Operations

- Membership
  - In 2016, KALHD represented 93 of the 100 local health departments in Kansas (Chautauqua, Cherokee, Crawford, Elk, Labette, Montgomery, and Hamilton Counties are not currently members).

- New Revenue in 2017
  - Innovations Grant: The Public Health National Center for Innovations (PHNCI) awarded a $200,000 Innovations grant to KALHD in May.
  - Capacity Grant: The Kansas Health Foundation (KHF) awarded a $25,000 capacity grant to KALHD in June. The funding supported a grant writing workshop for KALHD members.

- KALHD Informatics Subcommittee
  - The subcommittee conducted strategic planning in January and revised the plan following several interactive discussions held during regular monthly board meetings; the plan is posted at http://www.kalhd.org/meeting-resources-and-documents under the October 2017 meeting resources.

  Aaron Davis, Michelle Ponce, and Dan Partridge were invited to present a session at the NACCHO annual conference in July regarding the subcommittee activities and engagement of local public health.

Meetings

- Board of Director Meetings
  - KALHD hosted monthly board meetings every month, January through November. Board members met in January for an orientation and priority-setting meeting and reaffirmed the 2016 priorities to (1) continue to work on increasing member engagement and (2) focus on efforts of the PHPP to develop an implementation plan for foundational public health services in Kansas in line with the vision statement adopted by the Board of Directors in September 2015: “A system of Local Health Departments committed to helping all Kansans achieve optimal health by providing Foundational Public Health Services.”

- District Meetings
  - KALHD board members hosted meetings in each of the six KALHD districts in the spring of 2017. The purpose of district meetings is to strengthen relationships and increase member engagement. In 2017, participants completed a KALHD member engagement survey, received informatics survey results personalized by district, engaged in facilitated discussion about FPHS and how to advance the KALHD vision in their communities, and shared updates among district cohorts. A total of 45 individuals attended the district meetings (53 individuals attended district meetings in 2013 [the first year they were held], 85 individuals attended district meetings in 2014, 72 attended district meetings in 2015, and 68 attended district meeting in 2016).
Mid-Year Meeting

- In 2017, 80 people representing 54 counties attended the mid-year meeting held June 21-23 at the Hotel at Old Town in Wichita, KS (83 people attended the MYM in 2016, 70 people attended the MYM in 2015, and 109 people attended the MYM in 2014). Conference session topics included public health informatics, worksite wellness, the 2017 Kansas Legislative session, modernizing public health, HIPAA, the Kansas local health department FPHS capacity assessment, and 2017-2018 public health emergency preparedness work plans.

Projects

- **Public Health and Medicaid Coordination**: In January of 2013, KALHD, KDHE, and CCSR formed a partnership designed to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of Kansas Medicaid services by guiding the planning, policy development, and coordination of services of KDHE, KALHD, local health departments, and others interested in public health services for the Kansas Medicaid population. KALHD staff and members continued participation in workgroup activities, including in 2017 researching programs such as community health workers funded by Medicaid in other states; the Kansas Accreditation Readiness Project; development of an FPHS leadership program; and the public health leadership series.

- **PhClinic Interoperability Grant**: KALHD was granted a no-cost amendment from KHF, to extend the end date of the grant and to use the remaining funds to support the ongoing work of the KALHD informatics subgroup, the statewide informatics workgroup led by KHI, and to provide ad hoc technical assistance to member departments as topics and issues are identified as needs through the work of the subcommittee and the work group.

- **Public Health Practice Program (PHPP)**: In 2014, the KHF approved a $1.2 million, 3-year project to support public health in Kansas. The Public Health Systems Group (PHSG) is responsible for overall planning and grant management (the KALHD executive director has served as chair of the PHSG since 2015), and KALHD has provided fiscal agent services for the grant. Some highlights from 2017 include the following:
  - **Foundational Public Health Services**: In mid-2015, the Public Health Systems Group amended and restructured the PHPP to align with implementation of the Foundational Public Health Services in Kansas, in line with the KALHD vision statement. The project’s goal is to develop a definition of what constitutes a set of foundational public health services that should be available to all residents and communities statewide, to explore the cost and organizational models for providing those services, and to build a pathway by which we can assure those services in all Kansas counties so that governmental public health can provide leadership to develop safe and healthy communities.

