

# BRPC Bulletin

Serving Lincoln, Montgomery & Warren Counties in East-Central Missouri

### **BRPC** Bulletin

May-June 2022

## Serving Veterans in the Boonslick Region



Veterans Service Officer Mike Smith Missouri Veterans Commission

Currently, there are approximately 394,346 veterans living in Missouri. After serving their country, many need assistance in accessing benefits that are available to them. Boonslick Regional Planning Commission Executive Director Chad Eggen worked with the Missouri Veterans Commission to arrange for a Veterans Service Officer to be housed at BRPC. In

September 2021, we welcomed Mike Smith to assist veterans in our region.

Mike served in the United States Army for nine years, including a tour of duty in Iraq.

He was part of the Engineering Corps. Following his military service, Mike received a Bachelor's degree in Education from Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri and taught social studies for several years in area schools.

country. Mike Smith is available at the BRPC office in Warrenton, Monday through Friday

when he might be out of the office performing outreach activities. He can be reached by

from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Although appointments are not required, there are times

emailing Michael.Smith@mvc.dps.mo.gov or by calling (636) 202-6215.

As a Service Officer, Mike is able to help veterans and their spouses with access to a variety of benefits including healthcare, education, and pension benefit claims. He is able to provide information and assist with the required paperwork at no charge.

Some individuals may be at the point where they require additional care. There are veterans' homes available and Mike can assist veterans with this need. For those veterans who desire, he can also help with arrangements for burial in a state or national cemetery for veterans.

Boonslick Regional Planning Commission is happy to be able to have a Veterans Service Officer on site to serve those who gave so much to our

"I'm excited to be serving veterans in this area. It's great to be able to offer assistance. I've been there. I know what they've gone through. Boonslick Regional Planning Commission has been a good location for veterans to access services close to home."

Mike Smith

## **BRPC Executive Board**

#### Ryan Poston

Presiding Commissioner Montgomery County Chairman

#### **Steven Deves**

Administrator Montgomery City Vice-Chairman

#### **Chris Watson**

Mayor City of Truesdale Secretary

#### Mike Mueller

Associate Commissioner Lincoln County Treasurer

#### Patrick Flannigan

Mayor City of Moscow Mills Member

#### Joe Gildehaus

Presiding Commissioner Warren County Member

III Steinhagen PO Box 429 Warrenton, MO 63383 Phone: 636.456.3473 Fax: 636.456.2329 www.boonslick.org

## Director's Update

Unprecedented times have led to new opportunities. As we transition out of the social distancing times, we are using our resilient mindsets to plan and look towards the future at the many possibilities that have not been available for cities and counties before. Staff here at Boonslick are ready to assist you with any of your needs, financing questions, project ideas, or American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding issues. Each community has a staff member assigned as its liaison. Give us a call or send us an email if you have any questions. We are your organization, please utilize us.



We have helped several communities with ARPA funding needs. If your local government has questions about anything, please contact us. Also, in the coming weeks, we will be sending out flyers and one page updates with additional funding options to consider. This initiative is in partnership with all regional planning commissions across the state of Missouri. We are referring to it as the RPC ADVANTAGE. There will be over 100 new infrastructure development programs through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). We can help you prioritize needs, identify funding opportunities available, and assist with grant writing and applications.

Another emphasis area in the region is workforce development and training. Boonslick staff members at the Job Center have been assisting individuals and employers with Tik Toks, job fairs, employer visits, hiring events, and contacts with educational institutions on work experiences for students. Please contact Jenn at the Job Center with any questions or if you want us to come out to your community.

Boonslick Regional Planning Commission is here for you. If you have any questions, need assistance, or would like a staff member to attend one of your meetings, please don't hesitate to call (636) 456-3473 or email ceggen@boonslick.org. The next General Membership meeting will be held on Thursday, June 23 at BRPC. We look forward to seeing you then.

## Lincoln County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Approved



The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) approved the Lincoln County Hazard Mitigation Plan update on April I, 2022. For close to a year prior to this approval, Boonslick Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) Planner Krishna Kunapareddy worked with Lincoln County, as well as each local government and school district within the county to complete the plan update.

The purpose of natural hazard mitigation is to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of natural disasters. Hazard Mitigation Plans form



the foundation for a community's long-term strategy to reduce disaster losses and break the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage.

County-wide Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans and the required updates are a prerequisite to qualify for funding in the event of a disaster.

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## **BRPC** Welcomes New Workforce Development Director



BRPC is pleased to announce that Jenn Weber has been hired as the Missouri Job Center—Warrenton Workforce Development Director. In this role, Jenn will be responsible for the direction and administration of Workforce Development programs, including those for both youth and adults.

Jenn is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration—Management from Western Governors University. She has a planned August 2024 graduation date.

Jenn comes to BRPC with experience as an assistant executive director. She has been involved with program and case management, creation of programs, grant writing, and assisting with supportive services. Jenn also has experience in providing services to individuals who have developmental disabilities.

