

# Charting the course toward Health for All

2018 Annual Report





Director Dan Partridge speaks during the “Health for the 21st Century” summit in January 2018 in the Kansas Room at the University of Kansas Union.

## Director’s message

# Embracing the public health role of community health strategist

The rise of chronic disease as the predominant driver of health in our country has spawned new models for the role and function of local public health departments.

While continuing to take the lead on delivering vaccinations to our community, serving as a public health regulator and investigator of disease outbreaks, we also have become a community voice, convener and planner. National thought leaders have labeled this work as community health strategist.

This Annual Report is a continuation of our story of evolution and embracing new roles. In 2018, the Health Board adopted a new Strategic Plan calling us to focus on equity and to improve the health of all.

Our strategic priorities call us to:

- Provide data to support decision-making (We have consolidated our analysts and epidemiologist to create an informatics department.)
- Support adoption of the Community Health Plan (We have identified community conveners and plan sponsors to sustain progress.)
- Deliver our services to improve health equity (We are evaluating our programs to identify inequities in how anyone accesses our services.)
- Understand community barriers to good health and catalyze solutions (We released our first Community Health Equity

Report and are working to raise public awareness and have conversations surrounding these findings.)

As we move forward in this role, we recognize that “building a healthy community” is our goal, and it encompasses all our programs along with the challenge to always strive to serve the community.

Dan Partridge, RS, MPH

### Health Department

Provide data to support decision making

Support adoption of policies that align with Community Health Plan

### Strategic Priorities

Deliver services and address system gaps to improve outcomes for those experiencing the greatest health inequity

Understand community barriers to good health and catalyze solutions

Build an infrastructure that supports work-force development and effective systems for improvement

# The Future of Public Health

## Douglas County Community Health Plan

After extensive work led to completion of the Douglas County Community Health Assessment in December 2017, staff reviewed the data to identify a set of potential priority issues that negatively influence the health of Douglas County residents through the overarching lenses of addressing equity and discrimination.

The 2018-2023 Community Health Plan sits on a foundation that is committed to create health equity for the whole of Douglas County.

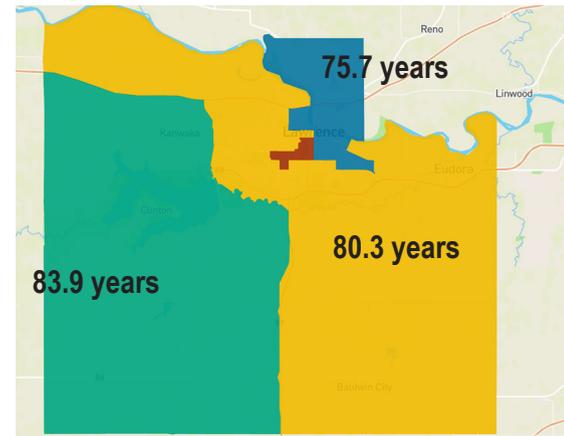
A steering committee representing agencies across the county identified four issues to target through the lens of health equity to give everyone in Douglas County “a fair and just opportunity to be healthier.” We recognize this work is too big for one organization, and the plan calls for LDCHD to steward the plan with other community organizations to partner and serve as conveners on issues they work closely on.

9 health issues are narrowed to 4

- Behavioral Health
- Safe and Affordable Housing
- Food Security and a Healthy Built Environment
- Poverty and Jobs

### Douglas County Life Expectancy

County average is 80.3 years



Health equity & discrimination

### Community Health Plan Strategies and Partners

#### Safe and Affordable Housing

- Increase availability of access to affordable housing, enhance infrastructure supporting collaborative efforts to address affordable housing.
- Increase safety of rental housing and owner-occupied units.
- Implement strategies to expand affordable, integrated housing for populations experiencing inequity.

Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority



#### Behavioral Health

- Prioritize prevention, promote integration across the system of care, improve access to care.
- Action Highlights: Integrated crisis team, Behavioral Health sales tax, myStrength grant.

