MINUTES FOR JANUARY 5, 2015

BOARD OF CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS

CONVENE

Commissioner Hilderbrand called the regular session of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners (The Board), to order and led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance at 9:00 AM on Monday, January 5, 2015 in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. Commissioners Richard Hilderbrand, Charles Napier, Pat Collins, and County Clerk Rodney Edmondson were present.

Members of the press present: Larry Hiatt, Machelle Smith, Jordan Zabel

Chairman Hilderbrand noted that Cherokee County has lost a true public servant in Kevin "Cabb" Landreth to his battle with cancer. He spent many years working in Law Enforcement, Fire, and EMS in Cherokee County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hilderbrand to lower flags from now until sundown on Wednesday, January 7, 2015. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins. The motion carried 3-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Napier to approve the Minutes of the BOCC Meeting for December 29, 2014. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins. The motion carried 3-0.

The Board decided to hold a Special Meeting on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday on Monday, January 19, 2015, to approve Accounts Payables and Payroll for January. The Board will set the final agenda for the meeting next Monday.

Leonard Vanatta - County Road Supervisor Gene Langerot - County Lot Supervisor

They appeared before the Board on routine county road business. The Board discussed the ability to store extra fuel in light of the low fuel prices right now. Gene and Leonard will research the cost of installing additional holding tanks and barriers to see if it is cost effective.

Shelley Paasch - Love Small Town America

She appeared before the Board as a representative of the Love Small Town America website hosting program. The cost is under \$500 annually. She recently met with the City of Galena Officials. It's a great opportunity for small towns to stand alone on a Cherokee County website for little cost. The Board suggested that she follow up with Janet Miller. At this time the Board isn't wanting to change websites.

Larry Westervelt - Citizen

He appeared before the Board regarding a problem with his taxes. The Board referred him to the County Treasurer.

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Department Heads - Monthly Reports

They met with the Board for their routine monthly meeting with the following Department Heads present: Barbara Bilke, Register of Deeds; Kristin Seal, Noxious Weeds; David Groves, Sheriff; Deana Randall, Human Resources; Jason Allison, Emergency Preparedness; Juanita Hodgson, Treasurer; Ralph Houser, Maintenance; Rodney Edmondson, Clerk; Wayne Elliott, 911 Addressing & Mapping.

Barbara Bilke - She provided a written report. She reminded everyone that the new fees took effect on January 1st.

David Groves - He reported that the Sheriff's Office has received a KDHE grant in the amount of \$2,950 plus 50 new bike helmets. The Toy Box Campaign with KOAM-TV provided Christmas gifts to 238 children in Cherokee County.

Jason Allison - He reported that he is still working on getting the reimbursement from the State of Kansas for his budget. There will be a tabletop exercise on January 14th at the Downstream Casino.

Juanita Hodgson - She reported that her office is working on mail from the payment of real estate taxes.

Kristin Seal - She reported that the year-end report is due February 15th. The annual conference for recertification is in Manhattan at the end of January.

Rodney Edmondson - He reported that he is still collecting departmental inventories and is preparing for the April 7th election.

Wayne Elliott - He reported the sale of \$254 in maps and the issuance two new addresses.

Larry Hiatt voiced his concern over the mailing of tax statements from Wichita and the potential loss of work or revenue for the local post office.

Commissioner Collins voiced his appreciation for the hard work, especially with budgets, that each department did in 2014.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hilderbrand to amend the agenda for Heather Morgan and Project 17 from 11:00 AM to 10:53 AM. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Napier. The motion carried 3-0.

Heather Morgan - Executive Director, Project 17

She appeared before the Board to provide an update on Project 17. She is making a tour of all county commissions in the region and wanted to bring them up to date. She stated that the core group listed is the ones that are making the decisions. Commissioner Hilderbrand stated that his complaint is if they are truly wanting a regional group for economic development then there needs to be local representatives from each county. He stated that the core group doesn't know what we need in Cherokee County. The Board appreciated her being here.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hilderbrand to pass Resolution 01-2015, the Waiver from GAAP for Cherokee County financial statements and reports for 2015. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins. The motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hilderbrand made a motion to adjourn until the next regularly scheduled meeting set for January 12, 2015 at 9:00 AM. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Napier. The motion carried 3-0 with all in attendance voting yes at 11:47 AM.

ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this 12th, day of January, 2015

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Cherokee County Clerk

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS:

WHEREAS, the Commissioners of Cherokee County, Kansas, has determined that the financial statements and financial reports for the year ending December 31, 2015 to be prepared in conformity with the requirements of K.S.A. 75-1120a(a) are not relevant to the requirements of the cash basis and budget laws of this state and are of no significant value to the Commissioners or the members of the general public of the County of Cherokee and

WHEREAS, there are no revenue bond ordinances or other ordinances or resolutions of the municipality which require financial statements and financial reports to be prepared in conformity with K.S.A. 75-1120a(a) for the year ending December 31, 2015.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Cherokee County, Kansas, in regular meeting duly assembled the 5th day of January. 2015 that the Commissioners requests the Director of Accounts and Reports to waive the requirements of K.S.A. 75-1120a(a) as they apply to the County of Cherokee for the year ending December 31, 2015.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commissioners shall cause the financial statements and financial reports of the County of Cherokee to be prepared on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements as adjusted to show

Resolved: Cherokee County Board of County Commissioners

Chairman

Commissioner

Cherokee County Clerk

Commissioner

Project 17

Heather Morgan Executive Director <u>hmorgan@twsproject17.org</u> 785-323-7001





How Project 17 Came About

- Project 17 started after the State Senators from the area approached the Governor about doing something to improve Southeast Kansas. The Governor agreed that something must be done to stem the downward trends.
- Through this conversation between the Senators and Governor a local summit was held in 2011 with over 300 people from the region coming together and through that summit Project 17 was created.
- At the summit community leaders recognized that the region was not performing as well as anyone would hope economically, ranked poorly in health outcomes, and needed to increase the pool of civic leaders.

Issues Identified Through Community Summit

- Primary Issues
 - Welfare/Poverty Cycle
 - Need for Leadership
 - Workforce Development
 - Localism vs. Regionalism
 - Readiness to Work

- Secondary Issues
 - Brain Drain
 - Drug Abuse
 - Property Taxes
 - Quality Housing
 - Downtown Pride and Entertainment

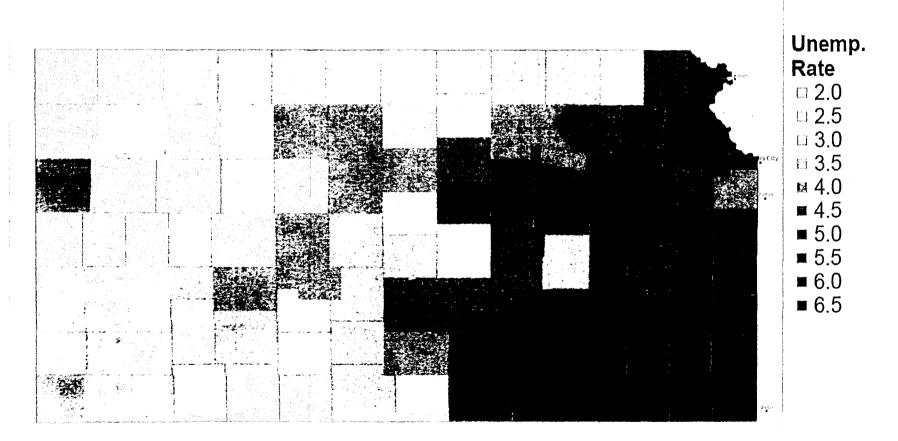
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Project 17 Areas of Focus

