

THE VOLUNTEER STAR

a monthly newsletter from your friends at the



KANSAS VOLUNTEER COMMISSION
SERVE • ENGAGE • EMPOWER

JULY IS DISABILITY INCLUSION MONTH



DISABILITY INCLUSION MONTH

MENTOR strives for the mentoring movement to be an inclusive space where every young person feels valued and respected.

Join us in making mentorship accessible to all by elevating resources, opportunities, and communities that intentionally support youth with disabilities.

[LEARN MORE](#)

9/11 NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE MINI-GRANT



9/11 NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE 2022 MINI-GRANT

GUIDELINES AND
APPLICATION AVAILABLE AT
KANSERVE.ORG
APPLICATION DUE 8/5/2022



AmeriCorps |



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The 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance is the culmination of an effort initially launched in 2002 by 9/11 family members and support groups, who worked to establish the charitable service day as a forward-looking way to honor 9/11 victims, survivors, and others who rose in service response to the attacks. In 2009, Congress designated September 11th as a National Day of Service and Remembrance and charged AmeriCorps with supporting this effort across the country. With funding from AmeriCorps, the Kansas Volunteer Commission is working with organizations across Kansas to engage volunteers in tribute projects.

ELIGIBLE ENTITIES

The following entities are eligible to apply: public or private nonprofit organizations, including faith-based and other community organizations; school districts, institutions of higher education; government entities within states or territories (e.g., cities, counties); labor organizations; partnerships and consortia; and Indian Tribes. All

projects must take place in the State of Kansas.

All entities must have an Employer Identification Number (EIN), Unique Entity Identification (UEI) Number that replaces the Dun and Bradstreet University Numbering System (DUNS), AND must be registered in the System for Award Management (SAM) before applying.

[LEARN MORE](#)

VOLUNTEER MANAGER SUPPORT MINI-GRANT AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT



Congratulations! Volunteer Manager Support 2022 Mini-Grant Recipients

CASA of Johnson and Wyandotte Counties
Coffey Health System

Flint Hills Volunteer Center

Kansas Aviation Museum

Kansas Nonprofit Chamber

Medical Reserve Corps of KC

Neighbor to Neighbor Abilene

Newton Et Cetera Shop, Inc.

Peace Connections, Inc.

Unified Government of Wyandotte County and
Kansas City, Kansas

United Way of Douglas County



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In 2022, the Kansas Volunteer Commission secured funds through the Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF) and created a mini-grant to help organizations provide training to volunteers and/or staff supporting volunteers in a management capacity.

During the highly competitive application process, the Kansas Volunteer Commission selected 11 organizations and awarded approximately \$13,000 to support this cause. In addition, each subgrantee will be required to match the funds granted, generating \$26,000 in services, technical assistance, and training across the state.

The 2022 Volunteer Manager Support Mini-Grant Recipients:

CASA of Johnson and Wyandotte Counties - \$1,045

Coffey Health Systems - \$1,500

Flint Hills Volunteer Center - \$1,280

Kansas Aviation Museum - \$1,125

Kansas Nonprofit Chamber - \$660

Medical Reserve Corps of Greater Kansas City - \$1,500

Neighbor to Neighbor Abilene - \$637

Newton Etcetera Shop, Inc. - \$1,500

Peace Connections, Inc. - \$1,125

Unified Government of Wyandotte County and KCK - \$599

United Way of Douglas County - \$1,500

These projects will help ensure that volunteer managers, leading volunteers, and volunteer-support staff have the skills and training they need to support volunteerism and build a stronger community. Projects under this mini-grant will take place from June to November of 2022.

AMERICORPS DISASTER RESPONSE IN KANSAS





On Saturday, June 12, 2022 severe weather in Northeastern Kansas produced a tornado and high winds that struck the Marysville and Manhattan areas; leaving behind structural damage and hazardous trees.

Tuttle Creek State Park on the North end of Manhattan was nearly reserved to its total capacity when the storm hit late on Saturday evening. Once the storm passed, it was obvious the park was in too hazardous a condition for camping or recreation. Immediately park staff responded and began to help clear out park visitors. On Sunday morning, Tuttle Creek reached out to other parks knowing they would need help to clear the hazards and put the park back in a safe condition within a reasonable timeframe.

Park staff from across the state, including staff as far as Scott City, Kansas, loaded their equipment and headed for Manhattan. By Monday, around 30 additional park staff and 10 AmeriCorps members from across the state were in Tuttle Creek State Park helping respond to the storm damages.

AmeriCorps members who helped restore the park included members from Clinton State Park, Pomona State Park, Kanopolis State Park, and Tuttle Creek State Park. These members were willing and eager to spend several days in the park, clearing hazards and brush from fallen trees and assisting park staff with bringing the park back to a safe condition. A total of 305.75 service hours were logged during this time by these members. With their help and the help of park staff, Tuttle Creek State Park has opened back up to the Manhattan community.

(Reporting by Riston Landwehr / Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks)



**DOUGLAS COUNTY JUNETEENTH
EVENTS INSPIRE SERVICE AND CIVIC
ENGAGEMENT**



The United Way of Douglas County, with the support of the Commission's Youth Civic Engagement Mini-Grant and the Mentor Kansas Social Justice Capacity Building Mini-Grant, had the excellent opportunity to contribute to the success of the 2022 Juneteenth Celebration in Lawrence, KS. Janine Colter, the chair of the Juneteenth Committee and a champion for public health, youth, local history, and African American culture, led these initiatives. She was joined by a group of community leaders and elders who have given their time and heart to educate the community and celebrate freedom in Douglas County for 19 years. They declared that 2022 was the biggest year yet!

