



**KANSAS
PRIDE**

Kansas PRIDE Newsletter

Spring Workshops

Upcoming Conferences

Community News

Community Resources

PRIDE SPRING WORKSHOPS RECEIVE GREAT REVIEWS!



Beverly Wilhelm of Kansas PRIDE addresses workshop participants in Potwin community center.

This April and May, Kansas PRIDE hosted a series of workshops titled, "Planning for a Better Community". The PRIDE communities of Stockton, Potwin, Melvern, and Westmoreland hosted the regional workshops. All four of these communities were wonderful hosts for the event. Guest speaker Doug Reed, Coordinator of the Kansas Department of Commerce Community Capacity Building Grant program gave a PowerPoint presentation at each of the workshops and shared how communities can utilize state grant resources to help them with their planning process. PRIDE staff also provided information on successful planning processes that communities have utilized. For additional information on planning grants, please contact Douglas Reed in the Community Development Division of the KDOC at (785) 296-3485, or email at: dreed@kansascommerce.com

PRIDE DAY CONFERENCE 2003

Make plans now for your PRIDE members to attend the PRIDE Day Conference and recognition banquet this year. The conference will be held at the Great Bend Holiday Inn and conference center, on September 27, 2003.

KANSAS PRIDE COLLABORATES TO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS

The Kansas PRIDE program, partnering with the K-State LEADS team, the Huck Boyd Institute for Rural Development, and the Kansas Leadership Forum, hosted four regional workshops in April and May. The workshops, entitled "Asset Mapping: A New Approach to Community Leadership" helped participants to "map" their personal influence sources and their local community resources. By reflecting on what creates credibility with others, participants were able to identify ways to enhance their influence with others – and work more effectively as community leaders. Participants also assessed resources at the community level, and considered how those assets might be creatively applied to community enhancement.



Dan O'Brien, Director, Northwest Area Extension Office, opens the session in Stockton

Seventy-five participants from thirty-three communities took part in the workshops that were held in Stockton, Pratt, Sedan, and Manhattan.

NEWS FROM PRIDE COMMUNITIES

The following are edited news stories shared by PRIDE Communities

GREELEY— Early one day in the summer of 2002, Walter was up town doing some PRIDE weed eating, and I was at the 1856 Gerth Log Cabin working on PRIDE flowerbeds. Jefferson Bus Lines pulled off into town after seeing our PRIDE signs along the highway and looked at the cabin, then asked if they could stop here on their trips through this area. One trip they made last year was from Tulsa, Oklahoma, to Greeley, Kansas—and on to "Ground Zero" in New York City!!!

While at Anderson County Economic Development meeting, a committee member told me his uncle and aunt manage Goodwill Tours, Erie, Kansas, and they asked for me to contact them and see if they could make stops at the 1856 Gerth Log Cabin on their trips north. Of course I immediately called them and welcomed them (with PRIDE) to beautiful little Greeley — The Village in the Vale!!!

BASEHOR— Basehor PRIDE called a public meeting to kick off their community assessment process (see related CAT article in this issue). Over 75 community members participated in the meeting from which teams were developed to address different aspects of community.

~ PRIDE / KAN-STEP PROJECTS ~

MELVERN— Melvern PRIDE is pleased to host a grand opening for the Melvern Community Center this summer. The remodeled main street corner building is the center of town. The remodeling of the new community center was coordinated by Melvern PRIDE, and will boast meeting rooms, an exercise center, and a large kitchen for community events.

FORMOSO— The Formoso PRIDE is ready for a fire - with their new Fire Station! The building was coordinated by PRIDE, and built by volunteers with financial support coming through the Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing KAN-STEP grant.

BURNS— The Burns PRIDE group is sipping lemonade from their new community center this summer! The community building was built from the ground up and is a beautiful gathering place for the citizens of Burns.

