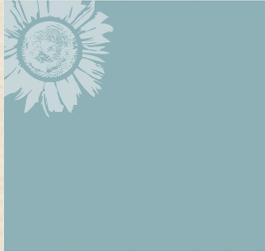
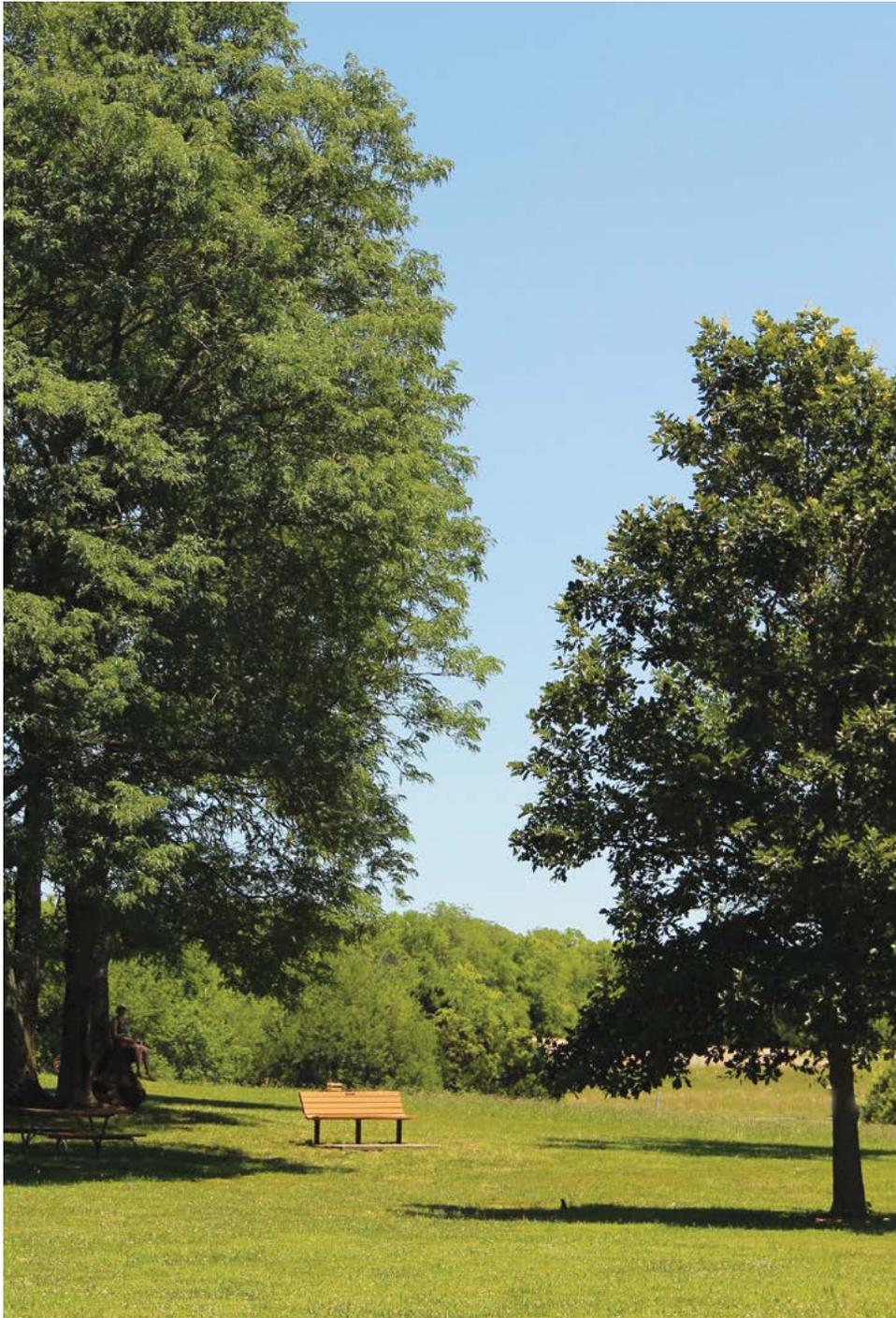


Advancement through Collaboration

Delivering effective, efficient and
equitable public services





Johnson County is a local government located in northeast Kansas that was organized on Sept. 7, 1857. Johnson County Government serves a diverse and expanding population through 30 agencies, departments and offices.

Nearly 3,900 public servants are dedicated to helping Johnson County remain a safe, growing and vibrant community.



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Our thanks to the many county staff who contributed to this report.



Letter *from* leadership



Ed Eilert

Chairman, Board of
County Commissioners

2017 was a year of significant progress on projects across the county including planning and designing a new courthouse approved by voters in 2016; designing a new medical examiner and coroner facility; building new libraries, parks and trails; and expanding transit services to connect people to jobs.

Daily collaboration has been our key to success in county government on these projects and in many areas. The most important collaborative efforts are with our residents — receiving feedback and input on what those of you who live, work and play in this community want to see in the county. Our annual citizens survey continues to show a high overall satisfaction rate of 97 percent, indicating that we are on the right track. But we will not stop there. We are committed to doing everything we can to make this community better for future generations.

Residents played a key part in our park and library master plans, and also during our numerous public engagement meetings regarding the county courthouse that started early in 2016.

We gained national attention in a number of areas including our Park & Recreation District, recognized as the best in the nation with the National Gold Medal Award. Our efforts in improving services for those coming in contact with the local criminal justice system have garnered national attention as we have worked with the White House, the National Association of Counties and the University of Chicago to develop best practices for using data to connect individuals with key services they need such as mental health or other programs.

These examples of national recognition provide just a glimpse into the work going on throughout our organization. We seek out opportunities to collaborate and use the latest available technologies to improve our programs and services for residents.

From wastewater, health and environment, planning and codes, public works, and elections to emergency management and beyond, we are collaborating to implement the latest technology and leverage resources to keep our community healthy and safe.

We strive to be a leader in county government in the U.S. Johnson County was recently chosen as the 23rd best county in the nation by USA Today, which places our county in the top 1 percent of the more than 3,000 counties in the country.

The opportunities for continuous improvement are always within our grasp if we work together to find solutions in our community — collaborating with local governments, private partners and businesses, non-profit organizations, and, most importantly, our residents. These actions have proven extremely valuable in the past and will continue to help us achieve our goals in the future.

This 2017 annual report highlights many of our efforts and successes during the past year made possible through collaboration within our organization and our community, and spotlights the hard work and dedication of our county employees who work together to make Johnson County the best possible community in the metro, region, state and nation.



Penny Postoak Ferguson

Interim County Manager



Johnson County is an excellent place to live, work, play and learn. Here is a glimpse of this vital community.



Johnson County is the most populous county in Kansas with more than 584,451 residents.



Our county has 4 of the 10 largest cities in Kansas.

- 2 • Overland Park: 188,966
- 4 • Olathe: 135,473
- 7 • Shawnee: 65,194
- 9 • Lenexa: 52,903



Population information from 2016 U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (July 1, 2016)

Johnson County is 478 square miles.



Johnson County at a glance —

live, work, learn and play

The county has **183,661 residences**, including single-family homes, multi-family units, condos, townhouses and farmsteads.

Across the county, there are **43 fire stations** and **20 law enforcement stations**.

The county has an extensive network of medical facilities, including numerous surgical centers, urgent care facilities and **eight hospitals**.

Johnson County residents have access to **16 public libraries**.

Johnson County is home to **six great public school districts**: Blue Valley Schools (#229), De Soto Schools (#232), Gardner-Edgerton Schools (#231), Olathe Public Schools (#233), Shawnee Mission Schools (#512) and Spring Hill Schools (#230). Enrollment for the 2017–2018 school year was **more than 96,680 students**.

Johnson County residents have access to **16 public libraries**.

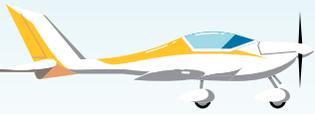
Across the county, there are **192 public schools** and **53 private school buildings**.

In the county, there are **four colleges**, including **Johnson County Community College** which had fall 2017 credit enrollment of 18,638 with more than 5,792 full-time equivalent students.

The mean travel time to work is **21 minutes**.

Provided by jccc.edu.

There are **23 aviation facilities** (private and public), including three airports and 20 heliports.



The county has **3,250 miles of city streets** and **442 miles of county roadways**.



County residents and visitors can enjoy **26 golf courses!**



There are more than **23,700 employment establishments** in the county and more than **340,000 workers**.

Jan. 2018 County Economic Research Institute, Inc.



The unemployment rate is low — **2.5%**.

Dec. 2017, CER I

HOTEL



The county is home to **12 museums and 123 historical sites**.

Across the county, there are **73 hotels, motels and extended-stay facilities**.

Including county and city sites, there are **376 parks totaling 17,110 acres**.



Individuals and their families can also enjoy **49 swimming pools, beaches and aquatic centers**.



Residents and visitors can enjoy more than **412 miles of hiking, jogging and bike trails**.



The median household income in Johnson County is **\$78,186**.

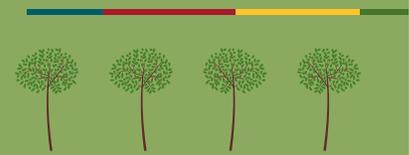


Johnson County is home to **1,307 restaurants and eateries**.



There are **295 shopping centers** — including **171 strip malls**.

