

LAWRENCE BUSINESS MAGAZINE

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Women of Impact



Bonnie Lowe
President/CEO, The Chamber of
Lawrence, Kansas

Growing up in rural western Kansas gave Bonnie Lowe an early appreciation for the challenges small businesses often face during day-to-day operations, so it only seems natural that she's now helping Lawrence businesses find success as president/chief executive officer of The Chamber of Lawrence, Kansas. How businesses and the city work together for the common good of all in supporting and promoting each other is what excites Lowe about her position every day. Staying on the same page and remaining civil with each other can be a challenge in today's business – or, political – world, but Lowe sees the importance of remaining respectful of each others' opinions and remaining open-minded. Building solid, long-lasting relationships and working together, she believes, is what will lead to ultimate success.

“Often we set out to make a difference in the lives of others only to discover we have made a difference in our own.”
– Ellie Braun-Haley

**IN HER OWN WORDS:
YOUR MENTOR/ROLE MODEL**

I have learned from so many wonderful leaders and am indebted to each of them. While each experience with a mentor and role model has helped me embrace opportunities with hopes to be impactful in our community, there is an overarching message I have learned. Developing relationships and building trust with others can make each of us more effective in our positions while bringing us personal growth and satisfaction.

KNOW ABOUT YOU

My roots are from Western Kansas. Our family ran a small business in a rural area. These experiences helped me fully appreciate the challenges these businesses face day after day. How we work together to support and promote each other is an exciting aspect of my position with The Chamber.

MAKING AN IMPACT

I am honored to be considered impactful with the other individuals in this publication. I have been fortunate to serve in various employment and Board positions. While I strive to make a positive difference with these opportunities, I often feel I receive much more than I give.

LIKE TO SEE CHANGE

The lack of civility in some circles is disappointing. I would like to see all be respectful of each others' opinions and understand that if viewpoints differ from our own, that does not make these feelings wrong. Being open-minded and establishing trust will build solid relationships and encourage meaningful dialogue and positive change. △

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