



Great Bend Community Event

Spring 2022

OVERVIEW

The City of Great Bend is a growing and vibrant town in Kansas. According to the latest census data (2019), the population of Great Bend is 14,974. The racial makeup of Great Bend is the following: 73.6% White, 22.3% Hispanic, 2.3% Two or more races, 0.4% Native Hawaiian, 0.2% Asian, 1.3% American Indian and Alaskan Native, and 1.2% Black or African American. With the assistance of local community entities, together we will celebrate the strength of diversity, create a sense of community and camaraderie. A city-wide community will have a high positive impact on the community. .

KCN BACKGROUND

www.kscivicnetwork.org

The Kansas Civic Network launched in February 2020 following the completion of the Bethany College Food Insecurity Report. Since then, the Network has participated in community events across the State of Kansas, establishing its presence and furthering its mission to create an equal, robust, and respectful environment that will promote civic engagement and create dialogue about the issues facing communities in Kansas and beyond.

When the Kansas Civic Network was founded it was a staff of one and around summertime 2020, that number quadrupled. Today, are housed at Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kansas. We have a staff of nine and the number for our Board of Directors is at five. We are growing and expanding rapidly in extending our reach in communities across the State of Kansas

We currently have working relationships with several governmental entities and other nonprofits and school districts. We are always on the lookout for potential partners.

1. 2020 Bethany College Food Insecurity Survey
 - a. Initiated conversations around food insecurity in Lindsborg and ultimately led to the creation of the Dala Pantry, the first food pantry in the City of Lindsborg
2. Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Bethany College
 - a. Co-sponsored the Culture Fair at Bethany College

- b. Women's History Month at Bethany College
- 3. LiveWell Saline County
- 4. Salina Community Meeting on Housing Development
 - a. Held July 7th, 2021; was attended by three staff persons
 - i. Andres Mata, Executive Director
 - ii. Nailea Mata, Associate Director of Grants and Resource Development
 - iii. Kylee Gullion, Special Projects Coordinator
- 5. Community Event
 - a. Tardeada/Community Late Fest, Hays, Kansas
 - i. Sponsored by the United Way of Ellis County
 - ii. July 31st

GOALS

1. Create an opportunity for citizens of Great Bend, Kansas to establish knowledge about the resources available for the community
2. Establish a sense of community and camaraderie amongst the population
3. Establish a trust connection between the citizens of Great Bend and Great Bend Public entities

SPECIFICATIONS

1. Cultural/Resource/Bilingual event
2. Location: Community center of Great Bend
3. Outside event

POTENTIAL PARTNERS

1. City of Great Bend
2. Barton County
3. Barton Community College
4. USD 428
5. Chamber of Commerce
6. United Way of Central Kansas
7. Barton Young Professionals
8. Catholic Charities