

IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018

Overview

The information in the first column, *Action Items & Endorsements*, was taken from the Impacting Poverty Commission's October 2015 Community Call to Action Report. The information in the middle column, *Status*, contains the updated information gathered as of the review update. For this reason, this section will not have the names of all the entities performing this work nor will it have completed reviews for all this work. This column provides a point in time update and will continue to be updated as we continue to review the work. The last column, *Ways to Get Involved*, provides ways the different entities need community assistance.



EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION

Action Items & Endorsements	Status	Ways to Get Involved Under Construction
<p>The Commission encourages the under-resourced with young children to take advantage of any and all early childhood development opportunities within their reach.</p>	<p>The committee recognized that this action item is difficult to measure because the responsibility is on parents <i>to take advantage of all early childhood...</i> - This action item will not be tracked.</p>	
<p>Pre-K public, private or faith-based child care should be universal, affordable, accessible, and of high-quality (e.g., low teacher to child ratios), while teaching essential skills and preparing children to be “kindergarten ready.”</p>	<p>There are various Pre-K public, private and faith-based child care organizations that provide high-quality care and are not dependent on the State legislative process. All organizations listed below work closely with Springfield Public Schools.</p> <p>Every Child Promise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2400 children have started Kindergarten each year • 75 children participated in scholarship programs over the past four years - 100% of the children in the program are now Kindergarten ready (emotional, cognitive and social development). 	

IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018

- Jan 2018, Darr Family Foundation grant provided funding for scholarships to increase from 75 scholarships to 120 (\$1M+ grant provided to increase opportunity for more families to receive services using a systematic approach by working with five elementary schools and five private entities to address emotional/social needs as well as Kindergarten readiness.)

Ozark Area Community Action Corporation (OACAC) Head Start and Early Head Start programs

This is a federally funded program and has certain requirements charged with helping to build social and emotional skills.

Springfield Public Schools (SPS)

2018, SPS received a fully funded formula for one year to expand early childhood education. Campbell Elementary is being considered for conversion to an Early Childhood Center for four-year-old children. The plan is to admit 200 children each year for the next three years.

SPS Parent's as Teachers

How many Parents as Teachers are currently in Springfield? 37 – 12 were added over the past three years.

Do we have a parent educator in all 36 elementary schools? Every school now has a parent educator.

Kids First is a SPS initiative that invites all nonprofit organizations to collaborate on a quarterly basis to provide program updates, discuss trends and share best practices. This collaboration has been in place for the past four to five years.

IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018

	<p>Springfield-Greene County Library District</p> <p>The libraries focus on parent education and work with parents who visit the libraries and parents at various locations throughout the Springfield community to help with early child hood literacy.</p> <p>How many people are using the library to access free Wi-Fi in the community? During the month of March 2018, the libraries had 28,472 users and they have 75 hotspots that can be checked out for up to three weeks.</p> <p>Are there other entities that provide free Wi-Fi in the community? If so, what are the names of these entities? SPS has distributed 20,000 chrome books to students with 1500 hot spots.</p>	
<p>High-quality child care provides development opportunities for children.</p>	<p>This is a statement and not an action item - This action item will not be tracked.</p>	
<p>Address the achievement and opportunity gap for some children.</p>	<p>SPS enhanced or new programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12,000 participants in <i>Explore</i> Summer School Program that includes meals and transportation • 17,000 participants in <i>Encore</i> after-school tutoring program with over 60,000 tutoring hours • <i>Drop Out Reengagement Program</i> with over 300 calls to students with 70 students in the system with one on one engagement to complete high school. 	
<p>Require students to participate in “real life” simulation to determine income level needed for desired lifestyle. Business and community organizations to deepen their</p>	<p>SPS At age 14, SPS students are required to take <i>Life Skills</i> and receive ½ credit for a legislative requirement that addresses basic finances.</p>	

IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018

<p>partnerships with SPS to address the achievement and opportunity gap for children with identification of different strategies to support under-resourced learners.</p>	<p>OACAC OACAC works with SPS to provide real life simulations for elementary and high school age students.</p>	
<p>Postsecondary Attainment (Higher Education) The Commission supports the work of the Lumina Foundation grant: Springfield Project 2025 to increase higher education attainment through a collective impact model that includes Missouri State University, Ozarks Technical Community College, Drury University, Evangel University, Springfield Public Schools, Community Foundation of the Ozarks, Community Partnership of the Ozarks, the City of Springfield, Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce and the Missouri Job Center.</p>	<p>What are the goals for this project? The nation has a goal to reach 60% postsecondary attainment by 2025. The state of Missouri has adopted the same goal and so has the Springfield Community. As of 2016, the MO state average is 43.1% and Greene County is at 39.5% (Nation 46.9%). Based on historical data from the Lumina Foundation's A Stronger Nation Report, a more realistic goal for Greene County is 48% with a stretch goal of 60%, which is realistic because of the various innovative practices to provide more opportunities to enhance skill sets through certification programs that lead to higher paying jobs. Prosper Springfield works with a collective impact model that includes members from each of the entities listed for this call to action item. A report card has been updated that will be posted soon with retention, transition and completion goals focused on high school completion to pathways for jobs, college and careers. Programs included with goals include SPS Future Builders Career event, OTC Middle College, Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce GO CAPS and MO Job Center Change 1000.</p>	
<p>SPS Implement Social Worker Program to provide case management. SPS Under-Resourced Program – Social Worker was removed from the description because there are</p>	<p>Research, design and begin implementation of SPS Program to help under-resourced families meet basic needs, reduce mobility and help school staff work with families in crisis. SPS has five Attendance Advisors, five Social Workers and Resource Officers. They also have Diversity Champions on each campus and a new full-time Behavior Coordinator.</p>	

IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018

<p>several positions in SPS that provide work in this area.</p>	<p>2017, SPS started <i>Wednesday Connect Program</i> with services focused for families without a home (includes two Case Managers).</p>	
<p>Reduce cost of higher education and childcare for the under-resourced. Coordination of local, regional, state and federal resources that can reduce the cost of education and child care for under-resourced.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	
<p>Provide lost-cost housing to under-resourced college students. OTC and MSU providing dormitory access to students enrolled in both locations with expansion to include other four-year institutions.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	
<p>Under-resourced to take advantage of the higher education or postsecondary opportunities.</p>	<p>The committee recognized that this action item is difficult to measure because the responsibility is on others <i>to take advantage of...</i> - This action item will not be tracked.</p>	
<p>Communication initiatives for Every Child Promise, SPS's communication and engagement initiatives, creation of industry-specific, job recruitment campaigns for middle and high school students.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	

IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018

<p>CFO to lead explore establishment of 529 College Savings Accounts</p>	<p>CFO explored the concept and found that the infrastructure, maintenance and cost was not available at this time in Springfield. Also, as part of the Lumina Foundation Grant, Springfield representatives participated in a national discussion that included a couple of states that have 529 programs. Based on this information, there was additional information that supported not moving forward with a communitywide 529 program at this time.</p>	
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<p>Encourage the continued work of the Health Commission to assist in building community partnerships that promote affordable quality health care for the underserved.</p>	<p>Healthy Living Alliance - Established goals with specific measurable outcomes and strategies for the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to Appropriate Care • Social determinants of Health • Mental Health • Active Living and Healthy Eating <p>Integrated System of Services Participants - Meets regularly with a stronger focus on mental health issues and services for those without homes.</p>	
<p>The Health Commission developed and implemented a sophisticated process of community health assessment and planning for the region in 2010. The Impacting Poverty Commission endorses continuing the Health Commission's practice of data collection and analysis and</p>		

IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION’S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018

