

Media FACT SHEET



We are pleased to provide the information below to answer commonly asked questions about KVC Missouri and the critical need for these services. For more information or interview requests, please contact **Christina Santiago** at csantiago@kvc.org or **(913) 415-1219**.

Who is KVC Missouri?

- ▶ KVC Missouri is the state's most comprehensive children's mental health and family services provider. Our private nonprofit has a legacy of caring that stretches back to the early 1800s. Through our broad continuum of care, we offer innovative quality care models, clinical expertise, and exceptional outcomes, including our groundbreaking work in trauma-informed care.
- ▶ We have more than 800 dedicated team members working across more than 20 locations throughout Missouri, including regional campuses in St. Louis, Kansas City, Springfield, Columbia and St. James.



What types of services do you provide?

- ▶ We provide family strengthening services, foster care case management, foster parent training and licensing, outpatient and residential children's mental health treatment, K-12 therapeutic education, therapeutic adventure and wilderness programs and more.
- ▶ We're also investing in the need to add inpatient children's mental health treatment to help families in the St. Louis region. Learn more about that at kvcmo.org/leadingchange.

Why is access to these services so important?

- ▶ There are 11,159 Missouri children and teens in foster care, with 1,834 of those youth waiting to be adopted.¹ In comparison, as of May 2024, there were only 5,548 licensed foster homes in the state of Missouri.²
- ▶ Mental health needs in Missouri are outpacing national averages and creating a dire need for more access to critical treatment options. Suicide is the second leading cause of death for people ages 10-34 in Missouri.³

- ▶ Therapeutic schools can help students make academic progress while also addressing their social and emotional needs. Trauma can affect a student's ability to learn, behave and regulate emotions.⁴

What impact does KVC Missouri have in the communities it serves?

- ▶ Ground-breaking work in trauma-informed care helps identify how trauma impacts brain development and behavioral health, focusing treatment on providing safe environments, self-regulation, cognitive processing skills, and access to resources that support children and teens. We currently care for over 1,200 youth and recruit, train and license more than 1,100 relative and foster care providers throughout the state.
- ▶ Our Treatment Foster Care Program is a form of specialized foster care that provides individualized therapeutic intervention to children with significant medical, developmental, emotional or behavioral needs who require a higher level of care. The program provides caregivers with additional support to allow youth in foster care with elevated needs to be successful in a community-based family setting.
- ▶ Over the past year, we've made a significant impact across Missouri.
 - 1 We positively impacted the lives of **17,151 children and adults**
 - 2 We served **3,769 people** through community-based services that strengthen families and support mental wellness
 - 3 **747 youth** received children's mental health support in residential treatment
 - 4 **601 students** enrolled in our K-12 therapeutic schools



For more information, visit kvcmissouri.org



¹ <https://dss.mo.gov/mis/clcounter/history.htm>

² <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/MODSS/bulletins/3a8ed3c#:~:text=As%20of%20May%2031%2C%202024%20we%20have,Traditional%20Families%20and%20%2C911%20are%20Relative%20Families>

³ https://dmh.mo.gov/sites/dmh/files/media/pdf/2024/05/sr2024-section-a_0.pdf

⁴ <https://dmh.mo.gov/sites/dmh/files/media/pdf/2019/05/missouri-model-trauma-informed-schools.pdf>