



EXTENSION COUNCIL PDC ELECTIONS

OCTOBER 2, 2025

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



JURNEY YUNG



Please tell us a little bit about yourself: (occupation, involvement in Extension Programs, community activities).

I graduated from Kansas State University with a bachelor's in animal science in May 2024. I work for Advanced Marketing which is a trade company that markets feed ingredients to livestock and pet food companies. I grew up in 4-H showing meat goats and numerous static projects. Currently I help lead Teen Council with Ms. Lori Holt and have served on PDC since January. I attend Life Church and participate in the Young Adult Bible Study.

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

I was an Andale Jets 4-H club members for 8 years and held various club positions including President until I aged out. During my 4-H time I was active in Teen Council, Livestock Skill-thon and Meat Judging. During my high school career, I helped charter the Renwick FFA Chapter (Andale FFA Chapter) I held the positions of Reporter and Student Advisor. In college I was a member of KSU Meat Judging Team. Recently I have served on the 4-H PDC since, January 2025.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

My goal for Extension is to continue to pour into the community that helps shape future generations. To keep encouraging and providing resources to the county. Growing up in 4-H, gave me numerous opportunities but most importantly a community of people supporting and pushing me to be the best I could be. Now it's my turn to help build the future generations of 4-H'ers.

4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



JARYTH BARTEN



Please tell us a little bit about yourself: (occupation, involvement in Extension Programs, community activities.

Jaryth Barten is a Park City resident and has worked at the Kansas Leadership Center in downtown Wichita for 5 years. He found a passion for leadership development at a young age and he has been seeking out opportunities to grow himself and others in the discipline ever since. Jaryth believes that leadership is the key to unlocking a future in which all people can thrive.

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

Jaryth graduated summa cum laude from Fort Hays State University with degrees in organizational leadership and communication. 4-H was a significant experience in his upbringing and he aims to give back to the program as often as he can to ensure 4-Hers have access to high quality, youth-led development. In addition to serving on the Sedgwick County 4-H Program Development Committee, Jaryth advises the Kansas 4-H Youth leadership Council and serves on the Dickinson County 4-H Foundation Board of Directors.

Growing up in Woodbine, Kansas, Jaryth loved his 13 years as a member of the Jolly Jayhawkers 4-H Club. As an avid extrovert, he can never seem to get enough social time to make him slow down. He loves fishing, woodworking, swing-dancing, looking for sasquatch, trying new foods, discussing BIG ideas, and is always in search of a new activity to enjoy with his friends.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

Jaryth's mission for 4-H and Extension is as a PDC member is to grow our reach for both youth and adult volunteers with impactful development that drives deeper connections and capacity for progress in and between our local communities.

4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

MEGHAN MUESSLER



Please tell us a little bit about yourself: (occupation, involvement in Extension Programs, community activities).

I've been involved in both youth and adult education for years, especially through K-State Extension. I grew up in 4-H in Brown County, later served on the Sedgwick County 4-H Program Development Committee, and continuing to judge county fairs across the region.

I've led workshops, mentored youth, and supported food security programs that connect families with resources.

Whether it is helping young leaders grow or working with adults on sustainability and community development, I love creating spaces where people feel empowered and supported.

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

I grew up in 4-H in northeast Kansas and later earned a master's in Ag Education from Oklahoma State, focusing on adult education. I've volunteered with 4-H in Nebraska and Kansas, served on the Sedgwick County 4-H PDC, and continued to judge county fairs.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

I am passionate about helping both youth and adults grow through hands-on learning and community connection.

AGRICULTURE/HORTICULTURE



VICTORIA MOSACK



Please tell us a little bit about yourself: (occupation, involvement in Extension Programs, community activities).

As a retiree of Wichita State University (WSU), I hold the status of Associate Professor and Chairperson - Emerita in the College of Health Professions and presently serve on the planning committee of the WSU Retiree Association. Since retiring, I have had the honor to be prepared and serve as a master gardener (MG) in the Kansas State University Extension Office, Sedgwick County

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

Before joining WSU, my work included the promotion of adult and child mental health. As an associate professor, my focus areas involved research activities and adult education. As a master gardener, I've had opportunities to engage in the education of adults and youth through outreach activities, primarily with members of the Demo Garden and MG Library

What goals do you envision for Extension?