The above projects have been made possible through a self-help volunteer effort from the community with assistance from the Community Development Division, Kansas Department of Commerce. The grants were awarded from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) through the KAN STEP program for buildings, water and sewer lines on a non-competitive basis.

Applications will be accepted up to November 30, 2003. For more information on the KAN-STEP grants, contact Marilyn Graham or Debbie Beck, Community Development Division, Kansas Department of Commerce, Topeka, (785) 296-3004 or Linda Hunsicker, Hays (785) 625-0073.

Contact the Kansas PRIDE office to share your news and stories at:

Kansas PRIDE
6-A Edwards Hall
Kansas State University
Manhattan, Kansas 66506-4804
(785)532-5840

HEALTHY ECOSYSTEMS - HEALTHY COMMUNITIES WORKSHOP



Rock Creek Spillway at Fort Scott

~ Recreation ~ Relaxation ~ Adventure ~ Education ~
~ Experience ~ Entertainment ~ Health ~ Novelty ~
Energy Production ~ Tourism ~ Income ~ Food
Production ~

What does your local environment provide your community?

Kansas PRIDE communities are invited to a special workshop on Friday, September 26, 2003 in Great Bend to explore the connections of natural resources and community development. The day will include a guided tour of the Cheyenne Bottoms, a panel discussion with experienced environmental community development representatives, and opportunities to learn about programs and support for growing a healthy community while improving the environment. Information will be mailed to every PRIDE community in July regarding this workshop - so watch your mail. Also, watch the PRIDE web site at: www.kansasprideprogram.ksu.edu for updates and registration information coming in July.

The care and planned utilization of natural resources can serve as a solid foundation for community development.

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION UPDATE

Twenty two communities asked to be reviewed for the Community of Excellence Award this year. Four teams of evaluators made up of community development professionals visited the communities to assess their progress and success with community involvement and improvement. Each team is typically comprised of one community development professional from out of state; one community development professional from an organization within Kansas; and one driver/evaluator representing K-State Research and Extension or the Kansas Department of Commerce.

The evaluators were very impressed with the enthusiasm and creativity of many PRIDE communities when they came back from traveling Kansas!



2003 Community of Excellence Evaluators: Pictured here from right to left: (back row) Perry Webb, Springdale, AR; Don Ballek, Hays; Daryl Buchholz, Manhattan*; Kirk Zoellner, Oakley; Jon Schler, Grand Junction, CO. (2nd row) Mark Stadlander, Manhattan; Larissa Long, Lawrence*; Bret Glendening, Topeka; Matthew Jordan, Topeka*; Jack Briggs, Cameron, MO. (1st row center) Linda Jolly, Wellington; Lori Church, Topeka; Dick Russell, Topeka; Rod Weinmeister, Wichita.
*PRIDE Program Representatives

WHAT MAKES A COMMUNITY?

As I travel the rural areas of Kansas, there are times that I look at a community and wonder how it came to be. In the migration of pioneers across the prairie, what was it that made them decide this was the place to stop and set up shop? When someone did decide to call this patch of land home, what was it that attracted others to do the same? What motivated them to organize and invest in streets and buildings and community systems?

In some of our rural communities, the answers to these questions are just as relevant today as they were 150 years ago. What is it about the place that makes people want to move here and grow a community?

There is a temptation to point to a single answer for the question. Some will say the answer is "jobs." If there is employment, there will be a community. Some will point to churches or family and emphasize that communities often formed around a church or because relatives are nearby. Others will point to the physical environment, and indicate that people live there because it is a beautiful place to live.

In truth, each of these considerations is correct. Each also falls within the three areas of community development that PRIDE encourages communities to assess:

- 1) The social environment;
- 2) The physical environment; and
- 3) The economic environment.

Assessing the needs is not difficult. With the Community Assessment Tool (CAT), an updated form of the Needs and Opportunities Assessment (NOA) utilized by PRIDE, communities can begin to identify ways to improve where they live with consideration to multiple aspects of their community.

