



WICHITA STATE  
UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT  
AND RESEARCH

## WSU Center for Community Support and Research

Annual Report 2013

## *Vision*

That all Kansans use their talents and experiences to create thriving communities.

## *Mission*

WSU Center for Community Support and Research partners with communities and organizations to strengthen Kansas through education, leadership development, facilitation and research.

## Letter from the Executive Director

I hope you will join us this year in celebrating CCSR's 30th anniversary. Over the past three decades we have been fortunate to contribute to many local and statewide initiatives to improve the health and well-being of Kansans. These projects have reached thousands of Kansans through community coalitions, grassroots groups, nonprofits, civic and government institutions, self-help support groups, public health departments, state agencies, community foundations, schools, local businesses and other groups and organizations that are the fabric of Kansas communities.

### **A handful of the initiatives from the past 30 years include:**

- Community Development For Healthy Children
- Healthy Community Initiative
- Compassion Kansas
- Project Access
- A Statewide Network of Consumer Run Organizations (CROs)
- Leadership training and coaching for SRS, KDADS, and KDHE staff
- Building a Statewide Network of Certified Peer Specialists (CPSs)

In addition, we have maintained one of the largest collections of self-help support groups in the United States, providing access to hundreds of support groups for Kansans who are interested in helping and benefiting from other Kansans who share similar experiences. A true example of pulling yourself up by your bootstraps.

In order to be most responsive to the needs of Kansas communities and organizations, we've focused our efforts into several service areas (described in more detail below), including: Leadership Development, Organizational Capacity Building, Community Collaboration, Research &

## *The Center for Community Support and Research is proud to celebrate 30 years of helping Kansans*



**Scott Wituk**  
Executive Director

Evaluation, and our Mental Health Initiative. It is through these services areas, often working together, that we can assist individuals, organizations, and communities as they make progress on the issues most important to them.

Some may know that Evelyn Middlestadt, a Wichita social worker, started the Self-Help Network from her kitchen table. After her idea grew, Dr. Greg Meissen brought the Self-Help Network to Wichita State University in the late 1980s. Dr. Meissen, along with others, contributed to its growth into the Center for Community Support and Research (CCSR). Over the years, we grew from several small offices in the corner of Jabara Hall to occupying several floors at the WSU Downtown Center at 3rd & Main Street. Staff grew from under a handful to now over 40 full and part-time staff. The continued dedication and commitment of CCSR staff to providing the highest quality of work and assistance is why this Center has been as successful and why it remains a special place that I'm glad to be a part of for the past 20 years of my career.

While much has been accomplished, CCSR and its Kansas partners, have much more to do. I look forward to the future and excited about the possibilities.





*The purpose* of the Local Public Health Leadership Series is to enhance the ability of local health department administrators to exercise leadership in the delivery of Medicaid services to residents in their communities.

This Leadership series provides individuals a place to learn leadership principles and experiment with different ways of working individually and together to create meaningful community change.



*Seth Bate*  
Director of Leadership Development

## Service Areas

### Leadership Development

The Leadership Development Team works to create change in Kansas communities and organizations by designing and facilitating immersive leadership experiences. These experiences are expertly tailored to challenge participants' expectations, foster an innovative spirit and fuel the desire for continued learning.

**Recent activities include:**

- leadership training
- individual coaching
- team/group coaching
- peer consultation
- leadership assessment
- curriculum development

"The coaching experience has been very beneficial in my professional development. It has allowed me to have the ability to speak frankly about my shortcomings and issues that I have been dealing with internally in order to better understand how to change the way that I operate in my professional and personal life. It is not about the coach knowing everything but rather helping me to better understand myself so that I can deploy myself better. It has forced me to set aside time to consider actions to take to better myself and my office."



*Kasiab Rothchild*, Administrator,  
Thomas County Health Department

### Organizational Capacity Building

Our staff and associates combine well-established capacity-building techniques with innovative approaches that strengthen organizations and the teams that comprise them. We work closely with organizations' boards and staff to identify organizational capacity needs, develop a plan to address those needs, implement capacity building activities and assess progress on organizational change.

