



## EXTENSION COUNCIL PDC ELECTION

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# VOTER'S GUIDE

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Help us to elect our next group of  
Program Development Committee  
members who work to identify educational  
resources and programming to address local  
needs.

**K-STATE**  
Research and Extension

Sedgwick County

# WHAT DOES A PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEMBER DO?

## Purpose

Program Development Committee (PDC) members work together with extension agents to develop local programming.

## Responsibilities

Working with agents, PDC members understand and promote the mission of K-State Research and Extension and serve their communities by completing the following tasks:

- Assess needs and issues of agricultural producers, communities, families, and youth.
- Identify new local audiences and develop a proactive plan to expand the scope of extension programming.
- Use K-State Research and Extension resources to meet local programming needs.
- Develop program action plans to address community needs and submit those plans to the extension board and area director for review and approval.
- Implement, participate in, and evaluate extension programs.
- Promote K-State Research and Extension program successes and impacts.

## Qualifications

- At least 18 years old and a resident of the county in which the PDC is represented.
- Interested in working within the philosophy and mission of K-State Research and Extension.
- Willing to work closely with the local extension agent and other members of the PDC.
- Sincere interest in improving the quality of life for community residents.

## Time Required

A PDC member serves a two-year term and are expected to participate in PDC meetings scheduled throughout the year.



# 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

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## STEPHANIE HAYS

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I have a business degree and a marketing degree which I think will be very beneficial for the program development committee. I have a passion for improving and supporting the extension office. I believe it is an amazing institution whose supports are underutilized. I enjoy working with others and brainstorming ways to improve programs.

Please list the top (3) three priorities, in your opinion, for the 4-H program development committee.

The top three priorities for the program development committee would be:

1. Developing programs to meet specific Sedgwick County community needs.
2. Marketing programs and extension services.
3. Research best policies for extension programs.

Please list relevant work/community involvement/volunteer experience.

I have 25 years experience as an educator and 19 of these years have been as a Sedgwick County Special education teacher. I have 46 years of experience involved in 4-H. I started as an active 4-h member at the age of 7. I am currently the dairy goat and Quail Valley 4-H leader, a Sedgwick County Fair Superintendent. I had 20 years experience as a farm owner and operator.

# 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

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**JANET SPRECKER**

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My educational background includes a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from K-State and a M.S. in Industrial Engineering from Wichita State. Previously, I worked for NASA at the Johnson Space Center in Houston and for the FAA in the Wichita Aircraft Certification Office. From 2010-2020, I served as the community leader for the Derby 4-H Club. I also served as a member of the Sedgwick County 4-H Advisory Council for 6 years. I am currently a member of the Derby Education Foundation Board and the Pando Initiative Board.

What are your experiences with adult and/or youth educational programs, including those provided by K-State Research and Extension?

I grew up in southwest Kansas and was active in the 4-H program for over 10 years as a youth. My two sons have also been in the 4-H program here in Sedgwick County. My older son completed 11 years in 4-H and my younger son is finishing his 12th year in 4-H. They both served on the Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Council for multiple years. I believe the 4-H program gives students great learning opportunities in both their project work and in leadership experiences at the club, county and state level.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

The Extension Service is a key educational resource to help communities thrive and prosper. The Extension Service helps bring the knowledge and expertise developed at the land-grant university level into local communities. The local access to this knowledge and expertise can help individuals and communities make better economic, leadership development and health-related decisions that ultimately impact everyone. Specific goals that I would envision for the Sedgwick County 4-H program include: 1) Strengthening 4-H programs at the local club level across Sedgwick County; 2) Work to develop more volunteers to help lead county-wide project groups; 3) Continue to support 4-H programs that reach children that do not participate in traditional 4-H clubs.



# 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

## MELANIE TURNER



I am a physical therapist who has spent the past 12 years working in the home health sector. I am a strong believer in Extension programs and the unbiased research-based information it provides. I have been involved in the 4-H program area for 24 years. I was an active member of 4-H for 10 years and finished my final years of 4-H in Sedgwick County. My four children are 3rd generation 4-H members where they show sheep, participate on the meat judging team and participate in club and county events in Sedgwick County. My oldest daughter just graduated high school and served on the State 4-H Youth Council. I served 6 years on the Derby Public Library Board of Trustees and was Chairman my final 3 years. I have also volunteered on numerous committees in the Derby School District as a parent representative.

What are your experiences with adult and/or youth educational programs, including those provided by K-State Research and Extension?

