

**Kansas Corps Focus Group  
Garden City Location, January 22, 2008**

Attending: Chantelle Arnold, Diana Ohl, Ann Bitzer, Gina Cash, Shari Brandenburg, Lois Limes, Vaughn Lorensen, Lucie Crotts, Emily Bohlman, Celeste Donovan, and Trisha Miller.

The focus group meeting began with a welcome from Chantelle Arnold and introductions of the attendees. Following the introductions, Chantelle Arnold covered the agenda and began the general information presentation. She explained the concept, the focus of Kansas Corps and the goals. Chantelle then discussed the planning process for the concept: where it had been and where it was going. She also talked about the upcoming pilot project.

The question was asked about how Kansas Corps will prioritize their projects that they were asked to do. The Home Health Hospice is usually overlooked when there is a list of projects to do.

Then members asked what the governor's stand was on this project. Chantelle informed everyone that Governor Sebelius asked if this was anything like what Kansas Campus Compact does. Kansas Corps assured her that this wasn't the case at all. Governor Sebelius has been informed of the ongoing work that Kansas Corps is doing.

One major concern from the attendees was about screening of the participants. Anyone that works with children needs a background check. At Hospice volunteers need a certain number of orientation hours before they are able to work with patients. Volunteers also need to sign Privacy Acts, have Physicals, TB Skin Tests, etc. At SRS volunteers must have a background check and then also be counseled in neglect and abuse.

The attendees also asked about Training. We informed them that volunteers would more than likely go through the Red Cross Online Training. There is the possibility of going to the campus to provide training there or getting the CERT Training.

One idea was to create a course that students could enroll in and get college credit for volunteering in Kansas Corps. The more you volunteer the higher 'rank' you become.

Community Service Council and Non-Profits need to be made aware of this program.

Celeste mentioned that in the details of student work-study positions, 7% should be used for community service. This could be a resource that could be utilized.

Could Kansas Corps work with churches? Churches are always doing community service projects that could utilize Kansas Corps' help.

It was noted that it might be convenient if there was a request form online that agencies in need of volunteers could submit to Kansas Corps. Kansas Corps could then follow up with the agency to let them know if and when we could provide volunteers.

An idea for a project in this part of the state is the Windsor Hotel. The Windsor Hotel is currently being renovated, and all the help that they can get, would be greatly appreciated.

Attendees were asked who should be involved in this process that was not present at the meeting. Suggestions included: representatives from the school districts if plans were to volunteer for them, the Emergency Management Support Association of Kansas, and representatives from the Extension Council.

The meeting concluded with Curt inviting everyone to the planning committee meeting on February 20 in Topeka, Kansas.