



BOONE COUNTY
UPWARD MOBILITY

Housing Access and Support Alliance Workgroup Minutes

November 20, 2025, 1:30PM – 3:00PM

Boone Electric Community Building (1413 Rangeline, Columbia MO) and virtually via Zoom

Meeting Objective: Finalize plans for landlord training sessions including content and materials

Attendees: Kendra Jackson (Columbia Housing Authority (CHA)), Lori Acton (Love Columbia), Onni Flint (Central Missouri Community Action (CMCA)), Senica Smith (Voluntary Action Center (VAC)), Scott Buis (Truman Memorial Veterans' Hospital), Tandra Hickem (Salvation Army Harbor House), Tionna Lawson (VAC), Gina Jenkins (Boone County Community Services Department (BCCSD)), Enola-Riann White (BCCSD)

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Enola welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Annual Feedback Survey Results
 - a. Workgroup Wednesdays

Effective January 2026, the workgroup will meet on the first Wednesday of the month. Meetings will be from 3:00pm – 4:30pm with 4:30pm-5:00pm to allow for additional in person collaboration. Months with a fifth Wednesday will be reserved for a casual evening Upward Mobility meeting from 4:30pm – 6:00pm where all workgroups come together. Enola shared these changes to the workgroup meetings were based on the feedback provided by workgroup participants.
 - b. Discussion of 2026 goals

The workgroup reviewed the Annual Feedback survey. The workgroup is valued for its practical, collaborative approach to addressing barriers to rental housing, especially for vulnerable community members. In summary Housing Access and Support Alliance (HASA) wants to re-center the purpose of the workgroup on vulnerable populations, shift from discussion to action using the housing study recommendation, engage housing providers more intentionally, maintain collaboration, and build on momentum in community awareness, tenant tools, and cross-group engagement.
3. Follow up from last meeting
 - a. Real Estate Investors Group & Columbia Apartment Association meeting dates

Kendra Jackson, Columbia Housing Authority, emailed to obtain potential dates for the Columbia Apartment Association (CAA) General Meeting.
4. Finalize plans for landlord sessions
 - a. Content and materials

The workgroup discussed creating a unified message so that landlords hear from the group collectively, initially. Workgroup participants are encouraged to use the shared document to list housing/rental assistance programs. The group also discussed having a version of the documents for landlords to use and a more detailed version for use by organizations internally within the workgroup.

Upward Mobility is an initiative of the Boone County Community Services Department and is funded in part by the Boone County Children's Services Fund.



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The group discussed presenting at two meetings. The first session, led by Boone County Upward Mobility staff, would be an introductory high-level overview of Upward Mobility, the workgroup, and participating agencies. The shared document will be used as a guide, and questions will be taken from the landlords to note what topics/programs they want to know more about. The second session would be a deeper dive after receiving and organizing the landlord questions. This will allow organizations to prepare more detailed answers and highlight specific programs.

5. Next Steps

- Workgroup participants should update the spreadsheet with program information by December 19, 2025. Enola will clean the spreadsheet to make it into a presentable format for the session. Kendra will then send the document to CAA so they can begin forming their questions.

6. Closing

a. Partner Updates

- Senica Smith (Voluntary Action Center (VAC)) shared about the annual Holiday Program December 8-13 at Broadway Christian Church.
- Lori Action (Love Columbia (LC)) and Onni Flint (Central Missouri Community Action (CMCA)) provided a review of the Empower Missouri Conference including an overview of upcoming state legislation and the use of AI.

b. Comments and Questions

Enola asked the group if they would like to meet in December. A poll will be sent across workgroups.

Enola ended the meeting by reminding members to add information to the shared document and to complete the December meeting survey.

Next Workgroup Meeting: To be determined following workgroup member input.