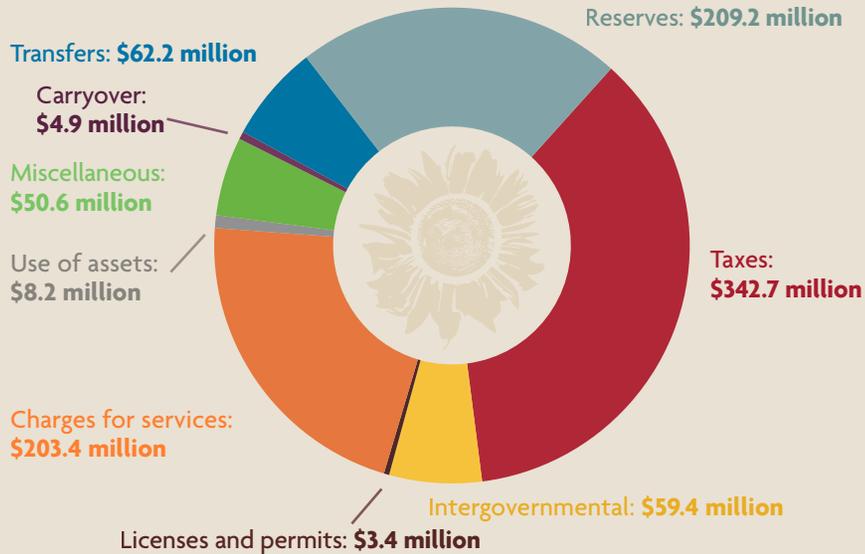
In a nation of 3,144 counties, there's still only one **Johnson County, Kansas**.



Data provided by Johnson County AIMS, unless otherwise noted, based on Dec. 31, 2017, information and data.

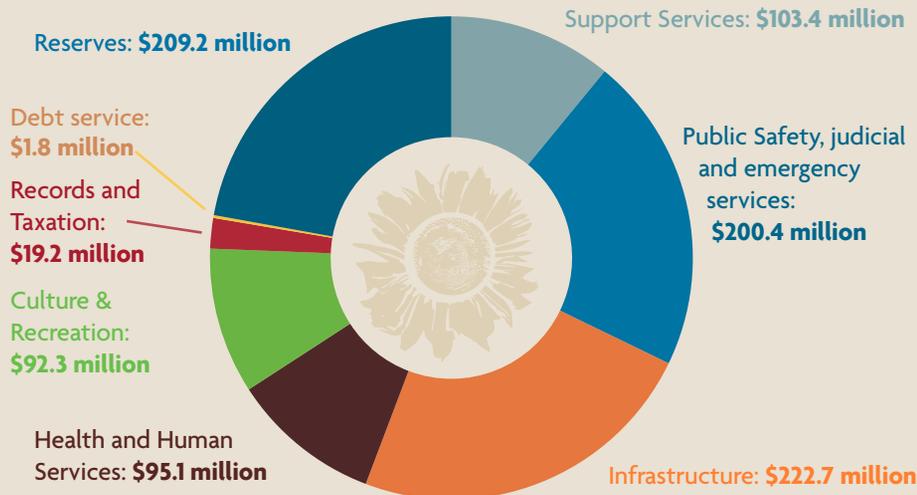
FY2017 Revenues

County government revenue totaled \$944.1 million.



FY2017 Expenditures

FY2017 budget totaled \$944.1 million. By strategic group, this is how county expenditures break down:



Dollars & Cents

Efficient stewardship of financial resources is a key function of Johnson County Government. Budgetary leadership and management of information technology are two areas that guide a range of county operations — and are vital to effective, efficient resource allocation.

Budget and Financial Planning (BFP) is responsible for the formulation and administration of the annual operating budget, capital improvement program and issuance of the county's debt.

We are dedicated to a practice of good stewardship, and it is essential that tax revenue be managed as an investment by the citizens of Johnson County rather than as the independent assets of the county or any individual department or agency. Johnson County Government strives to manage this investment to provide the best possible services in the most efficient manner possible. To that end, we must also use these resources only when there are identified immediate needs.

County mill levy reduced in 2018

The economy and revenue projections held steady, and the state budget was finalized without significant negative impact to the county. As a result, the 2018 budget includes a reduction of .256 mills.

Three key factors put the county in a position to move toward a mill levy reduction in 2018. The county's economy remained strong and growing. Next, the Board of County Commissioners increased revenues back in 2016 in order to offset the multi-year phase-out of the Mortgage Registration and Collection Fee, including an estimated \$3 – \$4 million reduction during 2018. Finally, in 2016, Johnson County voters supported a 10-year, quarter-cent sales tax to build a new courthouse and medical examiner/coroner facility, significantly reducing necessary investment in the existing courthouse.

Living under the tax lid

Under a state law passed in 2015, city and county governments must hold a public vote if they want to raise spending by more than an adjusted Consumer Price Index rate set by the state. If voter approval is not received, cities and counties must cut property tax rates to adjust to the spending level allowed by the state.

The first year of operation under the property tax lid imposed by the state has been manageable. New valuation combined with growth in exempt areas of the budget, namely law enforcement and emergency services, has yielded enough room in the law's formula for the county to meet the needs of the organization and the community in 2018 without a county vote.

Department of Technology and Innovation (DTI) provides information management and technology services for Johnson County, maintains technological infrastructures, provides project management services and identifies, analyzes, supervises and coordinates digital government initiatives and programs.



Collaborative efforts

DTI provides shared IT services support to many local government entities. In 2017, DTI closed 19,750 help desk incidents.

Fiber expansion continues and the county's wide area network (WAN) will connect to the downtown Kansas City internet carrier hotel early in 2018. This will provide Johnson County greater flexibility for disaster recovery options and faster bandwidth at lower costs.

Enterprise IT launched solutions

- Land records collection system
- Enterprise permitting solution
- Enterprise volunteer management system
- Enterprise data protection system

New on the web

- Inside JoCo employee intranet site, "InsideJoCo."
- Johnson County Sheriff's Office website: jocosheriff.org

Looking ahead

DTI is defining requirements for unified electronic health records. When successful, solutions will reduce cost, improve care coordination and increase staff efficiency.



DOWNLOAD: 2017 in DTI



JoCo Pulse (a performance dashboard), provides information to Johnson County residents about **key areas of government and status of goals reached.**

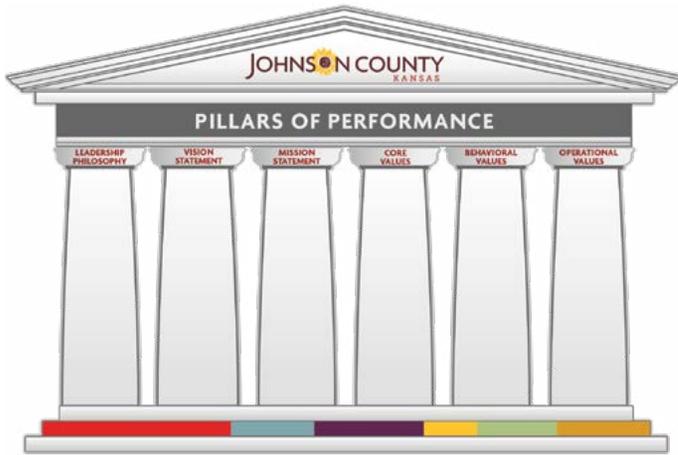
jocopulse.org

Last year, our main website, jocogov.org, had more than **8 million views.**



DTI played a key role in developing an **early intervention system**. This system received a **2017 National Association of Counties (NaCO) Achievement Award in the category of Criminal Justice and Public Safety**, recognizing Johnson County for its efforts to provide enhanced services to county residents.

DTI coordinated a **multi-departmental team to develop a mobility strategy** to make it easier for residents to do business with Johnson County Government.



Johnson County, Kansas Government

Johnson County Government has always valued public leadership and pursued the highest levels of performance. In 2010, county leaders embarked upon a challenging journey with a commitment to making Johnson County a different kind of government and building around the principles of a High- or Higher-Performance Organization (HPO). These principles have been championed for 30 years by the University of Virginia's Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service through its highly acclaimed and successful LEAD (Leading, Educating and Developing) and SEI (Senior Executive Institute) programs.

The HPO principles were already practiced in a number of county departments and agencies of Johnson County Government. In 2011, county employees, at the urging of county management, began exploring ways to revive and expand upon those public leadership principles, to empower employees and engender a culture of continuous improvement. The county's management, officials, and agency and department directors convened to form the County Leadership Team to learn and implement the principles of an HPO.

Over the next two years, the county leadership team met monthly to study and practice key concepts of high performing organizations, and all directors attended a LEAD or SEI program at the University of Virginia. A Johnson County program, named LEAP (Leadership Empowers All People), launched in 2012 to teach high performance concepts to employees throughout the organization. The LEAP program

sessions are taught exclusively by Johnson County Government employees. Now, several years into the effort, thousands of county employees have completed the program and are applying the concepts every day in their jobs.

As a result of the program, guiding principles were developed, including:

Leadership is a responsibility shared by all. We trust and empower each other to do the right thing for the right reason for the public good. Committed to our shared values, we provide excellent public service, seeking always to improve our organization and ourselves. Together we will leave our community better than we found it.

The county also developed a mission statement, vision statement, core values, behavioral values and operational values to help guide the county government in its day-to-day operations. Together, these guiding principles for Johnson County Government are known as our "Pillars of Performance." More details are available online at jocogov.org/government/about-johnson-county/guiding-principles.

Within county government, many examples of HPO successes can be found throughout the organization. A video series highlighting Pillars of Performance examples is available online at jocogov.org/program-overview.

