

# Promoting Public Health through Veterinary Hospital Usability and Pet Therapy

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KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY | MPH CANDIDATE

# Outline

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## VETERINARY USABILITY PROJECT

- I. BACKGROUND
- II. LEARNING OBJECTIVES
- III. ACTIVITIES PERFORMED
- IV. RESULTS/PRODUCTS

## PET THERAPY PROJECT

- I. BACKGROUND
- II. LEARNING OBJECTIVES

## III. ACTIVITIES PERFORMED

## IV. RESULTS

## COMPETENCIES

- I. MPH FOUNDATIONAL COMPETENCIES
- II. MPH EMPHASIS AREA COMPETENCIES

# Veterinary Hospital Usability

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APRIL 2018 – NOVEMBER 2019

APPLIED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE PRECEPTOR: DR. DOROTHY NARY, PHD

KANSAS DISABILITY AND HEALTH PROGRAM

# Accessible and Usable Environments Promote Inclusion

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<http://kdrausin.com/2011/10/02/accessible-barcelona/>



<https://www.massgeneral.org/about/newsarticle.aspx?id=3154>



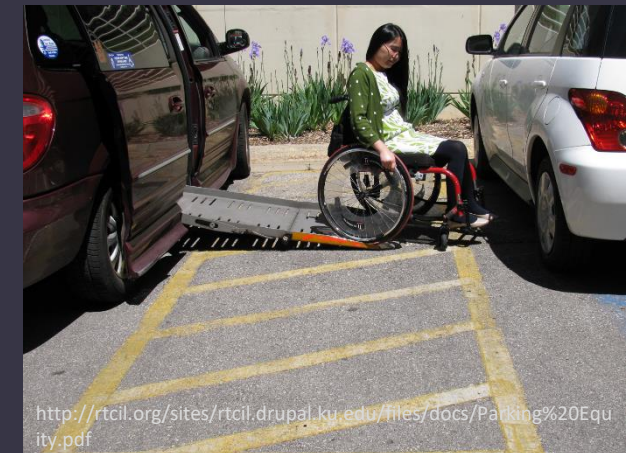
<https://www.wheelchairaccessibleaccommodation.com.au/wheel-chair-accessible-restaurants-mooloolaba/>



<https://www.davisenterprise.com/local-news/a-playground-where-wheelchairs-can-room/>

# Unawareness to Accessibility and Usability Concerns can Create Exclusion

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# People with Mobility Disabilities Include

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- those who use wheelchairs for both long- and short-term injuries
- those who use crutches or are in mobility limiting braces post-surgery
- elderly who use a walker or cane for stability
- elderly who use a scooter

# Accessibility of Veterinary Practices for People with Mobility Disabilities

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- How many pet owners and veterinary clients have a mobility-related disability?
  - ~21 million Americans had a mobility-related disability in 2017 (Census Bureau)
  - 68% of U.S. households (~85 million families) own a pet (2017-2018 National Pet Owners Survey)
  - 21 million x 0.68 = ~14 million!!