    To date, the Kansas FPHS project has made significant progress in a number of areas, including (1) a literature review of FPHS efforts in other states; (2) development of the Kansas FPHS model (including a list of foundational capabilities, foundational areas, and their components); (3) creation of the advisory Council; (4) a capacity assessment of all LHDs to measure current capacity to deliver FPHS (expected completion June 2017); (5) a fiscal assessment conducted by BERK Consulting, Inc., to estimate the projected cost of full implementation of the Kansas FPHS model (expected completion December 2017); and (6) completion of a list of FPHS performance measures.

  - **Council on the Future of Public Health in Kansas**: The PHSG convened a council comprised of local and state policy makers and other stakeholders to provide advice and ideas about possible policy changes to strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of public health services in Kansas and to think about public health through different lenses and in the context of other systems. The Council is tasked with providing advice and ideas to help inform the final report of the PHSG.
This workgroup completed an online, searchable inventory of data resources and developed a systems-level informatics capacity assessment and an individual agency-level assessment tool.

Cross-Jurisdictional Sharing (CJS). The workgroup, led by the Kansas Health Institute (KHI), released five resources for CJS in Kansas. All five have been developed in partnership with KALHD, the PHSG, and staff from the Center for Sharing Public Health Services. The five resources include:

1. Foundational Public Health Services and Opportunities for Cross-Jurisdictional Sharing in Kansas, a document that examines how two other states are using CJS to provide Foundational Public Health Services. The report examines how the Kansas public health system could consider similar strategies moving forward. Posted at http://www.khi.org/policy/article/17-10;

2. Role-Play Exercise: Cross-Jurisdictional Sharing and Foundational Public Health Services, a document that leads participants through an exercise to understand the various perspectives and points of view that could develop when considering CJS arrangements. Posted at http://www.khi.org/policy/article/17-11;

3. Authorities for Cross-Jurisdictional Sharing in Kansas, a document that describes the statutes and other frameworks that enable public health CJS. Posted at http://www.khi.org/policy/article/17-12;

4. Local Board of Health Guidance for Cross-Jurisdictional Sharing Arrangements in Kansas, a document created specifically for local policymakers to introduce them to the concept of CJS and to explain how it has been used to deliver public health services in Kansas. This can be shared with board of health members. Posted at http://www.khi.org/policy/article/17-13; and

5. Case Study: Exploration of Public Health Shared Services in Butler and Greenwood Counties, a document about two county health departments that considered sharing a family planning program. Although the CJS arrangement did not move forward, some important lessons were learned as a result of the process. Posted at http://www.khi.org/policy/article/17-14.

Innovations Grant. KALHD is one of nine grantees across the country to be awarded an Innovation grant from PHNCl. The total award amount is $200,000 and the project period is June 1, 2017-October 31, 2018. This is a collaborative project with KALHD and other Public Health Systems Group (PHSG) partners.

The Innovations Program is designed to build on the PHPP work and lead to a paradigm shift in service delivery by engaging cross-sector partners to determine the feasibility of applying the FPHS model in a rural, decentralized state; planning, piloting, and documenting the evolution of the FPHS model from an emerging practice to a prevailing practice through a grassroots approach; and evaluating the use of cross-jurisdictional sharing for specific FPHS components. Through this project, we will (1) complete a thorough analysis of Kansas, regulations, and policies relevant to the FPHS model to identify barriers to the implementation of FPHS; (2) develop a state modernization roadmap for the FPHS model; (3) create a performance management system with measures for each component of the Kansas FPHS model to increase efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability, that is portable to other communities in Kansas or other states adopting similar FPHS models; and (4) support a local pilot project that will use the roadmap and performance management system to develop a local FPHS implementation manual.

