



Community Connections — April 2026

## CMHF Responds to Changing Mental Health Needs with Community Grants



Beginning May 4 - May 22, we will accept [Community Grants](#) applications from smaller, first-time applicant agencies that deliver whole-person mental wellness services in Jackson County. Services qualify in 4 social determinants of health focus areas: family, life, work, and aging.

Agencies that are interested in applying for a Community Grant can register online now in our [Partnership Exchange Portal](#) (PEP). If you have questions, visit our site or watch our [April 13 Zoom recording](#), where we cover many of the frequently asked grant questions.

[Get Community Grant details](#)

## Network Spotlight: reStart

reStart couples housing solutions and individualized, wrap-around care with the goal of creating a stronger Kansas City with housing for all.



Homelessness means different things to different people. For four decades, [reStart Inc.](#) has pooled its resources and insights with those of partners and the larger community toward solutions that address the growing need for housing.

Just as the reasons for homelessness differ, its solutions do too. reStart offers interim housing, individualized case management, and wrap-around services to support the whole person and guide residents toward safe, stable housing.



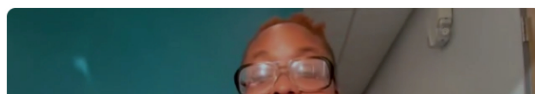
### Meet Stephanie Boyer, CEO.

Stephanie Boyer has seen first-hand the link between stable housing and meaningful community connections. As reStart's CEO, she oversees the agency's work to connect people with housing and supportive services that provide long-term stability.

[Read Stephanie's conversation](#)

Interested in being highlighted on CMHF's social media and in our newsletter? Reach out to [smccall@jacksoncountycare.org](mailto:smccall@jacksoncountycare.org).

## April is Child Abuse Prevention Month





Supported parents become more emotionally healthy caregivers. Visit the COMBAT link below for Jackson County agencies and resources that actively support parents and protect children.

[Explore Jackson County Child Protection Center Resources](#)

## Get a Head Start on Mental Health Awareness Month



The Kansas City Health Department will offer two free Mental Health First Aid classes in May:

- **Adult** training takes place Monday, May 11 from 9 - 4 pm
- **Youth** training takes place Monday, May 18 from 9 - 3 pm

Seats are limited, and the registration deadline is Thursday, April 30. Follow the link below for more information.

[Register for KCHD mental health training](#)

## Staff Spotlight: Jenn Clark



Jenn is CMHF's Finance Administrator. When asked, "What do you like about your job?" she goes straight to the numbers. "I like making sure all things line up and frankly, I like audits. It's a way to get accolades for doing good work," Jenn says.

Jenn has worked in nonprofits for the last 15 years, starting with The Good Samaritan Project, then Rose Brooks. During COVID, she started a nonprofit group called Lovely People that served LGBTQIA+ kids between 10-15, providing them with age-appropriate activities and community.

**What's your favorite KC restaurant?**  
La Bodega

**What book, show, or movie would you recommend?**  
"Invisible Man" by Ralph Ellison

**What's a unique fact about you?**  
Jenn is the captain of Kansas City's Mardi Gras Krewe Oculus

In her free time, Jenn loves to garden and spend time with her son and her four cats: Feather, Jake, Me-Mow, and Ena.

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