

Brief Bio for Lyle A. Butler  
Retired President/CEO  
Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce

Lyle Butler recently retired in February 2019 as the President/CEO of the Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce, a position he held since July 2000. Butler has also served as Chamber Presidents/CEO in Dodge City, Kansas and Greeley, Colorado.

Lyle has other Kansas and Colorado career management experiences in banking and radio broadcasting prior to joining the Chamber of Commerce profession in 1990. Butler is a graduate of the Chamber of Commerce Institute program at the University of Colorado and a graduate of the Economic Development Institute from the University of Oklahoma.

Lyle is originally from Springfield, Massachusetts. He attended college at Ottawa University in Ottawa, Kansas.

Butler has been very involved in state and local boards in Kansas including; Kansas Mainstreet, President of the Chamber of Commerce Executives of Kansas and the Kansas Economic Developers Alliance. Locally, in Manhattan he has served as Past President for the Manhattan Rotary Club; he also was a past board member on Downtown Manhattan, Inc., the Manhattan Art Center, Flint Hills Breadbasket and for the Kansas State University Institute for Commercialization. He also was co-founder and served as President for 10 years of a local innovative and award-winning economic development organization called Knowledge Based Economic Development (KBED).

Butler is a 1982 Graduate of Leadership Kansas and a 2002 Graduate of The Flint Hills Leadership Program. Nationally, Butler recently served on the Board of Directors of the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives. Butler was recently recognized By Team Kansas as the 2019 Governor Samuel J. Crawford Silver Stirrup Award recipient for leadership in economic development.

Currently, Butler is a Bank Board Member for ESB Financial, with locations in Manhattan and Emporia and a Board Member for Frontier Financial Partners, a Certified Development Company based in Emporia, promoting economic development through SBA programs.

Lyle is married to Chris, a retired Speech Pathologist. They have four married children and nine grandchildren.