

# CENTENNIAL PATH

## KCKCC Downtown Community Education Center

VISION: Provide hope, end generational poverty, improve the quality of life, and increase the socioeconomic mobility of our residents living in and around downtown Kansas City, Kansas















## DEAR FRIENDS,

For nearly 100 years, Kansas City Kansas Community College has served Wyandotte County and the surrounding area as an educational hub and economic driver for our community. With the College's beginning in the heart of Kansas City, Kansas in 1923, Kansas City Kansas Junior College was founded to meet the educational and training needs of the downtown business community.

As we approach our Centennial year in 2023, Kansas City Kansas Community College (KCKCC), serves over 9,000 students per year and is embarking on one of its most significant projects of its time. Returning to our roots, and going to where people need us the most, KCKCC plans to build a comprehensive Community Education Center in the heart of the urban core in Kansas City, Kansas.

Beginning my presidency at KCKCC in the summer of 2018 and seeing the staggering economic and social disparities between the western and east side of Wyandotte County, my question has been 'why do we not have a presence in KCK's urban core where educational and social opportunities are so desperately needed and where the people need us the most.'

Wyandotte County ranks third in the state with the highest weekly wage of \$1,078 per week. Yet, despite the high-wage career opportunities, Wyandotte County ranks 104th out of 104 counties in the state for the "Overall Health Ranking", "Health Factors", "Social/Economic Factors" and "Quality of Life" according to the 2020 County Health Rankings by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Additionally, on the eastern side of the county nearly 60% of adults have less than a

high school diploma, only 10% have a two-year degree or higher, more than 18,000 adults work full time and live in poverty, more than 18,000 adults do not speak English well enough to obtain quality employment, 40% of adults live in poverty and 54% of minor children live in poverty.

As a community we must do better! Working collaboratively with Kansas City Kansas Public Schools, the University of Kansas, the YMCA of Greater Kansas City, Wyandot Behavioral Health Network and High Aspirations, KCKCC plans to build a collaborative and comprehensive Community Education Center that meets the holistic needs of those living in KCK's urban core.

Without education individuals living in and around downtown KCK will continue to lack the requisite skillsets to acquire the high-wage and high-demand employment opportunities that are available on a daily basis. Without education and social support services, people living in the urban core will continue to live in generational poverty.

Kansas City Kansas Community College has committed \$10,000,000 towards this project. However, we need your help to build this anchor institution that will provide the education and services so desperately needed to break the cycle of generational poverty in downtown Kansas City, Kansas and create a self-sustaining economic solution for the community that will help end the social and economic inequities that have prevailed in this area for decades.

Please help us create hope and lift an entire community out of generational poverty.

**SINCERELY**,

Dr. Greg Mosier President

## **BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY:**

in Post-COVID-19 Kansas City







Families living in the Kansas City, Kansas urban core represent a population where, Pre-COVID-19, more than 18,000 adults worked full time yet still lived in poverty. Sadly, this has been the case for generations. In March 2020, almost overnight, thousands of people lost their jobs and now live in a much bleaker financial condition.

"Through collaboration KCKCC can build a sustainable structure to offer life changing education and skills to individuals in downtown KCK."

Dr. Greg Mosier
 KCKCC President

The COVID-19 Pandemic is a wake-up call for all which exacerbated the negative social and economic conditions for those living in KCK's urban core. It is vitally important that we initiate strategies now to help our citizens recover in the short term, but most important, equip them with high-demand skillsets for greater economic security in the long term.

# A DRIVER FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL MOBILITY:

Founded in 1923 in the heart of downtown Kansas City, KCKCC has served as an economic engine for Wyandotte County for nearly 100 years. The downtown was a thriving center until businesses began to move out in the early 1970s. This departure of businesses was followed by residents, which resulted in the significant decline of the urban core.

Since 2010, Wyandotte County has experienced sustained job growth at more than twice the rate of the Metro area, state and country. The County has the third highest average weekly wage in the state at \$1,078 yet lacks the skilled workforce to obtain many of these jobs. Pre-COVID-19, on any given day, Wyandotte County had more than 6,500 open jobs. As of November 2020, still more than 5,500 jobs are available daily with an average pay of \$19.70/hour. Sadly, many of these jobs go unfilled

or are filled by individuals who live outside Wyandotte County. The lack of a local skilled workforce keeps the money leaving the county while our own communities and neighbors continue to live in poverty.

