FORWARD
OUR MISSION

West Central Missouri Community Action Agency is dedicated to empowering people to make a positive change by coordinating and administering resources.

West Central Missouri Community Action Agency strives to be the voice in our communities and our governments for those most in need.

COMMUNITY ACTION PROMISE

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.
Message from President & CEO

Forward.

The word itself connotes movement in a certain, positive direction towards an intended destination.

There can also be a time component to the word as it suggests a future, as opposed to a past, moment. And, often, the word implies progress. There is a certain robustness to the term.

There is no hint of stagnation in it; no immobilization; no hint of being frozen in place or time. This one word is a powerful one in that it addresses energy and activity, and place and time, in seven letters without much need for a qualifier.

For all of those reasons, we have used the term to frame this Annual Report as the report describes the amazing work of our wonderful staff, board, volunteers and community/regional partners each day in assisting individuals and families in need, and, most importantly, helping such individuals, and families, and the communities in which they reside, to advance from current circumstance and challenges in rural west central Missouri forward into a “better” circumstance however such individuals, families and communities define the term.

I hope you will take some time to review the annual report, learn about the forward thinking of this agency and its staff, board, volunteers, and partners, and the forward movement towards a brighter, better future through the various programs and initiatives we have designed, implemented and/or administered in the past year. And, I hope you will consider joining us in our work by your investment of time, resources, and/or innovative ideas so that we may continue to move forward.

Together.

CHRIS THOMPSON
PRESIDENT & CEO
Message from Board Chair

Dear Friends:

As Board Chair of West Central Community Action Agency, it is my pleasure to present to you the 2019 Annual Report.

The Agency has routinely faced hard, difficult and unpleasant challenges over the 54+ years of West Central’s existence. This past, current, and coming years are no exception.

West Central continues to be an innovative, respected, and trend setting community action agency, achieving great successes. This is due to our committed, compassionate, dedicated, energetic and talented staff. Our staff is constantly working and partnering with many different community partners to help make a positive impact in our communities.

West Central continues to be in solid and sound financial condition, while continuing to achieve cost savings and finding new resources to help us help our communities.

Having served on the Board now going on for 25 years, I sometimes feel like I have “seen it all!” Little did I know that I had not! The COVID-19 pandemic is surreal!!! But it is real!! None of us have experienced anything like this before. The closest similar event would be the so called Spanish flu of 1918----and it did not originate in Spain. The first documented case was in Kansas. Regardless of where it started, it was devastating and disruptive to our country and to the world. As I pen these words, I have been informed that one of my friends has passed away as a result of COVID-19. On behalf of the Board, I want to thank our President and CEO, Chris Thompson, and his dedicated and talented staff for guiding us through this unprecedented and worrisome time. We have had to make some adjustments and changes to get through this crisis, but West Central is operating and doing what we do well---serving those in need in our communities.

I ran across this anonymous quote that I would like to pass along: “Slow me down. Ease the pounding of my heart by the quieting of my mind. Steady my hurried pace with a vision of the eternal reach of time. Give me, amidst the confusion of my day, the calmness of the everlasting hills. Break the tensions of my nerves and muscles with the soothing music of singing streams that live in my memory. Teach me the art of taking minute vacations...of slowing down to look at a flower, to chat with a friend, to pat a dog, to read a few lines from a good book. Remind me each day of the fable of the hare and the tortoise, that I may know that the race is not always to the swift: that there is more to life than measuring its speed. Let me look upward into the branches of the towering oak and know that it grew great and strong because it grew slowly and well. Slow me down, and inspire me to send my roots deep into the soil of life’s enduring values that I may grow toward the stars of my greater destiny.”

Practice common sense, heed the warnings of the health professionals, stay safe and healthy.

FRED BUNCH
BOARD CHAIR
West Central operates with a tripartite board as the governing body for the organization. Each one of our nine counties (in the primary service region) has three local members serving on the Board of Directors. Of those members, one is an elected official, one is a private interest representative, and one is a low-income representative. This tripartite representation ensures maximum feasible participation in agency decisions, made with local priorities and needs in mind, which help low-income families with the assistance they need. We are grateful for the Board’s service and leadership.

