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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kansas Association of Local Health Departments Releases White Paper

The Kansas Association of Local Health Departments (KALHD) is pleased to release a white paper for local health departments in Kansas and beyond to combat vaccine hesitancy for both COVID-19 and routine immunizations. The white paper, titled *Building Vaccine Confidence in Kansas: A Guide for Local Health Departments* details the findings of a January 2022 survey that discovered over 45% of health department professionals in Kansas do not know how to combat misinformation both online and in-person. This white paper offers three recommendations on tackling misinformation including social media, funding, and appreciative inquiry to supplement the survey findings.

 "We are thrilled to release this paper to health departments and the public," said Shelby Ostrom, KALHD Assistant Director. "Through this paper we hope to provide health departments with actionable steps to work on vaccine hesitancy in their own unique communities."

The white paper, released on March 14, 2022, is available at KALHD's website, for the public.

The Kansas Association of Local Health Departments (KALHD) is a nonprofit association dedicated to strengthening local health departments for the purpose of improving and protecting the health of all Kansans. KALHD's membership consists of all 100 of the 100 local health departments in Kansas.