



Cabinet Meeting

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2024





Welcome & Approval of Minutes

DON HINEMAN, CHAIR





Capital Projects Fund Accelerator Grant Proposal

MELISSA ROOKER



CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND ACCELERATOR

The purpose: construction of multi-purpose community facilities that support work, education, health monitoring and child care needs of families.

Outcomes:

- Increased number of individuals receiving access to education, including early childhood education
- Increased access to physical, mental, and/or behavioral health needs in the community
- Increased access to supports that enable work, including broadband
- Increased access to full-day/full-year child care for children birth to 5 years

Purpose



All information available:
www.allinforkansaskids.org/communities

CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND ACCELERATOR

- \$38 million total
- Funding Source - US Treasury (Broadband funding)
- Construction-only
- Projects must have explicit design considerations to enable ALL the following: work, education, health monitoring, and include licensed child care
- Must have 5-year sustainability plan + 15% project asset match

Overview



All information available:
www.allinforkansaskids.org/communities

CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND

Application Timeline:

- September 5 (RFP Guidelines and Online Application LIVE)
- Round One (closed):
 - Applications Due: **October 2 at 5pm**
 - Cabinet Approval: October 19, 2024 (virtual)
- Round Two (closed):
 - Applications Due: **December 18 at 5pm**
 - Cabinet Approval: February 2, 2024 (virtual)

Project Spending Timeline:

- Through Sept 2025

Timeline



All information available:
www.allinforkansaskids.org/communities

CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND ACCELERATOR

- Applications screened for eligibility and completeness
- External Reviewers with diverse expertise (2 per submission)
- Rubric based on scoring as outlined in RFP
- Additional Internal Review
 - Ensure viability, geographic diversity and compliance with federal rules
- KU-CPPR support team provided TA through webinars, direct requests for assistance, and online resources – including targeted TA to those not funded in Round One if requested.

Review Process



CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND ACCELERATOR

Round 1:

- 12 Submissions
- \$63.1 million requested
- **\$10,254,009 awarded**
- 313 child care slots added
 - Community Children's Center Inc – \$4,900,000 (69 slots)
 - The Grove Community Center - \$3,597,250 (77 slots)
 - Little Lyons of Emporia - \$1,756,759 (167 slots)

Round 2:

- 46 Submissions
- \$150.4 million requested

Proposed Round 2 Slate:

- 7 projects
- **\$27,745,991** (all available funds)
- 458 new child care slots added

