Dear Friends,

2018 & 2019 were dynamic years for KC Mothers in Charge.

We began both years honoring the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by standing for peace and unity alongside Rockhurst University students. In March 2018, KC Mothers in Charge spoke at the student-led March For Our Lives event -- it was so inspiring to see so many students step up and speak out about gun violence. In May 2018, we partnered with the National WWI Museum and Memorial to host an educational program entitled One Community. President and CEO Dr. Matthew Naylor moderated a riveting discussion on building “a just and lasting peace” among panelists Jackson County Judge Jalilah Otto, Wyandotte County District Attorney Mark Dupree, MO State Highway Patrol Captain Ron Johnson, Sgt. Everett Babcock from the KCPD Homicide Unit, and myself.

In January 2019, KC Mothers in Charge went green! We made the decision to no longer provide balloons for the vigils we host for bereaved families, but instead provide families a philodendron plant that they can nurture as often as they would nurture their loved one.

In both October 2018 & 2019, KC Mothers in Charge presented the Unity Awards to honor individuals, community agencies and businesses who collaborate with law enforcement to help the community. In April 2019, we kicked off National Crime Victims’ Rights Week with our Inaugural 5K road race - Pee Wee’s Run! On June 13, 2019, KC Mothers in Charge celebrated our five year anniversary. We were honored to have Dr. Dorothy Johnson-Speight, MHS, LPC, Ph.D., Founder and National Executive Director of Mothers in Charge, Inc. join us in Kansas City for this milestone! Look inside to read more about these memorable events.

KC Mothers in Charge experienced incredible growth during the past two years. In 2018, we hired an Outreach Specialist thanks to funds raised though a 40-mile run by community volunteer Cara Gilmore and grants provided by Jackson County COMBAT and Curry Family Foundation. In 2019, through funding provided by Everytown for Gun Safety, we also expanded the Administrative and Program Services Coordinator position and hired a licensed grief therapist to provide both on-site and home-based individual and family grief therapy.

Since 2014, we have served more than 350 individuals bereaved by violence, visited more than 400 homicide scenes, reached more than 4,800 community members and at-risk youth living in KCMO, and touched the lives of more than 5,500 offenders at prisons across NE Kansas and NW Missouri. Because of your support, we have been able to achieve these milestones.

Thank you.

We will always remember them,

Rosilyn Temple
Founder & Executive Director

The Philodendron Plant is known for its heart shaped leaves and ability to thrive. The name derives from the Greek words philo meaning “love” and dendron meaning “tree.” KC Mothers in Charge gives a philodendron plant to bereaved families for memorial, anniversary and birthday vigils.
The mission of KC Mothers in Charge is to reduce violent crime through prevention, education and intervention, and to guide and support the families of victims. The mission is achieved through 3 key initiatives:

Hope and Healing for Survivors of Homicide, Community Outreach and Education, and Offender Prevention and Recidivism Reduction.

Hope and Healing for Survivors of Homicide

“Not a day goes by that we don’t think about our children. So when we think about what everyone’s doing for them -- it’s just wonderful.” - Bereaved family member

In collaboration with the Kansas City Missouri Police Department, KC MIC’s executive director Rosilyn Temple is dispatched to every homicide scene in Kansas City, Missouri. At homicide scenes, Ms. Temple provides trauma-informed crisis intervention and peer-to-peer support to family members, explaining police procedures and helping them manage grief, hostility, confusion, and anger. The anger at the scene can become intense with the potential for retaliation or further violence. During the days, weeks, months and even years after the traumatic loss of a loved one, the HHS program supports families through the following services:

- weekly family support phone calls
- emergency and direct assistance including food, shelter, funeral, clothing, toiletries, household items and childcare assistance
- monthly grief support group meetings with half of each session devoted to expressions of grief and shared support and half to a featured speaker or program to assist with the healing process or navigating the complex criminal justice system
- on-site or home-based individual and family grief counseling
- assistance navigating the complex criminal justice system including connecting families with homicide detectives and providing court accompaniment
- referrals to community resources including the Crime Victim’s Compensation Fund
- connections to other families through social activities such as quarterly meet-and-greets
- opportunities to participate in anti-violence and community advocacy including an invitation to join KC MIC as Core Mothers.

Community Outreach and Education

“I truly do now feel reassured that our Kansas City Police Department can be trusted and not feared.” - High school student

KC MIC mobilizes community members and neighborhood residents to get involved in violence prevention activities by canvassing high crime areas, intersections, and neighborhoods alongside agency partners and police. Together, KC MIC staff, volunteers and agency partners encourage residents to report crimes. KC MIC also provides outreach to at-risk students and youth at local elementary, middle and high schools. Furthermore, KC MIC is frequently called upon by the media and civic groups, as well as local and national professional groups, to promote understanding of the impact of violence and the need to respond.

