



Visioneering Wichita Joint Leadership Teams Meeting Discussion Summary Report November 28, 2007

Attendees: Diane Tinker, Tim Norton, Roger Douthett, Jack Brown, Irene Hart, Felecia Norris, Margaret Harris, Andy Solter, Teresa Rupp, Ryan Entz, Lon Smith, Charles Steiner, Robert Mendoza, Jim Mock, John Yoder, Terry Behrendt, Olivia Simmons, Carolyn Bunch

Benchmarking

Suzie discussed the importance of having benchmarks. Some of the alliances are too new to have set benchmarks while others have this completed. Each year we report back to the community our work and progress, we use the benchmarks to do this. If an alliance is not ready to set a benchmark a preliminary benchmark can be set.

Regional Outreach

Visioneering Wichita is regional. We need to constantly reach out by invitation or holding meeting outside of the city of Wichita.

Alliance Reports

As part of the Nov. 28 Visioneering Joint Leadership Team, representatives were asked to report what is going well in each of their alliances:

Health Care

- Tobacco Free Coalition went before the Wichita City Council with a Clean Air Initiative; 100% comprehensive ordinance.
- Graduate Medical Education Initiative; \$9-12 million to improve local residency and graduate education programs.
- Health Care Coalition with business membership; plan to implement in process.

Birth- K

- All 4 counties consistently represented
- Working on local Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems plan under grant from Children's Cabinet; report due in January
- Applied for \$10,000 from Kansas Action for Children; creating materials to talk about importance of early childhood: Architecture of the brain
- Proposal to ULA was not included on this year's agenda; encouraged to be more regional next year
- Work on benchmark(s) in January

Adult Literacy

- 44,000 in County with no High School diploma –25,000 low/ no English
- Alliance is new and moving rapidly
- Currently working on asset mapping; what assets in place and capacity for improvement
- Diane Glass, state director of adult education, will speak at the next meeting
- Surveying major providers in region – who are they, what services do they provide – testing survey on a couple of key providers first

- Have looked at Georgia Literate Communities model
- Goal to make us a “smarter community” – have every individual some way to move up to the next education level
- Ties to work force development - “smarter community”
- Determine need, capacity, collaboration before discussing \$

Arts and Culture

- Differentiation from education or recreation mission
- Leadership team meeting- diverse representation in age, race, profession
- Recognize much important art is ‘under-the-radar’
- Economic impact models; associative impact
- 3 initiatives:
 - Resource book; organizations, funding sources, etc.
 - Event: annual, bring artists together
 - Place, building or district to experience cultural arts
- Looking for partnerships
- High participation from artists themselves

Entrepreneurship/Small Business (Minority Business Initiative)

- MBI- Graduation was held on 11/27/07 for the first 11 participants
- MBI- Eventually will be sponsored by another organization
- Each participant will be provided with a mentor

College Mecca

- Goal is to close the education gap
- Opportunities for Minorities – a lot going on but not well coordinated
- Have created a task force to explore ideas
 - What are we currently doing
 - What can we do in the future

Career Pipeline

- Purpose is to Increase pool of available workers
- Career program within middle/high Schools, Community Colleges, and WATC
- Kansas Career Pipelin is in many school districts in Kansas
- Also working with Work Force Alliances across the state
- Share data base of students with businesses, etc. – Goal to keep them in state

Mentoring

- Working with partnerships involved in mentoring
- Getting information out to community as to what is available – who does this work?
- Have complete an RFP to host a statewide mentoring Conference in Wichita in June '08

Agriculture Business

- Attendees represent buy local and corporate representatives
- Goal is to have Wichita become an Agri-Business Innovation Center and the World
- Developing image for Wichita
- Eventually work to build a physical Innovation Center

Recreation

- Identified what recreation is – see www.visioneeringwichita.org
- Identifying what we already have
- What we did not have was an effective way to communicate between governments. Created GPS/GIS system to talk among Wichita, Derby, Sedgwick County; resulted in database; transferred to online mapping systems; “online regional rec center”
- Working on grant for web-based access points – have \$15k
- Change thinking from ‘how do we serve our people?’ in a particular community when our communities are regional (for example, many people who reside in Derby work in Wichita)
- State has been trying to do this for the entire state – is interested in our model

Cyber Alliance

- Approached Visioneering about becoming an alliance.
- Air National Guard has changed their mission – they now have Cyber Warriors who work for them weekends – they need jobs in the community during the work week
- This would form a new IT cluster

Older Adults

- They are planning a housing summit this spring.

Unified Legislative Agenda

- There are 5 items carried forward from previous years – affordable airfares, expansion of nursing programs, technical training, NIAR funding and funding for KSBDC.
- New items added are support for funding for Equus Beds Aquifer and support funding for the Wichita Center for Graduate Medical Education Program.
- Details of the agenda items can be found on the Visioneering website.

Racial Diversity, Opportunity & Harmony

- Just had a Visioneering Day at Exploration in conjunction with the Race Exhibit.
- Hosted an event with youth to discuss the exhibit – it was well attended.
- Will launch the 2nd perception survey on January 21, 2008 – everyone was encouraged to send out to their networks

Community Identity

- Their main focus is to promote a positive image of the community.
- Their survey results showed the majority of us like our community but don't think our neighbors or those outside of the region do.
- Volunteers have developed a website, www.uploadwichita.com, for individuals to share their stories through print, photos or video.
- Alliance members went out to 2 Final Friday events and videoed individuals on the street asking questions such as: What do you like about Wichita? What is Wichita's best kept secret.
- They are looking for theming from the website for internal/external brand

Next Meeting

March 26, 2008, 7:30 a.m., WSU Center for Community Support & Research, 358 N Main.