

Dan Nagengast

Dan is the Director of the Kansas Rural Center.

He grew up on a dry land wheat farm in Western Nebraska and attended the University of Nebraska and Columbia University School of Law. He worked in New York City and then Boston, before moving to West Africa and serving with Peace Corps and Church World Service in several countries.

On returning to the U.S. in 1984, he began market gardening vegetables and fresh cut flowers with his wife, Lynn Byczynski.

He became Director of the Kansas Rural Center in 1991, and has organized numerous marketing projects serving small farmers. He has directed projects investigating antibiotic resistance in livestock and promoting value-added processing for smaller farms. He serves as Co-Chair of the Kansas Governor's Rural Life Task Force, and in that capacity lead a joint trip with the Kansas Energy Office to visit Southwest Minnesota community wind projects in 2005.

He currently Chairs the Kansas Food Policy Council. He assists his wife in producing her monthly newsletter, "Growing for Market", and they still grow and market fresh cut flowers from low-cost hoop houses with some field production.

He is the Kansas Facilitator for the Wind for Schools Project, a project sponsored by the National Renewable Energy Lab in Golden, CO.