

2007 Existing Business of the Year



Name of Business	Custom Home & Cabinet LLC dba CHC Creative Remodeling (CHCCR)
Owner	Kevin and Judy Transue
Nature of Business	Residential and Commercial Remodeling
City	Lenexa
County	Johnson
Phone	(913) 438-6933
Email	www.chccr.com
Business Structure	Limited Liability Corporation
Business Began	2001
Employees at Start Up	2
Employees in 2007	5
KSBDC Counselor	Malinda Bryan-Smith

“I’m not done with the KSBDC! I know there is so much more that our company can take advantage of.”

Kevin Transue, Owner

Johnson County Community College Kansas Small Business Development Center

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Kevin and Judy Transue started Custom Home & Cabinet LLC dba CHC Creative Remodeling (CHCCR) after several years in the Information Technology (IT) industry. After that industry began to experience a downturn in 2000, they decided to start a remodeling business. This type of venture seemed to be a perfect fit for them because Kevin came from a creative family and had a passion for building things and Judy came from a farming family and could relate those experiences to operating a small business. Kevin started working in the business full-time in July of 2001. Judy maintained a part-time job in the corporate world while also operating the “back office” of the business and raising their family. Once CHCCR began to generate enough revenue, Judy began working in the business full-time.

When CHCCR started, the focus was on building cabinetry. The Transues’ soon realized that this niche was too small and the expenses were too high. At the same time, remodeling opportunities developed and the business evolved into a remodeling company that targets high-end residential and commercial markets.

These high-end markets are a good match for Kevin because it allows him to be creative. In 2006 and 2007, CHCCR was named the Contractor of the Year by the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI). When the Transues started the business, Judy came to the KSBDC at Johnson County Community College to take a start-up class, followed by classes in the legal and accounting areas, as well as QuickBooks. During this time Judy also accessed the KSBDC’s counseling services. She and Malinda Bryan-Smith have worked on human resource, administrative, operational and accounting issues.

CHCCR continues to grow and take on larger remodeling projects. Future plans for the company include moving out of their home-based location and hiring a full-time person to assist in office management.

“Brace yourself for the first 2-3 years. Keep track of even your smallest accomplishments so you can see that you are making progress. Network with everyone, everywhere. Utilize the organizations that are out there to help you succeed. You’ll see, owning your own business is very rewarding!”