

Johnson County Public Policy Council  
2018 Johnson County Commission Candidate Questionnaire

**Name:** Janee' Hanzlick

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**District:** 4

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**Campaign Website:**

<https://www.janeehanzlick.com/>

**Campaign Video Link:** N/A

**Occupation/Work History** (last 5 years – 25 words or less):

I recently retired after 5 years as the President/CEO of SAFEHOME, Johnson County's domestic violence agency, where I served our community for 20 years.

**If you are or have been affiliated with a chamber of commerce or other business organization, please list what organization(s) and any leadership positions you have held:**

- As CEO of SAFEHOME, I served as the agency's representative to Johnson County's Chambers of Commerce
- Leadership Overland Park, Class of 2007
- Overland Park Chamber of Commerce - past member of the Leadership Overland Park planning committee

**Other recent political/community experience?** (25 words or less)

- Overland Park Rotary Club
- Sylvan Grove Neighborhood Association, Secretary
- Johnson County Community Violence Action Council, Past President
- 22-year resident, District 4

**As a candidate, what are your top three priorities for Johnson County** (10 words or less per issue)?

- Improve investment in parks, libraries, and public safety
- Improve county's response to human service and mental health needs
- Ensure fair property taxes for homeowners and small businesses

**Johnson County continues to grow dramatically. Recognizing that county government must respond to our county's continued population growth and the need to invest in services and infrastructure while, at the same time, dealing with state-imposed limitations on funds and revenue sources available to local units of government, please describe how you would approach managing the county budget** (75 words or less):

I will approach the county budget in much the same way I successfully managed a multi-million-dollar nonprofit business. I will make sure the budget is based on comprehensive planning and priorities, using input from professional county staff. With my experience managing public funds efficiently and frugally, I will maintain reasonable taxes, while providing outstanding services.

Using my bipartisan relationships with legislators, I will advocate for Johnson County's fair share of state and federal funding.

**There has been much discussion about regionalism. Please explain your views on regional cooperation (75 words or less):**

The future of Johnson County is inextricably linked with the Kansas City metro area. I will continue and expand the County's leadership on the Mid America Regional Council, Kansas City Area Transportation Authority, KC Communities for All Ages, and seek other ways to improve metro-wide collaboration. As a former leader of the coalition of metro domestic violence agencies, and past Board member of Nonprofit Connect KC, I have experience successfully advancing regional cooperation.

**Describe your views on the balance between the distribution of costs and services between incorporated and unincorporated areas of Johnson County (50 words or less):**

While I appreciate the needs of the unincorporated areas of the county, we need to make sure that the county's priority is to invest in those service and infrastructure needs that impact the greatest number of people, including human services, transit, and public safety.

**What are your views on the County-Assisted Road System program (CARS) and other county/city infrastructure partnerships? (50 words or less)**

The County should distribute funding for county/city partnerships, like the CARS program, in an equitable manner and in a way that reflects the mutual priorities of the county and cities, with an emphasis on maintaining and repairing the most important infrastructure items, such as heavily used roads.

**Describe your views on the county's support of social services and the increased demands on the county created by limited state funding? (50 words or less)**

I maintained SAFEHOME's high quality of services with limited funding, and I will lead the county in meeting the increasing demands for human services, including mental health, affordable housing, and senior services. I have proven experience bringing people together to find innovative, cost-effective answers to human service issues.

**What would you describe as the top five functions of county government? Please list them in your order of priority. (75 words or less)**

Johnson County Government provides more than 350 services for the citizens of our county. The County is particularly responsible for: 1. Public safety, including law enforcement, emergency services, courts and corrections 2. Infrastructure, including roads, wastewater, planning and codes 3. Human services, including mental health, developmental supports, and health and environment 4. Creating an economic climate where businesses can flourish, and jobs are available 5. Quality of life amenities, including parks, libraries, arts and culture

**What project have you been most proud to work on? (50 words or less)**

I am very proud of my leadership role in implementing the Johnson County Lethality Assessment Program (LAP), a collaboration between the District Attorney's Office, law enforcement, and

SAFEHOME. Since the LAP started in 2011, domestic homicides in Johnson County have dropped from 50% of homicides to less than 1%.

**What do you believe most distinguishes you from your opponent(s) in this race?** (75 words or less)

As the former Director of SAFEHOME, I spent 20 years working for a safer, stronger community. I will continue to move Johnson County forward by working with our county's outstanding professional staff and investing in citizens' priorities. I will bring expertise and leadership in human services and financial accountability. As a mother, wife, neighbor and social worker, I will ensure that all members of our community are represented on the County Commission.