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CY24

# COMMUNITY RELATIONS ENGAGEMENT REPORT

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# A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



The Kansas City National Security Campus (KCNSC) is committed to being an engaged and active corporate partner to the Kansas City and Albuquerque communities, and our employees are the key to that success.

Every KCNSC employee is encouraged to volunteer their time to programs they care about. In fact, we believe so strongly in doing what's right, we offer every employee 40 hours of paid volunteer time each year.

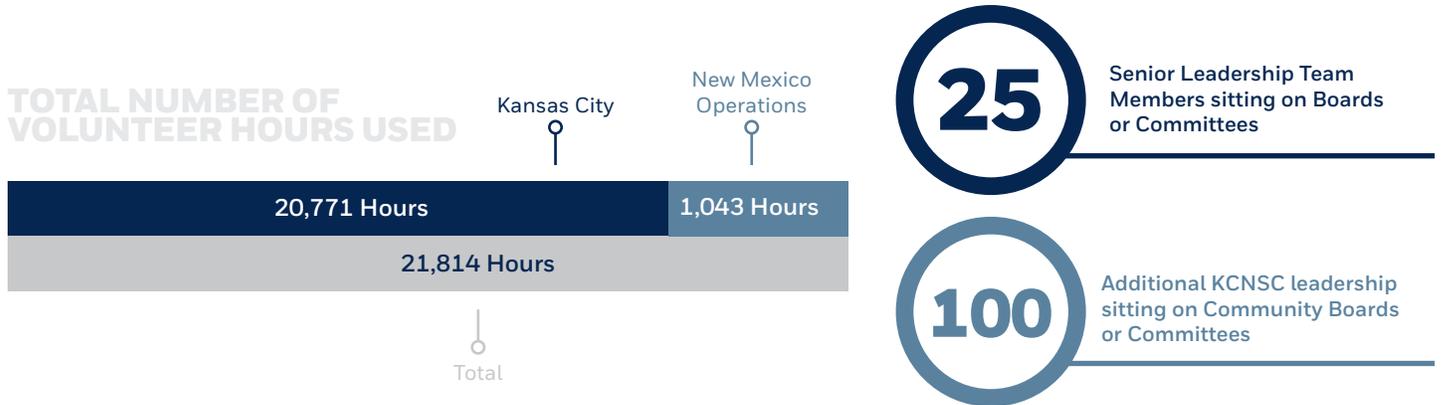
In 2024, our employees logged over 21,000 hours of time volunteering in Kansas City and Albuquerque, as well as other cities where our remote workers live. This means our employees donated about \$1.15 million in labor to meaningful programs. When combined with our annual \$1 million financial investment and the \$400K Pipeline Development Funds from the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), KCNSC gave more than \$2.5 million to the communities where we live and work – a contribution that can make all of us proud.

KCNSC loves to help, and we're not afraid to get our hands dirty. Last year, our volunteers could be found repairing the homes of senior citizens, serving food at the Veterans' Community Project and packing lunches for school children at Harvesters. They also spent a significant amount of time working with the Grandview School District.

At the KCNSC, we are dedicated to developing the next generation of Science, Technology, Engineering, Math and Manufacturing (STEMM) leaders. It's why we helped Grandview High School build their manufacturing lab and invested in organizations like PREP-KC, KC STEM Alliance, Operation Breakthrough and the Linda Hall Library (Invention Convention), all of which provide critical services to students interested in STEMM. Together with these important organizations, KCNSC is helping to raise the bar on education and develop the next generation of great thinkers and innovators, many of whom will hopefully choose to work for us one day.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric".

# VOLUNTEER & EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT



There are a lot of reasons I enjoy working at the KCNSC. One of the key reasons, is the benefit of having 40 hours paid volunteer time in the community. It's a great feeling to be able to go out, in partnership with my peers, and see how we can make an impact in our community - especially with the youth. Having the full support of your company behind you is very rewarding and reassures our commitment to the mission.