The HPO concept in Johnson County supports the county's greater purpose of public service, public trust and public leadership, which are values founded on the Athenian Oath and serve as a reminder to each employee of his or her role:

We will strive unceasingly to quicken the public's sense of civic duty. Thus, in all these ways, we will transmit this city (county) not only, not less, but greater and more beautiful than it was transmitted to us.

Community & Involvement

There are numerous and varied opportunities for the community to stay engaged with county government.

Volunteers are the heart of our programs

More than a dozen county departments, agencies and offices rely heavily on volunteers. The county offers a wide variety of volunteer opportunities that appeal to various interests and skill sets. There is something for everyone.

Human Services is in need of volunteers for several programs. One is Catch-a-Ride, a transportation program for senior adults, people with disabilities, and others who are not able to drive and do not have access to other means of transportation. Through Catch-a-Ride, volunteers transport residents in their own vehicles to essential appointments in the county. The Human Services Department is also seeking students who need community service hours. Volunteers can join the Creative Expressions Program or host a food/hygiene drive for a multi-service center. Service hours are awarded based on the quality and quantity of the work.

The Theatre in the Park's volunteer program is open to individuals of all ages who are interested in various aspects of the theatrical arts. Age limits apply to some opportunities. Volunteers primarily work outdoors, with the public or behind the scenes. They provide staffing at productions and special events throughout the year, assist the public, serve as parking attendants and have a special spirit of teamwork to get the job done.

The Johnson County District Attorney's Office uses volunteers to meet the needs of victims involved in the criminal justice system. Volunteers become part of the DA's Victim Assistance Unit and act as advocates or liaisons with the attorney handling the case.

Serving on boards and commissions

Appointments to boards and commissions offer another way for the public to play an important role in county government. These board and commission volunteers, appointed by the commissioner who represents their district, perform a variety of functions, depending on the type of body they join.

Volunteers on governing bodies exercise general control over the operation of specific county agencies, such as evaluating the agency's executive director and establishing administrative policies. Other advisory panels, committees and task forces provide advice and recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners.



A number of county departments, agencies and offices have volunteer opportunities for residents — including activities for students seeking community service experience. For more information or to get in contact with a specific program, visit our webpage jocgov.org/residents/volunteer-opportunities.

2017 volunteers



12,648 people volunteered for a combined total of **333,202 hours.**

Industry experts value one hour of volunteer time as being worth \$24.24, meaning that in 2017, the time contributed by Johnson County Government volunteers is valued at more than \$8 million.

In spring and fall of 2017, the county hosted the county's Citizen's Academy Program, a series of weekly learning experiences — including tours, discussions, lectures and hands-on activities for residents and those who work in Johnson County. **Sixty-two participants graduated** from the spring and fall sessions.

Learn about the county's citizens academy at jocogov.org/citizensacademy.



1,928 served the Johnson County Election Office for **26,992 total hours.**

2017 boards & commissions

In 2017, **276 volunteers served** on **32 boards and commissions.**

The **four governing boards** exercise general control over the operation of specific county agencies: the Airport Commission, the Park and Recreation District Commission, the Library Board of Directors, and the Developmental Supports Board of Directors.



The county's election office relies on citizens to staff the polling places across Johnson County to deliver top-notch service to area voters.

Vacancies on the various appointed boards and commissions open up on a regular basis, so interested residents may check the status of terms frequently in order to stay informed about openings.

Voting and election workers

The election process offers many ways for county residents to stay engaged with the community. Currently, more than 395,000 people ages 18 and older are registered to vote in Johnson County. Each time a county resident votes in an election, by mail-in ballot or at a polling place, he or she displays a commitment to community involvement.

The Johnson County Election Office manages voting for more than 2,000 elected positions in more than 500 districts, but could not do so without the thousands of people who dedicate their time working at the polls on election days. These engaged citizens supplement the Election Office's 17-member, full-time staff and help keep the democratic process alive in our county.

2017 Dept. of Health and Environment



The Women, Infant and Children Garden harvested **more than 3,800 pounds of food** this year for WIC families.

The **Free Store at the Household Hazardous Waste** site distributes reusable materials like household cleaners, home improvement items, and more for FREE.



The Childcare Licensing Division offers **monthly classes like CPR and safe sleep to childcare providers** in order for the provider to meet licensing requirements.



Eldonna Chesnut, division director of the childcare licensing division, was elected to **the American Public Health Association's Executive Board.**

Targeted Case Management's Amy Marks was honored with **the Jane Addams Award for excellence** in social work at the annual Kansas Public Health Association meeting.

Abby Crow, part of the LiveWell Johnson County team, became one of two Diabetes Prevention Program Master Trainers in Kansas.

Health & Support

Johnson County Department of Health and Environment (DHE) protects the health and environment, prevents disease and promotes wellness through exceptional public service for all who live, work and play in our county.



Throughout the year, DHE attends events to help residents keep their bodies and environment healthy.

Hazardous Waste program which re-blended 13,100 gallons of latex paint last year. This program keeps paint out of the landfill and provides the community with a quality, reusable, discounted product.

Exceptional public service is evident in new services and initiatives introduced by DHE, including full implementation of the Nurse-Family Partnership program, a nurse home visiting program for new moms and introduction of the QLess mobile app so people can check-in for clinical services online, reducing wait times.

Yet another service offered by DHE is the Household



Collaboration grows program

Through the Solid Waste Assistance Program, DHE supported the Shawnee Mission School District in achieving an award winning cafeteria recycling/composting program in all of their schools. In 2017, staff helped to launch programs at 17 schools.

Serving as a professional resource

DHE staff presented at the Kansas Infectious Disease Symposium, where 250 public health, emergency response, preparedness and healthcare professionals learned how to contain and manage highly infectious disease outbreaks.

DHE staff also co-authored the article “Use of Video for Directly Observed Therapy for Tuberculosis Treatment — Johnson County, Kansas, 2015,” which appeared in the Centers for Disease Control’s publication Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report.



Older adults in Johnson County rely on Human Services programs such as Catch-a-Ride to help them make medical appointments and maintain their health.

Johnson County Human Services Department (JCHS) provides essential human services as a safety net, targeting seniors, persons with disabilities and low-income families to support independence, dignity and self-sufficiency.

Efficiency and an increase in services to those served was evident in the final numbers last year. There was a pronounced increase in usage of the Aging & Disability Resource Center services, exceeding 11,000 calls for information, referral and assistance.

With fully restored Senior Care Act funding, the Area Agency on Aging has reduced its wait list from a high in September of 379 down to 52 clients.

The Area Agency on Aging completed more than 3,700 functional service assessments. Of those assessed for services, 63 percent were able to retain their independence at home with community-based services.

A snapshot of the senior population

Older residents (60+ years of age) in Johnson County now total 122,000. And while wages for older adults may be lower than other age groups, their spending is still roughly equal to that of younger households. In the U.S., households headed by individuals aged 75 years or older spend about 13 percent more than those headed by individuals under the age of 25 and 3 percent less than those headed by individuals between the ages of 25 and 34.

New initiatives

In addition to increasing services, there were several new initiatives introduced to enhance services.

- The Area Agency on Aging centralized its financial operations to increase efficiency.
- The Housing Choice Voucher wait list transitioned from phone-based to online applications, creating significant efficiencies.

2017 Human Services Department



More than **3,000 persons** received housing assistance, **43 percent of whom were children.**

Catch-A-Ride provided **5,657 rides** to vulnerable residents.



Housing Services received **the Kansas National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials Best Newsletter award.**

Housing Services received **HUD's highest rating, earning a 100 percent Section Eight Management Assessment Program score.**

2017 JCDS

JCDS has a clinical supports staff (one RN and two LPNs) who oversaw the administration of nearly **50,000 doses of medications each month** for the clients we serve.



Our residential staff supported **124 clients** living in more than 50 apartments and houses throughout the county; **98 percent have their own name on their lease.**

Our Community Development Disabilities Organization is **the single point of entry** for individuals aged five and older in Johnson County who need supports for an intellectual/developmental disability, and **oversaw services for nearly 1,700 people.**



- Outreach is partnering with Olathe School District's Impact Olathe program to house homeless students and their families and prevent at-risk families from becoming homeless.

- The Area Agency on Aging is working with the Kansas Aging Network to partner with managed care organizations and strengthen KanCare services for the frail elderly across the state.



JCDS's Emerging Artists' program moved into new space at the Arts & Heritage Center in 2017. The program offers some art items for public purchase at the Arts & Heritage Center.

Johnson County Developmental Supports

(JCDS) serves people with intellectual and developmental disabilities by focusing on individuals' abilities, providing choice-driven supports and advocating alongside people who live and work in our community.



There were some milestones and changes in store for the department, including relocation of its Emerging Artists Studio to the new Johnson County Arts & Heritage Center.

The program develops the skills of emerging artists so they may reach their full potential and earn income by selling their art. There is also an opportunity for the clients to build meaningful relationships with

professional artists in settings that are typical for those who are part of the local art community. The artists were also introduced to Papercrete Works, a new employment opportunity for clients to help create, design and sell products made from papercrete.

All told, the department supported 99 clients who have competitive employment in the community.

JCDS began work with End-Dependence Kansas, a five-year grant program that utilizes an internship-based model to help secure employment for people with an intellectual or developmental disability.

In an effort to address specific challenges for older clients experiencing Alzheimer's disease or dementia, the retirement services staff with expertise in age-related illnesses created a program tailored to their needs.



Recognitions and accomplishments



Forrest Austin received the 2017 National Direct Support Professional of the Year award from the American Network of Community Options and Resources.

The award recognizes exemplary work in furthering community inclusion for people living with intellectual, developmental and other disabilities. Judges look at nominees' success in helping people with disabilities build social networks, participate in the community and advocate for themselves.