As local PRIDE committees organize to improve their community, they also ask themselves "What is it about this place that makes people want to move here and become part of the community?"

In answering the question, PRIDE considers a balanced approach to identify things that can be done to improve the local economy; address social needs or opportunities; and enhance the physical environment to create a place that provides quality of life for its' residents and attracts new residents.

—Dan Kahl

LOCAL FOOD DIRECTORY AVAILABLE

Considering establishing a farmers market this summer? As summer draws near, and local food markets begin to spring up across Kansas, The Kansas Center for Sustainable Agriculture and Alternative Crops and the Kansas Rural Center are pleased to present the Kansas Locally Raised Food Directory.

This directory is developed from information provided by market managers or other contact persons and lists over 60 community farmers markets in Kansas. The directory can be found on the web or ordered as a booklet, and has information that help you to find or start a market if your community doesn't have one. PRIDE communities considering supporting a farmers market or producing goods may wish to contact the directory.

The directory can be viewed at: http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/pr_kfmd/ or contact the KS Ctr. for Sustainable Agriculture & Alternative Crops at: 3602 Throckmorton Hall, KSU, Manhattan, KS 66506-5506, (785) 532-1440 or e-mail: beckman@oznet.ksu.edu

LEADERSHIP – THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

Three winners of the 2002 PRIDE Youth Leadership award were used as exemplary models of community leadership at the Kansas Youth Leadership Forum this fall. Emily Langdon, of Lucas; Crystal Harness of Highland; and Nathan Gentry of Glasco were highlighted for the leadership roles they have provided for their community. Participants in the *Community Leadership and You!* class at the 4-H Leadership Camp were provided “hypothetical” community scenarios to address. The scenarios were actually based on situations that Kansas PRIDE Leadership award winners had addressed. Once the class participants had discussed how they might address such a situation, class instructors Jack Lindquist and Dan Kahl revealed the actual situation and leadership response the PRIDE youth had provided. The class helped 4-H youth realize that community leadership can and IS possible through youth as well as adults!

Overland Park - July 10, 2003

1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Blue Valley Library

9000 West 151st Street

The purpose of the Community Capacity Building program is to encourage community development planning that addresses growth, diversification, conservation, revitalization, or redevelopment. Grants are awarded for planning or implementation projects. Funding is competitive.

For further information on the workshops or Community Capacity Building program grants, please contact Douglas Reed in the Community Development Division of the KDOC at (785) 296-3485, dreed@kansasccommerce.com, or TTY (Hearing Impaired) at (785) 296-3487.

Cooperating Collections Workshops to be Sponsored by RC&D

Workshops to explain the reference materials included in the Foundation Center's Cooperating Collection Site located at Pioneer Memorial Library have been scheduled.

These workshops will assist in providing the knowledge necessary in obtaining potential sources for your projects in need of funding.

Workshops will be held at Pioneer Memorial Library, Tuesday June 10, 2003 & Tuesday, August 5, 2003. These workshops are free and open to the public.

For more information, contact the Western Prairie RC&D at (785) 462-2602.

CALENDAR -- UPCOMING EVENTS

Workshops Scheduled for Community Capacity Building Grants

The Kansas Department of Commerce (KDOC) has announced three workshops for communities wishing to apply for funding from the Community Capacity Building Grant program. The workshops will include an overview of the program and details about the application process. No registration is required for these workshops, and there is no fee to attend. The locations, dates, and times of the workshops are as follows:

Hays - July 8, 2003

1:30-4:30 p.m.

Sternberg Museum of Natural History
3000 Sternberg Drive

Hutchinson - July 9, 2003

9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Reno County Museum
100 South Walnut

The Kansas Department of Commerce & Housing, K-State Research and Extension, and private-sector companies and associations partner together to make the PRIDE program successful. For assistance contact the PRIDE staff: Beverly Wilhelm at (785) 296-3485; Dan Kahl at (785) 532-5840.