

THE VOLUNTEER STAR

a monthly newsletter from your friends at the



KANSAS VOLUNTEER COMMISSION
SERVE • ENGAGE • EMPOWER

APRIL IS VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MONTH!



April is Volunteer Appreciation Month, and we want to share our immense gratitude for the incredible mentors and mentoring advocates who have committed time, energy, and resources to expanding young people's access to caring and supportive relationships. #MentoringAmplifies

- Welcome to MENTOR's new CEO, Jermaine Myrie, [CEO - MENTOR \(mentoring.org\)](#)
- New Supplement to Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring™ [Inclusive Mentoring for Youth with Disabilities - MENTOR](#)
- Next MENTOR Collaborative Mentoring Webinar April 20th at Noon CST: [Successful Mentoring Program Expansion: Breaking the Mold](#)
- Past webinars at: [Resource Archive - MENTOR \(mentoring.org\)](#)

National Volunteer Week - April 16th - 22nd.



NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

KANSAS VOLUNTEER COMMISSION MONTHLY
WEBINAR SERIES



USD 252
Southern Lyon County
School District

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT MONTHLY WEBINAR SERIES

Third Friday of the Month

12 pm - 1 pm

April Topic: Best Practices
from USD 252 Southern Lyon
County school district



[REGISTER ONLINE](#)



Questions? Contact: volunteer@ksde.org



Marcus Miller
Exec. Director
First Tee - Greater Topeka

MENTORING MONTHLY WEBINAR SERIES

First Thursday of Every Month
1 pm - 2 pm

May Topic: Mentor Impact



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Questions? Contact: volunteer@ksde.org

2023 Webinar Series

The Kansas Volunteer Commission announces monthly mentoring, volunteerism, and civic engagement webinars. There is no cost to attend, and webinars will be recorded and posted at <https://kanserve.org>.

MENTORING WEBINAR SERIES

1st Thursday of every month from 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Register at: https://ksde.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwrf-qsrzovGtXz8lr0emGLjj_DG_CT13yJ

VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT WEBINAR SERIES

2nd Tuesday of every month from 10:00 am – 11:00 am

Register at:

<https://ksde.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlIdOuqpszsqGdawwZuzMUHNDFkBXqe5cY9c>

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT WEBINAR SERIES

3rd Friday of every month from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Register at: <https://ksde.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpf-ysqzMuE9DyLPOE1vavtN-BJn87iapK>

YOUTH CIVIC ENGAGEMENT MINI-GRANT



YOUTH CIVIC ENGAGEMENT MINI-GRANT OPPORTUNITY

GUIDELINES AND
APPLICATION AT
KANSERVE.ORG

APPLICATIONS DUE:
4/28/2023



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Research shows that youth civic engagement is critical for a variety of reasons. Youth engagement can lead to increased academic performance and improved social-emotional well-being. It builds safe and inclusive school and community cultures and decreases dropout rates. When young people develop healthy civic habits, skills, and commitments, they become more active in community decision-making which leads to broader representation and community benefit.

To support this purpose, the Kansas Volunteer Commission, a program of the Kansas State Department of Education, announces the availability of grant funds to support the civic engagement of youth in grades K-12. For this grant, applicants must engage youth in the planning and implementation of grant activities. Priority will be given to applications that include youth-led and youth-initiated projects.

Examples of such projects include, but are not limited to:

- Develop service-learning activities or lead a community service project.
- Start or support a program to help youth placement in advisory

roles on local boards.

- Develop opportunities for underrepresented youth to share their voice.
- Encourage a governance shadowing project where youth are paired with local community representatives.
- Start or support a program that encourages youth to attend and participate in regular public commission and school district meetings.

Application and Guidelines are available [here](#).

VOLUNTEER MANAGER SUPPORT MINI GRANT RECIPIENTS



Congratulations!