Johnson County Mental Health Center (MNH)

improves the quality of life for county residents by providing comprehensive mental health services that are of the highest possible quality and driven by personal needs.

The mental health center was selected to participate in a nationwide study that implements and evaluates a supported employment demonstration. This study will take place in 30 mental health agencies across 20 states. The Social Security Administration seeks to determine whether offering this evidence-based package of integrated employment and mental health services to denied disability applicants fosters employment, improves mental health and quality of life, and reduces demand for disability benefits.



Mental health partners with more than a dozen cities in the county for the Co-Responder Program which continues to grow.



Collaborative efforts

The mental health center, in conjunction with several Johnson County municipalities, expanded the Co-Responder Program to a total of 6.5 positions across the county.

The program pairs a licensed mental health professional with a crisis intervention team composed of trained law-enforcement officers who respond to a scene to effectively triage and resolve a crisis. Yet another partnership between the mental health center and local law enforcement is The One Mind Campaign, designed to improve police response to persons affected by mental illness. The national initiative focuses on united local communities, public safety organizations, and mental health organizations so that the three become “of one mind.”

The Brief Jail Mental Health Screen Outreach is an effective quick, simple and powerful booking tool to screen incoming detainees in jails and detention centers for the need for further mental health assessment. MNH’s Afterhours Unit and Mobile Crisis Response Team provide outreach to individuals who have screened as needing a further mental health assessment within 72 hours of release.

To promote good health and create a healthy environment for guests, clients and staff, Johnson County Mental Health Center and Johnson County Department of Health and Environment took a proactive step to implement a tobacco-free campus pilot at three different locations. This initiative was led by the Tobacco Impact Project, a grassroots employee collaboration, which met for the past 14 months planning the implementation.

2017 Mental Health Center



MNH began a free gun locks initiative —

Research suggests that reducing the availability of highly lethal and commonly used suicide methods has been associated with declines in suicide rates of as much as 30 to 50 percent in other countries. This impedes access to items such as guns by using gun locks to save lives.

MNH offers **Peer Supported Transportation Services, designed to provide transportation, primarily rides to and from work and school to clients** of Johnson County Mental Health Center and Johnson County Developmental Supports when no other transportation options or resources are available.

The mental health center hosted **the first Johnson County Recovery Conference** in which participants learned about recovery, met others and empowered each other through shared experiences and discussed how to inform and educate citizens about mental illness and recovery.

MNH’s Co-Responder Program received the **2017 United Community Services Excellence in Community Service Award.**



In summer 2017, a multi-departmental team, including MNH, presented **justice and mental health data** to the **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Best Practices Implementation Academy** in Washington D.C.

Co-Responder Megan Younger received a **Public Safety Award from Overland Park Police Department** for work on a particularly high risk situation.



Tele-psychiatry: MNH initiated virtual psychiatry services

which is an innovative way of providing psychiatric care through telecommunication technology and offers a simple, easy-to-use platform to connect clients with mental health providers. To date it’s been effective and well

received by clients and staff, serving as **an innovative method to improve access to care.**



Lexington Lake Park opened in early summer in time for residents to enjoy fishing, trails and other outdoor activities. The park had 65,000 visitors in 2017.

Culture & History

Johnson County Park & Recreation District (JCPRD) enhances the quality of life in the county by providing high-quality parks, services and recreation programs.

This past year saw many successes for JCPRD with park and facility openings, awards and plans for new beginnings.

New facility and recreation areas

The highly anticipated opening of the new Johnson County Arts & Heritage Center was in early June with a free community day attended by nearly 5,000 residents. The center provides an expanded new home for the Johnson County Museum and its 1950s All-Electric House, as well as space for multiple programs including cultural enrichment opportunities, and music and dance classes. Also included is The Black Box Theatre, The Theatre in the Park's year-round venue to supplement summer productions in Shawnee Mission Park.

Lexington Lake Park near De Soto opened in early July. Previously known as Rieke Lake, a private fishing lake, this 465-acre property features a 27-acre lake. Phase I park developments include a boat ramp and courtesy dock, a 1.55 mile paved trail around the lake, a playground, restroom and picnic shelter. The property also features a virgin prairie, and more than 300 acres of oak and hickory forest.

The Coffee Creek Streamway Park's initial phase of 3.4 miles of trail opened in mid-October. The new trail stretches from Heritage Park east to Switzer Road. Trail users will find restrooms and other amenities in the shelter near Heritage Park Shelters 9 and 10.

Planning for the future

In all, JCPRD is planning \$35 million in 2018 projects, including nearly \$18 million in new projects and the remainder in carryover projects from past years. Those projects include:

Big Bull Creek Park is 2,000 acres and is expected to open in spring 2018 with a discover nature playground with shelters and restrooms, a group campground, a combined park police substation and maintenance building. Located between Gardner and Edgerton, these Phase I development projects will be spread over three areas within the park.

Meadowbrook Park in Prairie Village is an 80-acre component of a mixed-used development on the site of the former Meadowbrook Golf & Country Club.



Johnson County Arts & Heritage Center in Overland Park opened in June 2017.



JCPRD hosted its first Park Palooza in September. Residents enjoyed a range of activities offered that day.



Coffee Creek Streamway Park opened in October, offering trails for recreational walking, hiking and biking.

Expected to open in summer 2018, the park will include a destination playground, nature play area, large pavilion shelter, outdoor fitness equipment and the 10,000-square-foot Meadowbrook Park Clubhouse.

Inclusive playgrounds, designed to enable all children to play together without physical or social barriers, are being developed by JCPRD at two sites. Construction started in early 2018, with a playground at Stilwell Community Park opening in July, and another near the north Walnut Grove area of Shawnee Mission Park opening in September.

County museum celebrates milestone

This was an exciting year for the Johnson County Museum as it marked its 50th Anniversary observed in its new home at the Johnson County Arts & Heritage Center. All are invited to see the milestone anniversary exhibit *Let's Celebrate!*, on view through April 4, 2018.



Three awards highlight JCPRD

In late September, **JCPRD brought home the top national honor in the park and recreation field — the prestigious National Gold Medal Award.**

The honor was announced during the National Recreation and Park Association's Annual Conference. The award's Class I (agencies serving a population of more than 400,000) is the largest of the five population-based categories. JCPRD was previously



a finalist in 1991, 1993, 1994 and 2016, and won the Gold Medal Award in 1995.

The Kansas City chapter of the American Institute of Architects presented a **Design Excellence Award in the Concept** category for the design called **Tidal for the new Shawnee**



Mission Park Beach House, which will open around Memorial Day 2018. The facility features a wave-like roof design.

In May, JCPRD Executive Director Jill Geller was among five people **honored as Inspirational Women of Johnson County by Johnson County Lifestyle Magazine.** The magazine's article noted Geller's commitment to JCPRD and its mission of enhancing the quality of life in Johnson County for more than 30 years.

2017 with JCPRD



JCPRD's first **Park Palooza** event was a great success in September 2017.

Park Palooza was a six-hour park party featuring music, entertainment,

activities and food held at and around The Theatre in the Park venue. Free to all attendees, the event was a gesture of appreciation for the community's ongoing support of JCPRD. The 2018 Park Palooza is scheduled for Sept. 16.

The popular **Dodge Town Play area** in Antioch Park is receiving a big makeover.



When it reopens in the second quarter of 2018, the popular **western-themed play area will feature a pour-in-place surface** between the structures, and most of the same buildings, as well as faux horses and cows, and **a new train station, complete with a stationary train.**



JCPRD is a leader in efforts to **improve pollinator habitat in Johnson County.**

Planting, planning, and partnering are among JCPRD's recent and ongoing efforts to make a difference for monarch butterflies and other pollinators, and have included **the establishment of a seed library of native species and plantings at Heritage Park, the Mill Creek Streamway Park and Lexington Lake Park**, as well as working with the Kansas City Native Plant Initiative.



Records and Tax Administration (RTA) combines several local government functions including keeping the archives of county records.

Johnson County Department of Records and Tax Administration (RTA)

combines the duties of the register of deeds, county clerk, and archives and record management. RTA records and indexes all land record documents; creates, maintains and calculates mill levies and annual taxes.

RTA is also home to the county call center and manages the Johnson County Board of County Commissioners business meeting process.

Since 2014, RTA recorded almost 464,000 documents, an average of 9,660 documents per month. During that time, RTA also recorded 693 new plats. The real estate parcel count in Johnson County is currently at 210,941, an increase of more than 1,200 new parcels since 2016.

The Archives Division processed almost 3,400 records and provided support to 40 general public customers. The county call center responded to more than 116,000 calls, including calls for county business, court business, motor vehicle and miscellaneous items.

Looking ahead

In 2018, RTA plans to expand the electronic record storage process for archived records, explore other functionality within the tax roll application and develop additional tax roll reporting features.

2017 in RTA

RTA tax roll and tax roll administration



RTA, along with the Appraiser's Office and the Department of Treasury and Financial Management, has implemented a new tax roll software solution. These land record offices are now all processing on the same software.

Through its **modular design and shared database options**, the three departments can effectively provide **an integrated, shared solution that enhances workflow, improves data verification and provides expanded reporting options.** The shared software environment is the first of its kind in Kansas local government and one of only a few in the nation.

Tax roll reporting, including the calculated levies and annual tax abstract, are located on the RTA section at jocogov.org.

RTA archives and records management

RTA recently completed **an upgrade to its archive and record management software.**

The department's Archives Division is responsible for all county and court record storage, retention and destruction. The upgrade provides for **enhanced metrics information, shopping cart technology for easy record requests and returns, and improved reporting tools.**



Education & Skills

Johnson County Library (JCL) provides access to ideas, information, experiences and materials that support and enrich people's lives.

