April 2020 Edition

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First Quarter Reports

It's hard to believe we're about to finish the first quarter of 2020 already. The traditional deadline to enter your Q1 reports is April 15th, but we know things are a little bit out of the ordinary right now. Enter them as you're able, and as always if you need assistance let us know at PRIDE@ksu.edu.

Be sure to log any virtual meetings, volunteer time and projects - whether it was a regular monthly meeting or a planning meeting via Zoom or Facebook messenger, it counts just like an in-person meeting would!

Click on the "Reporting" button to get started.

We Want to Hear From You!
We know a lot has been going on, resources swirling around, email inboxes getting crazy. We want to extend
an opportunity to serve you! We have great resources through the Kansas PRIDE Program through our program partners at K-State Research and Extension and The Kansas Department of Commerce. If you need fact based information on all types of subjects, from mental health and wellness to business assistance and much more, we want to get you that information so that you feel secure in what you are reading/viewing.

Take Our Survey

K-State Research and Extension is also conducting a needs survey. <CLICK on the word "survey" to participate.

First Friday e-Calls: Check’em Out!
K-State Research and Extension offers entrepreneurship webinars every first Friday of the month, and there have already been several great sessions this year. If you missed them, they’ve been recorded and are available to view at your convenience along with the slides and some notes. Visit: https://www.ksre.k-state.edu/community/business/entrepreneurship/ for all past sessions. Baby Boomers and the Rural Housing Supply, Cyber Security, and Kansas Small Business COVID-19 resources are topics made available for viewing.

Pausing Awards Presentations
Sort of goes without saying...but Community Award Presentations will be postponed for the time being as we learn more about when quarantine will be lifted. Some communities are trying to schedule for the fall, which is ok...but we really don’t know what work that can't be done now might be moved to the fall. Not only that...if you are getting a formal plaque award vendors are currently closed so the plaques cannot be made until quarantine is lifted.

Just a quick update. If you received funding, those checks were sent out a few weeks ago. So stay tuned for when awards will be open to scheduling!

Getting Things Done - Social Distancing Style
What a difference a month makes!
We've gone from meeting together to
plan the upcoming Easter egg hunt or park cleanup project to staying at home. While some of these planned spring activities have no doubt been canceled, that doesn’t mean work needs to stop completely until things approach normal again.

If you’re like most PRIDE communities, there’s a lot happening all year. Fundraising for a new community swimming pool, fall festivals, building walking trails or fitness centers. Consider continuing to meet to discuss, plan, and research projects in one of the following ways:

- Using a remote meeting service such as Zoom, Google Hangouts, Go to Meeting or a similar product. Some of these types of services offer free versions or trial periods that will keep costs low while still allowing you to do the work you need to better your community. For those who might not have internet access or aren’t tech savvy, phone dial-in options may be available as features.

- Facebook groups can be made for your members to share ideas, thoughts, pictures and more. You can set up a group to discuss a specific project, or for the PRIDE group in general. Just log into Facebook, click “Create” at the top of the screen and choose group (see the graphic for an example). You can make the group private or public depending on your needs.

- Discussion board networking sites like Reddit and BoardHost allow users to create forum, or “subreddit” communities where they can make posts, share links, and photos. Creating an account for free allows you to subscribe to forums you are interested in or create your own, public or private. Multiple discussion topics can then be started in each forum.

- There’s nothing wrong with good ol’ email. A lot of information can be shared easily via email, and it allows recipients a chance to view and reply to discussions at their convenience. When sharing files via email, remember that many email providers limit attachment sizes to 10 megabytes, meaning if you’re sending 3 photos or a few PDF files in one email that add up to be larger than 10mb, the message may be blocked on the receiving end’s mail servers, or the attachments stripped from the message. If you need to share large files with multiple people, cloud-based storage services like OneDrive and Google Drive offer a certain amount of free storage before requiring a subscription.

In fact, we plan to hold a Zoom session on how to set some of these up for your community! Feel free to join us on April 7 at 1:00pm. The session will be recorded as well in case you can’t make it.

Join Zoom Meeting
https://ksu.zoom.us/j/695943040
How's Your Time Going?

That makes it sound pretty bad off here in quarantine, hopefully this effort will allow us to get back to another new normal that allows us to be a lot more social soon!

Jan, Megan and I wanted to take a moment to fill you in on our lives, and ask you how you are!

Here is my (Jaime's) story:

I was visiting my family in another state with my Son during his spring break. My Mom and Sis talked with me at length about my thoughts. At the time we weren’t sure about how crazy things would get, but we worry for both my Mom and Niece, who fall into the category of more vulnerable. We headed up toward home, stopping in Park City to try a diner my Son has always wanted to try when we are informed after we ordered that there was a confirmed case in Wichita. Kinda lost my appetite but that didn’t stop me from eating my meal and half of my Son’s food (And I don’t even like meatloaf - stress eating much!). We got back to Manhattan in time to pick up my Husband from the airport and we went to the store because we had been out of town to see the pandemonium. Although it had been real before I began to really worry for healthcare professionals, grocery store workers and truck drivers…and those that didn’t have the necessities for their day to day. Over the weekend we were told that we would be on a 2 week quarantine that was extended to 8 weeks and that we were to work from home. My Son’s school closed for the rest of the semester. By now I think my story is beginning to sound a lot like yours...

