



March 5, 2007

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Dear Director Gardner:

As part of the on-going evaluation, and in accordance with the statutory requirements for Kan-ed, our office has been conducting annual interviews with Kan-ed Members regarding the various 2006 funding programs. The purpose of these interviews is to identify the impact these funds have had on the institutions, their constituencies, and in their surrounding communities.

Attached to this letter are the preliminary results from these interviews organized by constituent groups (e.g. K-12 districts, higher education, hospitals, and libraries), and by geographic region. As you know, the March Project Status Report is due March 30, 2007; however we wanted to provide you with an update of the interview results in preparation for your various upcoming presentations. The following are important notes of consideration:

- These selected quotes from the interviews are representative of all the responses collected
- Results represent approximately 80% of the interviews conducted as of March 2, 2007
- Common themes from these interviews provides evidence of the impact from Kan-ed funding programs

In addition, we have prepared a one-page summary per Senate Commerce Committee member to provide a snapshot of Kan-ed activities within those legislative districts.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Cindy Shuman at 785.532.3463.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Jan Middendorf".

B. Jan Middendorf, Assistant Director  
Office of Educational Innovation and Evaluation (OEIE)  
Manhattan, Kansas 66502  
785.532.4716

## 2006 Kan-ed Funding Opportunities Preliminary Impact Data

### Purpose

In 2006, Kan-ed continued to implement their annual funding programs designed to facilitate and enhance each member's ability to take advantage of the Kan-ed network, programs, and services. In addition to the annual funding opportunities, 2006 saw the culmination of two new programs, the *Hospital Initiative* and *Higher Education "Connect"* program, specifically designed to increase the number of members connected to the private Kan-ed network. The 2006 funding programs directly impacted 410 Kan-ed members.

In February of 2007 the Office of Educational Innovation and Evaluation (OEIE), serving as the external evaluator to Kan-ed, began the process of obtaining feedback from recipients of four of the six programs in 2006 to identify the impact the funds had on the institution, their constituency, and the surrounding community.

The following sections contain quotes taken from the interviews of Kan-ed 2006 funding recipients. As of February 27, 2007, 94 of the 138 funding recipients have been interviewed. It is anticipated that the remaining interviews will be completed by early March. Please note that not all funding programs were included in this round of follow-up.

### Preliminary Results

#### *K-12*

[Funds were used to support Interactive Distance Learning (IDL) and desktop videoconferencing] *"People want access to information and need ways to get information...we have 6 training sessions using the interactive technologies planned for the period February 24 - April 10, 2007. Several of our teachers are using Marratech video conferencing for discussions and book studies."* – K-12 Member, Northeast Region

*"...we've done several things with community based classes using IDL technology. It will continue to provide some ongoing adult education opportunities, where people within our area and surrounding areas will be able to travel to our city to take advantage of those opportunities. We think there is an economic benefit of people coming to our area to utilize this technology. They stop to buy gas, they stop and eat a meal, they stop at convenient stores. [Grant funds] allow us to provide course offerings in a small rural school that we would not otherwise be able to offer."* – K-12 Member, Southeast Region

[The impact of grant funds has been] *"Increased educational opportunities for students and it allows us to have classes in smaller districts that they can't offer but that we are able to offer in another district. For example, it allows them opportunities to take computer graphics class that they wouldn't have the opportunity to take. It also allows students to take college classes; we offer classes from 2 community colleges in the area...We greatly appreciate what Kan-ed does"*

*for the children of our community, and we would not be able to do this if it wasn't for those grant funds." – K-12 Member, North Central Region*

*"The Kan-ed grant has allowed us to continue to offer IDL opportunities by helping us improve the delivery system. The last grant was used to upgrade our video and audio to digital, we would have been really strapped if we had to finance this from our general budget... this grant program is vital to our district and our school to offer the IDL courses to our students. As a small district there is no way we could stay abreast to the technology upgrades without this assistance, just today we were talking about what is next for us, what we need to do now to help our students learn and give them a top notch education, we just continue to do bigger and better things to benefit our kids and maybe the communities." – K-12 Member, Central Region*

