

State Rehabilitation Council of Kansas
Kansas Rehabilitation Services

2010 Annual Report



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On the cover...

This 170-turbine wind farm is in Gray County in southwest Kansas. Below the wind turbines, spring wheat is just starting to turn brown in advance of harvesting. Taken on a beautiful June day in Kansas, the photo captures the State’s historic and ongoing agricultural strengths as well as our exciting potential through new opportunities. This balance between capitalizing on our strengths and embracing the future is also a recurring theme of significance to the vocational rehabilitation (VR) program. Our counselors work with people with disabilities to consider their experiences and strengths and to embrace the future by achieving their employment goals. Several Kansans who achieved employment are featured throughout this Report. We hope you’ll take a few minutes to learn how they capitalized on their strengths and embraced exciting new opportunities for employment, greater self-sufficiency, economic equality and integration into society.

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State Rehabilitation Council of Kansas

December 31, 2010

The Honorable Mark Parkinson
Governor of Kansas
State Capitol, Topeka, KS 66612

Lynnae Rutledge
Commissioner
Rehabilitation Services Administration
U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-2800

Dear Governor Parkinson and Commissioner Rutledge:

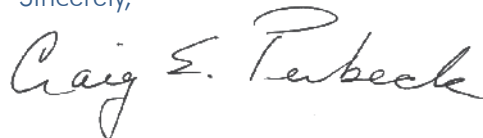
On behalf of the members of the State Rehabilitation Council of Kansas, I am pleased to present our 2010 Annual Report. This Report highlights the accomplishments of Kansas Rehabilitation Services (KRS) and its consumers in the vocational rehabilitation (VR) program.

This Report features the stories of many Kansans with disabilities who achieved their employment goals through the services and supports provided by the VR program. The types of jobs they achieved represent a diverse range of occupations: medical doctor, veterinarian, convenience store manager, custodian, cabinet maker, an electronics engineer for the FBI . . . and even an equine dentist! This diversity illustrates the significant talents of people with disabilities – talents which can contribute in all sectors of the economy and workplace. This diversity also represents an essential strength of the VR program -- the ability to individualize services, empowering people with disabilities to achieve employment consistent with their skills, abilities and interests.

I hope you will take a few moments to review their stories, as well as the statistical data provided about VR and the summary of the Council's activities. I believe the VR program and its focus on competitive, integrated employment are valuable assets for the State of Kansas and its citizens.

It has been an honor to serve as Council chairperson. Now and throughout the year, our members are available to you as a resource on issues related to employment of Kansans with disabilities. We welcome the opportunity to be of service.

Sincerely,



Craig E. Perbeck, Chairperson

Kansas Rehabilitation Services

Mission: Working in partnership with Kansans with disabilities to achieve their goals for employment and independence.

Goals 2011-2013:

- #1 Kansans with disabilities will achieve quality competitive, integrated employment and self-sufficiency.
- #2 KRS, its consumers, providers and partners will be accountable for the achievement of employment and the effective use of resources.
- #3 KRS will emphasize the employment potential of students with disabilities and improve the outreach and outcomes for transition-aged students.
- #4 KRS will emphasize the meaningful involvement of people with disabilities, public/private partners, employers and other stakeholders in KRS programs, services and activities.



Amanda Davis, Veterinarian
Centennial Hills Animal Hospital, Las Vegas

2010 has been a big year for Wichita native Amanda Davis. She graduated from the Kansas State College of Veterinary Medicine, got married, and moved to Las Vegas to begin working in a private practice animal hospital. She handles everything from routine vaccines to surgery.

Amanda says she knew she wanted to be a vet from the time she was a child. Accomplishing that goal took a total of nine years in college, and the determination not to let her progressive health condition become a barrier.

"During that time, my counselor was very helpful and kept me on track for the long process," she said. "The VR process was very goal oriented and very positive. I don't think I could have done it without my counselor."

Now that she's working, Amanda especially appreciates access to health insurance, which she identifies as her No. 1 priority. She also appreciates the mentoring she is receiving through other staff at the hospital, and the opportunity to become friends with many of her co-workers.

"Most of all I appreciate the freedom to be able to do what I want," she said. "I have the self-satisfaction of knowing I can do it. I had a huge goal and I've lived up to it."

She believes work contributes to having a positive attitude, opportunities to meet people, and a healthy lifestyle. "I'm in a place now where people look up to me," she said. "I want to help others know they can reach their goals. If I can do it, they can too."





Tim Hodges, Custodian
Ballard Community Center, Lawrence

While in high school, Tim tried out a variety of jobs. He worked at a hospital, a pet store, a grocery store and a college dorm. Having opportunities to try out a variety of work settings is an important part of the transition from high school for youth with disabilities. Through such work experiences, young individuals have the opportunity to learn basic work skills, such as customer service. They also learn about the type of work and work settings they prefer.

That was certainly the case for Tim. Thinking back on his various jobs, he said: "I discovered that I don't like parrots so working at the pet store is not for me." He also recognized that although he did not like the atmosphere at one of his jobs, he did learn some specific skills that have helped him be successfully employed as a custodian.

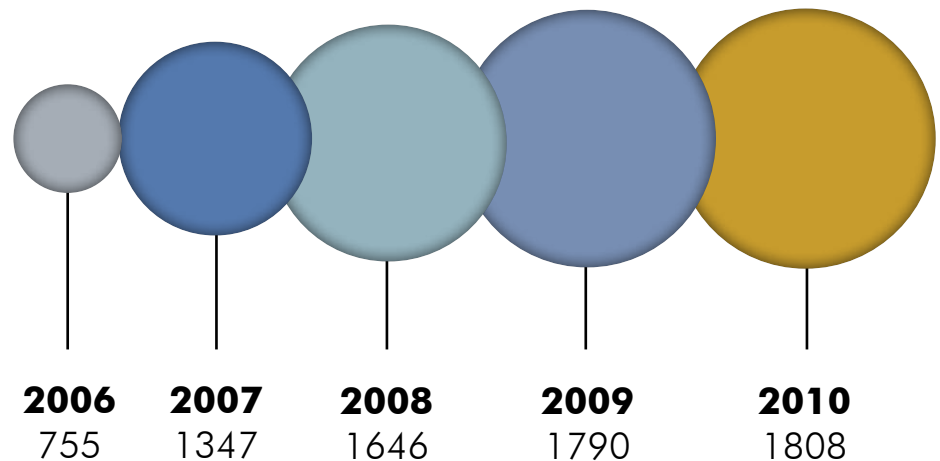
Tim has Asperger's Syndrome. As a VR consumer, he received job placement and job coaching services. His VR counselor also attended his Individual Education Plan meetings while he was still in high school to help assure a smooth transition from school to work.

Tim says he really enjoys working. "Besides the paycheck, I like the people and giving a smile to those who need it. If I didn't have this job, I would be so bored."

