



Kansas City Health Department

# Kansas City Health Department

## Ordinance 240713

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# Care Beyond the Boulevard

**Founded in 2016**

**Jaynell (KK) Assmann, APRN-C, MSN, RN  
Founder and CEO**

## **Mission Statement**

To provide high quality medical and mental health care and support to the homeless and underserved populations of Kansas City outside the bounds of traditional healthcare settings, and in so doing become a force for health care equality and social change.



## What we do

- **Medical street outreach**
- **Over 40 clinics per month**
- **Provide primary and urgent care**
- **Access to medications**
- **Vaccinations**
- **School physicals**
- **200+ volunteers**
- **Collaborate with educational institutions**
- **Case Management**
- **Care Coordination**
- **Respite Care and Medical Shelter**
- **Free - No cost to patients**
- **No insurance billing**
- **Low barrier/Inclusive**
- **Bridge access to care**
- **Reduce stigma**
- **Meet people where they are**
- **Restore trust**
- **Build community**



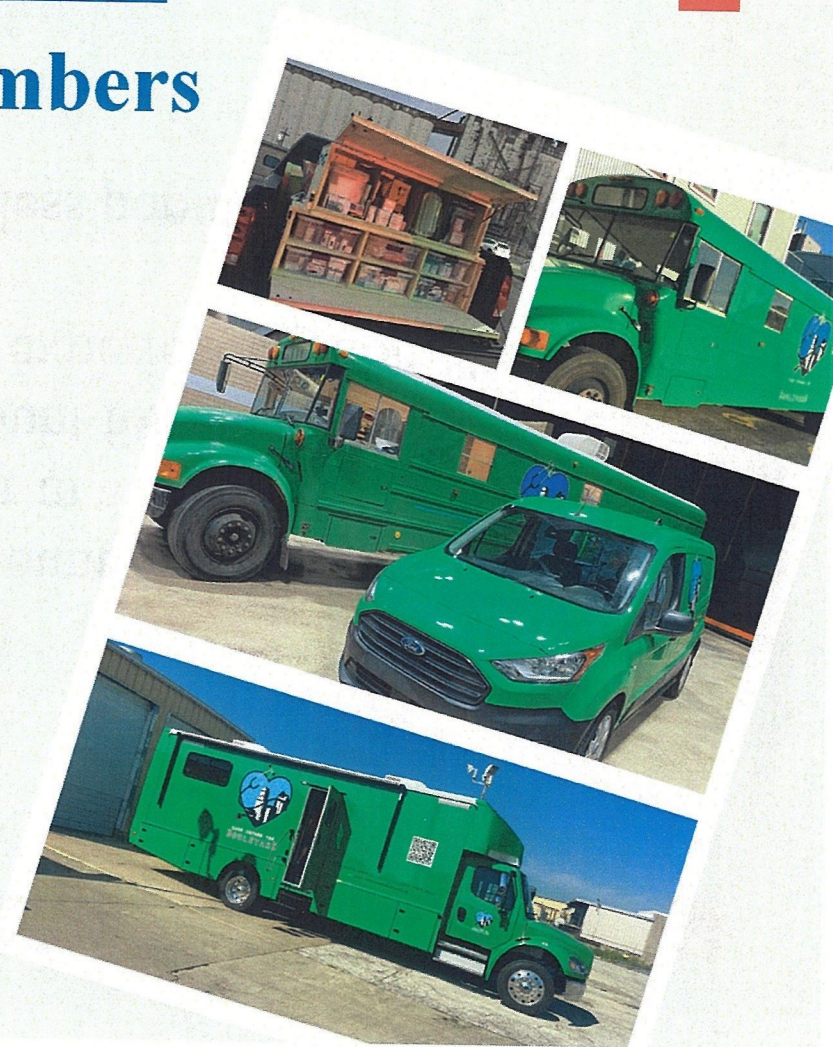
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3

# CBB by the Numbers

- 2020-1,405 patients in 3,800 visits
- 2021-2,686 patients in 7,259 visits
- 2022-2,808 patients in 9,000 visits
- 2023-2,929 patients in 11,500 visits



