

Parsons Sun
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¹⁰³ Leadership Parsons gets \$200,000 grant

The Parsons Chamber of Commerce recently was awarded a \$200,000 grant from the Kansas Health Foundation to establish two endowed funds at the Parsons Area Community Foundation to benefit the Leadership Parsons program.

The first fund is for \$100,000 to be named the Leadership Fund. Based on the Parsons Area Community Foundation's spending policy for income from invested endowed funds, each year the Leadership Parsons board will make recommendations for disbursements. This is to supplement the costs associated with the Leadership Parsons program. The other \$100,000 is to establish a Leadership Parsons Children's Fund. Income from this fund will go toward support of a Leadership Parsons class project focused on improving the health and well-be-

ing of children living in the area served by this program.

For more than 15 years the Parsons Chamber of Commerce has sponsored a community awareness program called Leadership Parsons. The program was initially designed to make participants aware of the challenges facing the city and surrounding area, and to inspire them to accept the responsibility of providing the leadership necessary for our community to succeed.

The Kansas Communities Leadership Initiative sponsored by the Kansas Health Foundation, leadership capacity training curriculum has also been implemented over the last three years.

The program operates under a board of directors, which consists of seven past graduates of the program.