*[Grant funds have impacted] "All students in grades K-5. We have about two electronic field trips a day, 60 a month. We have been using them for classroom enrichment, it provides the opportunity for our students to have access to enrichment activities through technology, communication, they have an expert from a field or a new teacher brings a new perspective, it just really enriches the classroom experience...they may go to zoos, or a science center, or interact with astronaut, without leaving their classroom they can have enriching experiences that they would not otherwise be able to do." – K-12 Member, South Central Region*

*"Four of our board members utilize Marratech on a regular basis. One is a banker, and on Mountain Time so that makes his life even more challenging, connecting with us. He is able to close his door, go in through Marratech, and meet with us, and that would usually take two hours for him to drive here and then the time difference...The motivation for this project was the fact that Marratech is easy to install and use..." – K-12 member, Southwest Region*

### *Higher Education*

*"Last spring we did a class with the University of Nebraska...Students were able to have the class here and then the instructors were actually in Nebraska conducting the class. It was a really good thing for the students, they didn't have to miss out on a graduate level class that is only offered every other spring, and they still had the interaction with the other students. There were about six students here and about 15 in Nebraska and they had that interaction and also the benefit of the two instructors in the classroom, so it worked out really well." –Higher Education Member, Northeast Region*

*[Who has been impacted by grant funds] "Students have been impacted most heavily. Faculty and staff have both been affected because it's all about communication and connectivity with the world, and community organizations and local businesses have certainly been impacted. That list actually goes on because all the local businesses it has impacted have counterparts elsewhere in the world that impact could also be extended to them. I would say in the last year probably 2000 people have been impacted very well by using the equipment, and doing something that wouldn't have been possible without it." -Higher Education Member, Northwest Region*

*"Beyond providing connectivity, the Kan-ed Technology and Equipment grant program provided us the opportunity to maintain our internal infrastructure and advance our technological*

capabilities. The local infrastructure grant program funding provided by this Kan-ed matching grant made our connection possible to the previously mentioned unique and innovative community-wide network known as the Integrated Community Access Network. These enhancements and upgrades simply would not have been possible without the assistance of the Kan-ed grant programs." – Higher Education Member, Southeast Region

"It just has been a terrific and very helpful grant for us. It moved us ahead dramatically in terms of what we can do. The population is declining in Central Kansas and in our area and for us to remain viable we need to take advantage of the technology that is available. The other grant that we got was actually the connectivity grant, and that has really allowed us to be involved in I2 and get the bandwidth that we need. It has really helped to move us forward in a really profound way. A year ago we were without really good connectivity and we didn't have the technology to allow us to do distance education. We now have both in place." – Higher Education Member, North Central Region

"Without Kan-ed building that backbone out to the local ISPs, it wouldn't have done any good to buy all of this equipment. Another hidden impact of all the Kan-ed funds and how they've helped is in a sense now the schools, that they're on Kan-ed with all their connectivity, they don't just hook to one resource...they're hooking to all kinds of resources. Now that schools are on the Kan-ed network...they can take courses from K-State, KU, from colleges from anywhere in the world and they do a lot of virtual field trips...that has been very useful." – Higher Education Member, Central Region

"We are in the process of installing the Moodle server [purchased with grant funds]. The previous course management system was out of date and the new server will provide more file space and options thus allowing faculty to design courses for distance education which will expand offerings available to students." – Higher Education Member, Northwest Region

### *Hospitals*

"Kan-ed is one of the very few tax supported programs that is making an impact on society and communities in a way that effects people's lives and makes a difference in health care, especially in rural Kansas. I will tell any legislator it is necessary to fund Kan-ed because its services improve health care and in particular rural health care. Since we have seen the impact radiology has on the services [possible as a result of grant funds] the hospital will find ways to cover this cost in the future." – Hospital Member, South Central Region

"We would not have been able to do any of the video conferencing without the grant money. We just don't have the money to have been able to do that. What we've done is we've focused on department manager training so we tried to focus on making people better managers so that we can retain staff. In the past this training either didn't happen or people had to travel." – Hospital Member, North Central Region

