

Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon
Governor

Missouri

Budget & Legislative Priorities
Fiscal Year 2017



JEREMIAH W. (JAY) NIXON
GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR OF MISSOURI
JEFFERSON CITY
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January 20, 2016

TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE PEOPLE OF MISSOURI:

Over the past seven years, we have kept our strict fiscal discipline while steering Missouri through difficult fiscal times. We balanced the budget each year and reduced the size of state government, all while making responsible investments in priorities like public education, economic development and mental health.

Today, our AAA credit rating is intact and our economy is moving forward. In fact, Missouri leads the nation in new business creation and our unemployment rate recently dropped to its lowest point in nearly a decade.

This sound financial management, coupled with continued economic growth, will allow us to make smart investments in the upcoming fiscal year. Our shared values will continue to unite us: maintaining fiscal discipline, strengthening our public schools, making college more affordable, improving the health of our communities, and investing in business creation.

- **Balancing the budget and maintaining fiscal discipline.** Under my budget, state government will continue to get smaller, smarter and more efficient.
- **Investing in education from preschool through college:** When our public schools thrive our communities thrive. We must increase funding for early childhood education and K-12 classrooms, while continuing to demand greater accountability and results. And by freezing tuition and investing in college scholarships, we can continue to make college more affordable for Missouri families.
- **Strengthening our mental health safety net:** For Missourians with severe mental illness, early intervention is critical in order to prevent more costly and dangerous consequences down the road. We have already made tremendous strides in this area and this year we can do even more with a crisis prevention program that will make our communities safer, healthier and stronger.
- **Improving developmental disability services:** This year, we will continue our successful Partnership for Hope, ensure there is no wait list for in-home Medicaid services for individuals with developmental disabilities, and expand access to treatment for children with autism.
- **Creating jobs and spurring business creation:** While the rate of new business creation has stalled in most states, Missouri is making targeted investments to increase business start-ups and create jobs.
- **Reforming Medicaid:** Working Missourians deserve affordable health care. By strengthening and reforming Medicaid, we can achieve that goal and bring our taxpayer dollars home to Missouri.

I look forward to working with you to keep Missouri moving forward.

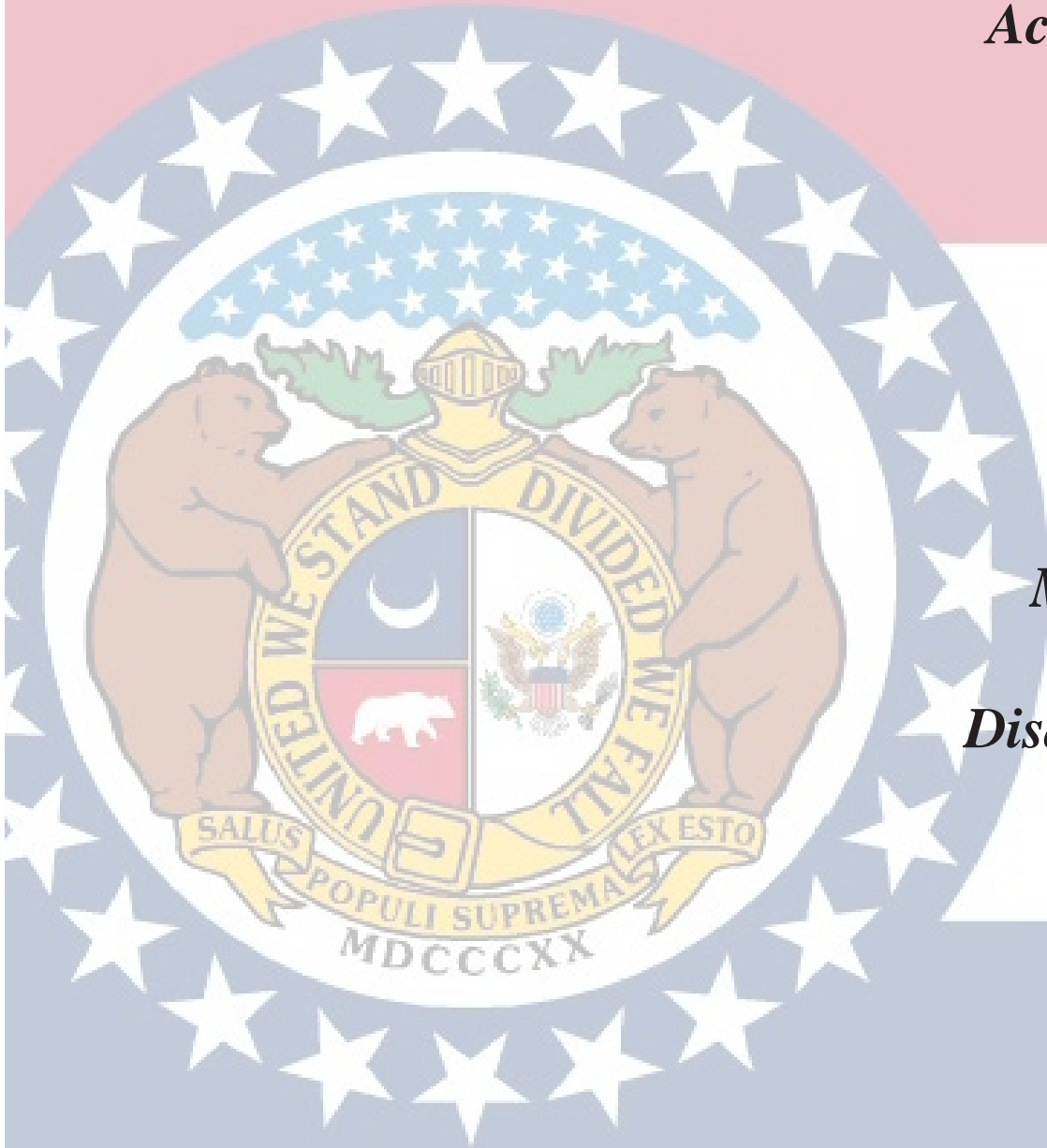
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jay Nixon".

Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon
Governor



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Accomplishments

☞ **Balanced the budget** every year and reduced the size of state government

☞ Retained Missouri's **AAA credit rating** and paid down debt, **saving taxpayers** millions of dollars

☞ Provided **record funding** for elementary and secondary **education**

☞ Secured **historic investments** in the automotive manufacturing sector to save and **create** thousands of **jobs**

☞ Secured Missouri's rating as a leader in **new business creation**

☞ Led the nation in **holding down** higher education tuition increases at public universities

☞ Reorganized, **improved** and consolidated government **operations** to reduce administrative costs

☞ Directed the state's response to **assist communities** following record-breaking disasters

☞ Created the **Partnership for Hope** to support Missouri families caring for loved ones with developmental disabilities

☞ Promoted Missouri's state parks and the outdoors, earning a national **Best Trails State** designation

☞ Signed **landmark** municipal court reform legislation

☞ **Led the effort** to build a new Fulton State Hospital to improve care and safety

☞ Met with **Missouri troops** deployed in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait and Germany

☞ **Strengthened** police training standards

☞ Established the **Show-Me Heroes program** to connect military veterans with job opportunities when they return home from service

☞ Implemented a **performance-based funding** model for the state's colleges and universities



Governor Nixon participates in a panel discussion with a bipartisan group of five former Missouri governors at a Hawthorn Foundation meeting held in Kansas City.

