

Health and Prosperity Grants 101 Workshop Presenter Biographies

Day One | July 11, 2023

Federal Funding Opportunities

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Ulysses Clayborn, Regional Administrator, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) – Region 7
Ulysses “Deke” Clayborn was appointed as the Regional Administrator of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Great Plains region on February 28, 2022. As Regional Administrator, he is responsible for the oversight of the Secretary’s initiatives and strategies, which support the overarching department priorities to increase equity and to improve customer experience. He brings a collaborative approach and focus to supporting underserved communities, ensuring access to, and increasing the production of affordable housing, promoting homeownership, and advancing sustainable communities. These initiatives aim to advance strategic objectives for furthering housing justice, reducing homelessness, improving rental assistance, expanding homeownership opportunities, investing in climate resilience, and integrating healthcare and housing. Deke oversees HUD’s programs and service-delivery throughout Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska and fosters relationships between HUD, community partners, and elected officials.

Prior to his current position, Deke served as the managing member of Clayborn & Associates, LLC (“Clayborn & Associates”), a law firm located in Kansas City, Missouri whose practice was focused in the real estate development area. He has experience with projects financed with funds from multiple sources, including multifamily revenue bonds, low-income housing tax credits (“LIHTC”), historic tax credits and other federal, state, and local funds. Prior to forming Clayborn & Associates, he served as general counsel to the Missouri Housing Development Commission (“MHDC”), the state’s housing finance agency.

A believer in bar service, Deke has served in many previous capacities, including as Chair of the Real Estate and Probate Law Section of the National Bar Association (NBA); Member, NBA Board of Governors; and the ABA’s Real Property Trust and Estate Law Section.

Deke was raised in St. Louis, Missouri. He attended DePauw University, receiving a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. Deke received his Juris Doctor from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and holds a Master of Laws in Taxation from Washington University in St. Louis.

Jose Davis

Jose Davis serves as the HUD Kansas City Field Office Director for the State of Kansas and western Missouri. He is responsible for community outreach, stakeholder engagements, and supporting departmental strategic goals and secretarial initiatives. Prior to joining the department in 2014, Jose served nearly 30 years with the U.S. Army and the Kansas Adjutant General’s Department. Jose earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Kansas State University; a Master of Science degree in Management from Baker University; and a Master of Strategic Studies degree from the U.S. Army War College



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Bruce Haber

Bruce Haber is the Director of the Program and Regulatory Support Division in the HUD Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes. He is based in Washington, DC and provides program oversight and technical support to grantees and stakeholders. He oversees the evaluation and enforcement of the federal Lead Disclosure Rule in private and publicly assisted target housing and evaluates Lead Safe Housing Rule compliance in publicly assisted target housing. Prior to joining HUD, he was a certified lead-based paint inspector and risk assessor with over 20 years' experience. He was also principal training instructor for state certification in lead, asbestos and hazardous material training courses at a private engineering and consulting firm.

Carla Manzanares

Carla Manzanares is a Housing Program Officer with the Department of Housing and Urban Development/Federal Housing Administration (HUD/FHA) in the Denver Homeownership Center (HOC) Director's office. She assists the HOC Director and Deputy Director in managing issues related to the delivery of Single Family programs. Carla functions as the liaison for field service delivery and advises management of field impacts and concerns. She collaborates with high-level federal, state, and local officials, representatives of national trade associations, and HUD field offices within the HOC's 17-state jurisdiction. She is a graduate of the 2022-2023 Excellence in Government Fellows Program through the Partnership for Public Service. With over 33 years of FHA experience, Carla has served as Acting Director, Branch Chief, and FHA Underwriter within the Denver HOC. Carla is a Colorado native, and in her free time enjoys traveling, camping, and fishing with her husband.

Ron Crawford

Ron Crawford began his career in the private sector as a structural engineer doing product development and custom order engineering on systems buildings for Butler Manufacturing and Varco Pruden Buildings, in addition to developing a CAD curriculum for ITT Educational Services and teaching AutoCAD evening classes at Kansas City's Metropolitan Community College.

