

February 10, 2006

Dear Government Official:

The Kansas Community Service Program Act was initiated on July 1, 1994. The Act authorizes tax credits for authorized contributions made to awarded non-profit organizations by individuals, business firms, financial institutions, and insurance companies. The State of Kansas has authorized a total of \$4.13 million in competitive tax credits, per fiscal year, for eligible projects.

An important part of the application process is the local government endorsement that assures that there is knowledge and support of the project by the local elected officials. This signed endorsement is required with all applications submitted under non-governmental crime prevention. All other community service organizations and health care organizations are not required to submit this form, but they will receive a higher priority in scoring if it is submitted with the application. The local governing body is not obligated to fund, supervise, or in any way associate itself with the applicant agency or its project. The state will not hold the local governing board responsible for the performance of the project. The responsibility rests solely with the applicant's Board of Directors.

Eligible contributors receive a credit equal to 70 percent of the amount contributed if the community service organization is located in a community of less than 15,000 population. If the community service organization is located in a larger community, the eligible contributors receive a credit equal to 50 percent of the amount contributed. All of Johnson County is eligible to receive the 50 percent credit.

Community service organizations submit proposals for approval by the Kansas Department of Commerce. We seek projects that are unique or of a one-time nature and create a lasting value for the charitable organization or health care provider. The project should allow the organization to be more self-sufficient as the result of the increased contributions attracted with the tax credits.

After reviewing the enclosed endorsement form, please complete Section II and return it to the applicant organization. For information about the proposed project, please contact the applicant. We encourage you to learn about the activity the organization is undertaking in your community.

If you have questions about the Community Service Program, please feel free to contact J.R. Robl at (785) 296-3485.

Sincerely,



Patty Clark, Director
Community Development Division

**Kansas Department of Commerce
Community Service Program (CSP)
Local Government Endorsement Form**

THIS FORM MUST BE TYPEWRITTEN

SECTION I. APPLICANT INFORMATION

1. LEGAL NAME OF ORGANIZATION APPLYING FOR TAX CREDITS

Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging, Inc.

2. ORGANIZATION'S ADDRESS

1720 SW Topeka Blvd Topeka Kansas 66612

3. CONTACT PERSON/TITLE

Annette Thornburgh, Public Relations and Communications Specialist

4. DAYTIME TELEPHONE NUMBER

(785)235-1367

5. EVENING TELEPHONE NUMBER

(785)357-6569

STATEMENT OF INTENT TO SUBMIT APPLICATION TO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE:

I have examined this request in its entirety and believe it to be an accurate description of the project to be submitted by this organization for the purpose of securing support through the Community Service Program administered by the Kansas Department of Commerce.

**MUST BE SIGNED IN
PRESENCE OF NOTARY**

6. SIGNATURE OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jocelyn Lyons

Jocelyn Lyons
Management Team Leader

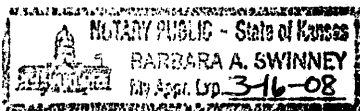
DATE

4/20/06

**7. NOTARY PUBLIC EMBOSSER OR
BLACK INK RUBBER STAMP SEAL**

STATE OF

Kansas



SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN BEFORE ME, THIS

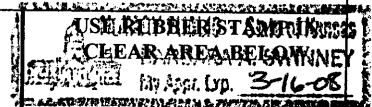
20th DAY OF April 2006

Barbara A. Swinney

NOTARY PUBLIC SIGNATURE

Barbara A. Swinney

NOTARY PUBLIC NAME (TYPED OR PRINTED)



**MY COMMISSION
EXPIRES**

3-16-08

SECTION II. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENDORSEMENT

The following unit of government (City Council or County Commission)

_____ determined, based upon the information presented herein, that the forenamed project: ☐ DOES ☐ DOES NOT endorse the project.

8. NAME _____ **TITLE** _____

9. TELEPHONE () - _____

10. SIGNATURE _____ **DATE** _____

SECTION III. GEOGRAPHIC SERVICE AREA

Briefly define the geographic area served by this project and attach a map showing the boundaries of the service area.

