



KSBRC
Kansas School Board
Resource Center

**KSBRC SCHOOL
BOARD DISCUSSION
SERIES:**

**K-12 PROGRAM
SPOTLIGHT: JOBS FOR
AMERICAN GRADUATES-
KANSAS**



Presentation by
Chuck Knapp, President & CEO

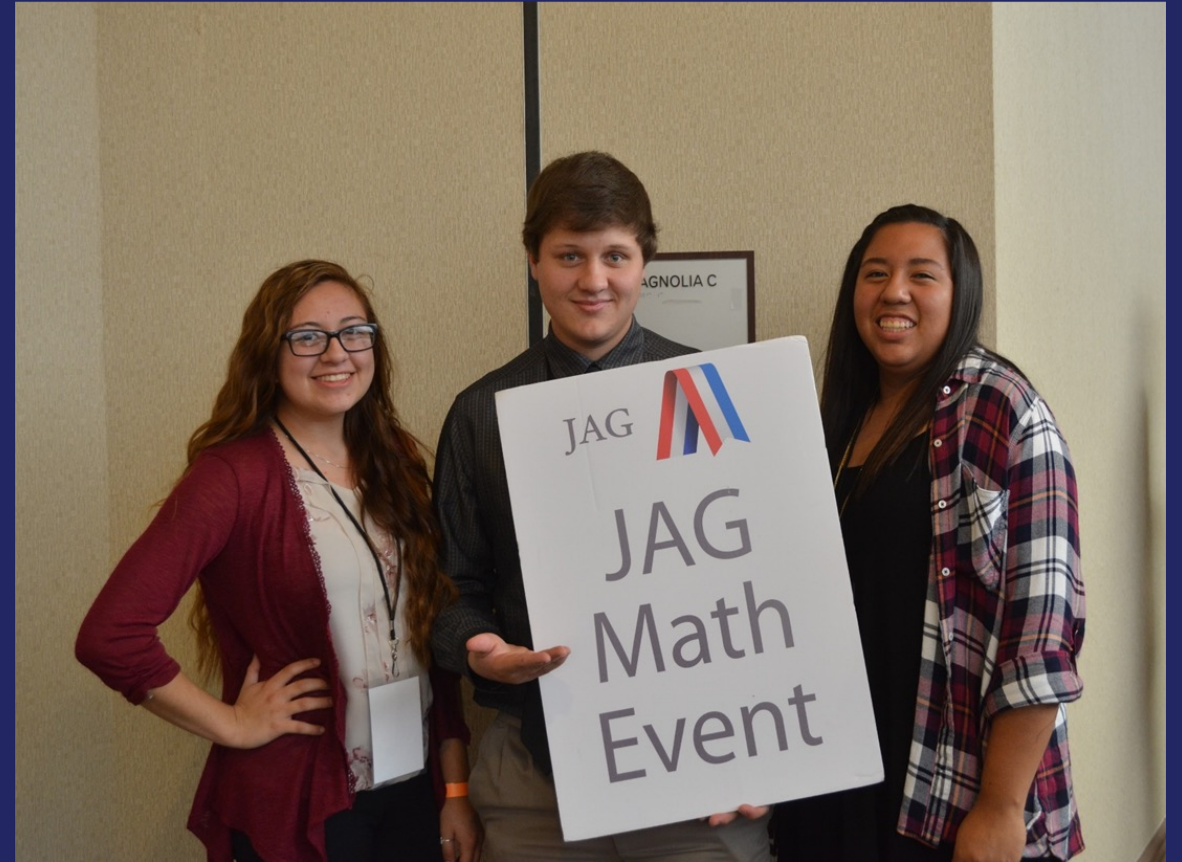
July 31, 2024



**Preparing Students for
Successful Futures.**

What is JAG-K?

- Independent 501(c)3 organization
- One of 38 State Affiliates of Jobs for America's Graduates.
- Brought to Kansas in 2013
- In-school, elective class for credit
- Programming for System-Involved Youth
- Braided funding model with local, state, federal and private sources



Evidence Based Model

- ★ Competency Based Curriculum
- ★ Project Based Learning
- ★ Employer Engagement
- ★ Work-Based Learning
- ★ Individual Development Plans
- ★ Career Exploration and Skills Development
- ★ Career Association
- ★ Mandatory Community Service
- ★ 12-Month Engagement and 12-Month Follow-up
- ★ Small Class Sizes and maximum cohort of 60 students
- ★ Competition



Core Competencies

All students must master 37 core competencies to successfully complete the JAG program. The core competencies were developed following research that included employers' views on desired worker traits. The 37 core competencies are grouped into six clusters:

- ★ Career Development
- ★ Job Attainment
- ★ Job Survival
- ★ Basic Competencies
- ★ Leadership and Self-Development
- ★ Personal Skills



Who are JAG-K Students?



