



Visionering Wichita Entrepreneurs & Small Business Strategic Alliance Summary of Accomplishments to Date December, 2005

Over the past several months a group of nearly 90 regional business owners and leaders, neighborhood and community leaders, educators, service providers, regional county and city officials, have worked in the development of the Entrepreneurs & Small Business Strategic Alliance and toward achievement of the above Strategic Alliance benchmarks for Visionering Wichita. While a daunting task, the group has quickly progressed on several fronts, including:

- Revisited the draft benchmark and refined it by gaining a shared understanding of the definition of "direct, value-added jobs" and relevant data.
- Reviewed the action steps of the strategy in order to identify who is already working on them.
- Identified additional stakeholders to participate in the Strategic Alliance.
- Developed and prioritized action steps areas for the strategy based upon current service gaps to entrepreneurs and small business owners.
- Developed specific action steps and checked-in on their progress in order to address the action step area to "support an information clearinghouse accessible by entrepreneurs.
- Received information on KC SourceLink information clearinghouse
- Review education information related to the prioritized action step area of facilitating education and training opportunities for entrepreneurs.
- Began identifying possible ways to facilitate technical assistance and mentoring for entrepreneurs.

Next steps of the Strategic Alliance at the January 17th meeting include:

- Checking in on progress on the development of an information clearinghouse accessible by entrepreneurs in partnership with Strategic Alliance member the Kansas Center for Entrepreneurship.
- Further developing plans, setting priorities and taking action to facilitate technical assistance and mentoring for entrepreneurs, including gathering information from several guest speakers representing various mentoring programs and business incubator opportunities for entrepreneurs in the Wichita MSA.