STATE OF GREENE COUNTY 2021

DATE ISSUED: December 2021
PREPARED FOR: Greene County Citizens
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**GREENE COUNTY AT A GLANCE**

- **County Size**: 677.9 square miles
- **Assessed Valuation**: $5.47 billion
- **Miles of Roadway**: 1,252 miles
- **Number of Bridges**: 218
  - Over 20' in length
- **Number of Bridges**: 672
  - Less than 20' in length
- **Total Number of Budgeted Funds**: 40
- **Number of Greene County Employees**: 1,013
- **Total Budget**: $265.7 million
  - Budgeted Expenditures
    - General Revenue Fund: $68.5 million
- **Number of Greene County Elected Officials**: 13
- **Number of Circuit Judges**: 6
  - Circuit Judges, 6 Associate Judges
  & 6 Court Commissioners
A MESSAGE FROM YOUR GREENE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

It is our pleasure to share with you that the County is doing well. It has been a challenging couple of years, but we are pleased to report we have survived the recent challenges and we have faced them together.

One of the most ambitious tasks we faced last year was working directly with the federal government to distribute $34.4 million as part of the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act or CARES Act. We did not delight in the thought of becoming a granting agency overnight, but we took on the task with resolve to do our best.

We assembled a distinguished and diverse 30-member Citizen Advisory Council who took on the job of reviewing each application with great care and making recommendations to the Commission. In the end, every dollar was awarded and every process survived the scrutiny of both our internal and external auditors.

Some award recipients were large, like our various healthcare partners: CoxHealth, Mercy Hospital and the Springfield-Greene County Health Department.

Some recipients were small. One of the committees dubbed them “starfish organizations”, but all of these efforts enabled continuity of operations with over 450 small business awards. We also provided aid to 25 school districts, institutions of higher learning or private schools, 84 non-profits and 18 units of government. These funds went to really good causes, for instance, one award went to firefighters who had been sharing masks and personal protective equipment. Efforts like this don’t just help us thrive, they help to keep people alive.

Another award paid for major electronic, video and networking upgrades at the downtown e-Factory which enabled the continuation of dozens of local start-ups still in the incubation stage. We hope these new businesses continue to develop and prosper.

Just as we were finishing the CARES process, Congress acted again in December 2020, and initiated a process of providing direct aid to counties for the purpose of rental and utility assistance. We immediately developed local infrastructure and networked with local agencies already doing this type of community work to get these additional assistance dollars into the hands of those who needed them as fast as possible.

The American Rescue Plan or ARPA will bring even more opportunities to collaborate cross-jurisdictionally, and we will be deliberating about what can be done with our portion of those funds which is $56.8 million. Dr. Lyle Foster was most helpful to us in the last round of awards, and we have retained his expertise to assist us in the next round of decision making as well. This is a once-in-lifetime opportunity and we aim to make the best of it together.
Recent census data shows strong growth across the county and an increasingly diverse population. Greene County grew at a rate of about 8.5% over the last ten years. Fair Grove grew almost 14%, Willard at 20% and Rogersville at more than 26%. The strongest growth in the county was in Republic at 27%.

Economic Development opportunities continue to impress county-wide with major strides occurring in the Republic area after Amazon, ROI and Convoy of Hope began projects in the city.

Within a 100-mile radius of Springfield, we have the greatest concentration of beef cattle in the nation. So, we must mention Agri-Business continues to grow in the County with one Strafford area business – Show Me Genetic Services – experiencing exponential growth. They are now processing orders for clients all over the globe.

We are all emerging from a rough couple of years, but we are thriving together as a community and as a region. What we are known for - our ability to work together, to collaborate and solve problems jointly, has enabled us to do so.

On behalf of our office holders, our judges, our department heads and employees, thank you for the opportunity to serve you every day. It’s a great honor we take seriously, and we enjoy doing it.

Stay safe. Stay well.
Greene County Assessor Brent Johnson  
bjohnson@greenecountymo.gov  
417-868-4101
Brent Johnson is the elected Assessor of Greene County and maintains records and establishes assessed values for 120,000 real estate parcels and 128,000 taxable tangible personal property accounts. State statutes require a bi-annual reassessment of real property and an annual reassessment of personal property. The Assessor also maintains ownership/tax maps.