Douglas County Behavioral Leadership Coalition



#### Food Security and a Healthy Built Environment

- Increase food security and access to healthy foods.
- By 2023, increase percentage of low-income or low-vehicular access residents who can reach a healthy food access point by foot, bike or transit.
- Provide more opportunities for physical activity, plus walking or biking to school.
- By 2023, increase the percentage of adults participating in recommended level of physical activity from 22.2% to 25%.

LiveWell Douglas County



#### Poverty and Jobs

- Establish collective impact organization from Douglas County organizations that support employment readiness, employment creation and remove barriers that hinder employment.
- Complete a four-year plan in 2019.

Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department



# PUBLIC HEALTH 3.0 SUMMIT

“HEALTH FOR THE 21ST CENTURY”



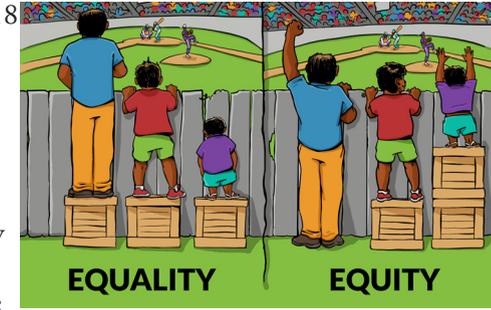
# Health Equity Report

## Understanding the conditions for health for all

The Health Department in 2018 produced its first Douglas County Health Equity Report.

The work was rooted in:

- Health Equity for All. Everyone deserves a fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible.
- Factors at play in society produce inequities. Inequities are avoidable and are not fixed in an individual's DNA or hardwired into a population.
- Health equity is an ethical and human rights principle. This idea motivates us to eliminate health inequities and disparities for all in our community.



The Social Interaction Institute; Artist Angus Maguire

“Foundational to our work is the understanding that a person's health is primarily influenced by the environmental conditions, social relationships and institutional structures that exist where we live, work, learn and play.”

— 2018 Health Equity Report, Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department

### Income Matters

Residents earning less than \$35,000 are 6.6 times more likely to be uninsured and diagnosed with asthma.

### Education Matters

Residents with a high school degree or less are about twice more at risk to be smokers, have a fair or poor overall health status and reporting their mental health to be not good.

### Race Matters

Black infants are born at a low birth weight at twice the rate of the Douglas County average — a potential risk factor for adverse health outcomes.

“As health needs evolve and change, it is incumbent on the public health system to be responsive and effective in assuring conditions in which all residents can be healthy.”

— Vicki Collie-Akers, associate director of health promotion research at KU Center for Community Health and Development

### Improving Health for All

A person is behind each number, and this work is too big for one individual or agency. This report shows why the lens of health equity is so critical to view the four key areas of the Douglas County Community Health Plan —

Safe and affordable housing, behavioral health, food security and physical activity and poverty and jobs.

# Evidence-based practices

## Formation of the Informatics Department

With using data to support decision making as one priority of its Strategic Plan, the Health Department took several steps to ensure that it was positioned to collect and interpret various data.

A key development was the formation of the Informatics Department to help streamline the collection and analysis of external and internal data. The department helps inform both the work and performance of the Health Department and its service to clients and Douglas County residents as well as analyzing data regarding infectious disease and population health epidemiology.

The Health Department's Informatics Department in 2018 led the work that became the first Douglas County Health Equity Report.



Analyst Dee Vernberg and Informatics Director Sonia Jordan attended the Public Health Informatics Conference in August 2018 in Atlanta. The theme was "Connecting Systems and People to Improve Population Health."

## Flu Surveillance Keeps Community Informed of Dangerous Virus

Influenza, more commonly known as flu, is currently not a reportable disease to the health department.