“Working together, we will build a stronger Missouri for everyone and leave our great state a better place than we found it.”

~ Governor Jay Nixon

Missourians deserve a state government that reflects their values of honesty, integrity and accountability. Governor Nixon has led the state through difficult financial times and put Missouri back on a fiscally responsible track, improving the state’s economy and making state government more efficient. Over the past seven years, the Governor made it a priority to preserve the state’s AAA credit rating; Missouri is one of only a few states with this spotless rating. Governor Nixon’s budget makes strategic investments in important areas while maintaining fiscal responsibility.



Governor Nixon signs landmark municipal court reform legislation in St. Louis.

ADMINISTRATIVE EFFICIENCIES

- Eliminated more than 75 boards and commissions and 928 appointed positions
- Reduced state employee travel saving \$14.2 million
- Sold unused state property generating \$11 million
- Consolidated 480,000 square feet of unused office space saving more than \$6 million annually
- Significantly increased the number of state services available online

SMALLER STATE GOVERNMENT

Governor Nixon’s administration has made state government smaller, smarter and more efficient. Workforce reductions are never easy, but they are vital to avoid the fiscal meltdowns that occurred in other states. With his Fiscal Year 2017 budget recommendations, Governor Nixon will have reduced the state workforce by more than 5,100 positions since he took office, making it the smallest in over 20 years. The Governor recognizes that state employees are doing more with less. The Governor’s Fiscal Year 2017 budget includes a two percent pay increase and holds health care premiums at the current rate for state employees.

BUILD MISSOURI

Build Missouri is a capital improvements initiative proposed by Governor Nixon and passed by the General Assembly in 2015. As a result of a strong record of fiscally-responsible budget management, Missouri’s AAA credit rating allows the state to benefit from low interest rates and makes long-term capital investments more affordable.

Build Missouri is funding nearly 500 critical maintenance, repair and construction projects in every corner of the state. Bond proceeds will support repairs and renovations at state facilities, including the Capitol Building, veterans homes, state parks and higher education campuses. Funding will enable construction of a new state-of-the-art mental health hospital in Fulton. Governor Nixon’s Fiscal Year 2017 budget includes bond proceed funding to continue these important infrastructure projects.

CYBERSECURITY

As cyber threats to our technology infrastructure become more frequent, widespread and technologically advanced, Governor Nixon has focused additional resources to protect sensitive information and defend state systems against cyber attacks. The state was recently honored with the “Overall Excellence in Cyber Security Award,” recognizing Missouri as a model of cybersecurity awareness, infrastructure and practices. The Governor’s Fiscal Year 2017 budget includes an additional \$2 million to enhance the protection of the state’s networks and information systems.



Governor Nixon meets with state and local officials in Pacific to discuss flood response and recovery planning.



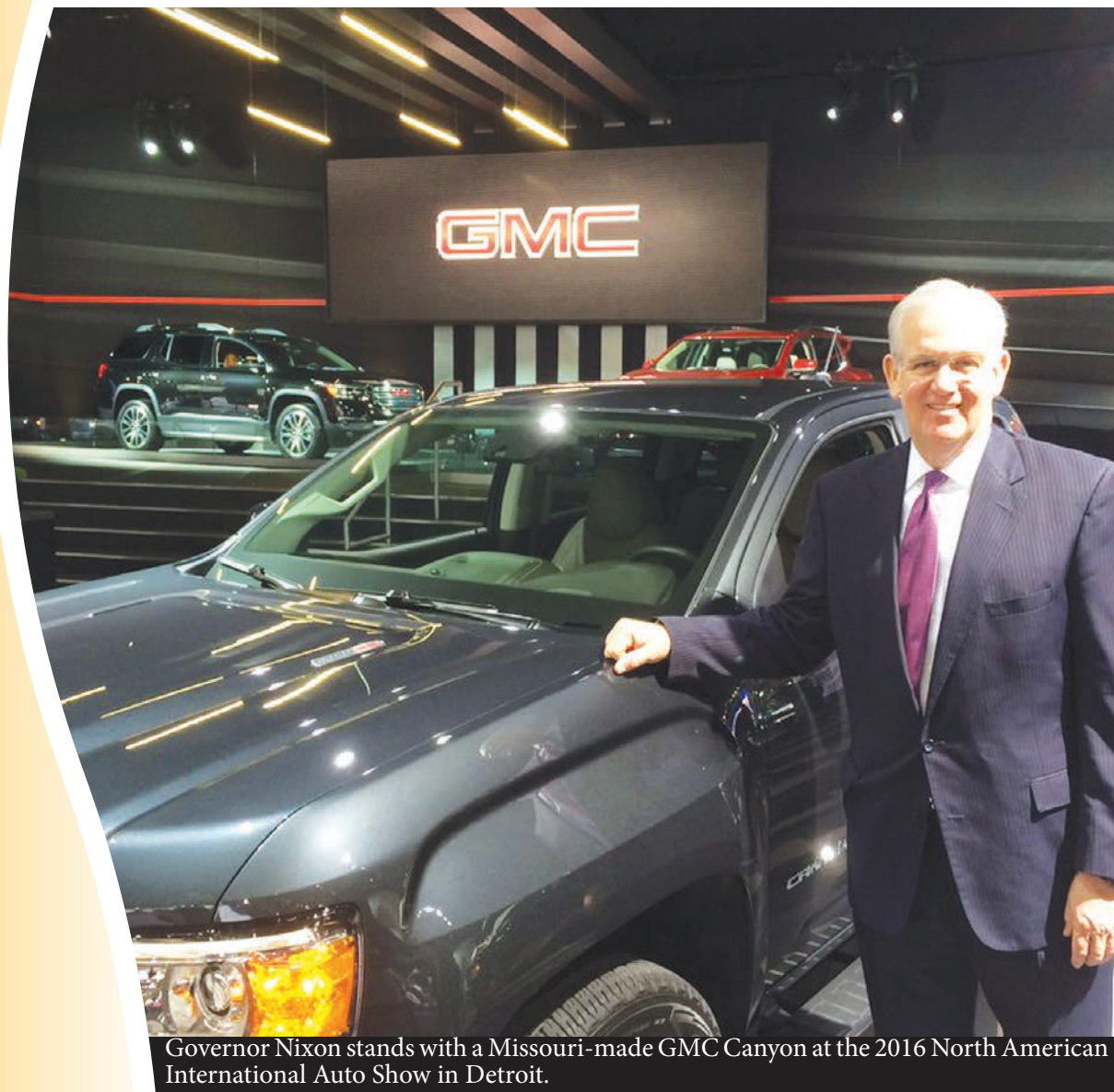
Governor Nixon greets Speaker of the House Todd Richardson following the Governor’s 2015 State of the State Address.

ETHICS REFORM

Missouri’s ethics laws are the weakest in the nation. Since his first year in office, Governor Nixon has proposed comprehensive changes to Missouri’s ethics laws. The Governor is committed to working with the General Assembly to make state government more transparent, ethical and accountable to Missourians. The Governor will work with legislators from both parties to pass reforms that:

- Restore strict limits on campaign contributions to candidates.
- Ban all officeholder gifts and meals from lobbyists.
- Shorten the legislative session.
- Enhance transparency by banning the practice of holding legislative proceedings that are not accessible to the public.
- Ban officeholders from hiring other legislators as political consultants.
- Close the revolving door by prohibiting legislators from serving as lobbyists immediately after they leave office.
- Enact reasonable limitations on the campaign accounts of former officeholders.
- Create a safer, healthier and more respectful working environment in the Capitol.