"The grant was very successful, had a very positive impact. It improved specifically the training and education of staff, and allowed them to leverage the internet and distance learning

*opportunities...Being a critical care hospital in a small town, we can use all the funding we can get, so we really appreciate it."* – Hospital Member, Central Region

*"The doctor was able to observe the behavior in question over ITV [connection possible as a result of grant funds]. You can't believe how appreciative this mother was because she had three small children under the age of six and the one child, was the one that was being treated, but she had no way to leave the other two at home. She was going to have to take three children to Kansas City about 7 hours one way."* – Hospital Member, Northwest Region

*"Before the grant funds we didn't have enough speed for ITV. Now we can run both the network and ITV on the same bandwidth. We use ITV and Marratech for training and communication. This provides for a lot of education that we would not have gotten otherwise because we have nurses who work 3 days and do not have day care and doctors who can't leave town. This saves money and allows nurses to take training closer to their shift time (a convenience and thus they are more likely to take training). It allows us to get better education when we are out in the middle of nowhere. It allows us to allocate funds to travel only when necessary for training and use ITV when those trainings are available."* – Hospital Member, Southwest Region

### *Libraries*

*[Grant funds have impacted] "Staff and community members who use public computers, probably around 10,000 people. Because of the security [equipment purchased] it's allowed us to provide better programming for the public side, we are able to do more, we're not afraid of someone coming in and doing something that would harm the network. We have more bandwidth for staff side so they can do stuff faster, for example if they have something they need to download they can do it a lot faster."* – Library Member, Northeast Region

*"We're forming a consortium or actually joining one that was already formed at Pittsburg State University so we're going to be migrating to their catalog and circulation software. It's going to allow us to use software that is much more sophisticated and [provides] a lot more opportunities for us to do things...right now patrons can go online from home and look at our system but pretty much they can just look at what we own. Once we migrate to PSU at the end of this year they can reserve books, and I think they'll be able to renew books."* – Library Member, Southeast Region

*"The state and Kan-ed supported databases provide patrons access because no local funding would be able to support such a purchase. The state is moving to an automated system. We now have the infrastructure thanks to Kan-ed for automation."* – Library Member, North Central Region

*"We are supporters of Kan-ed. Without Kan-ed subsidies many libraries would not have Internet access. Many libraries will lose their Internet access if there are not Kan-ed subsidy funds."* – Library Member, Southwest Region

Karin Brownlee  
Senate Commerce Committee  
Senate District #23

- 1) How many Kan-ed members and potential members are in *Senate District #23*?
  - There are 8 members and 2 potential members in *Senate District #23*. Of the 8 members, 1 is an institution of Higher Education, 6 are K-12, and 1 is a Library. The 2 potential members are Hospitals.
- 2) How many members in *Senate District #23* have taken advantage of Kan-ed funding opportunities?
  - All 8 members (100%) took advantage of these opportunities.
- 3) How many members in *Senate District #23* are connected to the physical Kan-ed network (i.e., backbone)?
  - 1 of the 8 members (13%) is connected to the physical Kan-ed network.
- 4) How many members in *Senate District #23* are registered to use the Kan-ed Empowered Desktop?
  - 5 of the 8 members (63%) are registered to use the Kan-ed Empowered Desktop.
- 5) Other key information about members in *Senate District #23*.

[Grant funds have impacted] *"Staff and community members who use public computers, probably around 10,000 people. Because of the security [equipment purchased] it's allowed us to provide better programming for the public side, we are able to do more, we're not afraid of someone coming in and doing something that would harm the network. We have more bandwidth for staff side so they can do stuff faster, for example if they have something they need to download they can do it a lot faster."* – Library Member, Northeast Region

*"Last spring we did a class with the University of Nebraska...Students were able to have the class here and then the instructors were actually in Nebraska conducting the class. It was a really good thing for the students, they didn't have to miss out on a graduate level class that is only offered every other spring, and they still had the interaction with the other students. There were about six students here and about 15 in Nebraska and they had that interaction and also the benefit of the two instructors in the classroom, so it worked out really well."* –Higher Education Member, Northeast Region