2018-2019 Board of Directors

Fred R. Bunch
Board Chair

Willene Engel
Board Vice-Chair

Patricia Jacobs
Board Secretary

Martha Sander
Board Treasurer

Bates
Brenda Darr
Patricia Jacobs *
Alvin Griffin *

Benton
Kay Smith
Janice Swearngin
David Malecki

Cass
Willene Engel *
Helen Friedrich
Monty Kisner

Cedar
Larry Pursley
Susan Hall
Don Boultinghouse *

Henry
Laura Lunceford
Fred Bunch *
Dale Lawler

Hickory
Mary Crouch
Shirley Parker
Rick Pearson

Morgan
Teresea Hood
Anita Horn
Tony Stephens

St. Clair
Art Neuenschwander
Ron Hargrave
Leroy Strope *

*Executive Committee Members: Fred Bunch, Patricia Jacobs, Willene Engel, Don Boultinghouse, Leroy Strope, Alvin Griffin, Martha Sander
West Central Missouri Community Action Agency serves the counties of Bates, Benton, Cass, Cedar, Henry, Hickory, Morgan, St. Clair, and Vernon Counties and offers limited services in the counties of Barton, Camden, Jackson, Johnson, Lafayette, Pettis, and Saline.
West Central offers a wide array of services in each county. Services may vary slightly by location. Please inquire at our Community Offices as to which programs are available in a given county.

### BATES COUNTY
- **Community Office**
  - 12 N. Delaware, Butler
  - 660-679-4108

### BENTON COUNTY
- **Community Office**
  - 110 Tower Dr., Suite A, Warsaw
  - 660-438-5158
- **Housing- Oaktree Villa**
  - 919 Walnut Drive, Warsaw
  - 660-438-5007

### CASS COUNTY
- **Community Office/Career Center**
  - 208 W. Walnut, Raymore
  - 816-322-0502
- **Employment/Training**
  - 208 W. Walnut, Raymore
  - 816-322-0502
- **Housing- Greenleaf Estates**
  - 16805 Spring Valley Rd., Belton
  - 816-331-4620
- **Housing- Hawthorn Estates**
  - 1900 Jenkins Dr., Harrisonville
  - 816-380-6833
- **Housing- Walnut Estates**
  - 412 W. Walnut, Raymore
  - 816-331-2959

### CEDAR COUNTY
- **Community Office**
  - 121 W. Spring St., El Dorado Springs
  - 417-876-2012
- **Employment & Training**
  - 508 N. Main, El Dorado Springs
  - 660-476-2185

### (Cedar County, continued)
- **Housing- Cedar Ridge**
  - 1201 E. Patricia, El Dorado Springs
  - 417-876-6114
- **Housing- Maplewood Estates**
  - 1119 W. Maplewood Place, Stockton
  - 417-276-3330

### HENRY COUNTY
- **Community Office**
  - 702 E. Ohio, Unit 1, Clinton
  - 660-885-5508
- **Housing- Antioch Hills**
  - 1819 Gaines Dr., Clinton
  - 660-885-8200

### HICKORY COUNTY
- **Community Office**
  - 18613 N. Main, Wheatland
  - 417-282-5936
- **Housing- Hickory Estates**
  - 701 W. Hwy 54, Hermitage
  - 417-745-0131

### JACKSON COUNTY
- **Community Office**
  - 1515 Jones Ave., Grandview
  - 816-767-1445
- **Housing- Willow Estates**
  - 4800 S. Hocker, Kansas City, MO
  - 816-350-3134

### MORGAN COUNTY
- **Community Office**
  - 303 W. Newton, Versailles
  - 573-378-4432
- **Employment & Training**
  - 303 W. Newton, Versailles
  - 573-378-4432

### ST. CLAIR COUNTY
- **Central Office**
  - 106 W. 4th Street
  - Appleton City
  - 660-476-2185
- **Employment/Training**
  - 106 W. 4th Street, Appleton City
  - 660-476-2185
- **Housing- Appleton Estates**
  - 300 S. Beech St., Appleton City
  - 660-476-2602

