional funding, especially flexible funding, would allow the team to assist more people in need.

Noteworthy
The Family Transition Team is a group comprised of several members of the community. Professionals from many different agencies and churches are represented. The team acts as a referral resource for clients that are seeking assistance with one of the community agencies that may not be able to assist fully. The majority of requests are assisted with $100.00 or less.

It has been noticed that the medical needs in our community are increasing. The team was able to assist many individuals for a variety of different needs, such as eye glasses, medications, doctor visits and in-home medical equipment.

The team is in full swing preparing and searching for future funding. The FTT is an asset to community members and agencies alike. The team looks forward to the upcoming year.
Statement of Purpose
The Missouri Mentoring Partnership (MMP) assists in preparing youth for personal success in employment, education, healthy lifestyles and self-sufficiency.

Program Description
The MMP provides asset-based life skills education that covers social skills, household management, education, employment skills, and self-care. Along with the life skills education, MMP provides creative activities to broaden the youth’s creativity. These activities includes games, physical activities, and crafts. MMP provides a series of classes that are typically eight weeks long and meet twice a week for 90 minutes each time. MMP is open to anyone under the age of 25 years old who is willing to commit to the classes.

Program Activities
- Series of 16 sessions of life skills classes that include a lesson and fun activities on:
  - team building
  - money management
  - self-esteem
  - health topics
  - social skills
  - goal setting
  - employment
  - household management
  - cooking
- Building Strong Families
- Bi-annual fundraiser yard sales

Program Outcomes
From March 1, 2016 to February 28, 2017:
- 2 series of MMP classes were completed & 4 series are in progress at Missouri Division of Youth Services
  - 48 total sessions completed
- 48 youth have completed a series of MMP classes.
- 29 youth are currently participating in one of the 4 on-going series of classes.
- Worked with 50 Division of Youth Services youth at Girardot Center
- Participated in Community Activities including
  - Messy Morning
  - ECHO Community Resource Center Fun Family Nights
  - Bollinger County Children & Youth Issues Coalition Resource Fair
  - EPIC Youth Day at the Park

Collaborating Partners
Referrals: Missouri Division of Youth Services, Positive Educational Parenting (P.E.P.) Club, Safe House for Women, The Salvation Army, THRIVE, University of Missouri Extension

Key donors (money or in-kind) and volunteers: Missouri Department of Social Services, Missouri Division of Youth Services, Red Star Baptist Church, Southeast HEALTH Building Blocks, Southeast Missouri State University, community individuals, individual consignors of Little Lambs Children’s Sale

Community Involvement
- THRIVE Initiative and Training Sub-Committee
- EPIC Coalition, Youth Outreach Sub-Committee
- Girardot Center for Youth & Families Community Liaison Council, secretary
- ECHO Community Resource Center Community Liaison Council
- Parent and Community Education Committee
- Case Manager Quarterly Meetings
- Family Transition Team
- Building Strong Families
- Bollinger County Caring Council
- Bollinger County Children & Youth Issues Coalition
- Southeast Regional Support Center Advisory Board

Barriers
As a program working with youth, we are always looking for additional referrals and referral sources to help the program grow. We are also looking for locations to hold the asset-based life skills classes.
Oral Health Program

Statement of Purpose
The Oral Health Program implements dental screenings and fluoride varnish applications to aid in the prevention of cavities for pre-school and school-aged children in collaboration with the Missouri Oral Health Program through the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. Dotty Gholson, Health Coordinator, provides coordination of these services for Cape Girardeau County/Scott County schools and daycares and offers limited financial assistance for treatment of urgent dental needs.

Program Activities
Professional and lay volunteers donated their time to implement dental screenings and fluoride varnish applications throughout Cape and Scott County. All materials were provided at no charge through the Missouri Oral Health program.

Upon request, oral health displays, educational presentations on dental health, and brochures on dental health were provided.

Program Outcomes
57 community volunteers (10 dentists, 8 hygienists, 21 assistants, and 18 lay volunteers) assisted with the school and daycare dental screenings and fluoride varnish applications.

16 School Districts (with Preschools)
---5540 students screened (pre K-12th grades)
---3554 students received fluoride varnish (Some children have received two fluoride varnish applications.)

12 Daycares
---452 children screened (ages 2-5)
---372 children received fluoride varnish (Most children have received two fluoride varnish applications.)

Of total youth screened (5992)
---612 youth (10%) needed early dental treatment
---102 youth (2%) needed immediate (urgent) dental treatment

Collaborating Partners
Missouri Oral Health Program, Drs. Janet & Pat Ruopp & Staff, Dr. Terry Spence & Staff, Dr. Danna Cotner & Staff, Dr. Garrett Sparks & Staff, Dr. Ross Bennett & Staff, Dr. Byron Aden & Staff, Dr. Patty Merkley & Staff, Dr. John Freeze, Dr. Christine Schoolman, Dr. Ron Lessman & Staff, Dr. Kara Johnson & Staff

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By Dotty Gholson

Schools: Cape Junior High & Middle Schools, Cape Christian, Delta R-V, Eagle Ridge, Immaculate Conception, Jackson R-2, Kelso C-7, Nell Holcomb, Notre Dame, Prodigy Academy, Oak Ridge R-6, Scott City R-1, St. Mary’s Cathedral, St. Paul Lutheran, St. Vincent de Paul, Trinity Lutheran

Daycares: A Child’s Journey, A Small World (Cape & Jackson), Big Stuff, Curious Kids, Early Childhood Center @ East Elementary, Just Kids (2), Kids Korner, Lynnwood Footprints, University Child Enrichment, Watch Me Grow

Barriers
- Rescheduling the 2nd dental varnish at schools was challenging due to the flu.
- Attendance for the spring fluoride varnish events was down due to illnesses.
- Two participating daycares closed since last year.

Noteworthy
The 7th Annual Sensational Smiles Fundraiser to benefit oral health treatment services for local youth was held on March 19, 2016 at The Concourse. Profit was approximately $8000.

The cooperation from local dental providers has been very impressive.

The Oral Health Coalition of Southeast Missouri, chaired by Dr. Janet Ruopp, continued to be an active group focused on quality dental care for youth in our community.

At the Project Homeless Connect event in October 2016, the SHOW Mobile was available and a local dentist was able to provide free dental treatment on site.

We have one faithful volunteer from the RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) helping with the dental fluoride varnish applications.

Amanda Lowry, dental assistant, was recognized as one of Jackson Chamber of Commerce Volunteers for helping with the dental screenings.

One new school was added during the 2016-2017 school year: Eagle Ridge.

Dental Screenings & fluoride varnish applications were provided at the Salvation Army Back to School Fair in July 2016.
Reentry Assistance

Statement of Purpose
There are two Reentry Assistance Programs serving to meet the unmet needs of individuals who are reentering society in the Cape Girardeau area. The overall goal of the program is individual self-sufficiency. Therefore, obtaining and maintaining employment is very important.

(1) MO Department of Corrections Community Reentry Funding

(2) Local Reentry Assistance Program

Program Activities
Services include individual assessment and case management in order to determine individual needs.

Tangible services to the clients include: Clothing, hygiene items, medical copays, birth certificates, state id’s, work-related expenses, housing assistance, limited utility assistance, and transportation.

Program Outcomes
MO Department of Corrections Community Reentry Funding
Year 2 of this grant began July 1, 2016. Clients must be under active state probation or parole supervision and referrals for client assistance must come from District 32 Probation and Parole Office. Clients must reside in Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, or Perry Counties.

This state grant was terminated without advance notice on January 17, 2017 due to state budget cuts.

- 85 individuals were assisted from July-December 2016.