—Clairissa Tucker-Collier, employee, Kansas City National Security Campus

## REFLECTING ON SERVICE A YEAR OF GROWTH

In the 2023 school year, KCNSC employees demonstrated an unwavering dedication to volunteerism, providing nearly 16,000 hours of service to various community initiatives. As we moved into the fiscal year 2024, we saw a remarkable increase with our employees contributing over 21,000 hours of service.

This 30% growth in volunteer hours highlights not only the passion our workforce brings to these initiatives but the willingness of our employees to provide support where it is needed most. This effort ranged from mentoring local students and supporting educational programs to participating in needed house renovations and organizing charitable events. These hours reflect the deep-rooted sense of responsibility that our team feels toward the communities they call home.

## THE POWER OF EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

At the KCNSC, we believe that volunteering is not just about giving back; it's also about creating a workplace where employees feel a sense of pride and purpose. The engagement we see through volunteering efforts is a testament to our employees' passion and dedication. By participating in service projects, employees develop leadership skills, work collaboratively across departments and feel empowered to drive change.

## LOOKING AHEAD CONTINUING THE COMMITMENT TO SERVICE

As we look forward to FY2025, we remain committed to expanding our volunteer initiatives and enhancing employee engagement. We aim to provide even more opportunities for our employees to contribute their time, talents and expertise to causes that matter. Through these efforts, we will continue to build stronger bonds with our community, foster an inclusive work environment and inspire future generations to give back.

The KCNSC family is not only shaping the future of national security but also creating a lasting positive influence on the world around us. We look forward to building on this success and furthering our mission of service in the years to come.

# SPACE CAMP PARTNERSHIP

In a new collaboration with Honeywell, students from Operation Breakthrough's Ignition Lab participated in Honeywell's Space Camp Week at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama, during the fall of 2024. **This marks the first time students from the Kansas City-based program have attended the prestigious camp, offering them an immersive experience in astronaut training, STEM education and space exploration simulations.**

The week-long program is designed to inspire and equip the next generation of engineers and scientists through hands-on learning. Participants engaged in a variety of activities, including simulated space missions, rocket construction, robotics challenges and exposure to NASA-inspired technology. Additionally, they had the unique opportunity to collaborate with aerospace professionals, gaining insight into potential STEM career pathways.

"This is an incredible opportunity for our students to see what's possible for their futures," said Mary Esselman, CEO of Operation Breakthrough. "Many of them have never traveled outside of Kansas City. To be part of such an incredible camp is truly life-changing, and we are deeply grateful to Honeywell and KCNSC for making this possible."

The impact of the program was evident in the students' enthusiasm and engagement. "It was amazing! I got to see what it's like to be an astronaut and work as a team on a space mission," shared one student participant. "I never thought I would get to do something like this."

Facilitator Evelyn Etienne, who accompanied the students, highlighted the program's transformative effect. "Watching these students grow throughout the week was incredible. They were challenged in new ways but rose to the occasion, demonstrating resilience, teamwork and a newfound passion for STEM."

Throughout the week, students participated in intensive astronaut training exercises, engineering challenges and real-world problem-solving activities. They explored space navigation techniques, experienced the G-force simulator and conducted experiments similar to those performed on the International Space Station. By providing a hands-on approach to STEM learning, the program aims to prepare students for future careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

As the students returned to Kansas City, they brought back not only new technical skills but also a renewed sense of confidence and aspiration for their futures. Operation Breakthrough hopes to establish Space Camp as an annual opportunity, ensuring more students have the chance to reach for the stars.



# PARTNERSHIP IMPACT

## Grandview School District and the KCNSC

Down the street from KCNSC, students engage in Advanced Manufacturing, FIRST robotics and Project Lead the Way (PLTW). Alongside them, KCNSC employees volunteer to guide and mentor students in STEM.