- Economic Development
- Education / Workforce
- Health
- Leadership
- Over 1,000 citizens from the Project 17 region are engaged to address one or more of these areas. Literally hundreds of community, group, team, and individual meetings in the last six months all working to make progress on these issues

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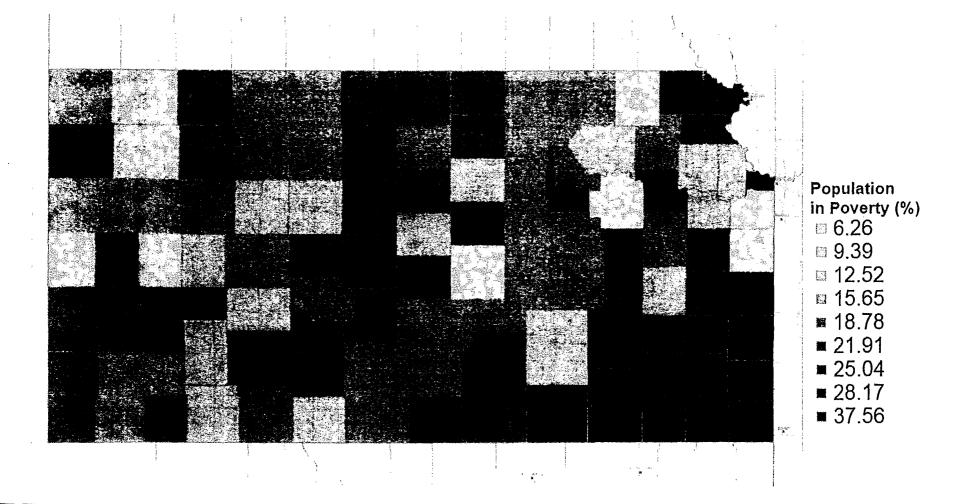
The Data- Unemployment Rates Dec, 2013



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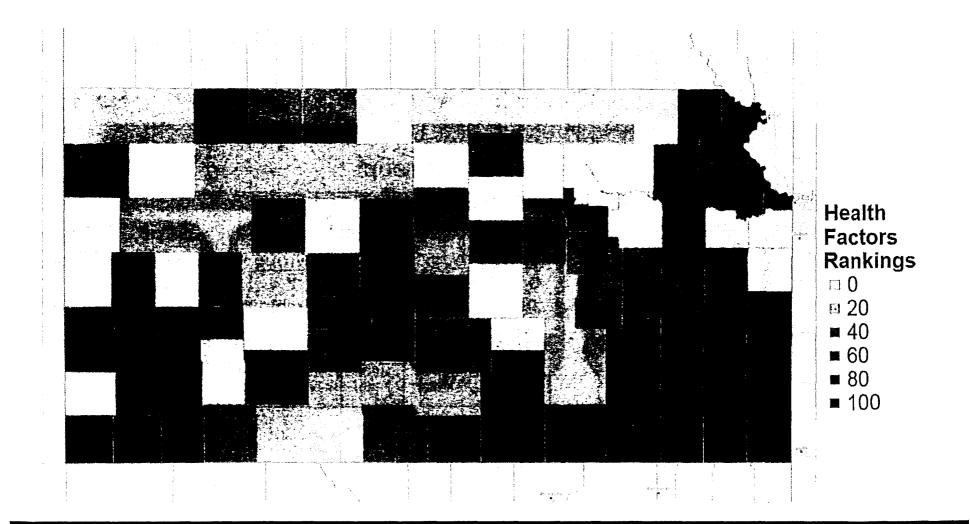
Together We Succeed

The Data- Poverty Rates 2013



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The Data- Health Outcomes 2013

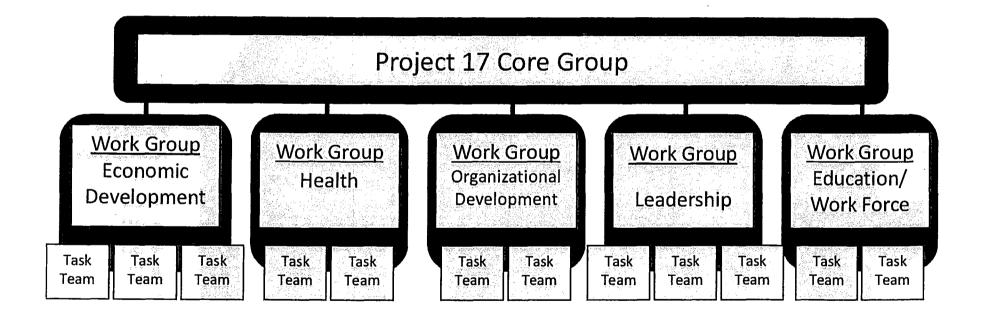


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P17 Organizational Structure

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Project 17 Core Group

Jerry Atkinson- Spears Manufacturing	Manufacturing				
Carmen Coleman- Economy Manufacturing	Manufacturing				
Debbie Bearden- Allen County Farm Bureau	Agribuisness				
Robert Uhler- Southwestern Association	Services (Law, Insurance, Ect)				
Bruce Fairbank- Labette Bank	Capital Community (Bankers/Investors)				
David Whetstone- Westar	Utilities/Energy				
Mary Beth Warren- KU Med Center	Hospitals/Health Care				
Randy Corns- Eureka Public Schools USD 389	K-12 Education				
George Knox- Labette Community College	Higher Education				
Darron Hall- Pittsburg City Manager	Public Sector (City/County Management)				
Jim Correll- Independence CC Entrepreneurship Program	Ambassador (At-Large) 1				
Kari West- City of Parsons Economic Development/PIO	Ambassador (At-Large) 2				
Dick Horton- SEK-Cap	Ambassador (At-Large) 3				

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Work Groups and Task Teams

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Improve Broadband Speeds

- The internet speeds in the region are some of the worst in the state. Many . people are still receiving dial-up speeds.
- Businesses are stating they would grow jobs but internet speed is hindering their business growth and factoring into their ability to relocate additional jobs from other states.
- Speed is the main concern.
 Secondarily, if the business is in a place where a provider is willing to do something to help with the speed the cost for service is unaffordable for

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small businesses.

- If not addressed internet speeds will be a major hindrance to job growth in the region now and for years to come.
- Working with the State Broadband Coordinator at the Department of Commerce and the USDA Rural
 - Development broadband specialist to ensure coordination of efforts.