### VERNON COUNTY
- **Community Office**
  - 123 S. Main Street, Nevada, MO
  - 417-667-5741

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
- **New Growth CDC**
  - 550 Second St., PO Box 43
  - Osceola, MO
  - 417-646-6900
- **Liston Center**
  - 123 S. Main Street, Nevada, MO
  - 417-667-5741
  - 660-476-2185

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West Central Missouri Community Action Agency was incorporated on July 19, 1965 as a private nonprofit organization. The Agency’s purpose is to function as a Community Action Agency designated through the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. Community Action Agencies receive funding by contracting with local, State and Federal governments along with other available sources to provide opportunities for the disadvantaged.
West Central receives funding from a variety of resources, and has over 60 contracts in place with local, State and Federal agencies. Our services would not be possible without funding from these organizations.

**FY 2019 INCOME SOURCES**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Revenue</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department of Health and Human Services</td>
<td>6,986,479</td>
<td>7,912,278</td>
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<td>Department of Housing and Urban Development</td>
<td>7,482,199</td>
<td>8,041,138</td>
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<td>Department of Energy</td>
<td>511,216</td>
<td>465,744</td>
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<td>Department of Agriculture</td>
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<td>Department of Labor</td>
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<td>Department of Veteran Affairs</td>
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<td>Department of Homeland Security</td>
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<td>Title XIX Personal Care</td>
<td>758,870</td>
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<td>United Way</td>
<td>31,206</td>
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<td>Other Grant Revenue</td>
<td>528,008</td>
<td>122,015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Grant Revenue</td>
<td>$16,787,471</td>
<td>$17,934,899</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Revenue (by category)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grant Revenue</td>
<td>$16,787,471</td>
<td>$17,934,899</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rental and Housing Revenue</td>
<td>2,437,735</td>
<td>2,124,116</td>
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<td>Fee for Service</td>
<td>414,070</td>
<td>446,579</td>
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<td>Contributions</td>
<td>94,194</td>
<td>52,421</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-Kind Contributions</td>
<td>41,024</td>
<td>49,596</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>30,681</td>
<td>28,037</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td>$19,805,175</td>
<td>$20,635,648</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
OUR SERVICES

MOVING FAMILIES FORWARD

Employment & Training
West Central administers the Workforce Investment Opportunity Act (WIOA) program offered through the Full Employment Council of Greater Kansas City and addresses the employment/training needs of dislocated workers and low-income adults and youth. SkillUP engages SNAP recipients in education and training needed to pursue long-term employment in a career pathway that is in demand and provides good wages.

Director: Lea Ann Gatzemeyer, CCAP

Housing Assistance Program
Nearly 1300 families are provided the opportunity to live in decent, safe and sanitary housing of their choice by receiving Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) subsidies administered by West Central in eight rural counties, one Kansas City metropolitan county and the City of Grandview, Missouri.

Director: Amy Anderson

Community Services
Nine “Community Offices,” one in each West Central county, provide services such as emergency utility assistance, food assistance, community education programs, transition services, community development, leadership training, back-to-school fairs, Cyber Seniors and much more.

Director: Jamie Oberly, CCAP
Energy Conservation
West Central administers weatherization improvements for low-income residents in nine counties. Weatherization projects can include insulation, new windows, and heating and cooling units. The program’s purpose is to make a home more energy efficient, thus reducing utility costs for the tenant and/or home owner.
Director: Chris Richardson-McQueen, CCAP

Multi-Family Housing
Multi-Family Housing consists of 399 units of housing on 11 properties in Cass, Jackson, Henry, St. Clair, Cedar, Hickory and Benton Counties. Over 80% of the units are senior housing. Twelve units are reserved for individuals with special needs. West Central is also a partner in three other multi-family developments having a total of 72 units.
Director: Chris Richardson-McQueen, CCAP

Head Start
Early Childhood Education serves children ages 3-5 in thirteen centers. Six centers offers Early Head Start for ages 6 weeks to 3 years. All of West Central's Head Start centers met the State licensing requirements. In addition to the 13 centers, West Central Head Start also offered a home-based program in St. Clair and Morgan counties.
Director: Linda Schreck, CCAP