In April 2019, Jane and Rebecca completed 10 weeks of evidence-based group counseling called Restorative Retelling for Violent Death. Upon their completion, KC MIC presented them with philodendron plants. These sessions were facilitated by Dr. Joah Williams, licensed clinical psychologist in Missouri and assistant professor in the UMKC Department of Psychology.
NEW FAMILY MEMBERS SERVED IN 2018

Next-of-Kin Gender
Female 89%
Male 11%

Next-of-Kin Race/Ethnicity
Black / African-American 76%
White / Caucasian 17%
Hispanic / Latino 1%
Unspecified / Other 5%

Next-of-Kin Age
20-29 1%
30-39 9%
40-49 22%
50-59 15%
60-69 8%
70-79 3%
Unspecified/Other 42%

Next-of-Kin County/State of Residence
Jackson County, MO 80%
Platte County, MO 0%
Cass County, MO 1%
Clay County, MO 1%
Wyandotte County, KS 4%
Johnson County, KS 1%
Shawnee County, KS 1%
Osage County, KS 1%
Cook County, IL 1%
Unreported 9%
Homeless 0%

Age of Loved One's Surviving Children
< 1 years old 5%
1 years old 10%
2 years old 21%
3 - 4 years old 10%
5 - 6 years old 13%
7 - 8 years old 8%
9 - 10 years old 10%
11 - 12 years old 5%
13 - 14 years old 10%
15 - 17 years old 5%
Unknown 3%

NEW FAMILY MEMBERS SERVED IN 2019

Next-of-Kin Gender
Female 84%
Male 16%

Next-of-Kin Race/Ethnicity
Black / African-American 90%
White / Caucasian 6%
Hispanic / Latino 2%
Unspecified / Other 2%

Next-of-Kin Age
20-29 3%
30-39 9%
40-49 27%
50-59 22%
60-69 16%
70-79 1%
Unspecified/Other 21%

Next-of-Kin County/State of Residence
Jackson County, MO 80%
Platte County, MO 1%
Cass County, MO 2%
Henry County, MO 1%
Clay County, MO 2%
St. Louis County, MO 2%
Wyandotte County, KS 2%
Johnson County, KS 1%
Outside MO or KS 3%
Unreported 4%
Homeless 1%

Age of Loved One's Surviving Children
< 1 years old 6%
1 years old 11%
2 years old 4%
3 - 4 years old 9%
5 - 6 years old 9%
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Unknown 6%
On June 13, 2019, KC Mothers in Charge celebrated its five year anniversary as a nonprofit organization. We were honored to have Dr. Dorothy Johnson-Speight, MHS, LPC, Ph.D., Founder and National Executive Director of Mothers in Charge, Inc. join us in Kansas City for this milestone! Dr. Johnson-Speight shared about the history of Mothers in Charge, Inc. and its national impact and reach since 2003. Dominique Ricks of Fox 4 News served as mistress of ceremonies. Spoken word artist Kyle Hollins of The Lyrik’s Institution delivered an incredibly powerful message of hope and empathy to the audience.

Following the murder of her son Antonio “Pee Wee” Thompson, Rosilyn Temple began responding to homicide scenes to provide comfort and support to families. In 2012, Rosilyn established the Kansas City chapter of Mothers in Charge, Inc. as a program of AdHoc Group Against Crime. Two years later, the Kansas City Missouri Police Department provided seed funding so that KC Mothers in Charge could become its own nonprofit organization. In November 2014, KC Mothers in Charge appointed its inaugural board of directors and became a Missouri nonprofit corporation.

During the past five years, KC MIC has visited more than 400 homicide scenes, provided more than 10,000 weekly support phone calls, and served more than 350 bereaved family members through its Hope and Healing Support Program. Additionally, through its Offender Prevention and Recidivism Reduction Program, KC MIC has reached more than 5,500 individuals incarcerated in various correctional facilities or on probation or parole for violence-related crimes in Missouri and Kansas. Furthermore, though its Community Outreach and Education Program, KC MIC has reached more than 4,800 community members and at-risk students through vigils, neighborhood outreach efforts, school visits, and collaborative canvassing efforts with agency partners.
**Spotlight on Core Mothers**

A critical component of KC MIC is its group of Core Mothers, volunteers and mothers who have lost a child or family member to homicide and who have since dedicated their lives to anti-violence advocacy and serving bereaved families. Core Mothers are able to connect and heal with other mothers who have lost children. They relate to victims’ families in ways government officials and social service providers cannot. That connection is vital to KC MIC and is not offered anywhere else in the Kansas City metro area. Rosilyn Temple often says that when she visits a homicide scene, she looks for the mother first because “I know she needs a hug from me.” Core Mothers are KC MIC’s most visible and notable example of empowerment to help others and promote a safer community. Core Mothers are provided trauma-informed care training and have committed to making substantial time contributions to KC MIC support and outreach activities. They canvass neighborhoods and high crime areas with police and agency partners, encourage residents to talk to police and report crimes, and promote awareness of KC MIC. They also speak to school and civic groups, participate in vigils, health fairs and other community activities. Furthermore, they provide outreach to individuals incarcerated for violence-related crimes in NW Missouri and NE Kansas.
On April 7, 2019, KC Mothers in Charge hit the pavement to kick off National Crime Victims Rights Week with our Inaugural 5K road race - Pee Wee’s Run! Pee Wee’s Run is named after Rosilyn Temple’s son, Antonio “Pee Wee” Thompson, who she found murdered in his apartment in 2011. The 5K route began at Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center, passed by Pee Wee’s old apartment and ended at the starting location.