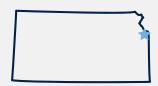
To create an economically thriving and self- sustaining community, it's imperative we provide the education and technical training needed to build a local workforce prepared to meet the skillsets required by today's and tomorrow's employers.

Currently, approximately 50% of all jobs across the United States require more than a high school diploma, but less than a 4-year degree. As we enter a Post-COVID-19 world, the relevance and demand for America's community colleges has never been greater.

### **Downtown KCK Demographics**

American Community Survey, 2018

- ▶ More than 18,000 people work full time and live in poverty
- More than 18,000 people do not speak English well enough to obtain and maintain quality employment
- ▶ Nearly 60% of adults have less than a high school diploma
- ▶ Only 10% have a two-year degree
- ▶ 40% of adults live in poverty
- ▶ 54% of minor children live in poverty
- ▶ Pre-COVID-19 unemployment: 4.5%
- ▶ Post COVID-19 unemployment: hit 14.7% and is still approaches 10%



Wyandotte County Ranks

**3rd** Top Weekly Wage in Kansas

**BUT** 

104th Overall Health Ranking

**104th** Quality of life **104th** Health factors

104th Social/Economic Factors

Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation 2020 County Health Rankings

## THE CENTENNIAL PATH CAMPAIGN:

## Building for the Next Generation

Education + Employment + Community Support Services is the recipe to not only build a sustainable community, but to also end generational poverty. Through strong partnerships with community organizations, business and industry, and the University of Kansas, the overarching goal of this project is to provide comprehensive education and services to prepare individuals from KCK's urban core and surrounding communities to immediately obtain employment in high-demand and high-wage occupations or to obtain advanced education. Doing so, we can break the cycle of generational poverty, provide hope and lift an entire community out from despair.

To that end, Kansas City Kansas Community College is forging a bold, collaborative and ambitious campaign to create state-of-the-art and inspirational facilities designed to meet the ever-increasing demands of workforce and education, and that will provide the resources needed to prepare our community for success in their careers and life.

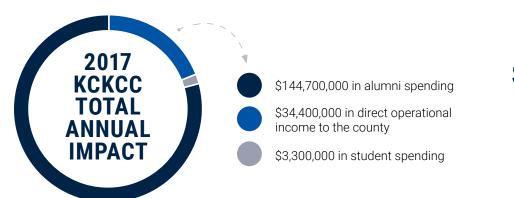
KCKCC and those involved in this project fully believe that a zip-code should not determine a person's level of success, health or social wellbeing. To provide the facilities and programs that will serve the diverse needs of students and employers, today and tomorrow, KCKCC envisions to work with its partners and philanthropic supporters to create a 110,000+ sq.ft. Downtown Community Education Center.



## **KCKCC'S COMMUNITY IMPACT:**

#### A Mission to Serve

For decades Kansas City Kansas Community College has been a driving force behind the economic and social development of Wyandotte County. In FY 2016-17, serving 8,302 credit students, one out of every 50 jobs in the county was attributed to KCKCC. Additionally, KCKCC added \$34,400,000 in direct operational income to the county, \$3,300,000 in student spending, \$144,700,000 in alumni spending (equal to hosting 24 World Series) and equally important reduced the demand for state funded services by \$5,900,000.



Resulting In

\$182,400,000 Added Income

- or -

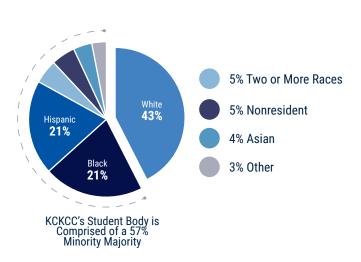
2,811 Jobs Supported

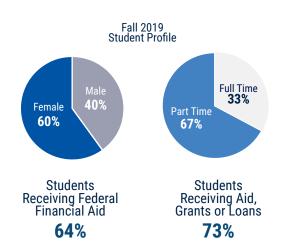
## **KCKCC 2019 PROFILE**

Source: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)

2019 Unduplicated Enrollment: 9,138

Credit Based Enrollment: **8,483**Non-Credit Enrollment: **675** 





#### **Degree and Certificates Awarded**

Certificates: Less than 1 Year 504

Certificates: More than 1 Year and Less than 2 Year 276

Associate Degree Awards 488

## **DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER:**

## A Vision to Transform a Community

With a vision to lift an entire community out of poverty and create systemic change from the inside out, KCKCC plans to build a state-of the-art holistic Downtown Community Education Center. Serving as an anchor institution for Kansas City, Kansas, the Center will provide opportunities for social and economic mobility for its residents and serve as a national model for future educational institutions across the country.

