



**METROPOLITAN**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**FOUNDATION**

# The Path Forward



**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION**

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## CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE



Since 2017, I have served as the chancellor of Metropolitan Community College, and one of the things that I have come to value most is its rich history. The Metropolitan Community College District was established in 1964. Its origins include the merging of the Junior College Division of the Kansas City Polytechnic Institute, founded in 1915, with the Business Training, Engineering and Nurses Training divisions. In 1921, the Junior College added evening classes to accommodate full-time workers. After World War I, the school expanded its academic offerings to include occupational training and began attracting students from outlying communities beyond Kansas City, Missouri.

It is my distinct privilege to serve as the Chancellor of Metropolitan Community College. This institution has always been ahead of its time in recognizing the importance of offering student-centric academics based on real-world, occupational demands. For so many years, the College has answered the call of providing access to higher education for those who may not otherwise see higher education as a reality.

Private philanthropy is so invaluable to MCC's ability to achieve its mission of preparing students, serving communities and creating opportunities for all. *The Path Forward* has created new opportunities for expansion and growth in our communities, and we are incredibly grateful for the support received during Phase I of the campaign. Thanks in large part to many public and private donors and friends of the College, MCC has recently opened three new academic buildings across the city, with two more on the horizon. MCC is now marching onward into Phase II of *The Path Forward*, a final phase we hope will allow MCC to build on the strong momentum of Phase I and further advance our mission.

Generous support of *The Path Forward* will help ensure deserving students can continue to receive an affordable, high-quality education and a direct path to a transformative career. We hope you will join us as we embark on this final phase of *The Path Forward*.

Thank you for your support!

A stylized, handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Kim Beatty'.

**Dr. Kimberly Beatty**

Chancellor, Metropolitan Community College





## A PARTNERSHIP FOR PROGRESS

Greater Kansas City needs to attract and retain the best and brightest workforce. *The Path Forward* campaign will strengthen MCC's workforce pipeline of homegrown talent by adding student scholarships, enhanced programs and state-of-the-art facilities at each MCC campus throughout the Kansas City metropolitan area. This is truly *The Path Forward* for the entire region.

MCC is tackling the region's economic and workforce challenges by partnering with employers to identify talent gaps and developing curriculum to fill those gaps. Its vision is to be a **high-performing institution that remains learning-centered, affordable and aligned around student success.**

Today, MCC offers 125 associate degree and certificate programs specifically aligned with regional business needs to ensure a direct career path for students and a skilled workforce for the region.

"For our community and region to grow economically, we need a strong network of educational institutions that support the needs of our region. Metropolitan Community College is an amazing institution in our community that helps drive Kansas City forward. MCC's commitment and unique vision for its students creates a much-needed path to fill the gap in our workforce development needs. At McCownGordon we believe that institutions such as MCC will help prepare our city's workforce and, in turn, make Kansas City a more competitive city when it comes to economic development."

– Ramin Cherifat, CEO, McCownGordon Construction

## BOARD CHAIR'S MESSAGE



As the chair of the Metropolitan Community College (MCC) Foundation Board of Directors, I am honored to serve an organization that makes a life-changing impact on the future of 20,000 students annually across the greater Kansas City region. Over 50% of MCC students require financial aid in order to realize their dreams of higher education, and many are the first in their families to attend college.

The work of the Foundation Board and public philanthropy is more important now than ever, and we are proud to support *The Path Forward* campaign. Under the leadership of Chancellor Kimberly Beatty, MCC has created a new educational vision which will be instrumental in developing new cutting-edge programs, making major capital improvements to enhance the MCC student experience, and expanding student scholarship opportunities to ensure an MCC education is within everyone's reach. **We can only do this through philanthropy and your support.**

The MCC Foundation's financial resources benefit all students and campuses, and all donations are kept and managed separately from the College. The Foundation acts as a trustee for donations to assure that gifts are distributed in the manner specified by the donor. *The Path Forward* is designed to create an opportunity for MCC to leverage existing and future resources to meet the growing needs of the community. *The Path Forward* is key to accomplishing this bold vision.