He moved into a consulting engineering practice after receiving his P.E. and was self-employed for six years before coming to HUD as the Regional Structural Engineer for the Kansas City office. In 2005 he became the Program Center Director in Kansas City. With the 2014 reorganization, Ron was assigned as an Underwriting Branch Chief for the Southwest Region. He rotated to the Technical Specialist Branch Chief over the Construction Team in 2018. In 2021, he moved back to the underwriting side as Branch Chief for the Affordable Underwriting Team



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Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

Nancy Rios

Nancy Rios serves as the Regional Administrator for HRSA IEA Region 7. Nancy has worked for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for 22 years. Prior to joining HRSA in 2016, Nancy worked at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) as the Regional External Affairs and Marketplace Outreach Lead for Region 7. In this capacity, she provided leadership to the Kansas City regional team responsible for the development, implementation, and evaluation of national outreach and education campaigns on CMS' programs and initiatives.

Myesha Kennedy

Myesha Kennedy serves as a Public Health Analyst for HRSA IEA Region 7. Prior to joining HRSA, Myesha was the Director of Called to Greatness Youth Ministries, where she worked to equip young people to be high impact leaders that change the world. Myesha holds a Master's degree in Public Health, with a concentration in Public Health Practice, from the University of Kansas School of Medicine. She obtained her Bachelor's degree in Psychology with a minor in Sociology from the University of Kansas.

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) - Rural Development

Christy Davis

Christy Cauble Davis is a fifth-generation Kansan who has dedicated her career to serving and strengthening Kansas communities. For more than two decades, Davis has facilitated statewide projects and programs that have generated billions of dollars in economic impact. From 2013 to 2019, Davis served as Executive Director of Symphony in Flint Hills. In 2022, Davis was appointed by President Biden to serve as the Kansas State Director for USDA Rural Development, which works to serve the housing, business, and healthcare needs of rural Kansans.

Dan Fischer

Dan Fischer is the Deputy State Director for USDA Rural Development, based out of our State office in Topeka. Dan has been with USDA Rural Development for over 18 years and became the Deputy State Director in December of 2022. Prior to becoming the Deputy State Director, Dan spent 4 years as the Community Programs Director, and 14 years in the field as a Loan Specialist assisting staff and rural communities develop water and wastewater improvement project, and community facilities projects for funding and construction.

Tracy McCubbin

Since 2000, Tracy has worked for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development in both the Multi-Family Housing (MFH) and Single-Family Housing (SFH) Programs and currently serves as the SFH Program Director for Kansas. She is passionate about providing decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing in Kansas through the Rural Development SFH programs serving income qualified applicants for both home ownership repairs and purchases in eligible rural areas.



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David Kramer

David Kramer is the Business Programs Director for USDA Rural Development, based out of our State office in Topeka. David has been with USDA Rural Development for over 30 years and became the Business Director in 2020. Prior to becoming the Business Programs Director, David was the Energy Coordinator and State BP Specialist.

U.S. Department of Commerce - Economic Development Administration (EDA)

Dan Lara

Dan Lara serves as Economic Development Representative for the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), where he helps communities and other entities develop projects for EDA investment. Prior to his work at EDA, Dan spent several years managing public affairs and communications for nonprofits, government agencies and universities. He served as Deputy Secretary for the Kansas Department of Commerce. He also directed public affairs for the Valley Hope Association, an addiction treatment organization based in northwest Kansas, as well as the PKD Foundation, a kidney disease research foundation headquartered in Kansas City. Earlier in his career, Dan served in various legislative and press roles on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., including as deputy press secretary for the Joint Economic Committee and as press secretary for the House Education and the Workforce Committee. Dan graduated with a Bachelor's degree from Southwestern College in Winfield and a Master's degree from the University of Kansas.

Foundations

Heather Zoromski

Heather Zoromski serves as the Executive Director of the Darr Family Foundation. Heather is a life-long resident of southwest Missouri and has 20 years of experience in non-profit administration, grant-writing and grant-making. Before coming to the Darr Family Foundation, she served as Grants Administrator of Skaggs Foundation in Branson, Missouri and as Executive Director of Children's Miracle Network Hospitals of CoxHealth in Springfield, Missouri. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Child and Family Development, and a Master's Degree in Public Health, both from Missouri State University, as well as a certification in grant writing from the American Grant Writer's Association. Along with her work at the foundation, she teaches adjunct for Evangel University in the College of Business and the College of Adult and Graduate Studies. She serves on the boards of Kyle Bruton Foundation, Elevate Branson and Nixa Public Schools.

Ryan Ausmus

Ryan Ausmus serves as the Assistant Executive Director for the Community Foundation of Southwest Kansas. Prior to serving for CFSK, Ryan served 12 years at Dodge City Community College, 7 years as the Dean of Instruction. He also served as pastor of Ford Community Church for 6 years. Ryan obtained his Master of Business Administration at Friends University, and his undergraduate degree at Calvary University in Organizational Leadership.



