Vibrant Communities
with a Positive Future

2019-2020 Kansas PRIDE Review

KANSAS PRIDE
In Partnership With
Kansas Masons

K-STATE
Research and Extension

Kansas
Department of Commerce
Business and Community Development

50 YEARS
KANSAS PRIDE
ANNIVERSARY
1970 to 2020

Started in 1970 by Governor Docking, the Kansas PRIDE program has supported volunteer-based improvement efforts in more than 400 Kansas communities. Fifty years later with our partners and sponsors we continue to provide technical, educational, recognition, and financial assistance to those organized to make a difference locally — assisting Kansas communities to be great places to visit, do business in, and live.

"It is so exciting for me being in my 5th year as a board member and having the honor to serve as board chair for Kansas Pride, Inc. Kansas Pride Inc. and partners provide recognition, education, and funding opportunities to assist local communities, regardless of size, through grassroots efforts. These efforts, along with economic development initiatives, support Kansans in shaping their communities as the place they want to live their lives."

James Lambert, Kansas PRIDE, Inc. Chair

PARTNERSHIPS

As a partner of the Kansas PRIDE program, the Kansas Masons, from more than 200 lodges across the state, have pledged their support to local communities. Since the partnership was established in March of 2016, Masonic Lodges have continued, or provided new, active support in more than 20 communities. Their efforts include assisting with fundraising, providing knowledge and volunteers, and celebrating local community success. If your community does not have a Masonic Lodge, contact the Kansas PRIDE office to find a contact.

