



strong families make  
a strong Kansas

Governor's Task Force  
on Reducing  
Childhood Poverty

March 4, 2013

# Mission



**Protect Children**



**Promote Healthy Families**



**Encourage Personal  
Responsibility**

# Strategic Objectives



**Strengthen Families**



**Safely Reduce the Number of  
Children in Care**



**Promote Employment**

# Strategic Objectives



**Responsible Stewardship  
of Public Resources**



**Build Public & Private  
Partnerships**

# Employment

***Competitive employment is highly valued in our society.***

***It provides meaningful activity, personal resources and social interaction.***

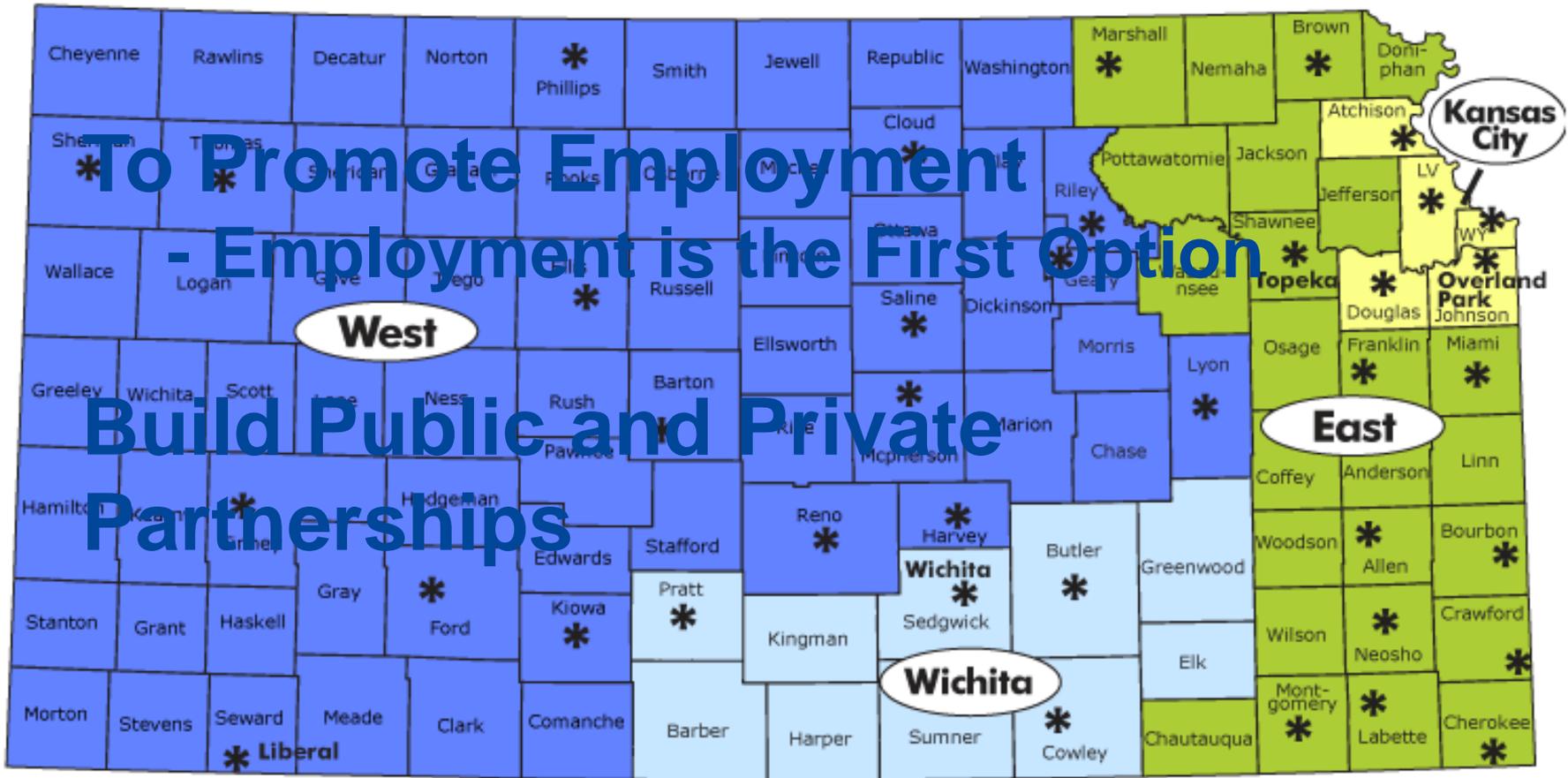
***For many, it is fundamental to quality of life and self-worth.***

