McFarland PRIDE

On the evening of January 21, 2015 I had the pleasure of attending a meeting with the McFarland PRIDE group. The intention of the meeting was to give them more information on their status of Kansas PRIDE Community of Excellence and to their eligibility to apply for a Partners in PRIDE grant. I showed up a little early to get pictures of their phenomenal park. Many years, much planning, a Kansas Department of Commerce Small Community Improvement Program Grant, and an incredible number of volunteer effort and labor brought this beautiful park into fruition. In a town of about 300 residents, this is a huge accomplishment, one that truly inspires!

Thank you McFarland PRIDE for your invitation, and I plan on bringing my son to your park sooner rather than later! – Jaime Menon, KSRE Community Vitality/Kansas PRIDE

Awards and Grant Applications Due

Don’t forget to submit your applications for your outstanding (Community Capital Awards application, CLICK HERE to visit our site to obtain an application) community projects from 2014 to highlight your work and your success! Did you know that every community is guaranteed a plaque from Kansas PRIDE, Inc. to recognize community members and entities that go above and beyond to support your work? Imagine the look upon their faces as you honor them at a local event! A representative from K-State Research and Extension, the Kansas Department of Commerce or Kansas PRIDE, Inc. would be happy to present these awards in your community! Award winners will be recognized locally at a time and place of their choice!

Community of Excellence
Currently designated a Kansas PRIDE Community of Excellence? Your community is eligible to apply for Partners in PRIDE Grants funds! CLICK HERE to read the guidelines and find the application.

Board Leadership is Back!

You are serving on a board...now what?!?

The Board Leadership Series provides an opportunity to give community-based boards — elected, appointed, or recognized by local units of government — affordable training necessary to be most effective and efficient with their responsibilities. CLICK HERE for more information and registration.

A Year in Numbers

2014 was a great year, full of fantastic projects, new and existing partnerships and lots of hard work. LOTS of hard work! We know that there are still those that need to report, but here is what we have so far:

In 2014:

Volunteers gave over 63,054 hours to their community! That translates to over $1,316,567 according to the Independent Sector's Value of Volunteer Time!!! You can follow the link provided to calculate your volunteer time in the future, and see just how much you are investing in your community! Phenomenal work Kansas PRIDE communities!!!

Kansas PRIDE communities raised over $338,555 in public and private funds to reinvest into their communities! Awesome!

A total of 153 projects were completed, 503 are ongoing and 259 involved youth! That is an increase in numbers from 2013! You had 228 MORE ongoing projects and involved youth in 78 more projects in 2014! Way to go!!!

Numbers are important, but what you as volunteers give back to your community is invaluable! Thank you for all that you do for Kansas!!

Did you know…?

That you can search reports from our online database to find project ideas, communities doing similar projects, communities doing projects that your community is interested in…imagine the networking! All a part of the new system! Attend our informational webinar to find out more! Keep on the lookout in your email and on Facebook for more details in the upcoming weeks!

Events Calendar

Heads up: Billie will be calling in early February to those that have not re enrolled for 2015. If you haven’t had a chance, or have been waiting for a resolution, let us know at PRIDE@ksu.edu. We will be hosting an informational webinar for all those interested in seeing the advantages of the new system, and how to find information for networking.

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 – More details in upcoming months!

It’s that time of the year again! Have community events you want us to put on the Kansas PRIDE Community Events calendar? Let us know by dropping us an email at PRIDE@ksu.edu! There are not many events on the calendar for this year as yet, but if you want to check out the page, CLICK HERE.