











# **Annual Report 2023**





#### **Teamwork**

Integrity
Compassion
Quality

**Commitment** 

Fun





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### **CEO Remarks**

Dear Friends,

When SEK-CAP was formed over 58 years ago, I'm sure that the leaders of our organization dreamed of the day where they could look out over our 12-county region and see a landscape filled with people whose lives were positively changed by the services we provided and know they are better off than when they started. Over the years, we have worked tirelessly through recessions, budget cuts and increases, and even a pandemic and we can see that our efforts were not in vain.



We continue to provide high quality early childhood education, safe and affordable housing, transportation services in multiple counties, and engage our communities in planning initiatives, delivering the "Promise of Community Action". We have a rich history of providing quality, comprehensive services to the people and communities of Southeast Kansas, demonstrating our unwavering commitment and dedication over the years by outstanding employees, volunteers, and partners.

Our rich history continues to drive us forward as we continue to look for innovative opportunities to expand and enhance our services. I am forever grateful and proud to work for such an agency and would like to thank our Board, staff and community partners for their efforts, hard work, and compassion for their fellow southeast Kansans. Every day, individuals and families' and children's lives are touched and changed by our work, our kindness, and our willingness to go the extra mile.

We truly believe that "Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other".

Sincerely, Jamey M. Whitney

Jamey M. Whitney
Chief Executive Officer



### **About SEK-CAP**

SEK-CAP was founded on April 29, 1966, to help reach those facing hardships find paths forward.

Our work is based on the belief that no matter where you are in your journey, it's a good place to start.

We are a private, nonprofit 501(C)3 organization dedicated to helping individuals, families and communities work towards identifying and eliminating the causes and effects of poverty.



# **Key Accomplishments**

The past year, 2023, has been remarkable for the organization. Some of our key accomplishments include:



#### Agency Highlights

This year we underwent a campaign to rebrand our agency. Working with a local marketing agency, we were able to craft a new look for not only our logo but also our website. We launched the new website in October of 2023. We have had an overwhelmingly positive response to the new look.



#### Financial Performance

We are delighted to report another strong financial performance in 2023, with revenues totaling over \$22 million. This growth was driven by an increase in demand for our services from both existing and new clients.

Our profitability also increased, with our operating profit margin rising to over \$20 million.



#### **Our Team**

We are proud of the skilled and experienced team that we have built up at our agency. Our team members are passionate about delivering great results and expanding services for our communities, individuals and families.



# **Community Engagement**

Through engaging the communities in their own respective community coalitions and committees we have grown relationships and partnerships that have led to expansion of programming and funding to improve client services and provide a voice and an ear in community planning, information, and initiatives. Some of the most successes for the year include:

We have joined the Emergency Food and Shelter Board of Crawford County as a board member as well as a local recipient organization where we will be receiving funding to assist in household rental and mortgage payments for those in need.

Participation in Local Health Equity Action Team (LHEAT) committees in Bourbon, Crawford, Cherokee and Montgomery Counties has led to expansions in transportation services as well as provided an engagement opportunity and partnerships to further improve other community initiatives. We are currently serving as board members for the Crawford County and Montgomery County LHEAT committees.

Our participation within the Balance of State Continuum of Care continues to bring opportunities to improve housing and homeless services for our service area as well as provide opportunities for strategic planning and initiatives with other community partners. Through the regional strategic planning process funding for a new programming and projects has been brought into the regional implementation filling a void that was missing to serve our most vulnerable.

We are actively reviewing our current partnerships throughout the agency to determine areas of opportunity to strengthen our current partnerships as well as seek out additional partnering agencies that we are not currently working alongside. We are attempting to create a more streamlined process for storage, processing and updating partnership agreements.

Planning and organizing for the new community needs assessment are underway as we have been reviewing available data and working through internal and external partners and data sets to create a more comprehensive needs assessment. This includes a reviewing how we have historically collected data from our community members and researching best practices for improving that data collection and gaining true engagement from our community.









# **Early Childhood**



Our agency had another successful year in 2023, with a number of key achievements and highlights.

Early Childhood was able to serve 743 children.

1,122 parents were served | 364 were single parents, while 379 were 2-parent households.

55 families worked with employment services.

708 families had employment.

54% of families met a goal.

20% of families improved their employment situations.

30 parents achieved higher education goals.

78% of children got up to date on their health.

Parent trainings: 523 trainings and 227.25 hours of training.