<p>identifying health issues of primary concern.</p>		
<p>Research under the direction of Springfield-Greene County Health Department, design and begin implementation of a Springfield Public Schools Social Worker Program to help under-resourced families meet basic needs, reduce mobility and help school staff work with families in crisis.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	
<p>The Commission encourages exploration of the community case management services for priority populations, with an emphasis on dental and mental health and substance abuse, coordinated by Cox Health, Mercy Jordan Valley Community Health Center and Ozark’s Community Hospital. A pilot program would include assigning patient navigator/community health advocates to individuals, possibly from the same geographic boundaries.</p>	<p>Coordinated Case Management System – MO Foundation for Health grant was received by CPO to start training, in 2018, with 7 of the 15 entities that were included in the grant for the “Connect Springfield” system. Cox Health, Greene County Health Dept. and Jordan Valley received a grant as well. In two years, the entities from both grant recipients will see how the two systems can connect. Current entities receiving HUD funding to help those without homes already use the HMIS system.</p>	
<p>The Commission encourages the City of Springfield to analyze the built environment within</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	

IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018

<p>geographic boundaries of priority populations and address life safety issues. Create an action plan to address any issues and to increase the number of free recreational / exercise spaces within geographic boundaries of priority population.</p>		
<p>The Commission encourages all major employers to offer Health Risk Assessments and health screenings to their employees. Additionally, the Commission encourages our health care institutions to offer similar screenings to the rest of the public at low cost, as possible.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	
<p>The Commission encourages study by the Springfield-Greene County Health Department to develop a regional health assessment, based on demographics and health indicators of priority populations. Further, the Commission encourages the leveraging of technology, including telemedicine, to attempt to improve specific poor health indicators, with an emphasis on</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	

IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018

<p>dental and mental health and substance abuse.</p>		
<p>The Commission encourages the continued work of area providers to assist with medication access.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	
<p>The Commission endorses the work of a group of local nonprofit agencies and health advocates, spearheaded by Burrell Behavioral Health, to locate a one-stop shop (using a clubhouse model) to provide coordinated services for the homeless and mentally ill under-resourced.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	
<p>The Commission endorses the continuation of programs such as the Springfield-Greene County Health Department's Community Health Advocate program and CoxHealth's Community Paramedic Program.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	
<p>The Commission supports the work of the Healthy Living Alliance, including the Walkability Project, for helping to identify issues concerning the built environment and barriers to low-cost wellness activities, such as walking and playing.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	

IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018

<p>The Commission encourages a three-pronged approach to addressing nutritional needs: 1) Increase access to healthy food by adding and promoting community gardens; 2) Increase the number of SNAP applicants and 3) develop a plan to address the city's "food deserts." A pilot project in the identified geographical boundaries would be coordinated by the Springfield-Greene County Health Department, assisted by partners.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	
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HOUSING

<p>The Commission encourages Community Leaders to address all housing (especially chronic nuisance properties) to ensure compliance with health and safety codes.</p> <p>Hold rental property owners accountable for providing safe and sanitary housing.</p>	<p>Safe Housing Program brochure created and the program has been implemented.</p> <p>Nov 28, 2017, City Council passed an ordinance requiring owners of single-family rental homes to register their contact information with the city of Springfield effective Jan 1, 2018. Landlords can register homes through the city website and the process is currently free. Approximately 10,000 properties should become registered.</p>	
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IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018

<p>Creation and expansion of programs for home repair and maintenance.</p>	<p>The city has identified priority projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive Housing Assistance Program (CHAP) • Commercial Loan Program • Forgivable Loan Program if the homeowner stays in their home for at least 10 years. • One Door • H.E.L.P program for the homeowner emergency repair program. Four agencies work together to address the repair needs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri ○ Council of Churches Handyman Program ○ Habitat for Humanity ○ OACAC <p>Organizations that provide homeowner repair assistance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri • Council of Churches Handyman Program • Habitat for Humanity • OACAC • S.W. Dept. of Aging (Ramps and Fixtures) 	
<p>Additional shelter beds, especially the critical need for housing units for homeless families.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	
<p>Expand services to serve the homeless in our community that include case management and wrap around services.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	

IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018

<p>Reduce the impact of costs on families through energy efficiency measures by expanding programs such as OACAC's Energy Assistance and Weatherization programs.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	
<p>Create a more robust sidewalk, biking and public transit system to improve the job/housing connection and provide more mobility to access services with a focus where vehicle ownership is lowest.</p>	<p>The Transportation Collaborative has identified 10 key areas that can assist with this action item. However, funding and resources are a major issue. They have selected two projects to start with at this time: TRIP Program Pilot at the N. W. Project with a ride share program where a person is reimbursed a certain amount for mileage and a Bike Share program.</p> <p>The City is currently uses some of their HOME funds to address public sidewalk improvements and to provide accessibility ramps where necessary. Over \$7M was invested in the northwest part of Springfield as part of the Zone One Blitz over the past 18 months. Several sidewalks were added that connected to local schools.</p> <p>The city is currently working on sidewalks on Kansas Expressway, a trail on Bennett Street and sidewalks near the Grant Street Bridge Project. The Grant Street Bridge Project is expected to be completed by fall 2018. There are plans for updates on Battlefield and Fremont planned for the end of 2018.</p> <p>The bike share program is almost completely funded for Phase I – this program plans to launch June 2018.</p> <p>The Food Collaborative is working with City Utilities to host “pop-up” Farmer’s Markets at the bus transfer station starting in June 2018.</p>	
<p>Encourage public and private affordable housing development in close proximity to public transit and walking and biking facilities.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	

IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018

<p>Encourage the use of Universal Design to create (principles of universal design) more adaptable housing design to accommodate special needs of the aging and persons with disabilities.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	
<p>Investigate the vacant and abandoned housing issue and work with the development community to determine if actions can be taken to make these units productive for affordable housing.</p>	<p>This action item has been investigated. There are approximately 200 homes on the list to be demolished. The cost to demolish each home is approximately \$4000 to \$5000 and the process can take years.</p>	
<p>Promote and Expand the Great Neighborhoods Program.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	
<p>Support CPOs programs to empower neighbors by promoting neighborhood clean ups and education events.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	

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IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018



JOBS & ECONOMIC CLIMATE

<p>Encourages employers to continually reassess and increase employer wages with the cost of doing business.</p>	<p>The committee recognized that this action item is difficult to measure. We will encourage employers when it is feasible to do so. This action item will not be tracked.</p>	
<p>Encourages employers to explore opportunities to enhance and broaden employer's skillsets through continuing education opportunities, GED completion and ongoing job training and do the same for under employed or unemployed.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	
<p>Encourage the MO Job Center to educate regional employers about the availability of the federally funded bond program to assist employers willing to hire someone with prior felonies on their records and to give "non-violent felony" consideration for positions.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	
<p>Public funding source be established to fund early childhood development initiatives and encourages Every Child Promise Advisory Board to</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	

IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018

<p>conduct a community awareness campaign to explain to businesses and the public about the benefits of early childhood development.</p>		
<p>Encourages employers to increase financial literacy training opportunities for their employees.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	
<p>Encourage employers to consider developing “talent pipeline” incubator businesses that provides opportunities for prospective workers to prove themselves in a work environment with internships, apprenticeships and mentoring opportunities.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	
<p>Community financial and nonprofit sectors are encouraged to work collaboratively to provide low interest, alternative lending/borrowing options.</p>	<p>A few entities have started providing low interest loans and helping people get out of payday loans. We are continuing to research this action item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Utility Community Credit Union • University Hope 	
<p>Employers should continue to work with the P-20 Council, Ozarks Workforce Development Board, K-12 schools and higher education to align skills development and training to</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	

IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018

<p>current and next generation job needs.</p>		
<p>Consider "Second Chance" program for qualified applicants that have previous convictions.</p>	<p><i>Research in progress</i></p>	
<p>Create centralized, online access to internship information, job fair and outreach events, increase use of mobile Job Center bus</p>	<p>MO Job Center opened at Cox Heath North Campus in Dec 2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5000+ active job seekers first year of service • 100+ people received permanent jobs first year of service • Increased resources for residents of Zone1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Job fairs ○ Hiring events ○ Training opportunities <p>Change 1000 Goal is to provide 1000 individuals basic skills needed to get good paying jobs by building foundational skills necessary for today's economy by creating preemployment skills academy. Program includes identifying necessary hard & soft skills development needed.</p> <p>First cohort results (started Feb 8, 2018):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 125 applications • 30 admitted for 42 hours of class time (28 graduated Mar 15, 2018 and all are employed) <p>Program Areas covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant expectations • Employer needs • Barriers to employment • Habits, attitudes, beliefs, expectations, reactive vs proactive • Being professional 	

IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communication• Conflict resolution• Teamwork• Emotional intelligence• Understanding paycheck & benefits• Budgeting and credit scores,• Health & wellness• Mentoring• Resume writing (online & paper), interview skills, different type interviews	
Create industry specific job recruitment campaigns for middle and high school students.	<i>Research in progress</i>	

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IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018



TRANSPORTATION

<p>Affordable housing developers are encouraged to locate their developments on or near bus routes or along transit corridors.</p>	<p>In speaking with several affordable housing developments, they do make this a practice.</p>	
<p>The Commission requests that Community Partnership of the Ozarks form a Transportation Options Task Force that will research various transportation options (including best practices) for the under-resourced, then provide recommendations within six months of their first meeting.</p>	<p>A Transportation Options Task Force was established and a report of findings and recommendations was completed. A Transportation Collaborate was created to identify projects that could be implemented or piloted. A best practice from San Bernardino, CA entitled, TRIP will be piloted at the N. W. Project for three months. TRIP is a ride share program with reimbursement per mile. The Transportation Collaborative is also finalizing a pilot for a bike program.</p>	

IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018

COMMUNITY AWARENESS & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT		
Create an online portal to serve as both a virtual hub for the implementation of action plans and for centralized engagement.	Impacting Poverty Commission's website is being converted to the Prosper Springfield website. The goal is to launch the new website before the end of May 2018.	
Create integrated communication plan to share IPC and Zone Blitz information and continue to implement and monitor the success of communication/community awareness and civic engagement strategies.	A communication plan is being developed and certain elements of the plan are in place such as regular Facebook postings, bi-monthly article in the News-Leader, monthly articles in the Unite Publication, quarterly articles in the Springfield News Newsletter.	

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IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION’S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018

TOGETHER SPRINGFIELD		
<p>The Impacting Poverty Commission requests that the communication and civic engagement teams from both the Community Listen Zone Blitz and the Impacting Poverty Commission create integrated communication plan and continue to implement and monitor the success of communication/community awareness and civic engagement strategies.</p>	<p>Prosper Springfield Initiative was created and in March 2017, Francine Pratt was hired as the Prosper Springfield Director to align and coordinate the endorsements and action items identified in the IPC Call to Action Report. In the first four months over 100 meetings and presentations took place to learn about the status of the work since October 2015 and to meet with historically underrepresented groups. The next four months were used to establish a Collective Impact Model and develop an infrastructure for the work. By the end of 2017, a strategic plan was developed with a mission statement and objectives.</p> <p>Starting 2018, review of the IPC Call to Action Report’s action items and endorsements to determine who is doing the work and to what extent; identifying measurable outcomes that include scalability and long-term sustainability.</p>	

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IMPACTING POVERTY COMMISSION'S CALL TO ACTION REPORT UPDATE

April 30, 2018

LEGISLATIVE FOCUS		
<p>All sectors of work in the Call to Action Report</p>	<p>Legislative-Federal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund early childhood education programs • Fund Parents as Teachers program • Minimum wage policy considered in conjunction with legislation addressing “cliff” effect • Increase workforce training funding <p>Legislative-State</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund early childhood education programs • Fund Parents as Teachers program • Increase Missouri’s childcare subsidy to average of surrounding states • Pass legislation to allow local election regarding funding for early childhood education • Expand Medicaid access • Minimum wage policy considered in conjunction with legislation addressing “cliff” effect • Increase workforce training programs that increase employee earnings potential, such as Alabama’s Industrial Development Training program • Increase Missouri’s childcare subsidy to average of surrounding states • Payday Loans <p>Legislative-Local</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address chronic nuisance properties • Address need for shelter facilities • Focus on making existing housing stock more energy efficient • Encourage universal design to accommodate citizens with disabilities • Offer local election to fund universal early childhood education • Require smoke alarms within rental housing 	