Health Services
Health Services enables seniors and disabled persons to remain independent in their homes. In-Home Services are offered in sixteen counties served by West Central. Each month, In-Home Service Aides provide care and attention to approximately 300 individuals.
Director: Lea Ann Gatzemeyer, CCAP

New Growth/Community Development
New Growth (CDC) was founded in 2017 and is headquartered in Osceola, MO. New Growth serves the same 9 counties as its parent organization, West Central Missouri Community Action Agency. New Growth’s mission is to build the business-to-business and community-to-community linkages needed to grow local ownership and lasting livelihoods from west central Missouri’s deep rural roots. It works with partners to stimulate rooted growth across three regional market opportunities: tourism, local food and agriculture, and rural living.
Director: Patty Cantrell
“I have learned that success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life, as by the obstacles which he has had to overcome while trying to succeed.”
~ Booker T. Washington

Our Personal Best

Community Action helps individuals and families overcome the obstacles that keep them from finding their own success. Success is measured differently for different people. Our dedicated staff members are there with our clients every step of the way, helping them stay accountable for their own goals, motivating clients and encouraging the hard work that it takes to reach those goals. Here are a few of the many lives that have been changed through Community Action: people who have found their "personal best."
"Mandy" completed the Family Self-Sufficiency Program, and is now completely self-reliant. She has also opened up her own transportation business catering to the elderly.

"It always seems impossible until it’s done.” —Nelson Mandela

After attending the Step-Up-to-Leadership Program, "James" obtained full-time employment.

"Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all.” —Dale Carnegie

After successfully completing the Family Self-Sufficiency Program, "Barbara" opened up her own business.

"It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop.” —Confucius

"Louise" obtained an associate's degree and obtained full-time employment.
Offering forward movement to families under one roof is the key to lasting impact and growth.

All for one.
One for all.

The Liston Center is designed to be a community resource hub located in a high-poverty area of El Dorado Springs in Cedar County, Missouri. Priority programs have been identified from community surveys, community forums, strategic planning meetings, community-specific information, and an evaluation of funding opportunities and strategies. Efforts seek to improve lives by using a whole-family, intergenerational approach.

Activities at the Liston Center are being developed and facilitated by West Central Missouri Community Action Agency, its affiliate community development corporation d/b/a New Growth, the ElDo Youth Center (owner of the facility) and several community partners.
Initial activities were kick-started with a one-year non-renewable $20,000 Coover grant from the Community Foundation of the Ozarks, which allowed West Central to implement programs at the building one day per week.

Job skills and workforce development programming with drop-in child care takes place each Thursday throughout the day, with HiSET classes offered Tuesday and Thursday evenings and regular programs provided by partnerships with Parents As Teachers, Osage Prairie YMCA, Missouri Job Center, and On My Own, Inc.

In just one year, over 86 programs and events serving nearly 400 individuals have been provided at the Liston Center.

West Central is actively seeking additional funding and partnerships to expand services and hours during the week, with special programs available as needed on weekends.

The Liston Center is a place for the community, with community-based services provided by West Central and area partners.
Moving Families *Forward*

**BY THE NUMBERS**

- **517** children received immunizations
- **1,312** families assisted in the Housing Choice Voucher Program
- **$553,909** spent on homes throughout the region to reduce energy costs and improve living conditions
- **14,721** service coordination activities were provided to Multi-Family Housing residents
- **$1,680,307** allocated to families in need for utility assistance
- **169** individuals received career services and attended employment workshops
- **$6,182,528** provided for 1,312 families to have safe and affordable housing
- **52%** of WIOA participants obtained employment from services provided
- **21,003** in-home health visits completed
- **$42,272** disbursed to successful graduates of the Family Self-Sufficiency Program for meeting and/or exceeding their goals
- **199** individuals participated in the Family Self-Sufficiency Program
- **$38,600** in-kind donations for residents in the Multi-Family Housing Program
- **7,336** prepared meals provided
- **38%** increased energy efficiency in homes from weatherization improvements

