

## **Application for Kansas Mentors Conference 2008**

### **Historical Background**

During the last three years the south central Kansas has come together to collaborate on initiatives to improve the four county region of Butler, Harvey, Sedgwick, and Sumner in an effort called Wichita Visioneering, a long range strategic initiative staffed by the Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce.

One of the most effective alliances has been the Visioneering Mentoring Alliance. By working together this Mentoring Alliance has helped to create community awareness and recruited and involved over 3,583 mentors helping over 7,059 children.

Organizations that make up this Mentoring Alliance are: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Sedgwick County; Big Brother Big Sisters of Harvey County; Boeing Wichita Credit Union; Catholic Charities Foster Grandparent Program; Child Care Association; City of Newton; Communities In Schools; Compeer – MHA; Cox Communications; Downing Foundation; FUNdamental Learning Center; AmeriCorps GoZones!; Grant Chapel A.M.E. Church; Hope Street Youth Development; Junior Achievement of Wichita; Junior League of Wichita; Kansas Children’s Service League; Maude Carpenter Children’s Home; Rainbows United; St. James Episcopal Church; Westlink Christian Church; Youth Friends Kansas; Youthville and many public school districts.

The goal of this Visioneering Wichita Mentoring Alliance is to create a mentor-focused community with an active center for mentor programming and a positive mentoring marketing campaign.

This Visioneering Wichita Mentoring Alliance proposes to host the 2008 Kansas Mentoring Conference in Wichita, Kansas on June 11 and 12, 2008 at the Hilton Wichita Airport Executive Conference Center.

### **Kansas Mentors Conference 2008 Proposal**

The 2008 Kansas Mentors conference will provide training sessions that are beneficial to both new and established mentoring programs across the state. Experts from the Visioneering Wichita Mentoring Alliance members have agreed to present workshops and training best practices on fundraising, risk management and screening, volunteer training, and marketing/ recruitment efforts to support effective programs. Many organizations have already agreed to present at the conference and they are Big Brothers Big Sisters, Wichita Public Schools, Youth Friends Kansas, Communities In Schools, and others who will provide generic training to address the needs common to all mentor organizations. Additionally, mentoring organizations from across Kansas will be invited to present workshops at the conference or participate in round table or panel discussions to gain their input to breakout sessions.



YMCA

Room 4 Marketing/ Recruitment/Celebrations  
Communities in Schools  
Youth Friends

Room 5 Peer Mentoring by JROTC

**10:15 am Morning Break**

**10:30 am Concurrent Sessions  
Workshops ideas for Mentoring Excellence**

Room 1 Fundamentals for a Community Mentoring Partnership  
Vision 20/20 – El Dorado  
The Business Case for Mentoring

Room 2 Risk Factors/Management and Screening  
Big Brothers Big Sisters  
Kansas Foodbank Warehouse

Room 3 Volunteer training  
Wichita Public Schools  
Wichita State University School of Social Work  
YMCA

Room 4 Marketing/ Recruitment/Celebrations  
Communities in Schools  
Youth Friends

Room 5 Mentoring Diverse Populations  
Urban League of Kansas  
SpiritAerosystems  
Kansas Children's Service League  
Mental Health Association

**11:15 am Concurrent Sessions  
Workshops ideas for Mentoring Excellence**

Room 1 Fundamentals for Community Mentoring Partnership  
Vision 20/20 – El Dorado  
The Business Case for Mentoring

Room 2 Risk Factors/Management and Screening  
Big Brothers Big Sisters  
Kansas Foodbank Warehouse  
Friends University

Room 3 Volunteer training  
Wichita Public Schools  
Wichita State University School of Social Work  
YMCA

Room 4 Marketing/ Recruitment/Celebrations  
Communities in Schools  
Midtown Community Center – Hispanic Program

Room 5 Community Partnership for Mentoring  
Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce

**12:00**

**Noon Lunch**

**Guest Speakers Governor Kathleen Sebelius**

**Keynote Speakers TBA & Suggestions**

Kevin Carroll – The Katalyst consultancy

Dr. Mentor - Mentor Consulting Group

Michael Karcher – University of Texas-San Antonio

**1:15 pm**

**Panel Discussion and Strategic Issues (1:15, 2:00, and 2:45)**  
**Participants nametags are color coded and participants will**  
**move in cohorts to Panel Dialog Sessions**

Panel 1- Discussion Community Partnerships for Mentoring  
Mental Health Association  
Youth Horizons  
Boy Scouts of America  
Girl Scouts of America  
Faith-based organization  
SRS (Liaisons and Truancy)  
4-H

Panel 2- Discussion Effective Public Awareness Campaigns  
Public Relations Firm  
Boys & Girls Club

Panel 3- Mentoring What Schools Need to Support Academics  
Unified School Districts panel

**Afternoon Break**

**3:30 pm**

**Guest Speaker (TBA)-Mentors for the Future Making a**  
**Difference**

**Round Table Discussion Reporting and Follow-up (Salon III and**  
**Salon IV)**

**4:30 pm    Planning Forward and Ideas to Take Back - Table Reflections (feedback)**

**5:00 pm    Closing Remarks and Sending Forward/Adjournment**

Feedback from the sessions will be compiled into a report for Kansas Mentors with white papers and handouts from the individual sessions. Information will be digitized for posting on the Kansas Mentor Website.

Training administered by the organizations above would be presented by professionals that understand and implement these concepts in support of mentoring programs. It will be most beneficial, in both established and developing Kansas mentoring programs, to hear from the experts in the field implementing mentoring programs.

This Kansas Mentoring Conference will be promoted through each of the participating agency newsletters and through their state connections, distributed to Kansas schools, forwarded to all mentoring organizations on the state of Kansas Mentoring Website, and promoted at the Regional Mentor Conferences to invite participants to attend the State Conference. As an incentive, attendees will be offered continuing education credits through a regional post-secondary institution. All promotional materials related to the conference will promote Kansas Mentors only.

Conference feedback evaluation forms, completed by participants and presenters, will be evaluated and provided to the Kansas Mentors Board one month following the conference, including recommendations for how to improve future conferences. The Conference Book and feedback will be reviewed and compiled by Dr. Larry Gwaltney as a contract service.

We will follow the recommendation to submit fiscal and program narrative reports as requested. All program materials will be appended to the midyear and end of the year reports, and the reports will include counts of those served by the Kansas Mentor Conference. All Funding will be used to support and promote the Conference and Kansas Mentoring awareness.

Arrangements with all groups will be coordinated by the Wichita Educational Foundation and Visionering Wichita and agreements will be entered into with the Hilton Wichita Airport Executive Conference Center.