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KANSAS HEMP LEADERS PROVIDE OUTREACH

TOPEKA, KS – Simultaneous events were held recently providing education and celebrated hemp in Kansas: On July 11-13 the Hemp Casita was proudly on display in Topeka, and over 190 miles away on the 12th, South Bend Industrial Hemp held their annual open house & workshop. Both events were well-attended with an estimation of total visitors at nearly 1000-1200 people ranging from law enforcement and regulators to families, students and media.

Kansans are clearly excited to talk about hemp and what benefits it is bringing to farmers, small and large business, not to mention our environment. Through gatherings such as seeing the K-State built Hemp Casita (now on display in Augusta with Sarah at Midwest Hemp Technology) and learning how to build with hempcrete and insulate walls as they did in Great Bend with Melissa and Aaron, people are better understanding how hemp is helping communities. At South Bend individuals were shown all aspects of the plant from planting and harvest to processing and working with the raw material for various uses.

The travelling Hemp Casita is an initiative by Right Coast Hemp in collaboration with Angel Romero, Jr. of Stuc-go-Crete and led by professor, Michael Gibson within K-State's School of Architecture. The structure was developed by master's students who utilized hempcrete walls, hempwool insulation and hempwood for framing and flooring. By engaging Kelly's network of Kansas Department of Agriculture and Greater Topeka Partnership/K-State 105, a permanent trailer was obtained which helped launch the tour. First on display at the Kansas State Fair then Dodge City, the Hemp Casita's journey can be followed at: www.hempcasita.com and learn more at: <https://www.hempbuildmag.com/home/ksu-casita-project>

Be on the lookout for future events by following the aforementioned organizations and Kansans for Hemp on social media! Planted Association of Kansas was formed in 2018 as the state's industry trade group supporting regenerative practices including growing industrial hemp. The organization's mission is to spread awareness, provide education and advocacy, networking opportunities, and promote best practices across the Heartland.

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