



Sunflower Foundation
HEALTH CARE FOR KANSANS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fellows complete health advocacy program

TOPEKA – In ceremonies last week in Topeka, the Sunflower Foundation honored the 15 nonprofit health leaders from across Kansas who were members of the 2010 Class of the foundation’s Advocacy Fellowship program. The recognition took place during the last of six sessions that make up the year-long program.

The Fellowship is designed to provide intensive training to equip nonprofit leaders with the understanding and skills needed to become effective public policy advocates for their organizations and the people they serve. Training session topics include how to develop advocacy strategies, build coalitions and grassroots efforts, navigate the political process and work with the media. One session is held in Washington, D.C.

“This class is an exceptional group of leaders and we know individually and collectively they will be making a difference for Kansans for many years to come,” said Billie Hall, president and CEO of the Sunflower Foundation. This was the second year for the Advocacy Fellowship. The third year of the program will begin in November. Members of the 2011 Class will be announced in October.

Members of the 2010 Advocacy Fellowship Class are:

GARDEN CITY

- Ric Dalke, Executive Director, Area Mental Health Center

HAYS

- Janette Meis, State Director, Kansas CASA Association, Inc.

KANSAS CITY

- Katherine Kelly, Executive Director and Farmer, Kansas City Center for Urban Agriculture
- Roberta Lindbeck, Executive Director, Cross-Lines Community Outreach

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LAWRENCE

- Dee Ann DeRoin, Founder, Four Tribes Women's Wellness Coalition, Family Practitioner and Health Educator, Community Health and Wellness
- Jake Lowen, Principal, Kansas Grassroots Consulting

LIBERAL

- Arturo Ponce, Director, United Methodist Mexican-American Ministries, HIV/AIDS Education & Outreach

PITTSBURG

- Monica Murnan, Executive Director, Family Resource Center

TOPEKA

- Corrie Edwards, Section Administrator, Child Placement Agency & Residential Program, Bureau of Child Care & Health Facilities, Kansas Department of Health & Environment
- Craig Kaberline, Executive Director, Kansas Area Agencies on Aging Association
- Doug Vance, Executive Director, Kansas Recreation and Park Association

WAMEGO

- Deb Kiker, CEO, Community Health Ministry

WICHITA

- Annette Graham, Executive Director, Central Plains Area Agency on Aging, Sedgwick County Department on Aging
- Anne Nelson, Associate Executive Director, Central Plains Regional Health Care Foundation

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Formerly LAWRENCE)

- Brutrinia Arellano, Department of Health and Human Services Emerging Leaders Program

The Sunflower Foundation is a health philanthropy with a mission to serve as a catalyst for improving the health of Kansans. The foundation's funding priorities are health care access, healthy behaviors and prevention, capacity building and advocacy.

For more information about the Advocacy Fellowship, visit www.sunflowerfoundation.org.