“After meeting Janine Colter and seeing how hard she works for the community, I knew this was where the United Way needed to focus significant energy. If we want to invest in authentic racial justice work, it will take more than money. We need to show up and bring the kids,” said the United Way of Douglas County's Director of Operations, Mandy Enfield.

In the spirit of collective impact, United Way collaborated with Janine to bring community youth volunteers on board to organize and staff the event's Kid Zone. Event attendees could tie-dye shirts, have their faces painted, eat grilled cheeseburgers and chips, contribute to a collaborative mural, and receive a Juneteenth Activity book, all for free! These kids owned the work and led all of the activities. Most impressively, they pivoted to wherever they were needed with positivity and enthusiasm, even in the 103-degree heat!

“While we knew that youth engagement would become more impactful if they were included in the planning and implementation, we were delighted to see just how wonderful it was. The teens stayed well beyond their scheduled time, connected with all the little kids, and even helped clean up! Following the event, the Youth Service Coalition volunteers processed their experience and observations to complete a collaborative mural. Juneteenth participants were invited to paint a panel to become part of a combined 6'x4' piece. Then the youth chose a word representing the event, “UNITY,” and used the text to connect the panels visually. The final piece will be used to create gifts for the United Way's Racial Equity Grant project leaders and presented at a BIPOC Mental Health Fair on July 27,” Enfield continued.

“These young leaders truly stepped up to help their community. They also seized a unique opportunity to participate in a beautiful community moment celebrating black leadership and culture. There is no doubt that the 20 youth volunteers, and everyone they touched, will carry this experience forward as they forge their path towards justice and change,” Enfield concluded.



COMMISSION PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS ANNOUNCED

The Commission Announces Partners Providing Professional Development Opportunities for Organizations Leveraging Volunteers!

The Kansas Volunteer Commission has partnered with the following Volunteer Manager Groups and Volunteer Centers to provide professional development opportunities to volunteers and/or volunteer-driven programs to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of volunteerism across the state.

- Volunteers In Action Central Kansas
- Flint Hills Volunteer Center
- Ford County RSVP
- Managers of Volunteer Engagement (M.O.V.E.) Topeka
- United Way of Douglas County's Roger Hill Volunteer Center
- United Way of Greater Topeka's Volunteer Center

To meet the Commission's goal to build volunteerism through connections and partnerships in every county in Kansas, all training, assessments, and coaching will be offered virtually or in a hybrid, in-person/virtual format. These events will be accessible to interested Kansas entities leveraging volunteers. In addition to professional development, participants can expect a 10-15 minute presentation informing them how to apply for and/or access grant funding, training, and technical assistance opportunities made available to eligible entities through the Commission's work. All professional development opportunities will occur from July 2022 to June 2023

These events will be announced in this newsletter and posted at [KANSERVE.ORG](https://kanserve.org). For more information, please email volunteer@ksde.org.

COMMISSION STAFF CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARIES

The



**KANSAS
VOLUNTEER
COMMISSION**

CONGRATULATES

Jessica Dorsey

on six years as Executive Director of the Kansas Volunteer
Commission and 15 years in State Government!





KANSAS VOLUNTEER COMMISSION

CONGRATULATES

Amanda Noll

on 13 years with the Kansas Volunteer Commission and
22 years in State Government!



PROFESSIONAL NETWORKING: M.O.V.E

VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT SERIES

Promoting effective practices through
recruitment, retention, and recognition



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Interested in Joining a Virtual Professional Networking Group for Volunteer Managers?

M.O.V.E. Ottawa is a FREE professional association open to Volunteer Managers who support volunteerism in Kansas. M.O.V.E. stands for Managers of Volunteer Engagement.

Modeled after M.O.V.E Topeka, M.O.V.E Ottawa began meeting monthly, in person, in 2017 to support Volunteer Managers in Anderson, Coffey, Franklin, Linn, Lyon, Miami, Morris, and Osage Counties. Established as a peer networking and learning association to promote volunteerism in these communities and provide space for Volunteer Managers to share ideas and learn best practices.

However, in 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the group moved to a virtual format. In this virtual format, the group has grown and is now supporting many more Volunteer Managers around the state. The group is excited by this growth and would like to formally invite other Volunteer Managers to learn and share their expertise and professional experiences.

To receive a meeting agenda in advance please email volunteer@ksde.org. Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

To attend the next M.O.V.E. Ottawa meeting, please join the Zoom Meetings during the standard, scheduled times by clicking this link:

<https://ksde.zoom.us/j/88065761415>

Meeting ID: 880 6576 1415

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, July 20, 2022

9:00 to 10:00 AM

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

or reach out via [Facebook](#)

M.O.V.E. Ottawa

Serving Anderson and Franklin Counties
Meets the Fourth Thursday of Each Month
Thursday, July 28, 2022
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, July 12, 2022
9:00 to 10:00 AM

To learn more, please email
volunteer@unitedwaydgco.org

Volunteer Managers Network United Way of the Plains

2022 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.

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