E C O N O M Y



Governor Nixon stands with a Missouri-made GMC Canyon at the 2016 North American International Auto Show in Detroit.

**“Missouri is leading the country in new business creation -
proof positive that our efforts are paying off in a big way.”**

~ Governor Jay Nixon

Governor Nixon’s top priority is to create jobs for Missourians. Under his leadership, Missouri has laid a foundation for strong economic growth. Unemployment has dropped to its lowest level in more than a decade, exports are booming and new business creation is increasing. The Governor advanced the state’s agricultural sector by developing strategies to boost farm income, create jobs and develop opportunities for marketing products. Governor Nixon’s administration worked with business leaders to develop the Strategic Initiative for Economic Growth, modernize Missouri’s economic incentives, connect military veterans with jobs and revitalize the auto industry. The Governor will continue to promote Missouri as the best place in the country to do business.



In order to increase exports to Canada, Governor Nixon signs Missouri’s first Province of Alberta trade agreement with Premier Rachel Notley.





Governor Nixon breaks ground on World Wide Technology's new world headquarters in St. Louis.

BUSINESS INVESTMENTS

Missouri leads the nation in the rate of new business creation, which has stalled in most other states. Under Governor Nixon's leadership, the Missouri Technology Corporation (MTC) has helped companies across the state leverage more than \$200 million in private capital to commercialize their products and services, create jobs and grow. MTC is the number one venture capital investor in the Midwest. To continue Missouri's efforts, the Governor's Fiscal Year 2017 budget includes an additional \$10 million to assist new and emerging high-tech companies.

AUTO INDUSTRY

Governor Nixon has made reviving Missouri's auto industry a top priority. On his very first day in office, he created the Missouri Auto Jobs Task Force. Working across the aisle to pass the Missouri Manufacturing Jobs Act helped lay the groundwork for major investments by automotive manufacturers and suppliers across the state. Ford and GM have expanded their facilities and workforce several times, doubling their employment levels. Over the past seven years, Missouri has regained its position as an automotive leader and hub of next-generation auto industry jobs.

TOURISM

Missouri boasts beautiful state parks, thriving metropolitan centers and many family-friendly attractions. An investment in tourism creates jobs, brings families to Missouri and generates additional resources that benefit Missouri citizens. Governor Nixon recommends an additional \$3 million to enhance efforts to showcase Missouri through partnerships with the travel and tourism industry.

AGRICULTURE

Governor Nixon's administration continues to advance economic development opportunities in rural Missouri. The Governor supports Missouri farmers by promoting Missouri's agricultural products and securing trade agreements that increase exports. In 2015, Governor Nixon convened the Missouri Beef Summit; signed the Missouri Dairy Revitalization Act; and appointed a delegation representing farmers, ranchers and agri-businesses to a Cuban trade mission. The Governor's Fiscal Year 2017 budget makes additional investments to move the state's rural economy forward, including:

- \$3.9 million to complete biodiesel producer incentive payments.
- \$3.8 million to assist landowners in addressing erosion control and water quality needs facing the state's agricultural land.
- \$2.9 million to make critical upgrades at the Missouri State Fairgrounds in Sedalia through the Build Missouri initiative.
- \$2 million to enhance the state's beef industry.
- \$1.9 million to expand the state's biofuel infrastructure with equipment capable of dispensing higher ethanol blends.
- \$1.3 million to implement the Missouri Dairy Revitalization Act and provide scholarships for the next generation of farmers.
- \$236,757 to improve animal feed standards.
- \$116,533 to encourage sustainable agriculture practices.

TRANSPORTATION

Safe and reliable roads are critical to Missouri's economic competitiveness. Funding for transportation infrastructure has dramatically declined in recent years. Missouri's motor fuel tax is among the lowest in the nation and has not increased in two decades. During the 2016 session, Governor Nixon will work with legislative leaders to advance a reasonable funding increase that addresses the state's transportation needs. To improve transportation on Missouri waterways, the Governor's Fiscal Year 2017 budget includes an additional \$5 million for critical upgrades at Missouri's port facilities.



Governor Nixon meets with ironworkers at the Daniel Boone Bridge in St. Louis County.



Governor Nixon meets with Marion Elementary School students in St. Louis.

“When every child has a quality education, every child has the opportunity to succeed.”

~ Governor Jay Nixon

Governor Nixon continues to make public education a top priority. The Governor launched Missouri Start Smart to expand high-quality early childhood and pre-kindergarten programs. He championed investments in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). Reading scores have improved on the Governor’s watch and Missouri’s high school graduation rate is in the top 10 in the nation. Missouri is number one in the nation in holding down tuition increases at four-year higher education institutions. By focusing on college affordability, enrollment has surged; in 2015, more than 50,000 students earned a degree - up 36 percent in the last seven years. Governor Nixon’s budget provides additional investments to help every child start school ready to learn, graduate from high school and attend college.



Governor Nixon meets with students at Oak Ridge Intermediate School in Camdenton.

PUBLIC EDUCATION: PRE-K THROUGH 12

Governor Nixon believes that opportunity starts with an education. By ensuring children start school ready to learn, early childhood education is a smart investment with a big return. Governor Nixon has worked to give more Missouri families access to quality pre-kindergarten education programs. These programs are the building blocks for a successful K-12 education.

Where public schools thrive, communities thrive. Even during the height of the recession, the Governor balanced the budget every year while providing record funding for K-12 classrooms and demanding higher expectations. Governor Nixon will continue to work across the aisle to strengthen and improve public education in Missouri. The Governor's Fiscal Year 2017 budget invests an additional \$150 million in state funds for public Pre-K through 12 education programs, including:

- The Foundation Formula - with an \$85 million increase, the formula has increased by more than \$400 million during Governor Nixon's administration.
- Early childhood special education.
- Transportation services.
- Performance-based assessments.
- School support to assist low-performing schools with improving student outcomes.
- Pre-school education access for more than 2,800 children at unaccredited and provisionally-accredited school districts and charter schools.



First Lady Georganne Nixon reads to students at Barbara Blanchard Elementary School in Cape Girardeau.



Governor Nixon announces a public-private partnership at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

BUILDING AFFORDABILITY

The Governor, in collaboration with public colleges and universities, proposed Building Affordability, an initiative to improve higher education facilities and help maintain Missouri's status as a national leader in holding down tuition increases. The General Assembly passed \$200 million in capital projects with bipartisan support. Funding will address critical maintenance and repair needs at every public university and community college. Governor Nixon's Fiscal Year 2017 budget includes bond proceed funding to continue these important infrastructure projects.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Governor Nixon has championed higher education quality and affordability throughout his administration. The Governor recently announced an agreement to freeze tuition rates for undergraduates for the 2016-2017 school year, the fourth such agreement during his tenure. The Governor has expanded the A+ Program, increasing the number of A+ students attending college by 44 percent. His Innovation Campus initiative trains students for career opportunities in high-demand fields while cutting the time it takes to earn a college degree. Governor Nixon successfully implemented performance funding for higher education, which is allocated based on specific performance goals. The Governor recommends record funding for the state's higher education system, including the following increases:

- \$55.8 million, a six percent increase, for performance-based funding.
- \$4 million for the Access Missouri scholarship program.
- \$3 million for a new satellite dental program.
- \$2.5 million for the A+ Scholarship Program.
- \$2 million to enhance and expand nursing education programs.
- \$500,000 for the Bright Flight Program.