KCNSC and Grandview School District (GSD) have a long history of collaboration and the partnership grew even stronger in 2023. KCNSC organized a think tank with district leaders, PLTW, KC STEM Alliance and PREP-KC, forming three workgroups to implement plans for the 2024-2025 school year.

### **PLTW Volunteer Implementation**

PLTW Launch curriculum immerses students in hands-on STEM learning. KCNSC volunteers now join forces with teachers to enhance this curriculum by bringing real-world relevance into classrooms.

“By joining forces with PLTW elementary classrooms in the district, the KCNSC volunteers are creating a powerful synergy and relevance, equipping our learners with real-world skills and preparing them for life in and out of the classroom,” said PLTW’s Senior VP of Community Partnerships Martha McCabe. “This model of a robust business/education community partnership in Kansas City is one Project Lead The Way is actively working to replicate across the United States.”

In the pilot semester, 41 KCNSC volunteers supported nearly 500 students. Megan Thurman, Director of Materials, encouraged her team to participate, emphasizing how volunteering strengthens teams.

“Volunteering allows us to prioritize what is good for us culturally as an organization and builds better teams,” Megan said. “It helps us grow additional skills, it bonds us around giving back and makes better individuals out of all of us.”

### **FIRST Expansion**

FIRST Robotics fosters problem-solving, collaboration and leadership skills. KCNSC helped launch seven new robotics teams in the Grandview district, with two teams winning regional titles in their first year. KCNSC volunteers worked alongside those teams cheering them on to success.

“My time with FIRST as a mentor has been rewarding, helping to grow and coach the amazing students who will become our future workforce at KCNSC and across the nation,” said Karissa Schinze, KCNSC Inspector. “We’ll always need problem solvers, and at Grandview, FIRST is developing them in our backyard.”

As a former FIRST participant, Matthew Mohler, Technical Manager at KCNSC, credited the program for his career connections.

“I had the opportunity to explore new technical skills and advance my leadership skills,” Matthew said of the experience. “It provided me the opportunity to build my network through all the amazing volunteers from local businesses, including the KCNSC. Four of the seven people involved with hiring me here were volunteers I met through FIRST.”

### **Advanced Manufacturing Pathway**

Grandview High School’s Advanced Manufacturing Lab, equipped with lathes, mills and welding tools, is brought to life with support from KCNSC and Honeywell Federal Solutions employees.

Brad Hughes, Brent Barcus and Rob Mandl, Commercial Industry Advisors for Honeywell Federal Solutions, have met weekly since 2023 to upgrade their manufacturing lab and lead implementation of professional practices in the curriculum.

“I appreciate the partnership with KCNSC because they are fully committed. Their genuine desire to engage with the community, connect with youth around STEM and provide valuable resources to local organizations is truly remarkable.”

—Chelsea Barbercheck, Ph.D. Executive Director  
KC STEM Alliance School District



“It has been truly inspiring to collaborate with a district so dedicated to elevating career pathways in manufacturing at the high school level,” said Brent. “Personally, it has been incredibly rewarding to witness the transformation — not just in the physical space, which now stands as a point of pride at Grandview, but also in the growth and enthusiasm of Mr. Burns and his students. This work will undoubtedly help cultivate the next generation of manufacturing talent in the very near future.”

Machine Repairpersons Kevin Burk and Tim Adams worked directly with students in the lab.

Kevin said, “Encouraging students to explore their creativity and demonstrating applied engineering and scientific principles while also assisting them in gaining experience in a marketable skillset seemed like a win-win to me.”

Tim was paired with a student who needed guidance from the outside to be successful. “If my volunteering in the lab leads to a young person choosing a career in manufacturing, that is an incredible gain for the 40 hours I committed,” Tim added. “He just needed encouragement, which I gave him. That is building a legacy.”

### Unique Partnership

The KCNSC-Grandview partnership is bridging education and industry.

