

THE VOLUNTEER STAR

a monthly newsletter from your friends at the



KANSAS VOLUNTEER COMMISSION
KANSERVE.ORG

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL PRINCIPALS MONTH & YOUTH JUSTICE ACTION MONTH!



**NATIONAL
PRINCIPALS MONTH**

October is National Principals Month, Youth Justice Action Month, and Hispanic Heritage Month Closeout

As the month unfolds and we move into the last quarter of the year, let's use this time to embrace change and gratitude as we celebrate National Principals Month, Youth Justice Action Month, and Hispanic Heritage Month. October provides an opportunity to spotlight the guiding role that adults play in elevating mentorship in the education system and is also a great time to raise crucial awareness about the impacts of the criminal justice system on youth. October 15 marks the end of Hispanic Heritage Month, let's continue to honor the mentors and mentees of this vibrant community.

- **Child Health Day: October 7**

This National Child Health Day let's take a moment to recognize the impact that mentoring has on promoting healthy habits among youth. Mentors play a pivotal role in guiding young people toward making positive choices around nutrition, physical activity, and mental health. Empowering them to develop lifelong habits that contribute to their overall well-being. Whether it's a coach encouraging balanced meals, a teacher advocating for regular exercise, or a community leader providing emotional support, these mentors help shape a healthier future. Learn more about how mentoring can enhance youth well-being and discover ways to get involved at <https://tinyurl.com/urvve2cd>. #MentoringAmplifies #ChildHealthDay

- **World Mental Health Day: October 10**

Mental health conditions affect 1 in 7 adolescents globally, with depression emerging as a leading cause of adolescent illness and disability. Mentors can help support the mental health of young people by having honest conversations & modeling vulnerability. This #WorldMentalHealthDay, learn how you can continue to provide emotional support & empathy: <https://tinyurl.com/2h39tk8> #MentoringAmplifies

- **International Day of the Girl: October 11**

On International #DayOfTheGirl, let's highlight the incredible role mentoring plays in empowering young girls. Mentors inspire and support girls in pursuing their dreams, building confidence, and overcoming challenges. By providing guidance and encouragement, mentoring relationships help create an environment where every girl can thrive and lead. Learn more about our ongoing work in this area at <https://tinyurl.com/msuu7vyb> #MentoringAmplifies #IDG2024

- **Indigenous People's Day: October 14**

This #IndigenousPeoplesDay, we're celebrating the rich and diverse cultures of Indigenous people across the globe. It's a time to honor their heritage and acknowledge the vital role that mentorship plays in supporting and empowering Native youth. Mentors and mentoring programs are

crucial in providing guidance and fostering cultural pride among young Indigenous people. Discover ways you can get involved at <https://tinyurl.com/4937nsfh> #MentoringAmplifies

- **2025 National Mentoring Summit Registrations**

Save the date! The 2025 National #MentoringSummit is happening from Jan 29-31 in Washington DC. Register now to join fellow advocates for 3 incredible days of learning! Secure your spot at mentoring.org/summit. #MentoringAmplifies



MLK NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE MINI GRANT OPPORTUNITY

MLK DAY OF SERVICE MINI-GRANT OPPORTUNITY

GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION AT [KANSERVE.ORG](https://kanserve.org)

APPLICATIONS DUE 11/04/2024
LEARN MORE AT [KANSERVE.ORG](https://kanserve.org)



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is: 'What are you doing for others?'"

These mini-grants offer eligible entities grant funding to recruit and engage volunteers in meaningful service activities or deliver a service-learning activity related to Dr. King. A service-learning activity is a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities. Preference will be given to applicants who engage one other community partner in the event's planning, collaboration, or execution.

Apply now at: <https://kanserve.ksde.org/resources/commission-mini-grants/mlk-national-day-of-service-mini-grant>

AMERICORPS KANSAS NOFO



AmeriCorps Kansas

AmeriCorps Kansas has two applications available for the 2025 - 2026 grant

period. Read the descriptions below to learn which grant opportunity is right for your organization. Click on the link to access the application materials:

- **AmeriCorps Kansas Operational Grant:** This grant is for organizations interested in operating an AmeriCorps program in Kansas. This grant DOES require matching funds. Applicants must request a minimum of three Member Service Years (MSY). **Due date:** December 13, 2024 for staff review OR January 31, 2025 for Final Applications
- **AmeriCorps Kansas Planning Grant:** This grant is for organizations interested in a 12-month planning period to develop an operational AmeriCorps program in Kansas. This grant DOES require matching funds. **Due date:** January 31, 2025.