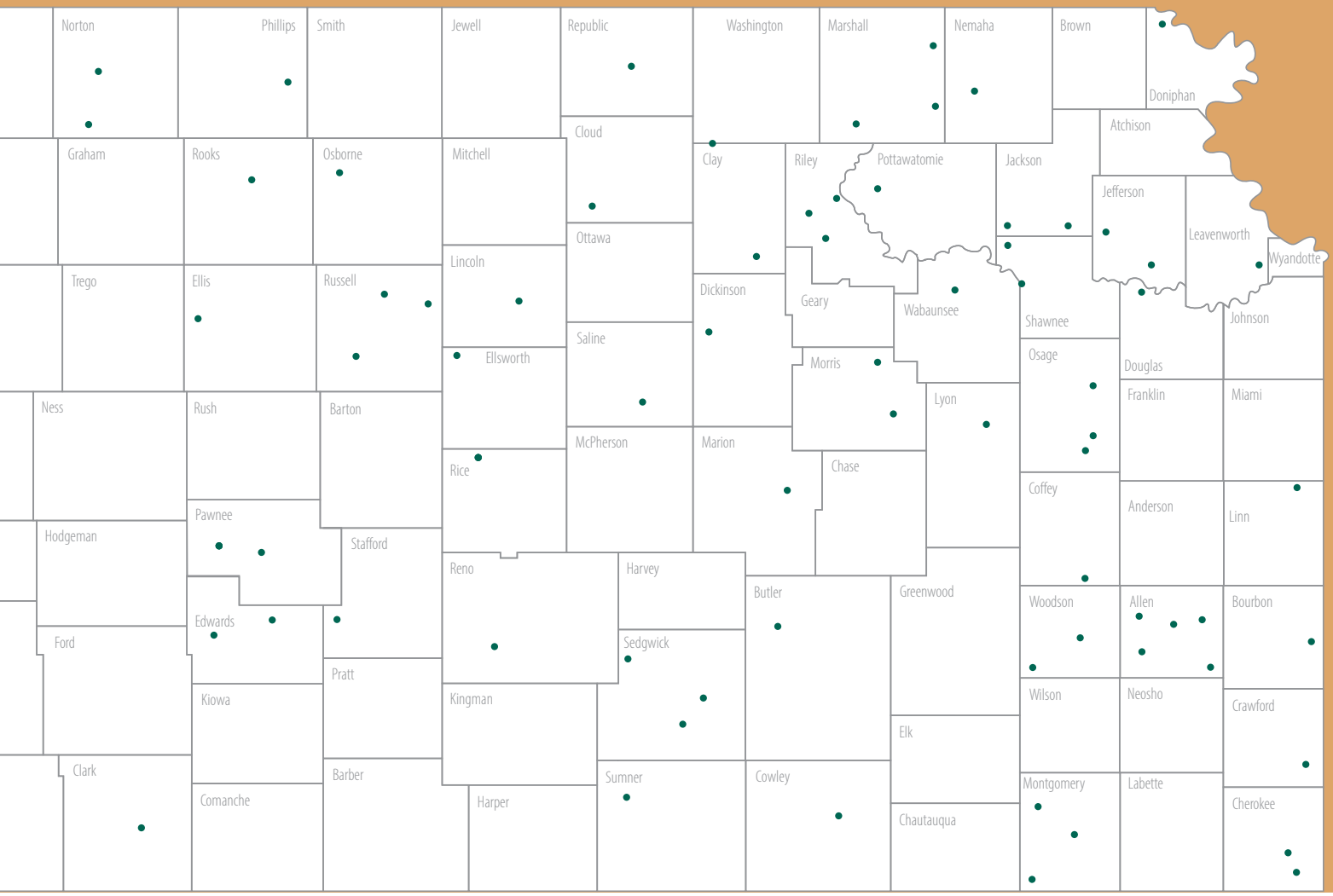
KANSAS FREEMASONS
ON THE LEVEL

Since 2017, through our partnership with the Kansas Masons, more than $178,000 has been awarded to Kansas PRIDE communities for large-scale projects and community promotion.

K-State Research and Extension continued to partner with the Dane G. Hansen Foundation to implement the Community Intern, First Impressions, Ripple Effects Mapping, and County Leadership programs. In 2019 there were 18 interns across northwest Kansas. Fourteen served in community positions and four served in multi-county positions. Ten communities participated in First Impressions, two of which were PRIDE communities; three counties participated in Ripple Effects Mapping, two of which had PRIDE committees; and two counties continued leadership programs and have PRIDE communities.

DANE G. HANSEN
FOUNDATION

On the cover: Elliot (9), Parker (6), and 14 other young people from our local library kids' program volunteered to pick up trash during our Toronto Community Clean Up day. They joined a large group of adults who spent the day cleaning and painting on Main Street. These girls proudly filled their wheelbarrow three times! ***Toronto PRIDE***



IN 2019 – 20 KANSAS PRIDE PROGRAM SERVED 75 COMMUNITIES.

Admire
Agra
Alton*#+
Arlington$
Ashland+
Assaria
Axtell
Basehor
Baxter Springs
Belleville
Blue Rapids#@$
Burden$
Bushton
Caney#^
Centralia
Clifton^
Columbus#@+
Conway Springs$
Council Grove
Delia#+
Dover@+
Dwight
Elk City+
Ellis$
Fort Scott
Frontenac
Glasco+
Grainfield@&+
Grinnell+
Haysville
Herndon
Highland+
Hoyt
Humbolt#^+
Independence
Iola+
Kinsley
La Harpe
Lakin^+
Larned
Lecompton+
Lenora
Leonardville+
LeRoy
Lewis
Lincoln
Linn Valley+
Lucas
Luray^@
Macksville@
Marion
McFarland
Melvern
Moran
Mount Hope
Norton+^
Olsburg#^+
Overbrook
Ozawkie$^
Park City
Perry*#
Potwin*
Quenemo
Randolph+
Riley
Rossville&+
Rozel
Russell&+
Savonburg
Stockton
Toronto$
Vermillion#$
Wakefield^
Wilson
Yates Center$

Key:
* = Project Excellence Award
$ = Community of Growth Award
^ = Community of Action Award
+ = Community of Excellence Award
# = Rising Star Award
@ = Community Promotion Award
& = Volunteers Impact PRIDE Award

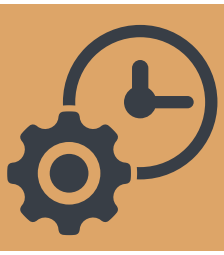
K-STATE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION

The Community Vitality staff have visited more than 100 communities to lend support through strategic planning, informational presentations, and workshops. The First Impressions program, administered by K-State Research and Extension, helps communities learn more about strengths and weaknesses through the eyes of a first-time visitor. It also provides an opportunity to learn about the strength and weaknesses of other communities. The immediate effects of First Impressions are the call to action and engagement of community volunteers; the development of improved communication between residents and community organizations; and the increased awareness of community attributes. Since 2015, more than 110 Kansas communities have participated in First Impressions. Youth Community Perceptions, a new program started in 2019, has given communities the opportunity to engage youth in community assessment, service, and government processes. The program, designed for local youth group or school district participation, has resulted in community partnerships, funding opportunities, and beneficial improvement projects — all involving and engaging youth. For more information, contact us at PRIDE@ksu.edu.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

As a partner of the Kansas PRIDE program, the Kansas Department of Commerce's Business and Community Development Assistance Team worked with communities and businesses throughout the state. During 2019, the regional project managers made 45 visits to PRIDE communities and made program presentations to 11 communities.

136 new projects
385 completed projects
1,181 total projects



79,353 hours of volunteer labor
(more than $1,852,893 based on calculations by Independent Sector for Volunteer Time)

$203,374 public dollars raised
$401,460 private dollars raised

75 Kansas PRIDE Communities

660 ongoing projects
244 youth related projects

643 partnerships

2019-2020 AWARDS

Project Excellence

Alton – Social – Christmas Celebration

Perry – Cultural – Pocket Museum

Potwin – Natural – Café Clean Up and Beautification

Rising Star

The following communities applied for Rising Star Awards:

Alton – Jo Peterson

Blue Rapids – Derek deBoer

Caney – Fred Gress

Columbus – Tom Pryor

Delia – Delia Early Birds 4-H

Humboldt – Matt Korte

Olsburg – Olsburg Swimmin' Women

Perry – Thomas Hotchkiss III

Vermillion – Audrey Broxterman

Community of Growth Grants

Community of Growth grants (COG) are $200 awards to help offset out of pocket expenses for community members, and costs associated with starting a local PRIDE community improvement group. The following received awards for 2019-2020:

Arlington – Materials

Blue Rapids – Signage

Burden – Promotions

Conway Springs – Building Repairs

Ellis – Bicycle Racks

Ozawkie – Newspaper Ads

Toronto – Stop the Bleed Emergency Kits

Vermillion – Newsletter

Yates Center – Planter Benches

Community of Action Grants

Community of Action grant (COA) are a funding opportunity provided by Kansas PRIDE, Inc. as a 1:1 match with communities that can provide funding up to the maximum amount of $2,000 per project for PRIDE Communities that qualify. The following received awards for 2019-2020:

Blue Rapids – Town Square – $400

Caney – Swimming Pool Equipment – $1,000

Clifton – Pocket Park – $1,000

Humboldt – Rebuilding Flood Damage – $1,000

Lakin – Recycling – $2,000

Luray – Phase 2 City Park Revitalization – $1,000

Norton – Playground Equipment – $2,000

Olsburg – Walking Trail – $1,000

Ozawkie – Disc Golf – $1,991

Wakefield – Veterans Memorial – $1,000

Community Promotion Grant

An opportunity provided through our partnership and the generosity of the Kansas Masons, Community Marketing/Promotion Grants are $1000 grants available for promotion of communities through building a website, social media campaigns or apps, videos, radio, fliers, or ads in travel/tourism magazines. The following received awards for 2019-2020:

Columbus – Promotions Project – $1,000

Dover – Brochure printing – $880

Grainfield – Newsletter – $556.88

Luray – Annual Events Promos – $1,000

Macksville – Directional Signage – $1,000

Volunteers In PRIDE

The Volunteers Impact PRIDE (VIP) Community of Excellence Grant is made possible by the generosity of Kansas Masons and our partnership. VIP is designed to help Communities of Excellence help themselves through sweat equity and volunteerism at the local level. The following received awards for 2019-2020:

Grainfield – Wheatland High School Bleachers $15,000

Rossville – Vitame Vas! Patio Project $9,250

Russell – Visitor Center Bathrooms $10,000

FOR THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF KANSAS PRIDE

some of our participating communities shared projects that have had a major impact on their communities.

PERRY

Perry recently celebrated their 11th year of bringing back their fall festival. The annual Perry Fall Festival is something residents and visitors of all ages enjoy and is a major spotlight for the town.

The festival has grown to include a car show, garden tractor pull, food and craft vendors, live music, and information booths. Attendees enjoy free amusements and rides thanks to generous sponsors.