“Partnerships like ours with KCNSC are integral to bridging the gap between education and industry while providing our students in Grandview with the real-world experiences that truly prepare them for their future,” said Grandview Superintendent of Schools Kenny Rodriguez. “Our collaboration has significantly enriched our school district. We deeply appreciate partnering with KCNSC, as their support and expertise have enhanced our educational environment, impacted our students’ engagement and success.”



## ROADRUNNER FOOD BANK

KCNCS continuously shows its support for families in the areas where we work. During KCNCS's 2024 Inclusion Week, Roadrunner Food Bank's (RRFB) Manager of Volunteer Engagement visited New Mexico Operations (NMO) to speak with employees about the nonprofit's statewide hunger-relief network. The following day more than three dozen members of the NMO team participated in a service project at the food bank, collectively processing and bagging 2,406 pounds of pasta for local families. In November, the NMO team once again supported RRFB by delivering KCNCS's donation of \$5,000 and supplying two dozen volunteers for the nonprofit's annual Thanksgiving Mobile Holiday Food Pantry. The initiative provided 2,167 families with food boxes.



## YOUTH VOLUNTEER CORPS



In 2024, KCNCS partnered with the Youth Volunteer Corps (YVC) to provide more than 40 volunteer opportunities for local youth to engage in meaningful summer camp activities. These opportunities allowed young people to develop leadership skills, collaborate on community service projects, and make a tangible impact in their neighborhoods. Additionally, KCNCS employees worked alongside YVC to support the Christmas in October initiative, helping to rebuild and repair homes for families in need. This collaboration not only enhanced the lives of those who benefited from the home repairs but also provided youth volunteers with hands-on experience in community development, further fostering the spirit of service and teamwork across generations.

It is wonderful seeing kids want to get involved in service-based projects. The students brought great energy and were truly engaged in the process of making the house more livable for the homeowner."

– Eric Schott, house captain and YVC team lead

## NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND HISTORY

During FY24 KCNCS-NMO formalized a partnership with the National Museum of Nuclear Science and History. The Albuquerque-based Smithsonian Museum affiliate is a treasured local resource that presents the story of nuclear science and field pioneers through engaging exhibits and events. Museum President and CEO Jennifer Hayden, expressed her gratitude and said, "We host approximately 60,000 guests from around world each year, and the partnership between the Museum and the KCNCS greatly enhances our mission of preserving and sharing the history of nuclear science with the public." KCNCS-NMO supported several museum exhibits and community events, including STEAM week, as well as a service project on Martin Luther King Day of Service, where volunteers installed 20 feet of path for the Heritage Park exhibit area.



# CHRISTMAS IN OCTOBER

This year, the KCNSC continued its longstanding partnership with Christmas in October, a local initiative dedicated to repairing and revitalizing homes for families in need. On Oct. 14, KCNSC employees, along with friends and family, contributed over 600 volunteers to complete repairs on 13 homes across the Kansas City area. The project was further strengthened by the involvement of the Kansas City Field Office and the Youth Volunteer Corps (YVC), whose members assisted in various tasks, from painting and landscaping to repairing essential household systems. This collaborative effort not only enhanced the lives of homeowners but also fostered a strong sense of community and service, underscoring the power of teamwork in creating lasting change for homeowners and volunteers alike.



# LITTLE BLUE RIVER CLEANUP



In 2024, over 60 volunteers from KCNSC participated in the Little Blue River Rescue cleanup in Missouri, demonstrating their commitment to environmental stewardship and community service. Together, KCNSC employees, friends and family worked to remove 60 discarded tires and collected nearly 100 bags of trash, significantly improving the health and beauty of the river and its surrounding areas. Their efforts not only helped protect local wildlife and water quality but also showcased the power of teamwork in making a lasting impact on the environment.