In the Housing Choice Voucher Program:
- Two programs. One Goal. Zero Poverty.
Who we serve:
- 38% - ages 0-17
- 29% - ages 18-44
- 23% - ages 45-64
- 9% - ages 65+
- 43% - Male
- 56% - Female
- 22% - Disabled
- 35% - one parent home
- 19% - two parent home
- 80% - HS Diploma
- 11% - 2 or 4 year degree
- 22% - 9-12th grade education
- 4% - 0-8th grade education

"Our nation here and now, and forever more, declares an unconditional war on poverty." - Lyndon B. Johnson
Moving Communities Forward

* Initiatives/ New Programming

**Rides to Health and Wealth**
Regional transportation network incorporating access to medical services and community resources

**Making Rural Visible**
Helping regional tourism businesses and community attractions promote themselves through enhanced marketing efforts

**Regional Food and Farm Network**
Connecting growers, buyers and intermediary businesses to build local economies and access farm-fresh foods

**Listen Center**
A neighborhood-based resource hub bringing employment counseling, education, child care and other programming together in one inviting and helpful place

**Regional Educational and Recreational**
Activities provided to youth in Cedar County

**By the Numbers**

- **86 New Programs** and events serving nearly 400 individuals with child care and workforce development training
- **13 Beginning Farmers** gain access to wholesale markets through training and mentorship with experienced growers
- **2,500 Pounds of Produce** purchased from local growers and distributed to 70 low-income families in the Farm Share Program
- **6 Regional Partners** work with New Growth and West Central to build community economic development collaboration, including networking events and a regional business acceleration initiative
- **22 Summer Educational and Recreational** activities provided to youth in Cedar County

**$666,210 Awarded** for the Regional Food Systems programming in West Central Missouri

**$20,000 Awarded** to help small businesses and communities with regional tourism promotion

**$14,000 Sponsorship** received in Federal grant writing support for the creation of a regional transportation network

**$20,000 Awarded** to support workforce development efforts and parental support programming in Cedar County

**$100,000 Awarded** to develop a rural health network and regional program for coordinating and improving transportation resources
Founded in 2017, and headquartered in Osceola, MO, New Growth serves the same nine counties as its parent organization, West Central. Fundamental to New Growth’s approach is the work of building collaborative relationships across organizations, communities and initiatives. That approach is reflected in each program and initiative throughout our organization.

"Individual commitment to a group effort is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work." - Vince Lombardi

Rural communities have far different challenges than other, more populated communities. New Growth’s programs and initiatives are tailored specifically to those challenges we face.

Moving our communities forward through collaboration and through the vision and missions of our regional partners, we are making progress in rural west central Missouri. We are intentional in our strategic planning, and incorporate the strengths of our partners to achieve greater impact.
Moments to Remember
Connie's Story
How one mother made the change of a lifetime

“\textit{I want to say just how truly grateful I am for a program that gives people a second chance. This is my story.}"

Six years ago, I was in a very bad situation, and in an abusive relationship with a very abusive man. My son was three years old, and I had a brand-new baby girl. At that time, I felt I had no choice but to stay in the situation I was in because he was the bread winner in our household and I had no childcare that we could afford.

Then, something happened. A letter that came in the mail told me I had been approved for public housing assistance. With this letter in hand, I knew instantly that I had another option and I chose to take it! With this turn of events, I was finally able to get out of the abusive relationship and put mine and my children’s lives into my own hands and control.

At the time, I was working as a retail clerk at a local pharmacy chain. I worked crazy hours and was barely making ends meet. I knew that the only solution to getting my family out of poverty was to get some sort of education.

Despite only having a GED from 1999, I applied at a local trade school which offered a 9-month program in dental assisting. Next thing I know, I’m going to school by day and working at night. After months of hard work, I found myself graduating with a certificate in dental assisting.

During that time, I discovered something about myself which I had not previously known; I could, in fact, do something more with my life! I also found out that I could do well in school, and that I had a passion for the dental profession.

This new-found confidence and knowledge led to my decision to enroll in a local community college for my Associates Degree in Dental Hygiene. Life was changing!