# Increasing Elderly Population



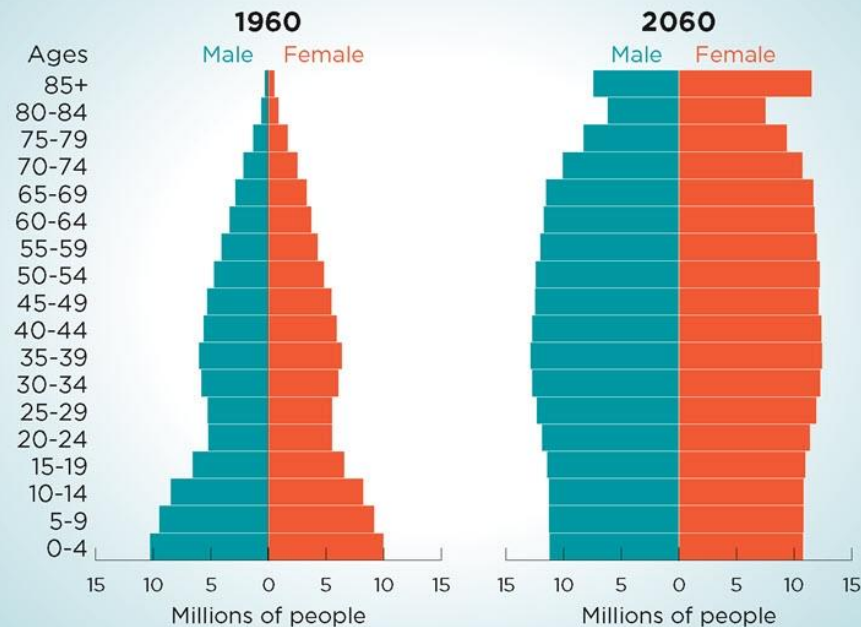
## An Aging Nation

Projected Number of Children and Older Adults

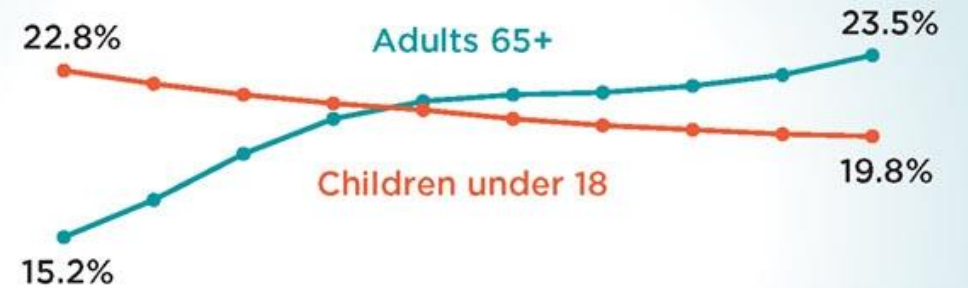
For the First Time in U.S. History Older Adults Are Projected to Outnumber Children by 2035

### From Pyramid to Pillar: A Century of Change

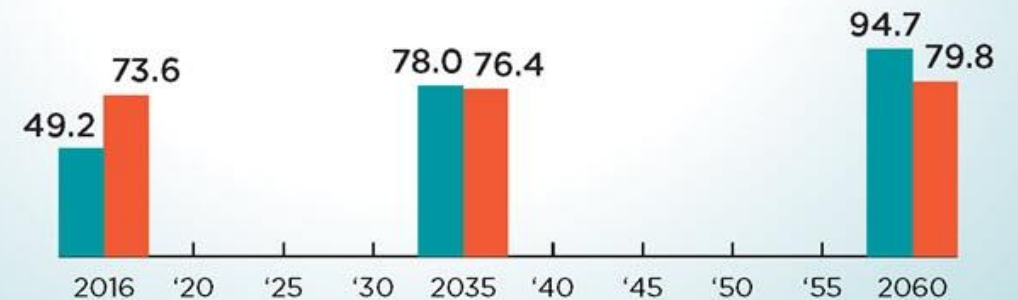
Population of the United States



Projected percentage of population



Projected number (millions)



Note: 2016 data are estimates not projections.



U.S. Department of Commerce  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU  
[census.gov](https://www.census.gov)

Source: National Population Projections, 2017  
[www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popproj.html](https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popproj.html)

<https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2018/cb18-41-population-projections.html>