Jenn Weber Workforce Development Director

"I have always enjoyed helping others and am looking forward to continuing to do so by offering opportunities that can lead to

independence and self-sustainability," shares Jenn. "I look forward to establishing working relationships in communities we serve so we can effectively advocate for our participants needs."

The Job Center has services for both job seekers and employers. You can reach Jenn at <a href="mailto:iweber@boonslick.org">iweber@boonslick.org</a> or call (636) 456-9467.



I'm a recent arrival from south Florida where I discovered recycling as part of a pick-up-the-beach program on my local beaches while surfing. Although I come from a very different background than my current field, I've always enjoyed helping others and solving problems. There aren't a whole lot of issues more challenging and concerning for the world than that of waste management so it seemed like a natural step to try and do my part. Along with the joy of helping to ensure a clean environment for future generations, I also love it because of the people I meet on a daily basis. I wholeheartedly believe I meet the best individuals our community has to offer day in and day out. It's not very common to work with people who put in effort only with the hopes of future generations enjoying the benefits while receiving none themselves, but I'm fortunate to be surrounded by them daily. They make this career so rewarding, which in turn gives me the motivation to offer the best services available along with the desire to explore new ways of reducing and reusing waste around our community. Thank you to everyone I have had a chance to meet so far and I look forward to seeing those of you I'm yet to meet."

-Scott Murphy

## New Manager for the Recycling Center



Scott Murphy
East Central Missouri Recycling Center Manager

We are happy to have Scott Murphy as a member of the BRPC team. Scott has been hired as the manager of the East Central Missouri Recycling Center and began in March 2022. Scott will be responsible for day-to-day operations of the facility, supervising pick-up routes, brokering recyclables, and reporting tonnage. You can reach him at <a href="mailto:recycle@boonslick.org">recycle@boonslick.org</a> or by calling (636) 377-4130.

#### **BRPC Staff**

#### **Chad Eggen**

Executive Director ceggen@boonslick.org

#### **Chuck Eichmeyer**

Project Coordinator chucke@boonslick.org

#### Jane Cale

Office Manager janecale@boonslick.org

#### Krishna Kunapareddy

Planner .

krishna@boonslick.org

#### Mikala Walton

Grant Writer/Planner mwalton@boonslick.org

#### Linda Buschman

Planner lbuschman@boonslick.org

#### Kim Meyer

Fiscal Officer kmeyer@boonslick.org

#### **Kathy Bingham**

Mobility Management Admin. kbingham@boonslick.org

#### **Debbie Haverkamp**

Mobility Coordinator dhaverkamp@boonslick.org

#### **Christine Zika**

Economic Dev. Specialist czika@boonslick.org

#### Jenn Weber

Workforce Development Dir. jweber@boonslick.org

#### **Dorothy Jones**

Workforce Specialist djones@boonslick.org

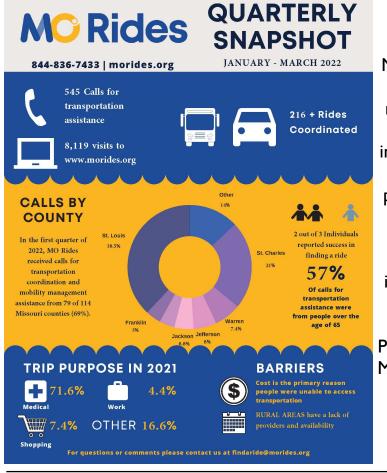
#### Kenedee Chandler

Resource Room Asst. kchandler@boonslick.org

#### **Scott Murphy**

Recycling Center Manager recycle@boonslick.org

#### **BRPC** Bulletin



MO Rides continues its transportation referral service and fields calls from individuals who need assistance. Many people also visit the program's website. Check out the snapshot of information (at left) compiled by **Boonslick Regional** Planning Commission Mobility Management Administrator Kathy Bingham.

## Calendar of Events - Contact us for More Information

Please note: The BRPC General Membership meeting will be held on THURSDAY, JUNE 23 AT BRPC.

#### May

- 9 BRPC closed in observance of Truman Day
- 17 Region I SWMD Executive Board meeting, BRPC, 11:30 a.m.
- 18 Community Agency Partnership meeting, BRPC, 9:30 a.m.
- 19 BRPC Transportation Advisory Committee meeting, BRPC, 11:30 a.m.
- 30 BRPC closed in observance of Memorial Day

#### June

- 6 Warren County Municipal Team meeting, 11:30 a.m.
- 9 Job Fair, Warrenton Elks Lodge, 11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
- 9 BRPC Executive Board Retreat, 9:00 a.m.
- Community Agency Partnership meeting, BRPC, 9:30 a.m.
- 20 BRPC closed in observance of Juneteenth
- 23 BRPC General Membership meeting, BRPC, 12:00 p.m.