

MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Grand Challenges

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- Developing Tomorrow's Leaders

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Grand Challenge: Developing Tomorrow's Leaders

Title: Board Leadership

Why is this issue important? People volunteer for community boards because the work of the organization is important to them. They want to be good board members but rarely get any training before their first meeting.

How did Extension address this issue? Extension created a four session training for community board members. The sessions cover the many topics including; duties and responsibilities of non-profit board members, basic parliamentary procedure, managing conflict in groups, financial responsibilities of boards, fundraising and grant considerations, strategic planning and ethical issues for boards. The training is offered in person so that participants can network with members from other boards. They learn from the curriculum and from each other.

What was the impact?

The course is offered two times a year in Shawnee County. The most recent course was in March and April. 10 people took the class and 8 of the 10 participants attended all four sessions. Six different community boards were represented in the class.

The following were comments from this class:

"Thank you for this class. I have learned a lot of information that will help me lead my board next year. The budget information was very helpful!"

"This information is also applicable to my professional career! Excited to apply to my community work."

"I thought this class would be dry but it was presented in a very fun and entertaining way! I wanted to better understand the financials and how to better protect the resources of the board I'm currently working with. Thanks!"

