

Sharing Our Success (SOS) Submission Form

Chapter Name: Kansas City

Chapter Membership Size: Medium (100-249)

Chapter Contact Person: Nora Tripp

Email Address: ntripp@olsson.com

Phone Number:

Chapter Board Position: VP of Membership

Chapter Website URL: <https://tdkc.org>

Submission Title: Informal Networking Coffee Chat and/or Happy Hour

What did you do? (a 2-3 sentence summary of your effort): I created an informal coffee chat/happy hour to provide ATDKC members with a relaxed, low-pressure environment to build authentic connections beyond structured events. This setting encourages open conversation, idea sharing, and relationship-building across roles, experiences, and organizations. Ultimately, it helps strengthen our community by fostering meaningful connections that support both personal and professional growth.

Who benefitted from this effort (Target Audience) Check all that apply:

- Chapter Members
- Board Members
- Chapter Volunteers
- Chapter Sponsors
- Chapter Partners
- Potential Chapter Members
- Non-Chapter Members
- Consultants

Why did you do it? What chapter needs were addressed? We created these informal coffee chats and happy hours to give ATDKC members an accessible, low-pressure way to connect outside of structured programming. Traditional events can sometimes limit deeper conversation, so this format allows for more natural relationship-building and authentic dialogue. By creating these opportunities, we aimed to strengthen our community, increase member engagement, and foster meaningful professional connections. We do have a membership table there to answer any questions, encourage renewals/signing up and for a chance to win a book or prize from time to time.

What were the measurable outcomes? (May include data regarding financial gains, membership increases, target audience satisfaction levels, publicity for the chapter or for the profession, etc.)

Increased attendance: We saw a steady rise in participation, with more members attending informal gatherings compared to some structured events. We also saw that people would return to the event(s).

Authentic conversations: Attendees reported having more meaningful, open discussions, leading to stronger peer connections and follow-up interactions. We encouraged Board members to be present to help engage in conversations.

Direct impact on membership: New and returning members shared that they joined or re-engaged with ATDKC specifically because of positive one-on-one conversations they had at these events. Members got a chance to meet others in the organization.

What steps did you take to implement this effort? (Remember that other chapter leaders will use this to replicate the effort. Be specific)

We had a pre-existing relationship with the brewery owner. He does not charge us for the space. We in return let them know in advance the dates and times at least 15-20 additional people will be present. You will need to build an event where people can sign up. Include a sign in sheet, swag or give away drawing item perhaps to make it fun. Arrange the tables so they are close to each other to encourage conversations. Advertise the event on social media including your website.

Is there anything you would do differently?

We are exploring changing location throughout the city. I would also try to keep it on the same cadence. For example, the second Friday of the month. We initially said if you bring a friend, you get a free drink on us, but have since just picked up the tab. Make sure you include this in your budget.

When did you start working on this effort?

Jan 15, 2025

When did this effort go live?

Feb 14, 2025

Approximately how many hours were spent working on this? Include an estimate of hours spent across all board members and volunteers.

3

What resources did you use? Check all that apply:

Chapter funds
Board Members

How much money was spent?

\$60-\$125 on average each time

Which board positions were involved in the effort?	Executive board, Membership, Marketing
Do you have any additional insights to share with other chapters implementing this effort?	We have received feedback that people look forward to these events. It has been a great way to connect with others. Many conversations have developed out of the events. We did at one point, record someone from the event and post to social media. FYI - date for which we started working on this is a guess.
Please attach any documents that help support this submission. It is highly encouraged to submit editable files (ex. Word, Excel, etc): (additional documents and documents over 2MB should be sent to sos@td.org)	https://www.formstack.com/admin/download/file/19732960048
How did you become familiar with the Sharing Our Success (SOS) program? Select all that apply:	Chapter Leader
Would you be willing to apply to present on this submission at the ATD Chapter Leaders Conference (ALC)? *Request for Proposals (RFPs) open in October of each year at td.org/alc. Selected session facilitators receive complimentary registration.	Yes
email_consent	true