- ★ 67% are eligible for free and reduced lunch
- ★ 54% are students of color
- ★ 49% are in the bottom 25% of academic class rank
- ★ 50% live in single-parent homes or are separated from their parent(s)

Student Eligibility Criteria

- **Academic**

- Low performance
- Basic skills deficiency
- Truancy/absences
- Suspended, expelled

- **Environmental**

- Parent(s) not a HS graduate
- Parent(s) not working
- Is a parent
- Convicted of criminal offense/involved with justice system
- Homeless
- Runaway
- Needs Transportation
- Foster care

- **Income and Work Related**

- Economically disadvantaged/poverty
- Has inadequate or no work experience
- Lacks marketable occupational skills

- **Personal**

- Has a disability
- Special Education
- Emotional Disorder
- Health Problems that impair education or career goals

- **Social**

- Experienced bullying/harassment
- Contemplated or attempted suicide

By the Numbers

- ★ 114 Programs in 48 school districts in 39 Kansas counties in 2024-25 (9 for system-involved youth)
- ★ Serving approximately 6200 students in FY 2025
- ★ 96% Graduation Rate
- ★ 84% Full-time Positive Outcomes (Post-Secondary Education, Military Service, Workforce)
- ★ 64% Further Education Rate



JAG-K as Prevention and Intervention Programming

★ Prevention

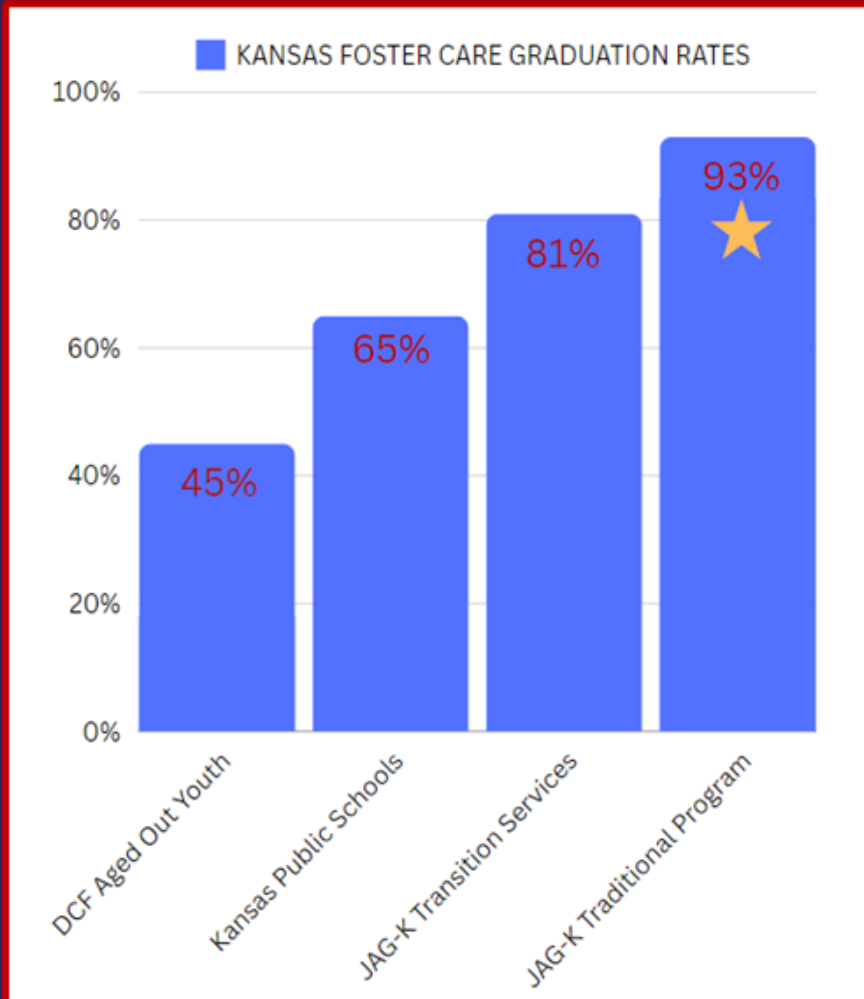
- ★ Address risk factors of teen pregnancy, poverty and juvenile system involvement
- ★ Connection with a caring and supportive adult/mentor