The City of Perry was also instrumental by providing their support and city services. What a great day for the community to come together and focus on Perry!

In 2018 Perry was chosen as the only stop in Kansas for the Capitol Christmas Tree in its trek from Oregon to Washington, D.C. Perry PRIDE coordinated this effort between local, state and national agencies and organizations. More than 1,000 people visited Perry for this once-in-a-lifetime event for the community.

CANEY

The community of Caney lost its essential food pantry and was without it for several months.

Caney's PRIDE program, the Caney Betterment Group, was approached by the city to take over the project. Volunteers from the group worked to get the food pantry operational again. Fifty-two volunteers contributed more than 12,000 hours, along with the help of community and area sponsors to bring the program back.

The pantry not only serves Caney, but also the area of southwest Montgomery and southeast Chatauqua counties, offering monthly food boxes for the elderly and disabled, emergency food boxes for those in sudden distress, angel tree boxes at Christmas, school produce backpacks, distribution of excess produce, and had experienced a service outreach to approximately 1,400 in 2019.

LECOMPTON

When Lecompton PRIDE formed and established its vision and mission through a public meeting in 2012, they realized the central focus of the community was to maintain and preserve the historic Lecompton High School building owned by the city.

Lecompton PRIDE was given the opportunity to raise money to support ongoing building maintenance by developing fundraisers and applying for grants. The community bought in to project and improvements began. The auditorium was renovated, a new roof installed along with a new boiler and air conditioners.

Community meetings, plays, rummage sales, and dance classes all found a home in the building thanks to community support. Local sponsors, along with Lecompton PRIDE, have helped to turn the old high school into a community center, now known as the PRIDE Building.

ROSSVILLE

The City of Rossville had begun a Main Street beautification project that included new sidewalks, street lights, and improved crosswalks. Rossville PRIDE conducted a survey that found residents desired a gathering place downtown that welcomed people and allowed for gatherings.

The city received a donation of land from the Andrick family in memory of their son, Terry. Rossville PRIDE successfully wrote for a grant through the Kansas PRIDE program to landscape the new Andrick Park.

The landscaping is easy to maintain and drought resistant, and combined with the well-planned sidewalks and infrastructure, creates a place for picnics, live music and lemonade stands.

An Oregon/California Trail marker has also been placed in the park and is part of the National Parks historical markers. Rossville PRIDE was able to develop this landscape project to meet the needs of the city in balance with the community's ideas.

WILSON

Community promotion is one of the key project areas Wilson PRIDE is involved with. Wilson PRIDE partnered with local businesses, residents, and Midwest Energy to install a "Welcome to Wilson" sign on the southern entrance of town, spearheading organization and fundraising efforts.

Signage identifying Wilson as the "Home of John H. Kuck – 1928 Olympic Gold Medalist" was also erected. Purchased by Wilson PRIDE, the sign was placed on K-232 inside the city limits.

Telling the world about Wilson took a turn to the digital world when Wilson PRIDE decided the community needed a new website. The new site (wilsonks.com) was created as a joint Wilson PRIDE/ Wilson Economic Development Corporation website, providing valuable information to visitors about Wilson and the surrounding area. The development of the site used funding from the Kansas Masons, Kansas PRIDE, and the Case Foundation.

Thank you to our sponsors

who make educational and funding opportunities possible.

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Evergy

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Midwest Energy, Inc.
Kansas Bankers Association
Black Hills Energy

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Blue Valley Technologies
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Nex-Tech
Excel Industries Inc./Hustler

Friends of PRIDE
Casey's General Stores
Doug Helmke
Jaime Menon
Jan Steen

Collaborative Partners
Kansas Gas Service
The League of Kansas Municipalities
The Kansas Association of Counties

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For sponsorship opportunities and to learn more about the Kansas PRIDE program: kansasprideprogram.k-state.edu, email PRIDE@k-state.edu, or 785-532-5840.

All sponsorship funds raised by Kansas PRIDE, Inc., a 501(c) 3 organization, go directly to Kansas communities through project grants, educational opportunities and recognition. Overhead and staff expenses are provided by K-State Research and Extension and the Kansas Department of Commerce.

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07/2020