"I always enjoy our river cleanup day at KCNSC! Getting some fresh air while working alongside passionate people makes for a wonderful Saturday morning"

– Kevin Conley, events coordinator, KCNSC environmental group

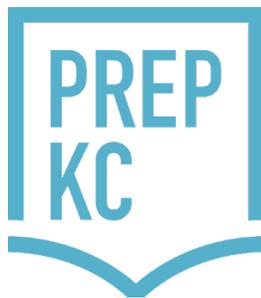
# BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF CENTRAL NEW MEXICO

The KCNSC's commitment to Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) continues in Albuquerque, with Jeff Conner, New Mexico Operations Director, serving as the President of the Board of Directors for the local chapter, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central New Mexico (BBBS). In 2024, NMO marked another year of engagement and support for BBBS, and received the nonprofit's Longevity Award.

This year, NMO raised \$8,000 for BBBS Bowl for Kids' Sake. NMO employees also volunteered at the nonprofit's Halloween Spooktacular, decorating paper pumpkin, ghosts and bats. In November, volunteers participated in BBBS' Discovery Festival, an annual STEAM expo that welcomes more than 1,000 students from across the state. In addition to serving as title sponsor, the NMO team led a LittleBits circuit building activity.



# NNSA PIPELINE DEVELOPMENT FUNDING INITIATIVE



In 2024, the Defense Programs' Technology and Partnerships Office (TPO) of the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) announced funding for educational capacity projects in communities surrounding its laboratories, plants, and sites (LPS). This initiative supports developing critical workforce skills needed at LPS locations.

### **KCNSC eagerly participated.**

"These funds allowed us to have an even more meaningful impact on the development of the future workforce for the KCNSC and the Kansas City community as a whole," said KCNSC Community Relations Manager Anne Einig. "We were able to partner with some amazing organizations on new and innovative work in our school districts."

## Center and Hickman Mills School Districts

NNSA funding is also expanding FIRST and Project Lead the Way (PLTW) programs in Center and Hickman Mills school districts. Through KC STEM Alliance, KCNSC employees will engage in classrooms this spring, connecting students with real-world STEM applications.

“The ongoing partnership with KCNSC and the opportunity to collaborate with NNSA on our local STEM Pipeline Development project are making a significant impact on STEM in the community,” said KC STEM Alliance’s Executive Director Chelsea Barbercheck, Ph.D. “Together, we are equipping schools with essential tools and resources, while also supporting Kansas City teachers and students in their STEM journey.”

PLTW provides project-based learning in engineering, biomedical science, and computer science for all ages of students in the classroom. FIRST Robotics offers after school programming which fosters STEM skills, leadership and communication.

## Manufacturing Skills Development

Beyond technical skills, students need workforce readiness training. Great Jobs KC, a nonprofit offering tuition-free job training, helps students develop communication, time management and financial skills.

“We believe everyone in our community deserves the opportunity to secure a household-sustaining career through job training,” said Great Jobs KC’s Director of Education Partnerships George Hudson. “These funds are allowing us to reach high school students before they enter the workforce and provide for them a path forward to a successful career in manufacturing.”

Great Jobs KC heads into the classroom to train students on job intricacies like communication, change, time and money management skills. Graduating students can connect with employers and enter Great Jobs KC’s training program, leading to manufacturing careers with salaries of at least \$45,000 per year.

## South Kansas City Pipeline Development

PREP-KC, a KCNSC partner, is piloting an initiative in Grandview, Center, and Hickman Mills to help students earn dual credits and receive post-secondary STEM support. NNSA funding is also providing scholarships for students pursuing careers in advanced manufacturing.

“Thanks to the funding provided by the NNSA, we’re able to help more students earn credentials that will help them jumpstart careers in advanced manufacturing during high school and, for the first time, provide scholarships for students seeking to pursue postsecondary education in manufacturing and related pathways,” said PREP-KC Vice President Doug Elmer.

Since the program’s launch, more than 90 students have prepared for the OSHA-10 certification, and instructors will soon earn their own OSHA training certifications to expand student opportunities. Additionally, graduates will be able to gain financial assistance as they continue their manufacturing pathway.

