



Office of Recovery

Office of Recovery Update: 12/14/2020 - 12/18/2020

SPARK investments keep Kansans learning and safe

The best way to learn how the CRF investments recommended by the SPARK taskforce and approved by State Finance Council are benefiting Kansans is to ask them directly. That's what the program administrators of the Remote Learning and Technology for Families grant programs were able to do recently. Here's what they heard:

"It has been really tough and hard lately during the COVID-19 because so many things went to using computers and we did not have access to them. ***We have a child with a disability and I was worried about her getting help that she needs.*** This grant will allow us to try to figure out stuff with my daughter and help me keep up on her development. When I have questions about what to do, I can zoom with my teacher or therapist. ***I can also use it for my therapy and my daughter's doctor so I don't have to take her out and risk her getting sick.*** Also my daughter can start to use the ipad to help her learn."

"My husband works, but during the COVID-19 pandemic, his job was shut down many times. He was working less hours and I did not work at all. I stayed home to care for our children, but eventually I had to get a job to help him pay the bills. ***We did not have internet access*** other than what my son's school provided for him to do his school work. I could not buy enough minutes on my cell phone because we did not have the extra money. I was not able to do my visits with my teacher because I did not have minutes left on my phone. ***Having this opportunity to receive an iPad through Technology for Families will help me with many different situations.*** I am grateful to have it. Thank you."

"We are incredibly thankful the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund for gifting us a tablet. We feel so grateful to be able to ***connect virtually to our speech therapists and never miss a session due to COVID-19 restrictions.*** By having better access to our Speech and Language Therapists, ***we will have a better chance at thriving!! Thank you for this precious gift!!***"

SPARK In the News

Imagination Station receives SPARK grant for new flooring

Imagination Station Daycare, one of over one-hundred Bourbon County businesses who applied for a SPARK grant in July 2020, has received SPARK funds to update the daycare's worn flooring, which helps with cleaning and keeping the daycare healthier.

[Read more](#)

Free COVID-19 tests available to Kansans

Thanks to the investments approved by the SPARK taskforce and State Finance Council, Kansans can book an appointment to receive a free COVID-19 test online. To book a test or see the locations where free testing is located, please click on the button below.

Go Get Tested

Resources available to you:

- **New Anti-Fraud, Waste & Abuse Portal.** If Kansans suspect fraud, waste, or abuse of CARES Act funds, they can report their allegations via an online portal, which will help direct their concerns to the appropriate place. Previously, Kansans could call or email the Office of Recovery with their claims. The new portal will streamline the process and offer Kansans the opportunity to submit claims anonymously if they fear retribution. View the portal here: <https://covid.ks.gov/report-fraud-waste-or-abuse/>.
- **County Resources:** You can view all updated county resources and guidance, including the updated **Kansas Supply Chain Disruption and Delays Memo**, by visiting <https://covid.ks.gov/spark-county-resources/>

Wishing you all happy holiday season! Thank you.

Julie L. Lorenz

Executive Director

Office of Recovery, Kansas Governor Laura Kelly

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