Does he have any advice for other young people with disabilities who are considering employment? "Keep trying and always look for the silver lining," he says.

Successful initiatives with transition students

One of the major goals of KRS is to increase outreach and outcomes for transition-aged (21 years and younger) youth with disabilities. As a result of increased coordination with special education, school districts, students, and families, KRS has experienced a dramatic increase (139%) in the number of new applications from transition youth over the past five years.



During the same time period, the number of new Individual Plans for Employment (IPEs) for transition youth has increased 170%. A total of 25% of all persons served are transition youth.

Overview of VR services

Vocational rehabilitation (VR) services are the cornerstone of KRS efforts to support people with disabilities to become gainfully employed and self sufficient.

The VR program emphasizes community-based services, integration and consumer choice.

- VR Counselors work in partnership with people with disabilities to help them assess their skills and interests, to develop individualized plans for employment, and to provide or to purchase the services they need to become employed. Services are customized according to each person's strengths, interests, skills, goals and informed choice.
- Services may include: counseling and guidance; physical and mental restoration; training; rehabilitation technology; and job placement.
- Supported employment helps people with significant disabilities achieve employment through job coaching and ongoing support.
- Related services, such as vocational assessment, supported education, independent living skill training, and training on the use of assistive technology, may be provided through a network of Career Development Centers and private providers.
- VR services also help special education students with significant disabilities prepare for postsecondary education and employment.

To be eligible for VR services, an individual must have a physical or mental impairment; the impairment must result in a substantial impediment to employment; and the individual must require VR services to prepare for, secure, retain or regain employment. If KRS does not have sufficient funds to serve all eligible persons who apply, the agency must establish a waiting list which gives the priority for services to persons with the most significant disabilities.



Facts in brief about VR funding

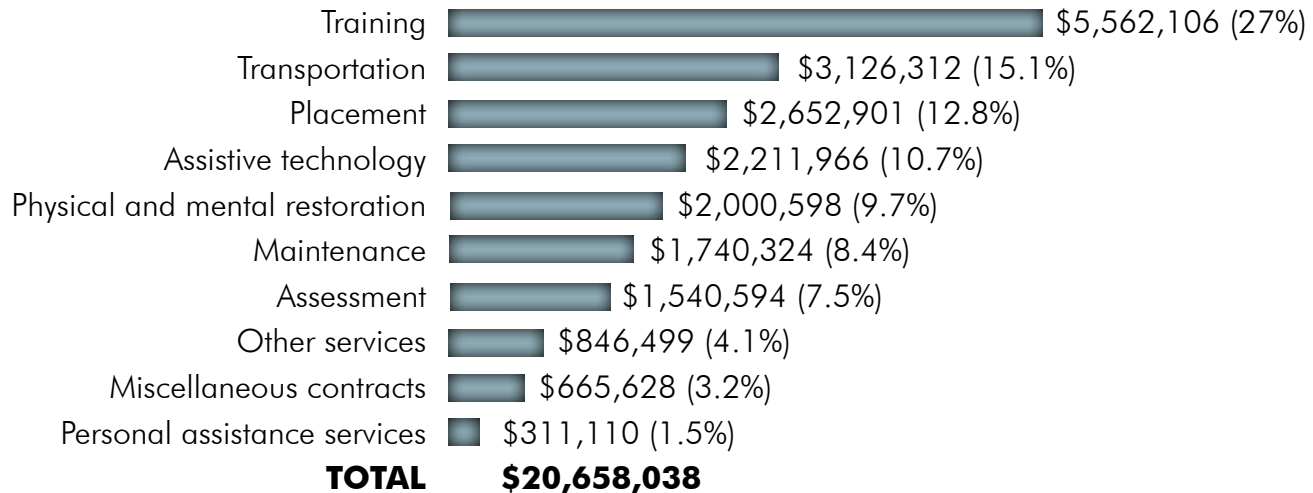
Funds available for VR and supported employment

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Title 1 (VR) | \$26,213,614 |
| Title 1 ARRA (VR) | \$30,500 |
| Supported employment | \$300,430 |
| Social Security reimbursement | \$30,875 |
| Program income | \$41,989 |
| Enterprise funds (BEP) | \$61,304 |
| State General Funds/Fee Fund | \$7,703,275 |
| TOTAL | \$34,381,987 |

Use of funds for VR and supported employment

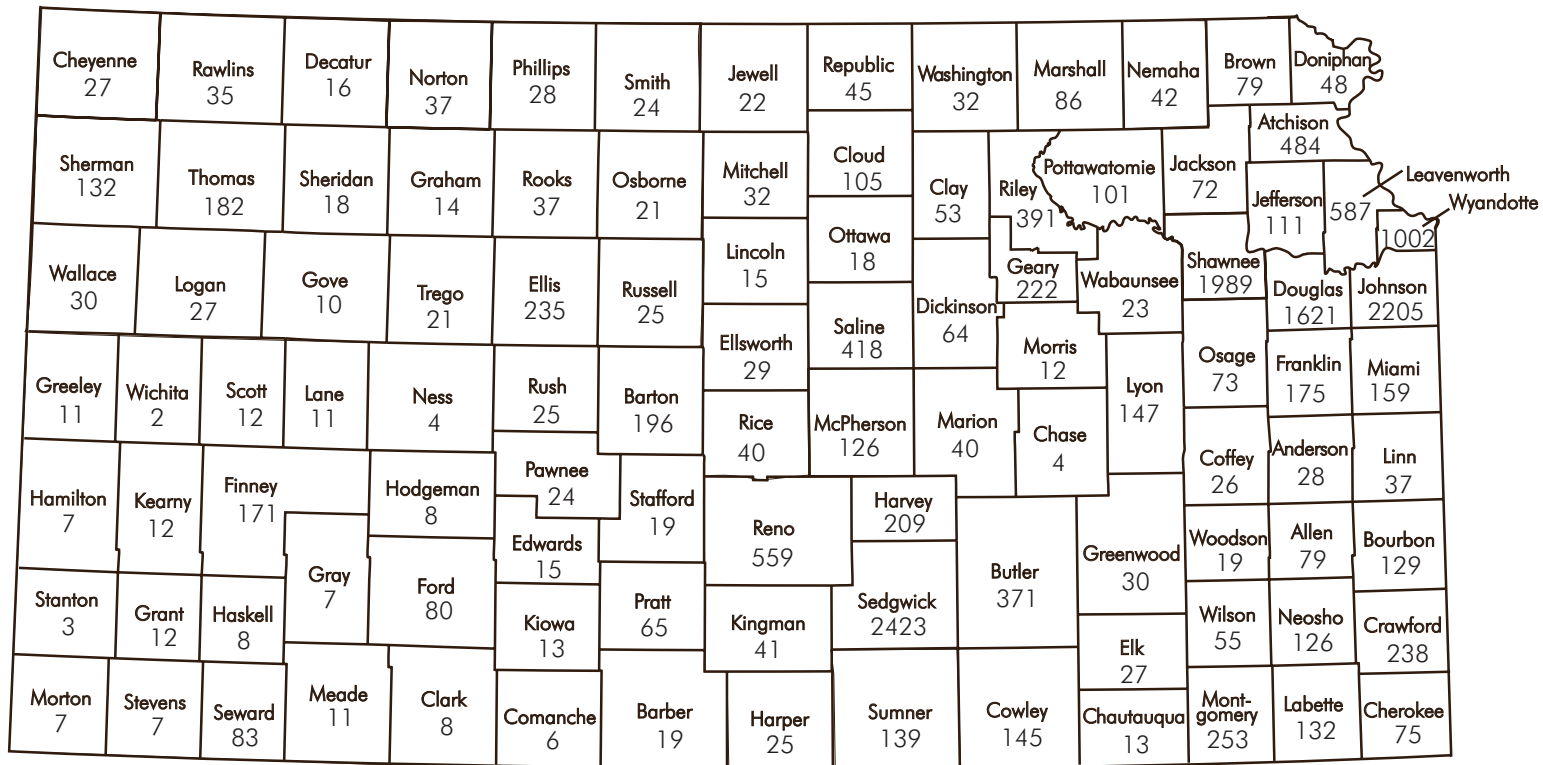
| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Consumer goods and services | \$20,658,038 |
| Salaries | \$10,628,669 |
| Other operating expenses | \$3,095,279 |
| TOTAL | \$34,381,987 |

