



SOCCEED, Systems of Care in Community Emergent Events and Disasters

Meeting Summary for 11-18-25

Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting and/or provided information before, during, or after. The information shared today will have a positive impact on all of our communities.

The following is a summary of today's meeting. Please note, this was not a typical SOC meeting in that we focused mainly on resources. This was done because so many people are in need because of the recent government shutdown. The reality is many people were already struggling in various ways even prior to the shutdown. The link to today's meeting recording will be posted to the SOC website when available.

- The slide presentation was entitled “Poverty Ends Where Resources Begin.”
- Statistics were presented on poverty rates in Missouri and Kansas.
- Living wages and how this is defined was presented.
- Charts were presented about what a living wage looks like for single people, people with children, etc.
- Typical expenses were reviewed.
- We went through an online poverty simulator to get a glimpse of what it is like to walk in the shoes of someone struggling financially. Although not completely realistic, the simulator gave us the opportunity to have a different perspective.
- Reactions to the simulator and thoughts were discussed.
- We then reviewed multiple community-based resources with reference to dozens of different kinds of needs.
- HINT or the Hand in Need Tree, the newest SOC initiative was reviewed. This will effectively and efficiently match people in need with people/organizations that may be able to meet that need.
- The floor was open for people to bring up needs that their clients are having, and they were given possible resources to meet those needs.
- Yoga Patch: [Yoga Patch | Kansas City Yoga Studio](#)
 - One week of pre-recorded virtual classes for all providers, FREE OF

CHARGE. The SOC's way of thanking you for all that you do! Please reach out to me if you would like a pass!

- Every year-end, the SOC recognizes the fantastic work done by all of its members by donating to causes important to you. This year is no exception, and we will have **\$1500 to distribute!** Please reach out to me with the information on where you want me to send **YOUR** money! As always, I will send you the receipt to show the donation.
- Announcements/Updates from partners were asked for.
- The SOC can still provide some assistance for Thanksgiving, please reach out if you know of someone in need.
- The SOC can also assist during other holidays such as Christmas and more.
- Don't forget that the SOC continues to have as an initiative, "Helping Hands" that can provide some small financial assistance!
- The year-end report will come out in December as will the strategic plan for 2026.
- The December SOC meeting is on the 23rd and will be the traditional "un-meeting" in that there is no formal agenda or presentations. Please join us if you are looking for last minute resources or just need support in some way!
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Links to Some Additional Resources:

- Ray Way Resource Directory: www.jacksoncountysoc.com
I also have cards with QR codes if anyone would like these. Simple way to spread the word about this community resource!
- Kansas City Street Sheet: <https://kclibrary.org/street-sheets>
- Heartland Center for Jobs and Freedom (can help with a variety of needs):
<http://www.jobsandfreedom.org/>
- Nelson Randolph shared: <https://nationalfairhousing.org/report-discrimination>

Please reach out to me anytime that I or the SOC may do anything to support you in your helping individuals, children, and families.

Sincerely,

Jennifer L. L'Heureux, Ph.D.

Kansas City Regional COAD-Chair (www.kansascityregionalcoad.org)

**Systems of Care in Community Emergent Events and Disasters-Chair
(www.jacksoncountysoc.com)**

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