Local Reentry Assistance Program
Funds for this program are raised by the annual Bikers for Reentry event held in the fall each year since 2014. Over $13,000 has been raised to date.

Referrals are accepted from any source, including self-referrals. Clients do not have to be under active state or federal supervision, but must show documentation of local, state or federal incarceration or supervision.

- 54 individuals were assisted in the past 12 months.

Collaborating Partners
Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri, Cape Girardeau County Transit Authority, Missouri Department of Corrections, Missouri Division of Probation and Parole – District 32, East Missouri Action Agency, Family Counseling Center, Family Transition Team, Gibson Recovery Center, Habitat RESTORE, Hope International, Maxine’s, Mending Hearts, Safe House Thrift Store, The Salvation Army, U. S. Probation Office-Eastern District of Missouri

Barriers
Loss of the Community Reentry Funding from Missouri Department of Corrections greatly decreased the Council’s ability to assist and support reentering individuals.

Noteworthy
Bikers for Reentry Fundraiser is an annual project under the Local Reentry Steering Team. Proceeds assist many ex-offenders with unmet needs with the goal of successful reunification into society.

Plans are underway for the fourth annual event to be held on September 30, 2017 at Lawless Harley Davidson in Scott City.
Senior Lunch and Learn Program

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT FY2017
By Kay Azuma

Statement of Purpose
The purpose of this program aligns with the mission of the Community Caring Council to “…provide a continuum of resources to help empower individuals and families meet life’s challenges.”

The program serves Senior Ladies, known as the “Golden Angels”, ages 60 and over, living in Cape Girardeau County.

Program Activities
- Weekly “Lunch and Learn” meetings were held at House of Hope, 1000 South Ranney Street in Cape Girardeau.
- Members actively participated in the planning of the activities.
- The meetings consisted of a program (educational presentations, health screenings, crafts, BINGO and other games) followed by a Pot Luck Lunch.
- Field trips were offered and participation in other community events was arranged.

Program Outcomes
A total of 34 meetings were held from Mar 2016 – Feb 2017.

Number of participating senior ladies = 24
Average meeting attendance = 10

Educational Presentations included:
- Reading Your Credit Report
- Senior Scams
- Food Safety
- Matter of Balance Exercise Class (4 sessions)
- Love INC
- Seeing Cape as a Tourist
- Organizing Papers
- Family Medical History
- Older Driver Safety/Car Fit

Field Trips included:
- Dogwood Azalea Festival in Charleston, MO
- SALT Senior Information Day
- SALT Christmas Party
- Martin L. King Dinner

Other activities/programs included:
- Adult Coloring
- Playing Bingo and other games
- Quilting
- Several craft projects
- Sharing lunch with House of Hope staff and Cape County Senior Tax Board members

Collaborating Partners
Cape Girardeau County Public Health Center,
Cape Girardeau County Senior Citizens Services
Fund Board, House of Hope, Southeast Missouri State University – Department of Nursing,
University of Missouri Extension

Barriers
Connecting with other seniors in our community who could benefit from this program

Noteworthy
This program supported the senior members in remaining active, independent and responsible individuals, exposing them to available resources through educational presentations, field trips and other activities. This weekly program added to their joy of living through friendships and the knowledge that there is a support system that can be accessed in need.

Funding for this program has been provided by the Cape Girardeau County Senior Citizens Services Fund Board for over ten years.
Statement of Purpose
The purpose of Show Me Healthy Women (SMHW) is to provide community health workers through local community partnerships to support low-income women in obtaining access to prevention health services. This outreach intervention program was initiated in February 2011. SMHW provides breast and cervical cancer early detection services for low-income women through provider clinics across the state.

To qualify, women need to be between ages 35 to 64 (or older if not covered by Medicare Part B), uninsured or insurance does not cover breast or cervical cancer screenings, and household income is less than 200% above federal poverty guidelines.

Program Activities
Visits to area interagency organizations in Scott, Perry, Bollinger and Cape Girardeau Counties on a monthly basis and to area events to promote the program

Participation in the Pink Moon Run for Breast Cancer in Jackson, the Pink Up Luncheon Committee at St. Francis Medical Center, & displays at the Wellness Fair at SEMO State University and Senior & Lawmen Together Senior Celebration

Program Outcomes
There were approximately 250 SMHW information brochures that were shared at local events.

There were over 646 people that attended the meetings and/or community events.

Collaborating Partners
American Cancer Society, Breast Cancer Foundation of the Ozarks, Community Breast Care Project, Gateway to Hope: A Breast Cancer Lifeline, Hope 4 You Breast Cancer Foundation, Komen Mid-Missouri Affiliate, Komen St. Louis Affiliate, Komen Kansas City Affiliate, Missouri Cancer Consortium, National Cancer Institute

FOUR COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS: Cape Girardeau County, Knox-Schulyer County, Randolph County, Washington County

Noteworthy
Mary CoStephens is the new Southeast Regional Coordinator for SMHW.

CPR Renewal class is being planned for the near future.

Breast exams were provided at Project Homeless Connect in October 2016. Vouchers for free mammograms were available upon request.
Statement of Purpose
The purpose of this program is to provide ongoing community education for parents, grandparents and caregivers who play active roles in raising children. This program is part of the Family Issues Community Plan under the guidance of the Parent and Community Education Committee and is funded in part by United Way of Southeast Missouri.

Program Activities
Building Strong Families Curriculum
- Evangelical United Church of Christ, Cape Girardeau
  Mar/Apr 2016
- University of MO Extension, Jackson
  Sep/Oct 2016

Nurturing Parenting Curriculum
- Lutheran Family & Children’s Services, Cape Girardeau
  Jun/Jul/Aug 2016 and Jan/Feb 2017

Incredible Years Curriculum
- Educare, Cape Girardeau
  Apr/May 2016
- “Empowered to Connect Conference: Live Simulcast”
  April 8-9, 2016
- Collaboration with Children’s Coalition, Room for One More and LaCroix Church

Program Outcomes
BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES
Evangelical United Church of Christ, Cape
- 5 sessions in Mar-Apr: 16 adults and 14 youth (ages 0-12)
- Family Strengths, Money Matters, Kids and Self Esteem, Positive Discipline, Managing Stress
University of MO Extension, Jackson
- 5 sessions in Sep-Oct: 13 adults and 4 youth (ages 0-12)
- Family Strengths, Positive Discipline, Managing Stress, Money Matters, Kids and Self Esteem

NURTURING PARENTING
Lutheran Family & Children’s Services
- 6 sessions in Jun-Jul-Aug – 11 adults
- 6 sessions in Jan-Feb – 8 adults

INCREDBLE YEARS CURRICULUM
Educare
- 4 sessions in Apr-May: 27 adults and 31 youth

Collaborating Partners
Educare, Evangelical United Church of Christ, Jackson Schools, Lutheran Family and Children’s Services, Missouri Children’s Division, Missouri Mentoring Partnership, Safe House for Women, Southeast Missouri State University Social Work Interns, United Way of Southeast Missouri, University of Missouri Extension

Barriers
There is a lack of consistent attendance among some participants during the 4-6 week parent education sessions.

Noteworthy
United Way of SEMO continues to fund the Building Strong Families sessions.

When asked what specific changes were made after attending Building Strong Families, participants responded:

“Spending money more wisely and spending more time together means everything.”

“Better money management and more positive self-talk.”