Strategically designed to meet the holistic needs of the downtown community and Eastern Wyandotte county, programs and services being considered to offer in the Center include:

#### KCKCC:

- ► English as a Second Language (ESL)
- General Education Diploma (GED)
- ▶ Administrative Office Professional
- Advanced Manufacturing
- Associate of Arts Transfer
- ▶ Associate of Science Transfer
- Biological Sciences
- Biomanufacturing
- ▶ Commercial Construction Technology
- ▶ General Chemistry
- STEAM-based programming
- Welding

#### **University of Kansas:**

- Biotechnology (Bachelors)
- ▶ Community Outreach Programs
- ▶ Research Support Site
- Social Work (Bachelors)

#### YMCA of Greater KC:

- Active Adult Programs
- Careers at the Y
- ▶ Child Watch
- ▶ Chronic Disease Prevention
- Community Health/Health Living/Lifestyle Education
- Group Exercise Classes
- New Americans
- Nutrition
- Togetherhood
- Volunteerism
- Weight Control
- Youth Activities
- Youth Enrichment & Leadership

#### **Wyandot Behavioral Health Network:**

- Individual, Group & Family Therapy
- ▶ Crisis Services
- ▶ Parenting Classes & Support
- Case Management
- ▶ Permanent Housing Placement Services

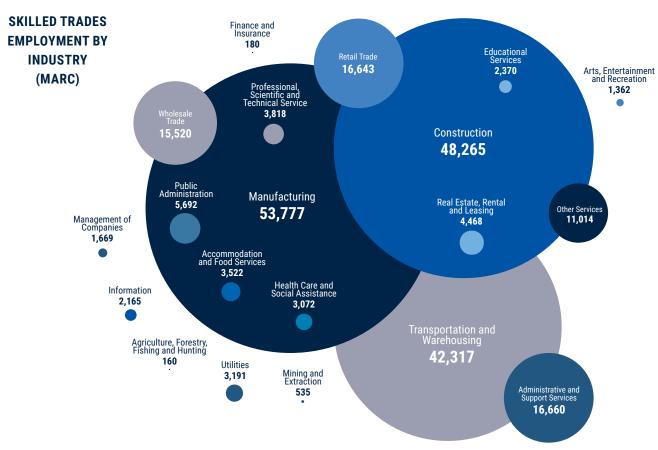
#### **High Aspirations:**

- ▶ Academic Development
- Emotional Development
- Mentorship for Under-Served Young Men
- ▶ Personal & Life Skill Development
- Social Development
- Spiritual Development

The Kansas City metropolitan area is a region rich in high-wage, high-demand skilled trades employment opportunities. As shown in the data below provided by the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), in their 2019 Talent to Industry Exchange Skilled Trades Report, at the time of the report there were approximately 236,000 skilled trade jobs in the greater Kansas City region. This workforce made up approximately one out of every five total jobs, or 21%, of all jobs. Of all employment sectors, manufacturing, construction and transportation/ warehousing made up 144,359 jobs, or approximately 62% of all skilled jobs in the region. While during the COVID-19 pandemic, the numbers have changed, these top three industry sectors and other skilled trade areas remain extremely strong and somewhat 'pandemic proof'.

Collaborating with business and industry, KCKCC and our partners will create programs that meet these and other workforce needs and provide students real-life experiences in high-demand industry sectors. Working handin-hand with the local school districts, the University of Kansas and all our project partners, KCKCC will create an anchor institution that will provide education and services to four generations of families under the same roof. This project will create a comprehensive Community Education Center that will serve as an educational and economic engine bringing life, vitality, jobs and hope to the downtown core. To view a short video speaking about the project please visit:

https://www.kckcc.edu/downtown-vision



Credit: Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) January 2019 Data Source: Jobs EQ

## **PROJECT PARTNERS:**

## Providing Wrap-Around Services

When working with individuals from the urban core of a metropolitan city, students can bring with them trauma, challenging living conditions including homelessness and hunger, and other socio-economic challenges that also need to be addressed so those individuals can focus on learning. To help students overcome these barriers to education while learning new information and skillsets to be successful in the workforce of the future, KCKCC is

partnering with select organizations and community service providers identified below to help ensure our most vulnerable students succeed. These partners will also bring critical services, not currently available to KCK's urban core. The information below provides additional insight into the project partners and the magnitude and scope of the additional programs and services these organizations will bring the community.