***It is also key for a strong, stable family.***

# Identification of Employment Barriers

- *Attitudes of un-employability*
- *Lack of Transportation*
- *Cost of Child Care*
- *Generational Poverty*
- *Criminal Background*

# DCF Regions



To Promote Employment  
- Employment is the First Option  
Build Public and Private  
Partnerships

\* DCF Service Center



# Our Focus on DCF Strategic Objectives

**To Promote Employment**

**Build Public and Private  
Partnerships**

**Strengthen Families**



# EES EMPLOYMENT SERVICES UNIT



Jaryl Perkins, Director



Dan Decker,  
Employer Development Manager



Ruth Arensdorf,  
Work Programs Manager



Maura Hein,  
Admin Support

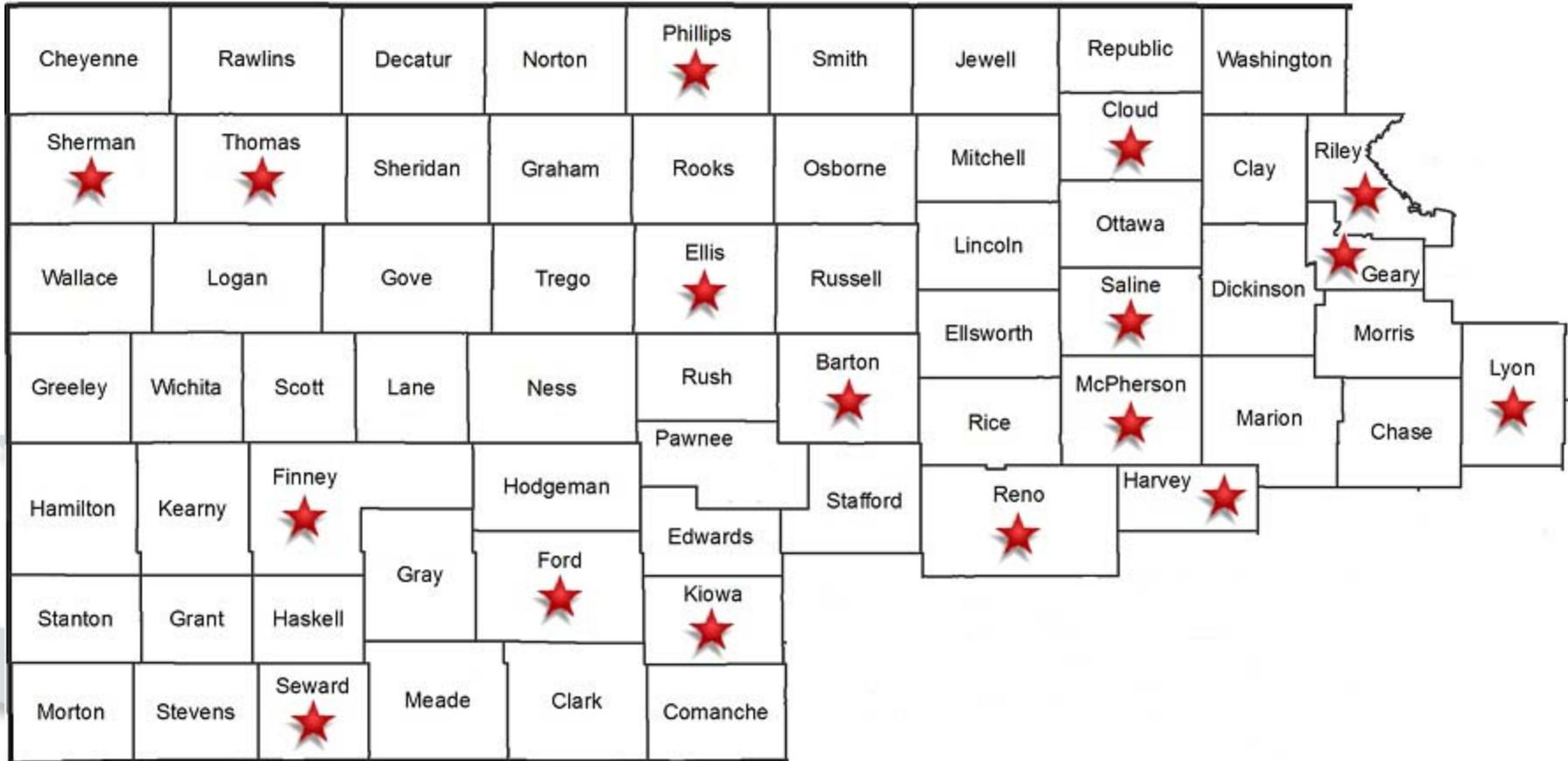


# Employment Services Activities

- KHPOP discussions with the Department of Commerce on their impact study
- AO-K discussions with Kansas Board of Regents/Department of Commerce
- Jobs for Americas Graduates (JAG) implementation (Judy Kennedy)
- Policy review and revisions
- Working with the Department of Commerce to standardize WorkKeys testing and certification statewide