Thank you to those who have supported Phase I, and we invite you now to join us for Phase II as we work to complete *The Path Forward*!

A white handwritten signature of Beth Soukup on a dark blue background. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Beth' and last name 'Soukup' clearly legible.

**Beth Soukup**  
MCC Foundation Board Chair



“MCC plays a critical role in our community, providing an attainable, quality higher-education experience that creates career opportunities across Kansas City. At CommunityAmerica, our vision is to help Kansas Citians achieve financial peace of mind at every life stage. This is especially important at the collegiate stage where students often ride a vulnerable line between working to live and pursuing a promising future. Please join me in supporting *The Path Forward* to secure a bright future for countless adults and families in our beloved city.”

– Lisa Ginter, CEO, CommunityAmerica Credit Union

## **THE PATH FORWARD MOVES ONWARD INTO PHASE II**

*The Path Forward* campaign was established to provide funding for MCC’s most urgent scholarships, programs and capital goals. In Phase I, MCC completed three academic buildings: the Engineering Technology building at MCC-Penn Valley; the Advanced Technical Skills Institute on Troost Avenue, which now is home to many of the College’s career and technical programs; and the Blue River East expansion at MCC-Blue River.

Phase II of *The Path Forward* campaign will provide additional funding for MCC’s most urgent scholarships, programs and capital goals, including the development of MCC’s very own Agriculture Institute and Automotive Institute.

**Scholarships** *To remain the most affordable option for students*

Not only will *The Path Forward* ensure students continue to receive a quality education that offers a direct path to a solid career, but additional scholarships will help keep this path as affordable as possible. Scholarships to be funded include a variety of offerings: Completion Scholarships, Emergency Scholarships, Merit Scholarships and Need-based Scholarships.

**Programs** *To offer expanded, high-quality workforce and academic programs that align with identified needs in the Kansas City region*

New and existing programs have received support from *The Path Forward* as MCC recently opened three new academic buildings, with two additional projects on the horizon. Enhancements to existing programs will be funded in Phase II for the creation of MCC’s Automotive & Agriculture Institutes.

**Capital** *To offer the best teaching and learning environments for student learning*

Funding will support new construction and enhancements to existing facilities and much-needed equipment and technology to keep pace with 21st-century teaching methodologies. Technological challenges require ongoing upgrades to maintain a high level of excellence.



## EVIDENCE OF PROVEN RESULTS IN PHASE I

MCC is grateful for the generosity from our donors received during Phase I of The Path Forward campaign. Their support allowed our College to open three new academic facilities on two of our campuses.

### Engineering Technology building at MCC-Penn Valley

This 16,000-square-foot facility houses the Engineering and Computer Aided Drafting and Design programs, Fab Lab maker space, 3D Printing Lab, and the Burns and McDonnell Design Innovation Lab.



"This building is a milestone for us. It's the first time we've had a space designed with the program in mind. Plus, the building and its striking MCC signage are quickly becoming part of the landscape of midtown Kansas City."

— Marcus Million, MCC engineering technology program coordinator

"The labs in the new Engineering Technology building were implemented with up-to-date equipment and software, which made transferring to my position at Black & Veatch easy. No relearning necessary! It made starting work directly out of school a smooth transition."

— Serina Schank, who studied computer-aided drafting and design at MCC and now works as an engineering technician in the Kansas City area

### Advanced Technical Skills Institute at MCC-Penn Valley

This 100,000-square-foot-plus facility houses HVAC, Welding, Industrial Technology, Computer Integrated Machining and Manufacturing and Building Maintenance and Construction programs.





## Blue River East expansion at MCC-Blue River

This 25,000-square-foot facility houses MCC's OSHA Education Center, CDL, Utility Lineman, Forklift and Warehousing programs.