“I am trying a lot harder to make my family work together in better ways.”
COMMUNITY PLAN
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PRIORITY ISSUE COUNCIL
Transportation

COMMUNITY PLAN CHAIR
Tom Mogelnicki

COLLABORATING PARTNERS
Cape County Transit, Cape Girardeau County, City of Cape Girardeau, City of Jackson, Federal Transit Administration, Missouri Department of Transportation

FUNDING SOURCES
Federal Transit Administration, Missouri Department of Transportation, Aging Matters, Cape Girardeau County Board for Developmental Disabilities, Cape Girardeau County Commission, Cape Girardeau County Senior Citizens Service Fund, City of Cape Girardeau, City of Jackson

NOTEWORTHY
Cape County Transit ridership (bus and taxi) has increased 3.4% from 195,288 riders in 2014 to 201,863 riders in 2016.

Approximate number of Cape County Transit bus riders increased 24.8% from 58,311 riders in 2014 to 72,752 riders in 2016.

COMMUNITY PLAN STRATEGIES COMPLETED
Cape County Transit continued to be the main provider of public transportation in Cape Girardeau County – 201,863 riders from Jan-Dec 2016 in 39 vehicles.

Cape County Transit’s Fixed Route Bus System continued to have three buses operating within the Cape Girardeau city limits (two routes – North and South). One-way rate is $2.00, two-week rate is $20.00, and monthly rate is $35.00. One-way rates are discounted to $1.00 for disabled individuals and senior citizens.

Cape County Transit’s Fixed Route Bus System operated from 6am-6pm Monday-Friday and 9am-6pm on Saturday. Schedules are available at www.cgcta.com or at the CTA office at 937 Broadway, Suite 200, Cape Girardeau.

Cape County Transit’s Taxi Demand Response transportation was available 24/6.5 Monday-Sunday. Service stopped at 2pm on Sundays and resumed at 5am on Mondays. One-way rates within the county varied from $6.00 – $16.50 depending on mileage. Additional passengers are charged $3.00 and a surcharge of $2.00 is added during the nighttime hours of 10pm – 6am.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARD PLAN PROGRESS
Southeast Missouri State University provided campus transportation to the River Campus. General public was not excluded.

Cape County Transit’s Complementary Para-Transit Service Plan provided transportation services to eligible persons living within ¾ mile of the bus route who are unable to access the fixed route due to a disability or health-related condition.

Cape County Transit offered job access/commuter van services to the Perryville area with four trips daily. Cost per person is $50 per week.

Cape County Transit has initiated a Transit Sponsorship Program for local businesses and organizations wishing to advertise on the transit vehicles.

COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
SEMO Alliance for Disability Independence (SADI) continued its transportation services for their clients. Cost is $4.00 (one-way) within the cities of Cape, Jackson and Scott City, and Chaffee. Cost is $4.00 (one-way) from Cape to Scott City, $6.00 (one-way) from Cape to Jackson and $8.00 (one-way) from Cape to Chaffee, and $10 (one-way) from Jackson to Chaffee. Hours of operation are 7am – 5pm, Monday - Friday.

SADI is also providing a Shopping Shuttle in the city of Cape and in Jackson on Wednesdays and Fridays for $2.00. If you go from one city to another city, the cost is $4.00. Call SADI at 651-6464 for specific times and other details.

Any person with a disability needing transportation may become a registered rider of the SADI Shuttle Service. All transportation services must be arranged in advance by calling 651-6464.

BARRIERS
Keeping the cost of public transportation affordable for consumers while costs continue to increase is a challenge.
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PRIORITY ISSUE COUNCIL
Oral Health Coalition

COMMUNITY PLAN CHAIR
Dr. Janet Ruopp

MEETINGS HELD 5
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE 6

COLLABORATING PARTNERS
Cape County Public Health Center Staff and Board Members, Cape Public Schools, Dental Providers (Dr. Patty Merkley, Dr. Janet Ruopp, Dr. Terry Spence), Innovative Orthodontics, Jackson Public Schools, MO Oral Health Preventive Services Program, Southeast Missouri State University (Department of Speech and Communication Disorders, Department of Nursing) and interested individuals

FUNDING SOURCES
Community Caring Council, Missouri Oral Health Preventive Services, Sensational Smiles Social

NOTEWORTHY
A total of 5992 youth in Cape Girardeau County/Scott City received FREE dental screenings during the 2016-2017 school year.

A total of 57 community volunteers, including 39 dental professionals and 18 volunteers, assisted with the school and daycare dental screenings and fluoride varnish applications.

COMMUNITY PLAN STRATEGIES COMPLETED
Training for oral health screenings and fluoride varnish applications was provided online to approximately seven new volunteers.

Oral Health Coalition brochures were revised and reprinted in Oct 2016. Approximately 150 brochures were distributed.

Dental Screenings in Cape Girardeau County/Scott County served 5540 youth in 16 schools (including preschools) and 452 youth in 12 preschools/daycares, for a total of 5992 youth. That is an overall increase of 4.1% from the 2015-2016 school year.

612 (10%) youth needed early dental treatment and 102 (1.7%) youth needed urgent treatment. This reflects a 2% increase in need for early treatment and less than a 1% increase in need for urgent treatment as compared to the 2015-2016 school year.

Fluoride varnish applications were provided to 3554 school-aged youth and 372 preschool-aged youth for a total of 3926 youth, an increase of 0.7% from the 2015-2016 school year. Of all youth screened, 66% received fluoride varnish applications.

Dental Treatment Scholarship Program provided approximately $2200 for treatment for four individuals this past year.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARD PLAN PROGRESS
Dental Health Displays/Education: Healthpoint Fitness Wellness Fair, GrandFamily Conference, Senior Information Day and RSVP Volunteer Fair.

Part time position for Oral Health Coordinator was supported by Community Caring Council. All screening and varnishing supplies were provided by MO Oral Health Preventive Services Program.

The 7th Annual Sensational Smiles Social was held on Mar 19, 2016 at The Concourse to raise funds for our Dental Treatment Scholarship Program and to recognize all who helped with the dental screenings/fluoride varnish applications. Over $8200 profit was realized for the Scholarship Program.

The 8th Annual Sensational Smiles Social was held on Mar 18, 2017 at The Concourse. Profit is not yet known.

COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
Dental Assistant Amanda Lowry received the Jackson Chamber of Commerce Volunteer Award in May 2016 for her work with dental screening and fluoride varnishing events throughout Cape Girardeau County. Thanks, Amanda!

The Show Mobile from Southeast Missouri State University and a local dentist once again provided dental extractions at Project Homeless Connect event in Oct 2016.

BARRIERS
In order to increase the number of youth screened, additional dental providers and trained volunteers are needed.

Sustaining the position of Oral Health Coordinator is essential to maintaining the dental screening program.
COMMUNITY PLAN
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COMMUNITY PLAN STRATEGIES COMPLETED
300 copies of Alcohol & Drug Abuse/Mental Health Resource Card were distributed; card was also available online at www.communitycaringcouncil.org

THRIVE Student Groups (with 40 Developmental Asset focus) continued at ECHO Community Resource Center, Girardot Center for Youth and Families and New Madrid Bend Youth Center with a total of 116 students participating.

Year six of the Drug-Free Communities grant ended Sep 29, 2016. Year seven began Sep 30, 2016. Year four (final year) of the MO Foundation for Health funding for the EPIC PALS program began in Nov 2016. PALS was also supported by the Community Caring Council through Missouri Department of Social Services-Division of Youth Services. Since Jun 2016, two fulltime staff and two part time staff have been employed by the Coalition.