**Recent activities include:**

- strategic planning
- board development and training, board retreats
- succession planning
- meeting design and facilitation

"When we first reviewed the [succession planning] process with CCSR, I was struck by how vulnerable we have been without this aspect of planning," said Bruce Linhos, Director, Children's Alliance. "I pushed to complete the emergency plans for every manager as soon as possible - to reduce our risk. I see this as a team building process because managers gain an appreciation for the key functions of the organization and volunteer to learn new skills to provide temporary back-up support if needed. "

### Community Collaboration

There is a tendency in community initiatives for the participants to get involved in the passionate, enthusiastic fervor for change, while neglecting to build the capacity needed for their initiative to succeed. This is where CCSR comes in. We serve as a concerned, neutral party facilitating forward movement and accountability among partners. We help partners learn how to deal with the challenges specific to their community coalition while planning for the future.

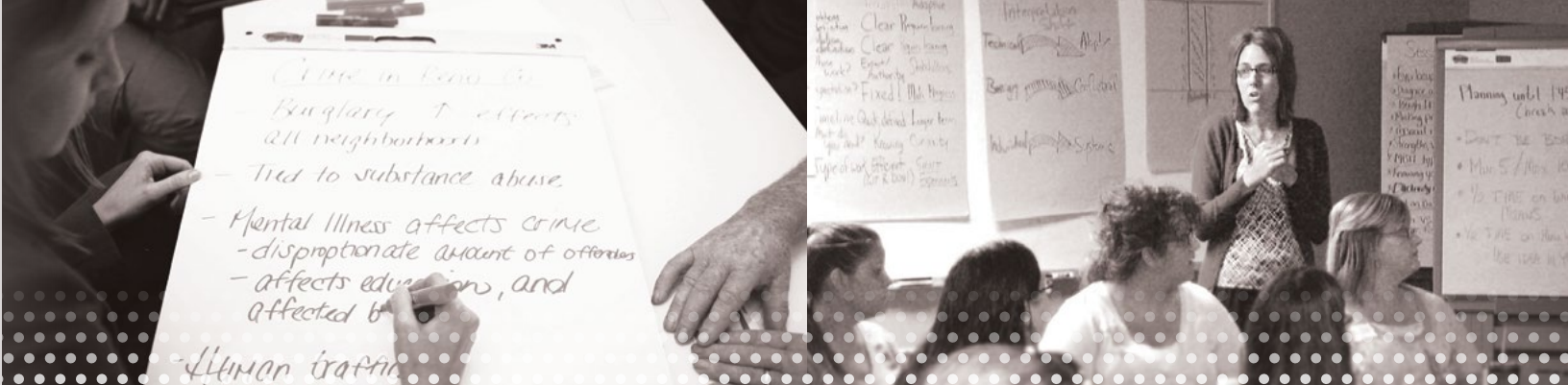
**Recent activities include:**

- identifying the possible impact of initiatives
- community coalition facilitation
- creating a plan for achieving goals
- consensus building
- moderating summits and convening listening sessions



*Community* and organizational development staff responded to nearly **50** requests for help starting a nonprofit.





**Amy Delamaide, BA**  
Director of Community and Organizational Development



**Tara Gregory, PhD**  
Director of Research and Evaluation



**Randy Johnson, MA, CPS**  
Director of Mental Health Initiative

"In an age when information can be shared across the globe in an instant, people who live only a few miles apart can still learn from each other by sitting down in the same room. That was one lesson from a three-hour meeting in Salina on Tuesday evening that brought together medical professionals from across central Kansas to discuss ways to improve the overall health of the population." From the Health care providers share trips article in the *Salina Journal* by Michael Strand, July 17, 2013. Full article: <http://www.salina.com/news/med-meeting#sthash.wQA-Akc35.dpuf>

## Research and Evaluation

This CCSR team conducts state-of-the-art research and evaluation to help programs/ organizations better understand constituent needs and document outcomes on an empirical and experiential level. CCSR uses a collaborative approach in which researchers partner with members of the organization or community in order to tailor services to each unique group. This approach ensures that we're able to meet the needs of our partners while implementing high quality research and evaluations.

### Recent activities include:

- mental health research
- early childhood program evaluation
- civic leadership program evaluation
- youth leadership program evaluation
- aging/long-term care program evaluation
- survey design and administration
- focus group design and facilitation
- logic model development
- test development and validation
- needs/resource assessment

"Dr. Tara Gregory and the staff at the Wichita State Center for Community Support and Research have brought the level of expertise and professionalism the Reno County Crime Reduction Initiative needs and deserves. Their commitment and leadership helped the coalition identify ways to evaluate our progress. They did an outstanding job pulling together the initiatives' successes and challenges to develop the Crime Reduction Blueprint, a document that will guide Kansas communities committed to crime reduction."