"We are super-excited for the lineman program to be here at Blue River East. Now we have both indoor and outdoor pole yards. And grass and shade! At our previous facility, the pole yard was on asphalt. But training on grass is a more real-life experience. Our goal is to provide a training environment that simulates exactly what line workers encounter when they're working in neighborhoods."

— Susan Blaser, MCC lineman program coordinator

"The new and upgraded facilities at the Blue River campus allow MCC to provide training and education for in-demand skills and certifications that will help students thrive and excel in their chosen career paths. The range of programs will help support the skill demands of our local private-sector employers — both for their immediate needs and long into the future."

— Tom Lesnak, president, Independence Chamber of Commerce

"I enjoy our welding shop at ATSI. We have quite a bit of new equipment, so we get the best learning experience. I would tell my friends that if they are looking for great training in welding or any other trade skills, the classes at ATSI really help get you where you need to be."

— Shelby Briscoe, MCC student

"I love and appreciate ATSI and wish more people knew about the opportunities they have to offer. What I like best is the new CIMM (computer-integrated machining and manufacturing) shop — it's bigger and better than what we had before."

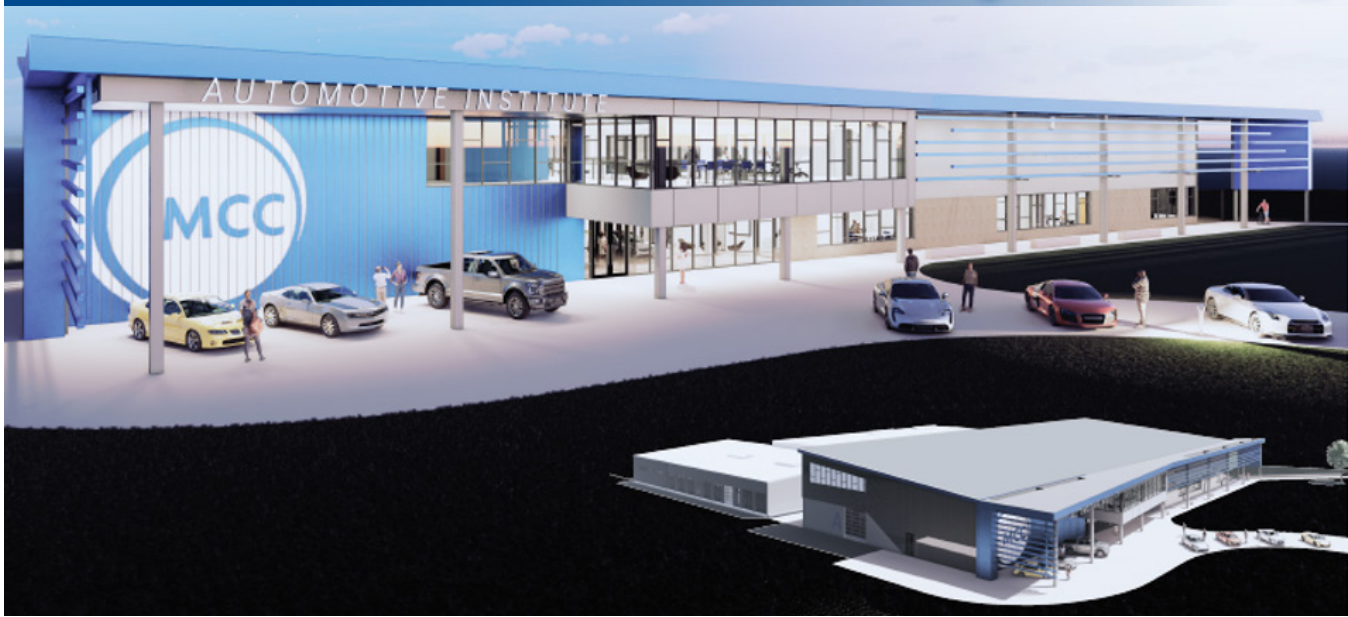
— Laniezaka Garner, MCC student  
who is training for a career in die making



## GOALS FOR PHASE II OF *THE PATH FORWARD*

Phase II of The Path Forward campaign will turn to our MCC-Longview and MCC-Maple Woods campuses to establish an Automotive Institute and an Agriculture Institute for the greater Kansas City region and beyond. This final phase will allow MCC to expand its current offerings to accommodate the growth and need for future workers in these industries.