Collaboration with the Cape City Police Department, Jackson Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration resulted in two Drug Take Back events: 765 pounds of drugs were collected in Apr 2016 and 722 pounds in Oct 2016. Permanent drop boxes continued to be available at Cape and Jackson Police Departments for drop-off at any time.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARD PLAN PROGRESS
A team of university students (Department of Health, Human Performance and Recreation) developed the “What’s in Your Cabinet?” project. The purpose of the project was to encourage individuals to rid their cabinets of unused prescription drugs and dispose of them properly. Printed bags and postcards regarding youth drug use and proper disposal of drugs were given to 14 local pharmacies to share with their customers.

A Town Hall meeting, “Through Their Eyes: Youth Perspectives on Underage Drinking”, was held in Cape in Dec 2016. Participating youth shared photos they took in the community that portrayed the use of alcohol in different settings. At the event, youth shared the perceived messaging from these photos that alcohol consumption is “ok”. The event was attended by 26 adults and 9 youth.

Five subcommittees are actively engaged in the work of the Coalition:
- **Advocacy** – A PSA campaign, shared through social media, was aired during Prom and Graduation seasons to highlight the consequences of youth alcohol and drug use. Breakthrough Breakfast Workshops were offered in Oct 2016 and Feb 2017 (Societal Influences on Youth Substance Abuse: Incarceration in the US and Parental Incarceration: The Impact on Youth). Average attendance was 50. The group also implemented the process to identify schools to receive the annual EPIC School Award.
- **Youth Outreach** – Two Coalition events were implemented: Youth Day at Arena Park in Jun 2016 (100 in attendance) and a Town Hall meeting at Osage Centre in Dec 2016 (35 in attendance). The group also provided a booth with activities at Messy Morning (Apr 2016), Cape Parks & Rec Day (Jul 2016), Halloween Hoopla (Oct 2016) and Fall Festival (Nov 2016).
- **Media** – The Coalition brochure, Facebook page and website were redesigned. Two promotional videos were developed through Rust Media, one for the Coalition and one for the PALS program. The group also assisted in the design of ads and promotional materials for all Coalition events.
- **Resource** – The third annual “Off the Wall” fundraiser in Apr 2016 netted about $7000. The third annual EPIC Glow Run on New Year’s Eve 2016 was bigger and better than ever, netting about $2800.
- **Program** – The first “Yappy Hour” was held at Deer Creek Doggie Day Camp in Jul 2016. Profit was just under $200. The second annual EPIC Dog Wash was held at Cape Splash in Sep 2016 and netted about $500 in two hours.

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**PRIORITY ISSUE COUNCIL**
Alcohol & Drug Abuse: Youth

**COMMUNITY PLAN CHAIR**
Kay Azuma

**EPIC COALITION CHAIR**
Molly Wilhelm (Jan 2016 – Dec 2017)
Bethany Beggs (Jan 2017 to present)

**MEETINGS HELD 6**

**AVERAGE ATTENDANCE 16**

**COLLABORATING PARTNERS**
Bethel Assembly of God, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boys & Girls Club, Busch's Pet Products, Cape Christian School, Cape County Juvenile Office, Public Health Center and Sheriff’s Department, Cape City Parks and Recreation Department and Police Department, Cape Public Schools, Cape Safe Communities, Cape Trails Apartments, Cash Book Journal, Charter Communications, Cup ’N’ Cork, Delta Public Schools, Drug Court, Drury Southwest Signs, Family Counseling Center, Fort Law Firm, Gibson Recovery Center, Jackson Police Department, Jackson Public Schools, KBSI-TV, KFVS-TV, KRCU Radio, Mississippi Mutts, Mississippi River Radio, MO Army National Guard, MO Children’s Division, MO Division of Probation & Parole, MO Division of Youth Services, MO Mentoring Partnership, MO Running Company, New Vision Counseling, Notre Dame High School, Oak Ridge Public Schools, Rust Media, Safe House for Women, SE Drug Free Communities Coalition, SE Food Bank, SE Missourian, SE Regional Support Center, SEMO Arts Council, SEMO State University, TRH Accounting, United Way of SEMO, Withers Broadcasting, interested youth and adults

**FUNDING SOURCES**
Cardinals Care Grant, Doris Day Animal Foundation, Drug Free Communities Grant through US Department of Health and Human Services, MO Foundation for Health Special Projects – EPIC PALS, MO Department of Social Services-MO Division of Youth Services, SAMHSA Town Hall Meeting Stipend, local donations and fundraising

Submitted by: Kay Azuma
4/1/17
NOTEWORTHY

At EPIC’s Annual Meeting in Dec 2016, four “EPIC School Awards” were presented to Jackson Middle School, Nell Holcomb School, Notre Dame Regional High School and St. Mary Cathedral School. The schools were recognized for demonstrating exceptional youth substance abuse prevention efforts.

The 2016 EPIC Award (previously known as the Jim Maginel Award) was presented to Nicholas Cody, Youth Facility Manager at Girardot Center. He was praised for his work with the Program Committee, the PALS Program, asset building, and the Dog Wash event. He and his wife have also served as foster parents for dogs in the PALS Program.

EPIC PALS Program has graduated 61 youth and dog pairs since Nov 2013, 15 of those in the past year. Foster families were found for all of the participating dogs so that they could be removed from local shelters, and all of these dogs have found permanent homes. Groups were held with students from Big Brothers Big Sisters, Cape County Juvenile Office and the Girardot Center.

In addition, a humane education/social emotional learning version of the program without the dog pairing component was offered at Girardot Center (17 students), Prodigy Leadership Academy (8 students), Cape Central Middle School (8 students) and Jackson Middle School (8 students).

Over 50 youth in our community have been a part of the PALS Program this past year!

COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

EPIC continues to provide prevention materials to 200 students at Cape Schools who participate in the weekly Food Backpack Program. In addition to prevention literature, school and hygiene supplies with prevention messaging and coalition branding are added to the backpacks each week.

BARRIERS

Sustained DFC funding for Years 6-10 requires increasing amounts of local in-kind match. With the MO Foundation for Health Grant ending in Nov 2017, other funding sources are needed to sustain the PALS program.

The group hopes to initiate a youth arts program with SEMO Arts Council in the very near future.
COMMUNITY PLAN
Annual Progress Report FY2017

PRIORITY ISSUE COUNCIL
Family Issues: Housing

COMMITEE CHAIR
Lindsay Chapman (Mar-Jun, 2016)
Al Stoverink (Jul 2016 to present)

MEETINGS HELD 9
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE 20

COLLABORATING PARTNERS
Aging Matters, AMEN Center, Cape County Public Health Center, Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri, City of Cape Girardeau, Community Counseling Center, Family Counseling Center, Gibson Recovery Center, Habitat for Humanity, Love INC, Missouri Children’s Division, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Missouri Department of Mental Health, Missouri Inclusive Housing Development, Preferred Hospice, RCH Management INC, Safe House for Women, SEMO Alliance for Disability Independence, SNAP, The Salvation Army, United Way of SEMO, United Way 211, consumers and interested individuals

FUNDING SOURCES
Community Caring Council, US Housing and Urban Development, MO Housing Trust Fund

NOTEWORTHY
The fifth annual Project Homeless Connect event was hosted by Safe House for Women on Oct 7, 2016 at the Osage Centre in Cape Girardeau. Persons from 370 households received a total of 2050 documented services. The next annual event will again be chaired by Safe House for Women and will be held on Oct 6, 2017.

Two HUD Permanent Supportive Housing Grants are serving 44 households, whose individuals were previously homeless and disabled, through Community Caring Council and Family Counseling Center. Community Caring Council has sustained their grant for thirteen years.

The Emergency Solutions Grant was again awarded to the city of Cape Girardeau for 2016 to provide rapid re-housing, homelessness prevention assistance, domestic violence support and street outreach through the Community Caring Council, Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri, and other area agencies.