Questions? Email: americorps@ksde.org



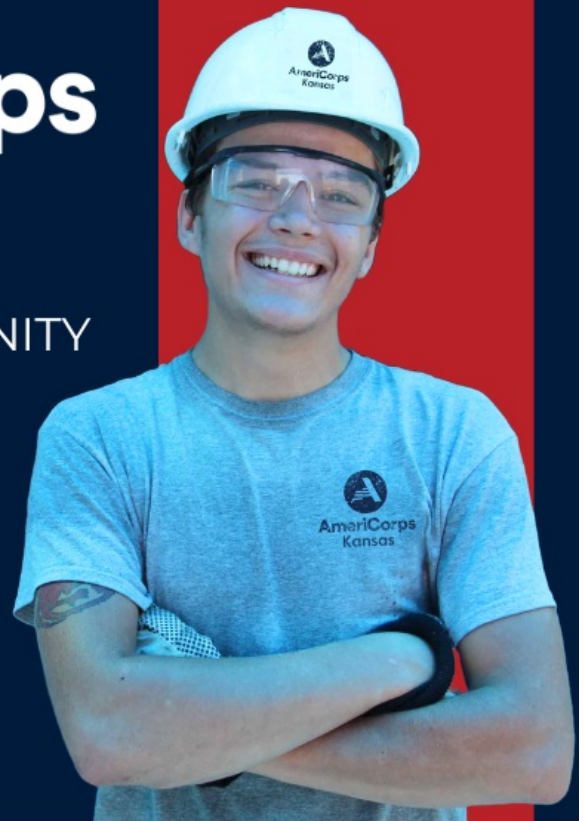
AmeriCorps Kansas

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

APPLY TODAY!

OPERATIONAL OR PLANNING

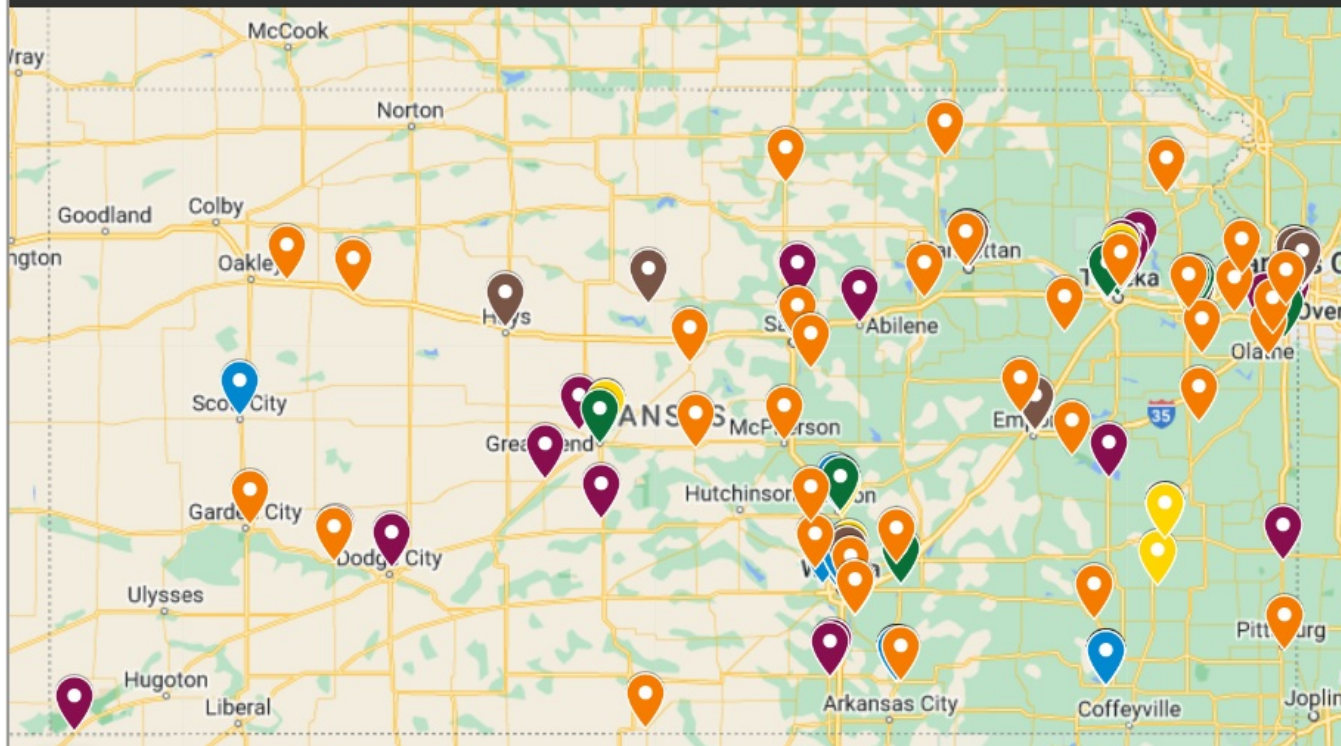
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KANSAS VOLUNTEER COMMISSION
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**BRING ON THE PEOPLE POWER TO
ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF YOUR
COMMUNITY TODAY & TOMORROW**

