

CARING COMMUNITIES  
PARTNERSHIPS

ST. FRANCOIS COUNTY COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP'S

# Partnership Report



August 2019

*Adding Value, Bringing Hope*

## Kids Count 2019



This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Annie E. Casey Kids Count Data Book. The Data Book which focuses on child Well-Being throughout the United States, was first published in

1990. The Kids Count data focuses on Child Well-Being by looking at four primary Domains: Economic Well-Being, Education, Health and Family & Community. Furthermore, each of these domains has four indicators.

In this 30th anniversary report, not only are the states ranked in overall Child Well-Being and each of the Domains, but trends, racial and geographical changes are examined. In 1990, the Children of the U.S. were 69% white; however that had shifted to 53% by 2017. Child population increase from 64 million in 1990 to 74 million currently.

Where children live has also drastically changed since 1990. In fact, where the percentage increase in the child population of the U.S. was 16.5% over the last 30 years; many states exceeded a 40% growth rate. Indeed, three states: Florida, Texas and California combined for more than half of the total U.S. child population growth during the 30 year period. Additionally it is appropriate to note that while there are 18 million immigrant children in the U.S., the child population in 11-15 states whose growth exceeded the national average, the increases were due to families with children coming from other states! In the

other four states the increases were primarily due to births exceeding deaths. While immigration is not the primary factor in the increase of child populations throughout the U.S. it has certainly changed the diversity of the child population in most states.

Missouri's child population growth is well below the national average at 5%; however a number of states have had reductions in their child population, with Maine and Vermont having an 18% reduction.

States with large increases in child populations are struggling to keep up with the increasing demand for children's services. However, in general trends in Child Well-Being have improved over the last thirty years; although, there is still significant room for improvement especially in the Education domain. Despite great improvement in graduation rates, language and math proficiency is still lagging. Teen pregnancy had been greatly reduced, but we still have 34 million kids living in poverty.

Missouri ranks close to the middle compared to other states in all four Domains of Child Well-Being. Individual ranking range between 22-32. A full copy of this report may be obtained from the Partnership office or going the Annie E. Casey Foundation website.

—Bill Bunch

Executive Director, St. Francois County Community Partnership

### Our Mission

To build, nurture, and strengthen families, insuring that every person has the opportunity to become a healthy, productive, and contributing member of the community.

### Our Goals:

- Parents Working
- Healthy Children & Families
- Children & Families Safe in Homes & Communities
- Children Prepared to Enter School
- Children & Youth Succeeding in School
- Youth Ready to Enter Adulthood

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SFCCP Board Meetings  
(Open To The Public)

Wednesday at Noon,  
September 11, 2019

Training Room at SFC Weber Rd. Facility  
1101 Weber Rd., Farmington, MO

Tune In To These Monthly Radio  
Programs on KREI  
with Mark Toti & Mike Ramsey  
Community Partnership Radio Show  
3rd Thurs., 9:30 a.m. and  
on KFMO 4th Mon., 7:35 a.m.

## Young Faith in Christ Launching Community Service Program

We have long known the value of Community Service. We understand the benefits and the effects that a solid program can bring. It offers knowledge skills, and an opportunity for attitude adjustment towards the environment in which the offenders live. It also provides a solid opportunity for a person to learn how they can operate inside of this community.

Late last school year I started looking into several community programs that YFC can plug into or possibly develop. While I feel we have a long way to go, I feel we are in the beginning stages of a program that can make a huge impact in our community.

Starting in the 2019/20 school year, YFC is partnering with Farmington Schools to roll out a Community Service program to work with the youth who have violated school policies. Students will be offered a choice to serve detention or to do community service.

If the student chooses to do community service, YFC will facilitate the community service program. The program will give the students an opportunity to link up with the community through various avenues such as, working at the food pantry, city beautification, and helping shut-ins, disabled, and others who need help with tasks they cannot complete without assistance.

You may wonder what kind of value this program brings to our community. While I don't have all of the answers and fully understand that beginning a program like this has a massive learning curve, I will attempt to answer. We will examine the three major areas this touches, the student, the people being helped, and the community.

Helping students has been the primary objective since day one for YFC, so a program like this is a natural evolution for our organization. We will have trained mentors with each group of students working alongside them with these projects. The mentors role is to do exactly that, mentor. Mentors listen to problems and offer advice and model solutions. A student who sits in detention and stares at a blank wall will have a negative emotional response to the punishment, where working alongside an adult mentor can open avenues of discussion and possibly life changing relationships.