Nick Jordan  
Senate Commerce Committee  
Senate District #10

- 1) How many Kan-ed members and potential members are in *Senate District #10*?
  - There are 5 members and 1 potential member in *Senate District #10*. Of the 5 members, 4 are K-12, and 1 is a Library. The potential member is a Hospital.
- 2) How many members in *Senate District #10* have taken advantage of Kan-ed funding opportunities?
  - All 5 members (100%) took advantage of these opportunities.
- 3) How many members in *Senate District #10* are connected to the physical Kan-ed network (i.e., backbone)?
  - None of the 5 members (0%) are connected to the physical Kan-ed network.
- 4) How many members in *Senate District #10* are registered to use the Kan-ed Empowered Desktop?
  - 4 of the 5 members (80%) are registered to use the Kan-ed Empowered Desktop.
- 5) Other key information about members in *Senate District #10*.

[Grant funds have impacted] *"Staff and community members who use public computers, probably around 10,000 people. Because of the security [equipment purchased] it's allowed us to provide better programming for the public side, we are able to do more, we're not afraid of someone coming in and doing something that would harm the network. We have more bandwidth for staff side so they can do stuff faster, for example if they have something they need to download they can do it a lot faster."* – Library Member, Northeast Region

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**Jim Barone**  
**Senate Commerce Committee**  
**Senate District #13**

- 1) How many Kan-ed members and potential members are in *Senate District #13*?
  - There are 30 members and 1 potential member in *Senate District #13*. Of the 30 members, 2 are institutions of Higher Education, 2 are Hospitals, 16 are K-12, and 10 are Libraries. The potential member is a Hospital.
- 2) How many members in *Senate District #13* have taken advantage of Kan-ed funding opportunities?
  - 25 of the 30 members (83%) took advantage of these opportunities.
- 3) How many members in *Senate District #13* are connected to the physical Kan-ed network (i.e., backbone)?
  - 14 of the 30 members (47%) are connected to the physical Kan-ed network.
- 4) How many members in *Senate District #13* are registered to use the Kan-ed Empowered Desktop?
  - 13 of the 30 members (43%) are registered to use the Kan-ed Empowered Desktop.
- 5) Other key information about members in *Senate District #13*.

*"...we've done several things with community based classes using IDL technology. It will continue to provide some ongoing adult education opportunities, where people within our area and surrounding areas will be able to travel to our city to take advantage of those opportunities. We think there is an economic benefit of people coming to our area to utilize this technology. They stop to buy gas, they stop and eat a meal, they stop at convenient stores. [Grant funds] allow us to provide course offerings in a small rural school that we would not otherwise be able to offer."* – K-12 Member, Southeast Region

*"Beyond providing connectivity, the Kan-ed Technology and Equipment grant program provided us the opportunity to maintain our internal infrastructure and advance our technological capabilities. The local infrastructure grant program funding provided by this Kan-ed matching grant made our connection possible to the previously mentioned unique and innovative community-wide network known as the Integrated Community Access Network. These enhancements and upgrades simply would not have been possible without the assistance of the Kan-ed grant programs."* – Higher Education Member, Southeast Region



Jay Scott Emler  
Senate Commerce Committee  
Senate District #35

- 1) How many Kan-ed members and potential members are in *Senate District #35*?
  - There are 62 members and 4 potential members in *Senate District #35*. Of the 62 members, 4 are institutions of Higher Education, 31 are K-12, 7 are Hospitals, and 20 are Libraries. One potential member is a Hospital and 3 are Libraries.
- 2) How many members in *Senate District #35* have taken advantage of Kan-ed funding opportunities?
  - 47 of the 62 members (76%) took advantage of these opportunities.
- 3) How many members in *Senate District #35* are connected to the physical Kan-ed network (i.e., backbone)?
  - 20 of the 62 members (32%) are connected to the physical Kan-ed network.
- 4) How many members in *Senate District #35* are registered to use the Kan-ed Empowered Desktop?
  - 35 of the 62 members (56%) are registered to use the Kan-ed Empowered Desktop.
- 5) Other key information about members in *Senate District #35*.