★ Intervention

- ★ Students in foster care have a significantly higher graduation rate if they are in JAG-K
- ★ Most justice-involved youth are served in their communities, and JAG-K offers an evidence-based program with consistent objectives and outcomes that have proven Outcomes to help students get on a successful path



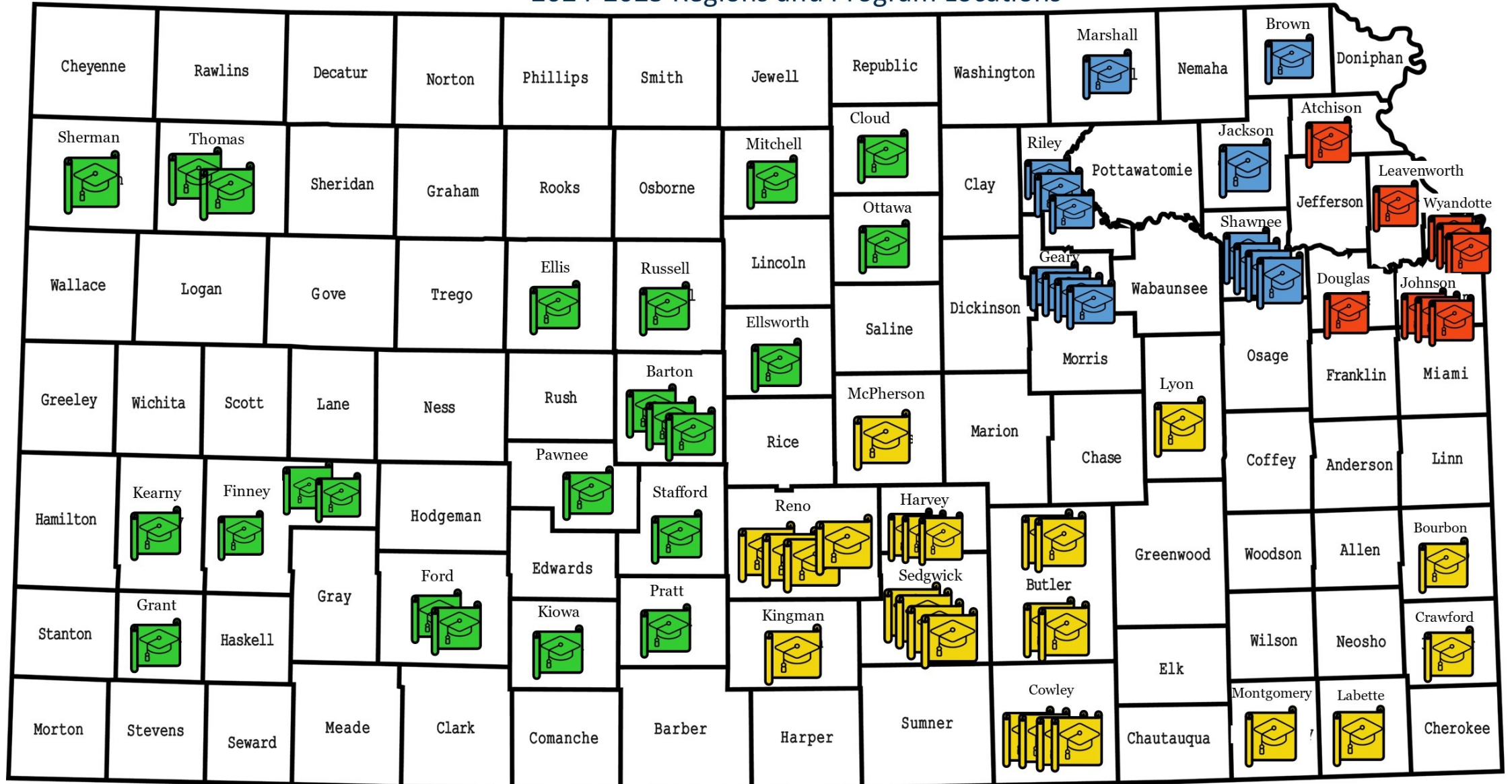
JAG-K is the Best Option



for students
in foster
care.



