

## KHAZ Q4 Issues and Programming List

**Oct. 1 – Dec. 31, 2023**

Issue	Program	Description	Guest	Date	Time	Length
Education	Sunday Sessions	The number of Kansas students who are chronically missing school has nearly doubled in the past two years.	Perez	10-1-23	6:46	4:37
Ag Tourism	Sunday Sessions	Agritourism for producers can be another source of income for their operation.	Varner	10-15-23	6:46	3:12
Social justice	Sunday Sessions	Kansas inmates say it's nearly impossible to appeal a false disciplinary write up inside Kansas prisons, even if they have evidence of their innocence.	Mesa	10-22-23	6:46	4:49
Solar Power	Sunday Sessions	Solar energy in Kansas is booming, with companies flocking to the state in the hopes of developing utility-scale solar farms.	Hack	11-5-23	6:46	4:35
Solar Power	Sunday Sessions	Many rural communities are skeptical of out-of-state solar developers – and are tightening regulations	Hack	11-12-23	6:46	4:42
Healthy Eating	Sunday Sessions	The importance of eating healthy and staying active after the holiday	Holmes and Svaty	11-19-23	6:46	5:06
Healthy living	Sunday Sessions	The importance of connecting young and old for healthy living	Wiles	11-26-23	6:46	6:26
Elections	Sunday Sessions	Nearly one-third of Kansas election officials have left their position in the last four years amid harassment and criticism fueled by unsubstantiated voting fraud claims.	Lysen	12-3-23	6:46	4:41
Schools	Sunday Sessions	The bill for unpaid school meals across Kansas climbed to more than \$23 million last year.	Perez	12-10-23	6:46	4:36
AI	Sunday Sessions	Communities in western Kansas are trying a new tool to attract economic growth and hopefully fight long-term trends of population loss.	Moore	12-24-23	6:46	4:00
Social justice	Sunday Sessions	The state of Kansas awarded more than \$10 million dollars last year from opioid settlement funds for treatment and prevention efforts	Cameron	12-31-23	6:46	4:59

### Western Cooperative – Project Dream

A \$5,000 Sharing Success grant from Western Cooperative Electric recently helped with the completion of the playground expansion at the Dream Camp facility at Cedar Bluff Reservoir. Dream, Inc. has a mission of providing healing and hope to children aged 7-11 who have family members struggling with substance use disorders.

### Options honors 40 years of assisting domestic violence victims

Options Domestic and Sexual Violence Services celebrated its 40th anniversary during a ceremony last Friday in downtown Hays. The ceremony included a prayer, reading of a proclamation by Hays Mayor Shaun Musil, a tree-lighting and unveiling of a commemorative quilt.

## **ROZ PROGRAM DIRECTOR IN HAYS 100723 BK**

The state of Kansas has designated 95 counties, including Ellis, as “Rural Opportunity Zones,” which means moving there to live comes with significant benefits. New or returning residents can qualify for student loan repayments and state income tax credits. Director Sheena Thomas says the program is used as a workforce recruitment tool.

## **SPARK Funds**

Ellis County and the Victoria Fire Department are among 72 Kansas law enforcement, fire, emergency medical services and 911 communications agencies set to receive money through the SPARK program funded by the federal American Rescue Plan.

## **Hays group discusses food insecurity, ways to increase awareness of services**

Although services to feed needy individuals in Hays are abundant, a group assembled to discuss hunger in the community said people don't always know where to go. Last week the group identified 13 churches or non-profit groups in Hays that offered food pantries or food box programs.

## **Advanced Voting**

With the November 7<sup>th</sup> election a little more than two weeks away advanced voting in Ellis County begins today. Advanced voting will take place for the city, school, extension improvement district election at the County Administrative building from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## **Rural Aging**

Advocates for older Kansans say rural areas need more health care services to help elderly people stay in their homes. A Kansas Health Institute conference Thursday focused on ways to improve health care services in rural areas.

## **Local advocates push for more funding for child care food program in Farm Bill**

The federal Child and Adult Care Food Program provides supplementary funds to child care providers to cover part of the cost of meals and snacks and since the program has reverted back to pre-pandemic levels providers are seeing a cut.

## **Options receives federal grant to support survivors of domestic violence**

Hays-based Options: Domestic and Sexual Violence Services recently received \$85,000 in grant funding as part of an effort to prevent family, domestic, and dating violence as well as support victims.

## **Special ed task force**

A group lawmakers created to study special education spending in Kansas will meet in January. Last month, Representative Kristey Williams said she would not call the meeting because she didn't see the point.

## **Rural doctors**

New research suggests most Kansas counties did not benefit from a federal program designed to reduce doctor shortages in rural and other underserved areas. Justin Markowski at Yale says that in Kansas and nationally, areas with the designation saw little improvement in physician density and mortality rates when compared to similar areas without the designation.

## **Social emotional learning**

Kansas Republicans are calling for an end to social-emotional learning in public schools, including lessons aimed at helping students manage their emotions. The state Republican Party passed a resolution opposing S-E-L, and speakers urged the state Board of Education Tuesday to do away with social-emotional standards.