Greene County Auditor Cindy S. Stein  
cstein@greenecountymo.gov  
417-868-4120
Cindy Stein is the elected Auditor of Greene County and audits the books and records of all County offices, maintains inventory and fixed assets of the County, certifies an unencumbered balance for expenditures and prepares the annual financial statement.

Greene County Collector of Revenue Allen Icet  
aicet@greenecountymo.gov  
417-868-4036
Allen Icet is the appointed Collector of Greene County and collects and distributes nearly $300 million each year to approximately 40 taxing districts (primarily schools as well as fire, cities, library, state blind fund, etc.). There are many other tax and fee collections such as Tax Increment Financing funds, city and neighborhood improvement districts, PACE energy loans, city nuisance liens, auctioneer licenses and merchant licenses, for example. The Collector’s office also issues tax waivers for new residents and first time car owners throughout the year.

Circuit Clerk Thomas R. Barr  
tom.barr@courts.mo.gov  
417-868-4074
Thomas R. Barr is the elected Clerk of the Court in Greene County and functions as the business office for the courts in the 31st Judicial Circuit. The office is divided into four sections: Domestic, Civil, Traffic-Finance and Criminal. All cases are filed and assigned to court divisions. Fines and court costs are paid in the Circuit Clerk’s office. In addition, all requests for records are handled in this office as well as Order of Protection applications. Missouri Revised Statutes appoints the Clerk as the Custodian of all court records.

Greene County Clerk Shane Schoeller  
sschoeller@greenecountymo.gov  
417-868-4055
Shane Schoeller is the elected County Clerk of Greene County and is the record-keeper and archivist of the County and is responsible for several county administrative functions and public services that include voter registration administration, tax administration, payroll and retirement administration, issuance of liquor licenses, auctioneer applications and notary commissions.

Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson  
dpatterson@greenecountymo.gov  
417-868-4061
Dan Patterson is the elected Prosecuting Attorney of Greene County and he prosecutes misdemeanor and felony offenses that occur within Greene County and its municipalities. This includes representing the State at trial, probation violation hearings, treatment court proceedings and post-conviction hearings. Additionally, the Prosecuting Attorney represents the State in misdemeanor cases on appeal.
Sherri Martin is the elected Public Administrator of Greene County and assumes responsibility for individuals who cannot take care of themselves. Approximately 70 percent of the clients suffer from mental illness, 20% are developmentally disabled and 5% suffer from dementia. The authority comes from the Probate Court who appoints the office as guardian/conservator for clients. Guardianship is for the person while conservatorship is responsible for the assets and resources of the individual. The office also serves as trustee for trusts and as personal representatives for estates of the deceased.

Cheryl Dawson-Spaulding is the elected Recorder of Deeds of Greene County and maintains public records and documents, especially records pertaining to and affecting real estate. The Recorder also issues marriage licenses, files and maintains state and federal tax liens and military discharge papers.

Jim Arnott is the elected Sheriff of Greene County and has been serving the citizens of Greene County for the past 33 years. The Sheriff maintains law and order for citizens by offering patrol deputies to patrol streets and respond to calls for assistance, criminal investigative services and civil processing in addition to housing at times over 1,000 inmates in the Greene County Justice Center.

Justin Hill is the elected Treasurer of Greene County and serves other county offices by providing centralized cash management and banking services for county funds and manages a portfolio of $75 million.
Civic boards are an important part of local government and provide an opportunity for citizens from a variety of backgrounds, education, skill sets and interests to help shape and better our community. Currently, more than 100 individuals serve on 14 Greene County boards and committees. For more information or for a board application, visit the “Boards” tab on the homepage of greenecountymo.gov.

**ABILITIES FIRST BOARD**  
Established: August 1978  
The nine member board develops and provides community based services for developmentally disabled citizens in Greene County through public and private agencies.  
Meetings: Third Wednesday of each month at 4 p.m.