COMMUNITY PLAN STRATEGIES COMPLETED
Housing Needs Committee continued to meet monthly with over 40 representatives from approximately 20 community entities.

Approximately 1000 Housing Resource Cards were distributed; also available online at www.communitycaringcouncil.org

Homeless Awareness Week was observed in Nov 2016 with a display at Cape West Cine’. Thanks to Junior Sinn, a vehicle was used to display a family’s residence. Cash donations were solicited from movie-goers, and $350 was raised and donated to the AMEN Center in Delta, MO.

Habitat for Humanity completed one home in Jackson and started construction of two homes in Cape Girardeau in 2016.

Emergency/transitional shelters that are operational at this time: AMEN Center in Delta and the Revival Center in Jackson. In addition, hotel stays are provided on a very limited basis by The Salvation Army, Safe House for Women (domestic violence only) and other area churches.

The most recent Point In Time Count took place on January 25, 2017. Data has not yet been released. Previous Point in Time counts for Cape Girardeau County:
- Jan 2014: 10 unsheltered persons and 201 sheltered persons
- Jan 2015: 21 unsheltered persons and 60 sheltered persons
- Jan 2016: 60 unsheltered and sheltered persons

HOUSING COMMITTEE REORGANIZED!
Name: Cape Girardeau Area Housing Committee
Vision: All people will have safe, affordable and accessible housing.
Mission: A collaborative network that identifies barriers and solutions which promote a continuum of housing resources, from homelessness prevention to housing stability, in Cape Girardeau and surrounding areas.

Task Forces:
1. Community Education (information dissemination)
2. Housing Development (safe, affordable, universal design)
3. Emergency Housing (reducing barriers)

Task Force groups have started to meet and are developing goals and strategies.

CONGRATULATIONS! Our committee applied and was selected to participate in the MO Supportive Housing Institute. Four committee members will be attending a series of trainings in Jefferson City to develop a local housing project that we hope will be funded in the near future. Thanks to Community Counseling Center for taking the lead in this endeavor.

COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
The city of Cape Girardeau is exploring the Purpose Built Communities Model which embraces “total neighborhood revitalization” as a possibility for our community.

The city of Cape Girardeau has approved the future development of a Habitat subdivision which would include 34 building lots.

BARRIERS
Significant needs remain for emergency and transitional housing units for our homeless population. Existing shelters are operating on limited budgets and limited space.
Missouri, Safe House for Women and The Salvation Army.

Safe and affordable permanent housing is often not available for low-income residents.
COMMUNITY PLAN
Annual Progress Report FY2017

PRIORITY ISSUE COUNCIL
Family Issues: Independent Living

COMMUNITY PLAN CHAIR
Kay Azuma

AGING COMMITTEE CHAIR
Les Tainter

AGING COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR
Liz Yokley

MEETINGS HELD 10

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE 15

COLLABORATING PARTNERS
AARP, Aging Matters, APPLE, Around the Clock Alarms, Cape County Public Health, Cape County Senior Citizens’ Tax Board, Cape Police Department, Cape Public Library, Cape Senior Center, Capetown Assisted and Independent Living by Americare, Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri, Chaffee Nursing Center, Community Counseling Center, Cross Trails Medical Center, Crown Hospice, Hoover Center, Innovative Insurance Team, Jackson Senior Center, Legacy Hospice, Life Care Center, Love INC, Lutheran Family & Children’s Services, MO Department of Health & Senior Services, Regional Arthritis Center at Saint Francis Medical Center, RSVP/VIC, Safe Harbor Hospice, SEMO Alliance for Disability Independence, Southeast Hospice, Southeast Missouri State University, The Lutheran Home, University of MO Extension, VetAssist Program and interested individuals

FUNDING SOURCES
None at the current time

NOTEWORTHY
Aging Committee has representatives from over 30 participating agencies.

Thanks to Eagles Aerie #3775 for providing their facility for SALT’s annual events for many years.

COMMUNITY PLAN STRATEGIES COMPLETED
Senior Calendar was prepared monthly. Approximately 250 copies were provided each month to seniors by service providers; also available online at www.communitycaringcouncil.org

Senior Resource Cards remained available. 1500 Senior Resource Cards were distributed throughout Cape Girardeau County; also available online at www.communitycaringcouncil.org
(This card is in the process of being revised and reprinted.)

Monthly Aging Committee meetings were held for networking and presentations: Estate Planning, Healthcare Needs of our Aging Population, Community Counseling Center Services, Immunizations for Seniors, DHSS In-Home Services and Elder Abuse, Paying for Care Services, Cape Senior Center Services, Adaptive Technology and Assistance for Veterans.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARD PLAN PROGRESS
Aging Committee’s Annual Retreat was held in Aug 2016 with 14 in attendance. Outcomes were reviewed and meeting presentations for 2016-2017 were planned. The breakfast was hosted by Capetown Assisted and Independent Living by Americare.

The SALT Council (Seniors and Lawmen Together) sponsored their annual Senior Celebration on Sep 8, 2016 with 287 seniors and 32 vendors. Their annual Christmas Party was held on Dec 1, 2016 with 221 seniors and 26 SALT members.

Lutheran Family & Children’s Services offered three weekly Memory Groups with 40 participants.

Community Caring Council received two grants from Cape County Senior Tax Board that serve persons, ages 60 and over, residing in Cape Girardeau County:
- $2600 to provide financial assistance for unmet needs, and
- $3870 to facilitate the Golden Angels Lunch and Learn program.

“Make Health Your Greatest Wealth” Program took place in Apr and May 2016. This is an annual four-week health challenge sponsored by AARP, Regional Arthritis Center of Saint Francis Medical Center, Fitness Plus, Aging Matters, MU Extension, Cross Trails Medical Center, Saxony Village and Chateau Girardeau. A total of 53 individuals participated during the four-week program. Over 30% (16) of those participating attended all four sessions!

The annual Grandparent Conference was held on Oct 4, 2016 at St. Andrew Lutheran Church. A total of 63 people were in attendance, including 27 grandparents, 28 vendors, and 8 committee members. Keynote presentation was “It Takes A Village: Joys and Concerns” by Patsy Carter, Director of Children’s Clinical Services for MO Department of Mental Health.

COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
“Conversations for Successful Aging: A Gerontology Conference for Professionals” is being planned for Mar 31, 2017 at the Show Me Center in Cape. Keynote speaker will be Dr. John E. Morley from St. Louis University Medical Center. This event is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the US Department of Health and Human Services under a Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program grant.

BARRIERS
Communicating with seniors regarding changes in Medicare coverage and prescription drug plans remains a challenge.

It is hard for providers to identify isolated seniors who might benefit from available services.
COMMUNITY PLAN
Annual Progress Report FY2017

PRIORITY ISSUE COUNCIL
Family Issues: Parent & Community Education

COMMUNITY PLAN CHAIR
Stacy Taylor

MEETINGS HELD 5
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE 6

COLLABORATING PARTNERS
Children’s Coalition, Educare, Evangelical United Church of Christ, Jackson Public Schools, Lutheran Family & Children’s Services, MO Children’s Division, MO Mentoring Partnership, Options for Women, Safe House for Women, Southeast Missouri State University, United Way of Southeast Missouri, University of Missouri Extension

FUNDING SOURCES
Community Caring Council, Educare, Lutheran Family and Children’s Services, United Way of Southeast Missouri

NOTEWORTHY
Parents are often mandated to attend “parenting classes”. This committee has continued to provide several opportunities throughout the year in order to assist parents in fulfilling their court orders.

COMMUNITY PLAN STRATEGIES COMPLETED
Family Fun and Learning Activities calendar was emailed to 142 individuals monthly. Approximately 60 paper copies were distributed monthly.

