

Home Rule Charter and Public Health Goals

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- **Mission**: To Protect the Health and Environment, Prevent Disease and Promote Wellness for All who Live, Work and Play in Johnson County through Exceptional Public Service
- **Vision**: The Innovative Leader for Community Health and Environmental Protection
- Approved budget for 2021 is \$21,332,124
- Budgeted FTE for 2021 is 149.35

Home Rule Charter

- Consistent with public health goals of modernizing how we improve and sustain the health of our residents:

“...to create a County Government to serve our present and future needs, and to permit the people of this County to make changes in our own government...”

Administrative Oversight

- Reporting to the CMO is consistent with, and a common option, the structure in many places across the country with Johnson County type of government structure.
- Reporting/approval/accountability structure - working well. Proper check and balance.

Budget 1

- As is the case in other parts of the country, we have underinvested in public health for decades.
- Goal should be to intentionally change this.

Budget 2

- Recent ranking has Johnson County as the 44th healthiest county in the U.S.
- A deeper look into the metrics shows that this is simply a consequence of the high social economic statuses in the county.
- We did poorly in key metrics of health – Equity, Housing, Food and Nutrition, Environment, and Vitality.
- This ranking is not sustainable. Unless we take the necessary steps.

Now and the future

- Where we are now is a consequence of the policy decisions we made 10, 20, 30 years ago.
- Where we will be in 30 years will depend on the decisions we make now.
- We are a growing and increasingly diverse county.
- To sustain even where we are now will require more from us.
- To improve health requires intentional investments in health and should be part of our county's priorities and policies.

Kansas Public Health Structure – County Commissioners as the Local Board of Public Health

- This is a challenge. Boards of Health are typically primary advocates for health.

Public Health Leadership Council

- An idea that has proven to be very useful in many parts of the country.

Thank you