The department's 2014–2018 Strategic Plan continues to guide the library in its goals of education, community building and convenience. This underpins a desire to be an integral part of Johnson County through effective programming, quality patron and staff interactions, and circulation of a collection which invigorates thought.



Initiatives and partnerships

As a place where community members can exchange ideas and create change, the library cultivated a number of new partnerships. These partnerships included the merging of library and county human resources for improved efficiency and the continuation of the successful Summer Lunch feeding alliance with Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas. The initiative served lunches four days a week — 1,700 meals. This is an increase from 600 meals served in 2016. Central staff also engaged with families during the events, providing crafts and activities.

Another venture was a one-day breakfast site produced by Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas at the Antioch branch. A total of 215 children were served and the branch is looking into the opportunity to serve adults in 2018.

The year's highlights also included installation of a gallery space co-sponsored by Arts Asylum, a creative studio for Kansas City artists, and a revamp of the **jocohistory.org** website, a collaboration between the library and the Johnson County Arts & Heritage Center.

New offerings and services

Through these outreach initiatives and community partnerships, library patrons throughout the county benefit from new offerings and services. One example includes the launch of a new book group discussion at the Treatment Community where clients meet weekly to discuss titles relevant to recovery and employment.

Other highlights include the creation of jobs/career centers in the branches where patrons can obtain information and view up-to-date listings for local companies that are hiring and ongoing tech training programs for community members.

For the youngest patrons, Storytime continues to celebrate the important early literacy skills each child needs by the age of 6. Skill building continues for children and teens who participate in the summer reading program. This year, young participants in the program received their own book to build a personal library. The summer reading season culminated in August with Library Night at the K, a metro-wide library celebration at Kauffman Stadium. Library Night at the K included metro library directors taking the mound in celebration of reading and lifelong literacy skills.

Library capital improvements

Building of another kind occurred in the form of capital improvement projects within the Comprehensive Library Master Plan (CLMP). Each CLMP initiative enables the library to make needed changes and enhancements within branches throughout the



Johnson County Library has a range of activities for residents of all ages. Visit jocolibrary.org for more information.



Construction of the Monticello branch, set to open in late 2018, is well underway in western Shawnee.



Future visitors of the Lenexa City Center branch of JCL will enjoy a multi-level facility, anticipated to open in 2019.



County and library board members broke ground on the Lenexa City Center branch in late 2017.



County libraries participate in and host events during the year, make sure to check out jocolibrary.org.

county, collectively representing opportunities for the development of a county library system paralleling the dynamic growth of Johnson County.

Capital projects advanced under the CLMP in 2017

- Construction of Monticello Library, 22435 W. 66th St. in western Shawnee
- Groundbreaking for Lenexa City Center Library, 8778 Penrose Lane in Lenexa
- Public input sessions and civic study of Blue Valley Library, 9000 W. 151 St. in Overland Park

During the year, construction of Monticello Library progressed and the exterior of the building was closed as work continues on the interior. Meanwhile, librarians throughout the system continue to assemble a collection for Monticello Library, scheduled to open in third quarter 2018.

Another CLMP project is Lenexa City Center Library. On Nov. 28, 2017, the Board of County Commissioners and the Johnson County Library Board of Directors

broke ground for the library's newest branch. The two-level, approximately 40,000-square-foot library will double the size and replace the existing Lackman Library. The new location boasts a dynamic open floor plan that permits rearrangement in response to changes in the library's service population. Lenexa Library has a 2019 anticipated opening date.

2017 with JCL



The Spring Hill branch received a 30-year membership anniversary award from the Spring Hill Chamber of Commerce.

Amazon gave a \$5,000 grant to Edgerton Library to help upgrade the 6 by 6 early-literacy space as well as provide improvements to the youth and teen areas.



Johnson County K-State Research and Extension is part of a nationwide system of U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Services and is a branch of Kansas State University. Extension services help residents apply information in an unbiased way, without product or company endorsements.

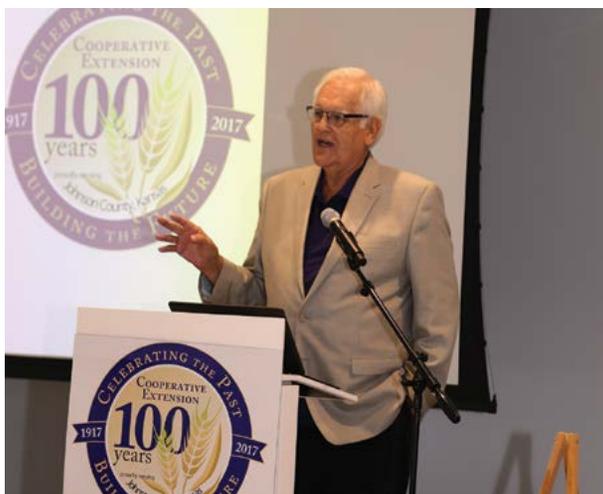
Healthy eating is important

The Four Course Living program helps adults with developmental disabilities who have aged out of school-based programs discover the importance of nutrition, safety, meal planning and preparation through a series of hands-on cooking classes. Each class is designed to meet the students' individual needs so they may continue living a healthy, cost effective and independent life.

Extension also brought the national Dining with Diabetes program to Johnson County residents. This is a university-based program developed by National Cooperative Extension for people with Type 2 diabetes and their families or caregivers. This four-class series helps those with diabetes learn about ways to address the challenges of the disease and promote healthy living. Participants learn how to incorporate good, healthy cooking techniques and other practices in their own kitchens to help manage their blood glucose. The program includes sampling healthy foods and discussion with a dietitian or certified diabetes educator.

Grants and donations provide opportunities

A grant from National 4-H and Bayer awarded extension \$25,000 for their Science Matters program that addresses the need for enhanced STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education and growing a STEM workforce. The goal is to foster a love of scientific exploration in students across urban and rural areas around the country.



K-State Extension celebrated its centennial anniversary in Johnson County.

Johnson County was the only county selected nationally to participate, along with four other states. Fifteen youths (4-H and non-4-H), ages 13 to 17 will work with local Bayer volunteers to identify three science-based issues facing the county, and develop programs that address each issue. In January 2018, they attended the National Youth Summit on AgriScience, organized by National 4-H in Washington, D.C. This summit emphasizes hands-on educational experiences led by experts in the agricultural community.



Operation Red File is a partnership with the Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services. Donations provided free files to residents. The files hold important emergency medical and contact information, including prescription drug lists, advance directives and a current photo in case of a silver alert. The program was introduced at an October event when more than 1,000 files were handed out. In just 10 days, an additional 500 files were distributed to residents.

2017 with K-State Research & Extension



Most soil tests conducted ever: Extension provided fertility recommendations for 1,500 soil samples, a record for one year. Soil testing tells the client the base fertility levels. Extension then provides the correct rates, analysis and application times for success.

Number of county, municipality and non-profit extension partners was 63

63

Extension is able to leverage its educational outreach far beyond its initial capacity of a local office with 17 employees by collaborating and partnering with a large number of individuals, county departments, local and state agencies, non-profits and corporations who are dedicated to serving the citizens of Johnson County.

Extension volunteers and their contributions to the county.

- **961** total number of volunteers
- **Volunteer hours of 67,683** with a dollar value of volunteer service to the county: **\$1.63 million worth of services and labor.**



During the Medicare Open Enrollment period, extension provided **Medicare Part D counseling and saved Medicare participants \$218,403.**

Extension expanded the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program and began **free monthly income tax assistance** by appointment. Previously VITA was only offered during tax season.

2017 at Johnson County Airport Commission

The New Century Water System — which supplies more than 300 million gallons of water to more than 60 businesses — received **recertification from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.**



Received the **Jake Safety Award for no injuries while operating the Johnson County Airport Commission Railroad** from the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association.



Recognized by Kansas Department of Transportation **for hosting an overnight stop** as part of the 2017 Kansas Air Tour at New Century AirCenter.

The economic impact of both the airports and the business park **is more than \$2 billion** for Johnson County and the Kansas City region.



New Century AirCenter landed a C-5 Galaxy multiple times in 2017. It's the **largest airplane flown by the Air Force.**

2017 Appraiser's Office

| Metric | 2016 | 2017 |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Total taxable reappraisal growth | 4.60% | 6.23% |
| Commercial value reappraisal grew | 8.24% | 3.48% |
| Residential value reappraisal changed | 4.85% | 7.45% |

Enterprise & Growth

Johnson County Airport Commission (JCAC) develops and operates a system of air transportation facilities that serve the aviation needs of the region, contribute to the economic vitality and quality of life in the county, and integrate with the National Plan for Integrated Airport Systems.

Rehabilitation projects underway

The airport commission completed rehabilitation of the northeast transient ramp project at New Century AirCenter with a \$1.5 million investment, and reconstruction of the west T-hangar taxilanes and northeast transient apron project at Johnson County Executive Airport with a \$4.6 million investment.

Following strong storms and straight-line winds on March 6, 2017, five T-hangars at Johnson County Executive Airport were damaged and are now being reconstructed.



Public Works invested more than \$900,000 in resurfacing the New Century Parkway to

support economic development efforts at the New Century Business Park.

Looking forward

- All high-pressure sodium lights will be converted to LEDs on the New Century Parkway.
- The commission will complete an environmental assessment required by the FAA to unlock hundreds of acres at New Century for business development.
- The commission plans to acquire more land to improve the runway safety buffer at Johnson County Executive Airport.

