1997 PRIDE Review

Enclosed is the Kansas PRIDE, Inc., Annual Review. Data from the PRIDE Review indicates that 85 communities enrolled in the program with 48 competing for the Community Achievement Awards. These 48 communities documented a total of 12,697 volunteers spending approximately 129,641 hours to accomplish 1,082 projects. At minimum wage, these efforts contributed to an investment valued at $621,301.

Delye Jahnke, 1997 Board Chairperson, says, “The PRIDE Program now enters its 26th year of aiding and encouraging volunteers in efforts to upgrade community services, increase economic vitality and renew civic pride. This coming year represents a new era in the PRIDE Program with the many new changes that will be implemented. I anticipate that PRIDE will continue to be a viable community betterment program for years to come.”

Creating a Vision for your community

A part of the new PRIDE Program will be a visioning process. This will be a powerful tool that PRIDE participants can use to achieve their desired dreams for their community’s future.

What is visioning? Visioning is a process to help PRIDE communities begin to think about what they want for the future of their communities as opposed to what is wrong at this point in time and need to be fixed. Visioning is seeing what life could be like while dealing with life as it is today. The vision leaps over present barriers to a desired future. It is seeing where life is headed and how to make that transition from here to there most effectively.

Visioning is a simple, practical method PRIDE communities will be able to utilize for the benefit of their community. It must have broad community participation for the vision to be realistic and beneficial.

The PRIDE staff will be setting up individual PRIDE community meetings this spring to plan the visioning sessions. Further details of the visioning process will be presented during the January/February area PRIDE workshops.

Area PRIDE Workshops Scheduled

The new PRIDE Program will be discussed at nine area workshops during January and February, 1998. Other agenda topics will be a stronger organization, involving more volunteers, and a preview of what ‘Visioning’ is all about. The workshops will be hosted by PRIDE communities and will be held in:

- Kansas (Jan 28)
- Park City (Jan 29)
- Cuba (Jan 31)
- Forest (Feb 9)
- Atwood (Feb 10)
- WaKeeney (Feb 11)
- Gaylord (Feb 12)
- Lansing (Feb 24)
- Iola (Feb 25)

Assisting the PRIDE Program staff in these workshops will be the K-State Research and Extension Agents from the nine host site counties and the regional field staff representatives from the Business Development Division of the Kansas Department of Commerce & Housing (KDDC&H).

The six KDDC&H field staff members will be providing PRIDE Program participants with technical assistance throughout the year, based upon identified needs. They will also help facilitate the community visioning sessions. The field staff include: Don Hall, Northwest; Betty Nelson, Northeast; Sadie Ahrns, North Central; Larry Meckle, Southwest; Daria Jacobson-Price, Southeast, and Rich Olson, South Central.

Further workshop information and a registration form may be obtained by calling Stan McAdoo at (785) 532-5840 or Beverly Wilhelm at (785) 296-3483.

Important

PRIDE Dates

January 1 – Kick-off of new PRIDE Program
January 22 – State PRIDE Board of Directors Meeting, Topeka
January/February – PRIDE Area-wide Workshops
April 15 – PRIDE entry forms due
June 7-11, 1999 – National Volunteer Week
July 10, 1999 – PRIDE Day, Wichita

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Thank you.

A big thank you goes to the Kansas PRIDE Program Sponsors which provided generous financial and in-kind assistance during the past year:
- Berberich, Trahan & Co., P.A.
- The Boeing Company
- Casey’s General Stores, Inc.
- Columbus Telephone Company, Inc.
- Dillon Stores
- Duke Energy
- Farmland Industries, Inc.
- Hallmark Cards, Inc.
- Kansas Bankers Association
- Kansas City Power & Light Co.
- Kansas Electric Power Cooperative, Inc.
- Kansas Farm Bureau
- Kansas Industrial Developers Association
- Kansas Medical Society
- Kansas Press Association
- Pat Hahnbeil Associates
- Kansas Rural Water Association
- KN Energy, Inc.
- League of Kansas Municipalities
- Midwest Energy, Inc.
- Northern Natural Gas Company
- Pioneer Telephone Association, Inc.
- Southwestern Bell Telephone Company
- Sprint
- Western Resources, Inc.
- UTILICORP UNITED

These sponsors financially supported the 1997 judging process of the PRIDE Day Conference and Workshops, and the PRIDE Community Achievement Cash Awards.
Deadline for PRIDE entry form approaches

Don’t forget to send in your completed 1998 PRIDE entry (intention to Participate) form by April 15, 1998. This is a firm deadline in order to participate in the 1999/2000 PRIDE Program. An entry form may be picked up at the January/February area workshops or by calling either (785) 296-3485 or (785) 532-5840.

