

200507001

Wichita Business Journal - December 1, 2006

<http://wichita.bizjournals.com/wichita/stories/2006/11/27/daily30.html>

Wichita Business Journal

BUSINESS PULSE SURVEY: Will you spend more or less money on presents this holiday sea:

State rep to head Wichita leadership center

Wichita Business Journal - December 1, 2006 by [Shane T. Farley](#)

Rep. Ed O'Malley, a Johnson County Republican who won re-election to the Kansas Legislature last month, is giving up his seat to become **Kansas Leadership Center's** first president and CEO.

He will begin his new position with the Wichita-based center in January.

"It did develop quickly," says O'Malley of his hiring. "This was not in the plan but it wasn't an opportunity I could pass up. It seemed like a way to continue my passion for Kansas."

Funding for the nonprofit training center is provided by the **Kansas Health Foundation**, which has committed \$30 million over 10 years to the program. O'Malley will be asked to develop all aspects of the operation. He plans to move to here.

No location has been chosen for the center, but it's planned to be located in downtown or Old Town and will open by spring. The center will initially lease office space, but should be in a permanent home by late 2008, says Chris Power, a spokesperson for the health foundation.

The Kansas Health Foundation, at 309 E. Douglas, is not expected to move from its current location.

A goal of the center is to train leaders and policy makers in strategic planning, community organizing, facilitation and advocacy. It will also convene leaders around the state on important health and wellness issues.

O'Malley was first appointed to represent Kansas House District 24 -- which serves a portion of Johnson County -- in 2003. He won re-election in 2004 and 2006. As a member of the House, he's served on committees for economic development, financial institutions, taxation and transportation.

Kansas Health Foundation is a private philanthropy dedicated to improving the health of Kansans. It allocates approximately \$23 million annually.

"We can't wait to have him," says Marni Vliet, president and CEO of the Kansas Health Foundation. "He should create a lot of excitement."

Contact the Editor

Need Assistance?

More Latest News →

Subscribe or renew online

All contents of this site © American City Business Journals Inc. All rights reserved.