Governor Nixon recognizes State Employee of the Month Lisa Buckles, with the Department of Mental Health's Division of Developmental Disabilities, who brought two of her favorite consumers to the Jefferson City awards ceremony.

“More Missourians are now getting the community-based services they need to live fuller, more productive lives.”
~ Governor Jay Nixon

Governor Nixon is committed to strengthening and expanding Missouri's mental health system. The Governor's Strengthening Mental Health Initiative improves the way Missouri cares for individuals with serious mental illness and severe substance use disorders. In 2010, Governor Nixon created the Partnership for Hope, which provides home- and community-based services to Missourians with developmental disabilities and their families. For the first time in decades, the program has helped eliminate the waiting list for services provided to low-income Missourians with developmental disabilities. In 2014, the General Assembly backed the Governor's plan for replacing the state's outdated maximum-security psychiatric facility at Fulton with a new state-of-the-art mental health hospital. Governor Nixon's budget invests an additional \$200 million to dramatically strengthen Missouri's mental health system.

MISSOURI HEALTH HOME EFFORT RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Missouri's Health Home Initiative, which has saved taxpayers \$36.3 million since 2011, received the Gold Award for community-based services from the American Psychiatric Association. Missouri's Health Home Initiative is an innovative model providing 40,000 medically needy Medicaid participants with comprehensive care management through health homes and disease management, with proven results - lowering costs, reducing hospitalizations and improving cholesterol, blood pressure and blood sugar levels.

MISSOURI HEALTH HOME INITIATIVE

since 2011
\$36.3 million saved

provides
40,000 medically needy Medicaid participants
 comprehensive care management



Governor Nixon leads a Governor's Roundtable for community mental health liaisons in Hannibal.

EARLY INTERVENTION

A majority of individuals with serious mental illness or substance use disorders experience the first symptoms during adolescence or early adulthood. Many young adults are uninsured and cannot access the services needed to address the immediate issues and support a pathway to recovery. To expand access to vital services for Missourians experiencing a behavioral health crisis, Governor Nixon’s Fiscal Year 2017 budget builds on his Strengthening Mental Health Initiative by adding:

- \$5.4 million to provide early intervention, treatment and community support services to an estimated 2,000 individuals, aged 21 to 35, who are experiencing a mental health crisis.
- \$1.6 million to expand emergency room enhancement projects aimed at treating individuals with mental illness in a more appropriate setting.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Department of Mental Health manages programs and services for people who need help for a mental illness or substance use disorder. Prevention and education programs provide information to people about these conditions as well as where to find help. Treatment services assist people with mental illness and substance use disorders. Governor Nixon is committed to expanding access to behavioral health services. The Governor’s Fiscal Year 2017 budget includes:

- \$16.4 million to increase the rates paid to community providers who serve Missourians with a mental illness or substance use disorder.
- \$5 million to provide additional comprehensive psychiatric care and access to treatment for nearly 700 individuals with serious mental illness or substance use disorders.
- \$3.8 million to provide additional community services for 767 youth with mental illness.
- \$595,000 to provide treatment for substance use disorders through the Comprehensive Substance Treatment and Rehabilitation (CSTAR) Program.
- \$300,000 to assist Missourians in crisis through suicide prevention programs.



Governor Nixon participates in the ground-breaking ceremony for the new Fulton State Hospital with Mental Health Director Dr. Keith Schafer and Fulton Mayor Leroy Benton.

AUTISM TREATMENT

It is estimated that almost two percent of children in Missouri are living with autism. Early access to services and treatment can greatly improve a child’s development. Governor Nixon worked with the General Assembly to enact landmark legislation that ensures Missouri children with autism get the medical care they need and deserve. To increase the state’s investment in early autism intervention, Governor Nixon’s budget provides:

- \$12.1 million to ensure low-income children with Autism Spectrum Disorder have access to medically-necessary services.
- \$5 million to expand facilities at the University of Missouri’s Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders.
- \$1 million for autism services and professional training at Truman State University.
- \$500,000 to serve additional children with autism in the St. Louis area through the Mercy Kids Autism Center.



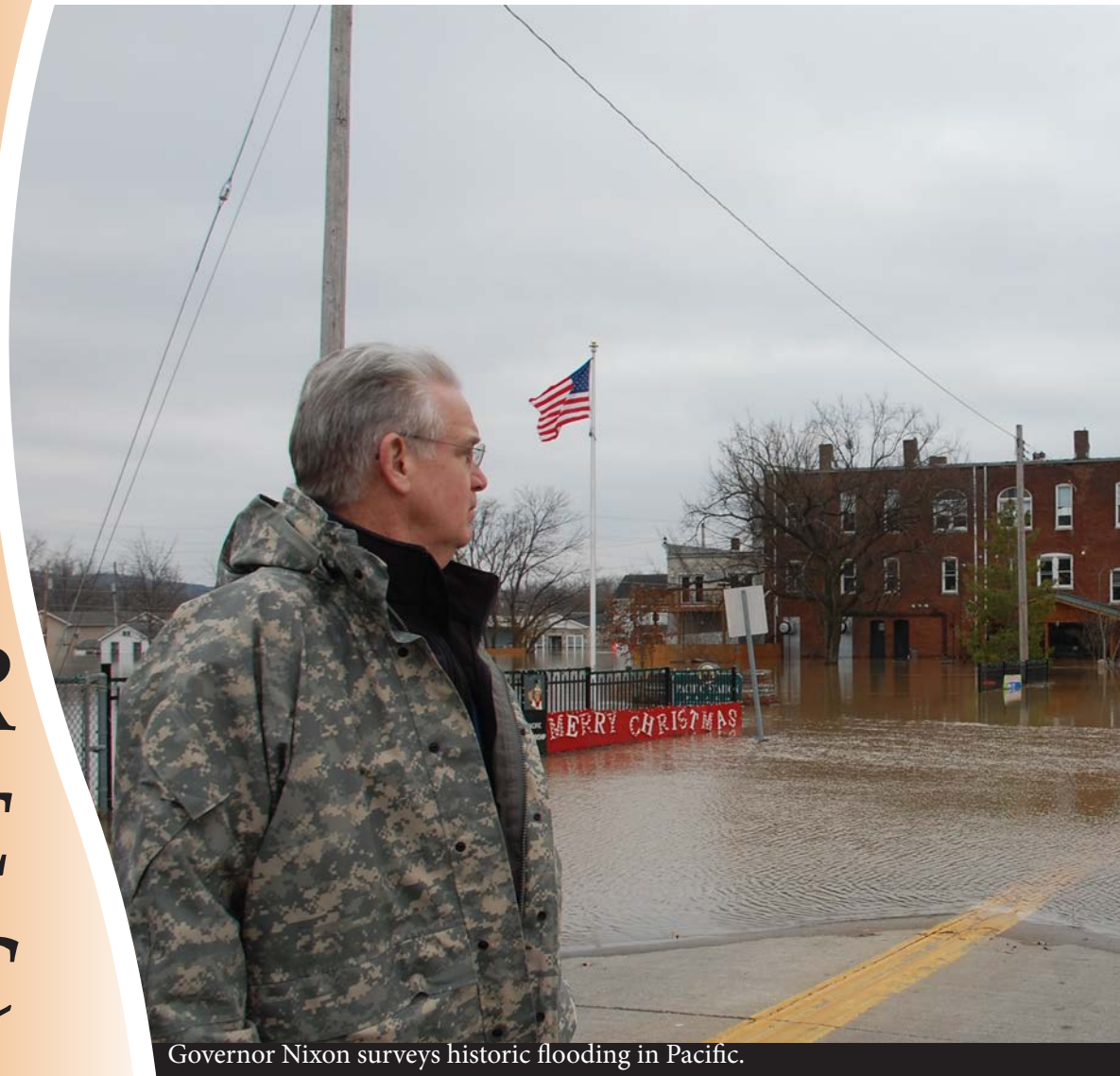
Governor Nixon meets with athletes traveling with the Special Olympics torch relay in Jefferson City.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY SERVICES

