KU at Work: Ford County

The following profile highlights the services and support that KU provides to Ford County.

Educating Leaders

Students

KU has 84 students from Ford County: 46 undergraduate, 24 graduate, and 14 students at the KU Medical Center.

KU students from Ford County have significant support in the form of grants, scholarships, and fellowships. As of the fall census, $236,635 in federal, state, institutional, and outside/private grants, scholarships, and fellowships have been awarded on all campuses to 39 Ford County students for FY 2015.

Of the fall 2014 KU students, 129 have transfer credit from other Ford County postsecondary institutions, including 128 from Dodge City Community College.

KU has 349 alumni from Ford County.

Building Healthy Communities

Business

KU has partnerships with six businesses in Ford County.

- 4 businesses in Ford County work with KU for career services
- 1 business participated in KU continuing education programs
- 1 business provided research grants or grant proposals
- 1 business in Ford County provided charitable giving to the university through KU Endowment

Public Safety

KU provides public safety training to the state for law enforcement, fire and rescue response. In FY 2014, 129 law enforcement officers and 72 fire and rescue officials from Ford County were trained at KU.

Healthcare – KU Medical Center

Enhancing Student Education

- 6 Ford 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.

“Jayhaws are extremely successful in many fields of endeavor with worldwide impact. We should not forget the positive impact KU business leaders and graduates have throughout the state of Kansas. Kansans benefit in so many ways from the mission of the University of Kansas. We have an obligation to protect higher education and strengthen that mission for future students and all citizens of Kansas.”

– Al Shank, b’77, President of Al Shank Insurance, Liberal, KS

6 Ford County business partnerships with KU in areas like research, career services, continuing education, and endowment

37 KU medical center graduates who live or practice in Ford County
• Dodge City High School is one of 17 schools statewide that used Mini Medical School during the 2013-2014 school year, a resource kit for upper-level high school teachers in the biological sciences. The kit is designed to supplement and enhance their curriculum while introducing students to various aspects of the health field through fun and exciting projects. Mini Medical School was created by the KU Area Health Education Center and features physicians and experts from KU Medical Center and Kansas State University.

Strengthening the Health Care Workforce

• 37 KU Medical Center graduates live and/or practice in Ford County.
• 8 health care providers have been placed in Ford County since 2004 through the 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.
• 3 Ford County physicians received funding through the Kansas Bridging Plan, a loan-forgiveness program offered since 1991 to primary care medical residents who agree to practice in rural Kansas.
• 2 Ford County health care employers exhibited with 2014 Kansas Career Opportunities, which is designed to introduce medical students, residents and other health care professionals to rural communities looking to hire.
• There were 116 enrollments in KU Medical Center continuing education courses and conferences by Ford County health care professionals in Fiscal Year 2014.

Advancing Health Care Access

• Ford County residents saw KU Medical Center health care providers 80 times via telemedicine in FY14. An interactive video technology that connects providers and patients when distance separates the two, telemedicine services are provided through the University of Kansas Center for Telemedicine and Telehealth.
• Ford County residents made 34 visits to KU Medical Center health care providers in outreach clinics held outside of Kansas City in FY14.
• 360 Kansans received free medical attention and education in FY14 through preventive screenings and health information events hosted in Ford County with support from KU Medical Center programs.