**BOARD OF EQUALIZATION**  
Established: January 1981  
The eight member board hears all cases arising from a general assessment appeal or complaint resulting from an evaluation made during general reassessment of all taxable real property and possessory interest in the County.  
Meetings: Second Tuesday of every month at 9 a.m.

**BUILDING COMMISSION BOARD**  
Established: February 1979  
The five member board prepares building and electrical code of regulations and submits to the County Commission for adoption and enforcement in the unincorporated territory of the County.  
Meetings: As required

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BOARD**  
Established: November 1982  
The 11 member board works with Greene County organizations whose mission and purpose involves the prevention of domestic violence and provides assistance to victims of domestic violence.  
Meetings: First Monday of January, April, June and September at 5 p.m.

**HISTORIC SITES BOARD**  
Established: August 1979  
The 12 member board acts as an advisory board to the County Commission and other County agencies relating to the identification, protection, retention and preservation of historical sites in Greene County.  
Meetings: Second Monday of every month at 4:30 p.m.

**INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
Established: August 1979  
The five member board promotes industrial, commercial, agricultural and manufacturing development thereby creating jobs in Greene County.  
Meetings: As required

**PLANNING BOARD**  
Established: November 1978  
The six member board reviews zoning petitions and amendments to the zoning regulations as well as advises the Board of Zoning Adjustment concerning use permits.  
Meetings: Third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. followed by a public hearing at 7 p.m.
SALES TAX OVERSIGHT BOARD
Established: October 2017
The seven member board provides oversight of the 1/2 percent sales tax increase and also include publication of a report to keep citizens informed of the revenue and expenditures specific to this tax.
Meetings: Every January and July

SENIOR CITIZEN BOARD
Established: June 2005
The seven member board advises on the use of the Senior Citizens’ Service Fund to provide services and programs that will improve the health, nutrition and quality of life for Greene County residents 60 and older.
Meetings: Fourth Monday of every month at 9 a.m.

SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD
Established: August 1990
The 12 member board makes recommendations to the various departments, boards and agencies of the City and County on programs or activities which will improve, preserve and/or protect the natural environment of the community.
Meetings: Second Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD
Established: 1961
The nine member board serves as the governing body of the Library District, making and adopting bylaws, rules and regulations for their own guidance, not inconsistent with the law for the government of the library.
Meetings: Third Tuesday of every month at 4 p.m.

SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY PARK BOARD
Established: October 1990
The nine member board works to make positive impact on the overall quality of life, health, environmental, social and economic aspects for our resident families and visitors alike through our area parks and trails.
Meetings: Second Friday of every month at 8:30 a.m.

WATERSHED COMMITTEE OF THE OZARKS
Established: 1984
The six member committee works to sustain and improve the water resources of Springfield and Greene County through education and effective management of the region’s watersheds.
Meetings: Frist Friday of every month at 7:30 a.m.

911 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS BOARD
Established: February 1992
The nine member board provides administrative support for the emergency response notification system (911) that is available to those in need of emergency services within Greene County.
Meetings: Second Wednesday of every month at 3 p.m.
On March 11, 2021, Congress passed the $1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). ARPA is the third round of stimulus funding provided by the Federal Government to offset the economic and social impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic. While the previous rounds provided through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) focused on immediate economic relief, the ARPA focuses on long-term sustainable recovery with some immediate relief.

Greene County is the direct recipient of $56,928,520 through ARPA’s State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund. $28,464,260 of Greene County’s allocation arrived on May 19. The rest will arrive in 2022.

There are several distinctive features of the ARPA funding from the previous CARES grant. They include:

- The legislation allows the county to utilize funds for revenue replacement.
- Funding can be utilized for capital projects.
- The legislation strongly suggests that grant recipients consider and incorporate equity focus in all funded projects to ensure underrepresented and underserved community pockets receive eligible funding.
- The funding comes to Greene County in two separate allocations, one half at a time.
- The county has until December 2024 to allocate or commit funding and an additional two years to spend the funds.

In developing the Needs Assessment for the consideration of the Greene County Commission and administrators, the ARPA Team, led by Dr. Lyle Foster, reviewed and utilized a number of different documents and sources to provide the most recent information on the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Greene County and its residents.

