

Tuesday Topics Summary  
July 2, 2024

July's Tuesday Topics was again held in the auditorium at Brewster Place. President Mary Lou Davis thanked Brewster Place and its staff for allowing and facilitating our meeting at Brewster. She reminded members and guests that Tuesday Topics will be held at the Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library as usual. The presenter will be Diana Carlin, who will speak about her new book FLOTUS (First Ladies of the United States).

President Davis then introduced our presenter, Adrienne Olejnik, Vice President of Kansas Action for Children (KAC). Adrienne spoke first about her background and experience, noting that she graduated from Washburn University and is a native Kansan. She and her husband live in Rossville with their two daughters. She is a community leader, local school board member, and Rossville librarian.

As Vice President of Kansas Action for Children, she spoke about how research, relationships and data inform their policy work at KAC. Some of their data about Kansas children shows that 14% live in poverty, 13% are eligible for childcare assistance, and 7,021 children lost their Medicaid. Kansas Action for Children monitors the Kansas Legislature. KAC staff are in the State House meeting with lawmakers, monitoring committee meetings, and presenting testimony. Adrienne had many statistics and a plethora of information about what Kansas Action for Children does to support Kansas children and families. More details about the complex agenda of Kansas Action for Children is available on their website at <https://www.kac.org/>. For most of those hearing the presentation, this was new and welcome information. Following questions from the audience, President Davis adjourned the meeting.