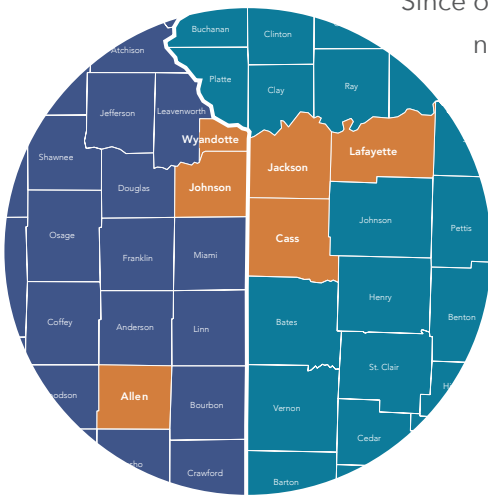


# ABOUT REACH

The REACH Healthcare Foundation is a charitable foundation dedicated to improving health insurance coverage and access to care for uninsured and medically underserved people. Established in 2003, the foundation awards grants and provides other financial and technical support to nonprofit health care and advocacy organizations working to improve health in the region.

## What We Do

The REACH Foundation awards approximately \$5 million annually in grants and supports technical assistance and capacity-building for nonprofits.



Since our start, the foundation has invested nearly \$57 million to expand access to primary care, mental health and oral health care; provide health plan information and enrollment assistance; support health system improvements; and provide information to elected leaders and the public about effective health policy solutions.

## How We Operate

The REACH Foundation maintains a regional focus, with a service area that encompasses three counties in Kansas and three counties in Missouri. REACH is governed by a 17-member volunteer board of directors who live in our service area. A Community Advisory Committee made up of local professionals and community volunteers serves to identify and nominate candidates to the Board. The foundation's daily operations are managed by a professional staff of eight.



## VISION

All poor and underserved people in our community will have quality health care.

## MISSION

To advance equity in health care coverage, access and quality for poor and underserved people.

**1313**

**GRANTS AWARDED  
SINCE 2005**

**245**

**DISCRETE FUNDED  
ORGANIZATIONS**

**\$56.7M**

**TOTAL AWARDED  
SINCE 2005**

**BRENDA R. SHARPE**

President and CEO

(913) 432-4196

6700 Antioch Road, Suite 200,  
Merriam, Kansas 66204





# HEALTH POLICY PRIORITIES

## 2018 MISSOURI POLICY AGENDA

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### Enact Fiscal Policies That Help Missourians Thrive

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The REACH Foundation urges lawmakers to revise state tax policies to ensure adequate revenues are invested in core services and programs that help Missouri workers and families thrive.

- Missouri's tax policies are not producing adequate revenue to meet basic public needs, as seen with recent budget decisions that resulted in cuts to services for seniors and individuals with disabilities.
- Lawmakers now have the opportunity to revisit tax policies such as the business income tax exemption that, once triggered, will contribute to further destabilization of revenues. National tax experts have stated these types of provisions will not help the state achieve its long-term economic goals.
- Our neighbors in Kansas enacted similar tax policies that led to devastating cuts to education, health and transportation. These failed tax policies are now being reversed with broad bipartisan support.

### Close The Coverage Gap

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The REACH Foundation supports expansion of Medicaid to close the health coverage gap that affects thousands of low-income, working adults and families in Missouri.

- Nearly 300,000 Missourians are left out of health coverage because state leaders have declined to expand Medicaid, forfeiting billions in federal resources that could support health, mental health and oral health care throughout the state.
- Missouri adults without children cannot qualify for Medicaid in Missouri. For adults with children, eligibility stops at 22% of federal poverty level - the third lowest rate in the nation.
- Federal Medicaid resources have contributed substantially to funding of mental health services in Missouri. As lawmakers grapple with Missouri's mental health care needs and rising rates of substance abuse, Medicaid expansion presents an opportunity to leverage additional resources to support treatment and other programs.