Funding Deadlines Coming Up!

February 15 is a big day on the calendar for Kansas PRIDE Communities!

- 2016 is the pilot year for the NEW Growth and Action Awards. These awards are available for Communities of Growth and Communities of Action that are in good standing. What is good standing? In a nutshell:
  - Currently enrolled
  - Resolution of Government Support recorded in enrollment
  - All Quarterly Reports are up to date

Goal and Action Awards are limited to 5 awards per round (February 15 and August 15) and are extremely competitive so apply as soon as you can. The awards are for $200 each. The link is now live! CLICK HERE TO APPLY.

- This is also the deadline for eligible Communities of Excellence to apply for Partners in PRIDE Grant Funding.

Don’t Forget! This is also the deadline for all communities that wish to nominate their projects for STAR Capital Awards. —Jaime Menon, K-State Research and Extension PRIDE Program Manager jmenon@ksu.edu

Visit with Lakin PRIDE

On Monday January 25, 2016 I met with representatives of Lakin PRIDE for a tour of their wonderful projects! The pictures are a bit dark because we were chasing daylight, but that did not dim our spirits as we made a quick tour of the community and Lakin PRIDE gave me a history of their work! We visited three of the parks that they maintain, and the fantastic basketball court that was finished in the fall of 2015. Lakin PRIDE, as a Community of Excellence, obtained a Partners in PRIDE Grant from Kansas PRIDE, Inc. to help replace cement for the court.

Pictures, as always, do no justice to the work of our local PRIDE volunteers!
Thank you Lakin PRIDE for taking the time for a wonderful tour! It was fantastic to see your work in person!

And as always, thank you to ALL of our local PRIDE volunteers for all that you do for Kansas! – *Jaime Menon, K-State Research and Extension PRIDE Program Manager jmenon@ksu.edu*

**Where Do You Get Your News?**

We sent out an email recently to reach out to Kansas PRIDE Communities. K-State Research and Extension (KSRE) News and Marketing has asked us to inquire: Where do you get your news?

Examples of course can be:
Facebook
Twitter
K-State Website

**KSRE News and Marketing has the following questions:**

What newspapers (major/regional/local) do you read/subscribe to?

What news stations do you listen to?

This will allow them to contact the appropriate outlets for announcements concerning your community through the Kansas PRIDE Program (such as awards). Let us know so that we can better serve you with news in the future! – Contact us at PRIDE@ksu.edu to give us your examples – if you have not already. Thank you! - *Jaime Menon, K-State Research and Extension PRIDE Program Manager jmenon@ksu.edu*

**Opportunities**

**SAVE THE DATE: Rural Opportunities Conference**

The Kansas Department of Commerce has a date and place for the upcoming annual Rural Opportunities Conference. The conference schedule and details about sessions and speakers will be provided in the coming months. Contact Susan NeuPoth Cadoret at scadoret@kansascommerce.com or 785-296-7198 with questions.

[http://kansascommerce.com/ruralopportunitiesconference](http://kansascommerce.com/ruralopportunitiesconference)

**Network Kansas** is promoting its annual program **StartUp Kansas. StartUp Kansas** provides gap financing to help entrepreneurs start or grow a business in Kansas. The loan program matches up to 150% of other public sources of capital and/or funds from a financial institution such as a bank. Up to $45,000 can be provided per project. Funds are flexible and can be used for a variety of business purposes, including equipment, inventory, and working capital. Entrepreneurs work with a NetWork Kansas resource partner to apply for funds.

For more information go to [http://www.networkkansas.com/about/network-kansas-programs/startup-kansas](http://www.networkkansas.com/about/network-kansas-programs/startup-kansas)

**Events Calendar**

**February 15** – Capital Award, Community Partner Nomination Applications Due *(Recognition)*

**February 15** – Growth and Action, Partner in PRIDE Applications Due *(Funding)*

**May 22-28** – Save the Date - Week of PRIDE