2024-2025 Regions and Program Locations



JAG-K Expansion

- ★ 158 Programs in at least 53 counties by the start of the 2026-27 School Year.
- ★ Serving more than 9,000 students in FY 2027
- ★ Requires an increase of approximately \$4 million
- ★ School Districts pay approximately 15% of the cost
- ★ Mix of Urban and Rural Districts

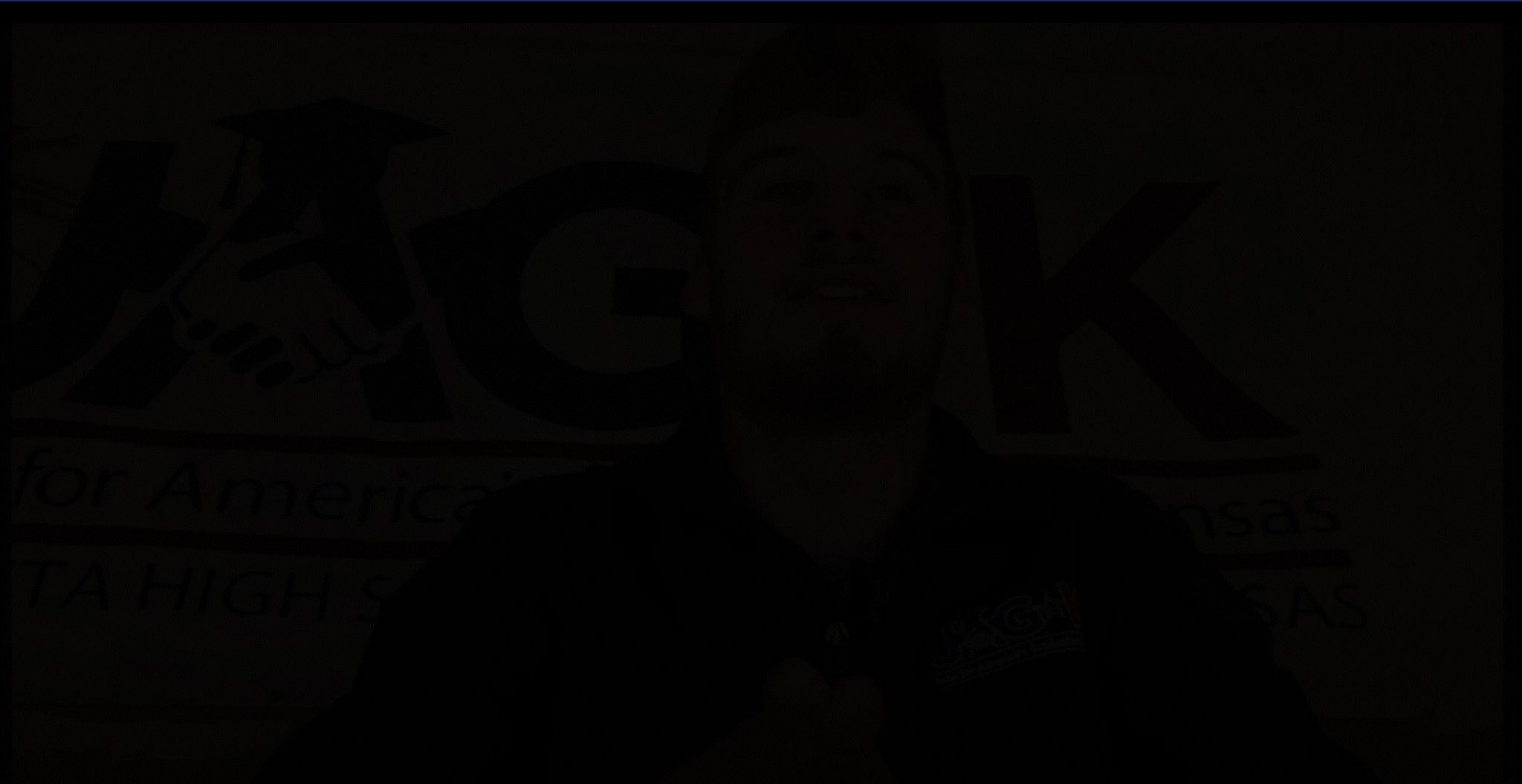


JAG-K Involvement

- ★ Guest Speaker
- ★ Work-based learning experiences
- ★ Help with mock job interviews
- ★ Judge a competition
- ★ Spread the word



What do Our Students Say?





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Questions?

Chuck Knapp
chuck.knapp@jagkansas.org

Jobs for America's Graduates-Kansas
1420 SW Arrowhead, Suite 300
Topeka KS 66604

785-478-5650
316-651-6303 (mobile)

www.jagkansas.org