



# TRANSFORM IDEAS FROM Blah to **BOLD**

McPherson Community Building ~ April 3, 2025

The BRB is held every other year and is a project of the public, non-profit Kansas Sampler Foundation.

## KSF BOARD MEMBERS

- **Stacy Barnes**, Greensburg
- **Luke Mahin**, Courtland
- **Dave Procter**, Manhattan
- **Lea Ann Seiler**, Hanston
- **Sarah Werner**, Winfield

## KSF STAFF

- **Marci Penner**, Director
- **Simone Elder**, Power Up and Engagement Manager
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- **Kim Clark**, Bookkeeper/Membership

## **BOLD** THANKS TO OUR MAJOR SPONSORS

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## SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you to all the **sponsors, presenters and facilitators.**

Many thanks to **Joni Regnier and McPherson CVB staff and Tyler Glidden and McPherson Museum staff** for their wonderful assistance and support.

### Food provided by:

- Breakfast & Snacks  
**Tin Roof Pantry, Galva**
- Lunch & Snacks  
**Bennifer's, McPherson**

## LACTATION ROOM

A lactation room is located off the front lobby on the east end.

## SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

8:45 - 9:29a	<b>Registration &amp; morning refreshments</b> Check out merchandise and see what is up at the Inspiration Station and We Kan Bank area.
9:30 - 10:15a	<b>Let's Get Started</b>
10:30a	<b>Speed Meeting.</b> Name, organization, town. What is your "why" for attending the BRB. What is a talent or awareness you bring to the event?
10:30 - 10:47a	<b>Break</b>
10:50-11:50a	<b>First 'Storm.</b> Go to the first 'storm number on your folder label. Map enclosed.
11:50a - 12:40p	<b>Lunch - Main Hall. Fill out Blah to Bold answers</b>
12:40 - 1:15p	<b>A Word From our Major Sponsors</b> <i>Office of Rural Prosperity, Rural Opportunity Zones, and Patterson Family Foundation</i>
1:15 - 1:30p	<b>Blah to Bold Scramble - Gymnasium</b> On the (cream) colored piece of paper <b>list a blah thing about your community, downtown or business.</b> On the (bright blue) piece of paper, fill in this blank: <b>If I were to act boldly, I would _____.</b>
1:30 - 2p	<b>Second 'Storm. Go to the second 'storm number on your folder label.</b>
2 - 2:20p	<b>Break</b>
2:20 - 3:25p	<b>'Storm share outs and Wrap Up - Main Hall</b>
3:25p	<b>New version of Home on the Range Everyone - in the gym!</b>

The mission of the Kansas Sampler Foundation is to preserve and sustain rural culture. KSF began in 1993 and is located near Inman in McPherson County on the Penner Homestead, est. 1874.



# BRAINSTORM BREAKOUTS

See your folder label or name badge to know which 'storm you are attending. You'll attend a different session each time but please attend the assigned 'storm.

## MORNING 'STORM / AFTERNOON 'STORM

10:50 - 11:50a

1:30 - 2p

- 1** **Power Ups Love Living Here**  
Hayley Samford; *Luke Schreiber, facilitator*  
**Main Hall/Lower Level - Storage Room**
- 2** **Artin' Up Our Town**  
Kris Oldsen; *Keyta Kelly, facilitator*  
**Main Hall / Lower Level - Round Table**
- 3** **Young to Old Energy = Town Cohesion**  
Chantelle Lawson; *Julia Rabe, facilitator*  
**Main Hall / Lower Level - Round Table**
- 4** **Building a Culture for Shopping Local**  
Jennifer Kern; *Kelli Hansen, facilitator*  
**Main Hall / Lower Level - Fire Escape Room**
- 5** **Outdoor Recreation that Draws Attention**  
Loretta McGuire; *Dave Procter, facilitator*  
**Main / Upper Level - Lobby**
- 6** **Essential Ingredients: Engagement & Vibrancy**  
Emily Benedict & Mandy Fincham;  
*Catherine Neelley-Burton, facilitator*  
**Main / Upper Level - Light Capital Suite**
- 7** **Rural Communities - Boldly Thriving**  
Maria Flynn;  
*Chris Harris & Jessica Hunt, facilitators*  
**Main Hall / Upper Level - Gen. McPherson Suite**
- 8** **Doing Downtown Differently**  
Roger Hrabe; *Lea Ann Seiler, facilitator*  
**Main / Upper Level - Globe Refiners Suite**
- 9** **Using Friendliness to Change Your Town**  
Michelle Bombardier; *Katie Sawyer, facilitator*  
**Gym - Upper Level**
- 10** **Green Spaces and Gardens that Perk Up a Town**  
Myndi Kraft; *Holly Lofton, facilitator*  
**Gym - Upper Level**
- 11** **Unforgettable Downtown for Kids**  
Krista Johnson; *Lauren Meadors, facilitator*  
**Gym - Upper Level**

## BRAINSTORMING BOLDLY AGREEMENT

**Today I will do my best** to show up as my most energetic, engaged self.

**I will do what I can** for the good of others and for the future of rural Kansas.

**I will reach out to strangers** to help them feel welcome and make the network stronger.

**I will practice making a safe space** for new ideas, growth, and grace.

**While the outside world beckons**, I will be present and participate fully.

**In this space I will engage in** active listening, intentional questioning and suspending reality.

**I will help others think** and not just impose my own views.

**Today I will work on my brainstorming weaknesses** and lean into my strengths while remembering the Reframe Rule.

## TRAITS OF A GOOD BRAINSTORM

1. Active, intentional listening to understand the presenter's vision
2. Asking thoughtful questions to dig into it
3. Imagining alongside the Ideator
4. To practice suspending reality. Nothing is impossible (for now)
5. Exploring the five senses
6. Setting your ego aside and remembering the end goal
7. Poking holes politely
8. Ramping up the boldness
9. Making a safe space for practicing
10. Reframing when necessary

## THE REFRAME RULE

To support a constructive conversation the yellow reframe card can be used if someone is talking too long or too often or if comments are negative or sap the energy in the group.

Avoid the Yellow Card! Be brief in your comments, be open minded and help lift the conversation and make sure everyone gets a chance to talk.



# CONFERENCE SPONSORS

There's nothing blah about sponsor support!



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## HONEYBEE SPONSORS

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- Mulvane Community Foundation
- Tiya Tonn, Butler County