THE IMPACT OF OUR WORK



Our impact resonates throughout the heart of Kansas, weaving a vibrant tapestry of hope and resilience throughout our many initiatives, such as the Mini-Grant Series, Civic Engagement, Mentoring, Volunteerism, and AmeriCorps. These programs are not just projects but lifelines empowering individuals and transforming communities.

Picture a school where a dedicated mentor inspires a child to dream big, or a neighborhood revitalized by passionate volunteers who come together to create safe spaces for all. Imagine the joy in a family's eyes as they receive support through a community-driven initiative, or the ripple effect of a single act of kindness that ignites a movement. With each act of service, we are building a stronger, more connected Kansas.

Join us in celebrating the incredible culture of volunteerism and service in Kansas—explore the many opportunities to partner with us available through the Kansas Volunteer Commission at kanserve.org and discover our impact here: [Impact of Our Work \(ksde.org\)](http://ksde.org)

COMMISSIONER & STAFF SPOTLIGHT

KANSAS VOLUNTEER COMMISSION STAFF ATTENDS ELEMENTS OF EFFECTIVE PRACTICE FOR MENTORING TRAINING

Sarah Nelson, Training and Engagement Coordinator for the Kansas Volunteer Commission, is now a certified trainer on the Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring™, 5th Edition!! Sarah attended in-person training in Fort Worth, TX the

week of September 23, 2024. Sarah was joined by other trainers from MENTOR Affiliates across the nation.

The Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring™, 5th Edition details research-informed and practitioner-approved standards for creating and sustaining quality youth mentoring programs and consequently, impactful mentoring relationships. Trainers who complete this Train-the-Trainer are equipped to deliver MENTOR's standardized training on this foundational content.

Stay tuned for training opportunities for mentoring programs in 2025.



2025 MINI GRANT SERIES

2025 MINI GRANT SERIES

Guidelines and Application release dates

YOUTH MENTORING

Releases: 1/03/2025

YOUTH CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Releases: 2/07/2025

JUNETEENTH NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE

Releases: 4/04/2025

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Releases: 5/09/2025

RURAL & INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

Releases: 6/06/2025

9/11 NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE

Releases: 7/03/2025

MLK NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE

Releases: 10/03/2025



UPCOMING EVENTS

The Mission of Managers of Volunteer Engagement (M.O.V.E.) is to build and engage a network of volunteer managers and cultivate a volunteerism culture.

M.O.V.E.

Meets the Third Wednesday of Each Month

9:00 to 10:00 AM

To learn more, please visit www.moveks.org.

Or reach out via [Facebook](#).

M.O.V.E. Kansas

Statewide-Virtual

Meets the Fourth Thursday of Each Month

9:00 to 10:00 AM

To learn more, please email

meg.carrie.pearson@gmail.com

Volunteer Managers Network

United Way of the Plains

2023 Dates T.B.D.

12:00 to 1:00 PM

To learn more, please email Abel Frederic
afrederic@unitedwayplains.org

Volunteers United: Newton

Meets the Fourth Thursday of Each Month

12:00 to 1:00 PM

To learn more, please email Dalton Black
director@harveyunitedway.org

NOTE: The above dates, times, and locations are subject to change.

CONNECT WITH OUR STAFF



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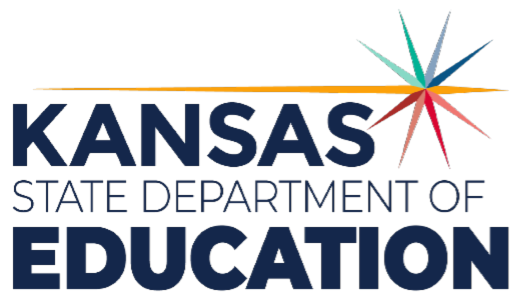
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