



## **Vote YES on Question 1**

On November 8, 2022 Jackson County voters will be asked to renew the Children's Services Fund of Jackson County.

Approved by the voters in 2016 with more than 59% of the vote, legislation establishing the Children's Services Fund of Jackson County provides financial support to organizations engaged in promoting kids' mental health and social emotional well-being through a 1/8 cent sales tax. At the current 1/8 cent levy, CSF receives one penny for every \$8 spent. Those pennies add up to support life-changing work across Jackson County. Since its inception, CSF has allocated more than \$68,000,000 to 85 organizations, including almost \$7M in response to COVID-19. What's more, it has created over 400 jobs serving Jackson County families.

But these vital services are at stake. Funding for CSF is currently meeting only 60 percent of the existing need. Furthermore, the Fund will sunset in 2024. For these reasons, we are asking voters to increase the levy to a ¼ cent sales tax and to remove the sunset clause, both of which would put the Fund on more stable and predictable footing. Realizing the urgency, the Jackson County Legislature voted 9-0 in July 2022 to place a renewal measure on the November 2022 ballot. More information about the fund is available here: <https://bit.ly/3Nt60OR>

### ***Now More than Ever, Children's Mental Health is a Top Priority in Jackson County***

Polling conducted by Lake Research Partners in June 2022 indicates that 63% of Jackson County voters support increasing the levy and eliminating the sunset. Only 23% oppose. The support for increasing the levy alone is staggering — 67% of respondents enthusiastically support the investment. Voters' concerns are real. Suicide prevention, safe shelter, robust foster care programs, and supports for victims of complex trauma are all top-of-mind.

### ***A Community Coalition Propels the Movement***

We are recruiting individuals and organizations to help support this renewal campaign in advance of the November 2022 ballot. As of June 2022, our community coalition has grown to more than twice the size of its successful 2016 counterpart. But we need your help in letting voters know about this important issue. Member organizations are asked to help through monetary contributions, in-kind support, and lending their names to the effort. Contact [Loyacono@publicprogress.org](mailto:Loyacono@publicprogress.org) to join the effort. Checks go to: JacksonCounty4Kids, PO Box 8899, Kansas City, Mo. 64114.