### ► Kansas City Kansas Public School District

Kansas City Kansas Public Schools serves the urban core of Kansas City, Kansas with five (5) high schools and over 23,000 students in total. Fifty-one percent of KCKPS students are Hispanic, 27% Black, 11% White, 7% Asian, and 44% are English Language Learners.

Working hand-in-hand with KCK Public Schools and other local school districts, a Commercial Construction Technology program will be created where high school juniors and seniors will attend KCKCC all day to take their college-level courses in construction technology while they also take their general education courses required to obtain both an Associate of Applied Science from KCKCC and their high school diploma from KCK Public Schools.

During the program students will obtain work experience with area construction companies providing them real-life work experience, critical industry skillsets and valuable connections with business and industry that can lead them to \$40,000 –\$50,000/year employment opportunities immediately after completion of the program.





#### ▶ YMCA of Greater Kansas City

The YMCA of Greater Kansas City has delivered high-quality youth development, healthy living and social responsibility programs to the Kansas City region for more than 160 years. Losing its facility in downtown Kansas City, Kansas in 2018, the YMCA will bring back critical programs and services such as community health, fitness, child care and personal well-being to residents of the urban core and surrounding areas.

As Wyandotte County ranks last of all 104 counties in Kansas in all major health categories identified by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, services provided by the YMCA are more important than ever. Being located in the heart of Kansas City, Kansas, the YMCA will be able to work on the front line of improving the health of those living in the urban core. Also focusing on youth development and social responsibility, the YMCA is a central part of the overall project to begin working with and mentoring youth in the area and promoting positive personal characteristics and the importance of education.

Having the YMCA located in the same facility as Kansas City Kansas Community College and the University of Kansas, the youth of KCK will be familiar with the facility and transitioning from high school to college will become a more natural process.





#### ▶ University of Kansas

The University of Kansas serves over 28,500 students annually across six campuses in Kansas. Key to its mission is to serve the State and the communities it is located across domains such as business, community support, continuing education, research, health and many others. The KCKCC downtown location provides an opportunity to further enhance academic and community engagement options for KCK residents, particularly in science, health, research and community-related academic programs. Partnering with KCKCC will allow KU to offer students more degree options locally instead of having to travel to initiate their undergraduate academic careers.

KU is considering a number of academic and programmatic possibilities for the Downtown Community Educational Center as well. These include such degree completion programs as biotechnology, social welfare, and IT/ cybersecurity. KU also seeks to offer a range of professional development and non-credit courses, as well as career experiences, such as internships, at easily accessible and convenient KU Medical Center (KUMC) locations in the Kansas City area.

In addition, KU looks to expand its community engagement activities in KCK with initiatives such as: KU/KUMC office hours for students taking classes at other locations; community -engaged research education; preparation for high school students in STEM and other career preparation, and diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives. KU is enthusiastic about the KCKCC Downtown Community Education Center!



#### ▶ Wyandot Behavioral Health Network

Wyandot Behavioral Health Network is a family of organizations providing behavioral health services including counseling and psychiatric services for adults, children and families; case management services for individuals with severe mental illness; housing assistance for individuals experiencing homelessness; and other services addressing the social determinants of health.

Serving 6,800 clients in 2019, and 4,120 clients between March and July of 2020 alone, WBHN offers life-changing and life-saving services in Wyandotte County. Currently, with no face-to-face counseling services in downtown Kansas City, Kansas, inclusion in this project will allow for individual, family, and group outpatient therapy; parenting classes; and advocacy groups for those residing in and around KCK's urban core.

Co-located in the new facility, WBHN will be available to provide services for KCKCC students and families so students can reduce the emotional stress from trauma, depression and anxiety, freeing their mind to be open for learning. The downtown location will increase access to services in Spanish for LatinX individuals and families, and under-served and



at-risk individuals. With suicide being the second leading cause of death for ages 10–34, WBHN plans to be able to increase service to young adults ages 18-24 by 15%, and services for children, adults and families by 20%.