Working at home presents its own challenges. Jan and I acknowledge this in a video we put together last week (CLICK HERE TO VIEW). You can view it if you feel the need. We provide some tips in there that we think are helpful.

That said, I will share some here:

- If you are like me, working at home can make you feel guilty, like you aren’t getting enough done either at home or for work. I tend to stress myself out and work too long. I have had to take the advice of colleagues and take some time to break away from my computer and unplug from the media (when not glued to work my eyes are glued to the news).
- I am not complaining of course, but working at home with kids is not so easy. And I only have the one! It is important to be there for them so that they know that they are safe, and give them resources to allow them to keep their minds busy.
- Keep calm and know we are all in this together! Keeping our distance might not be fun but there is a reason why.

For the time being there have been some great ideas that I have discovered locally. One is an app that allows you to join a neighborhood to keep up with your neighbors. I also joined a Facebook group that keeps us up to date on the community, needs and updates (I have seen some communities doing the same with Facebook pages, AWESOME!). So far we have participated in the neighborhood Bear Hunt and checked up on our older neighbors enough to get them likely sick of us.
And Megan’s story:
As someone who appreciates having a routine, it’s been interesting to try to fit my routine into my home. I’ve been trying to stick to my class schedule and do the material at the same time I would normally have class. I also try to keep my work schedule in the afternoons. But it’s been difficult some days to not lose motivation and to keep on the routine when there are distractions at home. I already knew that I did not study or work well from home so I spent all day on campus. This quarantine is teaching me how to be more disciplined with my time. So if there’s a student in your life, tell them hello or send a funny picture. I’m sure they would appreciate it in this stressful time.

And last, but not least – Jan’s Story:
The good news for me is I’ve had a home office since 2017, so I’m used to working in these conditions. I’m not used to having 4 other people here 24/7 who are usually at school and work at some point. That’s how I gauged what day it was, so now I’m wondering what day it is sometimes because it all feels the same. I think what I miss most currently is visiting communities around the state.

Another good news thing is that I’ve had a lot more time to do work around the house. Getting the garden started, cutting down saplings, organizing files. Things are going to look real nice around here once we’re back to normal. We’ve had a guest with us since August – a foreign exchange student from Kyrgyzstan – Beka. Beka came to America to experience our schools, sports, way of life, and while he never got to go to Chicago for spring break, and likely won’t have prom or graduation, he’s making the best of it and still enjoying life and taking classes online while we wait for the call to send him back. Like Beka, I’m online way more than I ever have been before, but I’m also able to take time to actually do and experience things in this physical space, which is nice and puts what’s important to me in perspective.

We want to hear from you! How are you? Is there anything we can do for you? Don’t wait or hesitate, we’re here for you! – Jaime Menon, K-State Research and Extension PRIDE Program, jmenon@ksu.edu

Up for a Community Visit? We Are, Too!

Our offer at the end of each newsletter is to come to your community so we can present an overview of the program, should you be interested in enrolling, or to discuss the program and any of its components or training modules in person if you’re already in the program. Travel restrictions imposed due to the COVID-19 situation prevent us from visiting in person currently, but we still would be more than happy to host a Zoom meeting where your PRIDE group members, city council members, chamber participants, Masonic Lodge, or other groups could individually log in to see the presentation and ask questions. Just e-mail us at PRIDE@ksu.edu to set up a schedule.

To view pre-recorded webinars giving an introduction to the program, step-by-step instructions on how to enroll or report, our program grants, recruiting volunteers, and more, head over to our Education page for more. - Jan Steen, Kansas PRIDE Program Co-Coordinator, jmsteen@ksu.edu
Collected COVID-19 Resources

We felt you might find these resources useful as we navigate the COVID-19 situation together:

- KU Medical Center has a list of COVID-19 Funding Opportunities. Some grants are medical in nature, others help to address other issues that have arisen because of COVID-19.
- Kansas Health Foundation will soon be offering Impact and Capacity Grants of up to $25,000 to eligible nonprofits to focus on COVID-19 response efforts. More information available on the site as the grants become available.
- A Kansas Kind blog post about supporting your local businesses today.
- University of Florida IFAS Extension has published a COVID-19 FAQ for Community Gardens: Steps for Garden Managers and Gardeners.
- The Partnership Center, part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, has released a document for Recommended Practices and FAQs for Faith-based and Community Leaders.
- For Disaster Loan Assistance: click here
- For Hospitality Industry Relief: click here
- For Families: Kansas Together is a website that has a bunch of resources for K-12, unemployment benefits, health care, finances, and mental health.

USDA Extends ReConnect Loan and Grant Application Deadline

The Broadband ReConnect Program furnishes funding for the costs of construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment needed to provide broadband service in eligible rural areas. This second round of funding is now open and the application deadline is now April 15, 2020. Visit the link below for more information.

