



Kansas Association of Local Health Departments
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Healthy People Build Strong Communities

Executive Director Report January 18, 2022

Organizational Updates

- **Annual Report**
 - I have filed KALHD's annual report with the Kansas Secretary of State (a nonprofit requirement)
- **Secretary Stanek**
 - Earlier this month I had a meeting with Secretary Stanek. We are planning to continue to have regular meetings.
 - Secretary Stanek is scheduled to be on for February's KALHD board meeting to speak with you all.
- **Lougene Marsh Scholarship Fund**
 - As approved in the KALHD 2022 budget I made a \$500 contribution on behalf of the association to the Kansas Public Health Association's Lougene Marsh Scholarship Fund on January 10th.

Project Updates

- **Sunflower: SB 40 Webinar**
 - KAC conducted the webinar on December 2, 2021.
 - The Kansas Supreme Court overturned the lower court ruling that made SB 40 unconstitutional so SB 40 stands as law and so the webinar content remains relevant.
 - I closed out our deliverables on the grant in December on schedule.

Legislative Updates

- I obtained my 2022 lobbyist badge.
- Session started on January 10th. Our main goals:
 - Additional \$1.6 million to the State Formula to catch it up from the 1992 level (we received \$1 million last year of a \$2.6 million ask)
 - See about getting the minimum amount permanently increased in statute (this made some progress in 2021 but has more steps to go to become law) via HB 2248
 - I did email Senator McGinn about this on January 10th to see if we can get this handled early in the session
- The Governor intends to push for elimination of the state sales tax on food. That is a longstanding item in KALHD's platform so we will support it once introduced.
- There is an expectation on continued legislation to make changes to immunizations. My strategy is, as we have in prior years, to try and protect the status quo process on the childhood schedule and existing

requirements. I would view it as a win if the legislature only makes changes to COVID-19 vaccination specifically without impacting the other vaccines. A number of stakeholder groups are concerned.

Important Dates to Remember

- February 15, 2022: KALHD board meeting (virtual)
- March 15, 2022: KALHD board meeting (virtual)
- April 19, 2022: KALHD board meeting (virtual)
- May 17, 2022: KALHD board meeting (virtual)
- June 27-29, 2022: Data Day (6/27) and KALHD Mid-Year Meeting (6-28/6-29) (all at Holiday Inn in Salina)
- July 19, 2022: KALHD board meeting (virtual)
- September 20, 2022: KALHD board meeting (virtual)
- October 17-19, 2022: KAC Annual Conference/KALHD Annual Meeting (Overland Park)
- November 15, 2022: KALHD board meeting (virtual)

--Dennis Kriesel, KALHD Executive Director