

2014 Big Rural Brainstorm RESOURCES

The question was asked on the Big Rural Brainstorm registration form, "what specific programs or successful efforts can you bring to the table?" These were your answers.

These resources will also be listed on the wall at the BRB. If you'd like to add your name to the resource list you'll be able to do that on Friday.

Study these and plan who you might want to visit with at the BRB. All the contact numbers will be in your packet.

Abby Amick, Alma

Talk to me about being a PowerUp and "Life with Kids!" Can answer questions about starting a PowerUp group.

JoEllyn Argabright, K-State Extension Resources, Atwood

I successfully implemented the Rawlins County Shuttle Service.

Jennifer Arnold, Girl Scouts, Wichita

We can partnership with Businesses/Organizations to develop a program using the skills/product/story they have to offer, with the Girl Scout Curriculum to get Girl Scouts K-12th grade and their parent to explore the state. We have currently have 11,800 girls and 4,000 adult members in our 80 county territory in our State.

Angela Baur, Central Kansas Foundation, Newton

Community Endowment Building - representing Central Kansas as well as entire state in our efforts to Keep 5 in Kansas. Our new statewide campaign. See the video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IAZ-X3ylwRc>

Involved with Public Square Communities, community development work. Helping audience know that truly an outside third party facilitator can really help energize a local process that has never been or fizzled.

Experience living in Kansas and out of Kansas - Urban and Rural.

Mike Bosch, Reflective Group, Baldwin City

Anything dealing with Small Town technology and entrepreneurship.

Lori Bower, Windom

I help companies figure out their core identity, what they're going to be 'famous' for, and how to win the hearts and minds of customers. Right now I spend about 60% of my time working as a contract Account Director at a business-to-business ad agency in Chicago called Slack and Company (runner-up for Ad Age Magazine's B-to-B agency of the year), doing communications strategy mostly for General Electric and the Association of Equipment Manufacturers. The rest of my time is spent with local clients, including

Hutchinson Community Foundation, Home Bank, Reno Parents Connect (grant project), and new clients Carlos O'Kelly's and Bhargava Dental Group. I have been blessed to continue be able to work on global projects from my farm in McPherson County (I lived in Chicago for a number of years prior to moving 'home'). So I'm not sure how I can help, but I do know that I have a lot experience with organizational storytelling that may be useful in this process.

Jennifer Burch, McPherson Chamber of Commerce

McPherson County became a entrepreneurship Community in 2011 and have benefited greatly from this loan program from NetworkKansas. We have been able to loan funds totally \$435,000 new/expansion 12 businesses creating between 60-80 jobs. It has been huge boost to our business sector. I would encourage any community, county to look into this program.

Patty Clark, USDA, Topeka

Strategic Planning and financing for community improvements, housing, business development

Alyssa Collier, Newton

The Newton Area Arts Council received a grant to put together a county-wide arts festival. It will premiere this spring. It's been great to see all of the arts organizations, including visual and performing arts, come together to create this exciting event.

Janet Conner, Woodbine

The Woodbine group on face book has been steadily growing. We now have 95 members with at least 1/2 of those visiting the page daily. The yard of the month award has improved appearances in Woodbine.

Lisa Coss, Pratt

I work with youth between the ages of 13 and 21 in a leadership class trying to get their insight as to what in their mind the positives and/or negatives our community has. Trying to get a better idea of what would bring them back to the community and give them the leadership tools to be able to better assist them in their everyday life.

My full time position is with Rocking M Radio and Wheat State Signs we are continually trying to grow our communication efforts among all of our rural communities. To continue to create and develop a platform that fits the ever changing form of technology and communication.

Dave Criswell, Wilson

I have a good working knowledge of the Kansas PRIDE Program, including how and why to start a local PRIDE program in a rural community.

Jeff Davidson, Eureka

A group of musicians put together an event to commemorate Kansas sesquicentennial in 2011 and then did a CD party, as a result

Henry Fortunato, Overland Park

Among other treks, I have walked from Overland Park to Wichita, from Lawrence to Chanute, from Salina to Hutchinson, and from Leavenworth to Lecompton in a northeast Kansas loop that included Atchison-Troy-White Cloud-Hiawatha- Horton-Holton-Mayetta-Topeka. I have given more than a half-dozen well-received public lectures about my Kansas walks, and find that many audience members want to learn more about how they might embark on such trips.

Natalie Fullerton, Wichita

Community Food Solutions for a healthy Kansas: empowering grassroots voices in leading the changes needed to create a healthier food environment through our own Kansas farms.

Tunnel to Table: research and education for producers growing in or interested in growing in polytunnel season extension tools.

Increasing pollinators: education for those interested in beekeeping and growing the number of pollinators in our state.

Nancy Gafford, Seneca

I am very knowledgeable about programs and incentives to help business expand and grow and also to help entrepreneurs and small businesses get started.