The Department of Mental Health serves more than 33,000 people with developmental disabilities. Governor Nixon has focused efforts to eliminate service waiting lists for Missourians with developmental disabilities. Governor Nixon will continue his commitment to ensure these individuals have access to the services and supports necessary to live independent lives in their communities. The Governor’s Fiscal Year 2017 budget includes:

- \$45.2 million for rebasing to ensure that all providers of developmental disability services are paid fairly.
- \$32.4 million to assist individuals who are in a crisis situation while transitioning between family, group-home and community care settings.
- \$27.8 million to increase rates for community providers.
- \$13.9 million to ensure there is no waiting list for low-income individuals needing in-home services.
- \$11.6 million to cover individuals with disabilities who qualify for Medicaid services as a result of the Missouri Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) program.
- \$5 million to transition individuals from nursing homes to community placements.
- \$4.5 million to transition youth aging out of the state’s custody into appropriate adult settings.
- \$1.8 million for case management services.

DISASTER RECOVERY



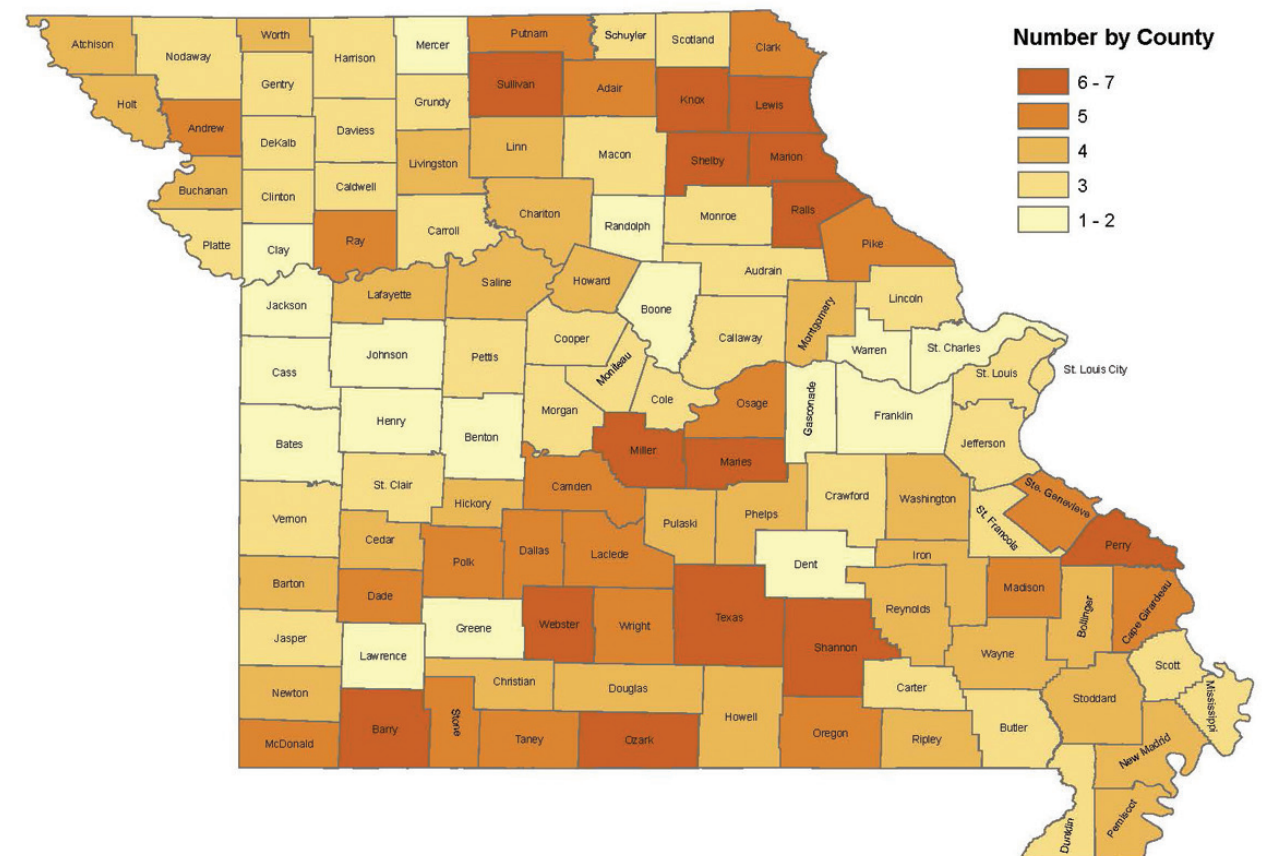
Governor Nixon surveys historic flooding in Pacific.

“The people of Missouri stand tall in the face of every challenge, including natural disasters.”

~ Governor Jay Nixon

Governor Nixon has directed the state’s response in assisting Missouri communities experiencing a natural disaster. There have been numerous severe-weather events since the Governor took office, impacting every Missouri county. Missourians have faced blizzard and ice emergencies, severe storms and tornados, unprecedented drought conditions and historic flooding across the heartland. Since Governor Nixon took office in 2009, a total of 22 states of emergency and emergency declarations related to severe weather events have been issued. He activated the Governor’s Faith-Based and Community Service Partnership for Disaster Recovery to respond in the wake of multiple disasters. Governor Nixon advocated for the rebuilding of Birds Point levee to safe levels for farmers and communities after it was intentionally breached by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Missouri’s system of coordinating local, state, faith-based, volunteer and private-sector disaster response and recovery efforts serves as a model for the nation.

Declared Disasters in Missouri Since 2009



This map shows the geographic distribution and frequency of federally-declared disasters that have taken place in Missouri since Governor Nixon took office in January 2009.