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Broadband- Need for High Speed Internet

- According to State and Federal Broadband Maps 10 of the 17 counties do not have capabilities which are at least 6 MGs upload and download speeds.
- Many in rural areas can't get anything but unreliable satellite internet or data limited air cards.
- In a recent FCC request for comment relating to rural broadband experiments every census tract in the region (except immediately around and in the City of Girard) included high cost or very high cost locations are eligible for funding.
- Over 60 people from across the region attended a meeting in Fort Scott to discuss this problem. See next page for letter of comment on the FCC's solicitation.

Project 17 Working to Promote E-Commerce

- Less than 17 percent of businesses in the region have active up-to-date websites.
- Few business are conducting E-Commerce
 - Exports and E-Commerce provides a large opportunity for increased sales and production.
- We will be hosting get your business online events to promote connecting with customers via technology.
- We will also be hosting and event promoting the capabilities of Hugo's Industrial Supply and their ability to help companies conduct E-Commerce.

Circles Workforce Initiative to Improve Economic Outcomes

- Circles USA (national program) approached Project 17 to be a Circles Innovation site with the goal of getting 10 percent of the regions children in poverty out of poverty in 10 years. Starting in three communities (Pittsburg, Ottawa, Chanute) with goals of expanding as soon as possible.
- Circles matches an upper or middle class person with someone in poverty to help them build social capital, build employability traits, and develop skills to get out of poverty and off of government assistance. Community responsibility to help people improve their lives. *Will be partnering with the faith community and community at large in these communities.

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Circles Collaborators









Strong Families Make a Strong Kansas





Committed to the future of rural communities.

Faith **Communities**





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Entrepreneurship Support/Training

Kauffman Foundation Ice House Curriculum

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- Is a Entrepreneurship curriculum that teaches how to have an entrepreneurial mindset.
- Teaches to add value to anything you do whether you start a business or work for someone else.
- Teacher you are in control of your own destiny. Don't like your circumstances do something about it.
- Entrepreneurship network building is occurring through brown bag get togethers of experienced businesspeople and start up businesses. (Similar to Kauffman Million Cups Program)
 - Currently happening in Independence. Burlington and Pittsburg have indicated they will be starting similar programs.

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 Encourage a new mindset, support of start-up businesses, support existing businesses.

Support Innovation, Fab Labs, and Makers Mindset

- ICC has been working with Project 17 on the development of this concept and received private funding and a grant from a foundation to purchase the needed equipment this spring.
- Working with Independence CC to host an innovation summit and to promote the new fabrication lab to the community.
- Ensure the community knows the fab lab can be used for innovation and inexpensive prototyping.
- Work to ensure others interested in fab labs and the makers movement within the region (Independence Community College, Pittsburg State University and Neosho County Community College) work together to create a region known for creativity and innovative thinking.

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Project 17 Re	gional He	alth Data				•						······································
	County Health Ranking (Out of 105Counties) 2013	% of House-holds without a Vehicle 2012	% of People above 25 years with HS Degree or Equivalent	% of People above 25 years with Bachelors Degree or Higher	Median House-hold ncome 2012	% Persons Below Poverty Level 2008- 2012	% of Families below Poverty Level 2012	% of Pop on TANF or General Cash Assistance 2012	Unemployment Rate as of Sept. 2014	Number of Children in Poverty 2013	Child Removal Rate per 1000 pop from their home FY2013	Children in Need of Care Intake Calls FY2013
Allen	86	4.4	88	17	39,714	17.2	12.3	3.9	4.2	845	5.4	359
Anderson	67	10.9	88	18	43,060	15.3	13.4	4.6	4.9	426	8.5	146
Bourbon	89	5,5	88	23	38,250	17.7	11.5	2.5	3.9	1,113	12.4	539
Chautauqua	100	3.5	86	18	37,039	15.3	11.8	2.6	4.8	210	5.4	92
Cherokee	98	5.2	86	14	41,877	17.8	12.3	3.9	4.2	1,365	12.3	654
Coffey	24	6.3	92	20	50,106	9.9	6.1	2.5	4.6	289	3.1	301
Crawford	81	5.7	89	26	36,927	20.4	12.3	2.4	4.7	2,275	14.3	1,022
Elk	101	2.4	88	18	33,239	18.2	13.1	1.9	4.1	146	22.2	57
Franklin	57	4	91	20	50,240	12.2	7.8	2.9	5.4	1,354	5.8	610
Greenwood	91	5.2	91	16	39,145	17.5	11.6	2.4	4.1	344	17.7	174
Labette	93	5.9	89	19	40,117	16.6	9.8	1.7	5.6	1,520	8.4	593
Linn	84	4.4	89	16	44,771	10.1	7.6	3.3	5.7	498	1.9	187
Miami	30	2.7	93	24	61,272	9	6.2	2.8	4.4	1,046	4.2	639
Montgomery	96	9.9	87	18	41,073	17.4	12.3	2.7	5.4	2,082	5.2	1,004
Neosho	94	6.5	89	17	40,829	17.6	14.8	2.3	5.8	1,037	7	417
Wilson	85	6.3	81	12	40,414	15.2	8.9	1.7	6	529	9,4	280
Woodson	102	6.9	90	17	30,852	23.2	18.6	1.8	4.6	186	23	102
Region Avg. or Tot.	81	5.6	89	18	41,701	15.9	11.2	2.7	5.2	15,265	8.3	7,176
Ks	N/A	5.3	90	30	51,273	13.2	8.9	2.3	4.4	133,480	5.5	65,421
Nation	N/A	8.8	86	29	51,017	14.9	11.8	2.9	5.9		3.4	
Data Sources	[ł		. <u>.</u> [

2012 ACS 5-Year Estimates, Census Bureau; Current Population Survey, BLS; CINC Intake Reports, Kansas DCF

SFY2014 Children Served in Out of Home Placement (OOHP) by County, Report Period 07/01/2013 to 01/31/2014, Kansas DCF

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September 2014 Unemployment Rates

County/Area	Civilian Labor Force	Employment		Unemployment Rate (%)
Wilson	4,626			Kate (70)
Neosho	7,715			5.8
Linn	4,320			
Labette	10,656			5.6
Montgomery	18,290	17,294	996	
Franklin	12,848	12,159	689	
P17 Total	58,455	55,198	543	5.2
Anderson	4,225	4,015	209	4.9
Chautauqua	1,756	1,671	85	4.8
Crawford	21,236	20,232	1,004	4.7
Woodson	1,656	1,579	77	4.6
Coffey	6,062	5,786	276	4.6
KS Seasonally				
Adjusted	1,493,228	1,428,213	65,015	4.4
Miami	16,329	15,610	719	4.4
Allen	7,682	7,361	321	4.2
Cherokee	11,158	10,686	472	4.2
Greenwood	3,428	3,289	139	4.1
Elk	1,580	1,516	64	4.1
Bourbon	8,881	8,537	344	3.9

