



Boone County
Children's Services Fund



Boone County Community Services

September 8, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the Boone County Community Services Department (BCCSD), I am pleased to provide this letter of support for Columbia/Boone County Public Health and Human Services (PHHS) proposal to prevent Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) among families in Boone County impacted by substance use disorders. The BCCSD administers the Boone County Children's Services Fund, which funds over 40 nonprofit organizations.

The BCCSD is leading a grassroots initiative which is a collaboration of nonprofit organizations including Dream Tree Academy 573, Destiny of H.O.P.E., Grade A Plus, Columbia Supreme, Do Something Right Now, and The Center Project. Our initiative is committed to ensuring that programs addressing community well-being are coordinated, trauma-informed, and responsive to the diverse needs of Boone County families.

PHHS's proposed program complements our mission. By implementing evidence-based programming that supports both parents and youth, this effort aligns with our shared goals of prevention, resilience-building, and reducing risk factors for youth and families. PHHS has expressed engaging with the grassroots initiative organizations to ensure programming will build upon, rather than duplicate, existing services.

We support this proposal and are eager to collaborate with program staff through information sharing and collective problem-solving. Together, we can expand prevention strategies, strengthen family supports, and build a healthier, safer future for children and families across Boone County.

Sincerely,

Joanne Nelson, Boone County Community Services Department Director