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Director of Informatics Sonia Jordan recognized as a leader in public health by de Beaumont Foundation

LAWRENCE, KS – Sonia Jordan, Director of Informatics, has been recognized as one of the [“40 Under 40 in Public Health”](#) in recognition of her work at Lawrence-Douglas County Public Health.

The de Beaumont Foundation announced its 2021 list today (Sept. 14) after reviewing applications from hundreds of rising leaders in public health. The cohort was selected by a distinguished panel of public health professionals for their leadership and impact on their community’s health.

“At a time when health professionals are being required to adapt and take on monumental challenges, we are incredibly proud of these leaders,” said Brian C. Castrucci, DrPH, president and CEO of the de Beaumont Foundation. “We created the 40 Under 40 program to recognize and tell the stories of rising leaders who are making a difference in communities across the country. By promoting their work and accomplishments, we hope to attract and inspire a new generation of leaders.”

With more than 10 years of experience in the field of public health, including five years at Lawrence-Douglas County Public Health, Jordan has played many roles in public health projects in public health informatics, health equity, infectious disease and public health preparedness. As Director of Informatics, she played a leading role in developing and disseminating the Douglas County Health Equity Report and has been an active partner in building a data-sharing collaborative that aimed to support behavioral health in the community through a lens of equity.

“In public health it is vital that we develop leaders who have a vision for the health of their communities,” LDCPH Director Dan Partridge said. “Sonia Jordan is an outstanding individual with vision and passion for the work and I am excited for the opportunity this selection represents.”

During the COVID-19 pandemic, she shifted gears to aid the response. Her

department was responsible for all disease investigation, contact tracing, isolation/quarantine and outbreak management and ultimately was responsible for coordinating the distribution of the vaccine in her community.

“The past year-and-a-half has been hard for many people in public health. But with the challenges, opportunities have presented themselves. Opportunities to build trust in public health, to create momentum in other areas of community health, and to become a trusted leader in the field of health – these are all opportunities that should be seized,” Jordan said.

Applications were submitted between February and April 2021. The pool of applicants represented a diverse set of backgrounds and a wide range of professional roles. For more information about the 40 Under 40 in Public Health, including a full list of honorees, visit www.debeaumont.org/40Under40.

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