Successful Parenting training calendar was emailed to 142 individuals monthly. Approximately 45 paper copies were distributed monthly.

Community Resources Cards in English and Spanish continued to be distributed to agencies and individuals. 1300 (English version) and 400 (Spanish version) cards were distributed in the last 12 months. These cards are in the process of being revised and reprinted.

Monthly Calendars and all resource cards were available online at www.communitycaringcouncil.org

Building Strong Families – two 5-week sessions were implemented by Community Caring Council and University of Missouri Extension through United Way of SEMO funding (Mar and Oct 2016). The two sessions served 37 adults and 26 youth (youth curriculum offered). Childcare was provided.

Incredible Years Attentive Parenting Training – a 4-week session was implemented by Educare (Apr-May 2016) and served 27 adults and 31 youth.

Nurturing Parenting – two 6-week sessions were implemented by Lutheran Family and Children’s Services in Jun-Jul-Aug 2016 and Jan-Feb 2017. A total of 19 parents attended.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARD PLAN PROGRESS
Previously trained Building Strong Families facilitators (10) helped to implement the two sessions of Building Strong Families at no cost to the program. In addition, two university interns also helped with implementation.

The annual “We Care About YOUth” conference was replaced by “Empowered to Connect Conference: A Live Simulcast” in Apr 2016. Partnering with the local Children’s Coalition and Room for One More increased collaboration and attendance. Over 100 service providers, childcare providers, adoptive parents, foster parents, parents and other caregivers attended. Thanks to LaCroix Church for hosting the event at their facility.

COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
United Way of Southeast Missouri hosted Messy Morning at the Show Me Center on Apr 30, 2016. Over 3000 people attended, with approximately 30 vendors offering activities and information.

Kindergarten Jump Start was held at Cape Public Library (two 4-week sessions in Apr-May 2016) for parents with children entering kindergarten in the fall. The event was well-attended and served as a great orientation for both parents and students.

Community Caring Council’s THRIVE Initiative continued a monthly Parent Support Group for parents who have youth involved with MO Division of Youth Services. Seven parents have participated.

MO Mentoring Partnership continued to provide Life Skills classes to youth at ECHO Community Resource Center, Girardot Center and New Madrid Bend Youth Facility.

BARRIERS
Attendance among some participants during the multi-week sessions is
sometimes inconsistent.
COMMUNITY PLAN
Annual Progress Report FY2017

PRIORITY ISSUE COUNCIL
Family Issues: Self-Sufficiency (Financial Stability Partnership)

COMMUNITY PLAN CHAIR
Denise Wimp

MEETINGS HELD 4
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE 22

COLLABORATING PARTNERS
Birthright, Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri, Cross Trails Medical Center, East MO Action Agency, EPIC Coalition, First Call for Help, Habitat for Humanity, Love INC, Lutheran Family & Children’s Services, MERS Goodwill, MO Children’s Division, MO Department of Health and Senior Services, MO Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, MO Family Support Division, MO Job Corps, Safe House for Women, Sikeston Regional Office, Southeast HEALTH Building Blocks, The Salvation Army, United Way 211, Workforce Development Board

FUNDING SOURCES
None at the current time

NOTEWORTHY
Quarterly Case Managers Meetings continued to be well-attended and focused on relevant topics.

COMMUNITY PLAN STRATEGIES COMPLETED
Quarterly Case Managers’ Meetings were planned and implemented. In addition to topic presentations, time for individual case reviews and networking was allowed.
Average attendance was 22 individuals.
- May 4, 2016 – Catholic Charities and Autism Center; 22 attended
- Aug 10, 2016 – Reentry Assistance Programs; 12 attended
- Nov 9, 2016 – Energy Assistance; 18 attended
- Feb 1, 2017 – Medicaid Managed Care (Missouri CARE and Home State Health); 37 attended

In addition to these presentations, updates of community resources were provided at each meeting.

Monthly Newsletter began in January 2016. It is distributed via email to 131 persons. Thanks to First Call for Help for developing and distributing.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARD PLAN PROGRESS
Presentation of client cases by committee members continued. Three client cases were reviewed and suggestions for solutions were discussed.

COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
Free tax preparation is again available at multiple locations in Cape and Jackson areas.

For information on community resources and services, call First Call for Help at (573) 334-HELP or (866) 914-4357 (toll free) or go online to www.firstcallforhelpsemo.org

BARRIERS
Need for assistance continues to increase and available assistance continues to decrease.
COMMUNITY PLAN
Annual Progress Report FY2017

PRIORITY ISSUE COUNCIL
Family Issues: Youth Development

COMMUNITY PLAN CHAIR
Shelly Wood (through May 2016)
Dotty Gholson & Nikki Wolfe (Jun 2016 to present)

ASSET COORDINATOR
Stacy Taylor (through Dec 2016)
Nikki Wolfe (Jan 2017 to present)

YOUTH SPECIALIST (.5 FTE)
Taylor Lauer

MEETINGS HELD 9
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE 7

COLLABORATING PARTNERS
Cape Public Library, Cape Girardeau Public Schools, EPIC Coalition, Jackson Public Schools, Lutheran Family & Children’s Services, Missouri Mentoring Partnership, Safe House for Women, Southeast HEALTH Building Blocks, Southeast Missouri State University, St. Vincent de Paul School, United Way of SEMO, University of Missouri Extension (4-H), interested parents and youth from the community

FUNDING SOURCES
Community Caring Council, United Way of SEMO, Missouri Division of Youth Services

NOTEWORTHY
MO Division of Youth Services continued to be very active THRIVE partners this past year.

Missouri Mentoring Partnership continues to implement their new asset-based curriculum for ages 12-25. Sessions have been implemented at ECHO Community Resource Center, Girardot Center, and New Madrid Bend Youth Center, with a total of 48 youth completing the series of classes.

THRIVE offers an Asset Library with over 300 asset-based materials for check-out by community members and organizations. Books, games, and movies are available.

COMMUNITY PLAN STRATEGIES COMPLETED
THRIVE hosted the second annual Youth Conference for DYS staff and youth in May 2016 at Crossroads Church in Jackson. “Super Hero Squad” was the title of the conference with speakers Dr. Lawrence Rubin (St. Thomas University) and Danny Fingeroth (editor/writer with Marvel Comics). The speakers conveyed hope for successful lives among the youth in attendance. THRIVE also facilitated asset presentations at DYS facilities and sponsored booths at five community events. A total of 1200 persons received asset information from these events.

THRIVE sponsored active student advisory groups with an asset focus at DYS ECHO Community Resource Center (10 youth) and DYS Girardot Center (54 youth). These groups met twice monthly for an asset lesson and corresponding activity. Asset programs were offered every other month at New Madrid Bend Youth Center (52 youth). The total number of youth served was 116.

Follow THRIVE activities on our FACEBOOK page: https://www.facebook.com/groups/44135796989/

A monthly e-newsletter – “Activating Assets” – was emailed to 200 community members. An “asset of the month” was featured as well as an “asset tagline” for use by other community groups/individuals. The number of intentional asset messages circulating in our community totaled 17,898 during the past 12 months.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARD PLAN PROGRESS
The second annual TRIVIA Night was held in May 2016. A profit of over $400 was realized. About $3800 is still needed to complete the marketing plan developed by Hendrickson Business Advisors. As soon as more funding is secured, a community survey will be developed for Cape County adults regarding asset development. A BUNCO fundraiser is being planned for May 2017.