Summary



CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND ROUND 2 PROPOSAL

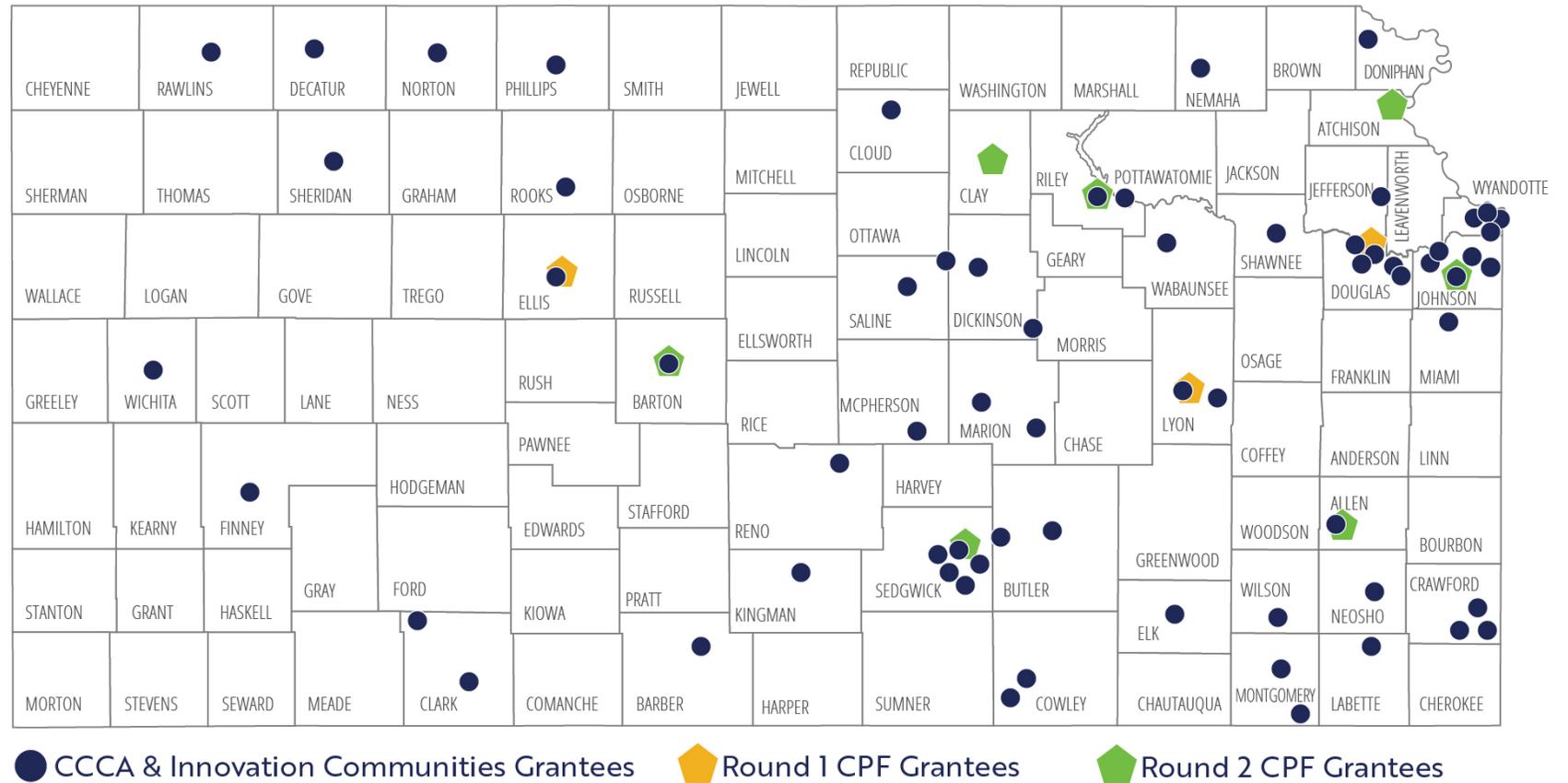
Applicant	Funding Request	Proposed Funding	Slots Added
ABCC/Great Bend Economic Development	\$5,057,265	\$4,382,493	28
Clay County Growth Alliance, Inc., DBA Grow Clay County	\$3,642,000	\$3,642,000	48
Greater Manhattan Community Foundation	\$5,000,000	\$3,500,000	80
KidZone Learning Center	\$1,251,100	\$1,251,100	88
St. Benedict's Abbey	\$5,000,000	\$4,999,999	140
Storytime Village, Inc.	\$5,000,000	\$4,999,999	50
USD 258	\$4,970,400	\$4,970,400	24
Total Proposed Funding and Slots		\$27,745,991	458

PROPOSED FUNDING SLATE MAP

CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND GRANTEES

Round Two Proposed Funding Slate:

- 7 total projects
- \$27,745,991 in total funding
- Adding 458 total slots



CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND ACCELERATOR GRANT

- Motion
- Second
- Vote

- John Wilson
- Dr. Tyler Smith
- DiAnne Owen Graham
- LeEtta Felter
- Cabinet Chair, Don Hineman

Children's Cabinet





Kansas Early Learning Standards Update

NATALIE MCCLANE, KSDE



KANSAS EARLY LEARNING STANDARDS

[Kansas Executive Order 20-02](#) designates the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund as the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care.

Assigned duties and responsibilities include:

“make recommendations for improvements in State early learning standards and undertake efforts to develop high-quality comprehensive early learning standards, as appropriate.”

Cabinet Statute



Kansas Early Learning Standards (KELS)

- What we want young children from birth to the end of Kindergarten to know and be able to do in the areas of:
 - Approaches to Learning
 - Physical Health and Development
 - Social and Emotional Development
 - Communication and Literacy
 - Mathematics
 - Science
 - Social Studies
 - Creative Arts
- A multi-purpose tool that can supplement the development of quality early learning environments.