- Have one staff member per region take the Kansas Department of Corrections Basic Skills Training course
- Partnering with Commerce, Regents and Labor on re-applying for a Workforce Initiative Grant
- At the table regarding KanCare employment pilots with KDHE, RS
- Workforce training for EES staff and cross-agency systems sharing
- Partnering with SOAR advocates to provide timely SS benefits to those who qualify

# West Region





## **Pamela Hann**

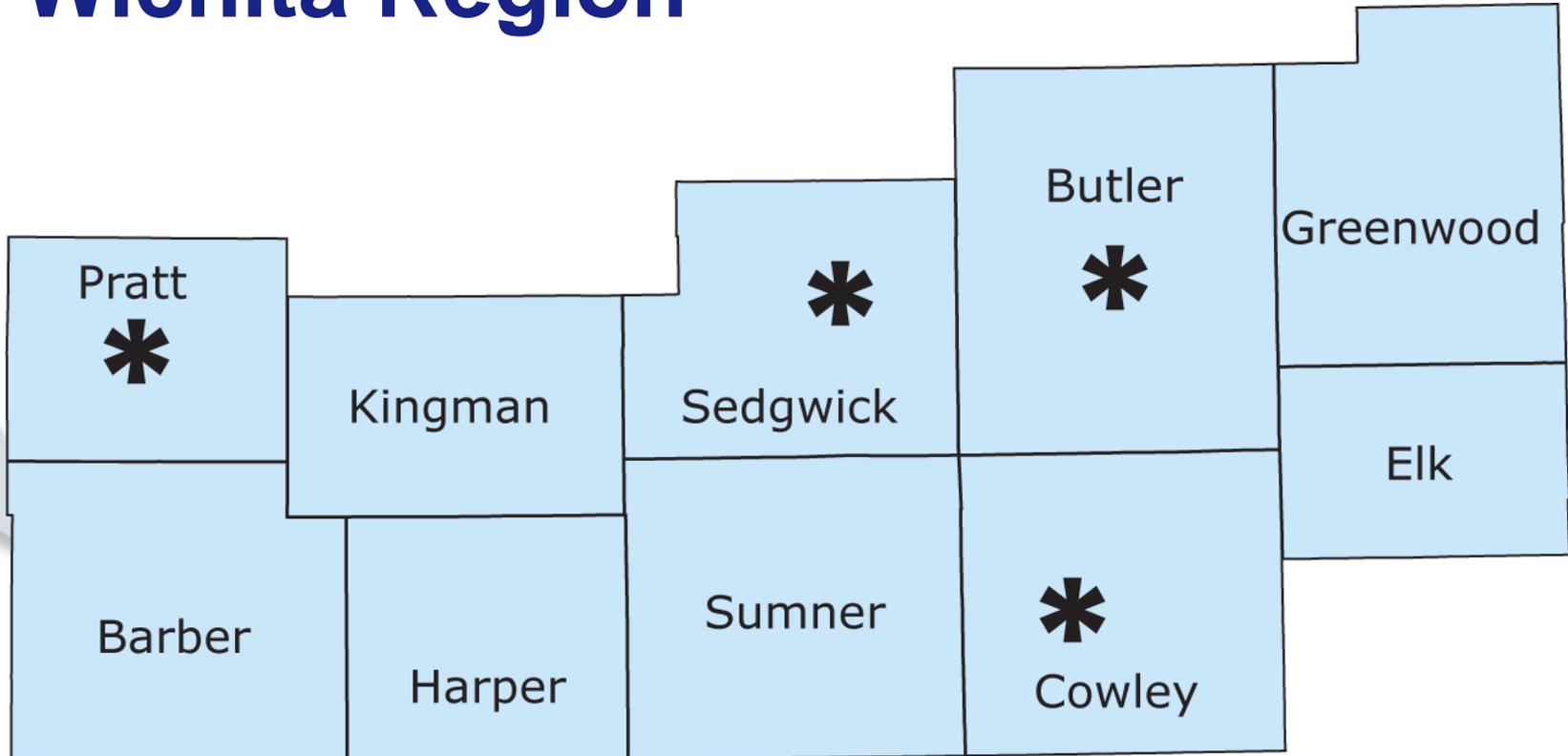
600 Andrew Ave,  
So. Hutchinson Ks 67505  
Telephone: 620-663-5731, ext. 281



# West Region

- Organized a community partner roundtable with DCF (EES and RS), Department of Corrections, Department of Commerce, and Workforce Center Area I
- Developing a “buddy program” between EES work program staff and workforce center staff
- Has worked with K-State Extension in the past, utilizing their financial workshops on budgeting, home and family resources, etc.