Through the Senior Care Act, the Kansas Legislature has designated Area Agencies on Aging as the single point of access for senior services. The planning service area for Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging, Inc (JAAA) is Douglas, Jefferson and Shawnee Counties. (JAAA is an independent 501 (C)-3 corporation)

SEE ATTACHEMENT

SECTION IV. POPULATION SERVED BY PROJECT

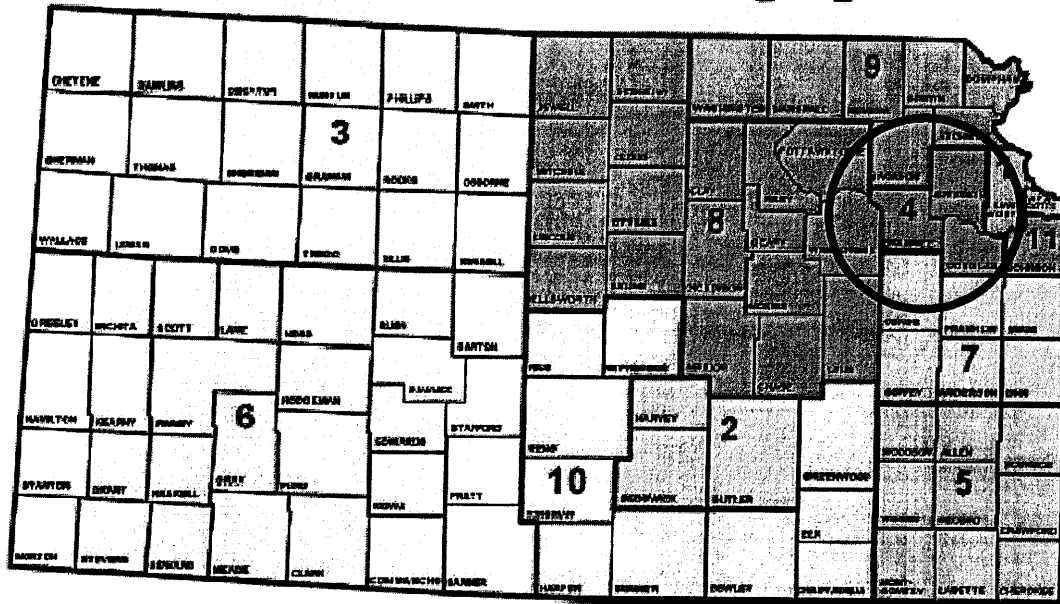
Describe (as fully as possible) the population served by this project.

(SEE ALSO ATTACHEMENT)

Last year JAAA directly provided or funded services for more than 8,000 persons. The typical case management client is an 81-year old woman living on an income slightly above the poverty level. She suffers from usually more than one of the most common health problems: high blood pressure, diabetes, cancer, impaired vision, arthritis or dementia. She is provided assistance with essential tasks of daily living including bathing, dressing, housekeeping, laundry, transportation and shopping.

Through the Senior Care Act, the Kansas Legislature has designated Area Agencies on Aging as the single point of access for senior services. The planning service area for Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging, Inc (JAAA) is Douglas, Jefferson and Shawnee Counties.

Area Agencies on Aging



According to *Kansas Elder Count*, published in 2002 by the Center on Aging at the University of Kansas Medical Center, the combined population of JAAA's service area is 288,259. 33,636 or 11% of that population is aged 65 or older.

AAA-4 population (all ages) = 288,259 (10.7% of state total)			
	AAA #	AAA %	State %
POPULATION			
1 Population, 65+	33,636	11.7	13.3
2 Race: nonwhite, 65+ (includes people 2+ races)	2,504	7.4	5.6
3 Hispanic, 65+ (can be any race)	821	2.4	1.8
4 Men, 85+ (% = percent of all 65+ men)	1,197	8.6	10.0
5 Women, 85+ (% = percent of all 65+ women)	3,195	16.2	17.6
6 Registered to vote, 65+ (% = percent of all 65+)	25,816	76.8	83.7

SECTION V. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Briefly describe the purpose/need, function/operation, and anticipated impact/outcome of the project you intend to submit for support through the Kansas Community Service program.

A. Purpose

The number of elderly Kansans is increasing dramatically. Research demonstrates that most elderly people maintain a higher level of physical, mental and emotional functioning if they are able to remain in their own homes with adequate supportive services. There is substantial economic benefit to the elderly, their families and society as well. The Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging coordinates these services and provides a single point of access for information, assessment, direct assistance and case management.

The building currently leased by JAAA in Topeka contains 9,000 square feet and is entirely inadequate. Seniors and their families cannot be counseled in private. Virtually no life-enhancing recreation activities or wellness programs can be offered on site for seniors, which is particularly important given the dearth of facilities for seniors. Most parking is a considerable distance from the front door. There is no room for additional staff that will be needed to serve a growing elderly population. Limitations of the Agency's physical space impede it from reaching out effectively to all those who are eligible for assistance.

B. Operation

JAAA plans to move to a building at 2910 S.W. Topeka Boulevard that will solve the agency's space problems.