Extension can help K-State lead as a next-generation land grant university. With its move to Community Well-Being in the University President's Office of Community Engagement, Extension can tackle identified social needs in the K-State Strategic Plan. Specifically, Extension is uniquely positioned to address the 5th and 7th imperatives of the strategic plan; these involve community-based education and being a positive force for the Kansas economy.

AGRICULTURE/HORTICULTURE

ZACH SIMON



Please tell us a little bit about yourself: (occupation, involvement in Extension Programs, community activities.

My wife and I reside in Colwich with our three school aged children. I currently work full time for the United Sorghum Checkoff Program as the Director of Ingredient Utilization. In addition to that I farm part time. In addition to my work and running around to all the kid's activities, I find time to volunteer for various organizations I'm passionate about. I just recently completed my six year term as a board member for the Sedgwick County Farm Bureau, where I was vice president when I termed out. I am still serving on a Ag Education Bus committee with Sedgwick County Farm Bureau. In the past I served on the Wichita Agribusiness Council Board, spending some of my tenure as president. It is extremely important that Extension and other like organizations have volunteer board members willing to serve. Extension provides invaluable services to the community and state. It needs strong advocates that know and understand its value, can support agents in their programming, and can help with outreach in the community.

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

I currently attend different agriculture programming that is provided by K-State Research and Extension locally. In my current role at the Sorghum Checkoff, I often get the opportunity with work with specialists regionally and in Manhattan. While serving on the county farm bureau board, I was involved with youth agriculture educational programs, my favorites include the farmer pen pal program and reading to classrooms! Having previously served as the Agriculture and Natural Resources agent in Sedgwick County from 2013-2018, I got to participate in many of various programming extension has to offer.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

Local and State extension has many critical programs that are well executed. I would like to see that those programs get more recognition for the services that they bring to the county. Quantifying and communicating the value to county commissioners and elected state officials is often challenging. I would like to see the Agriculture/Horticulture PDC work with the agents to help them quantify the value of each of their programs. Having been in their position, it can be challenging as an agent to assess the value your programs bring while remaining humble. Having hard numbers pleads a case that is hard to rebut when communicating the financial needs to commissioners and legislators. I would like to see both the county and state receive the necessary funding to continue to provide "Knowledge for Life".

AGRICULTURE/HORTICULTURE



JOHN HECHT



Please tell us a little bit about yourself: (occupation, involvement in Extension Programs, community activities.

I, John Hecht, am recently retired, after working in the ag industry for 47 years. I have worked for DeKalb seed company, Servi-Tech, and was a founding member of Crop Quest. I was a division manager for Servi-Tech and Crop Quest and also Special Projects manager for Crop Quest. I was also on the Barton County Extension Board while living in Great Bend, and have previously served on the Extension Board here 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 been involved in setting up programs with Ag specialists in both Barton and Sedgwick counties as well as helping to begin the Kids Ag Day program in Barton County for grade school students. I have also been involved with the Ag department at Kansas State as I was involved in the recruiting process for both Servi-Tech and Crop Quest. I have also been involved with the STEM program, giving programs at local high schools about the crop consulting industry as well as going to schools, both grade and high school, putting on programs about agriculture and those involved in the ag industry. Some of those programs involved going to the field and giving students hands on opportunities to see production ag in action.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

My goals for extension here in Sedgwick County are to see continued development of programs here in the county and to also help identify and deal with future issues and challenges. I also want to help the agents look for opportunities to bring the university to Sedgwick County residents.

AGRICULTURE/HORTICULTURE



DONALD STUTLER



Please tell us a little bit about yourself: (occupation, involvement in Extension Programs, community activities).

I retired in 2019 from Sales/Marketing at Merck & Co. I have been a resident of Sedgwick County since 1986. I have two adult daughters and their families reside in Sedgwick County as well. I am a previous member of the Board of Directors of KS Youth Soccer Assoc. (30,000+ youth).

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

I was a 3 year volunteer at USD 266 as classroom mentor for grade school students. I have been a Master Gardener since 2021, volunteering on several committees including Therapeutic Gardening and assisting with the annual Youth Lawn Mowing Clinic.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

Some of my goals include ensuring that underrepresented groups have access to Extension resources. To promote collaborative projects between Extension and community groups. Have improved communication and promotion of Extension's positive impact on our community and to expand/improve relationships with local organizations to expand Extension's reach.

COMMUNITY VITALITY



AMY DRAUT



Please tell us a little bit about yourself: (occupation, involvement in Extension Programs, community activities).