**Lt. Amy Ayers**  
Kansas Highway Patrol Liaison for  
Reno County Crime Reduction  
Initiative and Governor's Task Force

## Mental Health Initiative

The Mental Health Initiatives team works with mental health service providers, mental health advocacy organizations, mental health administrators and consumer-run organizations (CROs) to provide the support, training and motivation needed to foster real change in the mental health community across Kansas.

### Recent projects include:

- Certified Peer Specialist (CPS) training, technical assistance, testing and research – including training,

networking, communications and workforce development supporting over 100 Kansas CPSs

- Trauma-Informed Systems of Care training and technical assistance
- Wellness Recovery Action Plan training and technical assistance
- CRO capacity building technical assistance
- Support group initiative and database maintenance
- Youth Leadership in Kansas training, technical assistance and research
- Recovery- and peer-driven systems design
- Assertive Self-Care development, design and rollout planning

"The Center for Community Support and Research is a wonderful part of Wichita State University that takes the time to find out what the needs are of the various groups that they work with. The Kansas Consumer Advisory Council for Adult Mental Health and CCSR have been partnering together to meet the needs of consumer run organizations across the state of Kansas."



**Gary J. Parker**  
Executive Director, Kansas Consumer  
Advisory Council





**Jesyca H. Rodenberg**  
Communications & Outreach  
Director, Kansas Association of  
Community Action Programs



## Trauma Informed Systems of Care Makes Powerful Impact in Kansas

Trauma of all types can impose a profound impact on individuals, families, organizations, and communities. Recognition of this impact, evidenced by research, prompted the need for systemic, trauma-informed changes. Building on previous work the Trauma-Informed Systems of Care (TISC) team emphasized cultivating compassionate cultures in organizations to reflect the values of empowerment, safety, collaboration, trustworthiness, and choice for all staff and persons receiving services.

In 2013 CCSR staff participated in conversations with over 200 Kansas providers, raising awareness of trauma's influence on clients and staff and initiating conversations to support systemic change. Work with the organizations ranged from initial discussions about TISC to formation of a TISC Leadership Team poised to launch organization-wide change.

Staff presented at the Kansas Conference on Poverty organized by the Kansas Association of Community Action Program staff. "Innovative-responsive-engaging," said Jesyca H. Rodenberg, communications & outreach director, Kansas Association of Community Action Programs. "Participants came away from the CCSR Trauma-Informed Care sessions we hosted raving, and I know lives were changed because of what was learned."

In addition to conference trainings, staff led team development, establishment of a TISC vision, individual and team coaching, development of an organization assessment, and collaborative partnership building with stakeholders in Kansas.

As a result of these efforts, we hope to provide organizations with tools that will enable them to support and sustain their desire for a more trauma-informed system within which to work and serve.



For more information about Trauma-Informed Systems of Care, contact Teresa Strausz, LMSW, at [teresa.strausz@wichita.edu](mailto:teresa.strausz@wichita.edu) or 316-978-6778.

## Certified Peer Specialists Training Expands to Include Advanced Training Opportunities

Certified Peer Specialists (CPS) are professionals committed to building on their existing base of knowledge and staying up-to-date on new developments in their field. They want to see that their profession, with its unique emphasis on shared experience, continues to grow and be used effectively in communities and organizations across Kansas.

CCSR's CPS training faculty is providing advanced trainings and a new approach to individual and organizational support for individuals who work at Community Mental Health Centers, State Psychiatric Hospitals, as well as other venues.



CPS advanced trainings enhance the abilities of peer specialists to facilitate the recoveries of other

mental health consumers in Kansas. Like the peer specialist basic training, advanced trainings emphasize the use of shared experience and promote self-determination and empowerment.

**“The training had immense educational value and was very eye opening to the issues in this field,” said Christopher Leach. “Also I felt that the diversity in the members of the training team complimented one another wonderfully to deliver a very well rounded training experience.”**

CCSR offers more than a dozen advanced trainings covering a broad range of CPS-specific topics such as: relationship-building, trauma-informed care, and spirituality.