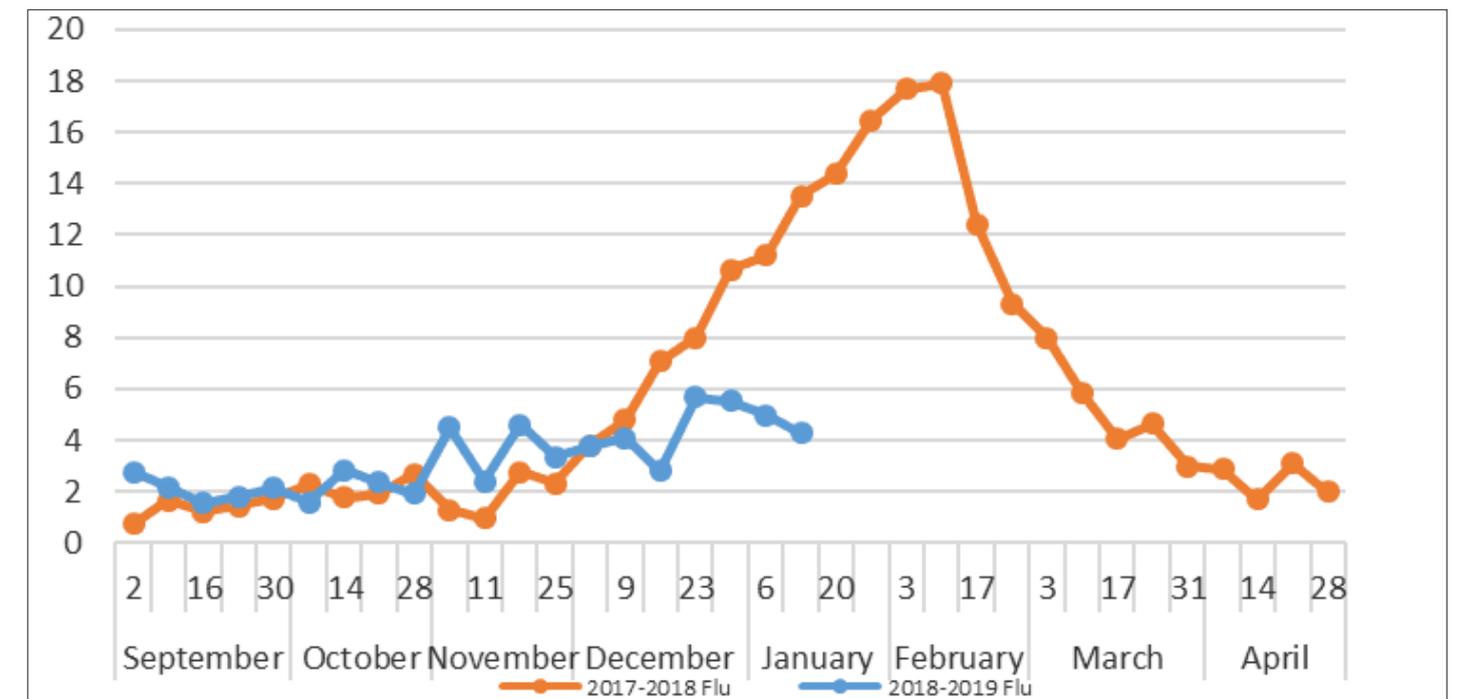
Therefore, it is often difficult for the health department to accurately track influenza rates as it moves through the county and the state.

One indicator used for flu surveillance is the presentation of

influenza-like illness (ILI) patients at health care facilities. The Health Department via its new Informatics Department in 2018 began the Douglas County Flu Surveillance program to collect data weekly on flu activity in Douglas County.

The Health Department would then release weekly reports to the public to keep Douglas County and northeast Kansas residents aware of flu activity so they could take precautions.

PERCENT OF VISITS WITH FLU-LIKE SYMPTOMS AT HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS FOR DOUGLAS COUNTY RESIDENTS BY WEEK



# Building and Supporting Relationships

## WIC program moves to electronic food benefits system

Kansas' public health nutrition program for Women, Infants and Children, commonly called WIC, in Douglas County in 2018 offered families a new way to shop for food benefits using an electronic benefit transaction card.