## Needs

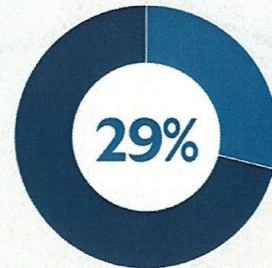
- The MO-604 continuum of care leads the country in chronic homelessness per capita for the second year in a row (HUD)
- Preliminary numbers from the 2024 PIT count for the MO-604 have 876 unsheltered and 2181 total individuals experiencing homelessness
- Homelessness is increasing
- Substance use disorder increasing in homeless population

## Care Beyond the Boulevard

**Substance Use  
Disorder increasing  
in the homeless  
population in  
Missouri**

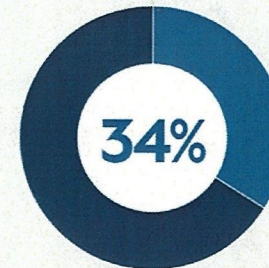
**Missouri Unsheltered  
Homeless 2013–2023**

2013

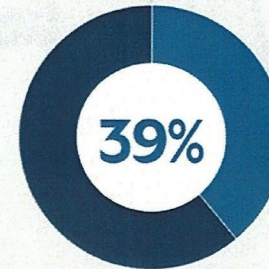
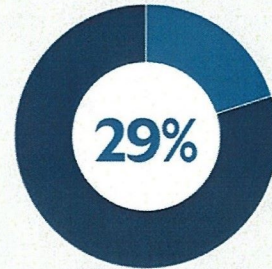


**Severely  
Mentally Ill**

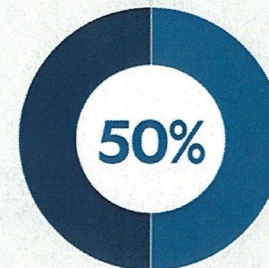
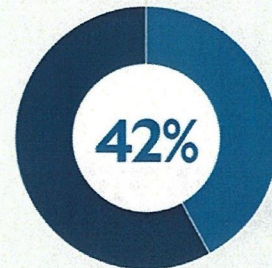
2023



