



Health Care Meeting

May 24 – 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
WSU Hughes Metro Center - 5015 E. 29th St. N. - Wichita

From: Suzie Ahlstrand

Visioneering Wichita completed Phase I in December, 2004 which brought together over 9,000 area residents along with government and community leaders to understand and address the significant challenges facing our (MSA) Metropolitan Statistical Area of Sedgwick, Harvey, Butler and Sumner counties. The result of this unprecedented effort was the publication of a 20-year strategic plan and vision for our metro area (see www.visioneeringwichita.com for plan).

Now is the time to start on that plan. *Visioneering Wichita* is forming alliances around six priority areas: Entrepreneurism & Small Business; MSA as a College Mecca; Mentoring in our K-12 Systems; Health Care; Racial Diversity, Opportunity & Harmony; and a South Central Kansas Unified Legislative Agenda.

During our 1st meeting, your organization has been identified as a needed valuable asset to begin an exploratory discussion regarding the formation of a strategic alliance on Health Care. You are invited to attend this initial meeting which will specifically discuss the following:

Health Care

1. Increase the accessibility and quality of healthcare while lowering the cost by:
 - a) Encouraging healthy lifestyles, wellness, fitness and education programs. Address tobacco, obesity, drug, alcohol and violence issues.
 - b) Improving dental health for all ages.
 - c) Promoting and strengthening free and/or reduced cost clinics as a substitute for emergency room use for indigent health care and promote awareness of these resources.
 - d) Encouraging physicians and nurses to provide services to the Wichita MSA indigent patients.
 - e) Dramatically increasing the use of technology in administrative functions.
 - f) Advocating for tort reform.
 - h) Having comprehensive coordinated medical care (including mental, dental and health) for all people regardless of ability to pay and provide easy access to services. Establish a communitywide expert committee that advises us on health care costs and quality.
 - i) Promoting disease prevention.
 - j) Ensuring the availability of qualified nurses.

Please indicate your attendance by contacting Diane Longfellow at 268-1141 or via email at diane@wacc.org by May 19th. If you are unable to attend you may send a representative.