Project Overview: The Future of Public Health in Kansas

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The Kansas Public Health Systems Group

- A coalition of member organizations that works to protect & promote the health of Kansans.
- Designed to strengthen and support the Kansas public health system and its workforce.

- Kansas Association of Local Health Departments
- Kansas Department of Health and Environment
- Kansas Health Institute
- Kansas Public Health Association
- Kansas Environmental Health Association
- Kansas Hospital Association
- University of Kansas
- Kansas State University
- Wichita State University
The Public Health Practice Program

• A three-year major initiative of the Kansas Health Foundation
• Strengthen the capacity and infrastructure of the KS public health system
• The Public Health Systems Group provides direction and oversight of the project, and KALHD provides fiscal management services

The Kansas Public Health Systems Group

The Public Health Systems Group is a coalition of public health, government, academic and charitable institutions that works to protect & promote the health of Kansans.
Why is This Work Important?

- The current governmental public health system in Kansas is not working.
- The structure, policies and funding models are not working.

Source: http://www.americashealthrankings.org/KS

What is the Problem?

Many public health departments in Kansas are underfunded and unable to meet the needs of their communities. Wide discrepancies exist in the types and quality of services available in different parts of the state.

Image source: KDHEKS.gov
A Vision for Local Health Departments in KS

A system of Local Health Departments committed to helping all Kansans achieve optimal health by providing Foundational Public Health Services.

Foundational Public Health Services Model

- Based on IOM report: *For the Public’s Health: Investing in a Healthier Future*
- A basic set of public health services that must be made available by health departments in all jurisdictions ...

Source: http://www.phaboard.org/phnci/fphs.html
Why We Need Your Help

- There is a significant gap between the current situation and the future of public health in Kansas.
- We need support from the council to help us understand how to make progress on this adaptive challenge.

The Plan for Today

- A foundation of public health information to build context for the day and months ahead.
- Discussion time to make sense of content from the morning session.
- Testimony from the local health department perspective.
- Overview of the Future of Public Health in Kansas project and the role of the council.
- Discussion time to ensure clarity about goals of project and council members.
Thank you!