

WSU's Office of Community Partnerships (8-27-2024)
Committed to supporting community partnerships, services, and applied learning

Purpose & Goals

The purpose of the WSU Office of Community Partnerships is to serve as a backbone support and collaborative hub for community-focused initiatives housed in WSU offices aiming to strengthen the well-being of Kansas residents, organizations, and communities. The office will serve as resource for faculty, staff, and students wanting to engage in community efforts, especially in the public, social, and health services fields.

Goals

- Elevate Awareness and Interest.
- Create New Connections and Community Partnerships.
- Establish Applied Learning Opportunities.
- Provide Infrastructure Support for WSU Processes.
- Offer Leadership and Guidance.

Structure & Staff

The Office of Community Partnerships will be led by administrative staff with a strong history of community partnerships, including Scott Wituk, Misty Bruckner, Heather Perkins, and additional staff as needed.

Core WSU Centers

The Office of Community Partnerships will serve as the reporting structure for WSU initiatives with a mission of community service and partnerships. Once the infrastructure is in place, we would work with leadership and interested centers or initiatives to provide support and/or coordinated efforts.

Affiliated Partnerships with WSU Centers, Offices, Staff, etc

Other WSU centers, offices, and staff have an interest in community-oriented services, projects, and research. Each of these have different needs, interests, and experiences. The Office of Community Partnerships will provide a supportive structure for their interests and development. Given their different needs and interests, affiliated WSU partnerships may have different reporting structures and may include working with or supporting WSU community-focused efforts. College based community focused initiatives would retain their reporting structures within their colleges but may be affiliated with OCP to facilitate coordinated efforts.

Connection to WSU Administrative Offices

The Office of Community Partnership will provide support through experienced personnel in day-to-day compliance, administrative, contractual, research, and finance tasks. While these personnel and processes will not replace existing University support offices (office of research pre-award and post-award, purchasing, accounts receivable, accounts payable, property management, property control, payroll, HR, legal, applied learning, etc.), by supporting these responsibilities, we will bring cost and time efficiencies, streamlined processes, and an increase in compliance – as well as offsetting time and burden on these University support offices.