# Wichita Region





## **Marla Canfield**

230 E. William

Wichita, KS 67201

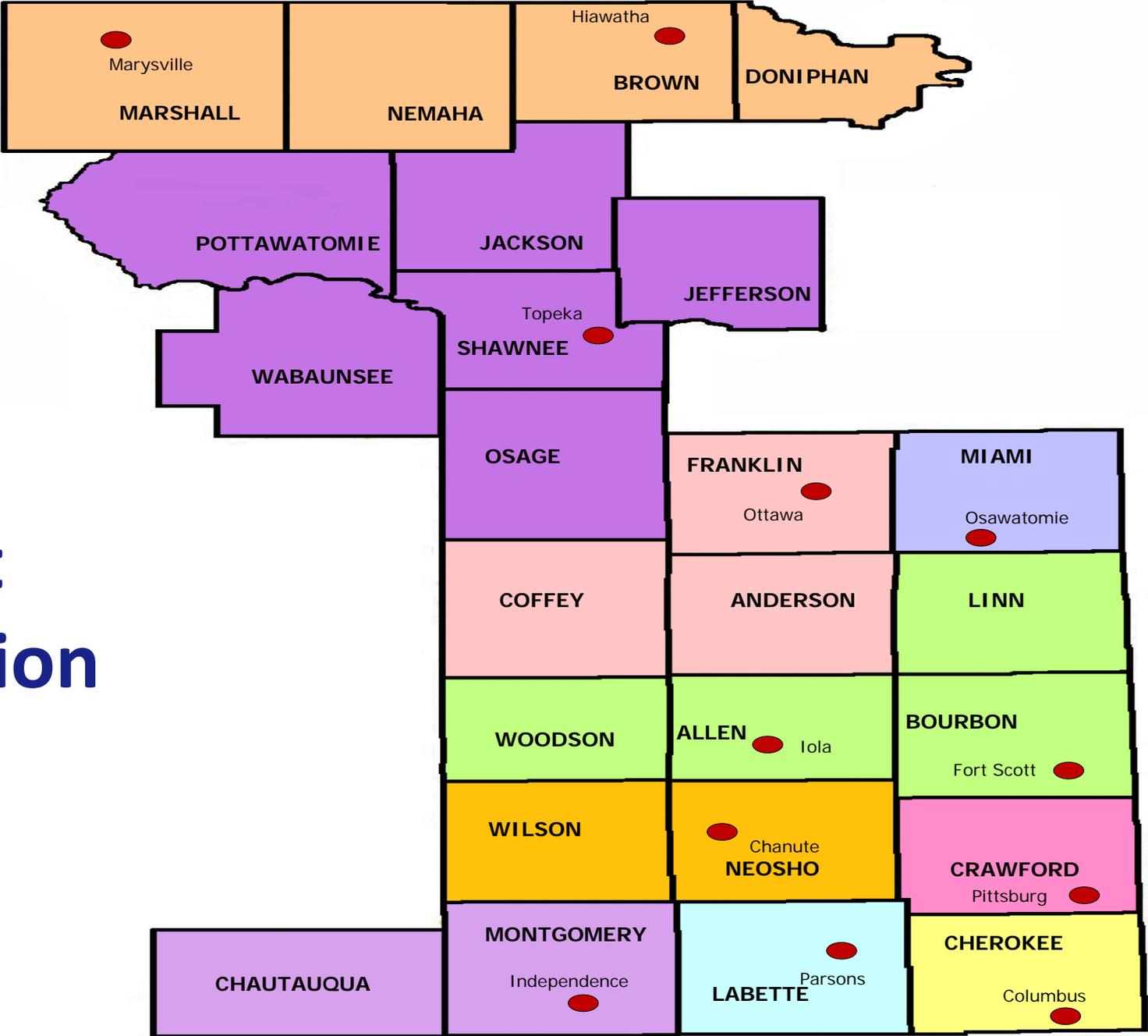
Telephone: 316-337-7117



# Wichita Region

- Local contact to work with United Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation on computer training courses they offer in Wichita
- Arranged for a trainer from the Department of Corrections to come present to EES work specialist staff on motivational interviewing
- Connected El Dorado work program staff with the Butler County Taskforce for Children and Families