Expenditures for consumer goods and services by category of service




VR program has statewide impact

The VR program serves Kansans with disabilities in every county of the State as they work toward achieving their goals to maintain or secure employment.



Unduplicated count of persons served in FFY 2010 = 17,616





*"I wanted to say thank you for the **help and support** you provided to me this last year. I have been working full-time as a file clerk. I think this is one of the overall **best positions** I could ever hope to find with some of the challenges that I face. It also provides me with an area of interest that I enjoy. Once again **thank you** for the opportunity, help and job training that you and your department gave to me."*

*My counselor "gave me **hope** for a brighter life and successful career. Thanks!"*

My counselor "is fantastic. He follows through in a timely manner."

*"I always receive **prompt** and **exceptional** service. I am never looked down upon and the staff are always helpful." My counselor "shows in his attitude that he enjoys helping others."*

*"I think my counselor is a great guy. He is really on top of his job. He makes me **smile** and **laugh**. He is helping me re-build my self-esteem."*

*"I just wanted to send you a short message of thanks. My daughter has very low self esteem, I think because of the rough time she had in school and a dysfunctional family life when she was growing up. I don't think I can thank you enough in helping her be the person I know she is and others will soon see. I just talked to her on the phone after the meeting you all had this morning and she sounded so very **positive** and **excited**. I haven't heard that in her voice for a long time. Many, many thanks!"*

The staff “have been **absolutely awesome** in every way. They always make you feel important no matter how busy they are.”

My counselor “was very **helpful** and **understanding**.”

“Being in the program has helped me in many, many ways. Not only have I regained employment, but also my **self-worth** and **self-esteem** have been regained. When I thought I was unable to work, the program helped me push forward. I would like to thank my counselor from the **bottom of my heart** for always being there to assist and guide when needed.”

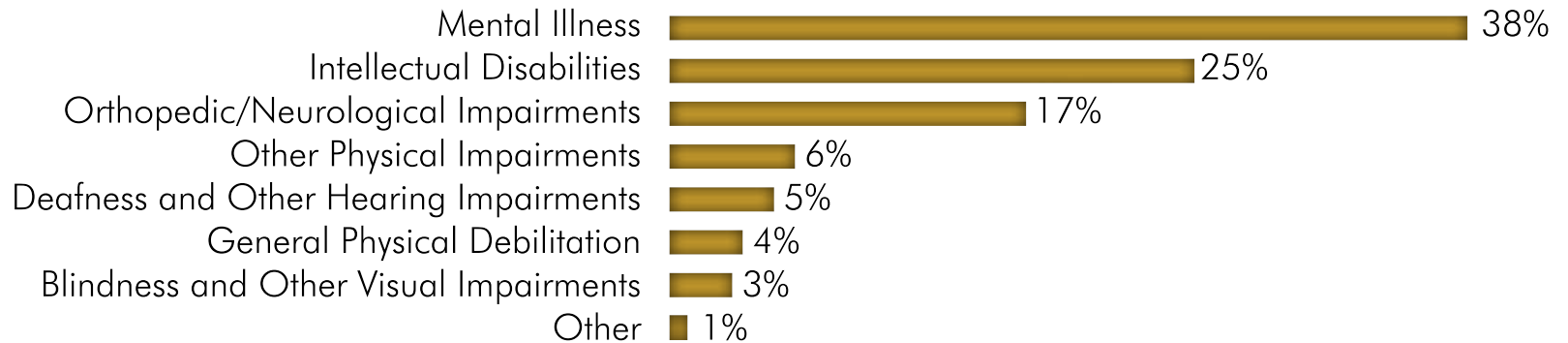
“I love COLLEGE!!!! It’s going great. I could never repay you, Voc Rehab or the State of Kansas for the opportunities you have given me. The possibilities this education will bring me are limitless. You’re giving my son and I a life we could only dream of. Thank you so much.”

My counselor “always goes **above and beyond** to help me succeed.”

“You guys have **helped me tremendously**. I wouldn’t be where I am today if had not been for you. Thanks for being there for me. You have never given up on me.”



Primary disabilities of persons served



Persons with Traumatic Brain Injury as the cause of their disability represented 1.8% of persons served. Persons with Autism as the cause of disability represented 1.6% of persons served.

Intellectual disabilities includes persons with learning disabilities, mental retardation and other cognitive impairments. Other includes persons who are deaf-blind and persons with communicative or respiratory impairments.



Jim Kleinsorge
Independent Living Specialist
Southeast Kansas Independent Living Center, Parsons

Jim Kleinsorge has an impressive work history, and with a little help from VR he is able to retain his job as an independent living specialist.

"I began working at age 16," Jim said. "Everyone in my family works, that's just what we do. It was always what I was supposed to do also."