In addition to the advanced trainings for CPSs, the CCSR Research Team is continuing efforts to expand the number of questions that can be used



**“I appreciated how comprehensive the Trauma Informed Systems training was. The trainers had ‘in the trenches’ experience that made the theory come alive, and the materials helped make connections between the effects of trauma and the practices and processes within our agency. I find myself referring back to the TIS training materials in my own work with clients and in our staff development.”**



**Wanda Pumphrey, LCSW**  
Domestic Violence Counselor

## CCSR Supports Kansas Public Health



## Succession Planning



on the certification test for CPSs. Although the actual length of the test may not change, having such a question bank is a way to ensure validity, reliability and generalizability of the test. It is hoped that through the Research Team's work, the certification test can become a standard for the field.

Funding for CCSR's Mental Health Initiative from the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services allows advanced trainings and technical assistance to be provided at no cost to Kansas community mental health centers and state hospitals. Interested organizations outside of the Kansas public mental health system are encouraged to contact CCSR Mental Health Initiative staff about professional development opportunities for their peer support providers.

A list of available Advanced Trainings is available on the Training Teams website, [TrainingTeams.org](http://TrainingTeams.org). Custom trainings are available. For more information on trainings, contact Christine Young, CPS, peer educator, at [christine.young@wichita.edu](mailto:christine.young@wichita.edu) or (316) 978-3224.

For individual or organizational technical assistance, contact Simon Messmer, CPS, Mental Health systems specialist at [simon.messmer@wichita.edu](mailto:simon.messmer@wichita.edu) or (316) 712-9500.

### Public Health Initiative Supports Kansas Local Public Health System

CCSR's new Public Health Initiative provides technical assistance, training and evaluation support to local health departments and other organizations that provide public health services. The initiative is largely supported by a contract from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) that focuses on public health and prevention efforts for the Medicaid population. It also includes several components to strengthen the Kansas public health system.

A Local Public Health Leadership Series is included to enhance the ability of local health department administrators to exercise leadership in the delivery of Medicaid services to residents in their communities. The series was co-created and facilitated with the Leadership Development Team at CCSR.

“*The Leadership Series (in Scott City) has given me the opportunity to identify and respond to innovative concepts and methods using decision making processes as well as identifying, creating and balancing theories and concepts to practical situations used in day to day Public Health operations.*” – Mila Bandel, Administrator, Cheyenne County Public Health Agency.

The Public Health Initiative includes training and educational opportunities. CCSR has helped in developing and delivering initial training related to Medicaid Health Homes and opportunities for health departments to better understand best practices, including chronic disease prevention programs, diabetes prevention and new mother programs.

CCSR's Research and Evaluation Team assists the public health system by assessing workforce, program offerings, technical assistance needs, and readiness for accreditation. In addition, staff from CCSR's Community and Organization Development Team helped convene partners from across the state regarding how to improve population health. Meetings focused on how public health and primary care providers in communities and regions can partner.

For more about the Public Health Initiative, please contact Sonja Armbruster, CCSR Public Health initiative coordinator, at [sonja.armbruster@wichita.edu](mailto:sonja.armbruster@wichita.edu) or (316) 978-3988.

*In 2013*, CCSR worked with many local and state partners to strengthen the public health system in Kansas through planning, research, leadership training, coaching, and facilitation. These technical assistance efforts were aimed at increasing public health capacity and coordination of services to **assure a healthier Kansas.**



“The Center for Community Support and Research (CCSR) brings *30 years of excellence* to its work. CCSR exemplifies WSU’s mission by strengthening nonprofits, government agencies, coalitions, health departments, and other organizations. Their committed staff transfer best practices and evidence-based strategies from across academic disciplines to partners in Kansas and beyond. Their projects and initiatives in leadership, organizational capacity building, and community collaboration have been nationally recognized and are a shining example of the very best of WSU has to offer.”



**Dr. Bardo**  
President, Wichita State University

## WSU Advisory Committee

The members of the WSU Advisory support and guide the future directions of CCSR. As a group and as individuals, the committee lends their expertise to CCSR, allowing us to better serve the community and therefore capture the overall mission of WSU. All the guidance is greatly appreciated.