Kansas Early Learning Standards (KELS)

Are designed to:

- Recognize the importance of the early years as learning years.
- Serve as a guide for appropriate curriculum development/selection.
- Serve as a guide for creating quality learning environments and opportunities.

Are not designed to:

- Serve as a curriculum in an early childhood program or other setting.
- Exclude children from a program, school or activity.
- Serve as an assessment for children, families or programs.



Revision began in February 2022

- This is the fourth revision of the Kansas Early Learning Standards, which were last updated in January of 2014.
- Collaborative revision engaging partners across the Kansas early childhood education community.
- Firmly grounded in research, evidence and developmentally appropriate educational practices.



KELS Revision Core Team

KELS Revision Core Team	
KSDE	Natalie McClane
Head Start Collaboration Office	Kimberly Kennedy
Head Start Association	Jennifer Adhima, Heather Schrotberger
Part B	Julie Rand
Part C	Tricia Waggoner
Child Care Aware of Eastern Kansas	Michelle Gilbert
Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities	Jennifer Francois
Kansas Children’s Cabinet and Trust Fund	Amy Meek
Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS)	Misty Goosen
Kansas State University	Jennifer Pishny
Hutchinson Community College	Jennifer Forker
University of Kansas Center for Public Partnerships and Research (KU-CPPR)	Jenny Memmot
KU-CPPR	Clayton Jarrard
KU-CPPR	Julia Gruss



Review considerations

- Are the standards appropriate for what we would expect for children at each age and stage of development? For example:
 - A Toddler (by 36 months of age) standard originally read, “Shares with others and takes turns with adult guidance.” This was not yet age appropriate. It was updated to say, “Begins to share and take turns with adult guidance.”
 - The Physical Health and Development standard, “Alerts adults to potential harmful situations.” was moved from a Toddler standard to a Pre 3 (by 48 months of age) standard.



Review considerations

- Are the standards clear and easy to understand? For example:
 - The standard “Create a caring community by considering it a high priority to foster caring attachments between fellow students, staff and the community,” was updated to say, “Foster caring attachments between fellow children, staff, and the community.”
 - “Motion and Stability: Forces & Interactions” was renamed “Movement and Simple Machines.”



Review considerations

- Were we missing standards for any of the age groups? For example:
 - Added existing Kindergarten standards in the Approaches to Learning domain for Problem Solving and in the Physical Health and Development domain for both Nutrition and Safety.



Review considerations

- Are the standards duplicated or repeated across age groups?
For example:
 - “Demonstrates increasing awareness of others’ feelings” was removed from the Toddler standards to prevent a repeated standard from Mobile Infants.
 - “Confirms understanding of a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media by asking and answering reasoning questions” was removed from the Pre 4 standards to prevent a repeated standard from Kindergarten.



Content Area Meetings

August

Approaches to Learning

September

Physical Health and Development

October

Social Emotional Development

November

Communication and Literacy Skill Development

December

Mathematical Knowledge

January

Science

February

Social Studies

March

Creative Arts



Introduction

- Updated to reflect the current revision.
- Rearranged order and made clearer with plain language.
- Statement on the use of Media in Early Childhood.
- Added sections on inclusion of children with disabilities and supporting children from diverse backgrounds.



All Content Areas

- Updated introductions.
- Added key terms for each content area.
- Added a statement on supporting children from all backgrounds
- Added a statement on how the KELS should be used:
 - *The Kansas Early Learning Standards is a statewide resource and are not designed or intended to be used as part of the process of developmental screening or assessment.*



Feedback gathered



- Kansas Early Childhood Recommendations Panel
- Kansas Head Start Directors
- Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund
- State Interagency Coordinating Council
- KSDE Great Ideas in Education Conference Breakout Session
- Written Public Comment via an online form
- Public Comment via Zoom (Oct. 30)
- KSDE Board of Education



Questions and discussion



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The Kansas State Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: KSDE General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, KSDE, Landon State Office Building, 900 S.W. Jackson, Suite 102, Topeka, KS 66612, (785) 296-3201.