Search Institute has put out a list of 40 Developmental Assets for Adolescents, which according to their research youth need in their developmental years. Included on the list are assets like support, empowerment, boundaries and expectations, positive values and more. The program YFC has developed meets over half of all of those assets. While some of these students may not have a positive role model

in their homes, this program offers a positive environment where growth can take place.

If a student finds value in this program they can be offered an opportunity to assist on a regular basis as a student mentor and leader. This will offer us opportunities to open up deeper relationships and opportunities in the community. At YFC our plan is to actually use some of these leaders to get feedback in board meetings and assist with some of the decisions, when appropriate.

There is a need in our community that is often overlooked. That is the widows, shut-ins, and disabled. Our goal is to assist as many of these folks as we can with this program. We will do things like change light bulbs, check smoke detectors and replace if necessary, light cleaning and yard work, and more. The impact of this cannot be measured with dollars, but we all know the gratitude of being helped with something we could not do on our own. These students will see this and feel a pride for a job well done.

The community wins with this program. While we know that a 100% success rate in this program is unrealistic, we know a percentage of the program will experience success and growth. Our goal is to see the leaders of this program be teamed up with the leaders in our community and shown that they can achieve their goals if they choose. The community will be able to teach students the value of volunteering and sharing of their time and see the effects.

I could continue on about the benefits of this program. We feel the evidence is clear enough that we have put our time and resources into it. When you look at the benefits for students, it's a win. When you think about how we can help with the needs of people and organizations that rely on others, it's a win. When the community reaps the benefits of this program, we will agree it's a win. We call this a WIN, WIN, Win!

The future growth of this program is very much a topic of discussion. We hope to roll it out into all of the schools who are interested. We also have had discussions with local judicial representatives about rolling out other programs that fit with this one. We all can acknowledge a massive need and we are simply trying to meet those needs with the resources we have.

If you have any questions about this program, or would like to support in any way please contact me at [rob@yfcparkland.org](mailto:rob@yfcparkland.org) or call 573.747.1705.

Rob Gerst, YFC Executive Director

## Community Events and Activities

- **Couples Night Out:** Sponsored by United Way of St. Francois County and held at Weingarten Winery. **Friday, August 2** at 6 p.m. Reservations are required. Call Clay Whitener at 573-760-8929 or email: [director@unitedwayofsfcc.org](mailto:director@unitedwayofsfcc.org).
- **14th Annual Golf Tournament and Dinner:** Children's Advocacy Center of East Central Missouri is holding it's annual Golf Tournament on **Friday, August 16**. The event will take place at Oak Valley Golf Course in Pevly, MO. Early registration is \$400 / 4 members (between now and July 12) and late registration is \$500 / 4 members. Includes dinner, awards & raffles following tournament. Online registration is available at [www.comtrea.org/events](http://www.comtrea.org/events). This year will include new golf games and a special guest appearance by Forrest Wegge, Honorary Chairperson.
- **Inspiration on the Runway:** Visions of Hope brings the 2nd annual "Inspiration on the Runway" event on **Thursday, September 5**, which will include an evening of shopping, dining and fashion. Doors open at the Centene Center for the event at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:15 and an evening of INSPIRATION! Proceeds benefit the Visions of Hope vocational and social training program. Single tickets are \$35 each or purchase a table of 6 for \$200. Go to [www.visionsofhoperesale.com](http://www.visionsofhoperesale.com) for more information and to purchase your tickets. Limited to 150 tickets.
- **Diabetes Self-Management Class:** Recognized by the American Diabetes Association, this free six-week program helps those affected by diabetes, including family members and caregivers, learn skills to more effectively manage symptoms. It can be combined with other programs and treatments. The next six-week session begins on **September 5th** at the Farmington Public Library at 9:30 a.m. To register, call 573-431-1947, ext. 102 or 151.
- **Seeds of Wisdom Conference:** This 16th annual women's conference is a highlight of the year. This year the event will be on **Thursday, September 12** at the Centene Center from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The event is free but registration is required. Hear inspiring speaking about health and wellness and enjoy the many information booths available to you. Continental breakfast and lunch are complementary. Go to [www.parklandhealthcenter.org/seedsofwisdom](http://www.parklandhealthcenter.org/seedsofwisdom) for more information.
- **Non-Profit Ministry Fair and Concert:** Do you have a non-profit ministry that reaches out to the community and you'd like to share that information? Here's your chance on **September 14th!** Just \$35 per booth and that includes two free tickets to the **Adelaide concert**. 1<sup>st</sup> 20 registrants receive VIP tickets! More info at [www.yfcalive.info](http://www.yfcalive.info).