**William Bischoff**, professor, Geology  
**Charles Burdsal**, professor, Psychology  
**Alex Chaparro**, chair, Psychology Department  
**Peter Cohen**, director, Leadership Academy  
**Kathy Coufal**, chair, Communication Sciences and Disorders  
**Karen Countryman-Roswurm**, executive director, Center for Combating Human Trafficking  
**Amy Drassen Ham**, instructor, Public Health Sciences  
**Linnea Glenmayer**, associate vice president, Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs  
**Suzanne Hawley**, chair, Public Health Sciences Department  
**Nikki Keene Woods**, associate professor, Public Health Sciences  
**Mary Koehn**, associate dean, College of Health Professions  
**Grady Landrum**, director, Office of Disability Services  
**Rhonda Lewis-Moss**, professor, Psychology  
**Ron Matson**, interim dean, Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
**Kim McDowell**, associate professor, Curriculum and Instruction  
**Keith Pickus**, interim dean, College of Health Professions  
**Teresa Radebaugh**, director, Regional Institute on Aging  
**Nancy McCarthy Snyder**, director, Hugo Wall School of Urban and Public Affairs  
**William Vanderburgh**, executive director, Office for Faculty Development and Student Success

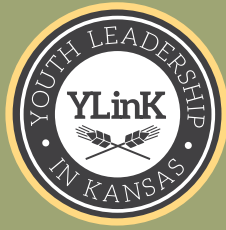
## Our Partners

- American Lung Association
- AWARE NCK
- Be Well Barton County
- Bridge to Freedom, Inc.
- Bright Horizons
- Brown County Health Foods Coalition
- Building Together – Independence/Coffeyville Youth Leadership in Kansas (YLink)
- Butler Community College Marketing Department
- Caring Place, Inc.
- Catholic Charities, Inc.
- Chapel Hill United Methodist Church
- Child Advocacy Center of Sedgwick County
- Children’s Alliance of Kansas
- City of Wichita
- City of Wichita Fire Department
- COMCARE
- Come Share Our Growth, Inc.
- Communities In Schools of Wichita/ Sedgwick County
- CRO’s Nest
- Dance Away Stigma – Iola YLink
- Disability Rights Center of Kansas
- Dodge City Peaceful Tribe, Inc.
- Flint Hills Wellness Coalition
- Four County Mental Health Center
- Franklin County CHACHIP
- Garden City Wolf Pack, Inc.
- Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland
- HEAL Reno County
- Healthy Harvey County Coalition
- Heartland Community Health Center
- Heartland Healthy Neighborhoods
- High Plains Independence, Inc.
- Horizons – Hutchinson YLink

“CCSR epitomizes the *successful research and community engagement* missions of Wichita State University and Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. It pleases me to see the fine work of Dr. Scott Wituk, Director and a staff of more than 45 people. Congratulations to all CCSR people, you have made our community, state, and region better while enhancing the reputation of WSU.”



**Ron Matson**  
Interim Dean, Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences



“It is through leadership activities that youth are equipped to achieve social integration and equality and move beyond the stigma that is associated with mental illness,” said Bailey Blair, Consultant, Youth Leadership In Kansas. “The goal of the YLink project at CCSR is to *improve life for youth* with mental health conditions in Kansas.”



*Created by YLink participants.*

- Journey to Recovery
- Kansas Action Coalition
- Kansas Action for Children
- Kansas Association of Community Action Programs
- Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved
- Kansas Association of Community Action Programs
- Kansas Association of Community Foundations
- Kansas Association of Local Health Departments
- Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition, Inc.
- Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund
- Kansas Children's Service League
- Kansas Dental Association
- Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services
- Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services - Youth Leadership In Kansas Initiative
- Kansas Department for Children and Families - Fatherhood Initiative
- Kansas Department for Children and Families - Veteran's Initiative
- Kansas Department of Health and Environment
- Kansas Department of Health and Environment - Blue Ribbon Panel
- Kansas Department of Health and Environment - Public Health Department
- Kansas DUI Impact Center
- Kansas Head Start Association
- Kansas Health Foundation
- Kansas Health Foundation - Grow II
- Kansas Health Foundation - Healthy Communities Initiative
- Kansas Health Foundation - Public Health Shared Administration
- Kansas Health Foundation Triangle Facilitation
- Kansas Hospital Education and Research Foundation
- Kansas Leadership Center
- Kansas Leadership Center - Kansas Community Leadership Initiative
- Kansas Leadership Center - Leadership and Faith Evaluation
- Kansas Preservation Alliance, Inc.
- KU School of Medicine - Preventative Medicine and Public Health
- KU School of Social Welfare
- Larned State Hospital
- Liberal Area Coalition for Families
- LiveWell Crawford County
- LiveWell Finney County