**Chronic  
Substance  
Abuse**



**Chronically  
Homeless**



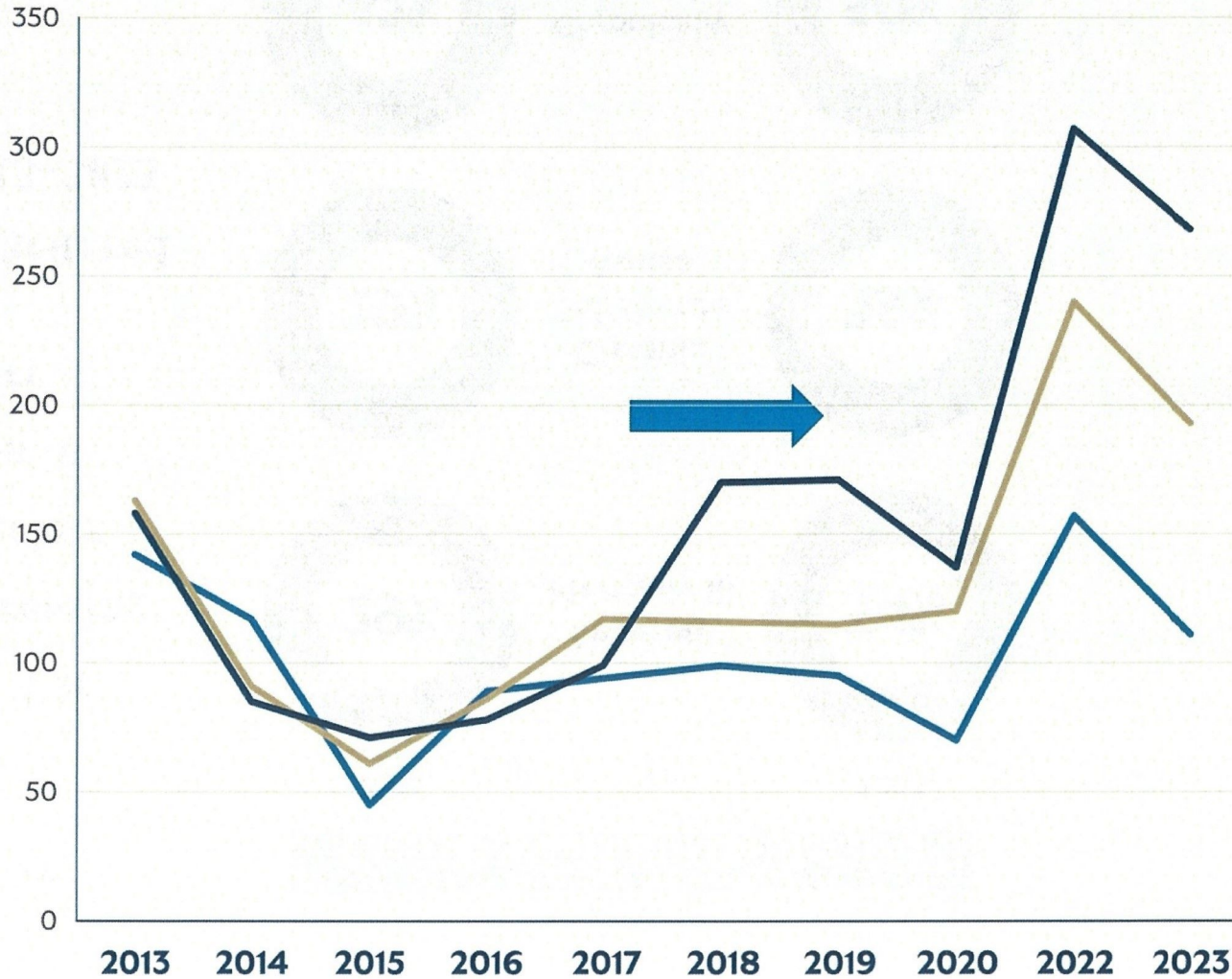


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6

**Kansas City  
Unsheltered  
Homeless  
2013–2023**



**+70%  
Chronic Homelessness**

**+18%  
Severe Mental Illness**

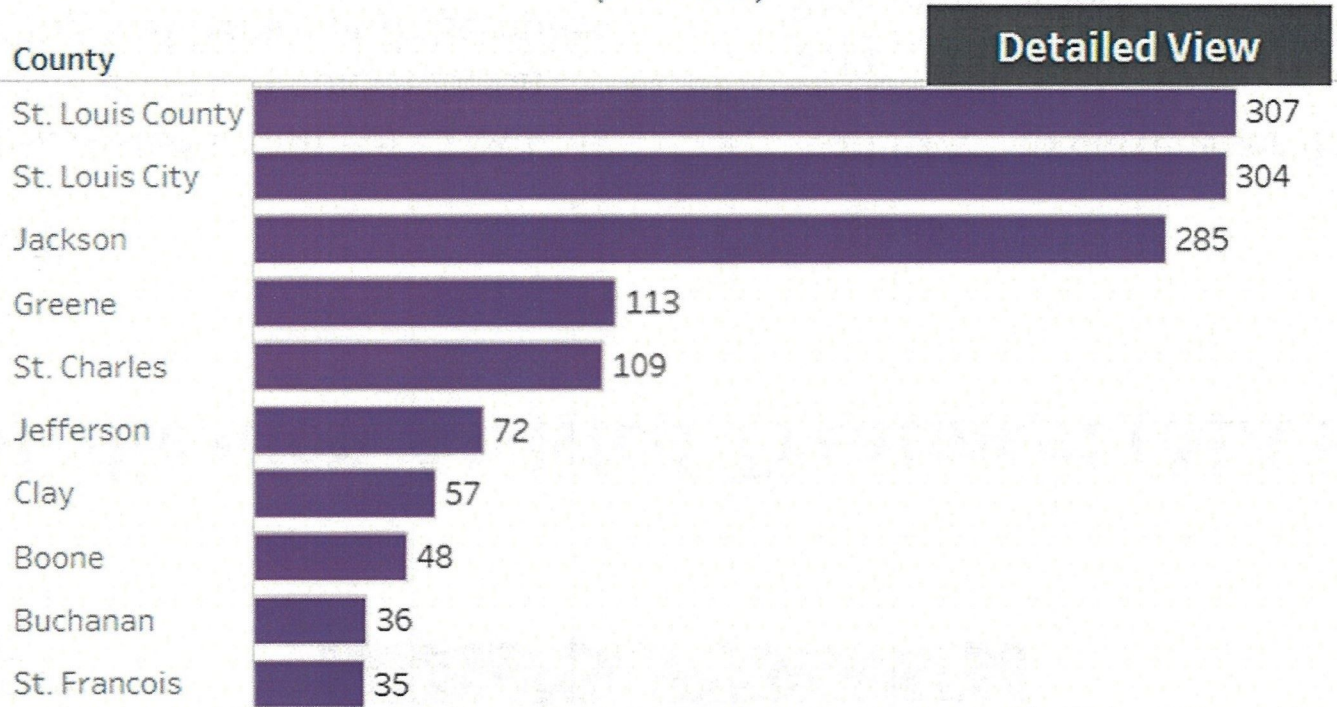
**-22%  
Chronic Substance Abuse**

\*Due to COVID-19, no data was collected for 2021



## Top 10 Counties with the Highest All Drug Overdose Mortality Counts

(Year: 2023)





# Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)

## What is MAT

“Medication-assisted treatment (MAT) is the use of medications in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies for the treatment of substance use disorders.” (Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System, 2024)

## CBB plans

- Add MAT to current services
- Bridge gap to MAT
- Add peer worker
- Physician support
- Pharmacy support and collaborations
- Increase Psychiatric services
- Provide educational conferences to increase MAT providers in the city



## What is Medical Respite

According to the National Institute for Medical Respite:

“Medical respite care is acute and post-acute care for persons experiencing homelessness who are too ill or frail to recover from a physical illness or injury on the streets but are not ill enough to be in a hospital.”

## CBB Medical Respite Services

- Weekly provider (MD or NP)
- Nurse visits (up to daily)
  - Wound care
  - IV antibiotics
  - Physical Therapy
  - Recovery from surgery
- Wrap around services
  - Vital Documents
  - Medicaid/Medicare
  - Housing focused case management
- Care coordination
  - Follow up appointments
  - Transportation to appointments
  - Access to medication
  - Connection to long term healthcare
    - PCP
    - psych
    - Medication access
- Nutrition and person centered care

## CBB Medical Respite

Began in 2022 in collaboration with the former Lotus Care House

- 2 beds in 2022
- 4 beds in 2023
- 8 beds in 2024