Johnson County Appraiser's Office established the fair values of real and personal property that meet compliance standards established by the state.

Office earns accolades

The appraiser's office earned its second recertification of the prestigious International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) Certificate of Excellence in Assessment Administration which recognizes those governmental units using best appraisal and assessment practices throughout their offices, including a strong emphasis on teamwork, performance and a high level of satisfaction among peers, staff and constituents. The certificate of excellence is intended for jurisdictions that have developed superior assessment practices for all aspects of their operations.

All appraisers in Johnson County are on a continuous appraisal education path to achieve designations.

Three staff members earned the Registered Mass Appraiser designation and seven earned IAAO Residential Evaluation Specialist designation.

The Kansas Division of Property Valuation continues to recognize Johnson County for maintaining the prestigious position of being in statistical and substantial compliance of appraised values. The value of all property appraised must be within 90 to 110 percent of the market price. Johnson County has achieved success in the state's review each year since 1993.



A collaborative effort

This year, the Appraiser's Office, Treasury and Financial Management, and Records

and Tax Administration are all operating under the Enterprise Land Records software platform. This enables the county to process and manage property records, property valuations and property tax collections using a single system instead of three separate and disparate systems. All three departments successfully went live with the new, integrated system on Nov. 1, 2017.

Johnson County Election Office maintains voter registration records, administers federal, state, and local elections, and serves more than 395,000 registered voters in the county.

Last year, the election office administered the first local elections under a new law, moving odd-year elections from spring to fall. Along with offering the same six advance voting locations used during the 2016 presidential election, the move to annual August and November elections helped further the election office's goal of providing the county's voters with a consistent, convenient voting experience.

The election office also continued use of an application that allows voters to request an advance voting ballot from their mobile device with one click.

Highlight of the year

The increased accessibility and expanded opportunities were a success, and record-setting turnout for advance voting was the highlight of the year. The number of votes cast before Election Day in August and November surpassed previous high-water marks that had stood for a decade, as nearly 30 percent of the votes cast in each election were cast by voters taking advantage of the new advance voting options.



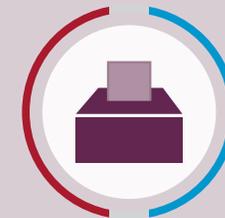
In August, the election office administered the county's first election under the state of Kansas' new elections law. The Johnson County Election Office has information to assist local voters on its website, jocoelection.org.

To administer the election in August, the election office recruited and trained more than 750 election workers and deployed 550 voting machines to 147 polling locations throughout the county. In November, 1,100 election workers and 600 voting machines were sent to the county's 199 polling locations with 185 candidates in 97 contests on the ballot.

When all the votes were counted, the county's voters more than doubled their turnout from the local elections in 2013.



Voter registration in the county continued to grow in 2017, as the election office cultivated partnerships with political parties, civic organizations, like the League of Women Voters, and school districts to help county residents register to vote. The office also maintained a presence at fairs, festivals and events in an effort to engage citizens in the voting process. The initiatives led to 10,000 voter registrations during the year.



2017 comparisons of voter turnout for local elections

Primary Elections

- February 2013: **4.54%**
- March 2015: **5.93%**
- August 2017: **9.92%**

General Elections

- April 2013: **7.98%**
- April 2015: **10.01%**
- November 2017: **17.19%**

Johnson County Wastewater received multiple awards for its outstanding compliance record from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies.



Several JCW employees attended the CORE4 Career Expo to help local high school students understand that wastewater is one function of our county's government.

Johnson County Wastewater (JCW) protects the environment, serves its customers and enhances local communities.

This past year, JCW carried on its tradition of providing excellent service and earning accolades for those efforts.

NACWA Peak Performance Awards



The National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) annually recognizes public wastewater facilities for outstanding compliance with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit limits. This recognition program consists of Peak Performance Awards in three categories — Platinum, Gold and Silver.

Two JCW treatment facilities received the Gold Peak Performance Award which honors treatment works that have achieved 100 percent compliance with the NPDES permit. JCW received four Platinum Peak Performance Awards to honor treatment works that have completed at least five

consecutive years of complete and consistent National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit compliance. This is the highest number of Platinum Awards the department has ever earned.

Johnson County Wastewater advances customer service

Johnson County Wastewater launched the MyGovernmentOnline permit and inspection software May 1. The software enhances the permit application submittal, plan review and inspection experience for owners, engineers, contractors, tenants and other customers through convenient online services. The MyGovernmentOnline software allows customers to apply for permits online rather than traveling to a designated

permit office. Documents required with an application, such as architectural plans, civil plans, plumbing plans, surveys, plats, calculations, etc. can be uploaded when submitting the application and reviews are paperless.



Inspection requests as well as completed inspection reports are also online. Customers receive real-time email or telephone call notifications.

Tomahawk Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion Project

The Tomahawk Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion Project progressed with design in 2017. The county selected a construction manager at risk, CMAR,

to assist with preconstruction phase services through the design process. The design team, including the engineer, CMAR, and JCW staff, collaborated on the design using 3D building information modeling (BIM) software.

This software allows for improved decision making for both constructibility as well as long-term operation and maintenance of the facility. Designers, constructors, operations and engineers can experience the proposed designs in virtual reality, making changes as they are identified. BIM drawings are then printed in 2D for construction, providing a faster, more efficient process for design and construction. Construction is anticipated to begin in spring 2018.



The Tomahawk Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion Project will address three main concerns: new water quality regulations, an increase in treatment costs from KCMO and aging assets.

Johnson County Planning, Development and Codes ensures coordinated, efficient and safe development for current and future county residents and businesses. The department provides professional, long-range planning; policy and demographic analysis; development of plan reviews; zoning and building code enforcement; and construction contractor licensing, education and monitoring.

Providing more service

The department processed more than 600 new construction building permits, an increase of more than 20 percent from previous years.

2017 was the conclusion of a multi-year effort with the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners to address agritourism/agriculture activities in the county's unincorporated areas.

Once again, the Contractor Licensing Program is ranked by the International Codes Council (ICC) as the largest provider of contractor training in the U.S. for offering more than 250 contractor training classes.

What's ahead

In late 2017, staff and policymakers began a review of current development patterns and trends to identify inconsistent development patterns in the county

for Land Division. This review will result in better consistency for decision making between the zoning boards, planning staff and the public.

Staff is working with the Contractor Licensing Division to develop a strategic plan and to standardize business practices for greater efficiency to bring this program to even greater performance levels. This will result in an expanded selection of classes using the latest education technology, and will help identify key education areas to ensure long-term success of the program.

The Building Division has started working with the Mid-America Regional Council to expedite the processing of solar energy related permits and processes through its SolSmart initiative. This effort provides greater administrative efficiency and increases contractor participation in exploring solar energy.



The Contractor Licensing program continues to be the largest educational training resource in the U.S. for contractors and design professionals in the region. To find out if a contractor is licensed in Johnson County, check out the contractor registry at cls.jocogov.org/CLSCOURSEREG.



Johnson County Public Works and Infrastructure plans, develops and implements the county's policies, goals and objectives.

While each of the following projects have a different goal, they are both examples of projects undertaken by Public Works to improve safety, efficiency and reduce costs.

183rd Street: Mission to Nall — Road Improvement Project

The 183rd Street project was constructed to accommodate future traffic needs brought on by development in southeastern Johnson County. This new connection, between Nall Avenue and Mission Road, provides a paved road to link residents from the new and future subdivisions along State Line Road to U.S. Highway 69. Within a few weeks of opening this road, traffic counts showed upwards of 2,500 vehicles per day using this new route. The project includes a mile of new two-lane asphalt roadway with shoulders and a 645-foot steel plate girder bridge over Camp Branch Creek and Union Pacific Railroad. The construction project cost was \$4.6 million.

Integrated planning in the Blue River watershed



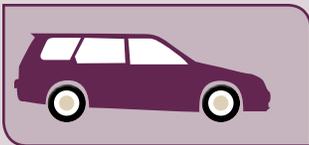
The Blue River originates in southeast Johnson County, Kansas and flows 41 miles northeast, across the state line, through Kansas City, Missouri, to the Missouri River. The watershed includes all or part of 18 different municipalities, four counties and two states. Currently, each of these entities are permitted separately under the Clean Water Act under various municipal stormwater and wastewater programs. The city of Kansas City, Missouri, and Johnson County are currently exploring the feasibility of using the EPA's Integrated Planning Framework to help meet these requirements. Initial findings look promising, and the new plan could help everyone prioritize water quality protection investments and fulfill more comprehensive water quality regulations in the future.

2017 Treasury and Financial Management

The investment portfolio **average daily balance is \$621 million**, with peaks in excess of \$1 billion each December.



The county's insured property values total \$989 million.



773 county vehicles are insured — traveling **5.7 million miles** annually.

The county insures a 1955 Chevrolet Belair **(a Johnson County Museum display).**

\$195,377 was the total revenue received **from county surplus sold in 2017.**

Johnson County Treasury and Financial Management Department provides financial reporting and information; bills, collects and distributes tax monies; administers an open and competitive procurement process; administers vehicle registrations and titles; maintains risk management, insurance programs and more.



New county DMV office hours in 2018 are 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Friday.

The Treasury Division collected more than \$1.2 billion in property taxes with a delinquency rate of only 0.94 percent. Additionally, the division implemented new enterprise land records technology to upgrade its decades-old tax collection software.

The Division of Motor Vehicles implemented two self-service vehicle registration renewal kiosks to better manage customer volumes and county resources and to improve service delivery by offering a new payment method. Early successes of the program include positive customer feedback and high adoption rates of

more than 20 percent of in-office renewal transactions being processed at a kiosk.

