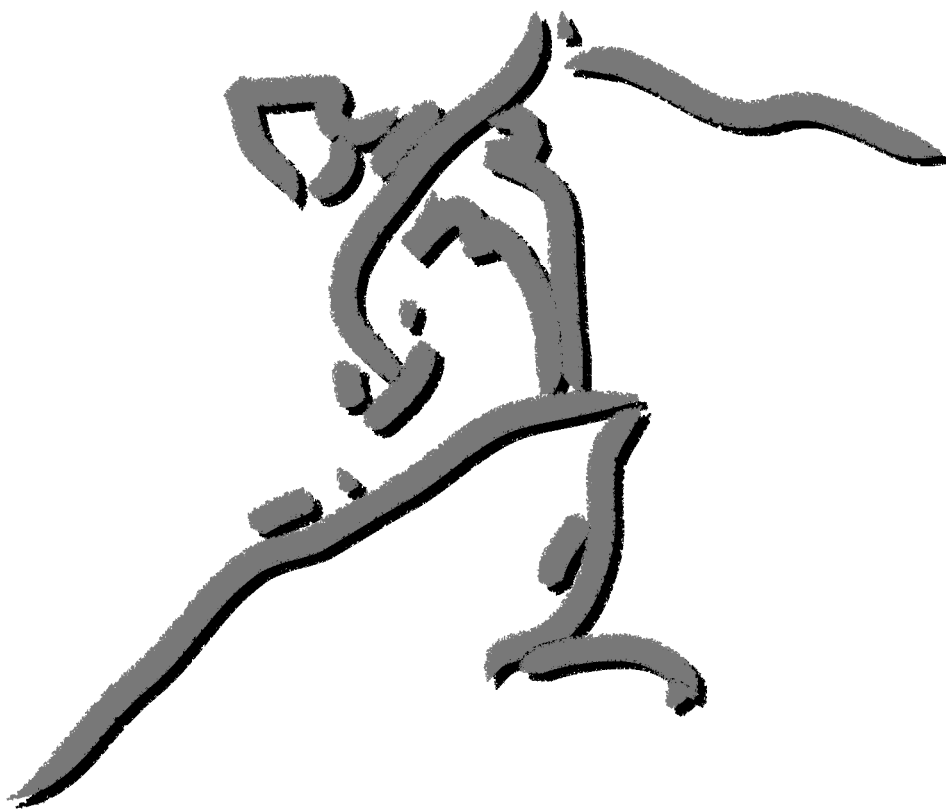


2009 Shawnee County Progress Report



Community Resources Council

Connecting the resources in our
community through research,
information, advocacy and
collaboration.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Community Resources Council and Heartland Visioning.....	2
Shawnee County Progress Report Purpose.....	3
Shawnee County Progress Report Sponsors	4
EDUCATION	7
General.....	8
Early Childhood.....	11
Grade Specific.....	12
Higher Education.....	13
QUALITY OF LIFE.....	17
Recreation, Arts & Culture	18
Births.....	19
Deaths.....	21
Choices.....	22
Social Services.....	25
Public Safety.....	28
Seniors.....	31
Social Service	32
INFRASTRUCTURE	35
Transportation	36
Utilities	39
Building.....	40
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	43
General.....	44
Wages	45
Assessed Valuation	46
Low Income.....	47
Building/Housing.....	50
Housing.....	51
GOVERNMENT	52
Mill Levy.....	56, 62
Racial & Gender Diversity.....	58
Taxpayers.....	60
Assessed Valuation	61
Employers.....	65
Sponsors	67

Photo Credits: Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce

COMMUNITY RESOURCES COUNCIL

“To connect the resources in our community through research, information, advocacy and collaboration.”

Nancy Johnson, Executive Director
John Castello, MAACLink Administer
Sylvia Hopper, Operations Manager
Leah Durst, Project Coordinator
Ruby Carson, Office Assistant
Rebecca Williams, Information and Planning
Michael Allen, Graphic Designer Intern

HEARTLAND VISIONING

“The Greater Topeka Region will be a growing, dynamic and trusting community with a superior quality of life.”

William Beteta, Executive Director
Janel Logan, Executive Assistant

HEARTLAND VISIONING FOUNDATION TEAMS & CHAIRS

EDUCATION

Tom Ellis
Patrick Woods

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Lucky Defries
Denise Walsh
Larry Robbins
H.R. Cook

QUALITY OF LIFE

John Hunter
Anita Wolgast
Barry Feaker
Nancy Johnson

GOVERNMENT

Shelly Buhler
Ben Tenpenny

INFRASTRUCTURE

John Dicus
Jim Parrish

PRIVATE SECTOR LEADERSHIP

Carol Wheeler
Bryon Schlosser

BENCHMARK

Doug Sterbenz
Lisa Guzman
Nancy Johnson

The Shawnee County Progress Report

The 2009 Shawnee County Progress Report is in lieu of the Community Resources Council's Trends and Indicators. The Report is structured around the six foundations from the Heartland Visioning Strategic Plan, minus Private Leadership which is still being developed and will be reported on in the future.

The foundations will be measured using indicators identified as important by Shawnee County residents including elected officials, public and private companies and non-profit agencies.

The purpose of The Report is to provide useful information to measure our life in Shawnee County. The Report provides information to businesses, governments and other organizations to assess the condition of our community. This information is intended to be used by anyone wanting to plan for the future. Overall, The Report serves as a progress report to ourselves: identifying areas where we in Shawnee County excel, as well as areas where we have challenges and want to improve.

The Report was produced through Community Resources Council of Shawnee County with the aid of sponsors including Shawnee County, Kansas, The City of Topeka, United Way of Greater Topeka, Heartland Visioning, Greater Topeka Chamber and Go Topeka, Stormont-Vail Health Care, WIBW-TV, Westar Energy, Topeka Community Foundation, Parrish Hotel Corporation, Anderson Montgomery, LLC, Capitol Federal Foundation, and Peterson Publications Incorporated. The Report is offered both in hard copy and on the web at crcnet.org.



Vic Miller
Chairman
Shawnee County Commission



“The new Shawnee County Progress Report is a step in the right direction for us. The gathering of this information in one place and easy to read format will help everyone be a part of where we are and where we are going.”



William Beteta
Executive Director
Heartland Visioning



“This first edition of the Shawnee County Progress Report is important for comparing where we are today and where we want to be in the future. Heartland Visioning is excited about one more action being taken that helps us work together toward a common vision. This progress report will help us monitor our progress and keep track of our successes along the way and create sustainable change.”



Norton N. Bonaparte, Jr.
City Manager & CEO
City of Topeka



“This is indeed an exciting time for Topeka, the State Capital. We are already seeing signs that our community is building on its potential. The annual Shawnee County Progress Report will provide a mechanism for all to see what progress is being made and where additional work is needed.”



Miriam Krehbiel
President and CEO
United Way of Greater Topeka



United Way of Greater Topeka

“The Shawnee County Progress Report is an important tool for our community to first unite and then position itself to create a lasting impact. We’re excited to collaborate with partners, all of the community and work together in creating positive, sustainable change.”

