



# Sara Gardner

sgardner10@ku.edu | 785-864-2494

## Professional Experience

### University of Kansas – Center for Public Partnerships & Research, Lawrence, KS

- Research Project Director, July 2019 – Current
- Research Coordinator, May 2018 – June 2019

### Cornerstones of Care, Kansas City, MO

- Chief Development Officer, January 2017 – April 2018
- Vice-President of Development, October 2015 – December 2016
- Director of Development – Gillis and Marillac, August 2014 – September 2015

### SAVE, Inc., Kansas City, MO

- Director of Development & Operations, July 2013 – July 2014
- Director of Development & Communications, February 2010 – June 2013
- Development Coordinator, May 2007 – January 2010

## Education

### University of Kansas Lawrence, KS, 2004 – 2006 Masters of Arts in Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies

### University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL, 2000 – 2003 Bachelors of Science in Communications (Public Relations, History Double Major)





## Skills & Expertise

- Leading systems change efforts and supporting partners in navigating complex social transformation.
- Strategic and organizational growth planning
- Program and policy development related to social services, such as poverty and homelessness
- Project management experience, involving management of both internal teams and external vendors
- Proficient in Microsoft Office, Adobe Creative Suites, and Raiser's Edge.

## Grants/Contracts Secured

### Principle Investigator or Co-Principle Investigator

- Kansas State Department of Education, ESSER Funded Sunflower Summer Program 2021 – Present
- Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Preschool Development B-5 Funded Child Care Systems Improvement Team 2020 – 2021
- Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund, CARES Act Funded Remote Learning Grant 2020 – 2021

### Principle Grantwriter

- H & R Block Foundation, Program Grant (2018)
- Hall Family Foundation, Program Grant (2017)
- Health Forward Foundation (formerly Healthcare Foundation of Greater Kansas City), Applicant Defined Grant (2010; 2013); Safety Net Grant (2013; 2014); Special Initiative (2016)
- Kauffman Foundation, Capacity Grant (2017)
- Missouri Housing Development Commission, Trust Fund (2012; 2013; 2014)
- Jewish Heritage Foundation, Operating Grant (2011; 2012; 2013)
- Oppenstein Brothers Foundation, Operating and Capacity Grants (2010; 2012; 2013; 2015-2017)
- Victor Speas Foundation, Operating and Capacity Grants (2010; 2013; 2016)