KANSAS EARLY LEARNING STANDARDS APPROVAL

- Motion
- Second
- Vote

- John Wilson
- Dr. Tyler Smith
- Monica Murnan
- DiAnne Owen Graham
- LeEtta Felter
- Cabinet Chair, Don Hineman

Children's Cabinet





Imagination Library of Kansas 501c3

MELISSA ROOKER



501c3 ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

Budget Proviso

In addition to the other purposes for which expenditures may be made by the above agency from moneys appropriated from the state general fund or any special revenue fund or funds for fiscal year 2024 as authorized by this or any other appropriation act of the 2024 regular session of the legislature, expenditures shall be made by the above agency from such moneys appropriated in fiscal year 2024 to authorize the children's cabinet to establish a nonprofit corporation organized under section 501 (c) (3) of the internal revenue code of 1986: Provided, That the board of directors of the nonprofit corporation shall consist of the members of the children's cabinet, the executive director of the children's cabinet and other directors designated by the children's cabinet: Provided further, That the children's cabinet shall receive gifts, donations, grants and other money and engage in fundraising projects for the benefit of the Dolly Parton's imagination library book gifting program to develop, implement, promote and sustain reading by the children of Kansas.

**Imagination Library
of Kansas**



IMAGINATION LIBRARY OF KANSAS

501c3

- Motion
- Second
- Vote (*voice vote*)

Draft Motion:

The Children's Cabinet directs staff to submit an application to the Internal Revenue Service for the formation of a 501c3 non-profit corporation in support of the Imagination Library of Kansas.

Children's Cabinet





PDG Needs Assessment

MELISSA ROOKER & JESSICA SPRAGUE JONES (KU-CPPR)



BACKGROUND

- Preschool Development Grant
- 2019 Needs Assessment

Central messages:

1. Geography shapes availability and access to early childhood services
 2. Many families struggle to meet basic needs, which negatively impacts early childhood development
- All in for Kansas Kids Strategic Plan

Needs Assessment



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Kansas Early Childhood Data Trust
- Workforce supports
 - Child care provider bonuses
 - Career pathway
 - Workforce registry
- Dolly Parton Imagination Library
- Expanded home visiting availability
- Expanded child care assistance availability

Needs Assessment



2024 NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- Comprehensive analysis of local, state, and national reports and new data
- Investigates:
 - Early childhood ecosystem
 - Kansas early childhood workforce
 - Experiences of Kansas children, families, and professionals
- Notes numerous recent successes and accomplishments
- Primary focus is to articulate needs that remain and require attention

Needs Assessment



2024 NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- Captures continuation of work and system accomplishments
- Focuses on early childhood as an economic lever
- Includes context of driving forces shaping early childhood
 - Technological changes
 - Issues affecting rural life

Needs Assessment



THE KANSAS EARLY CHILDHOOD ECOSYSTEM

- Fiscal and regulatory differences and a lack of clear lines of decision-making authority are barriers to delivering services to children and families
- The need to navigate multiple requirements and timelines inhibits local leaders and public-private partnerships from maximizing resources
- Multiple layers of data sharing requirements prevent a full analysis of the impact of investments

Needs Assessment



THE KANSAS EARLY CHILDHOOD WORKFORCE

- Low wages and inadequate benefits are core challenges to recruiting and retaining early childhood professionals in the workforce
- The long-term sustainability of many programs families rely on remains uncertain without stable funding

Needs Assessment



EXPERIENCES OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

- Inadequate family access to basic needs blunts the effectiveness of early childhood services
- Geographic location shapes access, affordability, and availability of early childhood services

Needs Assessment



LOOKING FORWARD

- Updates to the *All in for Kansas Kids* Strategic Plan
- Addressing limitations of the current coordinated governance structure

Needs Assessment





Agency Updates



EX-OFFICIOS

- **Amy Meek**

- Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund

- **Amanda Petersen**

- Kansas State Department of Education Designee

- **Dr. Karla Wiscombe**

- Kansas Board of Regents Designee

- **Amy Raymond**

- Kansas Supreme Court Designee

- **Matthew Billinger**

- Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee Coordinator, Kansas Department of Corrections, Juvenile Justice Authority

Children's Cabinet





Director's Update

MELISSA ROOKER



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Cabinet meetings are held the first Friday of every other month from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm.

Next Meeting: April 5 (Virtual)

2024 Meeting Schedule

- April 5
- June 7
- August 2
- October 4
- December 6

Children's Cabinet





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