2015-2016 HISTORIC FLOODING

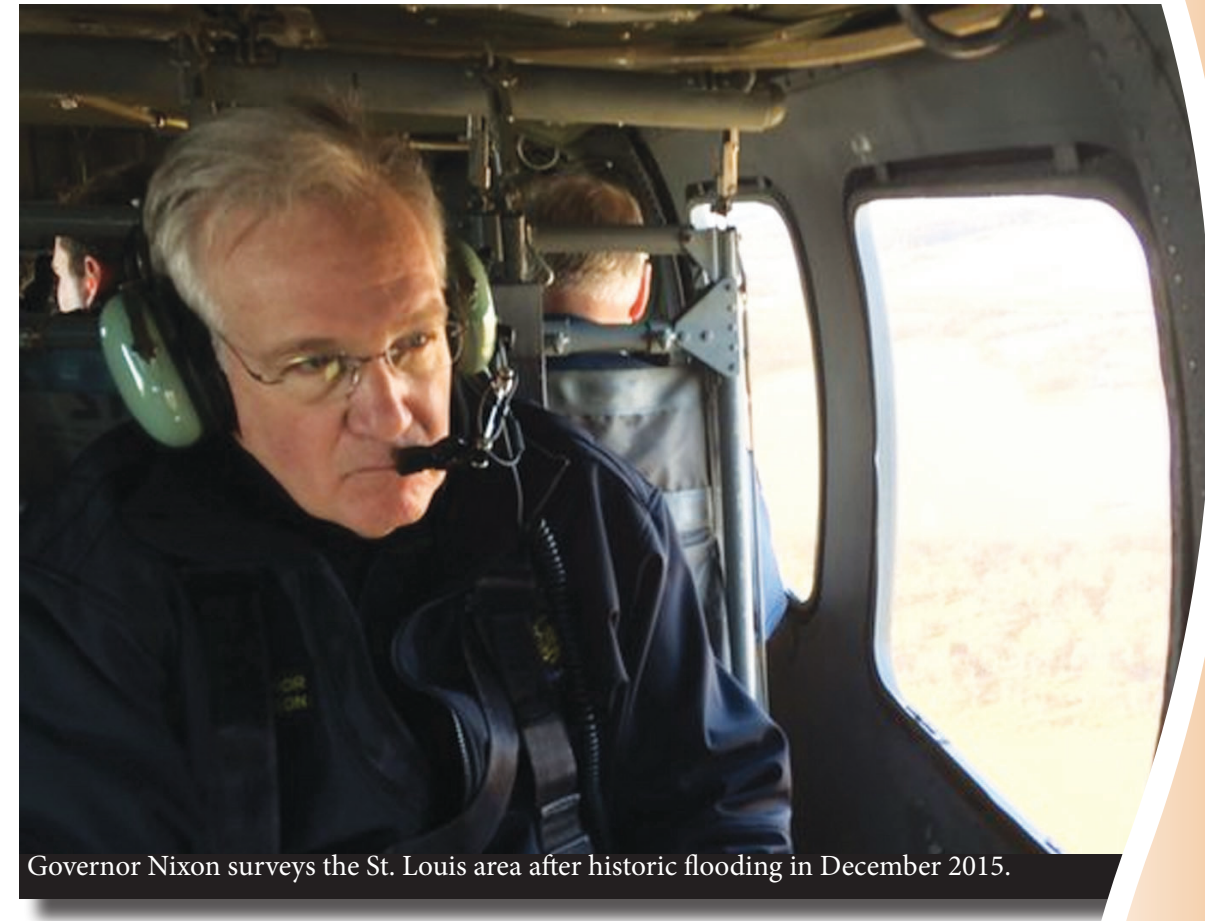
The most recent storms to strike Missouri in late December 2015 and early January 2016 caused water levels to rise higher than the Great Flood of 1993. The record rainfall forced the closure of hundreds of roads across the state. The fast-rising flood water inundated several thousand homes and businesses, and left behind a trail of destruction. The disaster tragically took the lives of 15 people. Governor Nixon declared a state of emergency as heavy rain, flooding and flash flooding impacted much of the state. The Governor and his emergency response team visited affected communities to meet with local officials and ensure they had the support they needed. In overseeing the state's response, Governor Nixon:

- Activated the State Emergency Operations Center to monitor the storm system and coordinate response activities with local partners.
- Activated the Missouri National Guard to protect local communities and support emergency response personnel.
- Announced Presidential approval of the Governor's federal emergency declaration request, making federal resources available to individuals and communities affected by the disaster.
- Secured approval for expedited assistance with debris removal in the St. Louis region – Operation Recovery.
- Announced \$1 million in federal emergency relief funds to repair flood-damaged roads and bridges.

The Governor's Fiscal Year 2017 budget includes \$3 million to aid in the state's disaster recovery efforts.



Governor Nixon is briefed on efforts to protect historic Clarksville against flooding in July 2015.



Governor Nixon surveys the St. Louis area after historic flooding in December 2015.

2012 UNPRECEDENTED DROUGHT

Extreme drought put many Missouri farms at risk of losing crops and livestock. At the request of Governor Nixon, all 114 Missouri counties received national disaster declarations from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to assist these farms and families with low-interest loans and other federal assistance. The Governor led the state's response by taking immediate action to develop an emergency program providing urgent relief to farmers facing critical water shortages. The program funded more than 5,300 projects where immediate relief was needed.

2011 JOPLIN TORNADO

At 5:41 p.m. on May 22, 2011, an EF-5 tornado devastated neighborhoods, businesses, schools and hospitals in Joplin. The Joplin tornado was the deadliest in modern record-keeping history. The losses were staggering: thousands of people homeless and thousands more unemployed; 7,500 homes and more than 550 businesses damaged or destroyed; more than a thousand people injured; and 161 lives lost. Governor Nixon immediately worked to deploy every available resource to assist the Joplin community. Today, Joplin's population is higher than it was before the tornado, and the region's economy is stronger than ever.



Governor Nixon meets with the Office of Community Engagement's Collegiate Fellows program participants at the State Capitol.

“We need to ensure that all Missourians are getting a fair shake and equal opportunity to achieve the American Dream.”

~ Governor Jay Nixon

Missouri intends to be a leader in creating an economy of opportunity that works for everyone. Even though the state's economic condition has improved, some areas remain distressed by factors such as unemployment, underemployment, affordable housing shortages or poverty. In 2014, Governor Nixon created the Office of Community Engagement to explore challenges facing low-income and minority communities. He appointed a commission to gather input and recommend steps that will bring positive change to the St. Louis area and communities across the state. Governor Nixon is committed to supporting and promoting equal treatment for all Missouri citizens. Missouri's rich diversity is one of its greatest strengths.

ENSURING A DIVERSE, INCLUSIVE AND COMPETITIVE WORKFORCE

Missouri state government has an obligation to support and promote equal treatment for all of its citizens. Since taking office, Governor Nixon has:

- Promoted diversity in state employment, appointments and contracting.
- Advocated for equal pay for women.
- Implemented a Code of Fair Practices to ensure that all employees, regardless of race, gender, age, sexual orientation or disability, are afforded equal opportunity in state government.
- Signed an executive order to ensure executive branch agencies comply with the U.S. Supreme Court case allowing recognition and protection for all legally-married couples.