Information Hot Lines

For community and economic development technical assistance, resource information, and referrals, help is available by calling either the Kansas Department of Commerce & Housing’s FIRST STOP CLEARINGHOUSE at (785) 296-5298 or the K-State Research and Extension’s DIRECT/Information Referral Service at (785) 532-7987.

1997 Community Achievement Awards

At the PRIDE Day Activities on October 23, 1997, awards were presented: $500-1st, $400-2nd, $300-3rd, $200-Honorable Mention.

Population 1-250
1st Alton
2nd Cuba
3rd Allen

Population 251-500
1st Courtland
2nd Grinnell
3rd Palco

Population 501-1,100
1st Highland
2nd Atwood
3rd Lyndon

Population 1,101-4,000
1st Basehor
2nd WaKeeney
3rd Belleville

Population 4,001-UP
1st Coffeyville
2nd Oswego
3rd Park City

Rural Health
Excellence ($100) — Alton, Lenora and Highland
Merit ($50) — Kanorado and Grinnell

Blue Ribbon Applications Approved

The following communities were evaluated and approved as meeting the required standards for PRIDE Blue Ribbon recognition at the October 24, 1997 and January 22, 1998 State PRIDE Board meetings: Belleville — Fire Protection and Police Protection; Stockton — Education, Fire Protection, Library, Solid Waste Management and Streets.

PRIDE Communities on the Web

Several PRIDE communities have received other PRIDE communities on the World-Wide-Web with attractive and informative community web pages. Used well, the internet can help communities with economic development efforts, preserving heritage, and improving local communication. PRIDE’s goal is to get a web site on the net for every PRIDE community by September 1, 1998. Thanks to a partnership between PRIDE, the Kansas State Library, and the Boeing Company (a PRIDE Program sponsor) this might become a reality.

The Boeing Company, through its “Lensed Executive” program is providing the services of John Howell of Wichita, to help build community web sites, without cost, to any PRIDE community that is interested. John and his wife, Susan, can help communities with understanding what the web can and cannot do; identifying goals and components for a web site; building the initial web pages; and helping the community learn to maintain and enhance its own web site. The Kansas State Library, in turn, is providing free space to communities on their Blue Skyways internet service.

PRIDE communities wishing to take advantage of this opportunity may contact John & Susan Howell at the following address: 147 N. Dalross, Wichita, KS 67208, (316) 680-0955; email address: howell@feast.com. Communities are encouraged to invite John to a PRIDE meeting so he can explain the program.

New Board Plans Agenda

The new Kansas PRIDE, Inc. Board of Directors will meet at an organizational session in Topeka on January 22 to plan its agenda for 1998. Members of the board include six sponsor representatives plus a representative from each of the first place cash award winning communities from the 1997 PRIDE year. Sponsoring board members for the 1997 PRIDE year include: Scott McKinley, Chairperson, UTILICORP UNITED, Wichita; Charlie Reese, Treasurer, Midwest Energy, Inc., Hays; Dolby Jahnke, Past Chairperson, KN Energy, Lexington, NE; Gordon Hibbard, Kanorado Farm Bureau, Valley Center; Bill Rader, The Boeing Company, Wichita; Debra G. Vignatelli, Southwestern Bell Telephone, Topeka.

Board members representing the first place cash award PRIDE communities include: Wilda Carswell, Alton; Catherine Hensey, Coffeyville; Tim Garman, Courtland; Marian Thompson, Highland; and Charles Wilderson, Basehor.

Other board members include the Director of K-State Research and Extension and the Secretary of the Kansas Department of Commerce & Housing, or their designated representatives who represent the co-administering agencies. This year the co-administrating agencies will be represented by Mary Faye Lefever, Director, Community Development; Division, Kansas Department of Commerce & Housing, and Daryl Buchholz, Assistant Director, Extension, Agricultural & Natural Resources, K-State Research and Extension.

The staff of the PRIDE Program continues to be Beverly Wilhelm, State PRIDE Coordinator, Kansas Department of Commerce & Housing and Stan McCloskey, Extension PRIDE Coordinator, K-State Research and Extension.

Edgert-Minson & Parsons PRIDE partner recipients

Stacie Edgert-Minson and Kristina Parsons, Trego County Extension Agents, were presented the 1997 PRIDE Partner Award during K-State Research and Extension’s Annual Conference. The award was presented by Dr. Daryl Buchholz, Assistant Director, Extension, Agricultural & Natural Resources.

According to WaKeeney PRIDE Chairman Jim Wiltmire, “Stacie and Kristina were the catalysts that made many good things happen in WaKeeney this year. Their leadership assisted in accomplishing goals in recycling, trees for beautification, better signage to parks and recreational areas and overall organizational development.”

The PRIDE Partner Award is made to the county Extension team making the most outstanding contribution to the Kansas PRIDE Program. Only one PRIDE Partner Award is given annually.