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## Partners In PRIDE Announcement

Kansas PRIDE, Inc. is pleased to support the following projects that will take place in Kansas communities during the next 12 months. These are made possible by funding through donors to Kansas PRIDE, Inc. for the new Partners in PRIDE (PIP) community grant program. These projects contribute to each community's efforts to reach their long term vision. They are intended to fund efforts that will have a long term impact on the sustainability of the community.



- **\$2,000 to Wilson PRIDE** to preserve and share the history of the downtown buildings and other designated sights. Wilson Pride will build a kiosk to highlight their community Czech history, share historical info on buildings that are featured on a walking tour and also make the information available on the web. This fits with their long range plan for Wilson.
- **\$1,040 to Basehor PRIDE** for the Basehor Community Gardens project will enhance the community Natural and Social capitals. The garden project will be located in the City Park. Basehor PRIDE will coordinate the project, and will be responsible to see that there is a water line, tillage, plot markings and mulched walkways. This project will allow for beautification, healthy eating and sharing of knowledge within the Basehor community
- **\$1,000 to Highland PRIDE** to support the purchase of Main Street snowflake banners to assist in the effort to make Highland the Snowflake Capital of Kansas. Highland PRIDE has been very successful in their fundraising efforts and this will assist them in supporting their commitment to the City Council.

This round of awards is in addition to support of the communities of Grinnell and Stafford earlier this year. Those projects are nearing completion and we look forward to reporting how the funds have assisted those communities in making progress towards their long range vision for the community.

The next round of PIP grant applications will be due February 15, 2012. Communities designated as Communities of Excellence in 2009 and 2012 will be eligible to apply.

Funding for the Kansas PRIDE, Inc. Partners in PRIDE community awards are made possible by donations to the Kansas PRIDE program. If your organization would like additional information on how to sponsor one of these awards, please contact the Kansas PRIDE office or [trice@ksu.edu](mailto:trice@ksu.edu).

## Community Highlight: Larned PRIDE

The Larned PRIDE group is moving forward with natural resource planning. They have achieved many great projects, as shown by a highly successful community garden and water park - new assets for everyone's benefit.

What's next? They have received a grant from the State PRIDE Healthy Ecosystems-Healthy Communities (HEHC) program to do community natural resource planning. The HEHC program will help Larned protect its natural assets, such as local water quality, and will help the community identify new projects and activities that support sustainable use of those resources for community benefit.

Larned's first public meeting was held Oct. 27 and the turnout was amazing. Community engagement is not a problem for this community. When they received the press release, mail-out flyer and poster to promote the meeting, Jenny Amanry called Sherry Davis, the HEHC Project Coordinator, to ask: "Do we really need to use these? We put the meeting announcement up on our FaceBook page and we've already got 75-80 people coming to the meeting - anymore and we won't have room for them."

Wow! What a great start to their community effort to protect and restore Camp Pawnee along the Pawnee River. The planning team has already applied for other grants to enhance this 40 acre Boy Scout camp as a recreational resource to create new economic, health and social opportunities for the area.

This initial meeting allowed citizens to distinguish what they value about living in Larned and what their vision is for the future of their community's natural assets.

## Recognize Your Partners

Successful community improvement initiatives need the financial, physical and resource support of many to sustain strong efforts, What is your PRIDE group doing to say "thank you" to the people and institutions that have been a part of your success? Kansas PRIDE Inc. will help you recognize one outstanding partner a year with a Community Partner award. See the PRIDE recognition awards for a [Community Partner Award nomination form](#).

## Changing Community Demographics

A recent news article (see the Nov. 11 [New York Times](#)) explores the changing demographics of rural communities. Is your community experiencing growth due to immigration? You can check your community demographics through the [American Factfinder](#). Through this website, you can learn more about the changing demographics of your community and other communities in Kansas. As you set your 2012 PRIDE goals, consider goals for community growth or inclusivity.

## Know Your Strengths

As your community PRIDE group determines whether or not to enroll as a PRIDE Star Community for 2012, consider the advantages of community assessment and planning. One primary advantage of going through an assessment and planning process is that you can identify and build on your strengths. You can also identify areas where your PRIDE group can improve. The [PRIDE Community Self-Assessment Form](#) is a helpful tool for your PRIDE group to use to identify areas of focus for continued success.

### Dates to Remember:

Dec. 15, 2011 - 2012 Enrollment and Resolution Forms due

Feb. 15, 2012 - Partner in PRIDE applications due

Mar. 1, 2012 - Community Capital and Community Partner awards due

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

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