## EMAA Offers Step-Up-To-Leadership Class



make a difference in the communities where they live.

The curriculum is for:

- People who want to understand board responsibilities, parliamentary procedure, how to run a community meeting, and public speaking tips,
- People who want to work well in groups and develop

Would you like to have a voice in your community and help to make things better? If you answered yes, then you are ready for the Step-Up-To-Leadership class. It is designed for income eligible, community-minded people who want to

strong working partnerships, and for

- People who want to be good leaders.

This program is offered free of charge and provides hands-on learning in a safe and fun environment. If you are income eligible you will also receive a stipend for each meeting you attend to help with your child care and transportation expenses.

For more information, please contact your local East Missouri Action Agency Outreach Office and speak to your Community Service Representative, Vicky Huff. You can reach Vicky by calling 573-431-0103 or at 903 East Chestnut Street, Desloge, MO.

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St. Francois County Community Partnership  
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*If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please call 573-760-0212 or email [tiffany@sfccp.org](mailto:tiffany@sfccp.org).*

## SFCCP Board of Directors

**Karen Adams** - SEMO Mental Health - Retired  
**Rob Baker** - East Missouri Action Agency  
**Cynthia Barton** - Board of Probation & Parole  
**Shelly Bess** - Shared Blessings, Inc.  
**Kim Buckley** - Central School District  
**Robert Bullock** - Parish Minister  
**Bill Bunch** - Executive Director SFCCP (ex officio)  
**Linda Fitzgerald** - Division of Workforce Development  
**Hilary Freeman** - Bismarck School District  
**Chuck Henson** - First Baptist Church  
**Donna Hickman** - At Large  
**Jessica McKnight** - St. Francois County Health Center  
**Patrick Mullins** - Associate County Commissioner  
**Marsha Petty** - Farmington School District  
**Dawn Phillips** - Children's Division  
**Jeremy Ray** - Vocational Rehabilitation  
**Meg Reiner** - At Large  
**Teresa Ressel** - Daily Journal  
**Chris Saylor** - BJC Behavioral Health  
**Nicole Sprinkles Gregory** - North County School District  
**Al Sullivan** - SFC I.D.A.  
**Alan Wells** - 9-1-1 Joint Commission  
**Becky Yount** - West County School District

## RECCURRING CLASSES & SUPPORT GROUPS

- ◆ **Childbirth & Breastfeeding Classes:** Offered by Parkland Health Center. FREE to all participants.
  - Childbirth Classes** are on the 2nd Saturday of each month, 8 to noon. Open to any expectant parents.
  - Breastfeeding Classes** are on the 1st Monday of each month from 5-7 p.m. Open to any new or expectant mom.For more information on either of these classes, call 573-760-8500 or visit [www.parklandhealthcenter.org/baby](http://www.parklandhealthcenter.org/baby).
- ◆ **Diabetes Self-Management Class:** Free classes provided by Parkland Health Center on the **1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month** from 1-3 p.m. at the Farmington Public Library. For more information, call 760-8396.
- ◆ **Diabetic Class:** Parkland Health Mart Pharmacy is offering a free class on the **3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month** in Farmington at Midwest Health Group at 1 p.m. For more info, visit [parklandrx.com](http://parklandrx.com).
- ◆ **Life After Loss Support Group:** Sponsored by Heart & Soul Hospice, the group is a safe place to process grief, learn healthy coping skills & connect with others. Open to public. **3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month**, 4:30-6:00 p.m. at 412 Cayce St., Farmington. Please call 756-7066 or email [farmingtonhospice@pmma.org](mailto:farmingtonhospice@pmma.org).
- ◆ **NAMI Connection Recovery Support Group & Family Support Group:** Both meetings are on the **2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month** at 7 p.m. at the LIFE Center for Independent Living, 725 E. Karsch Blvd., Farmington. Call 573-701-4185 for more information. [www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org).