The Purchasing Division hosted a vendor outreach event to promote fair and open competition, provide

information on current opportunities and connect vendors with department representatives with more than 100 vendors attending.



RideKC in Johnson County continues to find innovative ways to get more people across the region to jobs, services and events as part of our regional transit system, and 2017 saw our regional partnership with the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority (KCATA) become stronger and more visible.

In 2014, the KCATA, Johnson County Transit, Unified Government Transit and Independence, Missouri merged all bus

services into one regional service and brand, RideKC. The bus service in Johnson County is funded by the county but managed by the KCATA.

For the first time in county history, every route marker is now uniformly branded and includes informational detail, including the route number, RideKC website address and customer service phone number. Similarly, each of the “park-and-ride” shelter locations and monument signs along the Metcalf corridor and Mission Transit Center have been updated to reflect the regional RideKC brand.

With a new look to our transit infrastructure, RideKC also made strides in making the system easy to access by introducing a mobile app that allows riders to pay their fare and plan their trip right from their smartphone. The app can be used on any RideKC fixed-route in the system, including Wyandotte County, and Independence and Kansas City, Missouri.

Last year also saw the introduction of the Veterans Pass Program, which provides free fares for eligible veterans, as well as the new “Freedom On-Demand” pilot, providing same-day, on-demand service for both transit and paratransit users. Information on both initiatives can be found at ridekc.org or 816-221-0660.

With transportation as one of the county commission’s strategic priorities for 2018, transit staff completed the Southwest Johnson County Transit Plan study in 2017 to explore jobs access transportation to the Logistics Park Kansas City in Edgerton. As a result, the Board of County Commissioners voted to establish reverse commute service to southwest Johnson County and to expand jobs-focused paratransit service.

Staff also kicked-off a study to identify pedestrian and mobility improvements at the intersection of 75th and Metcalf Avenue in Overland Park. These strategic planning efforts will help to keep transit in Johnson County efficient and effective in the years to come.

2017 TFM — continued



The Benefits Division was awarded the **Gold Level Healthy KC Certification**, the highest level of certification from the Greater

KC Chamber of Commerce. The division was also recognized with the **National Association of Government Defined Contribution Administrators Leadership Recognition award** for its retirement planning communication strategy.

The Procurement Division was awarded the **2017 Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award**, given annually for promoting innovation, professionalism, e-procurement, productivity and leadership in the procurement field.

The Accounting Division was awarded the **2016 Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting**. The certificate recognizes organizations that demonstrate transparency and full disclosure in financial reporting.



In 2017, RideKC offered more than 660,000 free fixed-route boarding to veterans of U.S. Armed Services across the region since the program began. The veterans program continues into 2018.

Safety & Protection

Johnson County Department of Corrections (DOC) leads by example, supports and protects the community by encouraging responsibility and positive lasting change.

In 2017, the Department of Corrections advanced several programs.

Positive Behavioral Supports

The Juvenile Services Center launched Positive Behavioral Supports (PBS) in February 2017 after several months of planning and specialized training. PBS is intended to teach and model behaviors and expectations, teach new replacement behaviors and provide real-time positive reinforcement to youth who are effectively exhibiting appropriate behavior while in the custody of Juvenile Services.

New community-based programming



In collaboration with the Olathe School District and Johnson County Mental Health Center, DOC received a Kansas Department of Corrections reinvestment grant to implement a day resource center to offer mental health treatment and provide educational services for youth who have been suspended long-term from school.

Evidence-based practices

The Department of Corrections has long supported evidence-based practices. Following a comprehensive review, the department identified strengths and weaknesses around program fidelity. Fidelity is defined as: “The extent to which delivery of an intervention adheres to the protocol or program model originally developed.” Without robust fidelity planning and continuous feedback, staff run the risk of drifting from best practices over time.



2017 NACo Achievement Award for Children and Youth: Protective Homes

The Protective Homes program was launched in 2014 in response to the struggle the Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center was having in finding out-of-home placements for youth placed in police protective custody. These youths were often being placed in detention when no other placements could be found. This program recruits responsible adults to serve as a temporary placement, for up to 72 hours, while the youth are in police protective custody.

The adults and their homes do not need to be licensed as a foster home; rather they must meet minimum requirements: undergo a background check and a home inspection. The first group of protective home providers were trained in September 2014. Since then, 36 families



In 2017, the Adolescent Center for Treatment moved into the Youth and Family Services facility.

have been trained. Out of 219 youth processed in intake, 154 have been placed in protective homes. Most homes have accepted between six to eight youth since joining

The Johnson County District Court looks to dispense justice, enhance social order, resolve disputes, maintain the rule of law and ensure due process.

Partnerships are key to improving services for the county's underserved populations.



The court has improved access to the legal system by expanding relationships with the Kansas Bar Association to provide more retired attorneys to assist clients in the help center. These volunteers are

available five days a week by appointment and on a walk-in basis. Unrepresented litigants in domestic and eviction cases are given access to free legal advice, in addition to the services provided by employees and resource navigators.

The Court's Resource Navigator program is a partnership with Johnson County Human Services to give individuals immediate access to information and referrals to Johnson County's wraparound service providers. Wraparound services are designed for high-risk children and adolescents with the most complex needs. These services aim to keep children and their families together through individualized services developed in a family-centered, team planning

Johnson County Office of the District Court Trustee works to enrich the lives of children and families served by providing information, resources, reliable payment records and fair enforcement of family support orders.

The District Court Trustee is a fee-funded office that collects child support and spousal support for nearly 10,000 Johnson County court orders. At 2.5 percent, with

the program. The stakeholders meet twice annually to review the process and make adjustments as needed.

process. Services are provided at home and in the community. Many of the more than 400,000 people who come to the courthouse each year are in need of these services — for themselves or their families. The resource navigator is able to address some of those needs from the courthouse.

Improving access to justice

The court has a successful domestic relations night court. Self-represented litigants in simple domestic cases are given the option to appear at an informal hearing after normal business hours. In conjunction with the Johnson County Bar Association and American Inn of Courts, volunteer attorneys assist individuals in completing these cases. The court continues to identify ways to improve meaningful access to justice.

In its second year, the court continued Constitution Day celebrations. More than 60 volunteers including judges from the Kansas Court of Appeals, retired judges, local attorneys, Johnson County Crime Lab, Facilities Department, and court employees came together to provide free legal services and civics education.

a capped maximum of \$30 per month, Johnson County has one of the lowest enforcement fees on support payments in Kansas.



In late 2017, the help center at the county courthouse celebrated assistance to more than 15,000 clients, an average of 470 visits and 360 phone calls each month

2017 District Court Trustee

Pay support using cash

Payors of support can now create a PayNearMe barcode at kspaycenter.com and pay up to \$1,000 cash at 7-Eleven, Family Dollar, CVS, Casey's General Store and Ace Cash Express.



Some support cases in Johnson County are enforced by **the Kansas Department for Children and Families.**

2017 District Attorney's Office —



Last year, Kansas saw **more than 1,100 impaired driving crashes**. On average in Kansas, **impaired drivers cause 25-30 percent of traffic fatalities**.



District Attorney Steve Howe was awarded the **Law Enforcement Commendation Medal** during the 31st Annual George Washington

Birthday Celebration presented by the National Society – Sons of the American Revolution – KC Area Chapters. He was also recognized **by the Kansas Advocates for Better Care for his leadership in addressing elder abuse** in the criminal justice system, including implementation of the multidisciplinary investigative model, and for his strong advocacy for new state laws to better protect older adults and more appropriately penalize those who commit crimes against them.

Chief Investigator Dana Gouge, received the **Kansas Attorney General's 2017 Crime Victims' Service Award**.

2017 EMC



The past year saw **a united effort between all divisions** in the department. **EMC handled more than 110,000 calls, dispatching more than 60,000 fire and emergency medical incidents.**



At the end of April, staff moved from the Justice Annex, 588 East Santa Fe Street back into the courthouse and are located on the third floor near the hearing office.

Fees for Parents Forever, mediation, conciliation, custody evaluations and supervised visitation are now paid to the District Court Clerk Central Cashier instead of the District Court Trustee. Fees may be paid online

Johnson County District Attorney's Office protects the public through a fair application of the law, through earning and maintaining public trust, and advocating for victims' rights.

Last fall, the district attorney's office rolled out their Peer Support Program. Its mission is to offer confidential assistance and support to all district attorney employees and family members in times of personal need or due to traumatic incidents. The Peer Support Team comprises eight employees from different areas of the district attorney's office. The Peer Support Team functions as a support and debriefing resource for employees and their families. The team provides support to personnel experiencing personal and work-related stress and provides support during and following critical or traumatic incidents resulting from performance of duty.



The district attorney's office, the Kansas Attorney General's Office, KDOT, and other state and local law

Emergency Management & Communications (EMC) provides the essential connection between the community and emergency services while doing the right thing, at the right time, for the right reason.



The department coordinated response and recovery efforts for multiple events in the county, which included March 6 straight-line winds and a tornado affecting the Johnson County Executive Airport;

with a debit/credit card at **jococourts.org** or by calling 1-888-877-0450.

For questions about enforcement of your support case, contact the District Court Trustee at 913-715-3600, **court-trustee@jocogov.org**, by fax at 913-715-3700 or by mail at 100 North Kansas Ave., Suite 337, Olathe, KS 66061.

enforcement agencies announced enhanced impaired driving enforcement, this included an initiative called No Refusal Weekend, when all suspected impaired drivers who refused breath testing were subject to blood testing for alcohol and drugs. During No Refusal Weekend, law enforcement and prosecutors coordinated to obtain search warrants for blood when a suspected impaired driver refused a breath test. This initiative helped ensure that prosecutors obtained the scientific evidence necessary to effectively pursue cases involving impaired drivers.