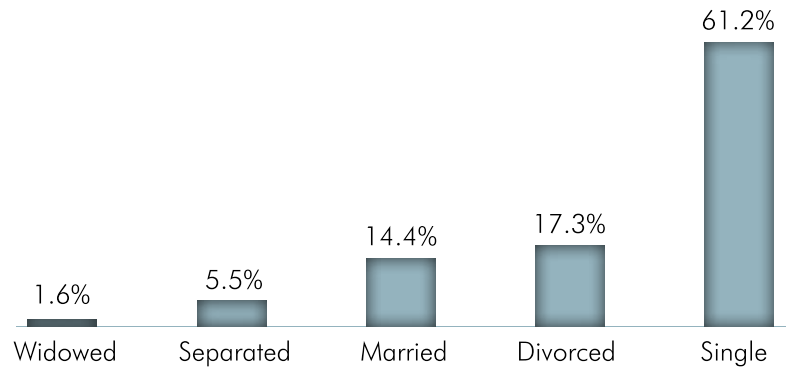
His first job was bookkeeping at his father's three service stations. Later he began doing mechanical work on customers' cars. After completing college, he worked as a case manager and then discovered his passion for working as an independent living specialist. By providing training, counseling and advocacy, Jim helps people with disabilities to live independently in their own homes and communities. He has been doing this work for 25 years, first in northwest Kansas and currently in the southeast region.

Jim has Cerebral Palsy and arthritis. Recently he noticed that his ability to walk, bend and grasp objects was diminishing. VR assisted Jim in getting a power wheelchair, helping him keep up with an extensive schedule of work, community meetings and appointments. He also now has a service dog for assistance with picking things up and opening doors.

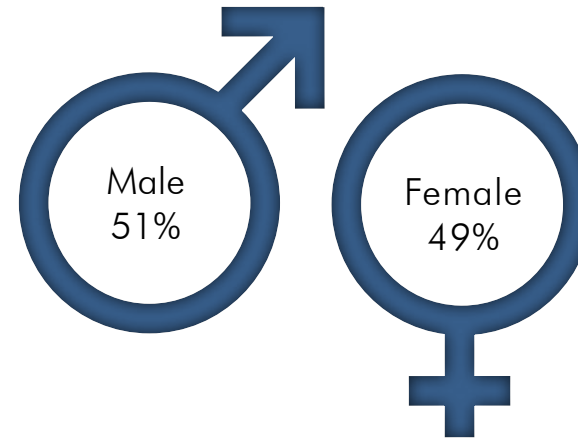
Jim says that VR has helped him keep a job he loves doing. "I would recommend VR," he said. "They know what they are doing."

Demographics of VR consumers

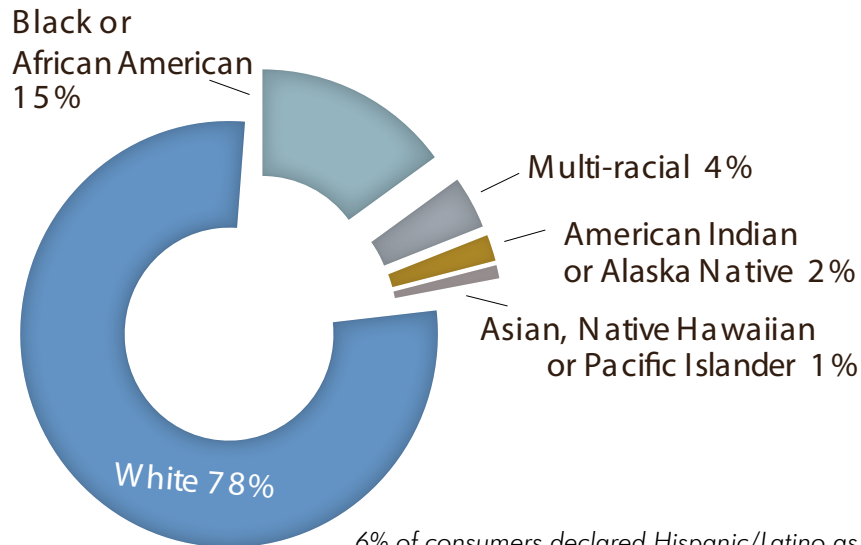
marital status of persons served



gender of persons served



race and ethnicity of persons served



6% of consumers declared Hispanic/Latino as their ethnic background.



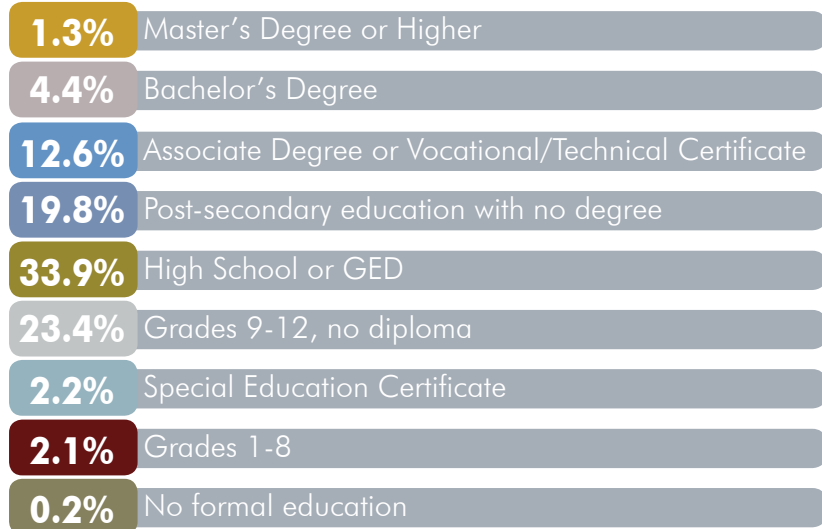
Donna Loving
Assistant Manager
Casey's General Store, Chanute

As a person with a significant hearing loss, Donna Loving was having difficulty hearing instructions from her supervisor and questions from customers at the Casey's General Store in Chanute. Since she received assistance from VR to get hearing aids, things have been looking up for her.

She has been promoted to assistant manager. "Now I make enough money that I no longer need Food Stamps to support my family," she said. "It's not a bad thing to get Food Stamps if you need them, but if you can get off assistance it is better."

Donna sees a bright future ahead. "I plan on being a manager and having my own store one day," she said. "I take a lot of pride in my work and I like what I do. I like knowing I can be recognized for hard work."

educational background of applicants



17,616

Number of persons served; 25% were transition-aged youth with disabilities (ages 21 or younger at the time of application).

8,040

Number of new applicants seeking opportunities for employment.

22 months

The average length of time from application to successful employment.

VR outcomes

As a result of VR services, the following outcomes were achieved:

1,452

A total of 1,452 Kansans with disabilities completed their individualized plans for employment in FFY 2010 and achieved their employment goals. 94% of these individuals had significant disabilities.

327

VR also served high school students with significant disabilities, helping to assure that the investment in special education is further realized through additional career-focused postsecondary education, employment and independent living. Of the 1,452 Kansans achieving employment, 327 were individuals who first applied for VR services when they were transition-aged (21 years old or younger).



*Jim Taylor, Owner
JT Chopper Detailing, Emporia*

Being meticulous is in Jim Taylor's nature, and it's a characteristic that has served him well through his working life. Jim worked for many years as an electrical engineer, and had a specific expertise in converting operations at major industrial manufacturing plants to new technology.