Greene County conducted a community survey for Greene County residents from September 10th - 23rd, 2021. The survey was available online and in print. Physical copies were distributed to non-profits and Greene County libraries. It was advertised through the media, social media, and the county website.

The purpose of the survey was to gauge what issues community members perceived as being high priority for the county to address using American Rescue Plan Act funding. The survey provided an opportunity for the county to capture a snapshot of important issues.

Respondents were asked to select up to 5 out of the 22 eligible ARPA funding categories listed. The 22 categories reference the 7 expenditure categories provided by the United States Department of the Treasury. Respondents were also asked to indicate what part of Greene County they were from. Finally, respondents were given the opportunity to detail additional community needs in a free-response question.

At the time of the survey’s conclusion, a total of 1,719 respondents across Greene County completed the survey. Of the 1,719 participants, 1,651 surveys were completed online and 68 were completed on a physical copy. The average response time for online surveys was 5 minutes and 26 seconds. The total number of participants exceeded Greene County’s expectations and is very helpful to provide a more representative look at the needs and priorities of the entire county.

Of the total responses, 1,107 came from Springfield, compared to 375 of responses that came from municipalities and villages. Additionally, 237 individuals who do not live within the geographic boundaries of a city selected “Unincorporated/Outside of City Limits.”

From September 30th to November 3rd, Greene County hosted nonprofit listening sessions to create a better understanding of community needs before making any decisions regarding American Rescue Plan Act funding. This was also in acknowledgement of the crucial role nonprofits play in addressing the multiplicity of needs experienced by county residents. Representatives from nonprofit organizations were invited to attend one of four in-person meetings and a virtual meeting, if they preferred. In-person meetings were held on September 30th, October 8th, October 15th, and October 18th at the Greene County Election Center Training Room. The online meeting was held on November 3rd. The nonprofit representatives were given the chance to share what they believed to be the most pressing issues in the community and in their line of work. Specifically, the county wanted an idea where issues stand since the passing and allocation of Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act funds.
Nonprofits were encouraged by Greene County representatives to keep sustainability and equity in mind when developing project proposals for ARPA funding. Common issues reported by representatives are collected and described below. The full list of attendees and the organizations they represent is located in the appendix. In addition, some representatives from Greene County nonprofits were unable to attend the listening sessions. They sent their comments and concerns to the ARPA team which have been considered and incorporated in the final assessment.

A total of 56 nonprofit representatives attended the sessions from 44 organizations. The input from these staff and volunteer members is very important in helping to ascertain new community priorities. Common areas of need are captured below, followed by a description of community members who highlighted specific problems in those areas, as well as means in which ARPA funding could be used.

The ARPA Team proposed twelve categories of priority needs to reflect the input from the public and the existing data sources that we have utilized to inform this report. The ARPA Team recommended that the Commission consider allocating $14 million into 3 broad categories of community, collaboration, and county-wide. The Community category prioritizes and responds to the requests of nonprofit organizations and small businesses. The Collaboration category would be set aside for collaborative projects between the county, city, and/or state. The County-Wide category would be utilized for county-wide projects, the requests of county officeholders and possible county facility and operational needs.

As of November, 2021, 26 organizations (businesses, nonprofits, and government entities) within Greene County have submitted projects to the Commission for ARPA funding consideration. Project requests have added up to an estimated $80,907,907. This estimation excludes the projects that did not provide an estimated cost. A spreadsheet/table of these requests can be found in Appendix B in the actual ARPA Needs Assessment Report found at greenecountymo.gov. An application process will be used to award the funds and the county will use the top priorities as the primary way to rank and recommend grants.

