



KANSAS RURAL HEALTH WORKS

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Program Agenda

- Overview – progress to date
- Final thoughts on community survey
- Review initial community concerns
- Summary of information resources
- Group discussion of needs and potential community initiatives
- Next steps???
- Evaluation



Community-driven Process

- Help foster sustainable rural community health care system
- Community-based, not driven by hospital, health care provider, or outside agency
- Local people solving local problems
- Community provides energy and commitment, with input from health care providers
- Public represented by you - community leaders who care enough to participate



Final Impressions from Survey

- What was most interesting from the survey?
- What did you learn that surprised you?
- What information was a cause for concern?
- How do you believe this information could be used?



Initial Community Perceptions

- Health-related concerns
 - Recruitment/retention of health providers & services
 - Some negative perceptions related to health care
 - Youth health-related behaviors
 - Age and condition of hospital
- Health-related needs
 - Recruitment/retention strategies
 - Community discussion about the hospital and support
- Health-related goals
 - Prevention and wellness strategies and support

Information Products Overview

- Economic importance of health care
- Health care resource directory
- Data and demographic fact sheets
- Community survey

Importance of Health Care

- Health services and rural development
 - Major U.S. Growth Sector
 - Business location concern
 - Retiree location factor
- County aging population
- County impact: 15% - 20% of total income and employment
 - Total Employment – 1,141
 - Total Income – \$27.3 million



Resource Directory

- More than most imagine
- Many wanted inclusion
- Potential future opportunities???
 - Update; expansion; distribution



Data and Demographics

- Declining population and income
- Increasing proportion of elderly
- Increasing spending for health care
- Relatively low income resources
- Transfer income/assistance increasingly important
- Elderly community care options
- Variety of “social ills” here as well
- CCHC under-utilized?



Community Survey

- General all around satisfaction
- Concerns about provider retention
- Half of hospital patients go elsewhere
 - Maybe good reasons – not within local control
- Minority see CCHC not meeting needs
- Most do not know whether facility upgrades are needed
- More community education needed



Where do We Go from Here?

- What struck you most about the information presented?
- What do you think could be done to maintain or improve the local health care system?
- What is the most important priority for future initiative?
- What resources or assistance is needed to achieve health care goals?



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Wrap up & Evaluation

Thanks
for your
Interest & Support