Previously, participants in the WIC program used paper checks to buy foods provided by the program. Now, with the new eWIC card, shopping will be easier and WIC families will be able to better track their monthly food balance. Participants also have access to a new WIC Shopper Smart Phone App allowing them to scan a food's bar code to determine if it is a WIC-allowed food.

The Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department's site serves about 1,500 clients and issues about \$1 million in food benefits annually that can be used at 12 stores in Douglas County.

Clinic staff lauded the eWIC cards as making shopping for WIC food benefits easier.



2018 WIC Supervisor Rachel Levy shows off the new eWIC cards for Kansas WIC clients.



“The new eWIC cards are great because they make shopping for WIC food benefits more convenient and help reduce the stigma that can be associated with using paper checks when checking out at stores.”

— Nicole Parker, Public Health Nurse

## Community outreach invigorates Health Department

### BALDWIN MAPLE LEAF FESTIVAL FLOAT



For the first time, the Health Department in October 2018 entered a float in the Baldwin Maple Leaf Festival Parade, and it received second place! Special thanks to Director of Clinic Services Linda Craig for organizing the float efforts and to Director Dan Partridge for creating the float's structure. Its theme was B-Ranch, where we like to B-Healthier Together!

## Community leadership

Health Department employees served on numerous local boards and committees in 2018. These include:

- Douglas County Behavioral Health Leadership Council
- Success by 6 Board
- Douglas County Child Abuse Prevention Task Force
- Lawrence-Douglas County Advocacy Council on Aging
- Douglas County Dental Clinic Board
- Douglas County Breastfeeding Coalition Board
- Dads of Douglas County Board
- Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods
- Lawrence Transportation Commission
- Horizon 2020 Steering Committee
- Douglas County Suicide Prevention Coalition Board
- Safe Kids Douglas County Board
- Lawrence-Douglas County Bicycle Advisory Committee
- United Way Community Impact Committee
- Lawrence Public Schools Equity Advisory Council
- Outside for a Better Inside Board

# Investing in leadership

The Health Department continues to invest in developing leaders to help tackle the challenges we face in our everyday lives — whether at home, at work or in the community. Leadership is about mobilizing people to make progress on issues for the common good.

### *Kansas Leadership Center guiding principles:*

- Leadership is an activity, not a position.
- Anyone can lead, anytime, anywhere.
- It starts with you and must engage others.
- Your purpose must be clear.
- It's risky.

The Health Department continues to offer employees participation in Kansas Leadership Center training programs

### *Leadership training*



Team members during their 2018 Leadership Retreat



Informatics Director Sonia Jordan, right, was selected for the 2019 Leadership Lawrence program. Analyst Vince Romero, Communicators Coordinator Karrey Britt and Business Systems Analyst Charlie Bryan are past graduates



Business Systems Analyst Charlie Bryan and Director of Clinical Services Linda Craig participated in and completed a Local Public Health Leadership Series in Salina.

# 2018 by the numbers



45 employees

### Clinic Services

13,468  
clinic visits

6,661  
immunizations provided



### Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program

5,080 appointments for nutrition counseling



\$788,096  
dollars in WIC vouchers provided to families for nutritious food

### Family and Senior Support Services

1,805  
home visits or phone call coordination provided to older adults by Project LIVELY care coordinators



697  
home visits provided through Healthy Families program

### Epidemiology

373  
reports of communicable diseases investigated



### Environmental Health

457 pool and spa inspections

406 septic system inspections



### Child Care Licensing

336 inspections of child care homes, centers, pre-schools and school-age programs