Volunteer Manager Support Mini-Grant Recipients

The Commission is proud to award over \$17,000 to the following organizations:

Barton County College Volunteers in Action
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Salina
Butler County Department on Aging
Center for Supportive Communities
Flint Hills Volunteer Center
Four County Mental Health Center
NMC Health
Rainbows United, Inc.
Topeka Habitat for Humanity



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22 ORGANIZATIONS SIGN UP FOR THE GIVE BACK KANSAS CHALLENGE



give back
KANSAS challenge

An employer-supported
volunteer challenge

<https://bit.ly/Givebackks>

 volunteerkansas.org

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- Cargill
- Center for Supportive Communities
- City of Carbondale, KS
- Cloud County
- Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas
- Dunning & Associates CPAs, LLC
- Feeding the Children of Central Kansas
- Giving the Basics Wichita
- Harvesters - The Community Food Network, Kansas Distribution Center
- Kansas Aviation Museum
- Kansas State Department of Education
- KMUW
- Mayflower Clinic
- One Heart Project
- Peace Connections
- Salina Arts & Humanities
- Spiritaero
- TGC Group
- United Way of Kaw Valley
- Volunteers In Action
- Wichita Festivals, Inc
- Worthington Cylinders, Maize KS

**GOVERNOR KELLY PROCLAIMS APRIL AS
FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH**





SERVICE ENTERPRISE COHORT APPLICATION OPEN

Organizations are invited to apply for the 2023 Service Enterprise Cohort. The Commission will accept applications through May 15. All applicants will be notified of their status by May 30. Our training schedule will be finalized with input from our cohort members and begin with orientation in late June.

Apply here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScsQFAg31B3mh0nVEYU DCsy6t-EyAYvsU6KSdUc6te3vHatmA/viewform?usp=sf_link

The Service Enterprise Program implements research-based

organizational change to strengthen the capacity of organizations to strategically and effectively engage volunteers to address community needs.

Organizations certified as Service Enterprises fundamentally leverage volunteers and their skills to achieve their social mission. These high-performing organizations have deeply integrated volunteers into their strategic plan and day-to-day operations, allowing them to increase efficiency and effectiveness in providing services to fulfill their mission.

When organizations leverage volunteers and achieve an effective volunteer management model, they are significantly more adaptable, sustainable, and better resourced to do their work. Service Enterprises are among the top 11 percent of nonprofits nationwide in volunteer management and organizational performance.

Great candidates for this program have effective volunteer management systems and practices in place and are committed to maintaining certification through continued organizational excellence. Service Enterprise must be supported and implemented by the entire organization.

For program questions, please reach out to Haley Matherly at hmatherly@ksde.org.

2023 MINI GRANT SERIES

2023 MINI-GRANT SERIES

MENTOR CAPACITY BUILDING

GUIDELINES & APPLICATION RELEASE: 1/06/2023

9/11 NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE

GUIDELINES & APPLICATION RELEASE: 7/03/2023

VOLUNTEER MANAGER SUPPORT

GUIDELINES & APPLICATION RELEASE: 2/01/2023

RURAL & INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

GUIDELINES & APPLICATION RELEASE: 8/01/2023

YOUTH CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

GUIDELINES & APPLICATION RELEASE: 3/27/2023

MLK NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE

GUIDELINES & APPLICATION RELEASE: 10/09/2023

SOCIAL JUSTICE CAPACITY BUILDING

GUIDELINES & APPLICATION RELEASE: 5/01/2023



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FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA TO STAY UP-TO-DATE
ON ALL OUR MINI-GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

STAFF AND COMMISSIONER SPOTLIGHT



**KANSAS
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COMMISSION**

CONGRATULATES

Elaine Rodriguez

on two years as Administrative Specialist!



**KANSAS
VOLUNTEER
COMMISSION**

CONGRATULATES

Kay Emerson

on three years as the AmeriCorps Kansas Coordinator!



AMERICORPS KANSAS PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT



The Great Plains Nature Center in Wichita was "Buggin' Out" for Spring Break March 13th -17th! This event was planned and coordinated by Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks' amazing AmeriCorps member, Jennifer Fedorston. Each day included a different themed program about bugs, a guided hike, and many crafts and activities.

Guests explored pollinators, bug camouflage, edible bugs, decomposers, and aquatic bugs. A "Buggin' Out" mission from Agents of Discovery helped people discover even more as they went hiking. Over 1,000 people came to the Spring Break programs and learned how amazing and beneficial bugs are in our Kansas ecosystems.



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. Topeka

Meets the Third Wednesday of Each Month

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

9:00 to 10:00 AM

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

Or reach out via [Facebook](#).

M.O.V.E. Kansas

Virtual

Meets the Fourth Thursday of Each Month

Thursday, April 27, 2023

9:00 to 10:00 AM

To learn more, please email

united.way.of.franklin.co@gmail.com

Volunteer Managers Meeting United Way of Douglas County

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of Odd Numbered Months

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

9:00 to 10:00 AM

To learn more, please email

kabelruch@uwkawvalley.org

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

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

CONNECT WITH OUR STAFF



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