

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jackson County Executive announces temporary emergency housing for COVID-19 positive residents

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Jackson County Executive Frank White, Jr. announced today an agreement with the Greater Kansas City Coalition to End Homelessness (GKCCEH) to provide temporary emergency housing for those who have tested positive for COVID-19.

On March 23, County Executive White proposed a \$10,000,000 emergency funding effort called the Runions Act, which includes \$2,000,000 for emergency housing. Today, the County Legislature unanimously approved \$450,000 of those funds to provide necessary services under the agreement with GKCCEH.

“This emergency housing will help us slow the spread of COVID-19, while also providing some of our most vulnerable population a safe place to recover,” said Jackson County Executive Frank White, Jr. “I am grateful for the Legislature’s continued support as well as our partnerships with the Greater Kansas City Coalition to End Homelessness, Salvation Army and City of Kansas City. Together, we will get through this unprecedented public health crisis and make sure no one is left behind.”

The agreement provides temporary emergency housing for COVID-19 positive individuals at the Salvation Army Kansas City Three Trails Camp located at 16200 E. Highway 40 for up to 12 weeks.

Housing is voluntary and available for up to 50 individuals in Jackson County who do not have a safe location to stay during their isolation, including but not limited to, those who are housing insecure, homeless or living with high-risk persons. Funding will support staffing, health care, food, on-site security and transportation.

“GKCCEH is grateful for the support of Jackson County, the Salvation Army and countless community partners who have worked tirelessly to ensure the safety, comfort and dignity of some of our community's most vulnerable persons,” said Heather Hoffman, GKCCEH Executive Director.

The County will work in conjunction with the City of Kansas City, which is providing temporary quarantine housing at the Rodeway Inn for individuals awaiting COVID-19 test results. Upon a positive test result, individuals can be transported to the Three Trails Camp until it’s determined they can safely interact in public without transmission of the virus.

“Protecting our most vulnerable populations is imperative as we continue working to slow the spread of COVID-19,” said Kansas City Mayor Quinton Lucas. “Many in our community do not have the space necessary to safely quarantine in their own homes—putting their families at significant risk of also contracting this disease. I appreciate Jackson County taking this important step to provide temporary isolation housing to anyone who may need it during this difficult time.”

The County anticipates receiving full federal reimbursement under the CARES Act for all of the costs incurred under this agreement.

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