The pilot project includes an emphasis on using collaboration between jurisdictions (cross-jurisdictional sharing) to provide public health programs and services. The Coffey County Health Department will be the project lead and will work with Osage, Franklin, and Wabaunsee Counties.
• **21C Learning Community.** In addition to being an Innovations grantee, KALHD and partners from WSU-Community Engagement Institute (CEI) and KHI have been invited to participate in the 21C (Washington, Oregon, Ohio; states implementing foundational public health services [FPHS]) learning community.

• **Grant Writing USA Workshop.** With support from a KHF Capacity Grant, KALHD hosted a 2-day grant writing workshop in September, taught by Grant Writing USA, a firm that provides grant writing training to governmental and nonprofit organizations across the country. The training focused on how to locate and track relevant grant opportunities and how to write grant proposals start to finish, geared to both beginning and experienced writers. KALHD provided the workshop to staff from member health departments free of charge (it is valued at $455/person). The workshop was attended by 48 local health department staff members, 3 staff from partner agencies, and 2 KALHD staff.

**Direct Member Benefits**

• **Legislative Support:** KALHD staff provided legislative tracking of and updates to members regarding issues with potential to impact the public health system.

• **Hawver's News Service:** KALHD provides a subscription for the Hawver's “Flash” news service for all members; the Hawver report is one of the best ways to keep up-to-date with legislative and state agency activities.

• **Leadership Development:** Through the work of the Public Health and Medicaid Coordination project, the Public Health Leadership Series is offered free of charge to staff of member departments. The focus of the training is on development of leadership competencies identified by the Kansas Leadership Center: diagnosing the situation, managing self, energizing others, and intervening skillfully. CEI staff members serve as faculty and coaches for the series, which is modeled after the Kansas Leadership Center's training curriculum and methods.

• **PHEP Summit.** One of KALHD’s primary responsibilities within the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) program is to provide or coordinate training or technical assistance to local health departments. To this end, KALHD sponsored two members to attend the 2017 Preparedness Summit in Atlanta, GA in April.

• **Grant Writing Workshop.** KALHD hosted a grant writing workshop for KALHD members (there were 53 participants) in September.


• **List Servs.** KALHD maintains list servs for the full membership, the board of directors, each district, PHEP regional coordinators, and billers from member departments. These communication tools are used on a daily basis and provide a means to share information with and/or ask questions of colleagues.

• **KALHD Community Forum.** KALHD hosts an online community forum for members to pose questions and share information with each other. This is a closed, members-only forum, with one log in provided per health department, assigned to the administrator/director.
Planning for 2018

• KALHD 2018 Calendar
  o KALHD Board of Directors
    ▪ On January 16, board members will participate in an orientation and board development session led by staff from CEI. CEI staff will conduct ongoing board development sessions throughout the year during monthly board meetings.
    ▪ Regular monthly board meetings will be held on the third Tuesday of the month in February, April, and August in Topeka and via Adobe Connect.
    ▪ KALHD mid-year meeting will be held June 19-20 at the Hotel at Old Town in Wichita.
    ▪ The annual KAC conference and KALHD annual meeting will be held October 15-17 at the Sheraton Hotel & Overland Park Convention Center.
  o KALHD District Meetings
    ▪ KALHD will hold a meeting in each of the six districts between March and May. KALHD staff will work with district representatives to schedule the dates and locations of these meetings.
  o National Conferences
    ▪ The National Network of Public Health Institutes, Open Forum for Quality Improvement and Innovation in Public Health will be held March 29-30 in Louisville, KY. On behalf of KALHD and the PHSG, Michelle Ponce and Lindsay Payer (Coffey County Administrator and 2018 KALHD Board President) will be co-presenting (with staff from Clackamas County, Oregon) a session titled, “On the cutting edge: Using the FPHS to modernize public health systems,” to highlight the work in Kansas to-date regarding FPHS and future plans for implementation.
    ▪ The annual NACCHO PHEP Summit will be held April 17-20 in Atlanta, GA. KALHD will sponsor up to 10 individuals from member departments to attend the conference.
    ▪ NACCHO annual conference will be held July 10-13 in New Orleans, LA.