  - Currently operate the entire facility with plans to expand
- 2022 550 nights
- 2023 1,100 nights
  - 54 referrals: 23 accepted
- 2024 through Sept 7: 1,580 nights
  - 92 referrals: 35 accepted



## Safe Haven

According to HUD, a safe haven provide services for those who are homeless and have serious mental illnesses.

- limited occupancy
- low-demand
- supportive services
- 24-hour private or semi-private accommodations



## Funding Support

- Access to MAT (new)
- Outreach(adding MAT)
- Access to medications(expanding to include MAT)
- Respite (adding beds)
  - Respite Director (new)
  - Therapy(new)
- Clinic settings (adding MAT)
- Case Management (adding more access)
- Nursing (expanding)
- Psychiatric services (new)
  - Collaboration with KCU
- Community provider education program (new service)
  - MAT
    - Expand access community wide
- Peer worker support (adding)
  - Education
  - Expansion of support
- Safe Haven (new)
  - Psych services
  - MAT
  - Peer Support
  - Temporary Shelter



## References

Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System. (2024). *Medication assisted treatment (MAT)*. AHCCCS.

[https://www.azahcccs.gov/Members/BehavioralHealthServices/OpioidUseDisorderAndTreatment/MAT.html#:~:text=Medication%2Dassisted%20treatment%20\(MAT\),treatment%20of%20substance%20use%20disorders](https://www.azahcccs.gov/Members/BehavioralHealthServices/OpioidUseDisorderAndTreatment/MAT.html#:~:text=Medication%2Dassisted%20treatment%20(MAT),treatment%20of%20substance%20use%20disorders).

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Kurtz, D. (2024, March 15). *Homelessness in Missouri: An evolving crisis*. Cicero Institute. <https://ciceroinstitute.org/research/homelessness-in-missouri-an-evolving-crisis/>

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<https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/SafeHavens.pdf>



## Who Is First Call?

For 66 years, First Call has provided services across the continuum of care to meet the needs of all community members **impacted by addiction**.