After acceptance to the community college, and out of convenience, I started working at the student center on campus. It was a higher salary than my previous job, and I could work in-between classes. This allowed me to focus less on working and more on getting my education.

Four long years later, with the help of public housing, student loans, and my own creative budgeting skills, I was able to get my bills paid a full six months in advance, obtain three associates degrees (AA, AS, AGS) and finish all of my prerequisites for the dental hygiene program.

My next step was the scariest of them all. I applied to two different schools and programs. To my surprise, I got into both! Of the two, I chose the one that had a bachelor’s program. However, it was still very scary, because the program was 18 credit hours per semester, plus clinicals for 2 years! I wasn’t sure if I could do what was needed to succeed, with my two small children. They didn’t understand why mommy had homework to do.

I started the dental hygiene program in 2017 with an even tighter budget, more hours that I had to dedicate to homework, larger student loans, and lots of nights crying in the bathtub.

(continued on page 25)
OUR AMAZING DONORS

We thank you for your continued support!

1st Baptist Church
1st Christian Church
54 Retail
A. Walton
A-1 Body Shop
AC Christian Church
AC Mason Lodge
Appleton City High School
ACHS Booster Club
Adrian Bank
Adrian Kreisler Drug
Avail Salon-Camdenton
Al Benz
Aldi’s
Allen Street Baptist Church
Allison Tire and Auto
Althoff Auto Sales
Amy Bishop
Ann Snape
Annalou Streiff
Anonymous Donor
Aviation Fabricators
Barbara Hering
Bates County Elks
Becky Clark
Belton Christian Church
Belton Host Lions Club
Belton Post Office-Stamp out Hunger
Benny Brower
Beth Meyers
Bill Upchurch
Bland-Hackelman Funeral Home
Bland Used Cars
Blister Smith
Blue Cross/Blue Shield KC
Bonnie Sargent
Bright Futures
Brittany Dawn
Bulldog Towing and Auto Repair
Burt Walker
Caden Benz
Calvary Baptist
Cana Custer
Care Connection
Carnegie Village
Carolyn Colson
Carolyn Hellwig
Carolyn Sanders
Carolyn Watkins
Carolyn Henderson
Casey’s General Store
Cattleman’s Association
Cedar County Beef Jerky
Cedar County Hospital
Cedar County Senior Center
Church of Christ
Citizens State Bank
City of Nevada, MO
Commissary
Community 1st Bank
Community Outreach Nevada
Compass Health and Wellness
Connie Locke
Crossroads Methodist Breakfast Club
Crossroads Methodist Church
Crowd Care
Crystal Yarnell
Dale Borgman
Danny Knox
Darrell Pohlman
Daryl Walls
Dash Floor Covering
Don Miller
Dorothy Holt
Dorothy Pierce
Dr. Cassady
D.S.W.A. Certified Public Accountants
DYM Remarketing Services
Eagles #4279
Ed Mortin
Elks Lodge Clinton
Ellett Memorial Hospital
Evans Drug
Fanitta Sipes
Farm Bureau
Farmers Elevator
First Baptist Church
First Christian Church
First National Bank
Floors and More
Food Fair
Get Fit Gym
Grace Baptist Church/Harrisonville
H&R Block
Hair Tech-Hermitage
Harrisonville High School
Harvester’s
Hawthorn Bank
Hayden Fleeman
Healthy Nevada
Heart-N-Hand Ministries
Heather Brown
Hickory County Child Care Advocacy Group
Hickory County Senior Center
Holly Clark
Hudson School
Hy Vee
Images Salon
Jack Hartline
Juanita Irvin
Jennifer Gresham
Jerrun Kennedy
Jerry’s Pest Management
Karen Berten
Karen Oberly
Karol Stephan
Kathy Rodick
KC Rim Shop
Kansas City Power and Light
Kevin Watkins
Ladies Tri-Lakes Auxiliary #4279
Landmark Restaurant
Lathrop Restaurant
LCN Graphics
Legacy Bank and Trust
Legal Aid
We thank you for your continued support!