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Child Welfare Information

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1.51.								13 - R - R	
			223		¹ Children in		🤆 Children 🛶	Ghildren	
		Child			Poverty as %	Contraction of the second s	Served Out of		• (+/:) from :+
	County	*Population*			of State	Expected	Hôme	<u>of State</u>	Expected
1	Allen	3,135	0.40%	845	0.60%	0.20%	63	0.80%	0.50%
2	Anderson	1,998	0.30%	426	0.30%	0.00%	14	0.20%	-0.10%
3	Bourbon	3,724	0.50%	1,113	0.80%	0.30%	109	1.40%	0.80%
4	Chautauqua	740	0.10%	210	0.20%	0.10%	6	0.10%	0.00%
<u></u>	Cherokee	5,210	0.70%	1,365	1.00%	0.30%	97	1.30%	0.60%
6	Coffey	1,929	0.30%	289	0.20%	-0.10%	14	0.20%	-0.10%
	Crawford	8,738	1.20%	2,275	1.70%	0.50%	191	2.50%	1.30%
8	Elk	541	0.10%	146	0.10%	0.00%	15	0.20%	0.10%
9	Franklin	6,502	0.90%	1,354	1.00%	0.10%	89	1.20%	0.20%
10	Greenwood	1,413	0.20%	344	0.30%	0.10%	43	0.60%	0.40%
11	Labette	5,108	0.70%	1,520	1.10%	0.40%	81	1.10%	0.40%
12	Linn	2,133	0.30%	498	0.40%	0.10%	16	0.20%	-0.10%
13	Miami	8,511	1.20%	1,046	0.80%	-0.40%	82	1.10%	-0.10%
14	Montgomery	8,132	1.10%	2,082	1.60%	0.50%	132	1.70%	0.70%
15	Neosho	4,009	0.60%	1,037	0.80%	0.20%	56	0.70%	0.20%
16	Wilson	2,130	0.30%	529	0.40%	0.10%	30	0.40%	0.10%
17	Woodson	693	0.10%	186	0.10%	0.00%	17	0.20%	0.10%
Re	gion Total	64,646	9.00%	15,265	11.40%	2.40%	1055	13.90%	5.00%
	Statewide	724,304	100.00%	133,480	100.00%	N/A	7,548	100.00%	N/A

http://www.dcf.ks.gov/services/PPS/Documents/FY2014DataReports/ServedInDCFCustody/OOHPChildrenServedSFY2014.pdf

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Number of Children Served in Out of **Home Placement**

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1	Allen	63	48	45	63	0	0.00%
2	Anderson	10	7	12	14	4	40.00%
3	Bourbon	55	51	66	109	54	98.18%
4	Chautauqua	9	7	6	6	73	-33.33%
5	Cherokee	45	47	45	97	52	115.56%
6	Coffey	11	11	10	14	3	27.27%
7	Crawford	100	93	136	191	91	91.00%
8	Elk	4	13	12	15	11	275.00%
9	Franklin	48	51	51	89	41	85.42%
10	Greenwood	17	26	29	43	26	152.94%
11	Labette	76	72	63	81	5	6.58%
12	Linn	12	11	9	16	4	33.33%
13	Miami	32	38	47	82	50	156.25%
14	Montgomery	77	71	77	132	55	71.43%
15	Neosho	34	43	44	56	22	64.71%
16	Wilson	5	5	14	30	25	500.00%
17	Woodson	6	7	11	17	11	183.33%
	Region Total	604	601	677	1055	451	74.67%
	Statewide	5,214	5,182	5,572	7,548	2 <u>334</u>	11.22%

http://www.dcf.ks.gov/services/PPS/Documents/FY2014DataReports/FACTSRemovalsDischargesOOHSFY14.pdf

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FY 2012 Public Assistance Numbers

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		Avg. #	% of Pop.	Annual \$	Avg. #	% of Pop.	Annual \$
TANF Cash Assistance	Avg. monthly persons/\$	3,725	1.38%	4,734,011	31,730	1.10%	42,114,608
TANF Employment Services	Avg. monthly adults/\$	1,697	0.63%	947,308	11,088	0.38%	8,710,388
Child Care Assistance	Avg. monthly children/\$	1,543	0.57%	4,551,806	17,682	0.61%	64,611,126
Food Assistance(SNAP)	Avg. monthly persons/\$	38,989	14.42%	55,342,918	303,257	10.51%	454,499,052
Energy Assistance	Persons/\$	19,612	7.25%	3,404,628	129,903	4.50%	21,140,854
Vocational Rehab. Services	Avg. monthly persons/\$	1,078	0.40%	2,430,429	9,988	0.35%	19,561,221
Family Preservation	Persons/\$	262	0.10%	1,089,974	2,609	0.09%	10,073,867
Reintegration/Foster Care	Avg. monthly children/\$	576	0.21%	15,482,908	5,015	0.17%	135,153,724
Adoption Support	Avg. monthly children/\$	733	0.27%	3,109,882	7,808	0.27%	33,048,452
a an	TOTAL	ng anala Tananan Tananan		\$91,093,865	12% of Total	9.4% of KS Pop	\$788,913,292

http://www.dcf.ks.gov/Agency/Pages/CountyPackets/2013-County-Packets-Excel.aspx

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School Data

School	# Students Economically Disadvantaged 2012-2013			5-Yr Adjusted Graduation Bate 2012	ACT Score 2013
Elk Valley - USD 283	136			92.30%	20.3
Hamilton - USD 390	66	88	75.00%	100.00%	16.3
Galena - USD 499	605	826	73.24%	81.40%	19.9
Coffeyville - USD 445	1377	1891	72.82%	80.30%	18.8
Cedar Vale - USD 285	125	175	71.43%	81.30%	19.6
Northeast - USD 246 (Arma)	354	497	71.23%	83.00%	19.1
Parsons - USD 503	891	1251	71.22%	89.70%	21.7
Osawatomie - USD 367	827	1166	70.93%	90.20%	20.9
Central Heights - USD 288	392	563	69.63%	87.20%	19.9
Altoona-Midway - USD 387	149	215	69.30%	100.00%	20
Pleasanton - USD 344	248	359	69.08%	95.00%	18
St. Paul- USD 505	52	89	67.42%	94.70%	19.8
Uniontown - USD 235	303	457	66.30%	94.00%	21.3
Eureka - USD 389	441	682	64.66%	93.90%	21.2
Pittsburg - USD 250	1881	2939	64.00%	80.70%	20.9
Marmaton Valley - USD 256	194	306	63.40%	97.10%	20.3
lola - USD 257	827	1305	63.37%	87.90%	21.4
Baxter Springs - USD 508	662	1047	63.23%	88.20%	20.6
Erie-Galesburg - USD 101	350	554	63.18%	90.00%	19.6
Neodesha - USD 461	458	725	63.17%	94.50%	20.4
Woodson - USD 366 (Yates Center)	299	476	62.82%	96.30%	21.4
Chanute Public Schools - USD 413	1158	1845	62.76%	92.00%	21.2
Fort Scott - USD 234	1194	1910	62.51%	81.30%	22.3
Cherokee - USD 247	428	693	61.76%	91.70%	19.4
Cherryvale - USD 447	581	983	59.10%	59.50%	21
Chetopa-St. Paul - USD 505	52	89	58.43%	87.80%	19.8
Fredonia - USD 484	425	733	57.98%	79.70%	21.4

Together We Succeed 23

School Data (cont.)