"You have to be meticulous in that kind of work, for example with electrical panels," he said. "I look at it as a work of art, bringing a piece of machinery to its highest level." In 2004, he sustained significant injuries in an accident resulting in orthopedic disabilities. As time went on and he began to recover, he realized he wanted to get back into the workforce. "I enjoy working and I love a challenge," he says.

So he began analyzing his skills and interests, and that led to his decision to begin his own business in motorcycle or "chopper" detailing, a business well-suited to his meticulous nature. He received training from the operator of nine motorcycle detailing shops along the East Coast.

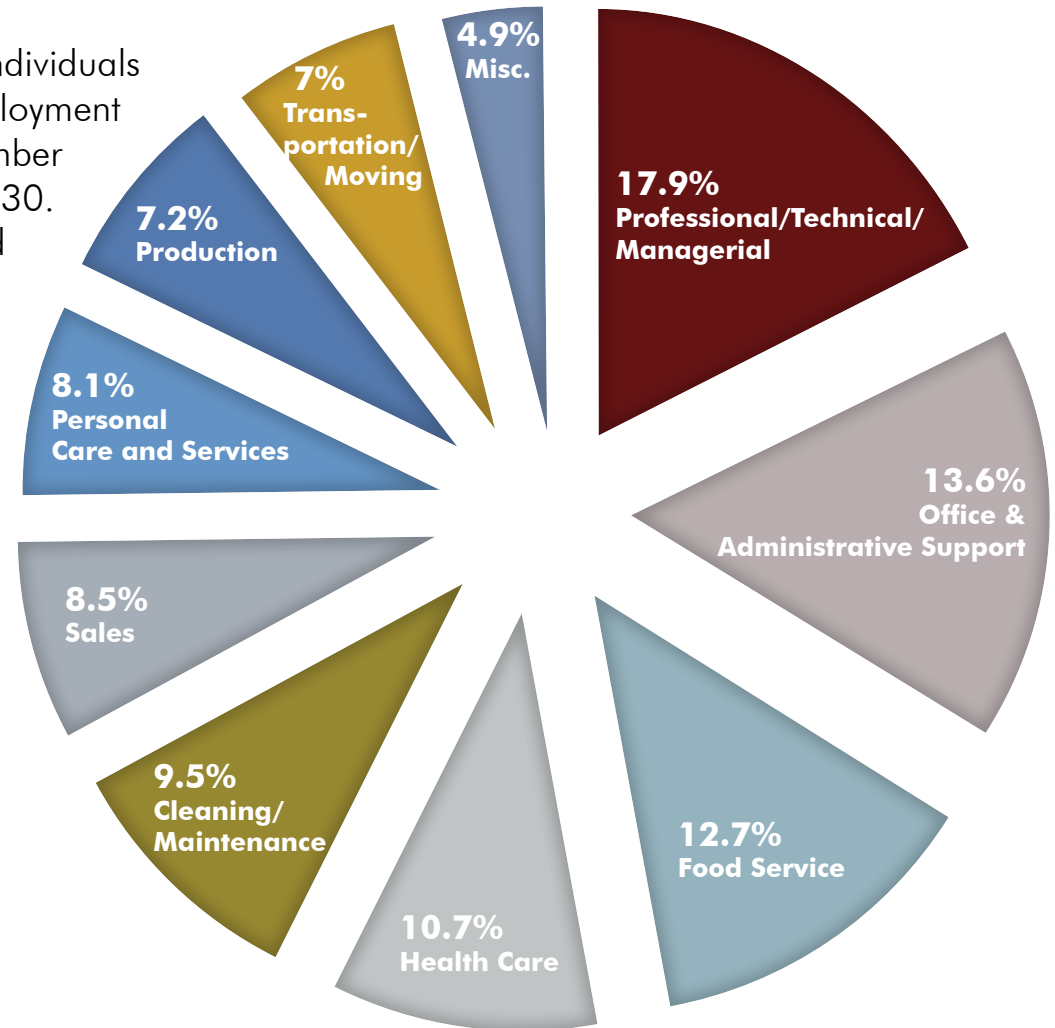
"He said he liked me because I was a perfectionist and picky about doing detailing," Jim said. "It has to be first class for me. When I finish detailing a motorcycle, I sit back

with a cup of coffee and look at that bike as a work of art. I can make a dirty, nasty-looking bike look absolutely better than when it was brand new."

In pursuing his goal to establish his own business, Jim received physical restoration services, uniforms, and assistive technology through VR. A low interest loan from the Kansas Assistive Technology Cooperative (KATCO) assisted in the purchase of equipment.

\$9.98

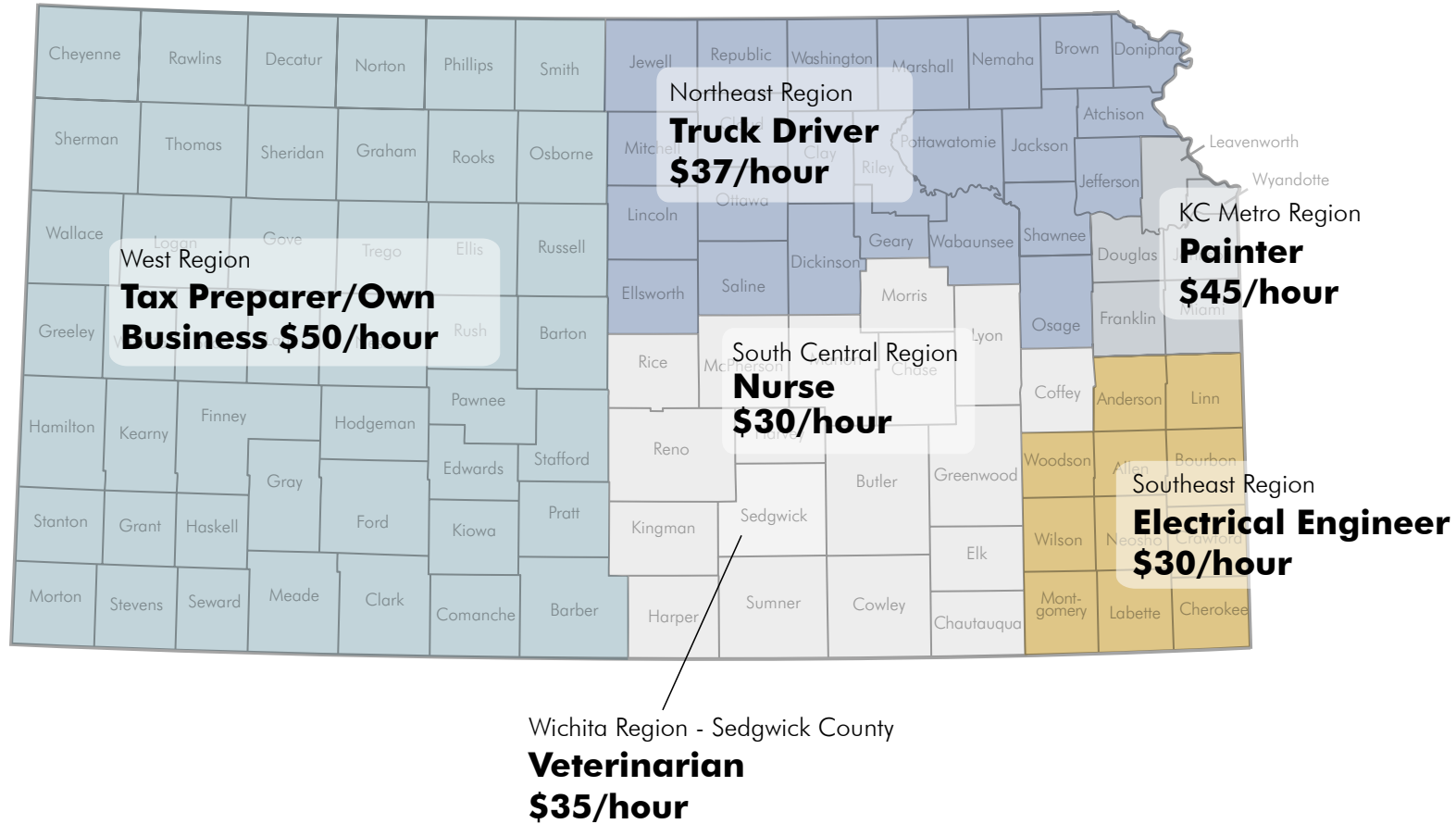
The average hourly wage for individuals who achieved competitive employment was \$9.98. The average number of hours worked per week was 30. Individuals who were employed found work in a variety of occupations, including the major areas illustrated in this chart.