- LiveWell Lawrence
- Living, Inc.
- Marion County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition
- Medical Service Bureau, Inc.
- Mental Health Center of East Central Kansas
- Morning Star, Inc.
- Newton Public Library
- Nutrition & Physical Activity Coalition of Salina
- Nuts & Bolts, Inc.
- NWKS Healthy Communities Initiative Team
- Oral Health Kansas, Inc.
- Osawatomie State Hospital
- Ottawa Kansas Chamber of Commerce
- Peers Determined Against Tomorrow's Stigma – McPherson YLink
- Prairie View Mental Health Center
- Project Independence
- PS Club
- Quality of Life Coalition
- Rainbow Mental Health Facility
- Rainbows United, Inc.
- Recovery and Hope Network, Inc.
- Reno County Crime Reduction Initiative
- Riley County Health Department
- Russell Child Development Center
- Saint Francis Community Services, Inc.
- Saline County IMPACT Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition
- SCORE!
- Sedgwick County Community Development Disability Organization
- Sedgwick County Suicide Prevention Coalition
- SEK Multi County Health Department
- SER Corporation Kansas
- SIDE, Inc.
- South Central Mental Health Counseling Center
- Stafford County Healthy Communities Initiative
- Starkey, Inc.
- Sunshine Connection, Inc.
- TCC Group
- TCG Consulting, Inc.
- The Children's Mercy Hospital



“... I really do like the idea of support groups I think many patients feel better when they know others are experiencing similar situations. I've been reading this book “The Power Habits,” and a key point they make is that people often need the help of group to feel that *successful change is possible.*”

*Dr. Josh Umbehr, Atlas MD*





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**Partner Organizations**  
making progress across the  
state of Kansas.



Eight coaches who are part  
of leadership initiatives  
team projects coached **91  
community partners**  
(a community partner  
maybe an individual or a  
team) for **269.25 hours  
in 2013.**

- The Mental Health Association of South Central Kansas
- The Open Door
- The REACH Healthcare Foundation
- The Research Foundation
- Thomas County Coalition
- Thrive Allen County
- United Methodist Health Ministry Fund
- United Methodist Mexican American Ministries
- University of Kansas and Medical Center Research Institute
- Valeo Behavioral Health Care
- Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
- Wichita Child Abuse Fatalities Community Response Team
- Wichita Children's Home
- Wichita Health & Wellness Coalition
- Wichita Health and Wellness Coalition CDC Community Transformation Grant
- Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce
- Wichita Public Schools, USD 259
- Wichita State University College of Health Professions
- Wichita State University Department of Physician Assistant
- Wichita State University Division of Student Engagement
- Wichita State University Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department
- Wichita State University Emory Lindquist Honors College
- Wichita State University Hugo Wall School of Urban and Public Health
- Wichita State University Office of Continuing Education
- Wichita State University Office of Student Involvement
- Wichita State University Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Wichita State University Rhatigan Student Center
- Wichita State University School of Social Work
- Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Building and Construction Department
- Wings Upon the Prairie, Inc.
- Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas
- Wyandot Inc.
- Young Professionals of Wichita

## New Staff - [Click Here to Visit Our Staff Page](#)

**David Allen**, BS, Financial Operations Assistant  
**Sonja Armbruster**, MA, Public Health Service Coordinator  
**Judy Burgess**, BS, Project Facilitator  
**Carissa Coleman**, PhD, Research Associate  
**Jan Davis**, MEd, Project Facilitator  
**Kristina Helmer**, BS, Project Facilitator  
**Lynette Lacy**, MS, Project Facilitator  
**Cassandra LeBrun Martin**, MA, Research Associate  
**Simon Messmer**, MSW, CPS, Mental Health Systems Specialist  
**Steve Moffitt**, BS, Program Assistant  
**Philip Pettis**, LMSW, Research Assistant  
**Jeremiah Raymo**, BSW, CPS, Research Assistant  
**Lynda Wilkinson**, MNM, Project Facilitator

"I'm thrilled to be part of the launch of the Public Health Initiatives work happening at CCSR. Through my role I provide training and technical assistance for state and local health departments. It's a joy to work with so many competent and caring professionals throughout the public health system in Kansas."



**Sonja Armbruster, MA**  
Public Health Initiatives Coordinator

"I have been here almost five months now and I am still amazed by the talented people here. I really enjoy my job in financial operations supporting the CCSR staff as they do their work around the state."



