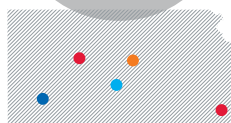


KU WORKS

for KANSAS / No. 6

WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR AREA



HUTCHINSON

KU prepares firefighters, workers for grain engulfment rescue

SALINA

Musical Theatre for Kansas performs in communities across the state

GARDEN CITY

KU work group addresses underage drinking in Finney County

PITTSBURG & HAYS

Kansas Recruitment and Retention Center matches health care providers with communities



The Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute at the University of Kansas is now providing grain engulfment rescue training in communities across Kansas.

HUTCHINSON

Training to Save Lives

KU prepares firefighters, workers for grain engulfment rescue

IT'S THE NIGHTMARE SCENARIO FOR GRAIN WORKERS: You're working inside the grain bin when you're suddenly engulfed by grain. You try to escape, but the grain acts like quicksand, making it impossible to pull yourself out — and difficult for anyone else to lift you out without specialized training.

To prepare firefighters and grain workers for this potentially deadly situation, the Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute at the University of Kansas is providing grain engulfment rescue training in communities across Kansas. The day-long course combines classroom instruction with training on a 35-foot trailer that includes a grain bin, grain hopper and equipment to pull a person from a bin. "This training will save lives," said Glenn Pribbenow, KFRTI director. "So it's crucial that we train first responders and grain workers throughout Kansas."

Communities such as Hutchinson, Garden City, and Pittsburg have already signed on for training, and the KFRTI will continue taking requests throughout the year.

"First and foremost, we train to prevent entrapments and engulfments," said Kim Forbes, chief of the Hutchinson Fire Department. "But it's important that grain handlers and firefighters be prepared to respond if the need arises." ■

MORE INFORMATION

CONTINUINGED.KU.EDU/FIRE



KANSAS FIRE & RESCUE TRAINING INSTITUTE

- The Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute at KU provides training for firefighters in Kansas through a "mobile fire academy" concept, which brings training directly to Kansas communities.
- The KFRTI trains approximately 9,000 firefighters in 500 events annually.
- Grain engulfment rescue training is possible thanks to a \$90,000 donation from the Kansas Grain and Feed Association, the Kansas Cooperative Council, and the Kansas Farmers Service Association.

SCHEDULE GRAIN ENGLUFMENT RESCUE TRAINING IN YOUR COMMUNITY

- To arrange for training in your community, contact the KFRTI at 866-804-8841 or kufire@ku.edu.



MUSICAL THEATRE FOR KANSAS

- **Musical Theatre for Kansas** is sponsored by the KU theatre department and the KU Alumni Association.
- **The group has already booked appearances** in Colby, Salina, Garden City, and Dodge City for the late summer and fall.
- **Communities interested in booking a performance** by Musical Theatre for Kansas should contact John Staniunas at stanj@ku.edu.

SALINA

Bringing Down the House ... in a City Near You

Musical Theatre for Kansas performs in communities across the state



Musical Theatre for Kansas is a University of Kansas student troupe that's performing in communities across the state, including Salina later this year.

MORE INFORMATION

KUALUMNI.ORG

FOR MANY KANSANS, GETTING TO SEE UNIVERSITY OF Kansas theatre students on stage requires a long drive to Lawrence.

But KU has a solution: Take the theatre directly to Kansas communities.

That's the idea behind Musical Theatre for Kansas, a student troupe from the KU theatre department that's traveling the state and performing in communities across Kansas. The seven-member troupe is performing the original production "Boy Meets Girl," a 35-minute show featuring 25 love songs arranged in a revue format.

"We created Musical Theatre for Kansas specifically for communities that don't typically get to see KU theatre or don't have their own theatre," said John Staniunas, chair of the KU theatre department. "In addition, it's a great opportunity for some of our students to perform in or near their hometowns."

Last spring, the troupe performed in Winfield, Liberal, Hugoton, and Topeka. It has already booked appearances in Colby, Salina, Garden City, and Dodge City for the late summer and fall.

"We'll go anywhere we're invited," Staniunas said. "All a community has to do is ask." ■

GARDEN CITY

Reducing Alcohol Abuse Among Teens

KU work group addresses underage drinking in Finney County



Jomella Watson-Thompson (left), assistant professor of applied behavioral science, and doctoral student Kaston Anderson-Carpenter are part of a University of Kansas work group that has helped Finney County address underage drinking problems.

