



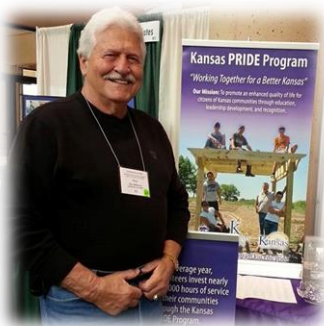
Contact us at:
PRIDE@ksu.edu

Vibrant communities with a positive future.

Kansas Rural Water Association Conference



On March 24-26 Kansas PRIDE was represented by Regional Project Managers Bob Fettke and Renee Lippincott from the Kansas Department of Commerce (Tuesday March 24) and then by myself (Jaime Menon with K-State Research and Extension) on Wednesday and Thursday of the week.



Got an update from Basehor PRIDE – their community garden is booming! The plots have been expanded, there are now raised beds and there are

plans for a walkway and another storage shed! Way to go Basehor PRIDE!

It was a wonderful experience speaking to people and other exhibitors about the benefits of the Kansas PRIDE Program! People really love seeing how you contribute to a more vital Kansas through the Annual Review!

Many sincere thanks to Kansas Rural Water Association for the complimentary vendor space! - Jaime Menon, KSRE Community Vitality/Kansas PRIDE

Farmer's Market and Local Food Promotion Program Grant Writing Workshop



The Regional Rural Development Centers in cooperation with the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) have developed workshop materials and resources focused on improving the funding success rate of applicants to USDA AMS grant programs, specifically the Farmers Market Promotion

Program (FMPP) and the Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP).

K-State Research and Extension is participating in this project, and offering this training program to assist individuals and organizations in their efforts to secure AMS resources to further the provision of local foods. Dates for the workshops are as follows:

April 15, 2015 - 12:30-4:30 K-State at Salina, Salina, Kansas

April 23, 2015 - 12:30-4:30 Douglas County Extension, Lawrence, Kansas

Visit our webpage to register:

kansasprideprogram.ksu.edu

Contact Trudy Rice – trice@ksu.edu or at 785.766.3996 with any questions.

Week of PRIDE!

Instead of holding a Day of PRIDE in regions across the state, the Kansas PRIDE, Inc. board of directors wants to see your communities shine! More information will follow in the upcoming weeks, but we ask that you mark your calendars and be prepared to join in on Week of PRIDE!

Regional Project Managers – Regional Resources!

The other day I had a question, I have had Kansas Department of Commerce Regional Project Managers at new community meetings, but what is the scope of what they can offer? Dan Steffen, Regional Project Manager for NW Kansas had a great response:

“What James Foster and I offer is facilitation of Community Economic Development Strategic Planning, and do so for County Wide Economic Development organizations, as well as individual Cities. This includes the involvement of ED Dir. 's and ED Board, as well as Chamber of Commerce Directors and Boards, City and County Elected officials, Convention and Visitor Bureau Directors and their Boards, Business owners, property owners, farmers/ranchers, other Agriculture related

businesses, Seniors, Youth, Healthcare, Education and any other sector of the Community that we can get to join in the session.

We cover the “Scope of Economic Development” which equals Community Development, Business Development, Trade Development, Workforce Development, and Travel & Tourism, go thru a process of “Where are we Now?” We assist in defining Assets, Strengths, Weaknesses, and determine “Where they Want to Be.” Then list “Action Items”, with the group determining priorities and assist in the development of a Steering Committee for the various task forces that need to be developed, in order to report to on their progress in addressing these “Tasks”, to the Steering Committee. We also offer our assistance to each Task Force in getting off of Square One and moving forward to an accomplishment or realistic finding of what can and can't be accomplished.” – Dan Steffen, Kansas Department of Commerce RPM for NW KS

Now THAT is a lot to offer! – Tap your Regional Project Manager to see what they can do for your community! [CLICK HERE](#) for a map of RPM Regions and contacts.

Enrollment and Reporting Webinar Posted!

The enrollment/reporting webinar is now posted! [CLICK HERE](#) to view.

Events Calendar

CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Workshops provided by The Kansas Department of Commerce in Topeka (**April 21**) and Russell (**April 23**) – **Registration is FREE!** [CLICK HERE](#) for registration brochure and details.

Mark your calendars for **April 14 & 15, 2015** - the **Rural Opportunities Conference** will be held at the Meriden Center in Newton, KS! Attendee registration will open on Wednesday, Feb. 11. Check the website below for more details! [CLICK HERE](#) for the website.

First quarter reports are due **April 15, 2015**

Week of PRIDE – May 24 through 30th, 2015 – Mark Your Calendars! More details in upcoming months!