Elizabeth Swartz
Courtesy Clerk
Dillon's Grocery Store, Hutchinson

"It's great to have a job," Elizabeth said. "I like to have money to be able to go places, buy stuff and go to the movies . . . and I get to do that now." Elizabeth has Asperger's Syndrome and needed some assistance from VR to transition from attending high school to having a job. Through VR, she had the opportunity for a community-based work assessment and received placement assistance and job coaching. She especially appreciates the help she received to prepare for her interview at Dillon's. "I didn't know what to expect and they helped me go over questions they might ask," she said. "It helped my confidence." As you might guess, the interview went very well. Elizabeth was offered the job, and Dillon's now considers her to be a "stellar employee."

examples of consumers with high-wage employment outcomes



All of these outcomes represent full-time employment of at least 40 hours per week.



A significant return on taxpayers' investment

\$18.3 million

During their first full year of work, the 1,452 Kansans with disabilities who achieved employment through VR services will generate \$18.3 million in wages, a substantial contribution to the Kansas economy.

A Multiplier Impact on the Economy

A study conducted by the Center for Economic Development and Business Research at Wichita State University shows:

- The employment of VR customers has a positive or multiplier impact on the economy.
- For each dollar earned as a result of a VR placement, there is about \$1.66 in total earnings through the economy.
- People employed as a result of VR services spend their income in local communities on housing, groceries, gasoline, services, and taxes . . . on life!
- As a result, for each person employed, there are about 1.85 total jobs created in the overall economy.

Favorable Match Rate

The match rate for Title I (VR) funds is favorable for the State, at a rate of 21.3% State to 78.7% Federal. The amount of the Federal VR grant is specifically allocated to Kansas as a fixed or capped amount.

Overview of related programs

In addition to VR services, KRS oversees a variety of other programs which provide specialized services.

Kansas Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Several specialized services are offered for persons who are blind or visually impaired. These services are:

- The Independent Living Older Blind program provides independent living skills training in the home communities of Kansans who are 55 or older who experience blindness or visual impairment. Services are provided through contracts with a consortium of independent living centers led by Prairie Independent Living Resource Center, Hutchinson; the Envision Vision Rehabilitation Center, Wichita; and Alphapointe Association for the Blind, Kansas City.
- The Business Enterprise Program (BEP) offers persons who are legally blind the opportunity to manage food service and vending operations in public/government facilities. BEP uses funds generated by its operations, rather than state general funds, to match federal VR dollars.
- Rehabilitation Teaching (RT) services may be provided to assist persons who are blind or visually impaired in adjusting to blindness, increasing independent living skills, and preparing for employment.



Brent Doyle, Cashier
Fort Riley Post Exchange



Brent was injured in a motorcycle accident as a young man and sustained a significant head injury. "I remember leaving the driveway without a helmet and waking up six months later in the hospital, and thus began my new life," he says.

After receiving job placement support and job coaching through VR, Brent is now successfully employed as a cashier at the Fort Riley PX. One of the perks of his schedule at the PX is that he can drop his daughter off at school in the morning on his way to work.

"I like working for the PX," he said. "It's a great store. I enjoy assisting the warriors who assist us every day. I get to shake their hands and thank them for what they do. I praise God pretty much every day that I have this job. It's a fun job, a cool job."

Brent also says he definitely prefers to work rather than to rely on the benefits system. He said: "I want to work. I might be old school, but it would seem backwards if my wife was the only breadwinner in the family. And it's such a headache to be part of the benefits system – more headaches that the inconveniences it alleviates. I don't want to get caught up in that rigamarole again."





Telemate Sokari, M.D.
Physician
The Cleveland Clinic

Telemate has a significant hearing impairment. To realize his dream of becoming a medical doctor, he received a variety of VR services, including tuition, amplified stethoscopes, hearing aids and other assistive technology. Telemate shared his perspective on the value of the VR program and the importance of employment:

"My counselor did an excellent job encouraging me, telling me not to limit myself due to my hearing loss. It made me feel really a lot stronger that someone was encouraging me to be the best that I can be.

"I can't imagine not working. It's what we do every day. We work, provide for our family, and provide for our society. Waking up every morning and doing something you love is a blessing, and I think I picked the career that fits right into that.

"I would encourage people who are coming out of high school to be the best that they can be and not let their disability impede them from being successful in life."

Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (KCDHH)

KCDHH offers technical assistance, advocacy, information and referral, sign language interpreter registration, coordination of interpreting services, and the Kansas Quality Assurance Screening for certification of sign language interpreters.

Independent Living

A network of Centers for Independent Living, which are community-based, consumer-controlled organizations, provide information and referral; independent living skills training; peer counseling; and individual and systems advocacy. In addition, the centers provide deinstitutionalization services to assist persons transitioning from nursing facilities to community living.

Disability Determination Services (DDS)

DDS makes medical disability determinations for the U.S. Social Security Administration on most Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) claims filed or reviewed in Kansas.