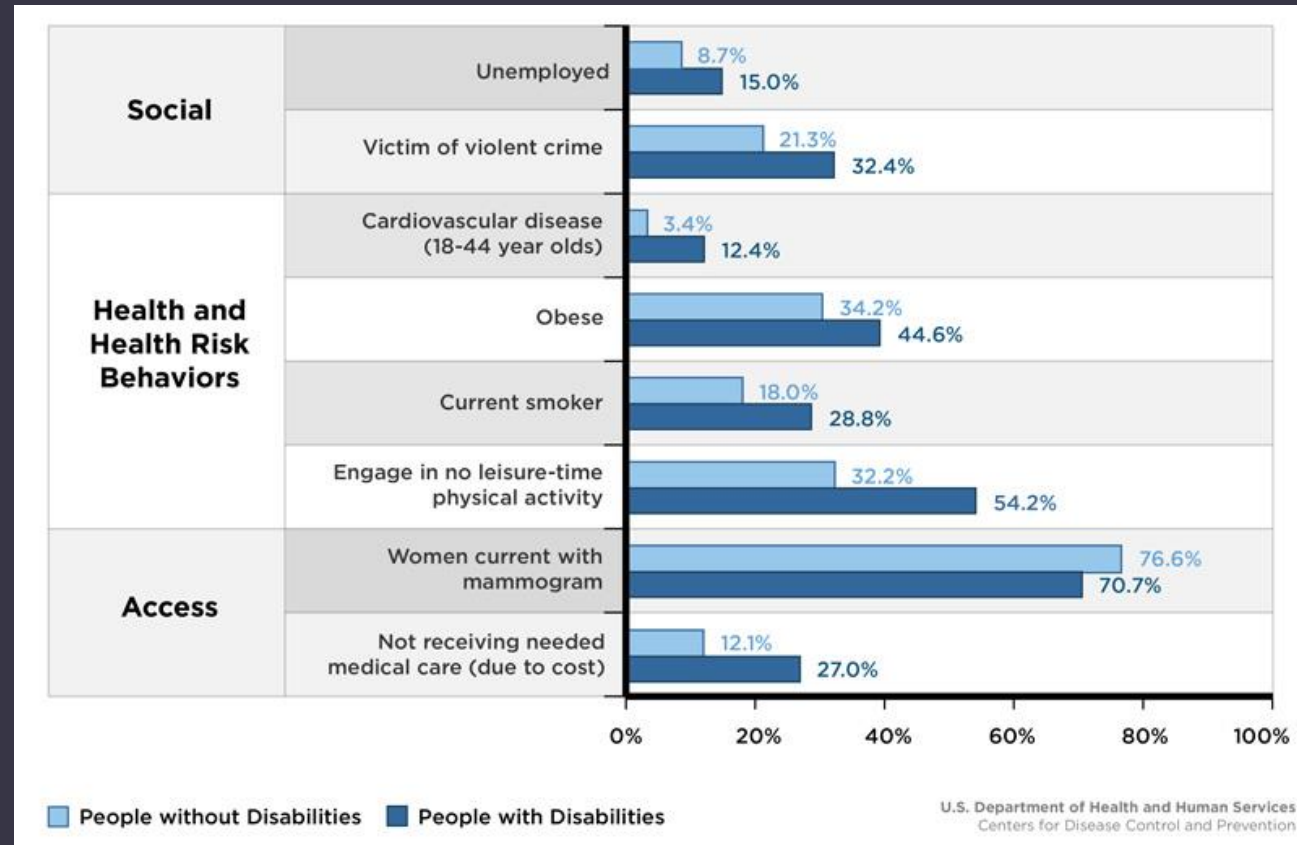


U.S. Department of Commerce  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU  
[census.gov](https://www.census.gov)

Source: National Population Projections, 2017  
[www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popproj.html](https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/popproj.html)



# Factors Affecting the Health of People with Disabilities and without Disabilities



<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/disabilityandhealth/disability-barriers.html>

# Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

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## Titles of the ADA:

1. Employment
- 2. State and Local Government Services**
- 3. Public Accommodations and Commercial Facilities**
4. Telecommunications
5. Miscellaneous Provisions

# Objectives

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1. Determine the level of usability amongst veterinary hospitals in Kansas for clients with mobility-related disabilities.
  - ❖ Visited and evaluated the usability of 10 veterinary hospitals in Kansas
2. Establish baseline data on veterinarian's current knowledge of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and their awareness of potential physical barriers within their hospitals.
  - ❖ Distributed a survey to veterinarians online and at a local conference
3. Improve accessibility awareness and provide suggestions for usability improvement to veterinary hospital owners.
  - ❖ Presented study findings through oral and poster presentations
  - ❖ Created a veterinary hospital usability fact sheet

# Survey (N=59)

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**93% of veterinarians surveyed reported serving clients with mobility disabilities.**

**38% reported being comfortable with their knowledge of ADA regulations for accessibility.**

**51% of veterinarians reported being aware of specific areas within their veterinary hospital that clients may have difficulty using.**

**93% of vets were receptive to receiving further education on ways to best serve clients with disabilities.**

# Community Health Environment Checklist (CHEC)

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## What is it?

- A tool to measure how usable public spaces are for people with disabilities
- Not a comprehensive ADA assessment

## Who made it?

- Researchers at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

## What is their mission?

- To enhance community participation



# Community Health Environment Checklist (CHEC)

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How we became CHEC assessors:

- Online CHEC-Mobility training modules.

Standardized CHEC evaluation forms

- Consists of 46 features broken down into 3 main categories:
  - ENTRANCE
  - USING THE BUILDING
  - RESTROOMS

# Veterinary Visits

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- ❖ 10 veterinary hospitals evaluated
  - ❖ 9 suburban (between 10,000 and 100,000 people)
  - ❖ 1 rural (less than 10,000)
- ❖ Evaluation forms were sent to a blinded CHEC personnel and scores based on 100 as optimum and maximum were returned to us
- ❖ Reports for each hospital including CHEC scores as well as that hospital's usability strengths, areas for improvement, and suggestions for improvement were given to the veterinary owners.