I have volunteered as the community leader for the Derby 4-H Club for the past 3 years and have worked with the county 4-H agents to make sure information is communicated to our local members. I have also volunteered to assist the agents at the county level to help with record book judging and program delivery. I was a member of the Clark County 4-H Fair Board when my husband and I lived in western KS several years ago. Serving on this fair board was important to me to support the local extension organization and 4-H program. I am a member of the Student Ministries Commission at my local church and plan special events for the youth. I have served as a parent volunteer and parent group treasurer at my children's elementary, middle and high schools for over 10 years.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

I want to evaluate and strengthen 4-H programs at the local club level in Sedgwick County. I want to continue to support 4-H programs targeted at children that are not involved in traditional 4-H clubs. I want to recruit and train more volunteers to help lead county-wide project groups and coach judging teams. I also want to encourage and support the training of volunteers that can help reach the diverse communities in Sedgwick County. I want to develop a program to strengthen the relationships between county 4-H agents and families.

# 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

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**MARC YUNG**

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I graduated from KSU in 1986. I have been involved in agriculture and 4-H my whole life. I work for a feed ingredient marketing company that provides feed in the pet food and livestock market. I have been on the Extension Board in the past and love being a part of that.

What are your experiences with adult and/or youth educational programs, including those provided by K-State Research and Extension?

I was on the 4-H PDC previously for four years. All three of our children were raised in 4-H. I have spent most of my life working with 4-H or being a 4-Her myself.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

It is important to me that Extension continues to thrive to meet the needs of today's agriculture and youth. The world is changing fast and Extension must continue to keep pace.



# AGRICULTURE/HORTICULTURE

## BENITO CARRILLO



I'm Benito Carrillo, Sales Arborist for Wichita Tree Service. I've been in this industry for six years total, three of them with my current company. I am a ten-year combat veteran with the US Army and an additional 25 years in Aerospace manufacturing. I've been to a few Extension programs for several years, and sadly I do not recall the names; it involved trees, though. I volunteer for several organizations within Wichita. I have been a part of the Operations Committee in Wichita Festivals for 25 years. They've done several community events: Wichita Riverfest, Autumn and Art, Wichita Flight Festival, and Wichita Chili and BBQ Cookoff before the Wagonmasters took over. I was also a Wichita Wagonmaster. I volunteer as a programmer with the Tallgrass Film Festival. I'm a route coordinator for the Prairie Fire Marathon, half (Spring) and full (Fall) marathons. I'm a KS licensed pyrotechnician, doing shows for Riverfest and Wichita Wind Surge baseball. College football games for KU and KSU home games. We've done shows with the Wichita Symphony and a lot of small local shows for just about anyone. TLDR, I'm very involved in my community.

What are your experiences with adult and/or youth educational programs, including those provided by K-State Research and Extension?

Not as involved as I would like to be involved.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

More education and information about trees accessible to the public. Many people take what they are told at face-value and we need to keep the public properly informed. At the least, give them a place to find the correct answers.

# AGRICULTURE/HORTICULTURE

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**JOHN HECHT**

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I am the special projects manager for CropQuest Inc. I have served on the Ag/Hort PDC as well as the Extension Executive Board for Sedgwick County for the past 2 years. I also served in Barton County Extension Executive Board when I was there. I have been involved with STEM promoting Ag careers to high school students also. I commonly talk to K-12 students about Ag.

What are your experiences with adult and/or youth educational programs, including those provided by K-State Research and Extension?

Was involved with 4-H when my kids were younger and have been involved with Extension Agronomy programs for many years.



# AGRICULTURE/HORTICULTURE

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## TRAVIS INSKEEP

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I am currently the Production Manager for Countryside Lawn and Tree Care. This is my 27th year at Countryside. Certified applicator in categories 5,6,7a. Certified Arborist with Kansas Arborist Association. HOA acting Vice President of Granview HOA.

What are your experiences with adult and/or youth educational programs, including those provided by K-State Research and Extension?

I have helped both Bob Neier and Matthew McKernan with the recertification day in the fall as countryside is a sponsor. I regularly attend K-State field day and as many educational training programs as I can.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

Use my regular interactions with the public regarding lawn and tree care to provide extension information to better serve the community.

# AGRICULTURE/HORTICULTURE

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## AARON PAULY

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I am co-owner in a 4th generation farm located in southwest Sedgwick County. Through the years, I have attended many different Extension program to gain knowledge of the latest research being conducted at K-State. I currently serve on the Kansas Dairy Commission board and have served on the Farmer's Co-op Board of Directors.

What are your experiences with adult and/or youth educational programs, including those provided by K-State Research and Extension?

