



Visioneering Wichita Unified Legislative Agenda Strategic Alliance Summary of Accomplishments to Date December 2005

During 2005, a group of regional and community leaders, educators, service providers, regional county and city officials, collaborated in the development of the Unified Legislative Strategic Alliance. **As a direct result of Visioneering and for the first time, a unified legislative agenda has been developed for South Central Kansas.**

The group completed the following:

- Developed 'guiding principles' that stressed consensus building and a regional approach
- Developed the following benchmark: 'The Unified Legislative Agenda Alliance will have a unified agenda that advances Visioneering Wichita.'
- Identified stakeholders, including area legislators, to participate in the Strategic Alliance meetings
- Held a series of meetings throughout the Wichita MSA [Newton, Wellington, Wichita & Winfield]
- Agreed to focus the legislative agenda on 'education' and 'job growth'
- Solicited legislative proposals that would be regional in scope
- Developed a 'scoring matrix' that rated the following: job growth, education, regionalism, additional benchmarks, regional economic impact, social impact, a issue that can be agreed upon and how realistic it was for possible passage

Following input and review from various stakeholders and the leadership team, the following agenda items were agreed upon for the 2006 Legislative Session:

- **State financial support to maintain and expand low cost commercial air service from Mid-Continent Airport;**
- **Continued state investments in aviation research at the National Institute for Aviation Research at Wichita State University;**
- **State support for 25% expansion in the capacity of nursing programs in existing post-secondary public education institutions in South Central Kansas; and**
- **Support for a new system and facility for technical education and training in the area through the Sedgwick Technical Education and Training Authority.**

Next steps of the Unified Legislative Strategic Alliance include:

- Further develop plans, set priorities and take action to support the proposed legislative agenda items
- Confer with area legislators and determine ways to support them in their efforts to promote the four proposed legislative agenda items
- Help further progress on the four proposed legislative agenda items during the 2006 legislative session