

## **History of the Shepherd's Center of Kansas City, Kansas**

Shepherd's Center of Kansas City, Kansas began in the spring of 1985 with four central-city pastors of different denominations. They were aware of the changing nature of their neighborhood, and that both their congregations and the surrounding community included a large population of older adults. A task force of area clergy, older adults and several agency representatives was formed early in 1986, and their efforts brought the Shepherd's Center into 'being'. A considerable number of meetings and careful planning by the task force resulted in the establishment of a Board of Directors in June 1986, and the first program event - Adventures in Learning - was held in October with over 300 persons attending.

The Shepherd's Center began and has continued to develop in ways which far exceeded original expectations. One of the most important reasons for the success of this interfaith organization of older adults is the enthusiasm and dedication of more than 200 volunteers whose efforts continuously make Shepherd's Center's 13 programs and services possible for over 1,200 older adults in Wyandotte County. The volunteers, participants and Board of Directors reflect the cultural diversity of the Kansas City, Kansas community - a racial, economic and denominational diversity that is highly valued by the organization.

## **How You Can Help**

The annual Participant's Campaign is our major fundraising effort that supports our basic budget. Please consider supporting Shepherd's Center with your financial contribution, as a successful campaign is critical to our sustainability. Shepherd's Center of Kansas City, Kansas also offers many volunteer opportunities such as committee involvement, administrative, or direct service through handyman help or our Friends for Seniors program.

If you would like more information about how you can help support the Shepherd's Center, please call (913) 281-8908 or visit [www.sckck.org](http://www.sckck.org).

## **Mission Statement**

The Shepherd's Center of Kansas City, Kansas is an interfaith, multicultural, nonprofit organization that promotes and supports successful aging.

## **Vision**

Building a community that connects, values, engages and celebrates older adults.

## **About the Shepherd's Center**

The Shepherd's Center is an interfaith organization of older adults whose purpose is to help provide people with opportunities for finding greater meaning in life, and to provide a network of supportive services for older adults. The Shepherd's Center provides 13 services that reach more than 1,200 people, focusing on Health Enrichment, Education and Home Services.

## **Leadership 2012**

### **Executive Committee**

*Andrea Generaux, President, Liveable Neighborhoods*  
*Diane Clark, Vice President, Landon Center on Aging*  
*Jeff Fendorf, Treasurer & Finance Chair*  
*Teresa Sullivan, PH.D., Secretary, Community Volunteer*

### **Board Members**

*Rev. James Bailey\*, Bethel Church of God in Christ*  
*Dr. Marjorie K. Blank, Community Volunteer*  
*Pam Blood, Retired Teacher*  
*Brenda C. Jones, Board of Education, USD 500*  
*Carolyn B. Jones, Retired Educator*  
*Carol Levers, Kansas City, Kansas Public Library*  
*Jonna Lounce, Community Volunteer*  
*Carroll Macke, Community Volunteer*  
*Woodyne Mann, Retired Teacher*  
*Linda J. Pendleton, Board of Education, USD 500*  
*Vernon Pierce, Northeast Optimist Club*  
*Frances Robinson, Retired Educator*  
*Sandy L. Scubelek, Dayspring Electric, Inc.*  
*Gregory Shondell, Heathwood Oil Co., Inc.*  
*(\*deceased)*

### **Staff**

*Linda Siemens, MSW, Executive Director*  
*Melissa Bynum, Community Outreach & Program Director*  
*Karen Hostetler, MSW, Next Chapter Kansas City Director*  
*Jeff Walker, Financial Administrator*



**Shepherd's Center**  
*of Kansas City, Kansas*

*Living a life that matters.*

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# Living a life that matters.

*Programs and Services Provided by the Shepherd's Center of Kansas City, Kansas*

## **Adventures in Learning**

Shepherd's Center offers a monthly learning series that includes a variety of workshops, health screenings, entertainment and lunch. Adventures in Learning is held the third Friday of each month at First Baptist Church, 29th and Minnesota from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

## **Caring Calls**

Caring Calls provides telephone support to former Shepherd's Center volunteers who are now homebound. Caring Calls volunteers help restore the spirits of older persons by providing friendly, supportive calls once a week.

## **Driver Safety Program**

Offered in collaboration with AARP, this program offers participants eligibility for a discount on insurance premiums.

## **Fall & Spring Creative Classes**

Weekly classes may include drama, drawing and water color, plastic canvas, crocheting, defensive driving, knitting, writing, hand quilting, computers, and book discussions. Classes vary each season.

## **Friends for Seniors**

The Friends for Seniors Program is a friendly visitor program for homebound older persons in Wyandotte County. Volunteers help restore the spirits of the homebound by sharing time and interests with those who are in need of some extra support.

## **Health Screenings**

Monthly blood pressure and blood sugar checks,

along with a variety of annual screenings offered at Adventures in Learning in cooperation with area hospitals and health agencies.

## **Joe Info**

An informative, yet casual gathering of people, getting together for good information, discussion and coffee. Meets monthly on the fourth Tuesday from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at Living Water United Methodist Church, 3001 N. 115th St. in Kansas City, KS. Offered in collaboration with Liveable Neighborhoods, Next Chapter and the Volunteer Center at United Way of Wyandotte County.



## **Minor Home Repair & Referral**

The Minor Home Repair & Referral program helps older adults with small repair jobs, including minor electrical and plumbing, general repairs, carpentry, and more. Volunteers will also evaluate and provide referrals for more complicated repair work.

## **Parkinson Exercise Class**

Class meets every Monday at 11 a.m. at Trinity Community Church. Joshua Biles, professional physical trainer instructs the class on the first Monday of every month. During other weeks, the class is group led.

## **Peer Support Program (PSP)**

Similar to Friends for Seniors, the Peer Support Program matches trained volunteers who are 50+ with homebound older persons in Wyandotte County for ten weekly visits to discuss the goals of the older person and how to meet them. PSP is offered in collaboration with the University of Kansas Office of Aging & Long Term Care and the Wyandotte / Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging.

## **Prayer Shawl Ministries**

This group of crocheters and knitters get together to create shawls for people in need of a hug. Made mostly with donated materials, shawls are given to people who are seriously ill, their caregivers, people undergoing treatment sessions or those who may have just lost a loved one. This group is open to all levels of talent, and meets the second Wednesday of every month from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church at 51st and Parallel.

## **Next Chapter Kansas City**

Next Chapter is a community collaboration developing meaningful opportunities for persons age 50+ as they explore options for work, service, and learning in life's next chapter. Next Chapter offers life planning programs, forums & book discussions, classes and information about encore careers, as well as information about the 21st century workforce.



## **Vials of Life**

Vials of Life provides important medical and identification information that could be accessible by rescue personnel in case of an emergency. Kits are available in collaboration with DeGoler Pharmacy, the Kansas City Kansas Police Department, Liveable Neighborhoods and the Shepherd's Center of Kansas City, Kansas.

**Visit us online at [www.sckck.org](http://www.sckck.org)!**

**You'll find our monthly newsletter, class schedules, online giving, volunteer opportunities, and more!**