

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Prosper Springfield Website Updated with New Focus on Public Safety & Community Resources**

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., (9/2/2025) – **Prosper Springfield**, a community-wide initiative focused on advancing opportunity and reducing poverty, has unveiled an updated website featuring expanded resources and a new section on personal safety. This update comes as part of Community Partnership of the Ozarks' (CPO) Equity and Prosperity Commission's July 2022 Report, which identified the Prosper Springfield platform as the best starting point to share vital information on local resources that include public safety.

The refreshed site highlights six focus areas—**education, health, housing, financial stability, transportation, and now personal safety**—each designed to connect residents with practical tools and services. The addition of public safety resources reflects the collaborative's commitment to prevent and reduce violence across the Ozarks.

“Adding personal safety, to Prosper Springfield’s website ensures families have access to the information and support they need right now,” **said Francine Pratt, Prosper Springfield Director**. “This is about creating stronger, healthier, and safer communities together.”

The Prosper Springfield initiative began in 2015 as part of the city’s **Impacting Poverty Commission**, which set conservative goals to both reduce poverty and increase postsecondary education rates by five percentage points. Nearly a decade later, the community has exceeded the poverty reduction target: **Springfield’s poverty rate has dropped from 25.7% in 2015 to 19.4% in 2024**, according to the U.S. Census 5-Year American Community Survey.

The updated website not only shares this milestone but also provides the latest Poverty Reduction Report and user-friendly navigation to connect residents to resources across all six focus areas. The website remains at the same address: [www.prosperspringfield.org](http://www.prosperspringfield.org)

For more information, contact Prosper Springfield at 417-888-2020 or email Francine Pratt at [fpratt@copozarks.org](mailto:fpratt@copozarks.org)

###

***ABOUT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP OF THE OZARKS:** The mission of Community Partnership of the Ozarks is to facilitate and promote the building of resilient children, healthy families, and strong neighborhoods and communities through collaboration, programming and resource development. For more information on the Partnership’s collaborative efforts and programs, visit [www.cpozarks.org](http://www.cpozarks.org).*