



Kansas Statewide
Homeless Coalition

2024 Survey for Kansas Public Leaders and Candidates

Name

Allison Hougland

Office:

Kansas House of Representatives

Party

Democrat

District

15

Home City

Olathe

Ballot City

Olathe

Policy and Strategy:

Kansas Housing Resource Corporation's 2021 Housing Needs Assessment found that "A shortage of quality, affordable housing is an undeniable barrier to economic growth and development in any community, and particularly in rural communities in Kansas." How likely are you to support increasing funding for affordable housing development?

Very Likely

Comments:

I was in support of the bill that was to invest \$40 million to address the homeless population until the amendment - once the amendment was accepted in committee - I was never so happy as to see it pulled!

Inadequate access to mental health and substance use treatment programs contributes to homelessness in Kansas. How likely are you to vote to expand mental health and substance abuse treatment programs?

Very Likely

Comments:

Working with the population has taught me so much! I have seen first hand what can happen to a person when their mental health medications are begun again. Absolutely life changing! This person I have in mind is now housed.

How likely are you to be in favor of limiting annual rental increases?

Likely

Kansas has no statewide plan that comprehensively addresses homelessness. How likely are you to support the implementation of a statewide affordable housing plan to address homelessness?

Very Likely

Comments:

As long as it doesn't include a poison pill

How likely are you to advocate to allow for more affordable housing developments in urban and suburban areas?

Very Likely

Comments:

Habitat is putting in a development in south Olathe and it has my full support! I would like to see more affordable housing all across the state.

How likely are you to be in favor of establishing a state-funded rental assistance program to stabilize low-income renters and support property owners?

Very Likely

How likely are you to support legislation or programs to provide legal assistance to tenants facing eviction?

Very Likely

Comments:

KC Tenants has made great strides in KC and I would like to see their program expanded

How likely are you to support increasing funding for domestic violence shelters and services to prevent homelessness?

Very Likely

Comments:

I believe the stat I saw was 40% of homeless situations began as a safety precaution.

What funding sources will you prioritize or advocate for to support homelessness programs and services? (Check all that apply)

Federal grants and programs (e.g., HUD Continuum of Care, Emergency Solutions Grants)

State Government funding initiatives

Local government budgets and funding allocations

Private donations and philanthropic foundations

Corporate partnerships and sponsorships

Community fundraising events and campaigns

Social impact bonds and other innovative financing mechanisms

Public-private partnerships

Tax revenue initiatives (e.g., bonds, levies specifically for housing and homeless services)

Housing Solutions

Kansas does not have enough shelter space; nearly two thousand Kansans sleep outside or in their cars in dangerous weather conditions. How important is it to increase funding and capacity for emergency shelters to meet immediate needs?

Very Important

Comments:

I have been a volunteer at a cold weather shelter for years. It is funded by donations and we are housed in a church. We need 3 times the space.

How important is it to develop more transitional housing programs to bridge the gap between homelessness and permanent housing?

Very Important

Comments:

Let's treat our fellow citizens with dignity

How important is it to expand permanent supportive housing options with integrated services for long-term stability?

Very Important

Comments:

Wrap around services are vital to long term change.

How important is it to implement a low barrier approach that prioritizes permanent housing with support services?

Very Important

Comments:

Everyone is worthy

How important is it to collaborate on the local level to ensure a coordinated response that addresses homelessness?

Very Important

How important is it to use data-driven strategies to allocate resources based on current demand and long-term outcomes?

Very Important

How important is it to create a flexible funding source that allows communities to address local needs?

Very Important

Collaboration and Partnerships:

Will you establish regular communication channels with local nonprofits to address homelessness?

Yes

Do you plan to participate in a workgroup or advisory council that addresses homelessness that includes representatives from key stakeholders throughout Kansas?

Yes

How important is it for state entities to collaborate on homelessness initiatives?

Very Important

Comments:

I have seen the limits of self funding through donations and would appreciate the state taking a role in the endeavor.

Employment and Education:

How likely are you to be in favor of creating state incentives for businesses that hire individuals experiencing homelessness?

Very Likely

Comments:

Although - the homeless people I know at least half of them work. A living wage is needed.

Will you support job training and vocational programs tailored to the needs of homeless individuals?

Yes

Do you support the creation of a statewide initiative to simplify the process of obtaining a state ID for homeless and low-income individuals?

Yes

Health and Well-being:

Do you advocate for Medicaid expansion to increase healthcare coverage for low-income individuals?

Yes

How critical is Medicaid expansion for increasing healthcare coverage for low-income individuals in your view?

Very Critical

Will you support the integration of healthcare services within shelters and housing programs?

Yes