



KANSAS PRIDE PROGRAM NEWS

DEDICATED TO HELPING COMMUNITIES HELP THEMSELVES

Nov. 2011
Vol. 2, Issue 9

In This Issue:

[Washington PRIDE
HEHC Program](#)

[Funding Opportunity](#)

[Day of PRIDE 2012](#)

[Forms](#)

[Sustainable Design
Assessment Team](#)

[Dates to Remember](#)

Helpful Links:

[PRIDE Staff](#)

[PRIDE Sponsors](#)

[PRIDE Board](#)

Washington PRIDE HEHC Program

Mill Creek, which runs around the community of Washington, offers new recreation and education opportunities for residents and visitors and could lead to new economic benefits for local businesses.



Results of the September 10 public meeting in this PRIDE community's Healthy Ecosystems-Health Communities program indicated that clean up of Mill Creek is a very high priority for Washington's citizens. Development of a natural area, with outdoor ice skating and expansion of the Mill Creek campground would add additional community capital benefits along with clean-up of this important water resource.

PRIDE Chair, Doc Baskerville, welcomed citizens to the public meeting and presented a short overview of work PRIDE members and citizens have completed to protect Washington's assets important to the survival of their community.

Communities which have healthy natural assets such as clean lakes and rivers, not only have higher property values, but have also been shown to draw more tourists, businesses and residents to their community. With recent closures of some of Washington's landmark businesses, concerned citizens are now working together to meld protection of their natural assets with new community development opportunities to add positive, sustainable impacts to Washington's future.

David Coltrain, River Valley Extension District of Washington County, has supported Washington's PRIDE team and has assisted these community leaders with organization of their PRIDE and HEHC programs to promote citizen investment and protection of water quality and other important community resources.

For additional information or copies of the results of this public meeting, please contact David Coltrain at (785) 325-2121.

Funding Opportunity

The Kansas Recreation and Parks Alliance (KRPA) has partnered with BlueCross BlueShield of Kansas to develop the BlueCHIP program. BlueCHIP is a community health improvement program created to recognize and reward Kansas communities who encourage and support healthy lifestyles through programs, initiatives, policies and/or community-wide events. BlueCHIP pays \$2,500 to selected winning communities for expanded health initiatives. PRIDE communities that are invested in community health projects are encouraged to nominate their efforts for recognition.

Applications are available [here](#), and are due November 15. Kansas PRIDE is an

informal partner with the KRPA, and we would love to have a strong showing of PRIDE community applications.

Day of PRIDE 2011

Save the date for June 2, 2012 for Day of PRIDE 2012. In the spirit of last year's bus tour, Osage County will be hosting Day of PRIDE. The awards celebration will be held at the Melvern Community Center where lunch will be served. Keep your eyes open for more details concerning Day of PRIDE 2012 in the coming months.

Forms

Enrollment forms are due December 15. There is more than one enrollment option, so please [click here](#) to check the guidelines on each option.

If you have questions, feel free to call the PRIDE office at (785) 532-5840 or [email us](#). Hard copies of the forms will be mailed to your primary contact person within the next month.

Those communities that were designated Communities of Excellence have the option of enrolling as such in 2012.

Sustainable Design Assessment Team

Are the communities in your county/district looking to enhance their long-term sustainability? The American Institute of Architects has issued a request for proposals from communities interested in obtaining services from its Sustainable Design Assessment Team (SDAT). Lawrence, Kansas has participated in this program in the past.

The SDAT program focuses on the importance of developing sustainable communities through design. The SDAT program brings together multidisciplinary teams of professionals to work with community decision-makers and stakeholders through an intensive planning process. The mission of the SDAT program is to provide technical assistance and process expertise to help communities develop a vision and framework for a sustainable future. The SDAT program provides broad assessments to help frame future policies or design solutions in the context of sustainability and help communities plan the first steps of implementation.

The Center for Communities by Design is seeking potential partner communities that can demonstrate the capacity to convene a diverse set of community leaders and stakeholders for an intensive, collaborative planning process focused on long-term sustainability. The Center is particularly focused on identifying communities that have the ability to leverage local resources and build strong partnerships for implementation of an SDAT process. Through issuance of this Application, the Center is seeking communities who desire assistance in assessing community sustainability, have identified their key issues and are in a position to build strong partnerships to plan for the future.

The final deadline to submit applications for consideration in the 2012 SDAT program is November 18, 2011.

Learn more by [clicking here](#). Applications are available [here](#).

Dates to Remember

November 15-16, 2011 - [KACF Annual Conference](#)

November 16-17, 2011 - [Rural Opportunity Conference](#)

December 15, 2011 - 2012 Enrollment and Resolution Forms due

February 15, 2012 Partner in PRIDE Applications Due

March 1, 2012 Community Capital and Community Partner Awards Due

June 2, 2012 - Day of PRIDE - Osage County, KS

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