39 complaints about child care facilities investigated



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

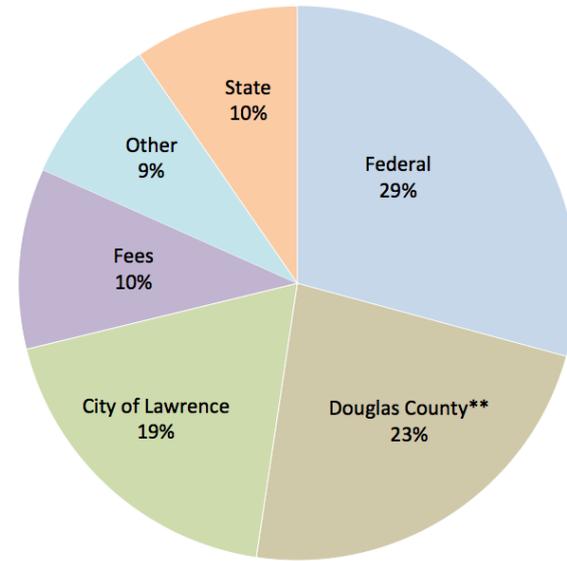
Unaudited statement of revenues and expenditures for Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2018

## OPERATING FUND

<b>Beginning balance*</b>	<b>\$1,472,091</b>
<small>*Adjusted from prior annual report to reflect audited financials</small>	
<b>Revenue</b>	
Federal	\$1,043,294
**County	\$824,116
City	\$671,401
Fees	\$376,106
Other	\$310,630
State	\$341,575
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$3,567,122</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Salaries and wages	\$2,182,837
Payroll related expenses	\$552,552
Commodities	\$607,886
Contractual	\$241,734
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>\$3,585,009</b>
<b>Ending balance</b>	<b>\$1,454,204</b>
<b>Net revenue over expenditures</b>	<b>(\$17,887)</b>
<small>* *Does not include health insurance subsidy provided by County</small>	<small>\$284,789</small>

## RESERVE FUND

<b>Beginning balance</b>	<b>\$1,744,338</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	
Other	\$6,064
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$6,064</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
<b>Personnel liabilities</b>	<b>\$32,500</b>
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>\$32,500</b>
<b>Reserve fund ending balance</b>	<b>\$1,717,902</b>
<b>Net revenue over expenditures</b>	<b>(\$26,436)</b>



Graphic: Sources of revenue

## FUNDED DEPRECIATION

<b>Beginning balance</b>	<b>\$318,161</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	
Transfer from operating fund	-
Other	\$691
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$691</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Capital equipment	\$64,906
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>\$64,906</b>
<b>Reserve fund ending balance</b>	<b>\$253,946</b>
<b>Net revenue over expenditures</b>	<b>(\$64,215)</b>



Sandy Praeger Chair  
 Stephen Fawcett Vice Chair  
 Vern Norwood Treasurer  
 Dr. Doug Dechairo  
 Shaun Musick  
 Shannon Oury  
 Verdell Taylor  
 Michael Williams

## Board's message

*“Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.” – John F. Kennedy*

As Chair of the Health Board this year, this quote reminds me of the importance of not only establishing a vision for the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department but making sure we seek to know as much as possible about our community and those we serve.

The key aspect of all the work of the Health Board and staff remains creating conditions to ensure everyone in Douglas County can be healthy. With many partners in the community, we all continue to tackle this complex challenge, and it starts with learning as much as possible about our community and using that data strategically to inform how we help people improve their health and overcome unique challenges they face.

*“As we work on fixing health care in America, we need to start where health starts, not just where it ends.”*

— Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, “A New Way to Talk About the Social Determinants of Health.”

In seeking to identify where health starts for Douglas County residents, among some highlights from this report in 2018 we’ve seen the development of the Informatics Department, the adoption of the Douglas County Community Health Plan and hosting of the “Health for the 21st Century” Summit with the University of Kansas Medical Center, University of Kansas Center for Community Health and Development and the Kresge Foundation.

These learning opportunities have been critical and illuminating experiences, but the Board does not intend for the data-collecting and strategic-planning work to be a detached process from what is behind the numbers — our neighbors, friends and family members.

Our hope is that the Health Board has helped set the tone that we all have a role to play in helping address and influence the social determinants of health to achieve our mission — Health for All. That, I believe, is true leadership.

*Sandy Praeger*

**Sandy Praeger**  
 Lawrence-Douglas County Health Board Chair

LAWRENCE-DOUGLAS COUNTY  
**Health Department**

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