FINNEY COUNTY WAS ONE OF THE KANSAS HOTSPOTS for underage drinking in 2007. More than one-third of teens reported having a drink in the previous month, and nearly 19 percent admitted to binge drinking.

Since then, Finney County and 13 other Kansas counties have taken steps to counter the trend, and the University of Kansas' Work Group for Community Health & Development was a partner from the start.

The Finney County Health Coalition identified factors that contributed to underage drinking and launched evidence-based strategies as a sub-grantee of the Kansas Strategic Prevention Framework-State Incentive Grant.

Today, the number of sixth- through 12th-graders who report having had a drink in the previous month has decreased 9.4 percentage points since 2007. Meanwhile, binge drinking — defined as five or more consecutive drinks — has dropped 4.9 percentage points.

KU's main role in this initiative was the application of its Online Documentation and Support System, which allowed county coalitions to document, chart and make sense of change.

"We help them understand change and what led to the change," said KU doctoral student Kaston Anderson-Carpenter. "This is not just for KU or for them, but also for other communities that can benefit from what Finney County has done." ■

MORE INFORMATION

COMMUNITYHEALTH.KU.EDU



- **Finney County and 13 other Kansas counties** have addressed underage drinking with the KU Work Group for Community Health & Development's Jomella Watson-Thompson, assistant professor of applied behavioral science, and doctoral students Marvia Jones and Kaston Anderson-Carpenter.
- **Finney County received \$962,000** as a sub-grantee of the Kansas Strategic Prevention Framework-State Incentive Grant.
- **The Finney County Community Coalition** has implemented 12 prevention strategies targeting factors influencing substance use, including academic achievement, family functioning, social norms, and enforcement.

Making Connections

Kansas Recruitment and Retention Center matches health care providers with communities

DR. ANDREA SANDOVAL KNEW she wanted to practice medicine in a small Kansas community. But upon finishing her residency in 2010, she wasn't sure which community would be the best fit.

That's when Sandoval contacted the Kansas Recruitment and Retention Center, a KU Medical Center program that matches health care professionals with rural Kansas health care organizations. She shared her professional and personal interests with KRRC staff, who suggested she consider a position at Hays Medical Center. Sandoval visited Hays and soon became the town's newest family physician.

"Hays has been ideal for me," said Sandoval, a Garden City native and KU School of Medicine graduate. "KRRC staff understood what I was looking for, and they suggested the perfect community for me and my husband."

Since 2003, the KRRC has matched 133 medical professionals with employers in 52 medically underserved counties. In addition to screening candidates, the KRRC provides technical assistance to hiring organizations statewide. The goal is long-term solutions — not quick fixes — for Kansas communities.

"The KRRC is a lifesaver," said Krista Postai, CEO of Pittsburg-based Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas, which has recruited several medical providers through the KRRC. "It's so helpful to have a program designed specifically for small towns." ■

MORE INFORMATION

RURALHEALTH.KUMC.EDU

Dr. Julie Griffin (top, right), a family physician with Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas in Coffeyville, and Dr.

Andrea Sandoval (bottom, left), a family physician at Hays Medical Center, were recruited to their positions through the Kansas Recruitment and Retention Center.

The KRRC is a program that matches health care professionals with rural Kansas health care organizations.



KANSAS RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION CENTER



- **Kansas Recruitment and Retention Center** services are **free** for health care providers looking for employment. There's a small fee for health care organizations seeking employees.
- **Adding medical providers in underserved communities** improves health care access and also improves the community's economy. In fact, one family physician provides **\$875,000** in annual economic benefit to a community.
- **Since 2003**, the KRRC has matched 133 medical professionals with employers in 52 medically underserved counties.
- Both **Hays Medical Center** in Hays and **Community Health Center** of Southeast Kansas in Pittsburg have recruited medical providers through the KRRC in recent years.

© 2012 Produced by the KU Office of Marketing Communications



ROCK CHALK, JAYHAWK.

GO (TO) KU!

Future KU freshmen:

**FIXED-RATE TUITION
FOR 4 YEARS.**

**RENEWABLE SCHOLARSHIPS
FOR 4 YEARS.**

*Submit a **complete admission application**
by **Nov. 1** to be considered for scholarships*

admissions.ku.edu