THRIVE worked diligently with FirstBook.org to implement a Books on Wheels event in Cape. A total of 43,000 books were delivered to Cape Girardeau and distributed during May 2016. The value of the books was estimated at $400,000. Almost 1300 adults received books for their schools, organizations, clubs, etc. All books were to be distributed at no cost to youth. Thanks to youth and staff from DYS facilities in Cape who volunteered many hours unloading and sorting the books. What an amazing and successful endeavor!

THRIVE continues to support the Asset Building Champions (ABC) parent reading program at St. Vincent de Paul School.

THRIVE distributed about 1000 books to youth attending local back-to-school fairs in Cape Girardeau and Jackson.

A new Parent Support Group was developed for parents of DYS youth at ECHO Community Resource Center this past year. Average attendance was seven adults.

COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
THRIVE partnered with EPIC/Missouri Mentoring Partnership/ Community Caring Council/Big Brothers Big Sisters to provide activities at Messy Morning in Apr 2016, EPIC’s Youth Day at the Park in Jun 2016 and Cape Parks & Rec Day in Jul 2016. Plans are underway for similar events in 2017.

BARRIERS
There is still a significant lack of community knowledge regarding the 40 Developmental Assets.

Additional funding is needed in order to complete THRIVE’s marketing plan. Then the committee can move forward with positive and effective community

Submitted by: Kay Azuma
messaging regarding the 40 Developmental Assets.
Community Caring Council – Cape Girardeau

Established:
1995

Community Profile: The Community Caring Council is located at 937 Broadway in Cape Girardeau, MO. Most of our efforts are directed to residents residing in the county of Cape Girardeau (population 77,320). Some of our programs also serve the surrounding counties of Scott, Bollinger and Perry. Our Partnership is governed by an 11-member board. A majority vote among a quorum (at least six) is required for board decisions. The Council consists of six full time staff and three part time staff: Executive Director, Community Coordinator, Housing Coordinator, Community Case Managers (2), Office Manager, Reentry Coordinator (.5), Asset Coordinator (.5), THRIVE Specialist (.5) and Health Coordinator (.75). MO Mentoring Partnership’s staff include Director (.5) and Youth Specialists (1.5).

The major strength of the Community Caring Council is its diversity and its response to the needs of our community. There are currently seven active Priority Issue Councils – Oral Health Coalition, Youth Substance Abuse, Housing, Independent Living, Parent and Community Education, Self-Sufficiency, and Youth Development. Each of these groups develops and implements their own Community Plan and outcomes are included in the Council’s Annual Report. The Community Coordinator serves as the liaison between the Council and the community in the interest of avoiding duplication of services and in increasing access to available resources and services. This report will highlight the work of the Parent and Community Education Committee.

FY16 Major Collaborative Accomplishments: Successful Parenting efforts began in 2005 when the Council received a United Way grant to offer a four-week session of Building Strong Families, a curriculum developed by the University of Missouri Extension. The Council partnered with Cape Girardeau County Extension and began offering this opportunity on an annual basis. The funding from United Way allowed the Council to increase service delivery of this curriculum by allowing parents and caregivers to bring their children and share a simple family-style dinner. Then adults and older youth each received curriculum instruction and childcare was made available for the younger youth.

Fast forward to FY 2016 and the program remains with a few modifications. Sessions are now offered twice each year – once in the fall in Jackson, MO at the Extension Office and once in the spring in Cape Girardeau, MO at the Evangelical United Church of Christ. Many of our family units are recommended or mandated to attend through MO Children’s Division, Probation and Parole, Drug Court, Safe House for Women and other agencies.

Class topics include Family Strengths, Managing Stress, Money Matters, Positive Discipline, and Kids and Self Esteem to name a few choices. Those in attendance provide input as to which topics will be presented.

United Way funding primarily covers the cost of food, supplies and a lead facilitator. All other expenses are donated, most notably an average of five instructors and childcare providers that are needed for each of the 10 weeks when classes are being offered. Both locations are also provided free of charge. Volunteers and donors are essential to this program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Successful Parenting Attendance</th>
<th>Fall FY16</th>
<th>Spring FY16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older Youth</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>Youth in Childcare</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteers</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% reported increased knowledge</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Accomplishments: Since 2005, the Parent and Community Education Committee has developed and distributed approximately 1500 Community Resources cards in English and Spanish annually to Cape Girardeau County residents. These cards are made available through local agencies, schools, events, and online. The Committee also developed and continues to distribute two monthly calendars. The Family Fun and Learning Activities Calendar features mostly FREE activities for family units and the Successful Parenting Calendar offers educational opportunities for parents, grandparents and other caregivers. The purpose of these resources is to create stronger family units, where children remain safe, healthy, ready to enter school and able to succeed in school.

List of Partners: Cape Girardeau County Extension, Educare, Evangelical United Church of Christ, Missouri Children’s Division, Missouri Mentoring Partnership, Lutheran Family & Children’s Services, Safe House for Women, and United Way of Southeast Missouri.
United Way announces 2016-2019 funded partner agencies

Wednesday, September 21, 2016
User-submitted story by Kristin Funderburk, United Way of Southeast Missouri

Cape Girardeau – After five months of review, research and community evaluation, United Way of Southeast Missouri is pleased to announce its investment in more than 30 community programs throughout Southeast Missouri.

In 2009, the funding cycle of United Way of Southeast Missouri was extended to a three-year commitment. This was designed to help partner agencies have a better idea of how to budget for their organizations. A longer time frame also enables them to produce and report more accurate, long-term impact.

Agencies requested funding by completing an extensive application that required general agency information, details about how their program or service impacts the community and United Way’s community impact goals, how results will be tracked and measured, and how the program connects to one or more of United Way’s three key focus areas: education, income and health.

Funding was then reviewed and eventually approved by many community volunteers serving on one or more groups: a Proposal Review Panel, the Community Impact Committee and United Way’s Board of Directors. The agencies and programs selected must then attend quarterly review meetings and provide annual outcomes.

"Most members of the communities we serve have no idea how involved our funding and vetting process is. We believe it is extremely important to be able to tell our donors that 99 cents of every dollar is going exactly where it is intended," explains Elizabeth Shelton, executive director of United Way of Southeast Missouri. “Few nonprofits are able to make that statement.”
Those who are familiar with United Way may recognize some organizations from previous years. In addition to the 20 agencies that will continue to receive funding, there are two new agencies that are joining the United Way family.

Little Whitewater Baptist Church Food Pantry may be new to United Way donors, but the program itself has grown over the last few years. The pantry began as a small church project serving around two families a month and operated out of a Sunday school classroom and the fellowship hall. Over the last few years, it has evolved into a program that assisted more than 40 families in Bollinger County last month. The organization recently obtained ownership of a former volunteer firehouse and is in the process of installing shelving units, air conditioning and refrigerators in an effort to provide even more assistance to the families in need.

Scott County 4-H is another new program the community chose to invest in and is one of the few Scott City-based partners United Way of Southeast Missouri has worked with in recent years. The newly created Junior Leaders program focuses on keeping youth over the age of 12 involved with 4-H activities geared more toward career preparation and basic life skills including changing a tire, giving correct change and sewing a button.