Child Development Activities: 7,550 activities held and 32,067.25 hours of activities.

Classroom prep, time, and home visits: 15,082 parent activities provided and 28,588.75 parent activity hours provided.

Policy Council participation hours: 215.50

Staff who increased their education level or completed certification to enhance knowledge:



# **Housing Services**



#### **Rental Subsidies**

SEK-CAP provides two types of rental assistance: \*HUD Section 8 Vouchers \*Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA).

Household gross income must be at or below 50% Area Median Income to be eligible for services.

Program participants can utilize SEK-CAP rental subsidy in these counties: Allen, Bourbon, Chautauqua, Cherokee, Crawford, Elk, Labette, Linn, Montgomery, Neosho, Wilson, and Woodson. The only rental assistance available in Elk and Chautauqua Counties is TBRA.



#### **Rental Properties**

SEK-CAP is a Community
Housing Development
Organization (CHDO), as
certified by Kansas Housing
Resources Corporation. As
such, we offer 53 affordable
housing units located
throughout Southeast
Kansas.

#### **Tiny Houses**

This year we collaborated with Catholic Charities to renovate our Tiny Houses, Big Beginnings program. We have moved to a more transit housing model for these small homes, allowing for more families to access the homes during the year.

In 2023 we were able to assist 4 homeless families with temporary housing while we assisted in locating more permanent solutions for each family.



#### Our Impact

368 families received rental assistance per month through Section 8 programs.

\$1,846.033 in rental assistance was provided through Section 8 programs.

64 families received rental assistance through TBRA.

\$498,282 was provided to TBRA rental assistance.

\$66,629 in Security Deposits and Utility Deposits were provided through TBRA.

60% of assisted households were elderly and/or disabled.

520 completed HQS Inspections.

195 families approved for rental assistance, of which 111 leased up and received assistance.

52 agency owned units were rented out to families throughout our service area.



# **Transportation**

General Public Transportation began services in Bourbon and Labette Counties.

General Public Transportation routes offered this year:

City of Pittsburg:

**Deviated Fixed Route PACT Bus** 

2 Demand-Response Routes

Daily GUS BUS Campus Shuttle

Safe Ride Demand Response Routes

Saturday evenings and Home Pittsburg State University (PSU) Football Games

Demand Response Routes in the following Counties:

Bourbon

Cherokee

Crawford

Labette

Neosho

All routes offer free, wheelchair accessible rides to anyone.

#### **Outcomes**

9 Full Time Drivers, 1 dispatch/scheduler and 2 Mechanics.

180,064 vehicle revenue miles.

12,267 vehicle revenue hours.

59,023 Passenger Trips.

General Public Transportation vehicles provided over \$68,000 to local economies in fuel purchases.

We began using a new scheduling software in May that improved the entire scheduling, driver, and passenger experiences. Cancellations and same-day rides are able to be communicated to drivers instantly. Passenger and milage reports are available at any time.

In October, we received a new Chrysler Voyager wheelchair accessible minivan, our first in over 2 years.

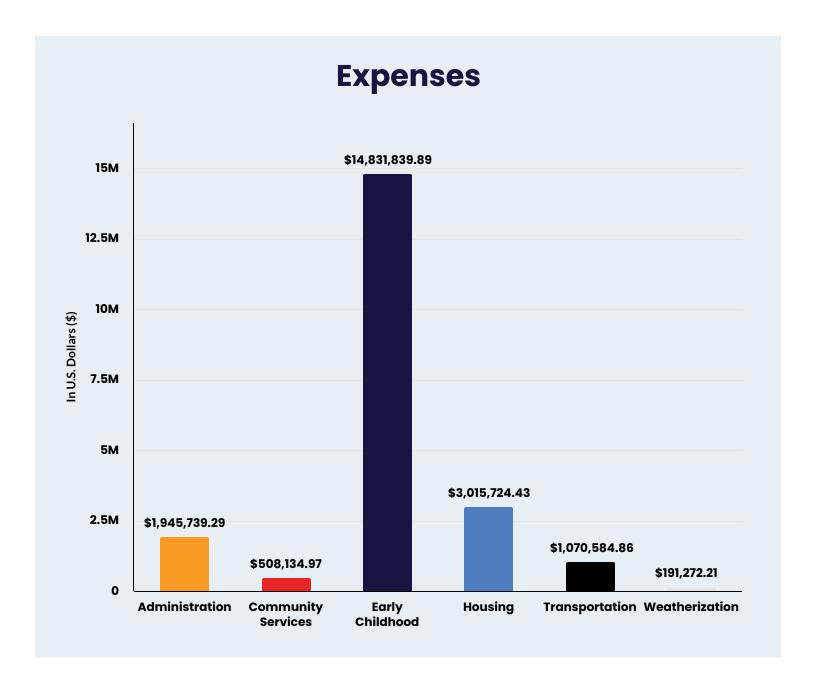
### 2023 Transit System of the Year!