As a youth, I participated in several different 4-H programs and projects. Currently, I try to attend the various educational programs/meeting provided by the Extension office. It is an asset to our farming operation to have a source of local unbiased research.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

- Continue to provide local, unbiased research and information.
- Make the general public aware of the wealth of knowledge available to them.



# AGRICULTURE/HORTICULTURE

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## JON SEYMOUR

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My family and I have lived in Park City for about 12 years. I have a Bachelors Degree in Park and Rec Administration from Pittsburg State University and I have worked at Longhofer Lawn and Tree Care for about 9 ½ years. I am a Licensed Aquatics Applicator and spend most of my days treating ponds, lakes, and lagoons for things like algae and aquatic weeds. My wife is a Marriage and Family Therapist and we have 2 daughters, ages 10 and 8. I was chosen by my professors to serve on the Student Curriculum Planning Board while a student at PSU. I have served on the Eureka, KS Chamber of Commerce Board in the past and am currently serving on the Park City Park and Recreation Board, which I have been on for about 8 years and have served as President and Vice-President.

What are your experiences with adult and/or youth educational programs, including those provided by K-State Research and Extension?

We have been able to take advantage of several Health and Nutrition and Horticulture Programs as well as Agriculture Programs like Applicator Recertification Workshops through the years.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

The goal should always be to learn and grow. The blueprint is laid out in the PDC Member Position Description under Responsibilities. Every Responsibility should also be a goal. Understand and promote the mission of K-State Research and Extension and serve the community. I would personally be interested in helping to develop a plan to expand extension programming for Youth since I have a 10-year-old and an 8-year-old.



# COMMUNITY VITALITY

## MARQUETTA ATKINS



Marquetta Atkins is a community educator who brings her passion for working with youth and her creative energy to the table as a facilitator. For years she has dedicated herself to ensuring that young people are equipped with the tools for a better future. She was born and raised in Wichita, KS and graduated with a degree in Communications from Wichita State University. Her persistence in reaching her educational goals equipped her to be a mentor for high school youth in Wichita, including her own children Devon who attended WSU and Aimani a junior at Prairie View A & M University, in Texas.

What are your experiences with adult and/or youth educational programs, including those provided by K-State Research and Extension?

In 2015, she founded Camp Destination Innovation to expose young people to a variety of career options; encouraging them to create their own future. The camp also helps youth explore strategies for entrepreneurship and civic engagement, grounding their professional development in a larger vision for whole and healthy communities. Learn more about Camp Destination Innovation <https://www.campdestinationinnovation.com/>

Striving to eliminate the barriers facing young people and women as entrepreneurs, Marquetta created Women Entrepreneurs of Kansas (WeKan!), an initiative to support the growth and power of women entrepreneurs. Marquetta's talented facilitation challenges people to question their own assumptions and dig deeper into critical awareness. Learn more about it at <https://www.gowekan.com/>

Marquetta is also the Director of Programming & Youth Development at the non-profit The Seed House, where she developed the youth group Progeny. Who are youth either touched by or passionate about the juvenile justice system. Teaching them leadership, organizing, advocacy and how to change policy and how it impacts youth. They currently launched their Invest Don't Arrest Kansas Campaign. You can learn more about them at <https://www.progenyks.com/>

What goals do you envision for Extension?

Connecting urban communities and youth to agriculture. Studying food deserts and food instability.



# COMMUNITY VITALITY

## JEANNIE CIEMNY



My name is Jeannie Ciemny, my husband and I have four grown sons, four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. I've been a first grade teacher for thirty-eight years and also twelve years as a reading specialist. After retiring in 2020, I've gone through the Master Gardener Program. Some of my interests are: golfing, reading, sewing, gardening, and traveling.

What are your experiences with adult and/or youth educational programs, including those provided by K-State Research and Extension?

Having been in the education field, I have had the opportunity to work with parents, fellow teachers, administrators and students. I have served on several committees over my years of teaching and have gained an understanding of skills and strategies needed to work with all levels. Some of the following committees are: chairman - district reading textbook committee, chairman - parent-volunteer committee, district K-12 language arts curriculum chairman, reading QPA committee, board of director on the Derby Historical Museum.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

To identify new areas that can be developed in educational workshops and activities.

# COMMUNITY VITALITY

## RUSSELL FOX



I am a professor of political science at Friends University; more relevant to the work of the Sedgwick County Extension Center, I have long pushed to increase the involvement of Friends University students and others in local agriculture and environmental sustainability, through classes I have developed, through working with other stakeholders to promote the Friends University community garden, through getting students involved in various Extension Center events (urban agriculture tours, the Growing Growers program, etc.), and through arranging my own trips to familiarize students with local food producers and others who exemplify sustainability practices. I have also been a long-time participant in conversations about developing food policies here in Wichita, such as through the ICT Food Circle and the Health and Wellness Coalition of Wichita.