**GREENE COUNTY ARPA TIMELINE**

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<td>May 19, 2021</td>
<td>Greene County receives the first allocation of ARPA funds.</td>
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<td>September 2021</td>
<td>Greene County ARPA Team conducts the Community Survey.</td>
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<td>October/November 21</td>
<td>Greene County ARPA Team hosts Nonprofit Listening Sessions.</td>
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<td>November 2021</td>
<td>The Needs Assessment Report is presented to the County Commissioners.</td>
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<td>November/December 21</td>
<td>Greene County applications for ARPA funds are developed.</td>
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<td>December 2021</td>
<td>Greene County applications for ARPA funds are announced.</td>
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<td>January/February 22</td>
<td>Application process implemented.</td>
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<td>May/June 2022</td>
<td>ARPA 2nd phase fund allocation (2021 funding).</td>
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<td>Fall 2022</td>
<td>ARPA 3rd phase fund allocation (2022 funding, first half)</td>
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<td>Spring 2023</td>
<td>ARPA 4th phase fund allocation (2022 funding, second half)</td>
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The new Greene County jail is moving along on time and under budget and is on track for completion in May when we will have an official opening and dedication. By moving the jail off the main Greene County campus in central Springfield, we created an opportunity to relocate most of the Greene County Sheriff’s Office operations.

This construction project created one campus with numerous long-term benefits and the savings are substantial. The redesigned jail at a new location will save $95 million in staffing costs from the original resolution over the next 20 years.

These savings are due to the use of technology and indirect supervision, and having more area to spread out the cell pods horizontally as opposed to vertically. This reduces needless duplications without adversely effecting safety. Additionally the new jail will allow for enhanced video court capabilities and numerous professional mental health counselors working on site.

Sheriff Arnott’s employee advance team under the leadership of Captain David Johnson has worked tirelessly to help us fund two additional projects on the site – one a Training and Evidence Storage Facility and the other an on-site water management system that will pay for itself alone in five years.

In line with this type of forward-looking vision, we are working on future campus planning to determine how we can best use the facilities that will open when the Sheriff’s Offices are relocated to the new facility.
Greene County is the recipient of $8,765,982.70 as part of the U.S. Treasury Department’s Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERA). These funds are part of the second federal $900 billion COVID-19 relief package that was approved by Congress in December of last year.

A key provision of that package is the Rental Assistance Program that set aside $25 billion to help families and individuals nationwide whose ability to pay rent and utilities has been impacted by COVID-19. Additionally, Greene County received $2,774,444.76 through the ERA via ARPA. Era funds are a very valuable component of ARPA relief. Many residents are behind on their rent due to the economic consequences of the pandemic.

Jeff Scott, the Greene County Budget Officer, has done an outstanding job in administering the rental assistance program with the help of 6 nonprofit organizations by offering applications for rental assistance to residents of Greene County.

On September 2, 2021, The Washington Post highlighted the successful efforts of the county’s ERA program in reaching individuals in both urban and rural areas of the county with varying levels of access to internet service.

This article used information from August 31, 2021 ERA Status Update that reported 71% of the program’s initial funding has been awarded to partnering organizations. In the most recent Status Update from Greene County on November 8, 2021, the awarded percentage has increased to 81%, a ten-point jump. Additionally, 71.52% of the awarded funding has been used by organizations to service individuals in need of rental assistance.

Greene County officials continue to provide regular status updates that show positive trends in awarded and used funds. For additional information, please refer to Greene County’s ERA website or contact area organizations and community partners that have experience with utility and housing assistance programs.

Greene County is supportive of ERA funding and its assistance in addressing affordable housing. With federal rental assistance, many citizens within the county have been able to move forward after falling behind on rent. However, the county recognizes the complexity of addressing affordable housing.

While many Greene County residents have been able to catch up on rent, ERA does not address the fact that housing payments are still not affordable to many. The Greene County Community Survey and Nonprofit Listening Sessions both identify affordable housing as being a significant issue.

Considering the recent increase in housing costs in the Greene County housing sector, this continues to be a need that has major impacts.
From mowing, snow removal, paving and striping to sign maintenance and road construction, the Greene County Highway Department is a busy department year-round. The Highway Department is responsible for maintaining 1,252 miles of roadway throughout the County, 890 bridge structures and more than 8,000 acres of right-of-way. To help ensure efficient processes, the department is divided into three main divisions: operations, engineering and inspections, and administration.