Amy Draut, a Sedgwick County native, brings over ten years of leadership and management experience to her candidacy for the Community Vitality committee. She holds a Master of Public Policy and is currently serving as the Associate Director at the Neighboring Movement, where she leads community-centered initiatives aimed at fostering local prosperity and equitable development.

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

In her previous role as a K-State Research & Extension Agent, Amy supported vital food access and nutrition programs that strengthen community resilience and well-being. This experience enables her to bring a unique lens and understanding of Extension and its role in Sedgwick County.

Amy's expertise spans ethical leadership, stakeholder engagement, team facilitation, and project coordination. She is skilled in guiding collaborative processes—whether through meeting facilitation, policy analysis, or grant writing—to identify solutions that reflect community voices and drive meaningful impact.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

With a background in public policy, program management, and grassroots advocacy, Amy is dedicated to promoting inclusive community vitality initiatives that balance local needs with a long-term vision. Her candidacy for the Community Vitality committee is rooted in active listening, problem-solving, and a passion for helping Wichita thrive.

COMMUNITY VITALITY



LEANNE MILLER



Please tell us a little bit about yourself: (occupation, involvement in Extension Programs, community activities).

I currently serve as Chief Strategy Officer for OneRise, Inc., a nonprofit health campus initiative in Wichita, Kansas. My career spans over 27 years in philanthropic fundraising, operations, consulting, and nonprofit leadership, with extensive experience supporting vulnerable populations, including seniors, foster youth, the hungry, homeless, disabled, and survivors of abuse.

I am an active community advocate, deeply engaged in behavioral health, wellness, housing, and workforce development efforts. My volunteer leadership includes serving with the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Heartland Chapter, where I lead mentorship programs. I also serve on the board of directors for Hope Medical Forensic Services.

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

I have partnered with K-State Research and Extension through the OneRise Agri-Horticultural Therapy and Sweet Corn Initiative, collaborating with K-State specialists to support horticulture therapy, volunteer engagement, and community wellness education.

My background includes developing and facilitating mentorship programs, leadership development workshops, and community learning initiatives for vulnerable and underserved populations.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

Community Vitality PDC Goals – EFNEP Focus

- Expand food & nutrition education to underserved families in Sedgwick County.
- Promote health equity by reducing food insecurity and improving wellness outcomes.
- Connect EFNEP with community vitality efforts in housing, workforce, and behavioral health.
- Build partnerships with schools, nonprofits, and healthcare providers.
- Engage youth & families in practical nutrition, gardening, and wellness programs.
- Track impact & ensure sustainability through clear metrics and resources.

COMMUNITY VITALITY

KELLI GARST



Please tell us a little bit about yourself: (occupation, involvement in Extension Programs, community activities).

I was raised in rural North Central Kansas and developed a deeper connection to K-State Research and Extension programs after marrying a farmer. Over the years, I've had multiple opportunities to be involved in a variety of Extension programs that support and strengthen Kansas communities.

As well as being a homemaker and mother, I began a career in social services, where I've worked for the past 25 years. Throughout this time, I have continued to engage with Extension programs in both personal and professional capacities.

Personally, I've participated in cooking classes, energy-saving workshops (about eight years ago), and am a frequent attendee of Saturday market days. I've also encouraged countless families I've worked with to utilize Extension resources, enrolling them in classes that promote self-sufficiency and wellness.

My children were all active in 4-H, and I proudly served as their club leader. My grandsons recently completed the lawn mowing program through Extension, which was a great learning opportunity for them. I was also active in the Family and Community Education (FCE) club and the Homemakers Unit during the years I lived in different Kansas counties. Additionally, I've entered many items in local county fairs and the Kansas State Fair earning a few ribbons along the way.

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

As mentioned, I was actively involved in 4-H as a parent and leader, guiding my children through their projects and leadership development. I've also been involved in adult education programs offered through K-State Research and Extension, such as home economics, financial literacy, and food safety workshops.

Professionally, I've referred many individuals and families to Extension resources over the years, recognizing the value these programs bring in promoting lifelong learning, community engagement, and healthy living. My grandsons' participation in youth programs like the lawn mowing course reflects my continued support for hands-on, skill-building education for younger generations.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

Extension plays a vital role not only in supporting agriculture and rural life but also in promoting health, wellness, food safety, and financial literacy across all populations. My hope is that Extension continues to expand its outreach and accessibility—ensuring that both rural and urban Kansans benefit equally from the valuable programs and support it offers. I believe in the importance of equipping individuals and families with the knowledge and tools they need to thrive, and Extension is a critical part of that mission.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES



JUSTIN SHORE



Please tell us a little bit about yourself: (occupation, involvement in Extension Programs, community activities.