**Dave Allen, BS**  
Financial Operations Assistant

"I've been at CCSR through my undergraduate and now my graduate studies in social work, both as a student and an employee. The experiences that I've encountered have been both enriching and challenging. My work with peer support is assisting with training and certification. Additionally, I reach out to the community mental health centers around the state to help strengthen their peer support programs. *This has been both personally and professionally rewarding.*"



**Jeremiah Raymo, BSW, CPS**  
Special Projects Assistant

Spring 2013 Support Group initiative intern. “Overall, I would say that my experience here has helped prepare me for the future. Most of the support groups are updated in the database minus a few stragglers and, here I am feeling like this semester has been *one of the bigger learning opportunities* that WSU could give me.”



**Clinton Haas,**  
Public Health Sciences Major

## Interns

### Students Share Experiences and Energy With A Variety of Projects

CCSR provides a range of opportunities for college students to contribute to the daily experiences we have with our community partners. We look for motivated students who are interested in the mission and vision of CCSR. Students have the opportunity to work alongside our staff participating in all phases of project planning and development, meeting with community partners and contributing support to all facets of CCSR's work.

This year, students engaged in a variety of activities including literature reviews, development and administration of surveys, conducting interviews and focus groups, and the analysis and reporting of data. Students were also involved in facilitation design, planning and support as well as gathering relevant information in support of various projects. Students had opportunities to engage in community outreach and technical support for specific projects, conduct training, write professional articles and reports, and gather historical information for our 30th anniversary in 2014. Read more about their experiences.

**Gbolahan Alex Ajisope,** CCSR Intern, *Healthcare Management and Community Development, Public Health Sciences*

**Bailey Blair,** BA, Consultant, Youth Leadership In Kansas, *Social Work Graduate Program*

**Clinton Haas,** CCSR Intern, *Healthcare Management and Community Development, Public Health Sciences*

**Kelsey Haynes,** Intern, *Cooperative Education Program, Integrated Marketing Communications, Elliott School of Communication*

**Tori Hoffman,** CCSR Intern, *Health Services Management in Community Development, Public Health Sciences*

**Bret Kennedy,** CCSR Intern, *Health Services Management in Community Development, Public Health Sciences*

**Alyssa Larue,** CCSR Intern, *Social Work Graduate Program*

**Samantha Phouangphanith,** Research Assistant, *General Studies in Chemistry and Biology*

**Jeremiah Raymo,** BSW, Project Specialist, *Social Work Graduate Program*

**Anthony Rodriguez,** CCSR Intern, *Public Health Sciences, College of Health Professions*

**Dylan Thiessen,** Intern, *Cooperative Education Program and Emory Lindquist Honors Program*

“As a social work master’s student, many of my courses focus on practice with individuals. CCSR has shown me that change can be done on a much grander scale. Through working on trauma informed care and AmeriCorps VISTA teams, I’ve learned that the health of the individual is directly linked to the health of the community. CCSR’s diverseness, approach to leadership, and emphasis on sustainable growth, efficiency, and collaborations with partner has provided an entirely new perspective on the helping profession.”



**Alyssa Larue,**  
Social Work Graduate Program

“Starting out my first semester of college at WSU, I immediately wanted to become involved in a way that I could learn new skills while getting experience in a professional environment. I was assigned to the Leadership Initiatives team where I was introduced to many great people who immediately wanted to engage the skills that I already had and challenge me to think more adaptive and strategic. With highly supportive and helpful people to guide me, I felt productive and well supported.”



**Dylan Thiessen,**  
Cooperative Education  
Program and Emory Lindquist  
Honors Program

“I applied for this internship because I needed the public relations experience. *I never knew how much I would grow as a professional and a person.* I am only here for a semester, but I feel my internship has made this one of the best semesters of my college career. This organization has a story to tell and I am honored to be able to research and conduct interviews to be able to tell that story.”



**Kelsey Haynes,**  
Integrated Marketing  
Communications Major





- **Office Location:** 358 N. Main • Wichita, KS
- **Mailing Address:** 1845 Fairmount, box 201 • Wichita, KS 67260-0201
- Visit us online [wichita.edu/ccsr](http://wichita.edu/ccsr)
- [wsuccsr.blogspot.com](http://wsuccsr.blogspot.com)
- Follow us on **Facebook** And [twitter@wsuccsr](mailto:twitter@wsuccsr)