Here’s a look at the Greene County Highway Department by the numbers:

- Number of employees: 112
- Number of seasonal help: 1
- Number of acres mowed: 8,000
- Number of miles of roadway paved: 99.4
- Salt stored for winter: 4,300 tons
- Bridges maintained: 218
- Box culverts maintained: 671

**PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS**

**FARM ROAD 129 & FARM ROAD 146 INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT**

Intersection improvements include a new roundabout at Farm Road 129 & 146 intersection, and at Farm Road 146 and West Bypass intersection. Farm Road 129 will be widened to 3-lanes with sidewalks on both sides from Farm Road 146 to Sunshine Street. Farm Road 146 will be widened to 3-lanes with sidewalks on both sides from Farm Road 129 to West Bypass. A new sanitary sewer extension between the Wil Fischer property and Farm Road 146 & West Bypass intersection will be put in. Estimated total construction cost is $2.4 million.
SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS IN ROYAL OAKS

Sidewalk improvements along West Royal Oaks Drive in the Royal Oaks Subdivision.

FARM ROAD 169 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Removed and replaced prior existing bridge with new pre-stressed box beam structure. Length of the new bridge is 56 feet with new paved roadway approaches.
The Greene County Family Justice Center offers services from many on-site, community partners in one safe location. All services are coordinated by a community advocate and are free of charge and confidential. The on-site agency partners at the Family Justice Center include:

**Harmony House**
- Crisis Intervention/Safety Planning
- Assistance with Orders of Protection
- Court Advocacy
- Emotional Support
- Emergency Shelter
- 24-hour safe line

**The Victim Center**
- Crisis Intervention/Safety Planning
- Assistance with Orders of Protection
- Court Advocacy
- Emotional Support
- Trauma-based Counseling
- Support Groups
- 24-hour safe line

**Legal Services of Southern Missouri**
- Basic legal information
- Divorce and Child Custody
- Public benefits (administrative hearings)
- Family (paternity, adoption, name change, guardianship)
- Elder law
- Housing representation

**Burrell Behavioral Health**
- Crisis counseling
- Assistance with community resources (Medicaid, food stamps, affordable housing)
- Point of entry into Burrell’s large network of mental health and substance abuse services

**Springfield Police Department**
- Domestic Violence Reports and Investigations

**Convoy of Hope**
The Greene County Family Justice Center is partnering with Convoy of Hope to help meet the needs of domestic violence victims in Greene County. Through this partnership, Convoy of Hope provides essential items to the Family Justice Center at no cost, including emergency meals and pantry items, paper products, and more. This allows the Family Justice Center to redirect limited funding to other projects, creating more efficiency in use of county funds.

**Diaper Bank of the Ozarks**
The Diaper Bank of the Ozarks has partnered with the Greene County Family Justice Center to provide emergency diapers and wipes to families fleeing domestic violence. These emergency packs of diapers and wipes help families fleeing a dangerous situation focus on accessing lifesaving services at the Family Justice Center.

**Rescue One SafePet Program**
The Greene County Family Justice Center has partnered with Rescue One to create the SafePet program, the first one of its kind in Missouri. Through this program, Rescue One provides confidential pet fostering to victims of domestic violence that are fleeing a dangerous situation. Before the inception of this program, many survivors stayed in dangerous situations due to the fear of leaving their pets behind, and others slept in the car or on the streets due to a lack of shelter options that allow pets to accompany the victim.
This program has resulted in many survivors accessing safe shelter services, and in the short 4 months since its establishment, the program has resulted in 12 successful reunifications of survivors and their pets.

**Expansion of Emergency Shelter Options through Partnership with Burrell Behavioral Health and Harmony House**

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in a lack of safe shelter options for survivors fleeing domestic violence. In 2020, the Greene County Family Justice Center secured grant funding to provide emergency hotel stays for victims of domestic violence in life threatening situations that were unable to find shelter due to the lack of available space in local shelters. In 2021, through a partnership with Harmony House and Burrell Behavioral Health, the Family Justice Center received an additional $20,500 for emergency hotel stays, which will provide approximately 410 additional nights of safe shelter in our community.

**The Rebound Foundation**

To meet the increased need of housing services for victims of domestic violence during the pandemic, the Greene County Family Justice Center has partnered with The Rebound Foundation. Through this program, the Family Justice Center provides referrals to Marda’s House, a program of the Rebound Foundation, which provides transitional housing for up to 1 year for survivors of domestic violence.

