

Avenue of Life

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Friends and Family,

Thank you for your generous support of Avenue of Life. Your commitment is changing lives and helping us end student homelessness in Kansas City. In 2023, your contributions made a significant impact, providing shelter, education, and hope to countless students. As we step into 2024, I'm excited to share our plans for continued growth and innovation.

With your support, we aim to expand outreach, strengthen community partnerships, and address the root causes of homelessness. Your involvement is crucial to achieving these goals. Stay tuned for updates on our progress, and consider joining us on this transformative journey. Together, we are making a lasting difference in the lives of students in need. Thank you for being a vital part of our mission.



With Gratitude,

Desiree Monize

Executive Director/CEO

*"Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much."*
- Helen Keller

AVENUE OF LIFE PROGRAMS

EQUIPPING CENTER

The Equipping Center Program offers a diverse array of initiatives and support tailored to uplift the emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual well-being of families and individuals in Wyandotte County. We provide, nourishing meals, essential pantry items, hygiene products, clothing, and diapers to foster a sense of care and empowerment.

Program Highlights:

- Served 6,752 unduplicated individuals
- Distributed 14,300 family food packs
- Distributed 2,373 frozen meals
- Served 28,692 hot meals
- Distributed clothing to 5,946 individuals
- Processed and distributed over \$675,000 worth of in-kind donations

BUSINESS TRAINING CENTER

We're excited to share the completion of our 10-Year Mattress Recycling Initiative on August 11th, 2023. Recycling over 650,000 mattresses and diverting 33,000 tons from landfills. We extend heartfelt thanks to our partners and participants. Our commitment to using the Collective Impact method for community improvement remains strong, as we continue to explore new avenues in our mission to break the cycle of poverty through community development.

IMPACT KCK PROGRAM

Impact KCK serves Wyandotte County McKinney-Vento children, youth, and families. The Impact KCK model is based on the Collective Impact model for community change. Avenue of Life is the backbone agency and coordinates the efforts of more than 90 partnering organizations committed to addressing the needs of homeless students and families. Impact KCK provides services which include intensive case management and housing solutions.

Program Highlights from 2022 - 2023 school year:

- Served 2,547 households with essential services such as housing, utilities, classes, and food
- Provided intensive case management to 532 households
- Provided housing to 88 families
- Served all 4 Wyandotte County school districts
- Impact KCK's Navigator housed at Wyandotte High School provided intensive case management to 77 youth, served 50 unaccompanied youth with a final graduation rate of 94.7%
- In partnership with Our Spot KC the Youth House served 22 unaccompanied youth ages 18 - 24

KCPS EMPOWERMENT

The KCPS Empowerment program is a partnership with the Kansas City Public School District that serves McKinney-Vento students and their families in Kansas City, Missouri. This program is based on the collective impact model and addresses the needs of homeless students in the district. The program is currently in its second school year and is continuing to make a difference for families in KC MO.

Program Highlights from 2022 - 2023 school year:

- Provided intensive case management for 29 families
- 13 families were employed
- Provided housing to 21 families

OUR FUTURE IS BRIGHT

In 2024, we are focusing on strengthening our impact in the Kansas City Metro. Our capacity-building initiatives will ensure sustained service to Wyandotte children and youth, with facility upgrades and innovative tools for tracking progress.

We're expanding partnerships and exploring new program opportunities throughout the Kansas City Metro area. Enhancements include improved data tracking, an expanded computer lab, updated network systems, and transformed program spaces throughout the Equipping Center.

Thank you for the support you've given to our organization and to this mission. The impact of your generosity is felt every single day by the families that we serve. Thank you.

For more information, call (816) 787-6101.

*Avenue of Life is a 501(c)(3).
Donations are tax-deductible.*

To view our Audit and 990, visit our website at:
www.avenueoflife.org.