



McPherson County Volunteer Hub

Spring 2022-Fall 2022

OVERVIEW

The Kansas Civic Network has identified as a result of its outreach and conversation that specific challenges exist in regards to volunteerism.

McPherson County is uniquely anchored by four higher education institutions: McPherson College (McPherson), Central Christian College (McPherson), Hutchinson Community College (McPherson), and Bethany College (Lindsborg). As a result, the County is enriched by the presence of students from Kansas and beyond. Furthermore, the County currently holds five school districts along with a citizenry willing to give back to the community. We see this as an avenue in which to harness the social capital potential and in turn grow the County's Civic Footprint by utilizing a centralized approach to promote and sustain volunteer efforts.

As a result of the McPherson County Volunteer Center, it will allow McPherson County residents along with students and young adults the opportunity to connect to their home communities and provide an accessible way to volunteer.

CHALLENGES

1. Currently there is an informal structure to volunteer.
 - a. Facebook
 - b. College contacts
 - c. Word of mouth
2. As a result of the lack of structure, McPherson County residents are volunteering in neighboring counties, such as Reno County.

GOALS

1. Provide residents meaningful and impactful experiences.
2. Our goal is to encourage McPherson County residents to become aware of their civic potential and become active in their communities.
3. Establish a sense of community amongst the McPherson County population.
4. Establish a volunteer apparatus that promotes efficiency, accessibility, and continuity.

SPECIFICATIONS

1. The launch will be in three phases
 - a. Phase 1 will encompass the City of Lindsborg
 - i. **The proposed launch is Spring 2022**
 - b. Phase 2 will encompass the City of McPherson
 - i. **The proposed launch is Summer 2022**
 - c. Phase 3 will encompass the entirety of McPherson County
 - i. **The proposed launch is Fall 2022**
2. The Kansas Civic Network will facilitate and work in tandem with community partners to streamline volunteer opportunities.
 - a. This will be accomplished by establishing two volunteer offices in Lindsborg and McPherson.
 - i. By having two branch offices, this will provide McPherson County additional resources and increase the accessibility and visibility for potential community agencies and community members.
3. The role of the Kansas Civic Network will be to assist community efforts and provide viable solutions.

POTENTIAL PARTNERS

1. MP Food Bank
2. MP County United Way
3. Dala Pantry
4. Ad Hoc Roundtable
5. City of Lindsborg
6. Bethany College
7. McPherson College

8. McPherson Chamber of Commerce
9. Lindsborg Hospital
10. McPherson Hospital
11. McPherson County School Districts