### High-Technology Automotive Institute at MCC-Longview



**High-Technology Automotive Institute at MCC-Longview** will serve as the home of the region's premier Automotive programs. The project includes a 50,000-square-foot addition to the current High Technology building where the automotive technician and collision technician programs are currently housed. This project will both renovate and expand the footprint of the automotive space to accommodate for future program growth in diesel, heavy duty trucks and large vehicles, electric vehicles and powersports.

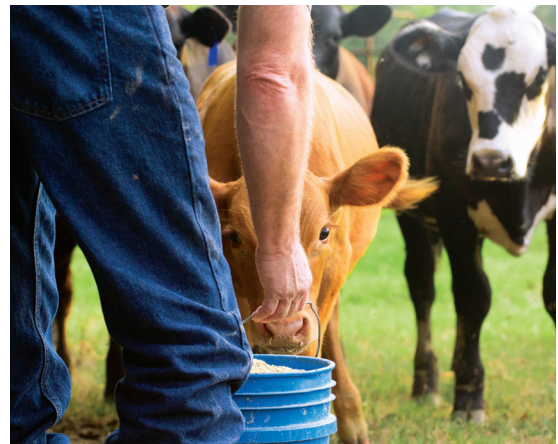




## Agriculture Institute at MCC-Maple Woods



**Agriculture Institute at MCC-Maple Woods** will complement the existing Veterinary Technology program with the addition of three agriculture-related pathways: Plant Science, Agribusiness and Animal Science. This project will add a state-of-the-art facility which includes classroom, lecture and laboratory space, and a 2,000-square-foot greenhouse to suit the needs of agriculture science students at MCC.



## JOIN US ON THE PATH FORWARD

Through *The Path Forward* campaign, MCC is making a positive impact within the community and working hard to advance the mission of the College: preparing students, serving communities and creating opportunities for all. MCC made a significant contribution to the overall campaign during Phase I through the sale and reinvestment of real property assets and other investment strategies, including a matching bond valued at \$20 million. This, along with public and other private support, has helped MCC achieve success during the initial phase of the campaign. With generous support from private benefactors, MCC is poised to lead the way in offering an affordable education that leads to success and a bright future, which in turn will ensure a pipeline of skilled and trained employees for the entire region.

The decision to make a charitable gift to *The Path Forward* campaign is important, as you are choosing to invest in the future of the individuals, businesses and organizations that benefit from the education, training and services that MCC provides to the area. If you would like to make a personal gift, please contact the MCC Foundation office. Our team looks forward to connecting with you!

**MCC Foundation office contact information:** (816) 604-1181 | [mcc.foundation@mcckc.edu](mailto:mcc.foundation@mcckc.edu)

“MCC offers a variety of scholarship aid to help remove financial barriers and allow students to obtain a credential or degree that is marketable and can assure them a livable wage. It’s very important to keep a student’s educational path as affordable as possible, whether it’s a student just entering higher education or an adult making a career path change.”

– Marny Sherman, Sherman Family Foundation

## High-Technology Automotive Institute at MCC-Longview



## Agriculture Institute at MCC-Maple Woods





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President, MCC-Penn Valley





“Metropolitan Community College provides affordable education available to everyone in our community leading directly to growth in our potential workforce. As our region pursues its goals of growth and shared prosperity, MCC is increasingly significant as a community partner. Its bold vision for the future will create new opportunities for students and enhance the pipeline for our much-needed future workforce. Funding for MCC supports our entire community, as the vast majority of these students will live and work in our region long term.”

– Carolyn Watley, Vice President of Community Engagement, CBIZ, Inc.



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