School (cont.)	# Students Economically Disadvantaged 2012-2013	Total Students 2012-2013	IVA ECUIDUIS duvas seesa	5-Yr Adjusted Graduation Rate 2012	ÀCT Score 2013
Independence - USD 446	1280		57.92%	89.50%	21.2
Columbus - USD 493	614	1065	57.65%	90.60%	20
Chautauqua Co Community - USD 286 (Sedan)	198	344	57.56%	100.00%	21.8
Labette County - USD 506	928	1618	57.35%	89.50%	21.4
Jayhawk - USD 346	313	554	56.50%	91.50%	21.2
Humboldt - USD 258	341	607	56.18%	97.40%	20.4
LeRoy-Gridley - USD 245	126	225	56.00%	95.20%	21.3
West Elk - USD 282	173	313	55.27%	96.30%	19.3
Oswego - USD 504	262	477	54.93%	91.40%	21.6
Riverton - USD 404	425	787	54.00%	88.10%	21
West Franklin - USD 287	338	627	53.91%	82.00%	22.1
Prairie View - USD 362	505	951	53.10%	86.70%	20.8
Garnett - USD 365	571	1090	52.39%	96.90%	20.7
Ottawa - USD 290	1303	2511	51.89%	72.90%	21.7
Caney Valley - USD 436	419	821	51.04%	81.70%	20.1
Crest - USD 479	109	215	50.70%	96.20%	20.6
Girard - USD 248	531	1063	49.95%	91.90%	21.8
Madison-Virgil - USD 386	116	238	48.74%	85.70%	19.6
Waverly-USD 243	59	122	48.36%	79.10%	21.8
Frontenac- USD 249	409	916	44.65%	100.00%	20.7
Burlington - USD 244	336	841	39.95%	88.10%	22.4
Paola - USD 368	783	1976	39.63%	91.20%	22.6
Lebo- USD 243	53	134	39.55%	79.10%	21.3
Wellsville - USD 289	257	818	31.42%	92.60%	21
Louisburg - USD 416	422	1776	23.76%	87.70%	23
Project 17 Region Avg.	487	853	57.16%	89.06%	20.7
Statewide Avg.	239382	480149	49.86%	84.40%	21.8

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Population Trends

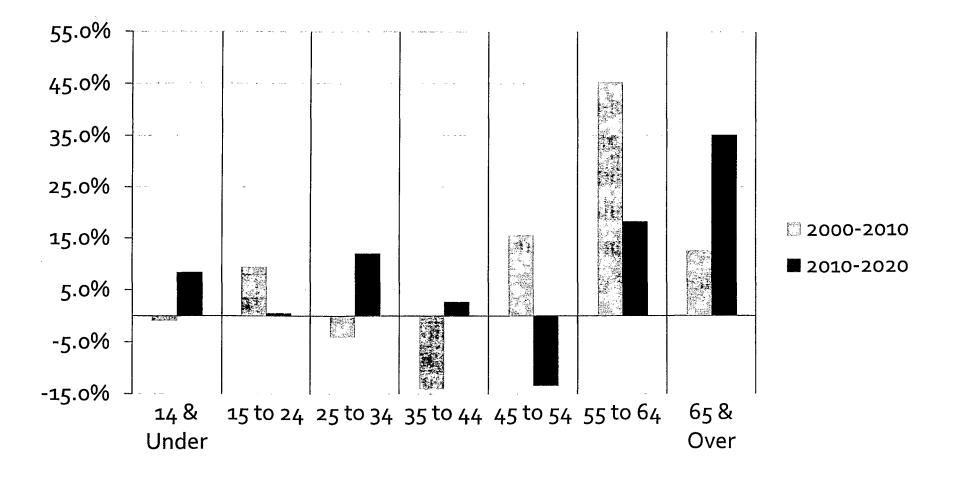
- The Project 17 Regions
 Population is 271,697. The
 population has declined (.9%) in
 Last 5 years. All but Franklin,
 Miami, Crawford, and Neosho
 continue to decline, while these
 four counties population remains
 stable over the last five years.
- The region accounts for 9.3% of the Kansas population. The population of Kansas has grown 3.7% over the last 5 years.

County	Year of	Percente
	Highest *	
	<u>Population</u> ;	<u>1112010</u>
Allen	1910	(52%)
Anderson	1890	(43%)
Bourbon	1890	(47%)
Chautauqua	1890	(70%)
Cherokee	1900	(49%)
Coffey	1900	(48%)
Crawford	1920	(37%)
Elk	1890	(76%)
Greenwood	1930	(65%)
Franklin	2010	n/a
Labette	1920	(37%)
Linn	1890	(44%)
Montgomery	1930	(31%)
Miami	2010	n/a
Neosho	1920	(31%)
Wilson	1920	(56%)
Woodson	1900	(67%)

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Project Change in the US Population by Age Group



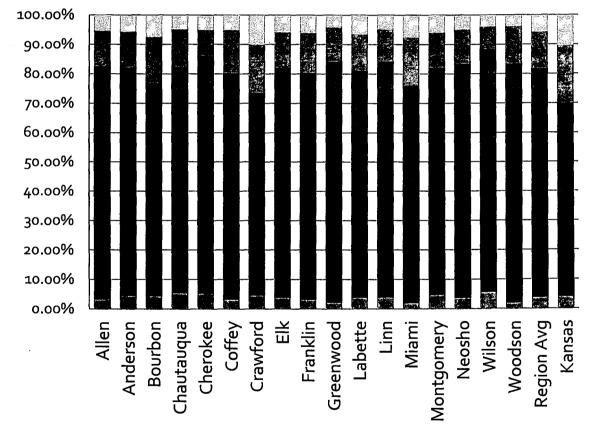
Education Level of People Age 25 and Above 2012

	Region ****	<u>State</u>
Less than 9th grade	3.84%	4.1%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	7.49%	6.2%
High school graduate (includes		
equivalency)	35.87%	27.8%
Some college, no degree	25.35%	24.4%
Associate's degree	9.22%	7.5%
Bachelor's degree	12.56%	19.6%
Graduate or professional degree	5.68%	10.4%
Population above 25 Years	100%	100%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2012 American Community Survey

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Education Attainment 2012



Education Attainment By Population 25 Years and over

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2012 American Community Survey

Mart C. Harres

 Graduate or professional degree
 Bachelor's degree

Associate's degree

Some college, no degree

High school graduate (includes equivalency)