I hail from the small , rural Kansas town of Grenola, originally. My country upbringing is countered by my-life long career in technology. A career that has taken me around the world. I have also worked for a number of independent telephone companies and Internet providers throughout Kansas over the years, particularly rural providers. I now work for Cisco Systems as a Senior Network Engineer. I was elected to the Clearwater City Council in 2019 and am the current Council President. I have served on the WAMPO Technical Advisory Committee for 2 years. I was recently appointed to the Wichita Transit Advisory Board to focus on public transit as a regional economic driver and equalizer for the outlying and underserved communities. I volunteer for a number of community groups and activities, as well as my local senior center.

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

I am familiar with the adult educational programs offered through the Clearwater Senior Center and the Department of Aging, and I currently serve on the Family and Consumer Sciences Program Development Committee. I worked in the education sector for 12 years, mostly from the technology side. I also taught technology classes to educators, IT personnel, and summer school students. I was raised in a family with multiple generations of educators and grew up with education and public service as a way of life.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

The breadth of the FCS PDC and the programs it drives is expansive, which is fortunate because the need is just as expansive. We have a rapidly aging population in an ever-advancing world. Needs for this group of experienced citizens run the gamut from nutritional assistance to cyber security and technology awareness, elder abuse prevention to healthy lifestyle to enhance one's life through longevity. We can all do more to assist the most experienced in our communities. On the other end of the spectrum. studies have repeatedly shown that children can't learn when they're hungry. You have to fill the belly before you can fill the mind. Food insecurity underlies many social and health issues in a household. The FCS PDC's breadth fills those gaps. My goal as a representative from an outlying, rural community would be to help the FCS PDC spread awareness of the programs offered to those outlying communities, as well as help improve access for the underserved communities within Wichita itself.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

RAVEN ALEXANDER



Please tell us a little bit about yourself: (occupation, involvement in Extension Programs, community activities).

I'm the Mobility Relations and Grants Manager at Wichita Transit, serving for eight years. My role involves public outreach, education, and community engagement, along with forging partnerships to meet community needs and boost ridership through program development. As a Wichita native, I've developed a deep passion for improving my community. I actively engage in volunteer work with various organizations and agencies whenever time allows. My mission, both in my professional role and personal life, is to enhance the quality of life for people of all ages in Wichita.

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

An experienced community leader with a diverse background, including serving as a Girl Scout Troop Leader, and leading Boys and Girls Club programming in previous employment. Professionally, I have developed and implemented the Wichita Transit Travel Training Program. This program is customized to meet the needs of individuals or groups interested in learning to navigate transportation services.

What goals do you envision for Extension?

My goals revolve around empowering the Wichita community through collaboration. By working together, we can address the diverse needs of our residents, ensuring that every voice is heard and every need is met. This approach not only addresses immediate concerns but also creates a sustainable foundation for our city's growth and well-being. Additionally, education and skill development are pivotal in community empowerment, serving both present needs and nurturing future leaders.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES



JANEA TRAPP



Please tell us a little bit about yourself: (occupation, involvement in Extension Programs, community activities)

I am a graduate of Fort Hays State University with a bachelor's degree in finance and have lived in the South Wichita metro area for almost 20 years. I am a proud military spouse and mother to an active teenage son. Currently, I substitute teach a Derby Middle School and enjoy being a positive influence in and out of the classroom. I have served on a number of committee's and boards. In addition to seeking a second term on the Family and Consumer Science Program Committee with KSRE, I am a recent addition to the board of Save the Kitties, our local cat shelter in Derby.

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

Through personal experiences working with KSRE, I have witnessed their agents' dedication and heart for bringing various nutrition and wellness programs throughout Sedgwick County. These programs and other opportunities such as SHICK providess vital information and resources for various age demographincs.

My goal for Extension is:

As a member of the Program Development Committee I will seek opportunities for K-State Research and Extension programming to thrive not only within the communities I serve, but find ways to partner throughout Sedgwick County to bring awareness to the number of services and untapped opportunities your organization provides to communities and individuals in promoting overall health and wellness.