*"Kan-ed is one of the very few tax supported programs that is making an impact on society and communities in a way that effects people's lives and makes a difference in health care, especially in rural Kansas. I will tell any legislator it is necessary to fund Kan-ed because its services improve health care and in particular rural health care. Since we have seen the impact radiology has on the services [possible as a result of grant funds] the hospital will find ways to cover this cost in the future." – Hospital Member, South Central Region*

*[Grant funds have impacted] "All students in grades K-5. We have about two electronic field trips a day, 60 a month. We have been using them for classroom enrichment, it provides the opportunity for our students to have access to enrichment activities through technology, communication, they have an expert from a field or a new teacher brings a new perspective, it just really enriches the classroom experience...they may go to zoos, or a science center, or interact with astronaut, without leaving their classroom they can have enriching experiences that they would not otherwise be able to do." – K-12 Member, South Central Region*

Laura Kelly  
Senate Commerce Committee  
Senate District #18

- 1) How many Kan-ed members and potential members are in *Senate District #18*?
  - There are 21 members and 4 potential members in *Senate District #18*. Of the 21 members, 2 are institutions of Higher Education, 13 are K-12, 2 are Hospitals, and 4 are Libraries. Two potential members are Hospitals, 1 is K-12, and 1 is a Library.
- 2) How many members in *Senate District #18* have taken advantage of Kan-ed funding opportunities?
  - 16 of the 21 members (76%) took advantage of these opportunities.
- 3) How many members in *Senate District #18* are connected to the physical Kan-ed network (i.e., backbone)?
  - 7 of the 21 members (33%) are connected to the physical Kan-ed network.
- 4) How many members in *Senate District #18* are registered to use the Kan-ed Empowered Desktop?
  - 14 of the 21 members (67%) are registered to use the Kan-ed Empowered Desktop.
- 5) Other key information about members in *Senate District #18*.

[The impact of grant funds has been] *"Increased educational opportunities for students and it allows us to have classes in smaller districts that they can't offer but that we are able to offer in another district. For example, it allows them opportunities to take computer graphics class that they wouldn't have the opportunity to take. It also allows students to take college classes; we offer classes from 2 community colleges in the area...We greatly appreciate what Kan-ed does for the children of our community, and we would not be able to do this if it wasn't for those grant funds."* – K-12 Member, North Central Region

*"It just has been a terrific and very helpful grant for us. It moved us ahead dramatically in terms of what we can do. The population is declining in Central Kansas and in our area and for us to remain viable we need to take advantage of the technology that is available. The other grant that we got was actually the connectivity grant, and that has really allowed us to be involved in I2 and get the bandwidth that we need. It has really helped to move us forward in a really profound way. A year ago we were without really good connectivity and we didn't have the technology to allow us to do distance education. We now have both in place."* – Higher Education Member, North Central Region

**Roger Reitz**  
**Senate Commerce Committee**  
**Senate District #22**

- 1) How many Kan-ed members and potential members are in *Senate District #22*?
  - There are 16 members and 2 potential members in *Senate District #22*. Of the 16 members, 3 are institutions of Higher Education, 9 are K-12, 1 is a Hospital, and 3 are Libraries. The 2 potential members are Hospitals.
- 2) How many members in *Senate District #22* have taken advantage of Kan-ed funding opportunities?
  - 15 of the 16 members (94%) took advantage of these opportunities.
- 3) How many members in *Senate District #22* are connected to the physical Kan-ed network (i.e., backbone)?
  - 3 of the 16 members (19%) are connected to the physical Kan-ed network.
- 4) How many members in *Senate District #22* are registered to use the Kan-ed Empowered Desktop?
  - 13 of the 16 members (81%) are registered to use the Kan-ed Empowered Desktop.
- 5) Other key information about members in *Senate District #22*.

