

2025 First Quarter report

Community Investment / Allocations – With the assistance of 18 community volunteers and board members, who gave 90 volunteer hours, agencies submitting a proposal for 2025 UWJCGC funding received a site visit and proposal review. We received applications from 13 non-profits in the community, with a combined request of \$107,600. After all site visits were completed, the volunteers and board approved funding in the amount of \$49,600 for 11 agencies. As much as the board would love to fund all agencies with their requested amounts, we are unable to do so. We hope that the funding that we have provided will have a positive impact on our partner agencies.

- CASA – \$12,000
- Crisis Center - \$8,500
- Geary County Food Pantry - \$4,000
- Geary County Historical Society - \$1,000
- Girl Scouts - \$1,500
- 4:10 Irish Den - \$4,500
- JC YMCA - \$3,000
- Kansas Legal Services - \$7,000
- Fresh Start Shelter - \$3,000
- Pawnee Mental Health - \$1,500
- JC Pacesetters - \$3,600

VITA – Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program – 9 volunteers completed training through the IRS to provide FREE tax filing for clients in the community. From January to April 15th, volunteers put in over 500 hours and filed 510 tax returns, resulting in **\$768.915 in refunds**. They processed federal, state, and homestead for members in our community. USD 475 and the United Way JCGC are the only VITA sites in this area. We see clients from Clay Center, Council Grove, Alma, Herington, Chapman, and more.

Stuff the Pantry – Volunteers and organizations come together to raise funds and collect donations that go to support the Geary County Food Pantry, Konza Cupboard, and the JC Pregnancy Center. This year we collected over 1,000 items and raised \$794. \$250 was sent directly to Geary County Food Pantry, and \$250 went directly to Konza for their food pantry programs.

Financial Assistance – Through a partnership with Community Actions (Topeka) we have been able to assist families with financial assistance for rent or utilities. In addition to financial assistance, this partnership has also provided diapers, gift cards for groceries, Thinx Period Panties, and more. These items have been shared with other agencies and the school district.

UNITED WAY
OF JUNCTION CITY — GEARY COUNTY
139 E 8TH STREET
PO BOX 567
JUNCTION CITY, KS 66441
TEL 785.238.2117



From July 2024 to January of 2025, we helped with the following:

- Numbers Served – 27 families
- Water bills – 6
- Electricity – 6
- KS Gas – 3
- Rent – 12
- Total funds - \$10,400.22

211 – This a free information service that is operated by United Ways across the United States. This service can be accessed via text, online, mobile app, or calling. This program provides each local United Way with a quarterly report to show the services requested. Met Needs mean that they were able to connect with an organization that was able to assist.

KS / Geary		2025 Q1	
Needs - Met	# Needs	Needs - Not Met	# Needs
211 Systems	1	Automotive Repair and Maintenance	1
Aging and Disability Resource Centers	2	Children's Clothing	1
Assessment for Substance Use Disorders	1	Clothing Vouchers	1
At Risk/Homeless Housing Related Assistance Programs	3	Transportation Expense Assistance	2
Child Care Expense Assistance	1	Water Service Payment Assistance	1
Child Care Providers	1		
Comprehensive Job Assistance Centers	1		
Domestic Animal Services	1		
Extreme Cold Warming Centers	1		
Family Counseling	1		
Food Pantries	3		
General Clothing Provision	2		
Homeless Shelter	2		
Housing Authorities	1		
Job Finding Assistance	1		
Landlord/Tenant Assistance	1		
Low Income/Subsidized Rental Housing	6		
Public Clinics	1		
Records/Licenses/Permits	1		
Rent Payment Assistance	29		

UNITED WAY FIGHTS FOR THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND FINANCIAL STABILITY OF EVERY PERSON IN EVERY COMMUNITY.

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United Way of
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 Geary County

Residential Snow Shoveling	1		
Senior Centers	1		
Toll Road/Bridge Passes	1		
Transitional Housing/Shelter	1		
Unemployment Insurance	1		
Utility Assistance	32		
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Total	97	Total	6

First Quarter Partner Agency Report

4:10 Irish Den

1. Potato Bar Fundraiser - \$870 raised to help kids go to camp this summer.
2. Community Benefit Dinner to help sick kids in our community. Served 400 meals and raised \$5,600 for the families in need.

+ Youth Served

700 meals to 6th-12th grade students

Events: Trivia Night, Participated in Irish Fest, Golden Easter Egg Hunt for students.

+Food Pantry Numbers

135 pantry visits

289 people served

30 take home food bags delivered

30 hygiene bags delivered to schools Snack Bins delivered to Middle School, High School, and Chapman Public Library

Kansas Legal Services

Total Advised – 42

Total cases closed – 69

Total cases open – 80

Total served – 191

Types of cases: consumer finance, family law, housing, end of life planning, child disability, expungements.

