Very recently there has been interest expressed by Kansas PRIDE Communities which would like to obtain a community sign. Signs are a great way to recognize your community as a Kansas PRIDE Community to all who live in or visit your community. Signs cost approximately $70 and are KDOT approved to be placed in the highway right of way as an official state sign.

The Kansas PRIDE, Inc. Board of Directors has recently adopted a policy that all new PRIDE Communities, after enrolling for a second consecutive year, will be eligible for a 50/50 cost share for one PRIDE highway sign for their community.

To find if your community is eligible for a 50/50 cost share or to order signs for your PRIDE Community contact the Kansas PRIDE Office at PRIDE@ksu.edu or by phone at (785) 532-5840.

Approaching Deadlines of Interest

August 15, 2013—Applications for Get It-Do It! (GIDI) and Partners in PRIDE (PIP) are due! These are two funding opportunities supported by Kansas PRIDE, Inc. for Kansas PRIDE communities. Check out our website for more information at: www.kansasprideprogram.ksu.edu

GIDI guidelines can be found on our funding page. ALL currently enrolled Kansas PRIDE communities are eligible to apply.

PIP guidelines can also be found on our funding page. Only those communities that have been approved for Community of Excellence status are eligible. Also, those communities that have an active PIP grant currently must complete the work plan for that project and file an accomplishment report with the PRIDE office before being eligible for future PIP grants.

October 15, 2013—Community of Excellence applications are due. This process requires a significant amount of planning on a community’s part so NOW is the time to start this process. Guidelines and application can be found on our forms page.

Once a PRIDE Community has enrolled as a STAR Community, they are eligible to apply to become designated a Community of Excellence (COE). COEs will receive:

- Recognition in the PRIDE Annual Review and on the Website.
- Eligibility to apply for Partners in PRIDE grants to support efforts related to long term community goals.
- Recognition bar for community sign.

A community designated with this award should be able to demonstrate that they have created a shared vision and mission and are working in an inclusive, collaborative manner on projects of high importance to the community.

- Deadline for submission is October 15th.
- Applications consist of an essay that will be reviewed by a committee composed of Kansas PRIDE, Inc. board members
- The Community of Excellence distinction will be acknowledged for three years.

If you need assistance with any of these applications please contact Trudy Rice trice@ksu.edu or (785) 766-3996.
Quarterly Report Initiative of 2013

As you may know, each quarter, PRIDE communities are asked to track their impact through a quarterly report and share them with the PRIDE office. Last year Kansas PRIDE, Inc. offered an initiative to turn in all four quarterly reports by the appointed 4th quarter deadline and the name of your PRIDE Community would be included in a drawing for one free registration to Day of PRIDE 2013! There was a great response from communities and because of the volume of reports Kansas PRIDE, Inc. decided that they would draw for one free registration for three Kansas PRIDE Communities. The three communities that were drawn and received registrations were the PRIDE Communities of Glasco, Spearville and Stockton. This year, Kansas PRIDE, Inc. has decided to extend the chance to receive a free registration! PRIDE quarterly report forms can be found at: www.kansasprideprogram.ksu.edu/PRIDE/prideforms

Congratulations to Humboldt PRIDE!

In 2009 the City of Humboldt joined PRIDE to help sustain the initiative started through the Public Square process. Since then they have received significant resources (money and time) to provide a means to address the Neosho River Park. This project was chosen after a needs assessment conducted through the Healthy Ecosystems Healthy Communities program through Kansas PRIDE identified the river park as an asset in need of improvement! Today this beautiful river park includes huge trees, picnic tables, an amphitheater, walking trail, gazebo and Wi Fi! These are the result of packaging multiple resources related to time and money. On the horizon are restrooms. This addition will allow them to host regional school groups to learn about the ecosystem. On June 8, 2013 a dedication was held including Kansas Legislature representatives, city council, county commission and LOTs of community members. This is a great example of the long term impact of community assessment, goal setting, strategies, and celebration! Congratulations to Humboldt on this successful accomplishment!

Regional Project Manager Highlight:
Aaron Cannon

Aaron Cannon is a Regional Project Manager (RPM) with the Kansas Department of Commerce, and brings over 10 years of business development experience to Commerce. Covering 26 counties in southwest Kansas, Aaron provides business and community development assistance.

Prior to joining the Kansas Department of Commerce, Aaron spent five years as a Business Development Coordinator in the healthcare industry, where he managed all direct marketing/sales efforts and recruited physicians and upper-level healthcare providers. He was responsible for building and maintaining referral relationships in a regional service area covering 18 counties. Aaron also coordinated the St. Catherine Hospital Critical Access Hospital Program (CAH) and was charged with grant writing for the hospital.

Aaron Cannon holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing from Kansas State University, as well as a Master of Business Administration (MBA).

For more information on Rural Opportunity Zones, visit: kansascommerce.com
KSRE PRIDE Partner Award

The Kansas PRIDE program is seeking your nominations for the 2013 Extension PRIDE Partner Award! The Extension PRIDE Partner Award recognizes an individual from KSRE who has provided exceptional support to PRIDE communities, or in support of the PRIDE program at the state level.

If you have worked with an Extension professional that you would like to recognize for their support, or who has shown exceptional leadership or service to your PRIDE community work, please take a moment to nominate them. The form can be found at the PRIDE website at: www.kansasprideprogram.ksu.edu/PRIDE/prideforms

Working with PRIDE in New Ways—Dan Kahl

Serving as the Coordinator of the Kansas PRIDE program on behalf of K-State Research and Extension from 2001-2013 has provided me the opportunity to work with positive, future oriented, change makers involved in PRIDE communities. This year, my work focus with K-State Research and Extension has shifted. Trudy Rice is the coordinator of the PRIDE Program, and I am now serving as the Extension Liaison with the KSU Center for Engagement and Community Development (CECD). My new position will provide an expansion of opportunities for PRIDE communities.

CECD has a mission of improving outreach and engagement of Kansas State University.

This means I will continue to work with communities across Kansas to discover pressing community issues and concerns, and to link K-State resources to communities. I am excited to make new connections between PRIDE communities and the instructors and students in Rural Sociology, Community Planning, the Arts, Education, Engineering, Agricultural Economics, Business and other departments of KSU.

What issues confront your community? How might Kansas State University assist? PRIDE communities now have a direct link to expanded opportunities to work on these issues. Please give me a call (785-532-6868) to discuss ways KSU and your community can work together for a better future!

Events Calendar

June 21, 2013—Save the date Get It—Do It! Webinar
July 15, 2013—2nd Quarterly Reports Due
August 15, 2013—PIP and GIDI Applications Due
October 15, 2013—Community of Excellence Applications Due

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