



**Visioneering Wichita
Racial Diversity, Opportunity & Harmony
Alliance**

**Meeting Notes
June 14, 2007
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Self-Help Network**

Mission of RDOH Alliance:

“To create a culture that promotes and celebrates racial, diversity, opportunities & harmony within the Wichita MSA.”

Leadership Team: Brian Black, Doug Hye, Lavonta Williams, Deann Smith, Susan Leiker, Gail Finney

Attendance: Brenda Dietzman, Deann Smith, Maria Bias, Ed Bricknell, Sybil Strum, Lisa Eaglin, Kendall Heier, Geri Watts

Leadership Team member Brenda Dietzman welcomed participants and shared the purposes of the meeting:

- Begin developing a concrete Plan of Action based on strategies developed at previous Alliance meetings
- Provide “Tool Kit” to assist with information dissemination

Participants approved and adopted minutes from the May 10, 2007 Racial Diversity, Opportunity and Harmony Alliance meeting.

Brenda then presented a “toolkit” she’s developed, in consultation with the Leadership Team, to move the Alliance forward on the goal of showing progress on the next perception survey. The rationale is that since the survey indicated that African American and Hispanic populations have a significant perception that opportunities are lacking in education, employment and entrepreneurship, there is an obvious disconnect in several areas in our community. 1) In some areas, opportunities may, in fact, be lacking; 2) if opportunities in these areas do exist, then information and awareness of these opportunities are not being effectively communicated to African American and Hispanic residents; and 3) the RDOH Alliance can assist by helping to increase awareness about both the lack of opportunities where none or few exist, especially to those community decision-makers who have the power to create such opportunities, and to develop a vehicle through Visioneering to communicate more effectively about those resources and opportunities that do exist. One good example to this strategy is the Minority Business Initiative being developed by the Small Business and

Entrepreneurship Alliance. The Alliance can help and encourage other such activities and initiatives through its work.

Brenda presented the pieces of the toolkit (see attached documents) and assigned “homework” to Alliance members as the next step in the process:

On the worksheets titled **Visioneering Wichita Employment Enhancement Toolbox** and **Visioneering Wichita Education Toolbox**: Please do research for information on employment opportunities. Fill in attached worksheet with county where it exists, organization, contact number and additional information

For the worksheet titled **Visioneering Wichita Computer Locations**: Please provide information regarding community access computer sites.

For the worksheet titled **Visioneering Wichita Community Involvement Toolbox**: Please provide information on opportunities for community involvement in the Wichita MSA.

For the worksheet titled **Visioneering Wichita Perception Survey Presentations**, please brainstorm possible businesses/organizations where the survey results might be presented in order to advance the aforementioned goals of the activity.

All information gathered can be either e-mailed directly to Brenda at [brenda@visionsmm.com] or brought to the next Alliance meeting. Don't worry about possible duplications, as Brenda and the Leadership Team will sort and compile final lists. After the information is gathered and compiled, the documents will be placed at the Visioneering website with a link. There was also discussion of providing some type of card or other handout to direct people to locations of public access computers to access the information. More discussion to follow.

If you have questions or concerns prior to the next meeting, please feel free to contact Diane or members of the Leadership Team.

Next meetings scheduled for:

Leadership: TBD

Alliance: Thursday August 9 , 3:30 – 5:00 p.m., Self-Help Network

Meeting adjourned.