#### ▶ High Aspirations

Founded in 2004 and located in Kansas City, Missouri, High Aspirations' sole focus has been on developing personal and life-skills in African- American young men, ages 8-18, to enable them to live socially productive lives. The program is currently dedicated to providing mentorship and support to at risk young African-American men by initiating innovative ways to improve their lives socially, emotionally, academically and spiritually.

Now serving more than 200 youth and with a desire to serve the Kansas City urban core, High Aspirations looks to expand its program into Kansas City, Kansas to help young men of all races better their lives and prepare them to become responsible adults.

The program, originally supported by Henry W. Bloch, addresses the lack of role models of at risk youth through mentoring and emphasizes respect for the young men's mothers, the importance of education and higher education, and living a clean and honorable life.

# **PROJECT COSTS:**

WHO/WHAT	CONSTRUCTION	FF&E
Land Prep/Parking/Street Work (\$6.11 million)	shared proportionately	N/A
KCKCC - Construction Technology	\$4.89 million	\$1.00 million
KCKCC - Advanced Manufacturing	\$3.91 million	\$2.00 million
Atrium - 4-Story	\$1.83 million	\$0.25 million
Construction/Manufacturing Corridor	\$0.91 million	\$0.23 million
KCKCC - Classrooms/Labs/Other Space	\$18.21 million	\$4.62 million
KCKCC - Art Museum/Gallery	\$1.21 million	\$0.25 million
YMCA	\$6.00 million	\$1.40 million
University of Kansas	\$2.10 million	\$0.49 million
High Aspirations	\$2.34 million	\$0.58 million
Wyandot Behavioral Health Network	\$5.92 million	\$1.40 million
**Contingencies and Escalation (\$12.54 million)	shared proportionately	N/A
GRAND TOTAL (**Excluding Conting & Escalation \$35.24M)	\$47.32 million	\$12.22 million



## **CENTENNIAL PATH CAMPAIGN:**

## Leading Together

A transformational vision of this magnitude is achieved together. Through collaboration, individual, corporate, philanthropic and societal investment, the greatest benefit can be realized – we can change lives. Together, we can reverse the vicious cycle of generational poverty, collectively taking our most vulnerable citizens by the hand and leading them to jobs that will provide them a successful wage, financial freedom and open the door to a very different future for them and their entire family.

## Leadership

#### KCKCC President's Downtown Advisory Council

Rita Adams

**Economic Opportunity Foundation** 

Doug Bach

Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas

Tami Bartunek

Vice President of Strategic Initiatives and Outreach, KCKCC

David Beach

Director of Adult and Continuing Education, KCKCC

Tom Burroughs

Commissioner - At-Large District 2 Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas

Melissa Bynum

Commissioner, District 1 At-Large Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas

Randy Callstrom

Wyandot Behavioral Health Network

Rev. Tony Carter Salem Baptist Church

Irene Caudillo El Centro

Melissa Clark Fairfax Industrial Association

David Cook
Kansas University

Michael Dean Mi Rancho Tequila La Familia Dean Lozoya Foundation

Matt Eaves *YMCA* 

Jim Echols

Renaissance Management & Training

Harold L. Johnson Commissioner, District 4 Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas Greg Kindle

Wyandotte County Economic Development Council

**Tony Martinez** 

Wyandotte County District Court Judge

**Alise Martiny** 

Greater Kansas City Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO

John Mikos

YMCA

Dr. Greg Mosier

President, KCKCC

Troy Pitsch

Kansas City Kansas Public Schools

Jerry Pope

Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs, KCKCC

Cheryl Runnebaum

Dean of Career and Technical Education, KCKCC

Mary Spangler

Foundation Director, KCKCC

Ryan Spaulding

University of Kansas Medical Center

Bill Spillar

JE Dunn Construction Company

Jose Sustaita

IBEW Local Union 124

**Bishop Lemuel Thuston** 

Church of God In Christ

Henry Wash

High Aspirations

Cleon Wiggins

Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences & Public Services, KCKCC

Dr. Delfina Wilson

Vice President of Student Affairs, KCKCC

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Breidenthal Family Foundation

Mike Bukaty

**Bukaty Companies** 

Randy Callstrom

Wyandot Behavioral Health Network

Michael Dean

Mi Rancho Tequila La Familia Dean Lozoya Foundation

William H. Dunn, Jr.

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