

# Kansas Public Broadcasting Council 2024

## Quality of Life for Kansans:

Public broadcasting provides all Kansans with vital educational, cultural and public affairs services. The Council's five radio and four television stations create border-to-border connectivity in Kansas.

## KPBC is 100% committed to:

- Providing multiple FREE channels to viewers and listeners across Kansas
- Services for both the visual and hearing impaired
- Improving and preserving our Kansas quality of life
- Serving the educational needs of Kansas children
- Engaging and educating Kansas communities on local and worldwide history and topics impacting our communities (veterans, health, civic education, politics, and other topics of relevance for our local viewing areas)
- Providing life-saving information before, during and after emergencies (including severe weather, tornados, wildfires and extreme temperatures)

## KPBC Provides Education Services for All Ages:

- Early Childhood
- K-12
- Curriculum based education content (including lesson plans and resources for teachers, in-school and homeschool)
- Lifelong Learning

## KPBC was a Community Resource During the Pandemic:

### *Learning Across Kansas* Children's Television Project

KPBC partnered with KSDE to provide virtual classrooms on television when public schools were forced to close.

- Reached rural students with limited internet access
- Developed program content led by Kansas Teachers of the Year
- Helped all grade levels: K-5, middle and high school
- Provided critical continuity for Kansas children in crisis
- Archived by the Library of Congress to recognize the Kansas response to learning during the pandemic

**“Your leadership and vision were critical as PBS found a gap that needed to be filled for Kansas kids.”**

**-Kara Belew, Andover Educator, 2020 Teachers of the Year Team**

Contact: KPBC Chair Val VanDerSluis (785) 670-1111



## Public Broadcasting Support: Other Midwestern States

Nebraska	\$21,836,207	FY22-23
Oklahoma	\$2,879,004	FY23
South Dakota	\$4,643,068	FY23
Missouri	\$1,335,000	FY23
Iowa	\$8,215,905	FY23
Minnesota	\$22,608,000	FY22-23
<b>KANSAS</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	<b>FY23</b>

Information obtained from "Current" – a publication of the American University School of Communication, Washington, D.C.

## State of Kansas Public Broadcasting Grants

### **FY2010 through FY2024**

FY2010 \$2,007,926 - State General Fund  
FY2011 \$1,806,332 - State General Fund  
FY2012 \$1,484,995 - State General Fund  
FY2013 \$1,041,000 - State General Fund  
FY2014 \$ 600,000 - State General Fund  
FY2015 \$ 600,000 - State General Fund  
FY2016 \$ 500,000 - EDIF  
FY2017 \$ 500,000 - EDIF  
FY2018 \$ 500,000 - EDIF  
FY2019 \$ 500,000 - EDIF  
FY2020 \$ 500,000 - EDIF  
FY2021 \$ 500,000 - EDIF  
FY2022 \$ 500,000 - EDIF  
FY2023 \$ 500,000 - EDIF  
FY2024 \$ 500,000 - EDIF

The cuts have fallen particularly hard on our rural stations who, pursuant to the statutory formula, receive a much greater portion of the state aid because of the huge areas they serve and their sparse population base. The loss of \$20 million from the state since 2010 has resulted in a loss of millions in federal matching funds for KPBC stations.

KPBC member stations participated in the recent SPARK process and provided to the Task Force a \$26.1 million inventory of unfunded urgent and critical infrastructure projects. The 9 stations qualified for \$8.5 million in SPARK grants to help address the most urgent projects. Unfortunately, a shortfall of over \$17.0 million still exists to replace outdated equipment, in particular, our discontinued transmitters, antennas, and equipment that manufacturers no longer support. Public broadcasting continues to be the primary free source of community service for up to 1,000,000 Kansans in regions lacking access to high-speed internet. Much more work still needs to be done to fully modernize our technical and equipment infrastructure to provide our Kansas audience with the enhanced services they deserve. We thank you for your continued consideration of public broadcasting in future funding opportunities as we partner to modernize our aging technical infrastructure.