More than 150 runners participated in the 5K! Chief Meteorologist Bryan Busby of KMBC 9 served as race announcer! KC Wolf and Sluggerrr even joined us for the fun! Following the road race, 77 community members participated in the Community Remembrance Walk and Celebration of Life at the Spirit of Freedom Fountain. KC Running Company provided outstanding race management and timing services. Community volunteer Cara Gilmore served as Race Director. In 2018, Cara ran 40 miles across Kansas City, Missouri and raised more than $16,000 for KC Mothers in Charge. In 2019, Cara brought her expertise to KC Mothers in Charge and helped plan Pee Wee’s Run.

Since 2014, KC Mothers in Charge has been bridging the gap between families, law enforcement, and the community. We celebrate individuals, nonprofits, and businesses that also work alongside law enforcement to help the community. In both October 2018 & 2019, KC Mothers in Charge presented The Unity Awards to recognize these worthy efforts toward unity. Nomination applications were submitted by the general public and reviewed by an independent panel of law enforcement personnel. More than 200 guests attended The Unity Awards both years including law enforcement from every KCPD patrol station. KCPD Captain Kari Thompson served as event emcee. Inspirational remarks were delivered by Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II in 2018, and Mayor Quinton Lucas in 2019. The 2018 Unity Awardees were: Sheriff Darryl Forte (Individual category), The Justice Project (Nonprofit category), and Firehouse Subs (Business category). 2018 Unity Nominees were: Pastor Brandon Mims, Brittany Strohm, Cara Gilmore, Sgt. Darrell Rocker, The Child Protection Center and American Public Square. The 2019 Unity Awardees were: Dr. Ken Novak (Individual category), Taking It To The Streets (Nonprofit category), and Academy Sports + Outdoors (Business category). 2019 Unity Nominees were: Officer Ann Murphy, Chandra Armstrong, Sgt. Johnita Harris, Purity Kinyua and Sheffield Place. We are grateful to our generous event sponsors including the UMB Financial Corporation, Ten Ten Foundation, Ganheart LLC, Hallmark Cards, Inc., Chaplain Chuck & Dawn Murphy, Commerce Bank, JE Dunn Construction, Life 88.5, Palle & Dennis Rilinger, Barbara Mueth & Steve Rinne, Ada & Kevin Koch, Jeff & Stevi Brick, Kay Johnson & Bill Koenigsdorf, Elizabeth Bordenave, Harvest Graphics LLC, and All Star Awards & Ad Specialties.

**Pee Wee’s Run Kicks Off National Crime Victims Rights Week**

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In 2019, we expanded our mental health services to include options for on-site and home-based individual or family grief counseling. Dr. Donald Lang, LPC serves as our grief therapist.

Dr. Lang is a licensed professional counselor in Missouri with more than 40 years of experience in the field of mental health. He received his Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the University of Missouri-Kansas City in 1995. Dr. Lang’s counseling specialties include: mood and adjustment disorders; interpersonal and family relationships; grief and loss; and anger management and domestic violence.

In 2019, 30 family members participated in individual or family grief counseling services.

That’s what Derrick shared with our team of Core Mothers in July 2019 when they shared their stories of loss at the Western Missouri Correctional Center, a state prison located in Cameron, where Derrick is an inmate. We visit there sixteen times a year as part of our mission not only to help those who have been bereaved by homicide, but also to change the mindsets of those who perpetrate violence. Our Core Mothers speak at the Correctional Center’s pre-release classes for offenders who are due to be released within 90 days – the majority of whom will return to the Kansas City metropolitan area.

In April 2019, during National Crime Victims’ Rights Week, KC Mothers in Charge visited Chillicothe Correctional Center, a Missouri state prison for women. Rosilyn Temple shared with approximately 200 female offenders the effects of gun violence on victims' families.

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Here are other responses we’ve had from parolees and inmates we’ve talked with during our prisons visits in 2019:

- “You profoundly touched my heart. Thank you so much.”
- “I realized that there are people that understand how hard it is to leave prison and that we can change and it takes time.”
- “I liked how Ms. Rosilyn communicated with us. She reminded me of my momma, that’s how she hit home.”
- “How you shared your stories and believed in us made me believe in change.”
- “It was a positive message that makes a person have a reality check about the future.”
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- “How you shared your stories and believed in us made me believe in change.”
- “It was a positive message that makes a person have a reality check about the future.”
### 2018 & 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

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**POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS**

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**Stay Connected!**

- Twitter: @KCMothersCharge
- Facebook: KC Mothers in Charge
- Instagram: @kc_mic

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This printing project is supported by Award No. 2017-DG-BX-0001 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Department of Justice.