



VISIONEERING
WICHITA

Opportunities to Serve

Agri-Business Innovations Strategic Alliance

Status: on hold

Members of the Agri-Business Council of Wichita, along with Vision Partners, Wichita State University, the Old Town Farmers' Market and the Kansas World Trade Center are developing strategies that will further position south-central Kansas as a leader in ag-technology.

Strategy: *Develop value-added processing/packaging of existing and new agricultural and horticultural crops to expand into new markets. Add value to production from using high value crops and new production methods. Develop agri-tourism enterprises.*

Arts & Culture Strategic Alliance

Status: on hold

As the Arts/Culture Strategic Alliance for Visioneering Wichita comes together, it will work toward the Quality of Life's vision to make Wichita and the surrounding area a "healthy, safe community that has a vibrant recreation, entertainment, arts and cultural focus that embraces diversity and builds pride."

Strategies:

- *Enhance and support fine arts/music education in schools recognizing their contribution to academic achievement.*
- *Encourage public school systems to cultivate, embrace and support programs and events that are inviting to minority children.*
- *Implement a comprehensive master plan for the arts.*
- *Continually develop downtown art amenities, districts, facilities and infrastructure.*

Birth-K Strategic Alliance

Status: meets quarterly

As part of Visioneering's Education Foundation, this coalition of educators, associations, funders, businesses, government agencies and families work toward the goal of ensuring all children enter kindergarten ready to learn at the kindergarten level.

Strategy: *Expect all children to enter kindergarten ready to learn at the kindergarten level.*

College Mecca Strategic Alliance

Status: meets quarterly

Its focus is on becoming a highly respected center for post-secondary education locally, nationally and internationally plus connections for students and local business opportunities.

Strategy: *Create an awareness of the Wichita MSA as a college mecca learning community.*

Community Identity Strategic Alliance

Status: on hold

What do you think about Wichita and our surrounding communities? More importantly, how do you describe us when you're talking to neighbors, or families and friends from out-of-town? The words you use, the stories you tell – even the images you share, all define our community's identity. And, the Visioneering Wichita Community Identity Strategic Alliance is taking steps to make sure those words, stories and images are the kinds that make people want to call this place home.

Strategy: *Develop a brand that will position the Wichita MSA internally and externally.*

Comprehensive Recreation Plan Strategic Alliance

Status: meets bi-monthly

The goal is a regional comprehensive recreation plan that connects activities, parks, natural resources and – most importantly – people.

Strategy: *Develop and implement a comprehensive master plan for recreation that determines a required level of service for each recreational element.*

Cyber Strategic Alliance

Status: on hold until physical facility is open

The Visioneering Wichita Cyber Alliance has dreams of nurturing and growing the IT industry in south-central Kansas, establishing it as the “silicon prairie.”

Strategy: *Create clusters and their supply chains with critical mass for diversified growth.*

Entrepreneur & Small Business Strategic Alliance

Status: on hold

The Alliance will work toward benchmarks that indicate a positive business environment, access to capital and a supportive network of information that recruits and retains businesses in south-central Kansas.

Strategy: *Create an entrepreneurial and innovative mecca for direct value-added business by:*

- *Supporting an information clearinghouse accessible by entrepreneurs*
- *Facilitating education and training opportunities for entrepreneurs*
- *Facilitating technical assistance and mentoring for entrepreneurs*
- *Increasing the availability of venture capital and other financing to entrepreneurs*
- *Supporting entrepreneurs through government with a positive business creation environment*
- *Improving Wichita area environment for entrepreneurs*

Environmental Sustainability Region (new in 2010)

Status: meets monthly

The Alliance will center their efforts on bringing together the community to discuss energy efficiency, alternative energy strategies, emission reductions leading to improved air quality and economics of sustainability initiative.

Health Strategic Alliance

Status: meets monthly

What are the key factors to ensuring people in south-central Kansas are healthy? Among them are prevention, treatment, access, quality and cost and these are the variables being considered by the Health Strategic Alliance, a part of Visioneering Wichita's Quality of Life Foundation.

Strategy: *Increase the accessibility and quality of healthcare while lowering the cost.*

K/12 Mentoring Strategic Alliance

Status: meets bi-monthly

The goal for the K-12 Mentoring alliance is simple: Recruit caring adults who can help children grow up healthy and successful.

Strategy: *Every student who needs a mentor will have one.*

Literate Community Strategic Alliance

Status: on hold until funding is secured

The Alliance wants to develop a skilled workforce for the region and ultimately create an environment where everyone can be successful.

Strategy: *Provide a world-class system and facility for adult basic education, technical education programs and customized training.*

- *Adult basic education will provide the soft skills and literacy necessary for potential employees to be competitive.*

Older Adults Strategic Alliance

Status: meets monthly

The Alliance works on multiple fronts, but essentially plans to make south-central Kansas a welcoming place for older adults. The focus of the Alliance ultimately is to protect and improve the quality of life of older adults – by promoting their strengths as workers, educators, mentors and keepers of the region's collective history.

Strategies:

- *Embrace our older adult citizens as a community resource for history, education, employment, and other aspects of community life.*
- *Provide and maintain safe and affordable housing for older adults.*
- *Provide better healthcare resources or optional healthcare resources for senior citizens.*
- *Increase services for the older adults and market them effectively.*
- *Continue support for senior employment programs.*
- *Provide ways to get our mature adults more involved in the community.*

Racial Diversity, Opportunity & Harmony Strategic Alliance

Status: meets quarterly

Intentional and inclusive describes the approach taken by the Racial Diversity, Opportunities and Harmony Strategic Alliance. Being intentional, the Alliance wants diversity represented in neighborhoods, civic organizations and businesses throughout south-central Kansas. And, striving for inclusion, the Alliance is trying to understand the region's perception about race and diversity.

Strategy: *Understand, celebrate and embrace all cultures and racial diversity and make it evident in everything we do. Encourage interaction among all people and break down barriers.*

- *Create thriving neighborhoods that are both ethnically and racially diverse.*
- *Reduce the earnings gap between minorities and non-minorities.*
- *Increase graduation rates.*
- *Close achievement gap.*

Unified Legislative Agenda Strategic Alliance

Status: meets monthly August - December

Members of the Unified Legislative Agenda Strategic Alliance for Visioneering Wichita, which includes a diverse group of business leaders, county and city officials, area legislators and other community leaders, wrestle those issues and discuss common goals for the region. At the bottom line is whether citizens and communities in south-central Kansas can collaborate on issues affecting the region and communicate to our legislators the importance of bringing home the assistance to tackle these regional issues.

Strategy: *Develop a South Central Kansas unified legislative agenda driven by community will and issues and promote its implementation by our legislative delegation.*

Other Ways to be Involved

Vision Partner

Any organization, business, civic group, government entity, church, individual, etc. that has volunteered to collaborate with other community members to make the Vision and Strategic Plan reality is a Vision Partner. They are the organizations/individuals responsible for making individual strategies reality.

Key Benchmark Team

To ensure the Visioneering Wichita plan is making a difference, a number of “benchmarks,” or measures of success, were identified by participants from the regional community. These measurements will be used to report progress to funders and the community, and to make mid-course corrections as necessary. The Key Benchmark Team is responsible for identify sources for these measures and assisting alliances in setting their benchmark(s).

Steering Committee

A diverse and representative 40-member team of community members appointed to lead and provide final policy direction for the Vision Process during the implementation phase.

For more detailed information visit the Visioneering website at:
www.visioneeringwichita.com or call Diane at 316-268-1141 or email
info@visioneeringwichita.com.