Monetary Benefits to clients

Avoided or ended garnishments - \$1,558.00

Obtained monthly child support payments x12 months - \$5,352.00

Obtained monthly spousal support payments x12 months - \$4,800.00

Obtained equitable allocation of marital debt - \$2,500.00

Obtained waiver of court filing fee - \$390.00

Resources saved from halted eviction - \$7,300.00

Total Benefits to clients - \$21,900.00

Geary County Food Pantry

Under 18 years of age served- 1462 children

Over 18 years of age served - 4925 individuals

Volunteer hours-2094

First Quarter Partner Agency Report

One suggestion was that we track the value of the food along with its weight. We currently track the weight given out monthly; last year, the total amount was 252,000. I apologize for not including that amount when we had our allocation meeting.

We had not kept track of the value of the food we gave out, but after our meeting, we decided to do that, so here is the value of the boxes given out per family size.

Family of 1-2 - \$64.00

Family of 3-4 - \$79.00

Family of 5 and up - \$95.00

Crisis Center – will start sending over volunteer hours going forward.

Adults – 69

Children – 20

Shelter – 27

Non-Shelter – 62

Total services provided – 842

Geary County Historical Society STEAM

Adults – 20

Children – 120

Volunteer hours – 27

January – Kansas state symbols – creating a collage with those symbols in mind, cookie decorating to celebrate Kansas's birthday, building a pioneer trunk, a pack-your-wagon scavenger hunt, and our coming to Kansas Trunk and hands on artifacts.

February – Space. Space facts timeline, crew module parachute engineering, mini constellation projectors, pretzel constellations, and a design your own planet art project.

March – World's Fair inventions and activities – Making string telephones, engineering a stand up Eiffel Tower out of straws, macaroni mosaics (which Kansas brought to the 1903 World's Fair), and enjoying an ice cream cone.

CASA

Children – 14

Volunteer hours – 71.40

 May Workshops

This month, we're offering two powerful learning sessions:

Strategies and Skills to Address Domestic Violence in Child Welfare

The Indian Child Welfare Act: A Conversation with the Experts

These workshops are designed to strengthen our collective understanding and response within the child welfare system. We'd love to see GEUW team members attend and share widely with your networks.

First Quarter Partner Agency Report

JC Pacesetters/Special Olympics

Currently we have seven athletes under the age of 18 and twenty-two over the age of 18. Eight active volunteer coaches. I have not tracked their volunteer hours. Felisia does our bookkeeping. Kaylene organizes practices, events and registration, communication with families including typing monthly schedules. Carol provides the van transportation for practices which is an hour of pick up and an hour of taking athletes back home. Jeremy also drove one of the vans to our regional meet in Topeka. Coaches attend practices each Saturday for 2 hours. John continues to be our PR and fundraising person.

February 22nd the Pacesetters attended the regional basketball tournament that Junction City had the privilege to host. March 21st and 22nd we attended the State basketball tournament in Manhattan, Ks

We had 24 athletes compete in the Regional Track Meet in Topeka, KS April 26th. Ten of our athletes were able to attend the K-State Sports Clinic provided by the KSU student athletes on April 27th.

May 3rd is our S.A.L Breakfast fundraiser at the American Legion 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Practices will then continue to prepare for the State Track Meet in Wichita June 6th – 8th. The Pacesetters thank you for your support

Fresh Start Emergency Shelter

Here are our 1st quarter numbers for Fresh Start. Some of the numbers seem skewed due to opening for 24/7 service as a Warming Center when the temperatures went in the teens, single digits and negative numbers.

Our 1st Quarter numbers for persons served, and all the items that it entails are as follows:

- Persons served: 75
- Meals given out: 463
- Showers taken: 110
- Laundry done: 40
- Clothing given out: 37 (not necessarily per piece, but could be multiple items per person)
- Toiletries/Hygiene items requested: 14
- And lots of phone and computer use that were not counted.

There were 22 instances of Case Management work with these individuals which may have included transportation to appointments or other shelters, appealing SSA decisions, obtaining IDs, medications, clothing or shoes for work, etc.

- We operated the Warming Center three times this winter at the Shelter, January 5-7, 18-21, and Feb 10-Feb 15. The above numbers incorporate the people we served during that time.
- The ESG grant application NOFO (Notice of Funding Opportunity) was announced on March 14 by Doug Wallace with Kansas Housing Resources Corp. This is contingent on HUD releasing funds for this grant. And if approved, it will help us reopen as a 24/7 shelter once again.

First Quarter Partner Agency Report

- We have scheduled our first Community Awareness Event at the Shelter for Sunday, April 27th from 2:00pm-5:00pm. For more information, you may contact me at the Shelter, 785-587-9529 or by email, director.freshstart2024@outlook.com
- We have also scheduled our first ever fundraising auction that starts on April 27 and runs through May 4th

No reports provided – Girl Scouts, Pawnee Mental Health Services