



COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH FUND

Community Connections — October 2026

Ribbon Cutting & Open House

December 15th at 9:30am

9550 Blue Ridge Blvd, Kansas City, Mo 64134

ReDiscover's RockHaven Campus

To learn more

A square QR code is located in the bottom left corner of the graphic, next to the text "To learn more".The ReDiscover logo, featuring the word "ReDiscover" in a stylized font with a circular arrow around the "Re".

ReDiscover Introduces Full-Service Trauma-Informed Care in South Kansas City

According to NAMI's 2025 state statistics on Medicaid and mental health, [Missouri urgently needs to address mental health care](#). Local community mental health

treatment center ReDiscover is responding to this need, fueled in part by their own growth. After opening their first behavioral health crisis center nine years ago, they've broken records each of the last four years for numbers of people served.

Their new South Kansas City campus combines accessibility, convenience, and centralized services to meet community needs. Additionally, RockHaven Campus will offer:

- Services available 7 days a week from 9 a.m. — 9 p.m.
- Access to public transportation
- Space for law enforcement collaboration and emergency medical services

By consolidating behavioral health services in one location and offering same-day care, the new campus will help control costs by reducing emergency room visits. Future plans include expanding to 24-hour services, with space already earmarked for potential expansion.

Get to know ReDiscover's RockHaven Campus



Gilda Radner herself, and Gilda's Club Kansas City sharing program information at CMHF's Ready, Set, Thrive!

Laughter is the Best Medicine at Gilda's Club Kansas City

It's not typically associated with cancer, but at [Gilda's Club Kansas City](#), laughter is a hallmark of their popular Red Door Café. The free, weekly gathering enables participants to connect with others and chat, eat, and enjoy good conversation, with plenty of merriment mixed in.

According to *Psychology Today*, laughter binds people together and triggers beneficial physical changes in the body, which makes it the perfect ingredient for a gathering of people impacted by cancer. "Happiness is the biggest change we see in Clubhouse participants, because they know they're not alone," says Gilda's Club Kansas City CEO Megan Hunter.

The Mental Health-Cancer Connection

A sense of belonging impacts the mental health of individuals living with cancer — both during treatment and in recovery — by reducing anxiety, boosting resilience, and giving them a safe space to share their highs and lows. Programs focused on education and nutrition, as well as strength and mobility classes, are offered to complement the benefits of being part of the Clubhouse community.

Because cancer affects people beyond the person living with it, supporting family and caregivers is also a Gilda's Club priority. Gilda Radner herself dreamed of duplicating that aspect of her treatment center experience, and the club that bears her name honors her vision.

Thanks to treatment advances, people are living longer with cancer, which makes it important for caregivers to stay healthy and avoid burnout. Hunter commends her staff for their commitment to supporting participants. "Even if they request something outside our programs, our staff finds a way to make sure their needs are met. I'm really proud of that," she says.

Barrier-Free Cancer Support

Free programming with licensed mental health professionals always present. Remote access for immunocompromised patients. No time limits on program access for participants in remission. And plenty of laughter. With benefits like

these, Gilda's Club is a place even Radner's cranky alter ego Roseanne Roseannadanna could endorse.

[Explore the Club calendar](#)



Kirby Randolph, PhD, Steps Down from CMHF Board of Trustees

A history dissertation on the diagnosis, treatment, and segregation of African Americans with Serious Mental Illness (SMI) opened the door to a lifetime of volunteer advocacy for equity in mental health care.

Like many graduate students, Kirby Randolph didn't have a defined life path laid out when she began her PhD studies in U.S. History at the University of Pennsylvania. But her research into the history of medicine — coupled with the overlapping history of segregation of African Americans — led her to a lifetime of work at the intersection of history, medicine, and mental health.

Prior to moving to the Midwest, Randolph served on the Board of the West Philadelphia Mental Health Consortium, one of 12 recovery-oriented mental health centers in the city. That experience shifted her interest from historical to contemporary mental health care, which she continued to build on after relocating to Kansas City — first as a member of CMHF's Cultural Competency Advisory Council, then as a member of the Board of Trustees in 2021.

Experience on both the “funded” and “funder” side of mental health, combined with professional experience addressing patients' care-related complaints and

grievances, enabled Randolph to better understand how gaps form in the care safety net. "There are always competing needs in mental health care for the most vulnerable," Randolph says. "Seeing all sides encourages you to make decisions with compassion."

During her CMHF Board tenure, Randolph channeled her knowledge to anticipate need and advocate for person-centered programs that solve patients' pain points. Although she's leaving the Board, the friendships and connections she forged with others members while doing that work will keep her connected to future funding.

Her enthusiasm for new therapies will play a role too. By coupling treatment and medication with art and music therapy — and brain-centered nutrition — Randolph believes we're gaining a better understanding of how we all can take steps to improve our mental health.

Being a homeowner provides its own ties to CMHF's work, which Randolph celebrated in our [45th Anniversary video](#). "I'm very proud of the work the Fund does — and the citizens of Kansas City should be proud that their money helps support the Fund. By paying their property tax, they're supporting critical life-saving services for people who have mental illnesses."

Staff Snaps



"Perseverance, professionalism, leadership, and a commitment to serving others." Our Executive Director, Theresa Reyes-Cummings, embodies these traits, and this year she's being honored for them as a [Reason to Believe Alumni](#).

Learn more about her award from the Kansas City, Kansas School Foundation for Excellence.



The CMHF Team visited [Alba Laredo Ceramics](#) studio and drew inspiration from her finished work and helpful suggestions to create their own masterpieces.

Everyone's projects turned out beautifully. That's creative team-building in action!

Interested in being highlighted on CMHF's social media and in our newsletter? Reach out to smccall@jacksoncountycares.org.

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