



Promoting and Improving Population Health in Kansas

Advocacy priorities development are a core function of public health. The Kansas Public Health Association will endeavor to support efforts that align with our mission: “Promoting and Improving Population Health in Kansas”.

KPHA 2019 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

- Advocate for strong governmental public health system, which includes adequately funding and protecting population health initiatives across the state.
- Support expanding KanCare.

KPHA 2019 PUBLIC HEALTH POSITIONS

- A. Safeguard the 2010 Kansas Clean Indoor Air Act; support state and local actions to expand the current law to include e-cigarettes. Support state and local efforts to raise the legal age to purchase tobacco products to age 21. Explore legislation to modify the “Other Tobacco Products” tax definition.
- B. Support programs that improve and strengthen child nutrition and school meals programs.
- C. Support guidelines that increase student physical activity during the school day.
- D. Support efforts to increase immunization rates in Kansas.
- E. Advocate for community water systems in Kansas to adjust the fluoride levels to the optimal amount to prevent tooth decay.
- F. Support efforts to increase access to dental providers and expand their reach into underserved communities.
- G. Support restoration of state funding for both community-based and in-patient (both state and private psychiatric hospitals) crisis stabilization and treatment.
- H. Support policies that promote evidence-based interventions for opioid harm reduction and reduced criminalization.
- I. Support evidence-based policies that promote harm reduction and reduced criminalization related to marijuana.

Social Determinants of Health – Supporting Policies that Support Health

- KPHA recognizes that many different policies can affect population health, even if they don’t directly deal with a health topic. Public health practitioners should bring a health in all policies approach to policy work. To this end, KPHA advocates for efforts that support **education, access to healthy foods, environmental justice, housing, and transportation.**

January 2019