**VOICES**

The Greene County Family Justice Center has created a VOICES chapter in our community, a program affiliated with the national Family Justice Center Alliance and Alliance for HOPE International. VOICES is group of survivors of domestic and sexual violence who volunteer their time to:

- Celebrate their strength and survival.
- Use their voices to help others through advocacy, education, and empowerment.
- Support each other as well as incoming FJC clients.
- Offer a unique perspective on a Center’s established programming and/or identify gaps in services.
- Advocate on behalf of the local Family Justice Center and their partners, not just in the early stages but for long-term sustainability.
MUNICIPAL PROJECTS

ASH GROVE
Ash Grove installed new playground equipment at the City Park. THRIVE 900 has been an excellent addition to the Ash Grove City Park and has attracted a lot of youth. Ash Grove is looking to add more playground equipment for children under the age of 13.

BATTLEFIELD
The Battlefield Police Department has acquired a new police vehicle.

STRAFFORD
The Strafford Police Department will be acquiring a new police vehicle.

WALNUT GROVE
Walnut Grove is working on constructing a new police department building and garage, indoor public works shoproom and tourist/bicyclist hostel on a city lot.

WILLARD
The Willard Police Department will be acquiring a new police vehicle.
Republic had a lot to celebrate in 2021. The new Amazon Fulfillment Center is bringing 1,800 jobs to our region. We’ve also welcomed the World Headquarters and Distribution Center for Convoy of Hope, as well as Andy’s, Popeyes, Whataburger, many small businesses and new residents. We received grants to extend our trail system to Wilson’s Creek Battlefield and Republic High School.

Sales tax revenue, housing permits, and commercial permits are growing. As our community continues to grow, we are partnering with the Republic School District, Republic Chamber of Commerce, and other regional partners to ensure that growth occurs smoothly.

The community made a bold step this year to address public safety needs, passing the ¾ cent Public Safety Sales Tax. We look forward to seeing those funds collected January 1, 2022, with receipts coming in around April.

As funds from the Street Department were allocated to fund the Police Department, we had to forego certain infrastructure projects. With the passage of the sales tax increase for public safety, we can invest more back into the streets.

We’re partnering with the Missouri Highway Commission, Missouri Department of Transportation, and Greene County on environmental studies and right-of-way acquisition to widen Highway MM to five lanes north to I-44.

Already underway and funded is a route analysis to relocate Highway MM to US 60, with $26 million allocated to increase that section to three lanes and put in a bridge overpass to alleviate traffic congestion around the railroad crossing. We know that continued growth means increased traffic congestion, so we are working with MODoT and the Ozarks Transportation Organization to study the problem and find a solution.

While we put a year of growth and overwhelming success behind us, we remain excited to see the work and effort of our staff, citizens, and community in helping to lead and encourage growth across the region.

- Allyssa Dudley
City of Republic Public Information Officer

By the numbers:
- 167 New Residential Permits
- 2,000 new residences in the planning, permitting, or construction stage
- 150 New Business Licenses Issued
- 3.5 Days- Average Permit Review

Population
- 2010: 14,751
- 2019: 16,938
- 2021: 18,500
Greene County
31st Circuit Judges

Circuit Courts:

Division 1
Presiding Judge
Michael Cordonnier

Division 2
Judge
David Jones

Division 3
Judge
Jason Brown

Division 4
Judge
Thomas Mountjoy

Division 5
Judge
Calvin Holden

Division 6
Judge
Becky Borthwick

Division 21
Judge
Jerry Harmison, Jr.

Division 22
Judge
Margaret Palmietto

Division 23
Judge
Andy Hosmer

Division 24
Judge
Mark Powell

Division 25
Judge
T. Todd Myers

Division 26
Judge
Ron Carrier

Associate Courts:
The Greene County Consolidated Circuit Courts are divided into 18 divisions: six Circuit Courts, six Associate Courts, four Family Courts, one Treatment Court and one Probate Court. The Circuit divisions have responsibility for larger civil cases and criminal felonies. The Associate divisions have responsibility for small claims, traffic, misdemeanors, juvenile and civil cases less than $25,000. Commissioners have responsibility for Family Court, Treatment Court and Probate Court.
**AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

**SPRINGFIELD/GREENE COUNTY 911 TELECOMMUNICATORS HONORED**

The Greene County Commissioners recognized three 911 telecommunicators on Nov. 17. Summer Onyeukwu, Marleen Maupin, and Chris Sharp were given prestigious awards by the Association of Public Safety Communications for their role in helping save lives.