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Stacie Hahn

Stacie Hahn was born and raised in Garden City, Kansas. After attending Sterling College, in Sterling Kansas, she returned back to Garden City where she began her career with the Western Kansas Community Foundation. She was hired in 2015 as the Operations Director to help fill the needs of the growing Foundation, and has since transitioned to the position of Program & Marketing Director. In this role, Stacie is responsible for managing the grants, scholarships, and special programs of the Foundation. Such programs for Stacie include the Foundation's annual giving day, MatchDay, and their non-profit support initiative through the Jumpstart program. Stacie loves the work she does through the Foundation and the ability to drive through the communities she serves and see the tangible evidence of the Foundation's work there.

Stacie and her husband, Gerry, have two children, Reighlynn and Gabriel. As well, the family has three dogs, Adelynn, Dixie, and Maggie, who are just as much a part of the family as the humans! When she isn't working, Stacie enjoys spending time with family and friends and is highly involved in her church and local community theater productions.

Elizabeth Burger

Elizabeth E. Burger, PhD, MBA, EMT, is Vice President of Healthy Communities at Sunflower Foundation, leading the foundation's work to create a healthier state through the built environment and community development focused on health and well-being. The portfolio centers on equitable opportunities to be active outdoors and connect to nature as well as nutrition security and local food systems, including Food is Medicine. Elizabeth began her career in broadcast journalism, then transitioned to health, pursuing graduate degrees and a post-doctoral fellowship in exercise science, health promotion, obesity management and business. Before finding philanthropy - she owned a personal training business, directed hospital wellness programs, taught at the university level, and directed research and evaluation at the American Academy of Family Physicians. Outside of work, Burger is a certified firefighter/EMT and volunteers for her rural fire district and multiple other community projects. She enjoys any chance to be active outdoors and appreciates all research pointing to the benefits of coffee, dark chocolate and wine.



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Day Two | July 12, 2023

State Funding Opportunities

Kansas Housing Resources Corporation (KHRC)

Ryan Vincent

Ryan Vincent serves as Executive Director of Kansas Housing Resources Corporation. An 18-year veteran of the corporation, he previously served as staff attorney, general counsel, and deputy director. Ryan is a graduate of Washburn University and Washburn University School of Law and has been a licensed attorney since 2005. In his free time, he enjoys serving on several nonprofit boards, volunteering, travelling, gardening, and engaging in Nerf Gun battles and board games with his two boys.

Alissa Ice

Alissa Ice is the Director of Housing Development for Kansas Housing Resources Corporation (KHRC). She manages the Kansas Low Income Housing Tax Credit and Moderate Income Housing programs, as well as the Private Activity Bond allocation. Alissa holds a Bachelor's degree in Social Welfare from the University of Kansas and a Master's of Public Administration from the University of Missouri Kansas City.

Christine Reimler

Christine Reimler is the Director of Community Solutions Division for Kansas Housing Resources Corporation (KHRC), which includes the ESG, Weatherization, CSBG, FTHB, and TBRA programs. She is also the state's Consolidated Planning Coordinator, making certain the requirements are met for the state to receive HUD's CPD formula block grant programs. Prior to taking this position in 2019, she managed the HOME funded First Time Homebuyer, Tenant Based Rental Assistance, and Rental Development programs. She also developed and implemented KHRC's Disaster Recovery Programs and the Kansas Energy Efficiency Program and has been with KHRC since the fall of 1999. Christine received Bachelor's degrees in Social Work from Kansas State University and Master of Business Administration from Nova Southeastern University.

Kansas Department of Commerce (KDC)

Trisha Purdon

Trisha Purdon is the Director of the Office of Rural Prosperity in the Kansas Department of Commerce. She attended the University of Kansas where she earned a Master's degree in public administration with a focus on local government management and a Bachelor's degree in social Welfare with a focus on public policy. Trisha has worked as a rural economic developer in both city and county-level leadership roles for over a decade. She grew up in the small town of Kiowa, Kansas, and is a graduate of Chaparral High School in Anthony, Kansas. She currently lives in Independence, KS with her husband Joe, and two sons, Harrison and Clark.