As such, First Call works with **individuals, families, and communities** to ensure comprehensive support regardless of ability to pay.



## What Does First Call Do?

Recovery Support	Harm Reduction	Family Services	Prevention & Outreach
24/7 Crisis Call Line	Individual Training & Distribution of Naloxone	Adult Programming for those impacted by SUD	School-Based Prevention
Recovery Advocacy	Community Training & Distribution of Naloxone	Youth Programming for children impacted by SUD	MO Resource Center & Coalition Support
Court Services	Harm Reduction Partnerships	Community Training	Professional Training

## Why First Call?

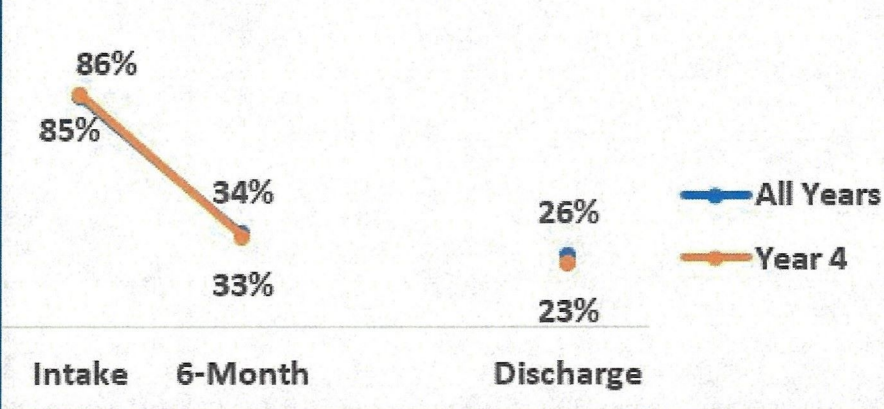
- *Unconditional* support of individuals and families
- Pass through dollars for direct client impact
- Holistic family support available
- KC Region's Prevention Resource Center through the State of Missouri DMH
- CARF-accredited agency that utilizes evidence-based and research-informed approaches
- Legacy of strategic community partnerships:
  - Ex: KC CARE / UMKC Partnership for 1<sup>st</sup> ever federal harm reduction grant
  - Ex: 10+year partnership with KCMO Drug Court

## Scope D Program Activities

- **Hire, train, and certify additional** (2) Recovery Advocates and (1) Harm Reduction Specialist.
  - Peer Certification
  - SUD Certification
  - SOAR Certification
- Enhancing the agency's long-standing history of **providing support to justice-involved** individuals, as this population is at a higher risk of overdose and homelessness
- Formalizing partnerships through MOUs for **housing, MAT, and other barrier reduction needs** (identification, transportation, clothing, food, hygiene supplies, etc.)
- Individual and community **distribution of harm reduction supplies** including naloxone, fentanyl test strips, and xylazine test strips.
- Community **harm reduction education and individual support** of people who use drugs to provide a warm handoff to recovery advocates if desired

## First Call's Impact

The percent of participants (all years) reporting any days of **ILLEGAL DRUG** use decreased 69% from Intake to Discharge.



69% decrease in drug use over the course of the program.

Based on client satisfaction scores, clients indicated access to needed services was more attainable through First Call's Recovery Advocacy Program:

Needed Service	% Agreement
Recovery Support	100%
Basic Needs	100%
Support with Benefit Applications	95%
Support with Transportation	91%
Substance Use Treatment	90%
Mental Health Treatment	90%
Physical Health Care	90%
Housing	86%
Social/Emotional Support	86%
Employment Services	85%
Support Groups	83%

## Measuring Success

- Key outcomes:
  - Decrease in total score from Addiction Severity Index (ASI)
  - Increase in self-sufficiency as measured by Arizona Self-Sufficiency Index
  - Uniform screening for trauma and co-occurring mental health disorders
  - Harm reduction supplies distributed
  - Trainings conducted/harm reduction education
  - # of linkages to care (warm handoff to recovery advocate or other community partner)
- All data captured in an electronic behavioral health record (Community CareLink); reviewed quarterly by First Call's Program Outcomes committee



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21

**Thank you!**