## Grandview High School Advanced Manufacturing Pathway

Since launching its Advanced Manufacturing Pathway in 2021, Grandview High School identified additional needs to enhance student success in the workforce or higher education.

NNSA funding enabled the creation of a Computer Integrated Manufacturing lab, installation of four new mills, welding equipment and booth, an updated electrical and exhaust system, and supported the relocation and modernization of its current equipment. The KCNSC also completed the transformation with an environmental redesign to welcome students.

“The support from KCNSC and the NNSA is more than just an investment in equipment; it’s an investment in the future of our students and community,” said Grandview Director of Instructional Technology Jeramie Davis. “By providing advanced equipment and invaluable guidance and mentorship, KCNSC is fostering innovation and empowering the next generation to lead in the field of advanced manufacturing.”

A ribbon-cutting ceremony in September 2024 marked the lab’s completion, attended by representatives from NNSA, Honeywell Federal Solutions, KCNSC, and the Grandview School District.

“KCNSC has been an outstanding partner in establishing a program that allows students to explore skilled trades, gain hands-on experience and learn about the dynamic field of manufacturing,” said Grandview Advanced Manufacturing Instructor Adam Burns. “They have helped to empower our students to build themselves a future in manufacturing.”

# OUR KANSAS CITY AND ALBUQUERQUE COMMUNITY PARTNERS- CY24

## EDUCATION

- AAUW Tech Trek of New Mexico
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central New Mexico
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Kansas City
- Boy Scouts of America – Heart of America Council
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City
- Girl Scouts of NE Kansas & NW Missouri
- Grandview Education Foundation | Grandview School District
- Great Jobs KC
- Greater Kansas City Community Foundation
- Junior Achievement of Greater Kansas City
- KC STEM Alliance
- Land of Enchantment Robotics
- Linda Hall Library, Kansas City Invention Convention
- MindDrive
- National Atomic Museum Foundation
- Operation Breakthrough
- PREP-KC
- Society of Women Engineer, Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day
- Union Station Kansas City, Inc. - Greater KC Science Fair
- US DOE, NNSA National Science Bowl
- Youth Volunteer Corps

## SOCIETY

- 509th Force Support | Wings Over Whiteman
- Albuquerque Regional Economic Alliance
- American Indian Chamber of Commerce of NM
- Asian American Chamber of Commerce of Kansas City
- Black Achievers Society of Kansas City
- Center for Disability Inclusion
- Central Exchange
- Charlie's House
- Christmas in October
- Folds of Honor
- Friends in Service of Heroes
- Gathering of Nations, Ltd.
- Grandview Chamber of Commerce
- Grandview Parks & Recreation
- Greater KC Chamber of Commerce
- Harvesters The Community Food Network
- Heartland Black Chamber of Commerce
- Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Greater Kansas City
- Kansas City Area Development Council
- Kansas City Kansas Chamber of Commerce
- Kansas City Symphony
- KC AUSA
- KC Pride Alliance

- KC Tech Council
- Marine Toys for Tots Foundation
- Metropolitan Community College Foundation
- Mid-America LGBT Chamber of Commerce
- Missouri Chamber Foundation
- Overland Park Chamber of Commerce
- Paws and Stripes
- Rio Rancho Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Roadrunner Food Bank of New Mexico
- The Golden Scoop
- Truman Foundation
- University of Missouri Kansas City
- Veterans Community Project
- Warrior's Ascent
- Women of Purpose of Johnson County

## ENVIRONMENT

- Bridging the Gap
- Friends of Valle De Oro National Wildlife
- Rio Grande Community Farm



The National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA) Kansas City National Security Campus (KCNSC) is operated by Honeywell Federal Manufacturing & Technologies LLC (FM&T), a division of Honeywell International. We employ nearly 7,000 employees at KCNSC's facilities in Kansas City, MO and Albuquerque, NM.