Cody Gettler, Garnett high school student

Leading groups of fellow high school students in volunteering for local organizations and events. Getting youth involved in local government.

Becky Goss, McPherson Community Foundation

Collaboration with programs and projects to build permanent funding sources.

Dawn Hampton, Atwood

NE-Home Town Competiveness (HTC). Ogallala Commons-Rural Community Resource that encourages internships in rural communities on the aquifer. Kansas Farm Bureau. Network Kansas.

Shelley Hansel, Wellington

I'll share ideas about how to work with your local and regional media partners to get free advertising and promotion.

AnnaRose Hart, Topeka.

Ask me about marketing of Kansas and the From the Land of Kansas program.

Ron Hirst, Quest Center, Hutchinson

Assist in helping new start-up businesses and expansions in our county, from business plans to arranging financing. Keep our rural communities informed of items that might be of interest to them.

Started a local revolving loan fund for small business direct and gap financing.

Patrick Hoffman, Ellsworth

My main involvement has been in trying to start a Young Professionals group in Ellsworth, and also in creating and operating a nonprofit child care center in town. I would be happy to talk about either of these. I grew up in Ellsworth (6 generation) but my wife is from Dallas.

Christy Hopkins, Greeley County Community Development

I'm in community development, which often means I have a basic understanding of a wide range of issues. I'm involved with running a community-owned theater, have done some grant-writing, and work closely with a well-connected community to help create a place we're all proud to call home. Ask me about starting a PowerUp program, too.

Dan Howell

Glad to answer questions about beginning farmers for cow/calf or vegetable/specialty crop production questions.

Roger Hrabe, Rooks County Economic Development

Glad to share any information about economic development.

Wendy Jones, Herington

We are coming up on the one year anniversary of our Think Local First program which has been great.

Shelia Lampe, Iola

SEE HEAR IOLA community forum.

Shawn Linenberger, Tonganoxie

Way-finding committee member.

Suzi Locke, El Dorado

Working with youth athletics. Working in City Government. Understanding what it means to work in town and live in the country. Importance of rural culture and maintaining historic roots while being innovative with resources.

Marilyn Lund, Tescott

We are in the process of developing an Honor Park downtown to help with the beautification of our downtown are and also to show support to our veterans.

Luke Mahin, Republic County

County wide initiatives from recycling to housing issues. Bringing together the county seat and small towns outside the county hub.

Kari Mailloux, Hutchinson

Ask me about talk20 Hutch. It was a community-building event that gave 10 presenters the chance to talk about one of their passions in 20 slides, with 20 seconds per slide. Talk20 format is an opportunity to bring diverse voices and experiences into the same room, both the presenters and audience, and to make connections or spark conversations that may not have happened otherwise. Our first talk20 Hutch in January 2014 brought out nearly 200 people to the public library on a Friday night--it was inspiring to see that the community was eager for an event like this!

Lindsey Marshall, Peabody

The power of networking, positivity, and social media. Customer service, keeping clientele coming back, working to sustain a business in small communities.

Dollie Mathes, Harper

As me about starting a 501 (c) 3 non-profit.

Jonathan Mitchell, Hoisington

Our community has experienced some success with incentives like the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan, Community Improvement Districts and Public/Private Partnerships.

Clare Moore, Wichita/Stafford

1)Stafford Mercantile-Retail locally owned and operated. Maybe be a model to expand across the state. Includes a ministore concept.Opened in Nov, 2012. Continue to work to create a successful model.

2)Creative concepts for programming and destination efforts to bring people to small town and small town B&B.

Lisa Moritz, Tribune

I serve on our local Park & Rec Action team, I host an annual wellness program, and I am the race director for 3 local running races (plus 2 unofficial races). I am in this year's Sunflower Advocacy Fellowship through the products and the From the Land of Kansas program. I like to dream big and come up with new ideas. I don't like being told 'it can't be done', 'that won't work', or 'no', and will try to find new and creative ways to prove the 'no' people wrong.

Rick Nichols, Leavenworth

Many years ago I helped start a soccer league for grade school youth in a small town, a league that continued to go on after my departure. I also helped build a baseball/softball field with the Jaycees.

Jenny O'Brien, Lawrence

I have been researching and developing a ridesharing project in and around the Lawrence area for the past 2 years. The first year of research has shown that rural ridesharing can be safe, easy and reliable.

Aubrey Patterson, Hutchinson Community Foundation

The foundation made its first loan, not a grant, for a downtown housing development that we hope will become a demonstration project for other developers and other communities.

We recently created an inspirational video for Reno County called "This is where our heart is." It has been very, very well received by people who live here.

William Peak, Tonganoxie

Most walkable city with new trail. Rebate programs for new and older residences.

Sandra Randel, Arkansas City

Our museum has undergone a huge transformation including complete remodeling and new exhibit design. We have spoken at both national and state conferences on our successes and failures. Our membership has grown from 23 in 2011 to 814 in 2014 through community support.