In May 2010, DDS received its fifth consecutive Commissioner's Citation for exceptional performance from the Social Security Administration. This Citation is based on number of claims adjudicated, timeliness, accuracy and customer service. Receipt of this award for so many consecutive years is unmatched by any other DDS program in other states.

Sources of funds for related programs managed by KRS

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Disability Determination Services | \$14,624,822 |
| Independent Living | \$255,131 |
| Older Blind Independent Living | \$132,111 |
| Rehabilitation in-service training | \$22,043 |
| Sub-total federal grants | \$15,034,107 |
| Social Security reimbursement | \$548,205 |
| Program income | \$25,826 |
| State General Funds/Fee Fund | \$2,396,539 |
| Sub-total other sources | \$2,970,570 |

GRAND TOTAL **\$18,004,677**

Uses of funds for related programs managed by KRS

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Services | \$7,555,075 |
| Salaries | \$6,078,347 |
| DDS consultants | \$2,007,545 |
| Other operating expenses | \$2,363,710 |

GRAND TOTAL **\$18,004,677**



Alysha Jeans, Electronics Engineer
Federal Bureau of Investigation, Quantico, Virginia



Forensic science. Audio recording enhancements. Voice recognition analysis. Although most of us only hear about these things on the news or in the movies, they are part of day-to-day work life for Alysha, a young woman from Wichita who is blind.

Alysha analyzes evidence for the FBI. It's not unusual for her to enhance audio recordings to eliminate background noise, to authenticate recordings to assure that no tampering has occurred, to use voice recognition techniques to identify speakers, or to use signal analysis to analyze a sequence of gunshots caught on tape.

"It's important to me to be part of the FBI organization and the good things we do," she said. "I may be only a small part, but I'm part of an organization that is fighting terrorism and crime. The work I do is meaningful and it has a direct impact on investigations."

Alysha was supported to achieve her employment goal through VR, especially with assistance to attend college and to acquire assistive technology.

"Now I'm able to support myself financially," she said. "I have a challenging new career, opportunities for advancement, and great benefits. I can save money to travel and go on trips, and to do the things I want to do outside of work. I can't quite imagine a life where I would sit at home every day and not work."

Council's report of activities

State Plan development

During FFY 2010, members of the Council played a significant role in updating the State Plan for FFY 2011-2013. The State Plan, which is submitted to the federal Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), establishes KRS goals and priorities. (Please refer to page 3 for the goal statements). The Plan also describes how the VR program will be operated in Kansas in several key areas, including order of selection, counselor qualifications, coordination with special education services, and collaboration with service providers.

Members participated in several work sessions where they reviewed KRS performance, identified priorities, and provided guidance for the agency. Some members also attended the State Plan Public Hearing conducted by KRS Director Michael Donnelly. This hearing was held on May 18, 2010 via interactive webcast connecting 12 Kansas communities. During the hearing, participants were asked to provide input on a variety of questions, including the following:

- Are there gaps in the employment-related service delivery system for people with disabilities? If so, what are they? What barriers exist to resolving these gaps? What opportunities exist for improvement?
- From your experience, do you believe there are unserved or underserved populations of persons with disabilities? In other words...who do you know who is not using our services but could benefit from them in terms of achieving employment? What barriers exist to their participation?
- What can VR do to improve services and employment outcomes for persons with significant disabilities? What are the roles and responsibilities of other organizations to collaborate in such efforts?
- What are the strengths of KRS and VR? Areas for improvement? Opportunities for greater collaboration?

In preparation for the State Plan update, members also attended stakeholder meetings that were held in six locations throughout the state during the fall and winter of 2009. A total of 176 individuals representing consumers, community service providers, and other stakeholders attended and provided input and feedback on KRS performance. Several issues were raised consistently:

- The need for more outreach and community informational meetings.
- The importance of working with transition-aged youth.
- The need for coordination of services for foster care youth with disabilities.
- Concerns about the economy and the impact on employment options for people with disabilities.
- Appreciation for counselors, coupled with some concerns about difficulty reaching counselors and return of phone calls.
- Identification of persons with head injury and persons who are blind or visually impaired as possible underserved populations.
- Strong affirmation of the existing State Plan Goals and Priorities of KRS.



Roy Lange, Self-employed Equine Dentist, Great Bend

Roy always loved working with horses, and had a 40-year career as a self-employed horse trainer. However, after experiencing a heart attack, bypass surgery and some resulting physical disabilities, he decided he'd better find a new way support himself.

He briefly explored the possibility of receiving disability benefits, but quickly decided he would prefer working.

"I knew I wanted to continue working with horses," he said. "That's the only work I had done my entire life, and I thought I would do it until I died."

He learned about an opportunity to train to become a certified equine dentist, and asked for assistance from VR to pursue the necessary education to work in this field.

"From the first time I went into VR, it was only about seven days and they had me on my way to Idaho to go to school," Roy said. "They helped me every step of the way. They paid for my schooling and helped with my business plan. My counselor kept telling me to go for it. VR gave me back my life, and I just can't say enough good things about it."

Now Roy provides dental services for about 15 to 20 horses a month. He works in Kansas, and about five other states.

"I get a real sense of satisfaction from the work I do," he said. "You can see instant results after treating horses. You see relief on their faces when their pain is taken away. I can do what I love to do and make a very decent living. I'm happy!"





Gary Robertson, General Laborer
Tolar & Associates Cabinetry,
Lawrence

In 2005, Gary Robertson had a massive stroke. During his recovery, he thought about the impact of his disability -- difficulty walking, inability to use his left arm, and speech impairments. And he wondered: "Would anyone ever give me a job again?"

With the assistance of VR, Gary has been able to secure a job that is a good match for his interests and abilities. He is now working doing general labor and clean-up work at a cabinet shop. VR provided a variety of services, including a high capacity cleaning cart and a self-dumping hopper so Gary can work independently. VR also paid for his enrollment in a fitness class to improve his strength and use of his left side.

For Gary, employment has great value for the paycheck as well as many other reasons. Since becoming employed, he has purchased a car and no longer needs to rely on others for transportation. He appreciates interacting with his co-workers. He is no longer using a cane. He has greatly improved the use of his left arm, and people have told him that his speech has significantly improved. His employers give him positive feedback about his work.

"This job is what keeps me going," Gary said.

This stakeholder input was also analyzed by the Council as part of the comprehensive needs assessment prior to making recommendations for the updated State Plan.

At its June 11, 2010 meeting, the Council unanimously endorsed the State Plan, as updated for FFY 2011-2013, for submission to RSA.

Review of regional operations

The Council continued its periodic review of KRS regional operations as part of its analysis of the extent, scope and effectiveness of VR services. Presentations from regional Program Administrators for KRS were featured at each of the council's quarterly meetings. Information presented related to staffing levels and experience, performance and outcomes, and availability of service providers.