The following organizations have been approved to receive United Way funding over the course of the next three years; some receive funding for multiple programs:

- The American Red Cross
- A.P.P.L.E.
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Boy Scouts
- Boys and Girls Club of Southeast Missouri
- Cape County 4-H
- Cape Girardeau Public Schools
- Community Caring Council
- Educare
- Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland
- Habitat for Humanity
- Hoover Center
- Jackson Ministerial Alliance
Jackson R-2 Schools
Jackson Senior Center
Little Whitewater Baptist Church Food Pantry
Lutheran Family & Children's Services
Safe House for Women
The Salvation Army
Scott City Ministerial Alliance
Scott County 4-H
Voices for Children/CASA

United Way of Southeast Missouri fights for the health, education and financial stability of every individual in the communities we serve: Cape Girardeau, Jackson, Scott City, Bollinger and Perry Counties. United Way mobilizes organizations, institutions and volunteers to address the community’s most pressing issues, focusing on the building blocks of a vibrant community: Education, Income and Health. The problems facing our community are complex; they are issues that no single organization or individual alone can solve. Real change is possible when nonprofit, public and private sectors work together. United Way has the network, partnerships and strategic initiatives to create lasting change in the lives of our friends and neighbors and in the strangers who are the future of our community.

For more information please visit www.UnitedWayofSEMO.org or call 573-334-9634.
Volunteers connect with area homeless, needy
Sunday, October 9, 2016
By Bridget Brown ~ Southeast Missourian

A line outside the Osage Centre began forming more than an hour before Project Homeless Connect was scheduled to begin Friday morning.

Inside, dozens of service providers in the fields of health, legal and family services prepared, knowing soon hundreds of people in need would walk through the doors.

While the event is called Project Homeless Connect, the event organizers recognize the need goes beyond those living on the street, in their car or on someone’s couch.

“There are a lot of people who are just close to homelessness. Someone living paycheck to paycheck; they’re living in places where rent is week-to-week,” Jessica Hill, executive director of Safe House for Women, said. There are people who are employed, but know one illness or one missed paycheck could be detrimental, Hill said. “So we’re just trying to help everybody move to a place of sustainability and self sufficiency,” she said.

“It’s community cooperation. That’s what it’s all about,” attendee Gary Barlow said as he waited in the medical room where a variety of screenings and services were being offered.

“It takes a bunch of individuals to make a community, but if we take care of individual needs, the community comes together,” she said.

“Project Homeless Connect has really tried to make it a one-stop shop,” Captain Bridgette Amick of The Salvation Army said, standing in front of racks of clothes. To her side sat dozens of “ugly quilts” made from recycled blankets from Saint Vincent de Paul. Shortly after the event started, those popular quilts could be found under the arms of many attendees.

This was Project Homeless Connect’s sixth year in operation. Each year, more volunteers come and more services are offered. Last year, for example, rapid HIV testing was made available from the Butler County Health Department, with results in 20 minutes. This year, breast exams were added by popular request.

Cassandra Loggins, a member of the nursing faculty at Southeast Missouri State University, was on hand with several nursing students, prepared to instruct visitors on proper breast-examination technique. In a nearby room, professional exams were available and, should a lump be found, free mammograms were made available through vouchers donated by local hospitals.

Three dental facilities were on hand to offer their help. “Dental services are our most requested service,” Hill said. “Sometimes people come through, and they’ve been wanting to have a tooth pulled for months, and today’s the day they finally get it.”

Community Caring Council was on hand to help people acquire ID Cards and driver’s licenses, as well as housing assistance.

Crystal Godwin of Shear Grace was on hand, providing haircuts alongside a stylist from Trendsetters. This was Godwin’s second year at Project Homeless Connect. Her first, she did alone. “I did 37 haircuts that day,” she said. A long day, to be sure, but she said it was one that was incredibly rewarding.

Heather Rhodes waited in Godwin’s line for a haircut. She was at the Osage Centre seeking out the services she knows she needs. Living two years sober and with several mental-health diagnoses, her religion keeps her motivated.

“I’m poor, but only in the world’s eyes am I poor,” Rhodes said. “I have some disabilities, but I’m not giving up. That’s why I’m here: to get some help.”

“They really do care,” Kim Espinoza said of the volunteers.

A resident-care worker specialist at the Community Counseling Center, Espinoza accompanied some CCC residents to the event. She said the number and variety of services offered, and the people offering them. “They do whatever they can to help,” she said. “It just makes me feel good about everything.”

“What’s great about it, is it’s a large thing. It’s not just one person coming in saying ‘I need help,’” Carrie Mott of the Community Caring Council said. “They’re not alone.”
Community coalition focuses public spotlight on homelessness

Monday, November 14, 2016
By Mark Bliss ~ Southeast Missourian

Camped out on park benches, on city streets and in back alleys and woods, America’s homeless struggle daily to survive. Nationwide, more than half a million people are homeless, according to the National Alliance to End Homelessness. Half of them are over the age of 50.

Fifteen percent of homeless people are considered "chronically homeless" -- defined as a person with a disabling condition who has been homeless continuously for at least a year or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the last three years.

The numbers come from a single point-in-time survey of homeless people that is conducted in January.

Locally, numbers are hard to come by. But Cape Girardeau County has its share of homeless, said Sharon Braun of the Community Counseling Center, which is working with a community coalition to draw attention to the problem.

The Community Counseling Center is one of 23 social service organizations and agencies that make up the Cape Girardeau Housing Needs Committee. The group is seeking to inform the public about homelessness as part of National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, which began Sunday.

This marks the sixth year a local display has been assembled in the lobby of Wehrenberg Theatres Cape West 14 Cine to bring attention to the issue. The display, which can be viewed through Nov. 28, includes an interactive board where moviegoers can test their knowledge of homelessness.
Other displays about homelessness are scheduled to be erected at 937 Broadway and at Southeast Missouri State University's Towers residence halls and the University Center. Boxes have been placed in residence halls for students to donate food items before leaving for Thanksgiving break, Braun said.

Hundreds of area schoolchildren are homeless, she said.

The Cape Girardeau and Jackson school districts had 343 homeless students enrolled in classes in 2014, according to the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Jackson public schools saw its number of homeless students triple, from 67 in 2012 to 207 in 2014.

The Cape Girardeau School District saw its homeless-student population climb from 107 in 2012 to 136 in 2014.

"There is a lot of couch hopping," Braun said, explaining homeless people often move from one friend's house to another to find shelter.

Braun said local churches serve about 2,000 free meals each month.

In 2015, nearly 6,500 people were reported homeless in Missouri as of a single date in January. That included 3,379 in emergency shelters, 2,032 in transitional housing and 973 that were unsheltered.

Homelessness often is overlooked by society, Braun said.

"In some instances, the homeless are ignored," she said.

She said she sees people almost weekly holding cardboard signs at busy intersections in Cape Girardeau seeking to find work or financial donations to help them survive.

Motorists routinely pass by, with few offering help, she said.

People tend to have a negative view of the homeless, she said. Family members often reject them. Some of the homeless suffer from mental-health problems, Braun said.

"I know it is the old scenario: Unless you are in somebody's shoes, you don't understand," Braun said.
Cape Area Community Foundation presents first grants

Friday, November 18, 2016
User-submitted story by Moe Sandfort

The Cape Area Community Foundation made its first community grants totaling $1,000 at a presentation Thursday at the Themis Gate in downtown Cape Girardeau. The grant recipients were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Recipient</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boys &amp; Girls Club of Southeast Missouri</td>
<td>$450</td>
<td>For tablets used in the COMET tracking system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Caring Council</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>For its re-entry assistance program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humane Society of SEMO</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>For its new building project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Counseling Center Foundation</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>For supplies for clients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASA of Southeast Missouri</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>For advertising costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast Missouri Council on the Arts</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>For supplies for clients</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Cape Area Community Foundation was founded just over a year ago in September 2015 to provide asset and resource development, grantmaking and public leadership for the Cape region.

Community grants are made possible through annual distributions from the CACF’s endowment fund and any additional donations designated for discretionary grantmaking. As the Foundation continues to grow, the amount of funding available for community grantmaking will grow as well.

Cape Area Community Foundation
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cfozarks.org/capearea