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Kerri Falletti

Kerri Falletti has worked with Kansas Department of Commerce as the Grassroots Strategy Developer in the Office of Rural Prosperity (ORP) since January 2022. She earned her Bachelor's degree from Friends University in Business Administration. Prior to joining ORP, she worked for Cowley First – Cowley County Economic Development Partnership for nearly 18 years, serving as director for 12 years. She has experience supporting local entrepreneurs and small business development, business expansion, retention and recruitment, workforce development services, and community development programs. She is a Certified Economic Developer (CEcD), has served on multiple local, regional, and state economic development boards and is actively involved in rural development throughout Kansas.

Sara Bloom

Sara Bloom is a Community Development Specialist for the Kansas State Department of Commerce. In her role, she coordinates the Community Service Tax Credit program, Individual Development Account Tax Credit program, and takes lead on Commerce's efforts in childcare across the state. She also proactively engages with communities to address opportunities for childcare, youth development, and downtown development.

She received her Bachelor's degree from Fort Hays State University in Communications but her past boasts a background in everything from marketing, journalism, sales, graphic design, and economic development. She is an award-winning Graphic Designer winning the 2015 MARCOM Gold Award. She was recognized by the Hays Area Chamber of Commerce as the 2017 Rising Star in recognition of leadership and service within their profession and the community. Most recently, she graduated with the Leadership Kansas class of 2022.

Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE)

Ashley Wallace

Ashley Wallace serves as the Coordinator and Supervisor of the Kansas Office of Primary Care and Rural Health (SOPC-RH), located within KDHE's Bureau of Community Health Systems. From 2016 to 2022, Ms. Wallace worked as a Program Analyst within the SOPC-RH, coordinating efforts for health professional shortage designations and student loan repayment options for providers. She represents HRSA Region 7 on the Primary Care Office (PCO) National Committee and serves as a voice for all PCOs across the nation in her appointment to the Board of Directors for the Association of Clinicians for the Underserved (ACU). Her passion for maternal health is carried through her ability to serve her community as a certified birth doula. Her background includes working in survey methodology for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, the world's largest continuously conducted telephone survey.



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Luca Petrie

Luca Petrie joined the Kansas Office of Primary Care & Rural Health (SOPC-RH) in March of 2023 as our new Research and Program Analyst. In this role, Luca is responsible for coordinating and developing contacts, organizing information, and providing support to both the SOPC-RH as well as the Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health (KSFHP) programs in the Community Health Access section. In this position, Luca has begun to research, plan and develop training and educational tools related to topics such as health care access, health equity, and cultural humility, for use in clinical and community settings. Luca is excited to build relationships with new community partners and health care stakeholders with links to underserved populations and within rural communities. Previously, Luca worked with senior citizens to advise them on financial and health matters. Luca graduated from Washburn University in May of 2022 with a Bachelor's in public administration. They can be reached at Luca.Petrie@ks.gov.

Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition: Kansas Balance of State Continuum of Care

Christy McMurphy

Christy McMurphy has 29 years of experience advocating for and overseeing the expansion of safe, decent, and affordable housing for youth, families, and single adults. Ms. McMurphy currently is the executive director of the Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition, which is the collaborative applicant for Balance of State Continuum of Care serving 101 Kansas mostly rural counties. Ms. McMurphy previously was the executive director for Kim Wilson Housing (KWH), an affordable housing provider in Kansas City, Kansas. Before KWH, Ms. McMurphy served as the housing and homeless specialist for Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services. Ms. McMurphy served on the Shawnee County Homeless Coalition, the Greater Kansas City Coalition to End Homelessness Board of Directors, Kansas Homeless Coalition Board of Directors and is and a member of the Governor's Behavioral Health Services Planning Council's Subcommittee on Housing and Homelessness. Ms. McMurphy lives in Lawrence, KS.

Eric Arganbright

Eric Arganbright currently serves as the Director of Community Engagement and Outreach for the Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition. He graduated from Kansas Wesleyan University back in 2010 earning his degree in Communications. Eric is a former educator teaching high school speech and drama. Eric has been a member of the Kansas Balance of State Continuum of Care since 2016. Eric has testified to state and federal congressional committees regarding legislation affecting the unhoused.

Kansas Department of Transportation

Vanessa Lamoreaux

Vanessa Lamoreaux (lam-a-row) currently serves as an Interim Senior Director at the Kansas Department of Transportation. In this role she oversees the areas of Communications, Government Relations, Public Involvement, Continuous Quality Improvement, and Safety. She also serves as the coordinator of the Kansas Infrastructure Hub. She is a lifelong Kansan and a graduate of the University of Kansas.

