



Visionering Wichita Racial Diversity, Opportunity & Harmony Summary of Accomplishments to Date February 2007

Racial, Diversity, Opportunities and Harmony Key Benchmark: In all of the six foundations and strategies of Visionering Wichita, we will be committed to racial diversity, opportunity and harmony for everyone.

RESULTS OF BIENNIAL ATTITUDE SURVEY to measure changes in perception about racial diversity, opportunity and harmony, conducted in January/February 2006:

- In the **overall index** the biggest variation is in the race demographic sub group. There was little difference on other demographic sub groups, including income, age and education.
- With the **individual questions**, perceptions related to educational and economic opportunity show the greatest variation (education, college, job and start business). There was less variation in perceptions related to racial harmony.
- The two issues of concern that were mentioned the most were "Opportunities and Access" as it relates to education and economic opportunities, and "Socio-Economic" issues.

Discussion Points:

- The majority of those surveyed have perceptions that while we have made progress in some area (social interactions), recognize we are not where we want to be.
- To varying degrees but on the whole, respondents are hopeful we can make progress.
- One area for Visionering Wichita and the community to focus on first is on **educational and economic opportunity** – the areas of greatest perceived need.

Toward this end the RDOH Alliance has been instrumental in the dissemination of the survey results and some related results:

- Survey presentation and "Code of Inclusiveness" card developed
- Survey findings shared with members of the Leadership teams of all Alliances.
- Leadership team members met with Mid-Continent College Network to present survey findings in December 2006, and to discuss possible strategies to address issues identified in the survey, specifically those related to educational opportunities.
- Entrepreneurs and Small Business Alliance began development of the Minority Business Initiative, a training and mentoring program for minority business owners, to be launched in 2007.
- On February 10, 2007, a survey presentation was made to the Kansas Black Legislative Caucus.
- Additional presentation opportunities are currently being scheduled.

Next Steps for the Strategic Alliance include:

Presentation of survey findings and focus group of core group of Wichita area clergy and faith leaders to seek guidance and assistance on what role the faith community plays in advancing positive race relations in the Wichita region.