9th to 12th grade, no diploma
 Less than 9th grade

Together We Suc

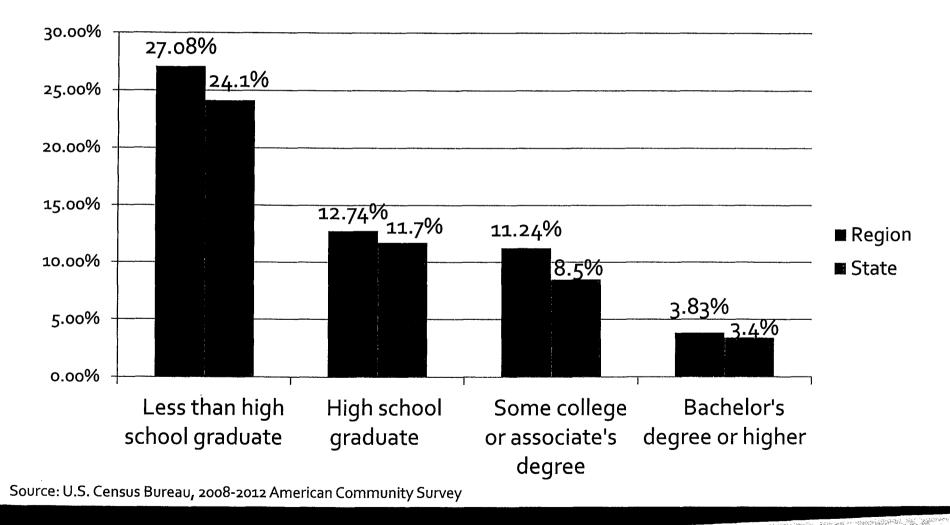
Median Average Earnings in Region

Ropulation 25 years and over in the Past 12 mor (IN 2012 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS)	nths
Less than high school graduate	\$19,496
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	\$24,314
Some college or associate's degree	\$28,510
Bachelor's degree	\$38,919
Graduate or professional degree	\$49,132

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Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2012 American Community Survey

Poverty Rate by Educational Attainment for Population above 25 years



Together We Succeed 30

A ManpowerGroup Study Shows

- Talent shortages are affecting more than 1 in 3 businesses globally
- 1 in 5 employers say the shortage is having a high impact on the ability to meet client needs
- The 10 greatest needs in the US in 2013 were:
 - Technicians
 - Sales Representatives
 - Engineers
 - Skilled Trade Workers
 - Production Operators
 - Laborers
 - Management Executives
 - Accounting and Finance Staff
 - Secretaries and Support Staff
 - Drivers

High Wage Growing Industries

Industry	2010 Jobs	<u>2020 Jobs</u>	
Other Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	83	308	271%
Administrative Management and General Management Consulting Services	45	140	211%
Wholesale Trade Agents and Brokers	159	490	208%
Computer Systems Design Services	51	147	188%
Petroleum Bulk Stations and Terminals	39	110	182%
Offices of Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapists, and Audiologists	208	515	148%
Power and Communication Line and Related Structures Construction	177	416	135%
General Freight Trucking, Long-Distance, Less Than Truckload	192	301	57%
Machine Shops	183	282	54%
Securities Brokerage	103	145	41%
Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Extraction	453	627	38%
Industrial Machinery and Equipment Merchant Wholesalers	151	202	34%
Commercial and Institutional Building Construction	441	588	33%
Couriers and Express Delivery Services	227	293	29%
Offices of Physicians (except Mental Health Specialists)	923	1,151	25%
Commercial and Industrial Machinery and Equipment (except Automotive and Electronic) Repair and Maintenance	159	190	19%
Support Activities for Oil and Gas Operations	484	571	18%
Corporate, Subsidiary, and Regional Managing Offices	457	536	17%
Fabricated Structural Metal Manufacturing	387	449	16%
General Freight Trucking, Long-Distance, Truckload	506	523	3%
Electrical Contractors and Other Wiring Installation Contractors	317	325	3%

High Wage Growing Occupations

Indusity	2013 Region Eamings	2013 State Earnings
Other Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	\$82,827	\$74,169
Administrative and General Management Consulting Services	\$78,755	\$76,087
Wholesale Trade Agents and Brokers	\$ 62 , 752	
Computer Systems Design Services	\$94,664	\$104,353
Petroleum Bulk Stations and Terminals	\$55,961	\$55,849
Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapists, and Audiologists	\$61,499	\$47,211
Power and Communication Line and Related Structures Construction	\$68,433	
General Freight Trucking, Long-Distance, Less Than Truckload	\$72,483	\$67,916
Machine Shops	\$51,388	\$55,175
Securities Brokerage	\$88,533	\$126,021
Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas Extraction	\$53,331	\$78,732
Industrial Machinery and Equipment Merchant Wholesalers	\$51,863	\$66,554
Commercial and Institutional Building Construction	\$55,576	\$65,033
Couriers and Express Delivery Services	\$53,428	\$52,263
Offices of Physicians (except Mental Health Specialists)	\$60,869	\$97,074
Commercial & Industrial Machinery & Equipment (except Automotive & Electronic Repair & Maintain)	\$53,676	\$50,425
Support Activities for Oil and Gas Operations	\$55 , 053	\$61,576
Corporate, Subsidiary, and Regional Managing Offices	\$66,224	\$111,354
Fabricated Structural Metal Manufacturing	\$51,394	\$55,894
General Freight Trucking, Long-Distance, Truckload	\$51,813	
Electrical Contractors and Other Wiring Installation Contractors	\$56,968	

Together We Succeed 3

Total Jobs in Region

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Industry	2013Jobs
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	537
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	1,611
Utilities	1,773
Construction	3,609
Manufacturing	15,639
Wholesale Trade	3,199
Retail Trade	10,491
Transportation and Warehousing	4,747
Information	1,043
Finance and Insurance	2,516
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	<u>582</u>
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,915
Management of Companies and Enterprises	524
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	3,272
Educational Services (Private)	451
Health Care and Social Assistance	13,945
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	416
Accommodation and Food Services	7,323
Other Services (except Public Administration)	1,742
Government	24,018
Unclassified Industry	
Total Jobs (2013)	99,353

Together We Succeed 34

Source: EMIST 2013.4

Description- Regional Job Openings	Annual Openings (2013)	Median Hourly Earnings (2013)	
General and Operations Managers	26	\$37.54	
Electrical Power-Line Installers and Repairers	27	\$27.90	
Loan Officers	16	\$25.78	
Accountants and Auditors	27	\$25.54	
Registered Nurses	62	\$23.79	
Postsecondary Teachers	27	\$23.77	
First-Line Supervisors Construction Trades and Extraction Workers	21	\$23.39	
First-Line Supervisors Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers	16	\$23.36	
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing	28	\$22.08	
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	17	\$21.76	
Electricians	30	\$21.04	
Middle School Teachers, Except Special & Career/Technical Ed.	15	\$21.03	
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special&Career/Technical Ed.	33	\$20.88	
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	40	\$20.61	
First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	32	\$18.89	
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	21	\$18.41	
Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	17	\$17.80	
Carpenters	22	\$17.10	
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	27	\$16.25	
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	54	\$15.89	
Insurance Sales Agents	18	\$15.68	
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	15	\$15.56	
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	17	\$15.54	
Extruding & Drawing Machine Setters, Operators Metal and Plastic	16	\$15.44	
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	37	\$15.29	
Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	28	\$15.15	
TOTAL Job Openings Paying Greater than \$14 Hr.	759		
All other openings	1,677	\$14.00 and lower	
2013 Grand Total Job Openings	2,436		

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JOIN THE RURAL REVOLUTION





PUTTING SMALL TOWNS BACK ON THE MAP

There is no roadmap that shows a path to your dreams, but we're all looking for a way to a better life. As a little girl growing up on a farm south of Grainfield, Kansas, I dreamed of art. Vast open skies were filled with stars and inspiration. I followed these stars to college, where I turned my love for art into a graphic design degree, and then to jobs in big cities before I finally launched my own business and began dreaming a new dream, that of a better life for my family. I wanted my children to have the things I did; safe neighborhoods, friendly neighbors, locally owned businesses, fresh air. In my hometown of Grainfield, I found the good life I was looking for, and started thinking about all the people who were looking for the same thing but struggled to find it.