Governor Nixon poses with Governor's Council on Disability Youth Leadership Forum participants in his Capitol Office.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Recent events sparked a national conversation about race and equality, education and economic opportunity, public policy, law enforcement, the court system, personal responsibility and prejudice. Governor Nixon appointed a commission to provide a forum to obtain public input and generate solutions that will build momentum for meaningful reform. Over the last year, people across the state worked tirelessly to bridge divisions, restore trust and build a brighter, safer and more united future for Missouri. Improvements include:

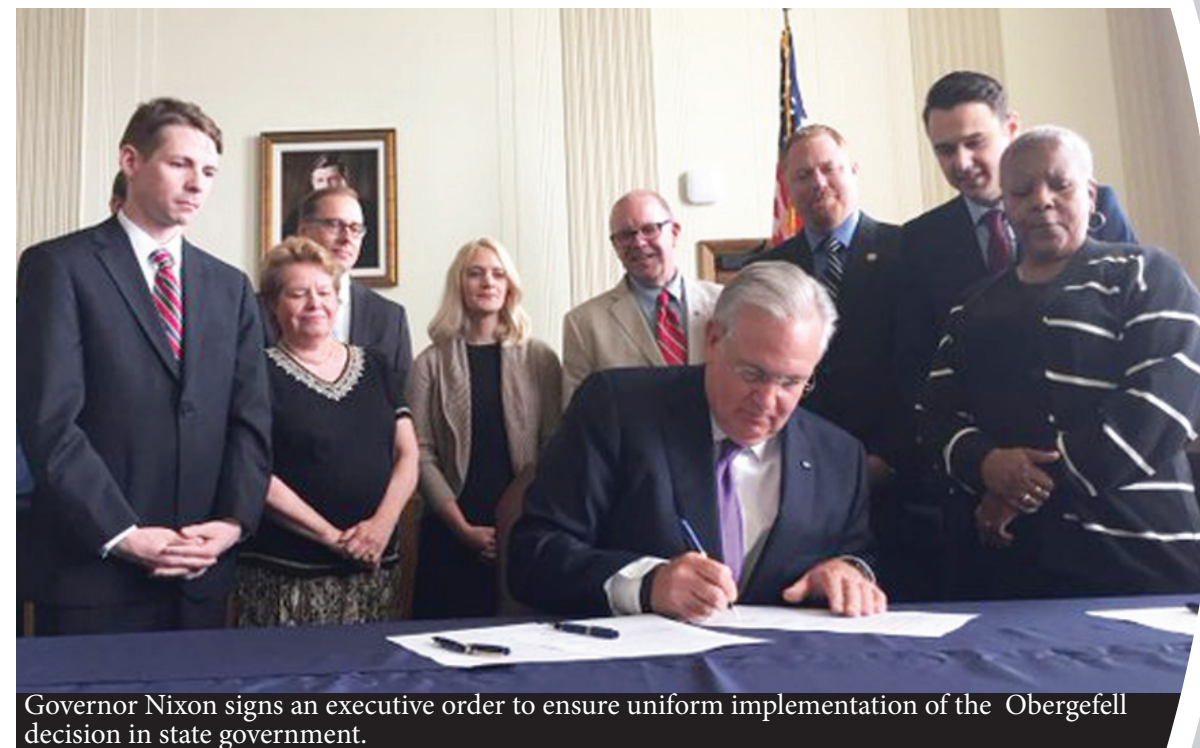
- Landmark legislation that ensures municipal courts fulfill their original and intended purpose – protecting and serving the public.
- Updates to the state’s law enforcement training standards to include instruction in fair and impartial policing, tactical training and response to individuals with a mental illness.
- A Summer Job League for at-risk youth in St. Louis and Kansas City.
- Resources and support to help children attending struggling schools in the St. Louis area.
- A federal Promise Zone designation to address jobs, education, public safety and housing in St. Louis.
- A literacy program for children in at-risk school districts.
- Job training for low-income Missourians through the Jobs, Education, Training and Supportive Services (JETS) program.
- Low-interest small business loans for affected areas.
- Additional mental health measures.

To continue this momentum, Governor Nixon’s Fiscal Year 2017 budget includes:

- \$11 million to offer job training and work readiness programs for low-income individuals.
- \$500,000 to assist low-income students in obtaining certifications and job preparation opportunities in the technology field.
- \$130,774 to implement recommendations on law enforcement training standards.



Governor Nixon visits the future site of the Urban Youth Academy, a partnership with Kansas City, Major League Baseball, the Kansas City Royals, and the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Kansas City.



Governor Nixon signs an executive order to ensure uniform implementation of the Obergefell decision in state government.

MISSOURI NONDISCRIMINATION ACT

Current law does not protect individuals who are discriminated against because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. Governor Nixon will work with the General Assembly to protect discrimination against all Missourians by passing the Missouri Nondiscrimination Act.

EQUAL PAY

A recent study on the status of women in Missouri found that a gender wage gap exists, resulting in women not receiving equal pay for equal work. To remain competitive in the global economy, Missouri employers need to address Missouri’s wage gap to ensure a skilled, inclusive and competitive workforce. In December 2015, Governor Nixon signed an executive order to direct all executive branch agencies, as well as encourage all private employers, to identify and address gender wage gaps in order to ensure that all Missouri women receive equal pay.

CONTRACTING DIVERSITY

Two years ago, the Governor secured funding for a study to assist the State of Missouri in developing an inclusive contracting process that promotes diversity and opportunity for all. In 2015, the Governor’s Disparity Study Oversight Review Committee made recommendations to help eliminate the lingering effects of discrimination and ensure a level playing-field for all Missouri business owners. Governor Nixon issued an executive order to promote diversity and greater opportunities for minority and women-owned businesses. The Governor also directed the creation of a new, online application system to reduce the amount of time it takes for businesses to become M/WBE certified.

FAMILIES



Governor Nixon joins advocates for children and families at Operation Breakthrough in Kansas City.

“The people of Missouri count on us to look out for their families as if they were our families.”

~ Governor Jay Nixon

Governor Nixon is committed to providing essential services to Missourians who are in need of assistance - the uninsured, children, victims of abuse or neglect and the elderly. In 2016, the Governor will continue to advocate for expanding Medicaid to cover the working poor and bring home Missouri tax dollars. During his administration, the Governor implemented a new set of quality standards for child care providers that receive taxpayer funding and expanded protections for victims of child abuse and neglect. He protected health care services for blind Missourians and expanded chronic disease screenings for newborns. Governor Nixon continues to provide for the health care needs and safety of the underserved and most vulnerable citizens in our state.

HEALTH CARE FOR WORKING MISSOURIANS

Hundreds of thousands of working Missourians cannot afford to get the basic health services they need to lead healthy, productive lives. Governor Nixon will continue to advocate for affordable health coverage for working Missourians. Continued inaction to reform and expand Medicaid:

- Forfeits an estimated \$2 billion in available federal funding.
- Results in a loss of more than \$100 million in savings and new revenue.
- Excludes nearly 300,000 working Missourians from basic health care services.
- Leaves almost 50,000 individuals without needed mental health care or substance use disorder treatment.



Governor Nixon talks with students at the University of Missouri-Kansas City about Medicaid reform opportunities.

CHILD CARE

Affordable, quality child care is vital to parents' ability to remain in the workforce and ensure children will be successful in school. Governor Nixon's Fiscal Year 2017 budget includes \$16.7 million to:

- Provide rate increases for child care providers, making child care more affordable for nearly 20,000 working families.
- Ensure child care providers are complying with safety requirements.
- Provide resources and technical assistance to family child care programs.

SERVICES FOR SENIORS AND ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES

Senior citizens and adults living with a disability desire to remain in their homes. The state has several programs that provide support services and in-home care to help Missourians continue to live independently. To serve additional low-income Missourians who qualify for the Medicaid program, Governor Nixon recommends:

- \$78.6 million for the state's Home and Community-Based Services Program.
- \$2.7 million to expand the Medically Fragile Adult Waiver Program, which serves young adults with serious and complex medical needs.