What are your experiences with adult and/or youth educational programs, including those provided by K-State Research and Extension?

I am in my 22nd year as a college professor, so my involvement with educational programs is quite broad, including making use of the educational outreach which people at the Sedgwick County Extension Center have offered to my students in the past.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

Going forward, I would hope to be able to assist the Sedgwick County Extension Center in providing the resources and, as appropriate, leadership necessary to help move our communities towards a more complete implementation of the Food System Master Plan for Wichita and Sedgwick County, including the creation of a City-County Food and Farm Council. And also, I would just like to learn more about the inner operations of an organization that has benefited the health and well-being of my garden, my family, my students, and many others for all the years that we've lived here in Kansas.



# COMMUNITY VITALITY

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## JOHN OSWALD

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I am a civil engineer graduating from Kansas State University and the Airport Engineering and Planning Manager for the City of Wichita, Wichita Airport Authority. I own farm land in Russell County.

What are your experiences with adult and/or youth educational programs, including those provided by K-State Research and Extension?

For the past 16 years I have been the Scholarship Chair for the Kansas Association of Airports as well as, for the past 24 years, the Scholarship Chair for the Wichita Branch of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

To be a part of effort to increase awareness of the programs the Extension Service provides to the County.

# FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

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**THIEN DOAN**

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My name is Thien Doan - Community Health Worker with KUMC - COPE Project in Sedgwick County. Our mission is helping to connect the community with resources available in town. The Extension programs are one of our partners to provide health education in preventive care for the communities in Sedgwick county.

What are your experiences with adult and/or youth educational programs, including those provided by K-State Research and Extension?

I have experience working in Recreation Commission before I became a CHW. I have involved in community education by offering reliable information to people using materials from trusted organization like the K-State Extension office. In my current work, part of it is to educate and encourage preventive care by helping people change their lifestyle and become healthier.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

I visualize helping to spread reliable knowledge within community through my outreach in the community events. The board support would be a great resources for me and my team to be successful in this role if I am nominated.



# FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

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**MAYRA JAIMES**

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I am a Financial planner at Northwestern Mutual. I have participated at Young Latino Professionals of Wichita as a member only and I have given presentations of financial literacy at Kansas Children Service League. I try my best to participate and volunteer when I can.

What are your experiences with adult and/or youth educational programs, including those provided by K-State Research and Extension?

I don't really have any experience with K-State Research and Extension. When I used to live in San Diego, CA and North Carolina, I would go to elementary and high schools to teach about financial literacy and volunteer as needed.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

My goals are to share awareness to the community about what K-State Research and Extension offers.

# FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

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## TERESA MOLINA

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Currently a full-time professor for Friends University. President of Wichita Area Sister Cities, teaching Hispanic culture and serving as ambassador for education and professional exchanges with our international Sister Cities. Involved in Extension Activities such as the Evergreen Christmas Family Program, Three Kings Day and Board Games programs. I am also a current PDC member.

What are your experiences with adult and/or youth educational programs, including those provided by K-State Research and Extension?

Taught classes for Evergreen 4-H program, Spanish Immersion Camps for USD 259, 25 years as teacher for USD 259, Foreign Language Head, Family and Consumer Science Head, adjunct for Friends University supervising Study Abroad programs in México, cultural programs for adults and children. Sponsor Hispanic American Leadership Organization at the high school and now university level...I currently serve on a multi-university committee involved in helping universities become more Hispanic-serving institutions, some of the program ideas overlap

What goals do you envision for Extension? On researching the Extension, I read:

"K-State Research and Extension can play a key role in helping people create a vision across traditional geographical, sociological, and political boundaries. We can help your community become a better place to live, work, and play."

As a current PDC member, I report on needs in our Hispanic community in order to contribute to the Extension vision of making our community and the communities of others better places to live....  
As a foster parent, I am also interested in programs for families with special needs children.



# FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

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## PATTY ROSENHAGEN

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I am a retired Advanced Practice RN. My involvement with Sedgwick County Extension has included Master Gardeners - serving on various committees, advisory board and counselor for SHICK (Senior Health Insurance Counseling for Kansas).

What are your experiences with adult and/or youth educational programs, including those provided by K-State Research and Extension?

Main source of education is through the SHICK program. I assist older adults and, at times, their adult children navigating through the various Medicare programs as well as their options regarding additional insurance to cover the "gaps" in Medicare parts A and B.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

Continue providing well-developed and timely programs for county residents which will help enrich their lives.