

Kansas State Service Plan 2021-2025

Goal 1: GROW

Objective 1: Build a culture of volunteerism and service.

Objective 2: Diversify funding opportunities and increase the number of organizations receiving funds.

Goal 2: PARTNER

Objective 1: Strengthen existing partnerships and seek new, diverse partnerships.

Objective 2: Utilize service and volunteerism as a strategy to address the needs of Kansas communities, including Tribal organizations, and governments.

Goal 3: SUPPORT

Objective 1: Provide training, technical assistance, and resources to organizations.

Objective 2: Expand youth development, mentoring, and service to support statewide education outcomes.

Kansas State Service Plan 2021-2025

Goal 1: GROW

Objective 1: Build a culture of volunteerism and service.

Action Steps:

- Improve website and expand social media presence to showcase volunteer impact, tell stories of service, increase awareness, and recognize programs and days of service.
- Create a scheduled plan to promote volunteerism, mentoring, national service and civic engagement.
- Utilize Speaker Bureau to educate communities about the work of the Commission and build a stronger, more diverse and more inclusive statewide network.

Measures of Success:

- By December 2024, website, newsletter and social media analytics will show a 10 percent increase in engagement.
- By December 2024, the Commission will have hosted a Speaker Bureau presentation in all 105 Kansas counties and four tribal communities.
- By December 2024, the Commission will implement monthly scheduled promotion plan for volunteerism, mentoring, national service and civic engagement.

Objective 2: Diversify funding opportunities and increase the number of organizations receiving funds.

Action Steps:

- Seek out foundation and private grants to supplement the federal funding received from AmeriCorps.
- Increase the number of new organizations, particularly those in under-resourced communities, receiving Commission grants.
- Partner with the National Mentoring Resource Center to fund technical assistance for mentoring programs.

Measures of Success:

- By December 2024, the Commission will secure at least two foundation and/or private grants totaling more than \$50,000.
- By December 2024, the Commission will see a 10 percent increase in the number of new organizations applying for Commission grants.
- By December 2024, the Commission will have procedures in place to receive funding from the National Mentoring Resource Center.

Goal 2: PARTNER

Objective 1: Strengthen existing partnerships and seek new, diverse partnerships

Action Steps:

- Educate and engage elected officials and state leaders regarding Kansas Volunteer Commission programs, activities, and initiatives.
- Cultivate strategic partnerships with volunteer centers, volunteer connection agencies, foundations, governmental agencies, tribal organizations, etc.
- Foster networks that enhance collaboration across organizations and sectors.

Measures of Success:

- By December 2024, Commission staff will engage in bi-annual conversations with Kansas federal legislators.
- By December 2024, Commissioners will collectively have 100 individual conversations with Kansas state legislators.
- By December 2024, the Commission will see a 10 percent increase in subscribers to the Kansas Association of Volunteer Engagers (KAVE), Civic Engagement and Mentor Kansas Basecamp networks.

Objective 2: Utilize service and volunteerism as a strategy to address the needs of Kansas communities, including Tribal organizations, and governments.

Action Steps:

- Prioritize funding around poverty, youth development and mentoring, education, rural communities, and social justice and reevaluate annually to be responsive to emergent needs of Kansas.
- Expand national service programs in under-resourced communities, particularly those in Southeast and Western Kansas.
- Collaborate across streams of national service and develop a council that meets quarterly.

Measures of Success:

- By December 2024, the Commission will subgrant 90 percent of its funding within priority funding areas.
- By December 2024, the Commission will have at least one AmeriCorps and one VGF program with a focus on serving Western and/or Southeast Kansas.
- By December 2024, a Kansas National Service Council will be established with representation from all streams of service.

Goal 3: SUPPORT

Objective 1: Provide training, technical assistance, and resources to organizations and individuals.

Action Steps:

- Expand capacity building opportunities and resources for volunteer and mentor organizations.
- Provide training and technical assistance on grant writing to potential applicants.
- Expand the capacity of organizations to be diverse and inclusive.
- Expand opportunities and resources so that youth and adults can be civically engaged at the local, state, and national level.
- Support AmeriCorps members from recruitment through alumni status.

Measures of Success:

- By December 2024, the Commission will see a 10 percent increase in the number of individuals registering for events and training.
- By 2 December 024, 80 percent of participants will rate the trainings and/or technical assistance received by the Commission as “very good” or “excellent”.
- By December 2024, the Commission will certify an additional 10 organizations in Service Enterprise.
- By December 2024, 30 percent of exiting AmeriCorps Kansas members will join an Alumni Network in Kansas.

Objective 2: Expand youth development, mentoring, and service to support statewide education outcomes.

Action Steps:

- Assist mentoring programs to use the Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring to positively impact the lives of youth.
- Develop relationships with mentoring programs and encourage completion of the Mentor Kansas Partnership Tier application.
- Support and expand the KSDE civic engagement initiative.
- Develop a Young Leaders Council to inform and influence Kansas Volunteer Commission priorities, initiatives and activities.

Measures of Success:

- By 2024, the Commission will see a 10 percent increase in the number of schools applying for the KSDE Civic Advocacy Network award.
- By 2024, the Commission will have placed 50 mentoring organizations into a Mentor Kansas Partnership Tier.

INTERNAL STRATEGIES

- Develop communication and outreach plan to amplify the Commission's voice and reach.
- Develop Governor engagement plan to ensure Commissioners are appointed in a timely manner and increase the diversity of Commission membership through more racial, ethnic, youth and regional representation.
- Develop a staff stability and transition plan.
- Maintain and grow expertise through staff participation in professional development opportunities (conferences, training, etc.), especially those with a focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Develop Commissioner engagement plan.
- Track and recognize Commission volunteers.