\*Awarded from the Kansas Public Transit Association.





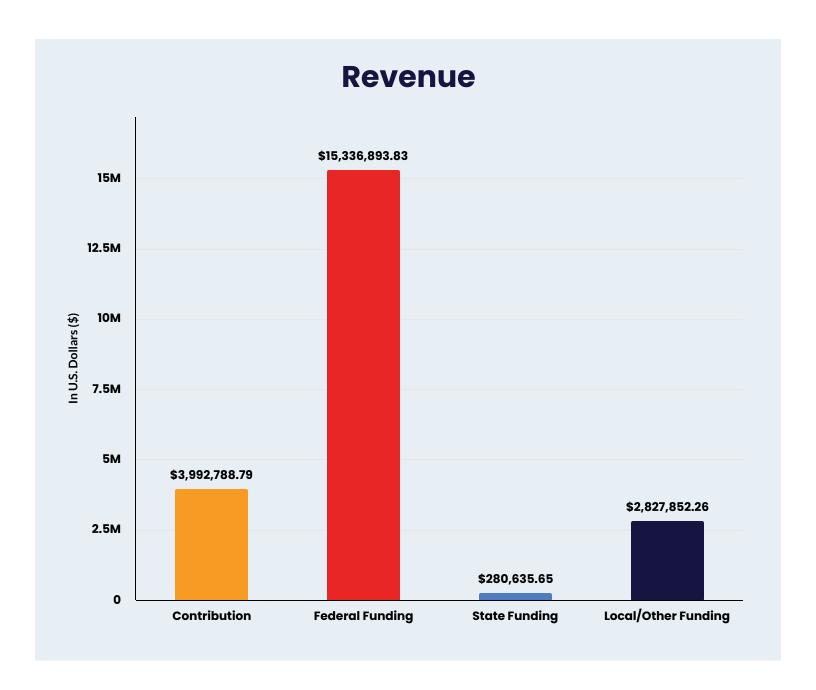
# **Financial Statements**



**Total Expenditures = \$21,564,295.65** 



## **Financial Statements**



Total Revenue = \$22,438.170.53



### **Staff Milestones**

#### 1 Year

Sierra Baker
Stacy Beard
Jessica Beck
Melissa Beeson
Elise Bolden
Rena Bowman
Dexter Burks Jr.
Kelsea Carroll
Dennis Cashero
Susan Davis

Suzanne Glisson Jennifer Hartman Diana Haynes Michelle Hefley

Tiffany Ireland
Meredith Jameson
Erin Lytle
Sandra Martin
Laurie Masters
Elena McCain

Halle McPherson Janie Meyer Casey Ruddick Morgan Smalley

Jeanette Sperfslage

Teresa Storrer Lora Tanner Danny Thompson Emiliee Turner Jamey Whitney

#### 5 Years

April Brown Fiona Dewey Gabrielle Jones

#### 10 Years

Jolene Batalia Joan Burke Caitlin Ralstin

#### 15 Years

Stacey Wood

Caren Ketchum
Miechelle McNicolas

#### 20 Years

Jeannie Burris Victoria Shapiro-Maffei Melissa Stewart

#### 30 Years

Mary Babcock

### **Shared Governance**

#### **Governing Board Members**

Stephen Fincher (Board Chair)
Christy Vulgamore (Vice Chair)
Boyd Koehn (Secretary)
Joe Grisolano
C.W. Betz
Marilyn Logan
Ayla Daugherty (Policy Council Chair)
Heather Spaur

#### **Policy Council Members**

Ayla Daugherty (Policy Council Chair)
Braedy Turner
Catherine Johnson
Charlene Mannex
Elizabeth Crow
Karrie Johnson
Mikki Herrera
Rebecca Turnbull





### **Contact Us**

If you would like to learn more information about the agency, would like to donate and/or help volunteer, please contact us at:



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Follow us on social: **@SEKCAPINC** 