District Attorney Steve Howe and prosecutors from Douglas, Leavenworth, Shawnee and Sedgwick counties met with the congressional delegation in Washington, D.C. regarding public safety issues facing Kansas.

March 20 City Place fires in Overland Park, a historic fire event for the city and county where more than 50 city, county and mutual-aid resources were used; July 22 and 27 severe storms and flooding causing county-wide damage resulting in county, state and

federal disaster declarations; Aug. 21 and 22 a flash flood emergency resulting in another county disaster declaration; and Dec. 4 as a major 9-1-1 outage due to a problem with the metro 9-1-1 phone system occurred, affecting cities in Johnson County. Call taking operations for these agencies were transferred to the County Communications Center during the incident to allow 9-1-1 functionality to continue seamlessly.



Fire departments and emergency medical service agencies from across the region collaborated on a launch of the free PulsePoint app in August. The app sends alerts when someone in a nearby public place suffers sudden cardiac arrest. This is the largest regional effort on a simultaneous implementation in the nation. Anyone with a smartphone can download the free PulsePoint app through the Google and Apple app stores.

Johnson County Emergency Medical Services (MED-ACT) ensures medical emergencies have the best possible outcome.

Community partnerships at work

Several partnerships in 2017 increased services to Johnson County residents.



A major milestone was achieved with the help of fire departments, police departments and school districts as more than 10,000 residents were trained in CPR and AED education, pushing the total past 50,000 people trained since 2014.

MED-ACT continues to serve the community by helping our high schools develop their own EMS programs. Paramedics welcomed riders from the Blue Valley School District's CAPS program and Captain Brian Schoenig acted as the liaison to the 21st Century Schools' EMS Program in the Olathe School District.

2017 Emergency Management & Communications



Dr. Ryan Jacobsen, EMS System Medical Director, received the **Kansas Emergency Medical Services Association Physician of the Year Award** at the KEMSA Conference.

The EMS System was awarded the Mission Lifeline Silver Plus Award. This award recognizes our Johnson County EMS System collaboration on urgent, time-critical disease states such as stroke, ST- Elevation Myocardial Infarction and out-of-hospital cardiac arrest, broadening the quality improvement review process in the

pre-hospital environment across disease states.

The EMS System was awarded the United Community Service Award for Excellence in Community Service. The award recognized the Johnson County EMS System along with the Johnson County Mental Health Department **for their joint efforts in the Johnson County Mental Health Co-Responder Program.** **The UCS Excellence in Community Service Award recognizes an organization or partnership that has significantly improved the lives of Johnson County residents.**

2017 MED-ACT

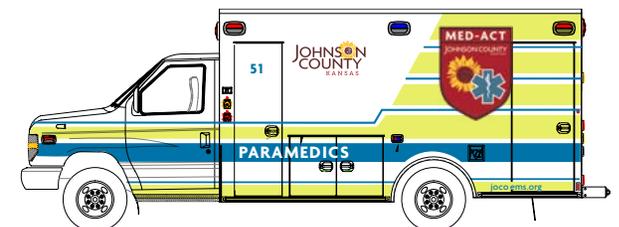


MED-ACT proudly received notice from the **Kansas City Metro Tactical Officers Association (KCMTOA)** introducing **MED-ACT Captain Christopher Winger as the first non-law enforcement Board Member** to the KCMTOA Board of Directors. Captain Winger was appointed for his incredible organization skills and his help in developing and teaching the Tactical EMS courses to the association.

The department serves as the primary field internship site for JCCC and hosts more than 90 percent of their interns (36 in 2017). Through the Paramedic Program, interns from Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Southeast Community College in Lincoln, Nebraska, and Kansas City, Kansas Community College were also invited to intern with the department last year. UMKC's School of Medicine pediatric and emergency residents had opportunities to complete the requirements of their programs through rides along with MED-ACT battalion chiefs.

New initiative makes an impact

A teen distracted driving initiative called Grave Mistakes was implemented by MED-ACT Community Education. The program uses research from state and federal





2017 Detention Bureau stats

Bookings: 15,489

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|---------------------|--------|
| Males | 10,975 | Females | 4,514 |
| Average population: | 763 | Total capacity | 1,082 |
| Average length of stay: 19.2 days | | | |
| Inmate video court appearances | 12,259 | Inmates transported | 14,835 |

2017 Sheriff's Office —



In 2017, the **Communications Division** handled approximately 87,500 9-1-1 calls and a total of 271,500 phone calls.

County outreach programs continued with installation of 84 child safety seats and educating families in the community.



In the course of its work last year, the **Personnel Division** processed 712 conceal and carry applications for county residents and fingerprinted 2,002 people.

The **Personnel Division** moved to the **Justice Annex** located in downtown Olathe in 2017 to increase access for public requests and application processes.



The **Training Division** hosted monthly community events, including women's self-defense, CPR, bully awareness and handgun safety.

transportation authorities, actual crash scene visuals and a live speaker to engage students in a discussion on various points of distraction while driving. The program

Johnson County Sheriff's Office is dedicated to duty, honor and service. Multiple divisions and units work together for the benefit and safety of Johnson County residents.

Last year, the **Civil Division's** activity included the issuance of 41,110 papers for service, up slightly from 2016. Overall, they maintain an average 70 percent service rate.

The **Communications Division** is the point of contact for emergency services (police, fire and ambulance) in the unincorporated areas of the county and 13 cities.



This past year, **Court Security** provided security in the Johnson County Courthouse including several high security trials that required planning with other divisions, agencies and courthouse personnel. Also in 2017, deputies were selected for duty with the Veterans Court due to past military experience, enabling them to better relate to the veterans. Staff are engaged in the planning and design process for the new county courthouse, especially security concerns.

Last year, the focus at the **Criminalistics Lab** was on customer service and employee satisfaction. Seven employees earned upward reclassification and three trainees were signed off to conduct independent casework. Intra-laboratory cross-training began for the utilization of in-house skills to streamline workflow.

The **Biology/DNA Section** brought a statistical model online that allows the lab to use more DNA data and calculate DNA statistics on more complicated and compromised samples. The section secured a federal grant to fund a technician position for three years.

Investigations increased its capacity to combat a recent rise in cybercrime in the county. Several investigators

was presented at Olathe East and Bishop Miege, with great success and feedback from faculty and students. The program continues to reach out to other districts.

serve on the countywide, inter-agency Officer Involved Shooting Investigation Team, as well as the Metro Squad, a metro-wide, inter-agency team that investigates homicides in the Kansas City region.

The **Research and Planning Unit** managed more than 342 projects, the largest being the development and design of the sheriff's office website, saving the \$55,000 it would cost to outsource the project to a private vendor.



In 2017, several **Patrol and Warrants Division** members received commendations for acts of valor and dedication to public safety — the Heroes of the Heartland award from Mothers Against Drunk Driving and Award of Valor from the Metropolitan

Chiefs and Sheriffs Association. The division initiated a Sheriff's Town Hall meeting to provide a great opportunity for the sheriff's office to engage resident to keep the county safe.

The **Personnel Division** also worked diligently to meet the needs of the sheriff's office by recruiting and employing quality applicants. It recruited and hired 107 candidates to fill the 61 positions vacated in 2017, including 21 new deputy positions.

Last year, the **Training Division** managed a Basic Police Academy and graduated 31 deputies. It also offered a Leadership Academy to all sheriff's office personnel, sworn and civilian, focused on effective leadership philosophies and goals to help create a shared language and vision among all employees.

2017 Board of County Commissioners



Chairman Ed Eilert
Office: 715-0500



Ron Shaffer
1st District
Office: 715-0431



Jim Allen
2nd District
Office: 715-0432



Steve Klika
3rd District
Office: 715-0433



Jason Osterhaus
4th District
Office: 715-0434



Michael Ashcraft
5th District
Office: 715-0435



Mike Brown
6th District
Office: 715-0436

Elected officials & county managers

Elected public safety officials



Calvin Hayden
Sheriff
Office: 715-5502
Fax: 715-5806



Steve Howe
District Attorney
Office: 715-3000
Fax: 715-3040

County managers



Penny Postoak Ferguson
Interim County Manager
Office: 715-0733



Maury Thompson
Acting Deputy County Manager
Office: 715-0734

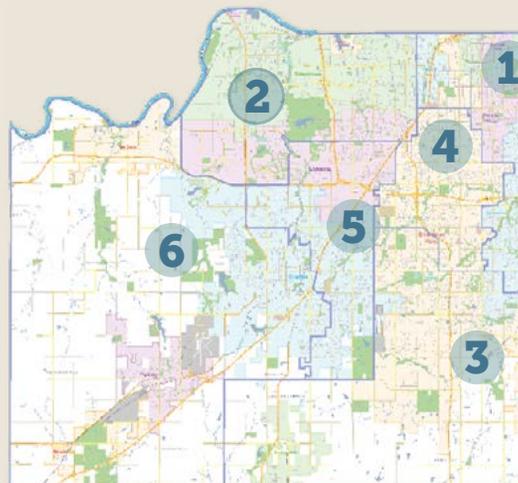


Joe Waters
Assistant County Manager
Office: 715-1105



Aaron Otto
Acting Assistant County Manager
Office: 715-6002

Commission districts



Hannes Zacharias
Former County Manager, service ended Dec. 31, 2017



**Johnson County Government
Administration**

111 S. Cherry
Olathe, KS 66061

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