Onyeukwu helped a mother and baby, who had been taken hostage, escape an armed home invasion. Maupin and Sharp worked together to save a woman from a burning house fire by redirecting a delivery driver to help her climb out of a window.

The Commissioners are extremely proud of their hard work at Springfield-Greene County 911.

**GREENE COUNTY CLERK SHANE SCHOELLER APPOINTED TO TGDC & MACCEA PRESIDENCY**

Greene County Clerk Shane Schoeller has been appointed to fill a vacancy on the United States Election Assistance Commission Technical Guidelines Development Committee. Schoeller will be part of a 14 member team that assists the Elections Assistance Commission to fulfill the Help America Vote Act requirements by adopting resolutions and making recommendations to the EAC.

Schoeller was also elected as President of the Missouri Association of County Clerks and Election Authorities. Schoeller will be responsible for presiding over meetings of the Executive Committee that shape the association’s response to statewide elections issues. Schoeller will also work with the Missouri General Assembly and the Secretary of State to help enact statutory and regulatory elections reforms supporting Missouri Election’s Authorities, as they work to administer fair, transparent, and accessible elections.

**GREENE COUNTY PRESIDING COMMISSIONER BOB DIXON ELECTED TO NACO/MAC BOARDS**

Greene County Presiding Commissioner Bob Dixon was elected by organization members to serve as the Missouri representative on the National Association of Counties (NACo) board of directors.

Dixon will advocate for county priorities in federal policymaking, promote exemplary county policies and practices, nurture leadership skills and expand knowledge networks, optimize county and taxpayer resources and cost savings, and work to enrich the public’s understanding of county government.

NACo was founded in 1935 and includes nearly 40,000 elected county officials and 3.6 million county employees. The goal of the organization is to strengthen counties and to foster healthy, safe and vibrant counties across America.
FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER STAFF EXCELLENCE AWARD


“Tim “sets the bar” on a daily basis and provides a strong example for other FJC staff members. Tim is always supportive of both his clients and fellow co-workers, working hard to foster an environment that all feel accepted and supportive. “

“Tim goes above and beyond in dedicating time to work with each survivor, providing time on their comfort level. Tim’s genuine, caring nature fosters a warm and supportive environment for survivors to start their journey to healing. “

“Tim is a one of a kind individual who is such a natural fit for this type of partnership/agency/helping platform. He has been with the center since its inception here in Greene County and has a passion for seeing its continued growth and impact on the surrounding communities. Tim is vested in the partnerships at the FJC and supporting the continued development of the same. He has grown significantly through his time serving here and that is contagious to all who serve with him. Tim is a pleasure to know, support and serve with every day!”

FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER STAFF EXCELLENCE AWARD

Cassie Kite, ERE Specialist, Burrell Behavioral Health (Awarded for July-December 2021).

“Cassie is an invaluable part of the FJC. She works tirelessly to address our clients’ needs and is always one of the first people to offer to help. Cassie is always very flexible and goes out of her way to meet clients when they are available, even if that means coming in on a day she would not usually be here. Cassie is a wealth of knowledge, resources, and insight. If a client brings something to me that I’m not sure how to address, Cassie is usually my first call. I can’t imagine doing this work without her.”

“Cassie is an outstanding example of what each of us should strive for as Family Justice Center Staff members. She often is referred clients that need assistance with unique needs, but she always goes above expectations to research and provide them options.”

“After working with Cassie many clients have stated that she was so welcoming, kind, and provided them hope for their future. Cassie never gives up looking for solutions for client problems, whether that be housing or benefits related. She communicates open and honestly with other agency staff helping all of us provide better services to those we serve. Cassie’s commitment to providing services to domestic violence survivors in a kind and compassionate manner is testament to her resolve to make the world a better place.”