USDA Broadband ReConnect Program

CONTINUING OPPORTUNITIES SECTION

GRANT WRITING WORKSHOPS

Did you know that K-State Research and Extension's Nancy Daniels is providing upcoming Grant Writing Workshops throughout the state (she also does First Friday E-Calls, another AWESOME resource for communities, which are also listed on the link earlier in the newsletter)? Check out the link below for more grant workshop location and registration information. Due to the current COVID-19
situation, some of the upcoming workshops have been postponed, so keep checking back here or on the website for updates.

**Grant Writing Workshops**

**External Funding Opportunities**

Want to put your new grant writing skills to use? Here are some opportunities for project funding outside of the Kansas PRIDE grants:

**Quick Grants - Humanities Kansas:** Humanities Kansas is offering Quick Grants to support projects that use innovative ways to engage the public with the humanities when gatherings in person are impossible. Award amounts are $500 and $1000, and applications are being accepted until April 10, 2020, though the deadline may be extended. Visit the site for more details.

**Union Pacific Foundation Local Grants:** Union Pacific offers local grants as part of the Community Ties Giving Program to local organizations spread widely across their footprint. Funding priorities are for projects that involve safety, workforce development, or community spaces. Grants typically range from $2500 to $25000. Application period is April 1 through May 31. Visit the website for eligibility and application details.

**From the History Books**

From our July/August 1993 Kansas PRIDE Newsletter - Why are some PRIDE committees more successful than others? Why are some PRIDE committee members able to work together more easily than others?
Why are some PRIDE committees more successful than others? Why are some PRIDE committee members able to work together more easily than others? People who have worked with groups and studied group behavior report these differences:

**In productive groups:**
1. People listen and pay attention to one another.
2. People discuss the subject at hand.
3. Everyone’s ideas and suggestions are welcomed by the group.
4. Everyone has a chance to state his or her views.
5. The group uses its agenda as a guide for discussion.
6. One or two members are appointed to summarize the discussion and to see that everyone has had a chance to speak.
7. Members know and use problem-solving steps.
8. Members are clear about group decisions and committed to them.

**In less productive groups:**
1. People do not listen and everyone tends to talk at the same time.
2. The discussion jumps from one idea to another.
3. Members’ ideas do not seem to count, thus they do not belong.
4. One or two people do all the talking.
5. The agenda is not clear, there is no written guide for discussion.
6. No one summarizes or checks to see if everyone who wants to speak has actually spoken. Discussions go on and on until people get tired.
7. No order is followed for identifying and solving problems.
8. Decision making is muddy, people are not committed to the plans.

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**Have a local event going on? Got great places to visit? Eat? Play?**

Why not send your ads here and we will place them in our newsletter? You just have to send a high quality photo and the verbiage you want to use and we will place them in our newsletter for one month!

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**Send Your Ad Here!**

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**Click here to learn more about K-State Research and Extension’s First Impressions Program!**
FACEBOOK NEWS
Don’t forget to like us on Facebook if you haven’t already. We post there often, and some of that information isn’t available in the newsletter – webinar announcements, community news, alerts.

Hit the button below to check us out, or “Like” us to see opportunities that are upcoming! Also invite us to “Like” your page if you have one!

Interested in a FREE Face to Face Community Visit?
Needing guidance or help transitioning/organizing?

Wanting to show off your community?

Need strategic planning, ripple effects mapping or other resources?

Send us an email at PRIDE@ksu.edu and we will get one scheduled with you once travel and gathering restrictions are back to normal - or let's meet virtually via Zoom instead!

Find Us on Facebook
 Community Visit

EVENTS CALENDAR

Quarterly Report Dates:
- April 15th, July 15th, October 15th, January

Opportunity Dates:
- August 15, 2020 - Award Applications Due

2020 Kansas PRIDE Communities
So far the following communities have enrolled in the Kansas PRIDE Program for the year of 2020.

And if you'd like to enroll this year, go here and click on the blue "Enroll "button: https://kansasprideprogram.k-state.edu/enrollment-reporting/index.html

- Admire
- Agra
- Alton
- Anthony
- La Harpe
- Lakin
- Larned
- Lecompton
- Arlington
- Ashland
- Assaria
- Axtell
- Blue Rapids
- Burden
- Bushton
- Caldwell
- Caney
- Centralia
- Clifton
- Columbus
- Conway Springs
- Delia
- Dover
- Dwight
- Elk City
- Ellis
- Fort Scott
- Glasco
- Grainfield
- Grinnell
- Haysville
- Herndon
- Highland
- Hugoton
- Humboldt
- Iola
- Kinsley
- Leonardville
- Lincoln
- Linn Valley
- Lucas
- Luray
- Macksville
- Marion
- McFarland
- Moran
- Mount Hope
- Norton
- Olsburg
- Ozawkie
- Perry
- Potwin
- Quenemo
- Randolph
- Riverton
- Rossville
- Rozel
- Russell
- Savonburg
- Stockton
- Toronto
- Vermillion
- Wakefield
- Wichita (South Central)
- Wilson
- Yates Center

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