Roger Ringer, Medicine Lodge

I am experienced in public safety (fire & EMS). Retail business, entertainment, hospitality, public relations, promotions and event planning.

David Roe, Lyons

My website comes from years of advertising and marketing experience. My past work experience allowed me to work with many small business owners and the public. I feel the feedback I received from them led to this next step in the evolution of discounts.

Scott Rogers, Garnett

I co-led a highly successful GROUP Workcamp in Anderson County this past summer called GAPP/Garnett Area Paint Project. 12K+ hours of community service in one week, 49 homes improved, brought 21 youth groups from 11 states, spent over \$30K in materials, etc. It was incredible what it did for Anderson County and our communities!!!

Kayla Savage, UFM, K-State

The CRA program at UFM is something I always share with others who it might help.

Kayla Schartz, Ellinwood/KU

I think I have some insight to offer on the future of journalism in rural communities. I am not a business professional, but as a college student from a small town, I think I can bring a different perspective to the table.

Stacey Schmidt, Ellsworth

Advance planning

Laurie Scott, KU Med Center, Wichita

Rural Health, a department of the University of Kansas Medical Center, has several programs to help encourage physicians and other healthcare professionals to practice in rural Kansas. These include the Kansas Bridging Plan, a loan forgiveness plan for physicians in exchange for a 3-year practice commitment; Kansas Locum Tenens Program, offering temporary coverage for health care providers; Kansas Career Opportunities, a health care career fair specifically for Kansas' rural and underserved health care organizations; Kansas Recruitment and Retention Center, offering recruitment and retention services to Kansas health care organizations with free services to health care candidates.

Jeanette Siemens, Pratt

I am a colleague of Public Square, Inc. I am a certified Leadership Coach with the KS Leadership Center and partner in consulting through my company, ThinkOut Strategic Solutions.

Elizabeth Stewart, Sunflower Foundation, Topeka

I'm happy to talk about Sunflower Trails and share lessons on behalf of successful grantees.

Lonnie Stieben, Clearwater

Helping to initiate and be supportive of a PowerUp movement last year

Karen Sturm, Caldwell

Housing incentives; community building - city bought utilities, trash; new city library; renovation; tourism success.

Cindee Talley, High Plains Public Radio, Garden City

I'm currently working on a contributor's network. In plain terms, that means I'm trying to put more public in public radio by gathering volunteer contributors who would be willing to share their expertise with stories using a variety of skills. An example would be someone with an extensive regional history knowledge who would be willing to contribute stories on a regular basis.

Chris Terrill, Partridge

The Partridge Community Assn. was formed to give those of community a vehicle for expression and organization of efforts to improve the community.

Brad Thomison, KU Med Center, Wichita

I am a Senior Recruitment Coordinator at the Office of Rural Health and Education Services at the KU School of Medicine. I specialize in recruiting medical providers to rural areas in Kansas.

DeLeah Townsend, Heartland Farm, Pawnee Rock

Heartland Farm offers hands-on instruction to those who are looking to become more sustainable and reduce their carbon footprint. We grow, harvest, and preserve our own food organically, we recycle everything we can, we are involved in our local community, and we teach simple living skills to anyone who is eager to learn. We are also a spiritual retreat center for those who need to get away and reconnect with nature. We offer an apprenticeship program where volunteers get free room and board, whether it's a for a week or for several months. We also have monthly workshops such as Fiberspace where we teach spinning, weaving, knitting, and crochet. Next month we're having a soap making workshop. We have a Peace camp for kids in June, a Pottery making workshop in August, Chicken harvesting workshop in October, and a workshop in November where we will teach people how to make their own earth friendly cleaning supplies, frugally.

Shari Wilson, Kansas City

Historic preservation/renovation. Building trails and other 'healthy community' programs. Using leadership principles

Joey Young, Clarion Publications, Andale

Our newspaper and staff recently completed a 'State of Downtown' series and found out a lot of very interesting things. We wrote three stories: 1: what are our vacancy rates in our coverage area and compare them to national averages. 2: What causes vacancy in small towns like ours. 3: How do we fix it and what goes into getting buildings full and having a vibrant main street again. We then followed up with an editorial encouraging people to take the information and better Main Street with it. We told our readership that we would be outside with a paint can to give our store front a fresh coat and said we would be willing to write a profile on any new downtown businesses occupying a building in Haven, Andale, Mount Hope or Colwich and then offer a significantly discounted ad to promote their first sale or promotion.

Jennifer Yuza, KU Med Center, Wichita

I am a Senior Marketing and Communications Coordinator for the office of Rural Health with the University of Kansas Medical Center. I specialize in creating eye catching, results-driven marketing materials.

Our office administers the Kansas Bridging Plan, a loan forgiveness program for physicians who commit to practicing in rural Kansas for 3 years. Statistics prove that more than 60% continue to remain and practice in a rural community after their 3 year obligation.

