KU at Work: Barton County

The following profile highlights the services and support KU provides Barton County

Educating Leaders

Students

KU has 110 students from Barton County: 59 undergraduate, 37 graduate, and 14 students at the KU Medical Center.

KU students from Barton County have significant support in the form of grants, scholarships, and fellowships. As of the fall census, $354,794 in federal, state, institutional, and outside/private grants, scholarships, and fellowships have been awarded on all campuses to 51 Barton County students for FY 2015.

Of those students, 1,418 have transfer credit from Barton County Community College in Great Bend.

KU has 489 alumni from Barton County.

Building Healthy Communities

Business

KU has partnerships with 5 businesses in Barton County: 4 for career services, and 1 for continuing education.

Public Safety

The university provides public safety training to the state for law enforcement, fire and rescue response.

In FY 2014, 72 law enforcement officers and 104 firefighters and first responders from Barton County were trained at KU.

Healthcare – KU Medical Center

- 8 Barton County physicians serve as volunteer KU Medical Center faculty, providing students with hands-on training in rural and underserved communities as part of the Rural Preceptorship Program.

- Nurses across Kansas can now advance their careers from home, thanks to an innovative agreement between the KU School of Nursing and 18 regional community colleges, including Barton County Community College. The agreement provides nurses who have an associate’s degree in nursing from a participating college an easier transition to earning their bachelor of science in nursing through KU’s online RN-to-BSN program.

“...plays a vital role in developing our future business leaders. My KU education laid the foundation for my entire career. We must preserve KU for the success of future students, giving every Kansan access to a world-class education.”

— Dave Dillon, b’73,
Former CEO and Chairman,
The Kroger Co.,
Reno County

110
KU students from Barton County

5
Number of business partnerships for KU career services and continuing education programs

50
KU Medical Center graduates who live or practice in Barton County
Strengthening the Health Care Workforce

- 50 KU Medical Center graduates live and/or practice in Barton County.
- 9 health care providers have been placed in Barton County since 2004 through KU’s Kansas Recruitment and Retention Center, which provides placement assistance to rural health organizations and seeks to enhance the quality and quantity of health care professionals in rural Kansas.
- 4 Barton County physicians received funding through the Kansas Bridging Plan, a loan-forgiveness program offered to primary care medical residents who agree to practice in rural Kansas.
- 11 shifts were covered by temporary physicians, which allowed Barton County physicians necessary time off in Fiscal Year 2014. These coverages were made via KU Medical Center’s Kansas Locum Tenens and Kansas Medical Resource programs.
- 179 professional education and administrative visits in Barton County occurred in FY14 via KU telemedicine, an interactive video technology that eliminates distance as a barrier to health care, continuing education and inter-professional collaboration. The technology is operated by the University of Kansas Center for Telemedicine and Telehealth.

Advancing Health Care Access

- Barton County residents saw KU Medical Center health care providers 261 times via telemedicine in FY14.
- Barton County residents made 14 visits to KU Medical Center health care providers in outreach clinics held outside of Kansas City in FY14.
- St. Rose Ambulatory & Surgery Center in Great Bend is a member of the Midwest Cancer Alliance, a network of hospitals, physicians groups, and cancer support and patient advocacy organizations bringing cancer research, care, and professional support together to advance the quality and reach of cancer care, prevention, early detection and survivorship in the region.
- Great Bend Healthcare Center is one of 13 partners in The University of Kansas Hospital’s Kansas Heart and Stroke Collaborative, a $12.5 million federally funded initiative that seeks to reduce heart disease and stroke deaths in western Kansas by 20 percent. Led by Executive Director Robert Moser, MD, the collaborative will bring systematic change to treatment for heart disease and stroke in the region to help patients get the care they need closer to home, as well as reduce health care costs. The grant also provides funding for health education campaigns aimed at prevention and rehabilitation.