Across the country, great small-town businesses miss opportunities to draw in customers and towns with desirable real estate and jobs fail to attract attention. This is how Love Small Town America was born. Love Small Town America provides small town communities, businesses, organizations, and others with custom webpages that are both cost-efficient and highly effective and feed directly into a nationwide network that runs an engine of support that will fuel small town growth and survival for the future.

Join me as we put small towns back on the map and inspire Americans to find what they've been looking for. MOOL

WITH LOVE SMALL TOWN AMERICA, YOU GET MORE

A Community Website

The Love Small Town America Network

While a traditional website is a one-way street with a limited audience, Love Small Town America community pages reach people from all over the world looking for small towns and are part of a two-way conduit networking people, businesses, and communities. Love Small Town America is the only website of its kind that offers comprehensive listings of small towns and their assets and is

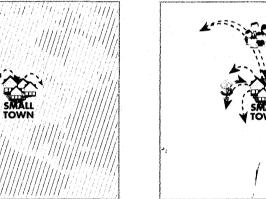
building a network that will fuel the growth and survival of participating towns. By joining Love Small Town America, you are not only getting a professional website at an affordable cost, you are tapping in to a dynamic nationwide network. You're tapping in to a brighter tomorrow.

So what are you waiting for? Join the rural revolution today!

Love Small Town America, Inc.

PO Box 125 Grainfield, KS 67737

LoveSmallTownAmerica.com





YOUR BUSINESS CAN'T AFFORD NOT TO BE ONLINE

BUT, YOU NEED MORE THAN A WEBPAGE. YOU NEED A NETWORK.

At Love Small Town America, we've dedicated ourselves to helping small towns not only survive, but thrive and businesses are the heart of small town America. These days, businesses that aren't online are being left behind.

You need a webpage that is professional, up-to-date, and reflects what is special about your business. Building a webpage can be difficult, time-consuming, and expensive. Then, you still have to advertise and hope that you're reaching the right people. This is where Love Small Town America can help. When you buy a webpage from Love Small Town America, you receive a professional web presence that is the "front door" for your business online and links directly into your community's web presence and our network. We take care of everything – designing, building, maintaining, and promoting your site. You don't have to worry about a thing.

Love Small Town America's nationwide network showcases small towns and their local businesses, schools, real estate, community news, and more to a vibrant audience of people looking to shop, live, or work in small towns. With Love Small Town America, you get a professional website with the ability to reach a large, targeted audience.

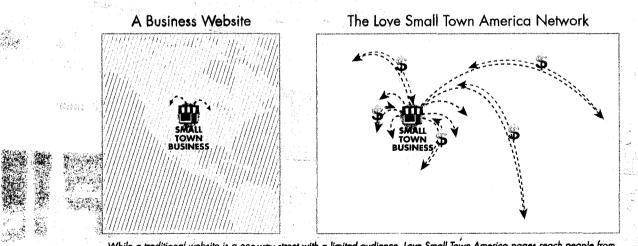
AMERICA IS ONLINE. IS YOUR BUSINESS?

- In 2011, approximately 270 million people in North America alone use the internet regularly
- 55% of Americans use the internet every day

LoveSmallTownAmerica Discover What's Waiting For You

- In 2008, Americans spent \$141,890,000,000 shopping online
- 73% of Americans use the internet to find restaurants, hotels, shopping, attractions, and more
- Potential customers and future employees judge your business based on its website

How many of these millions of people shopping, surfing, and searching the internet have a clue about your business?



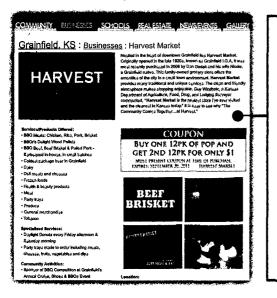
While a traditional website is a one-way street with a limited audience, Love Small Town America pages reach people from all over the world looking for small towns and are part of a two-way conduit networking people, businesses, and communities.

LoveSmallTownAmerica.com

GETTING YOUR BUSINESS ONLINE IS EASY AND EFFECTIVE WITH LOVE SMALL TOWN AMERICA

No one understands the unique challenges – and opportunities – of running a business in a small town better than we do. Love Small Town America brings all the pieces together by building, maintaining, updating, promoting, and networking your website for you so that you can focus on what you do best – running your business.

A webpage package from Love Small Town America includes:



- All webpage setup, design, and content-writing
- Web-hosting and other maintenance, including a Love Small Town America domain name
- Inclusion in advertising and promotional
- campaigns
- Search-engine listings
- Job-listings
- Inclusion in the Love Small Town America directory
- Other value-added services such as press releases, e-newsletters, and more to help you promote your business

At Love Small Town America, we believe small towns are great and we can make small town living attainable and sustainable by working together to share what small towns and their businesses have to offer. Share your small town business with the world and reap the benefits.

WEBSITE PACKAGES

Communities (small towns and/or counties) enroll in Love Small Town America on behalf of their community. Underneath the community umbrella, each business pulchases their own webpage package. Love Small Town America will update your webpage weekly, monthly, or annually.

 Package A: Once a week updates	\$475 / year
Package B: Once a month updates	\$325 / year
Package C: Once a year updates	\$225 / year

GET STARTED

To start building your Love Small Town America webpage, contact us here. We'll guide you through the steps to join the network.

Sales@LoveSmallTownAmerica.com LoveSmallTownAmerica.com PO Box 125 • Grainfield, KS 67737

We can't wait to welcome you to the network and start making the dream of small town America a reality together. Join us online – kick up your feet, share what makes your business special, and meet the people who are showing the world why we love small town America.

facebook.com/lovesmalltownamerica twitter.com/lovesmalltown www.LoveSmallTownAmerica.com

WOULD YOU LIKE TO:

- Increase your sales?
- Connect with your customers?
- Advertise special promotions and products?
- Develop new markets for your goods and services?

DO YOU HAVE A DIFFICULT TIME FINDING QUALIFIED EMPLOYEES

DO YOU FIND ADVERTISING TO BE CONFUSING AND EXPENSIVE

LOVE SMALL TOWN AMERIC

SmallTown

\$1,000

Earn

You chose to develop a web presence on Love Small Town America because we are professional, affordable, and the best choice to promote small towns on the web. We do this by growing a **dynamic nationwide network** that will fuel the growth and survival of participating towns. The more small towns, businesses, organizations, and school districts we bring into our network, the more we all will thrive.

