

**Kansas State University
Category 10: Spiritual Development
2010-2011 Chapter Programming Award**

One of the greatest qualities of the Kansas State University FarmHouse is the environment, one that provides for men to grow spiritually. The spiritual aspect of the fraternity, coupled with the unique growth opportunities the chapter provides are two of the main attributes that draw potential new members to the chapter. Though many of the chapter's members' beliefs and values are similar, each man in the chapter has his own unique spiritual identity, and there is a great openness among members regarding the discussion of spiritual beliefs. Such an atmosphere facilitates fellowship and learning, two vital traits to any Christian's faith. It is not at all uncommon to walk into a room in the chapter house and find brothers discussing their faith in a comfortable, loving environment. This allows men to learn and grow alongside their brothers whilst providing encouragement and accountability for each member in his spiritual journey. Proverbs 27:17 says, "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." This holds true at the Kansas State University FarmHouse. Below are specific goals outlined for the programming year. It's worth noting that these are just a few examples of the ways in which the Kansas State University FarmHouse encourages its members to grow spiritually. More than anything, each member of the chapter is encouraged to grow spiritually through the relationships he builds with his brothers, who are always willing to offer encouragement, advice, and wisdom. (New programs are denoted with a *.)

Goals:

1. Educate members about opportunities to get involved in churches and/or campus ministries at K-State and in the Manhattan community.

- During the programming year, many of the chapter's members were involved in campus ministries, and almost all of the members attended church on Sundays. Some of the campus ministries and churches the men of Kansas State University FarmHouse were (and are) involved in include St. Isadore's Catholic Student Center, Grace Baptist Church, Faith Evangelical Free Church, the Navigators, Christian Challenge, and Student Mobilization.
- Several of the chapter's members played in the worship bands or served on the student leadership teams associated with these ministries.
- Members who were involved in these organizations frequently invited other members to participate, and announcements were frequently made at weekly chapter meetings about opportunities to get involved in these ministries.
- It is common knowledge that one of the most effective ways for a Christian to grow is through relationship with like-minded individuals who hold a similar faith, and Kansas State University FarmHouse's efforts in this goal area were centered around this fact.

2. Provide Bible studies for members and their friends to be involved in.

- The chapter conducted several Bible studies each semester, some of which were open exclusively to chapter members, and some of which were open to anyone.
- Almost every pledge class had its own Bible study. Additionally, an alumni member of Kansas State University FarmHouse chapter led a Bible study for the chapter's new member class to participate in. The new members were encouraged to participate in this Bible study, but participation was not required.
- Other members of the chapter were involved in Bible studies at their churches.

3. Hold a "pastor appreciation dinner" for pastors and campus ministry staff members.*

- During the spring semester, the chapter held a pastor appreciation dinner in which pastors and campus ministry staff members were invited to dinner at the chapter house. Several guests (roughly 10) were able to attend, allowing spiritual leaders in the community to meet FarmHouse members and become familiar with Kansas State University FarmHouse chapter.
- The event was a huge success, and encouraged good relations between the chapter and local churches.