Coordination with other organizations

Council members shared information about the activities of other disability-related organizations with which they are affiliated. At Council meetings, members representing the Statewide Independent Living Council of Kansas, Families Together, the Kansas State Department of Education, the Client Assistance Program, and the Prairie Band Pottawatomie Nation provide updates on their activities. This information-sharing facilitates greater awareness and collaboration among the organizations.

State Rehabilitation Council of Kansas 2010

Officers

Craig E. Perbeck
Chairperson
Valley Center

Robert Hammer
Vice Chairperson
Lyons

Members

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Larry Burnett, Hutchinson
Barbara Crooks, Manhattan
Michael Donnelly, KRS Director, Topeka
David Hanson, Shawnee
Shannon Jones, Shawnee Mission
Kerry Lustick, Salina
Lynda Maddox, Osawatomie

Rocky Nichols, Topeka
Christine Owens, Haven
Elena Rettiger-Lincoln, Stong City
David Rosenthal, Lawrence
Candace Shively, Topeka
Morris Taylor, Topeka
Anita Trainer, Wichita
Glen White, Lawrence

Council's mission and objectives

The mission of the State Rehabilitation Council is to work in partnership with KRS to help assure that the VR program:

- Is consumer oriented.
- Has sufficient resources.
- Results in quality employment outcomes.

In carrying out this mission, the Council's objectives are to:

- Build partnerships among people with disabilities, employers, service providers and advocacy organizations.
- Build a spirit of trust and partnership between the Council and the agency.
- Reach out to people with disabilities and employers statewide.
- Hear and respond to input from people with disabilities and other stakeholders.
- Carry out its responsibilities under the Rehabilitation Act.

Map of KRS locations

1 - Atchison
410 Commercial
(913) 367-5345

2 - Chanute
1500 W. 7th
(620) 431-5000
(620) 431-5042 TTY

3 - Colby
1135 S. Country
Club Drive, Suite 1
(785) 462-6760

4 - Dodge City
1509 Avenue P
(620) 227-8508

5 - El Dorado
410 N. Haverhill
(316) 321-4200

6 - Emporia
1701 Wheeler
(620) 342-2505

7 - Ft. Scott
710 West 8th, Suite 3
(620) 223-4010

8 - Garden City
1710 Palace Drive
(620) 272-5800

9 - Goodland
104 W. Hwy 24
(785) 899-5661

10 - Great Bend
1305 Patton Road
(620) 792-5324

11 - Hays
3000 Broadway
(785) 628-1066

12 - Hiawatha
810 Oregon
(785) 742-7186

13 - Hutchinson
600 Andrew Ave. S
(620) 663-5731

14 - Independence
200 Arco Place,
Suite 220
(620) 331-0350

15 - Junction City
1010 W. 6th
(785) 762-5445

16 - Kansas City
402 State Avenue
(913) 279-7000

17 - Lawrence
1901 Delaware
(785) 832-3700

18 - Leavenworth
515 Limit Street, Suite 100
(913) 651-6200

19 - Liberal
615 N. Kansas
(620) 626-3700

20 - Manhattan
2709 Amherst
(785) 776-4011

21 - Marysville
406 N. 3rd, Suite 2
(785) 562-5338

22 - McPherson
218 E. Kansas
(620) 241-3802

23 - Newton
411 Washington Road
(316) 283-3015

24 - Osawatomie
616 Brown
(913) 755-2162

25 - Ottawa
2231 S. Elm
(785) 229-8600

26 - Overland Park
8915 Lenexa Drive
(913) 826-7300
(913) 826-6406 TTY

27 - Parsons
300 N. 17th
(620) 421-4500

28 - Phillipsburg
111 E. Hwy 36
(785) 543-5258

29 - Pittsburg
320 S. Broadway
(620) 231-5300

30 - Pratt
400 S. Main, Suite B
(620) 672-5955

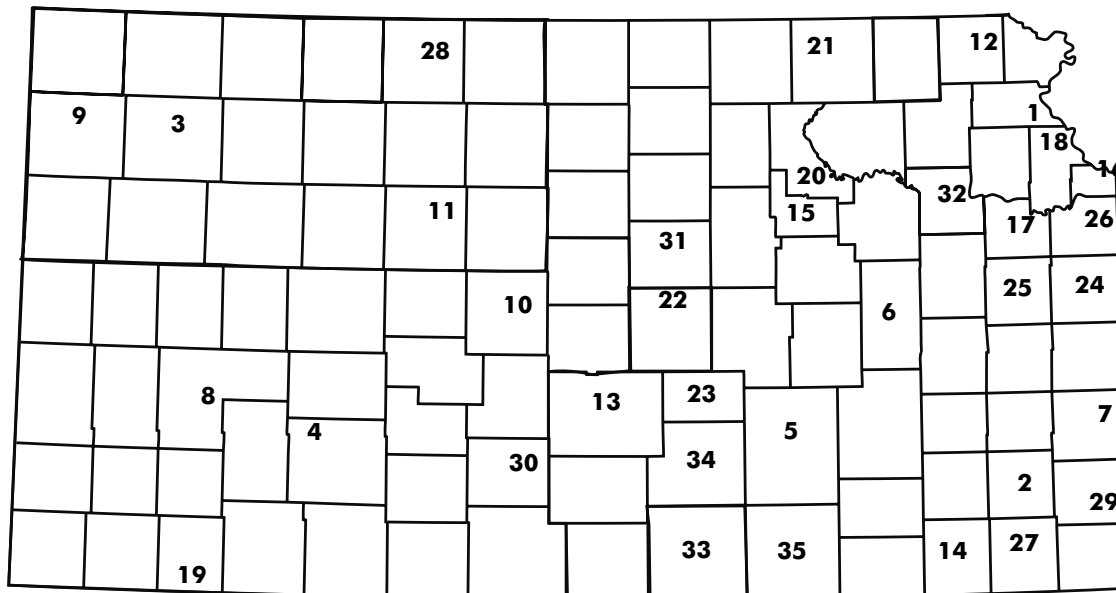
31 - Salina
901 Westchester
(785) 826-8000 V/TTY

32 - Topeka
500 SW Van Buren
(785) 296-2500
(785) 296-5815 TTY


33 - Wellington
1116 W. 8th
(620) 326-7439

34 - Wichita
230 E. William
(316) 337-6314
(316) 337-7097 TTY

35 - Winfield
1809 S. Main
(620) 221-6400



**For referral to the office
serving your community,
please call 1-866-213-9079.**



2010 Annual Report

This report is based on data from Federal Fiscal Year 2010.

State Rehabilitation Council of Kansas

Craig E. Perbeck, Chairperson

Kansas Rehabilitation Services

Michael Donnelly, Director

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KANSAS
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL
AND REHABILITATION SERVICES
Rehabilitation Services