



**Executive Director's Staff Report**  
**September 22, 2022**  
*(For the period August 19, 2022 – September 22, 2022)*

**PERSONNEL/BOARD**

- Denise Carter will be prefilling all **Trustee Nomination renewal forms** and submitting to each renewing Trustee for review and finalization to present to the Mayor's office in October.
- The **Housing Committee** met August 25 to review the Lutheran Development Group's application for Marquette Homes. The Committee will recommend a \$250K 10-year forgivable loan at the September 22 meeting.

As Board Chair Terrell Carter has a conflict of interest with the DOORWAYS Elliot Place PSH application, he recused himself and did not participate in the meeting. Due to this conflict of interest, Donna Schmitt and Linda Grayson were asked to serve temporarily on the Housing Committee while the DOORWAYS application is under consideration. The DOORWAYS President and CEO Opal Jones will provide an update at the September 22 meeting at the request of the Housing Committee, since a program modification has been made to the original intent of their Phase 1 project approved in January 2020. A second application for Phase II Elliot Place is currently pending the outcome of the modification discussion. Elliott Place will provide 39 PSH units on DOORWAYS' new Jefferson Avenue campus in the JeffVanderLou neighborhood.

- The **Nominating Committee** concluded their interviews with eight candidates at their September 8 meeting and are recommending four candidates for nomination at the September 22 Board meeting: Andrea Blaylock (DeBelievere Place), Lisa Mulligan (Shaw), Mario Hamell (Gravois Park), and Ronald Griffin (Penrose). Once approved by the full Board, the nominations will be sent to the Mayor's office and then if appointed by the Mayor, to the Board of Aldermen for final approval. Three of the four new nominees will fill the unexpired terms of Carla Rose, Marguerite Grandelious, and Mary Calzaretta.
- The **Personnel Committee** met September 12 and approved a job description for a new Accountant position. The Committee approved the salary range for this position last spring. Approval of the job description will be an agenda item at the September 22 meeting.

**COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS/ALLOCATIONS**  
**CCSF, CMHF, Investment Managers, Funding Partnerships & Initiatives**

- Through a partnership with the City of St. Louis Community Development Administration, MHB is administering an early childhood grant program to award nearly **\$2 million in ARPA funding to City childcare providers**. The application closed on September 9. We received

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81 applications and more than \$3 million in requests. Over the coming months staff will work with CDA to process the approved award amounts so that childcare providers receive funding before the end of the calendar year.

- Project Directors are conducting **in-person meetings with all newly funded agencies**. New Director of Clinical Partnerships David Haasis is meeting with all of the projects in his portfolio.
- All three parochial **afterschool sites** will be under contract in September and will receive the first half disbursement of their FY23 funding. The schools include St. Cecilia School and Academy in Carondelet (\$35K), St. Louis Catholic Academy in Penrose (\$40K), and River Roads Lutheran in Baden (\$25K). The \$500K afterschool funding budgeted for the reconceptualization during FY23 includes \$100K to continue non-public afterschool programs at the three schools.

### FEDERAL PROGRAMS/STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

- **Jessica Meyers, VPC Director, was interviewed for a report by the Brookings Institution** on innovative uses of American Rescue Plan Act dollars for violence prevention. She discussed the youth pop up grants. Their report was published at <https://www.brookings.edu/essay/addressing-the-root-causes-of-gun-violence-with-american-rescue-plan-funds-lessons-from-state-and-local-governments/>. Brookings also wrote an Op Ed at Next City that included a quote from Jessica. It is available at <https://nextcity.org/urbanist-news/not-mental-health-social-determinants-of-safety-prevent-gun-violence>
- VPC listed its **position for a Gun Violence Response Network Consultant**. This position is the result of Community Project Funding (a federal earmark) allocated to VPC through SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) and it is a one-year engagement. We expect the funding for this project to begin in October. The job posting is available at <https://stlmhb.com/about-us/careers/>
- Zenique Gardner Perry is spearheading a **public education campaign to address unintentional shootings and gun violence among youth**. The campaign features PSAs, posters, and radio spots encouraging people to Stop and think, Lock up their guns, and Drop the drama. The Stop, Lock & Drop It campaign materials are available on the VPC website: <https://www.stlareavpc.org/stop-lock-drop-it>

### FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION

- Katie Zitt prepared the **2022 4Q Preliminary Unaudited Financial Statements** for review by the Finance Committee and Susan Kabat will present to the Board at its October 20 meeting.
- MHB **audit fieldwork** begins September 26 and ends October 7.

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### STAFF ACTIVITIES

- August 25 – Tom Giles attended Depaul USA’s 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration at their transition-age youth permanent supportive housing apartments, St. Lazare House in the Benton Park West neighborhood.
- August 26 – Executive Director Cassandra Kaufman and Tom conducted a tour and met with the Executive Director of Center for Women in Transition (now doing business as Keyway) at their PSH facility Sharon’s House, located in the Central West End.
- August 26 – Cassandra, Serena, and Terrell attended the second Forward Through Ferguson Racial Equity Cohort session. The first case study was presented by Forward Through Ferguson for the Racial Healing and Justice Fund housed at the Deaconess Foundation. MHB is scheduled to present its case study in October.

*NOTE: The activities listed are a selective report of staff activities that occurred during the reporting period and not an exhaustive list.*