



**CDBG & HOME Participation
2025-26 CDBG Advisory Committee Meeting #2
Public Service Applicant Presentations Minutes**

February 13, 2025 10:00 AM

Hybrid Meeting via Microsoft Teams:

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-teams/join-a-meeting>

Meeting ID: 258 040 223 961 Passcode: oV7QC6zL

or join by telephone: +1 872-222-5977 Phone Conference ID: 616 415 780#

you may also join in person at City Hall, 111 E Maple Ave, Conference Room A (3rd Floor)

CALL TO ORDER: WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

A meeting for CDBG Advisory Committee Public Service was via Teams. The meeting was called to order.

1. Overview of Purpose

Chris Ballinger explained the overview of the meeting and started the presentations.

2. Introduction of Grant Advisory Members

Patti Simcosky – Truman Heartland

Nicole Sequeira – Independence School District

Laurie Dean Wiley – Independence Chamber of Commerce

Dr. Terry Morris – Independence Advisory Board of Health

3. Introduction of Presenting Organizations

Lilly Alexander – Upwards

Russ Petry – Community Services League

Sarah Tilbury – Community Services League

Burvina Parham – reStart Inc.

Heather Coffie – reStart, Inc.
Brandi Bair – Hope House
Lexi Wright – CAPA – Child Abuse Prevention Association
Amanda Jackson – CAPA – Child Abuse Prevention Association
Cheryl DeHaan – Palmer Center
Becky Poitras – Metro Lutheran Ministry
Luisa Stutler – The Salvation Army – Emergency Assistance
Kimberly Bloss – The Salvation Army Crossroads
Howard Penrod – Independence Meals on Wheels
Joe Gall – Independence Meals on Wheels

PRESENTATIONS

1. 10:10 AM Upwards Care, Inc.

- Help caregivers open and manage their home daycares
- Technology-driven care solutions company
- Connects families, caregivers, and public & private partners to create a successful childcare landscape.
- Drill Weekend – a program that supports Army Reserve and National Guard soldiers and their families with covered childcare during drill weekends.
- Boost Program – Expand economic opportunities for LMI-licensed daycare providers by training them on essential tools and services that lower their expenses and increase their revenue.
 1. Objectives: Increase childcare micro-enterprise revenue
 2. Stabilize/Retain jobs in the childcare industry
 3. Create jobs by hiring teaching assistants
 4. Increase access to childcare services for LMI Families

In response to Patti's question, Upwards will provide a full year of training and determine what the family needs are and what they are struggling with.

In response to Dr. Morris' inquiry about immunization requirements for children and the emphasis their daycares place on such regulations, Lexi explained that their daycares are state-regulated and comply with the mandated immunization guidelines.

2. 10:20 AM Salvation Army - Crossroads

- Is a family emergency shelter that provides safe, adequate housing for families facing homelessness.
- Families are provided with basic needs: food, clothing, shower, laundry, shelter.
- They are requesting funding to help cover salaries, and the food pantry to help keep serving.
- Renovated space in August 2024, which increased their housing abilities from 9 to 15 families.

- Expected to help over 50 families in 2025

3. 10:30 AM Community Services League

- CSL provides emergency relief for urgent and short-term needs: temporary housing, rent & utility assistance, food, clothing & medications.
- Neighbors are connected with CSL Integrated Services to create a resolution plan.
- 100% of clients served are Independence residents.
- CSL plans to house/ assist 5,000 residents to remain in houses.
- CSL will administer over 80 assisted housing leasing.

In response to Ms. Simcosky's question, Sarah stated they have Case Managers who initially spend 60–90 days with a family or individual, but if needed they will continue to help as long as they need.

4. 10:40 AM Mother's Refuge

- Provides shelter and services to homeless/ low-income young expecting mothers, young moms, and their babies.
- Mothers receive food, clothing, education, shelter, prenatal care.
- They call or are referred to Mother's Refuge, are brought to the location, interviewed, complete an intake assessment, get them all set up.

5. 10:50 AM Hope House

- The location opened in 1983 in Independence, with scattered locations throughout Jackson County.
- Provide comprehensive wrap-around services to anyone experiencing domestic violence or who has become homeless due to domestic violence. This includes a 24-hour crisis hotline and an emergency shelter.
- To access services, individuals contact the hotline, they gather information, assess their safety, and then they go to the shelter. They also receive referrals.
- Once an individual is in the shelter, they work with an advocate and case manager to assess needs, strengths, goals, and look at their barriers.
- Requesting funds to support the Emergency Food Project – to provide meals through Hope House's onsite shelters facility and offsite hotel placement.
- Agency Capacity – Full-Time Cook, Full-Time Housekeeper, Director of Facilities, Director of Grants and Compliance, and Senior Accountant.
- Safety, Basic Needs, Housing and Income

6. 11:00 AM Independence Meals on Wheels

- Celebrating 50 years in 2025
- Provide Hot Nutritious Meals to the homebound who are unable to prepare themselves, that are at or below 150% of the poverty level.

- Part-time Program Manager – reviews applications, schedules volunteers, etc.
- Service process – application is filled out and received by the program manager, agreement executed, added to database, meals received.
- Requesting funds to assist with Meal Subsidy costs.

7. 11:10 AM Metro Lutheran Ministry

- Serves the needs of low-income, at-risk, and homeless households.
- The funds requested will go directly to assisting those in need in the Independence area.
- Case managers can assist in providing a coordinated entry assessment to get them on the local housing prioritization list, help them obtain temporary housing, or they can fill out an application with the agency or call to set up an appointment.

8. 11:20 AM Child Abuse Prevention Association

- 50th Anniversary
- CAPA's main goal is to treat child abuse and support families that are expecting new children or have just had a baby.
- Vast referral and partner network.
- Long-term stability and safety
- Eligibility – Prenatal or infant under the age of 1 until age 3
- 31% enter the program prenatally so they can have a healthy baby throughout.
- The goal is for families to stay in service until their child is 3.
- Receive referrals for enrollment, they will be contacted, see if they need assistance, then schedule a time to go to them, and assess what their needs are.
- 100 % of funds requested will serve the Independence Families.

Once they are 3 or older, CAPA helps connect them to enter them into Head Start and other pre-K schooling.

9. 11:30 AM Salvation Army - Emergency Assistance

- Offers food assistance with a food pantry/ mobile food pantry, an after-school program, and assistance with other services.
- They supply homeless packs which include hygiene kits and snacks.
- They are requesting funding to help cover salaries, and the food pantry to help keep serving.
- Not a long term, but emergency basis assistance

10. 11:40 AM Palmer Center

- Serves the population of older adults/ disabled adults, by providing nutritionally balanced meals, human services, and wellness opportunities.
- Provides services in person/ over the phone which does include homeless individuals who come to the center.

- Requesting funds to pay a portion of the salaries to operate the nutrition site and implement the programs.

11. 11:50 AM reStart, Inc.

- Assist with accessible housing (RAW), for permanent and transitional housing for low-income, at-risk of homelessness, and persons with disabilities.
- Assist with wrap-around services, utilities, rent, etc.
- Requesting funds to help with salaries and provide services for the Independence area.

CLOSING REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned 11:45 a.m.