VETERANS HOMES

Missouri is home to nearly 500,000 veterans and has seven homes to care for those who have served our country. In 2015, Governor Nixon worked across the aisle to secure more than \$33 million for critical maintenance and repair projects at Missouri's veterans homes. Governor Nixon's budget includes bond proceed funding to continue these important infrastructure projects. The Governor also recommends:

- \$818,712 for increased operational costs for veterans homes.
- \$500,000 for the development and design of a new veterans home.
- \$500,000 for upgrades at veterans homes.



Governor Nixon signs child safety legislation into law in St. Joseph.



Governor Nixon greets families at the St. Louis Labor Day Parade.

CRITICAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Several state programs provide critical services that can make a difference in an individual's quality of life if provided early, before a serious medical condition or disease progresses. Governor Nixon's Fiscal Year 2017 budget includes:

- \$17.3 million to provide preventive and basic dental care to 282,000 low-income Missourians.
- \$2.7 million for prevention, basic health care and emergency response services provided through the state's Local Public Health Agencies.
- \$902,262 to provide genetic testing and follow-up services to newborns and their families.

SERVICES FOR ABUSED AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN

Governor Nixon believes that one of our important responsibilities is to ensure the safety of Missouri children. The number of children placed in the state's custody has increased each of the last seven years. To protect these children, the Governor recommends:

- \$9 million to increase the rates paid to providers caring for abused and neglected children.
- \$7.3 million to provide services for victims of child abuse and neglect.
- \$450,000 for education-related expenditures for foster care youth.

OUTDOORS

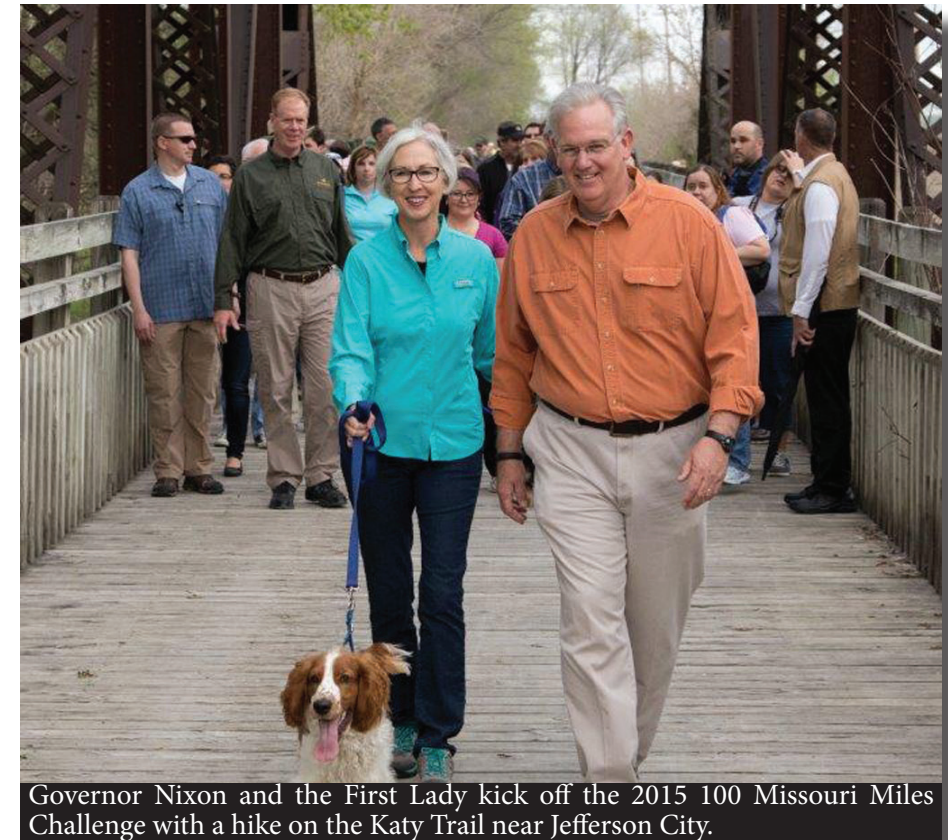


Governor Nixon, the First Lady and State Parks Director Bill Bryan pose in front of the Capitol Campout climbing wall.

“One of my top priorities has been to improve and expand our outstanding state park system and give Missouri families and visitors even more ways to enjoy the outdoors.”

~ Governor Jay Nixon

Investing in the state’s natural resources creates jobs, promotes tourism and protects the environment. Since taking office, Governor Nixon has made increasing access to state parks a top priority. Under the Governor’s leadership, Missouri has been recognized as the best state in the nation for camping and hiking. The Governor established the State Parks Youth Corps, putting thousands of young people to work to improve the state’s outdoor resources and foster a greater appreciation for Missouri parks. In 2015, Governor Nixon was recognized for his commitment to conservation and the outdoors as the recipient of the Sheldon Coleman Great Outdoors Award from the American Recreation Coalition. Governor Nixon will continue to enhance opportunities for outdoor recreation.



Governor Nixon and the First Lady kick off the 2015 100 Missouri Miles Challenge with a hike on the Katy Trail near Jefferson City.

STATE PARK ATTENDANCE

in 2015



19.2 million guests

to Missouri State Parks and Historic Sites

a nearly

30%

attendance increase since 2008

BUILD MISSOURI

Build Missouri, proposed by Governor Nixon and passed by the General Assembly in 2015, will support critical maintenance, repair and construction projects at more than 30 state parks across the state. Governor Nixon's Fiscal Year 2017 budget includes \$10 million in bond proceed funding to continue these important infrastructure projects. A portion of this funding is dedicated to conserving structures built by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the 1930s. The Governor's recommendations also include \$9.2 million for additional construction projects.



Governor Nixon participates in the opening day of trout season at Bennett Spring State Park.

MISSOURI STATE PARKS

Missouri State Parks is one of the top park systems in the nation. The 87 state parks and historic sites make more than 210,000 acres available to the public. Governor Nixon's administration has reversed a 10-year decline in state park attendance. During the recession, while budget cuts were forcing other states to close their parks or charge entrance fees, Missouri's remained open. In 2015, a record 19.2 million people visited Missouri State Parks to hike, camp, fish, discover the past and explore nature.

The Katy Trail State Park, established 25 years ago, is the longest developed rail-trail in the United States. Governor Nixon announced that a new extension of the Katy Trail from Windsor to Pleasant Hill, along the Rock Island Trail State Park, will be completed in 2016. The 47.5-mile long extension will allow hikers and bicyclists greater access to the 240-mile long trail.

The Governor's Fiscal Year 2017 budget includes \$1.7 million to enhance Missouri's award-winning state parks.



SOIL AND WATER RESOURCES

The Department of Natural Resources works with local communities and landowners to preserve the state's landscapes and protect the quality of Missouri water. Recent natural disasters, especially flooding, have negatively impacted soil and water resources throughout the state. To protect these vital resources, Governor Nixon's Fiscal Year 2017 budget includes \$10.1 million to:

- Help stabilize stream bank erosion, which causes sediment in waterways and agricultural land loss.
- Assist landowners in addressing erosion control and water quality needs facing the state's agricultural land.
- Update the state plan for surface water and groundwater resources, including a needs assessment for the areas of drinking water, agriculture, industry, recreation and environmental protection.



Governor Nixon and the First Lady visit Bennett Spring State Park to highlight record attendance at Missouri state parks and historic sites.



Governor Nixon joins hundreds of Missourians on the south lawn of the statehouse to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Missouri State Capitol's cornerstone placement.



PRODUCED JANUARY 2016
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