[The impact of grant funds has been] *"Increased educational opportunities for students and it allows us to have classes in smaller districts that they can't offer but that we are able to offer in another district. For example, it allows them opportunities to take computer graphics class that they wouldn't have the opportunity to take. It also allows students to take college classes; we offer classes from 2 community colleges in the area...We greatly appreciate what Kan-ed does for the children of our community, and we would not be able to do this if it wasn't for those grant funds."* – K-12 Member, North Central Region

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Jean Schodorf  
Senate Commerce Committee  
Senate District #25

- 1) How many Kan-ed members and potential members are in *Senate District #25*?
  - There are 12 members and 9 potential members in *Senate District #25*. Of the 12 members, 4 are institutions of Higher Education, 5 are K-12, 2 are Hospitals, and 1 is a Library. The 9 potential members are Hospitals.
- 2) How many members in *Senate District #25* have taken advantage of Kan-ed funding opportunities?
  - 9 of the 12 members (75%) took advantage of these opportunities.
- 3) How many members in *Senate District #25* are connected to the physical Kan-ed network (i.e., backbone)?
  - 4 of the 12 members (33%) are connected to the physical Kan-ed network.
- 4) How many members in *Senate District #25* are registered to use the Kan-ed Empowered Desktop?
  - 5 of the 12 members (42%) are registered to use the Kan-ed Empowered Desktop.
- 5) Other key information about members in *Senate District #25*.

*"Kan-ed is one of the very few tax supported programs that is making an impact on society and communities in a way that effects people's lives and makes a difference in health care, especially in rural Kansas. I will tell any legislator it is necessary to fund Kan-ed because its services improve health care and in particular rural health care. Since we have seen the impact radiology has on the services [possible as a result of grant funds] the hospital will find ways to cover this cost in the future."* – Hospital Member, South Central Region

[Grant funds have impacted] *"All students in grades K-5. We have about two electronic field trips a day, 60 a month. We have been using them for classroom enrichment, it provides the opportunity for our students to have access to enrichment activities through technology, communication, they have an expert from a field or a new teacher brings a new perspective, it just really enriches the classroom experience...they may go to zoos, or a science center, or interact with astronaut, without leaving their classroom they can have enriching experiences that they would not otherwise be able to do."* – K-12 Member, South Central Region

Ruth Teichman  
Senate Commerce Committee  
Senate District #33

- 1) How many Kan-ed members and potential members are in *Senate District #33*?
  - There are 65 members and 5 potential members in *Senate District #33*. Of the 65 members, 3 are institutions of Higher Education, 29 are K-12, 12 are Hospitals, and 21 are Libraries. Three potential members are Libraries, and 2 are Hospitals.
- 2) How many members in *Senate District #33* have taken advantage of Kan-ed funding opportunities?
  - 49 of the 65 members (75%) took advantage of these opportunities.
- 3) How many members in *Senate District #33* are connected to the physical Kan-ed network (i.e., backbone)?
  - 22 of the 65 members (34%) are connected to the physical Kan-ed network.
- 4) How many members in *Senate District #33* are registered to use the Kan-ed Empowered Desktop?
  - 27 of the 65 members (42%) are registered to use the Kan-ed Empowered Desktop.
- 5) Other key information about members in *Senate District #33*.

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Susan Wagle  
Senate Commerce Committee  
Senate District #30

- 1) How many Kan-ed members and potential members are in *Senate District #30*?
  - There are 12 members and 9 potential members in *Senate District #30*. Of the 12 members, 4 are institutions of Higher Education, 5 are K-12, 2 are Hospitals, and 1 is a Library. The 9 potential members are Hospitals.
- 2) How many members in *Senate District #30* have taken advantage of Kan-ed funding opportunities?
  - 9 of the 12 members (75%) took advantage of these opportunities.
- 3) How many members in *Senate District #30* are connected to the physical Kan-ed network (i.e., backbone)?
  - 4 of the 12 members (33%) are connected to the physical Kan-ed network.
- 4) How many members in *Senate District #30* are registered to use the Kan-ed Empowered Desktop?
  - 6 of the 12 members (50%) are registered to use the Kan-ed Empowered Desktop.
- 5) Other key information about members in *Senate District #30*.

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