The building is in move-in condition with some minor renovation to conform to Americans with Disabilities Act requirements including the installation of an elevator and other minor ADA requirements.

JAAA proposes to utilize community tax credits to solicit donations for the installation of the elevator and other minor ADA requirements.

C. Impact

The new building will provide twice the space, private offices for consultation, convenient parking and ample space for offering a wide range of activities and programs for seniors.

Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging Promoting Independence and Dignity

We Americans are growing older by the year. It is inescapable for each one of us as we seem to celebrate birthdays with increasing rapidity. America as a whole, though, is graying as evidenced by these facts:

- Kansans are among the oldest populations in the country with 13.3% over the age of 65.
- One of the fastest growing age groups is 85 and older, increasing by 23% from 1990 to 2000 and estimated to grow 40% by 2025.
- Today one person turns age 60 every seven seconds. By 2025 the number of Kansans aged 60 and older will double.

The implications are sobering.

- Approximately 53% of American households aged 65 and older live either below the federal poverty level or in the low income category (up to \$25,000 annual income).
- One-third of baby boomers have net assets of less than \$1,000 and no pensions; some 20 million will be impoverished elders.
- 43% of us will spend part of our lives in a nursing home.
- 47% of those aged 85 and older suffer Alzheimer's disease today.

The Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging (JAAA) was established over 30 years ago by the Older Americans Act. Its purpose is to make it easier for persons 60 years and older in Shawnee, Jefferson and Douglas Counties to live independently in the comfort of their own surroundings. Common sense and an extensive body of research indicate that a higher quality of life is sustained by remaining in our own homes for as long as possible.

JAAA is charged by Federal and State governments with responsibility in three primary areas:

- Data collection on clients and services for the National Aging Program Information System for the purposes of research and comprehensive planning of community-based services for the elderly.
- Information and direct services including client assessment, case management and caregiver support.
- Coordination of delivery of services such as transportation, home-delivered meals, health screenings and attendant care, often provided on a sliding scale. Additionally, through site visits and regular reporting JAAA monitors the quality of service and use of \$1.4 million in public funds allocated to 20 social service agencies.

A recent analysis by the KU School of Social Welfare tracked the status of 599 persons over a three-year period who had applied for nursing home admission but instead chose to remain in home-based settings with supportive services. The study revealed that one-third continued to live in residential settings saving the State \$596 to \$924 per month per individual. Further, those initially admitted to nursing homes can successfully return home with adequate support services.

Another study by the Legislative Division of Post Audit in 2005 showed that Medicaid clients with care plans developed and directed by Area Agencies on Aging cost the State \$175 less per month than care directed by clients on their own. Clearly, JAAA provides substantial benefits to the elderly, their families and taxpayers.

Last year JAAA directly provided or funded services for more than 8,000 persons. The typical case management client is an 81-year old woman living on an income slightly above the poverty level. She suffers from usually more than one of the most common health problems: high blood pressure, diabetes, cancer, impaired vision, arthritis or dementia. She is provided assistance with essential tasks of daily living including bathing, dressing, housekeeping, laundry, transportation and shopping.

While over 95% of funds are received from Federal and State government sources, JAAA is subject to a number of legislative mandates regarding data collection, community planning and client services that are not fully funded. In recent years Federal funds have been level while State funds have been unpredictable at best. However, the elderly population has risen, average age has increased and chronic diseases are more prevalent.

The building currently leased by JAAA in Topeka contains 9,000 square feet and is entirely inadequate. Seniors and their families cannot be counseled in private. Virtually no life-enhancing recreation activities or wellness programs can be offered on site for seniors, which is particularly important given the dearth of facilities for seniors. Most parking is a considerable distance from the front door. There is no room for additional staff that will be needed to serve a growing elderly population.

JAAA plans to move to a building at 2910 S.W. Topeka Boulevard that will solve these problems. It provides twice the space, private offices for consultation, convenient parking and ample space for offering a wide range of activities and programs for seniors.

The building is in move-in condition with some minor renovation to conform to Americans with Disabilities Act requirements including the installation of an elevator. The total cost of purchase and renovation is \$1.2 million to be financed through a first-ever capital campaign. A lead gift of \$300,000 has already been received, giving us confidence that the balance can be raised from those who appreciate the importance of enabling older persons to live independently in their own residences.

In America during the last century we experienced one of the greatest demographic changes in history: a thirty-year increase in longevity. The twenty-first century promises to add even more years. National Institute on Aging founder Dr. Robert Butler states, "What used to be the distinct advantage of the few has become the destiny of many." While it may be our destiny to live longer, the quality of our old age is up to us. The Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging is here to help today and, with your help, far into the future.