

Note/Message



Coalition Update

Need Help?

Dear {{CFirstName}},

Thank you for attending the **First Suburbs Coalition** meeting on Friday, July 19. In case you missed it, here is a quick synopsis. You may [download the slide deck here](#).

Mayor Mike McDonough gave opening remarks on behalf of the host city of Raytown, MO. Raytown is a city on the rise that is working on \$7.2 million of voter-approved stormwater improvements and completing its first comprehensive plan update since 1996. The meeting was held in the newly renovated Board of Aldermen chamber and municipal courtroom.

Regional Housing Partnership (RHP) Updates

Unfortunately, the Kansas City region was not selected for the HUD PRO Housing grant. The process was highly competitive with only 21 of 175 applications receiving funding. RHP is evaluating feedback from HUD and reviewing selected applications to apply again for the next round of funding later this year.

Because we did not receive the HUD PRO Housing grant, RHP is advancing some of the baseline research, starting with a review of national recommendations. RHP is using that research to inform some of the questions on a local government housing survey (coming soon!) to account for what communities may have or be looking at. The survey will help RHP better understand where our communities are so it can shape regional policy work.

Please continue to promote KCHousingLocator.com to property owners in your communities. It

is free to find and list rentals on the site. More information is available in the slide deck.

Mental Health Crisis Services

Panelists discussed the continuum of mental health crisis services in our region. First Suburbs leaders are encouraged to promote the [#988Lifeline](#) and advocate to expand resources for mobile crisis response and mental health co-responders who answer calls for service with law enforcement. Panelists explained that 988 calls are answered by trained clinicians and referred to community behavioral health centers for mobile crisis response or follow-up as needed. If we did not get to your question during the Q&A, please reach out to the panelists:

Kristin Feeback, CommCARE kfeedback@commcare1.org

Heather Mason, ReDiscover hmason@rediscovermh.org

Colene Medrano, Wyandot Behavioral Health Network Colene.Medrano@wyandotbhn.org

Renee Van Meter, Johnson County Mental Health Renee.VanMeter@jocogov.org

If you need more information about the behavioral health center or 988 call center serving your community, please contact Julie Phillips jphillips@marc.org.

Save the Date!

Please join us for our next meeting on Friday, October 18, 2024. Watch your emails for more information about the program and registration. Please let me know if you have suggestions about program topics or a Kansas venue for the meeting.

Best,
Lauren

Lauren Palmer

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The Mid-America Regional Council is the nonprofit association of local governments and the metropolitan planning organization for the bistate Kansas City region.

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