We can grow the network better if we grow it together.

AT A DAY GUIDAY CUID ON VITALANDER COM

Sell

For every listing you sign-on to Love Small Town America, you will earn a 20% commission. With each business, organization, real-estate listing, or school district you bring to Love Small Town America, you earn cash. Even better, you develop your Love Small Town America website into the ultimate destination for everything about your community. Now that is worth sharing.

We are very excited about participating in the Shared Success Program. It helped with getting businesses on board and the commissions will definitely help sustain our website.

- Julianne Shoup, K-State Extension Agent Sheridan County, KS We will give you the tools to recruit new sign ons and grow your web presence; and then we'll share a 20% commission with your group for all your hard work.

For every sign on you secure, you net a 20% commission off their first year's membership on Love Small Town America. Simple as that.

	Annual Cost	% Commission	Your Earninas
Package A (weekly update)	\$475	20%	\$95
Package B (monthly update)	\$325	20%	\$65
Package C (annual update)	\$225	20%	\$45
Real-Estate Listing	\$75	20%	\$15
Webpage Link	\$50	20%	\$10

The more sign-ons you bring into the fold, the better your community webpage and the bigger your commission. Use those funds for a community project – or to pay for your own web presence on LSTA.

THE LOVE SMALL TOWN AMERICA NETWORK

Love Small Town America is the only website to offer a comprehensive listing of small towns and their assets. We're more than a directory – we're a network. And we know that the true power of Love Small Town America lies in the **strength of our network** and we are serious about growing that network. A thriving network brings you more: **more opportunities**, **more promotion**, and more **people** dedicated to making small town America thrive.

We can grow the network better if we grow it together.

We're putting our money where our mouth is and offering you the chance to cash in with every new listing you sign-on to Love Small Town America.

The rules: A sign-on qualifies once LSTA receives payment. Commissions will be tracked and disbursed in one lump sum to the community organization (economic development board, city council, chamber of commerce, foundation, etc.) that signed the community on to LSTA. The Shared Success Program is a limited time offer. Sign-ons are valid for 180 days following the presentation made to your community.



Use your commission to fund community projects like business incubators, scholarships, business grants, park improvements, and other great activities. Then, share your progress on your webpage!

The more sign-ons you help bring online, the more you can earn – and the better your community webpage is.

You've already decided a web presence is important for your community. Now, work together to make that web presence a rich destination reflective of all the businesses, services, organizations, schools, and real estate listings your community has to offer.

NOW'S THE TIME

Get started today and experience the benefits of the **Shared Success Program**.

- Earn 20% commission on every sale made during the 6-month SSP period
- Share your new community website with businesses and organizations and grow your web presence
- Build a solid web presence and a strong, stable foundation for your community's webpage
- Receive cash back for your accomplishments

SHARED SUCCESS PROGRAM WE GROW TOGETHER.

LOVE SMALL TOWN AMERICA, INC. PO Box 125

Grainfield, KS 67737

GetStarted@LoveSmallTownAmerica.com 785.374.3067

- Websites never sleep. Having a website is like having an employee working for you around the clock.
- Your competition has a website.
- People use the Internet today to find information more often than traditional means.
- Websites-professional ones-improve your image.
- Websites raise revenue.
- Websites expand your audience. 266 million North Americans regularly use the Internet.

HOW MUCH TIME AND MONEY DO YOU SPEND:

- Figuring out how to drive traffic to your site?
- Promoting your website?
- Using social media?

"

- Building and maintaining your website?
- Performing website updates?
- Designing eye-catching graphics?

LOVE SMALL TOWN AMERICA IS THE ANSWER.

Love Small Town America is making a big difference in our community. We're proud to be from a small town and we're proud to be a part of the tapestry you're weaving to show the world how great our small town is.

- Christin Merwald Vice President Marketing & Sales Double D Mat Farms, Park, Kansas

LoveSmallTownAmerica.com

YOUR WEB PRESENCE?

YOUR WEBSITE SHOULD BE WORKING FOR YOU, NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND.

Whether you have a website that's just not working as hard as it should - or you need something built from scratch, Love Small Town America is the answer to your problems. We provide small communities and the organizations and businesses within those communities with an affordable, comprehensive online presence and access to a growing network of small town promotional opportunities and resources.

Love Small Town America integrates a comprehensive website package with free advertising for members and rich features like job listings, a community calendar, and a photo gallery.

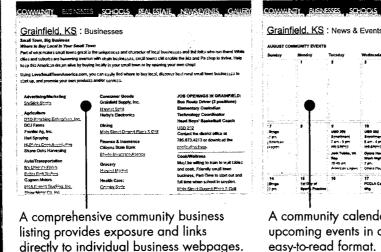
We design, build, maintain, and promote your website. Our team of expert web designers, programmers, marketing gurus, copywriters, and sales staff does the work so you don't have to.

A LOVE SMALL TOWN AMERICA WEBSITE GIVES YOU:

- a professionally designed and maintained website that includes a main community landing page as well as 6 sub-pages (business, community, schools, real estate, an events calendar, and a photo gallery)
- hassle-free maintenance and all-inclusive web-hosting and support
- opportunity to advertise local businesses driving up profits and tax revenues
- promotion for community assets through value-added services like job listings, press releases, e-newsletters, search-engine listings, social media, and more
- membership in the only nationwide network dedicated to supporting a bright future for small towns

For pennies a day, you could have a worry-free, professional website on LoveSmallTownAmerica.com.

EXAMPLE OF A REAL LOVESMALLTOWNAMERICA.COM WEBSITE



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Ac	omm	unity	calend	ar shar	es
				a profe	ssional
eas	y-to-r	ead f	ormat.		

18 UBD ES2 Enrotment 8 am - 4 pm WESHINS Opene House Work Septi 7 pm

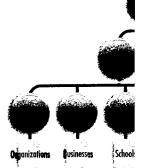
UBD 258 Eprotement 7 an - 5 pm HCSWINS 200 Tuble, Rep 10 45 an

Members are featured on the home page where a simple menu makes it easy for



Towns and/or counties with (in Love Small Town America Underneath the community u organizations, school district their own website package.

Love Sm



WEBSITE PACKAGES

Website packages star

PACKAGE A: PA(Once a week updates Once a \$475/year -\$((Less than \$40/mo) (Loss th

Packages include: set-up, de and other maintenance, as v America's value-added prom

MORE OPTIONS

Take LoveSmallTownAmerica services like real-estate listing domain name redirection, ar Starting at \$50/year.

GET STARTED

Make the smart choice to joi today and put your web pre

GetStarted@LoveSmallTown/

We can't wait to welcome y and show the world togethe America. Join us online:

facebook.com/lovesmalltow

Cherokee County Board of County Commissioners

Printed Name **Phone** Number Address **Company or Organization** 4236 52 51 ST De Galone, RS Jim Thinkl 620-842-9852 sorta Zabel ('MA N Maren 674-1550 Love SMD11 COFFLYVILLE KS 785374.3067 TOWN AMERICE Columbus 918-533. 3788 Westervelt 65 10; ct 17 744-323-7001