Liberty Utilities
Linda Sherva
Living Word Church
Looks Unlimited
Lord of Love Women's Group
Lord of Love Church
Loretta's Attic
Marsha Driemeir
Martha Friedmeyer
Mary Lynn Scudder
Medical Lodge
Michael Love
Mid Missouri Bank
Midwest Lumber
Missouri Extension
MO Dept. of Conservation
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas
Mr. and Mrs. Upchurch
Nataushua Kennedy
Neta Harline
Nevada Police Dept.
Nevada United Methodist Church
Nixon Farm
Oak Star Bank
On My Own
Osage Valley Electric Cooperative
Pathways
Pete's of Erie
Pickering Place
Post Office-Belton
Preston Bible Baptist Church
Price Chopper Belton
Price Chopper Raymore
Probation Parole
Quick Trip
Raymore 4-H
Raymore Christian Church
Raymore Lions Club
Raymore Sunset Garden Club
Rebecca McKeown
Redwood Nursing Home
Robert Sherva
Robert Whitney
Robin Siegismund
Rockville Methodist Church
Rolling Meadows
Route 54 Cruisers Car Club
RR Equipment
Raymore Lions Club
S&B Liquor
Salon 109
Share the Harvest
Sharon Cumpton
Sheldon Funeral Home
Shephard's Food Pantry
Schreiber Foods
Sonic
St. Clair County State Bank
St. Paul's United Methodist Church
St. Sabina Catholic Church
State Farm
Steve Clark
Sugar Man
Suzanna Moreland
Teresa Lyness
Terri Starbuck
The Bloom, LLC
The Cutting Edge-Buffalo
The Miller Group
Tiffin Baptist Church
Trinity United Methodist
Tyler Clark
Unilever
University of Missouri
Walmart
Wanda Allen
Willene Engel

"Connie’s Story,” continued from page 23

Somehow, I graduated in May 2019 with my Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene.

I now have a wonderful job which allows me to work 4 days a week, making $36.00 an hour, which allows more time with my children. I've also been able to find my dream home at the lake, in a community that has a lot to offer my children. In our new home, my children will have their own room for the first time in their lives.

My new job doesn't feel like work to me, because I love what I do so much. None of this would have even been possible, had it not been for the Family Self-Sufficiency Program that was offered through West Central.

I am truly grateful. I was given an opportunity to change my life and my children's future.

Sometimes people make the wrong decisions in life, but programs like this help those people prove that a little hard work can lead to success in the end.

THANK YOU!"
It’s no secret that there are numerous organizations and programs aiming to solve the same (or a similar) social/environmental issues, or to benefit the same region or group. We are working toward this by working with other incredible organizations, and by being intentional about the “collective impact” we aspire to achieve in our communities.

“Collective impact” describes an intentional way of working together and sharing information for the purpose of solving a complex problem.

We believe that this approach can have greater impact on our communities in addressing the many complex challenges of poverty than if we go about it on our own.

Because the problems in each community or region often have a local twist, a one-size-fits-all approach across communities is not always appropriate and does not always work. Realizing the core complexities and logistical challenges of working in large regional areas has been the starting point for our “collective impact” approach.

West Central is proud to work alongside other established nonprofits, government agencies, businesses, and community members that share an overarching mission with ours and work with a common agenda. Our new culture has been created through shared values, expectations, and goals.

The ownership and empowerment that our collective impact initiatives create has other benefits as well. When communities come together to co-create solutions with funders, local nonprofits, government officials, and community members working side-by-side with other community stakeholders, everyone becomes acutely aware of the role they play in the community’s success.

We are so proud to collaborate with our communities to address unmet needs; no one person, program, or organization can improve the health of your community alone—it takes a village.

If you would like to get involved with one of our many community initiatives, please contact us today and we can connect you with a local representative.
Investing in your community and positive outcomes has never been easier through West Central’s many giving options. We encourage you to join us by investing in our organization and the individuals and families we serve. For a personal overview of our programs and giving options, please contact our Central Office at 660-476-2185 ext. 1118 or send an email to: info@wcmcaa.org. Your gift will change lives!
Two Organizations
One Goal
Zero Poverty

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