# East Region



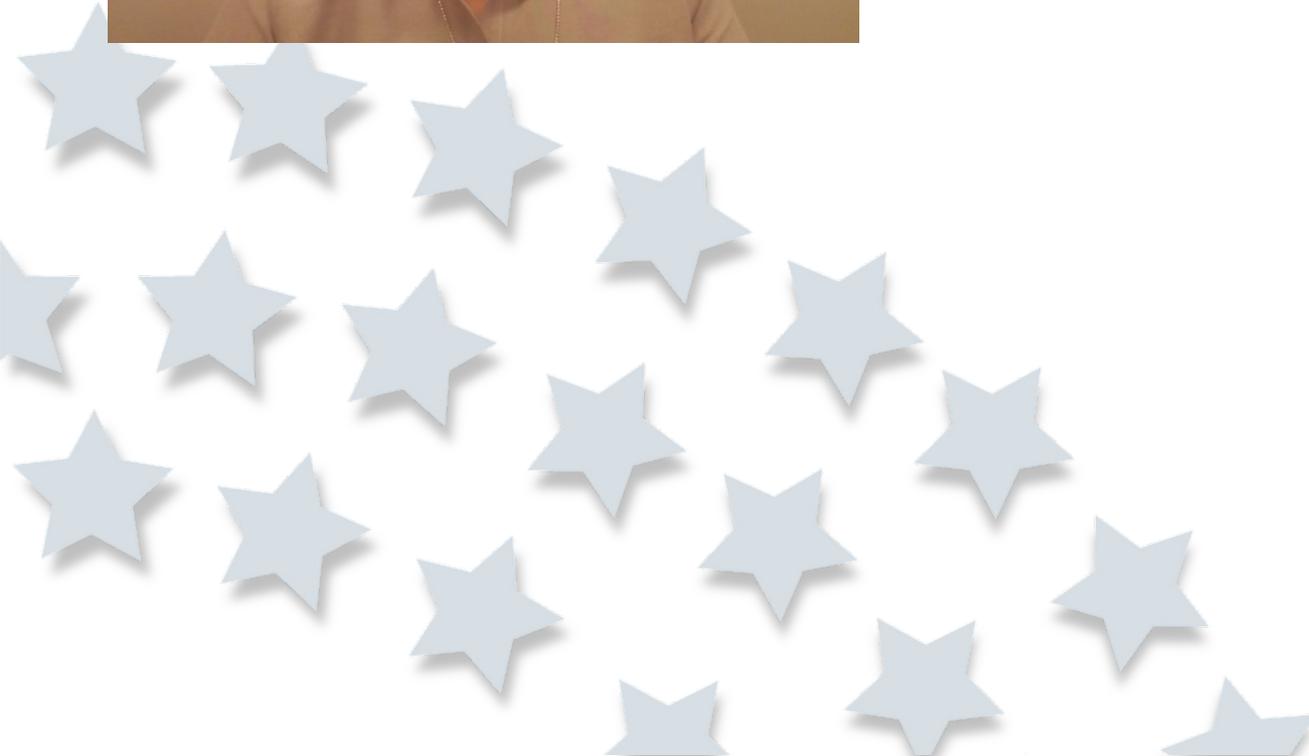


## **Michael Clour**

915 SW Harrison, Fifth Floor, S-43

Topeka, Kansas 66614

785-368-8132



# East Region

- Re-engaging with the Partners in Change program through Neosho County Community College
- Met with Washburn Technical School and toured their facility at Forbes Field, regarding their certification programs for production workers. Expanding group to include Let's Help and the Kansas Workforce Center
- Moving forward with Foley-Caterpillar

# Kansas City Region





## **Debby Helton**

8915 Lenexa Drive

Overland Park, KS 66214

913-826-7519



# Kansas City Region

- Developing a closer working relationship with Connections to Success
- Met with Director of Facilities at Sprint campus about our exposure to Aramark Food Services, Woodley Building Maintenance, Securitas Security Services, & Pitney Bowes
- Spoke with Donnelly College in Wyandotte County about a new curriculum “Intro to Engineering”, based on feedback from Burns McDonald about shortage of engineers

# Building Blocks to a Successful Employment Program



- ASSESS
- BUILD
- COMMUNICATE



- DELIVER



- EVALUATE

QUESTIONS?

