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RESIDENTS RECEIVE FAST CASH

Reno County 2020 Growth Coalition verifies 13 new residents

Reno County 2020 Growth Coalition will pay \$1300 in relocation rewards on August 28th. Three Reno County residents encouraged their friends and families to move to Reno County by sending them a “We Could Live Anywhere” postcard. After the families relocated to Reno County in July the recruiters applied for the relocation reward. Their efforts have earned them \$100 for each new resident.

On June 30th the Growth Coalition kicked off a new campaign to empower local residents to help grow the county’s population. When they received a postcard the new residents were directed to www.WeCouldLiveAnywhere.com, a new section of the Growth Coalition’s website featuring information on housing, education, jobs, healthcare, parks and recreation, the community calendar, cultural opportunities and much more.

The Whitson family of five returned to Hutchinson after a two-year absence. When they were transferred out of Hutchinson for employment they kept in touch with friends from the area. The Whitson family has moved nine times over the past several years. Encouragement from their Hutchinson friends, coupled with their positive experiences in Hutchinson made the decision to come home an easy one. According to Mary Whitson, the We Could Live Anywhere website was helpful for her to see what changes had taken place in their absence. As a veteran of relocating, being able to find out everything a community has to offer in one place is invaluable.

Fairfield Elementary West has two new students thanks to a grandmother from Turon who persuaded her grandson and his family to move from Georgia. Joshua and Jennifer Brown along with their four children decided to move to Turon after his grandmother convinced him there were job opportunities and affordable housing in western Reno County. Jennifer is excited to get involved in PTO and keeps busy entertaining her two youngest children. Joshua commutes to Hutchinson for work at Superior Boiler Works.

GET PAID FOR NEW NEIGHBORS

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When Jill Montgomery finished college she planned to be an art teacher in the Kansas City area where she had grown up. Art teacher positions were scarce and when her aunt encouraged her to consider Reno County she began to apply for a position in the area. An opportunity at HMS 8 arose shortly before school started and Jill made the move to Hutchinson with her young daughter. Jill had made visits to Hutchinson for the Kansas State Fair but never imagined she would eventually live here. Having her aunt and uncle close by to help with her daughter played a large role in her decision. When she received a postcard from her aunt Mary, Jill used the We Could Live Anywhere website to check out the Hutchinson News to find a rental and to see what there was to do in town.

Reno County residents have a unique opportunity to help their community grow and prosper. According to Dorothy Barnett, Growth Coordinator, the We Could Live Anywhere campaign can help to accelerate Reno County's recent population growth. "As residents we often take for granted the things new people love about our community. For someone who has not had the benefit of an outstanding public education system, or spends several hours a day commuting to work, Reno County is a gem." The new website features stories about residents who truly could live anywhere and why they chose Reno County.

Residents who would like to earn \$100 for each person they recruit can send printed or electronic We Could Live Anywhere postcards to potential new residents. "We hope people will think outside the box and send postcards to friends and family, but also consider classmates they may have lost touch with or business acquaintances. Postcards are available at the Reno County 2020 Growth Coalition office at 111 North Walnut, in Hutchinson and city offices throughout the county.

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For more information regarding We Could Live Anywhere contact Dorothy Barnett, Growth Coordinator, (620) 664-8656 or by email dorothy@renocountygrowth.com.