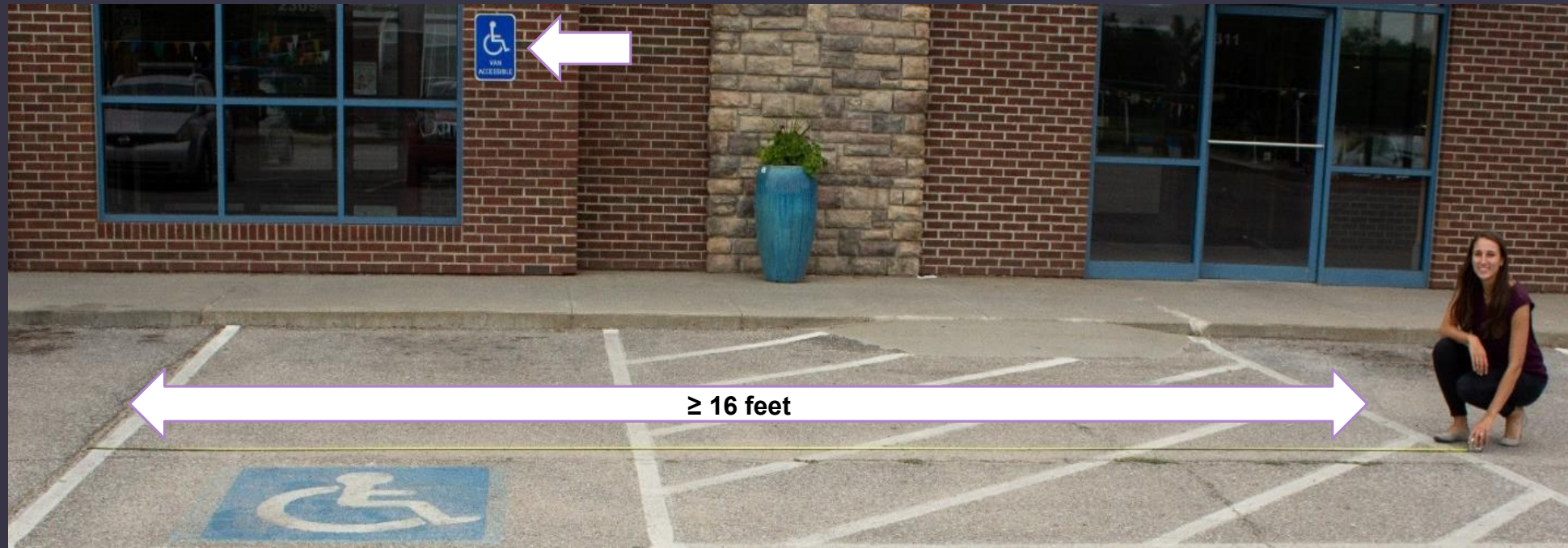


# Entrance – Key Results

Strengths	Areas for Improvement
7/10 hospitals had signs designating adequately wide van-accessible parking spaces closest to the entrance.	6/10 hospitals had heavy entrance doors. Aim for automatic or lighter user-friendly doors.
9/10 hospitals had clear entrance routes free of level changes.	3/10 hospitals had gravel parking lots which can cause wear and tear on wheelchair tires.
9/10 hospitals had adequately wide doorways ( $\geq 32$ inches wide).	4/10 hospitals had entrance thresholds that are too high ( $> 1/4''$ high).

# Van-Accessible Parking Spaces

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# Van-Accessible Parking Spaces

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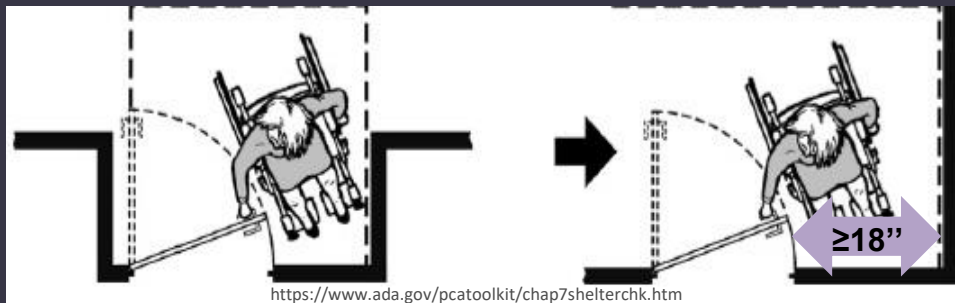


<http://rtcil.org/sites/rtcil.drupal.ku.edu/files/docs/Parking%20Equity.pdf>

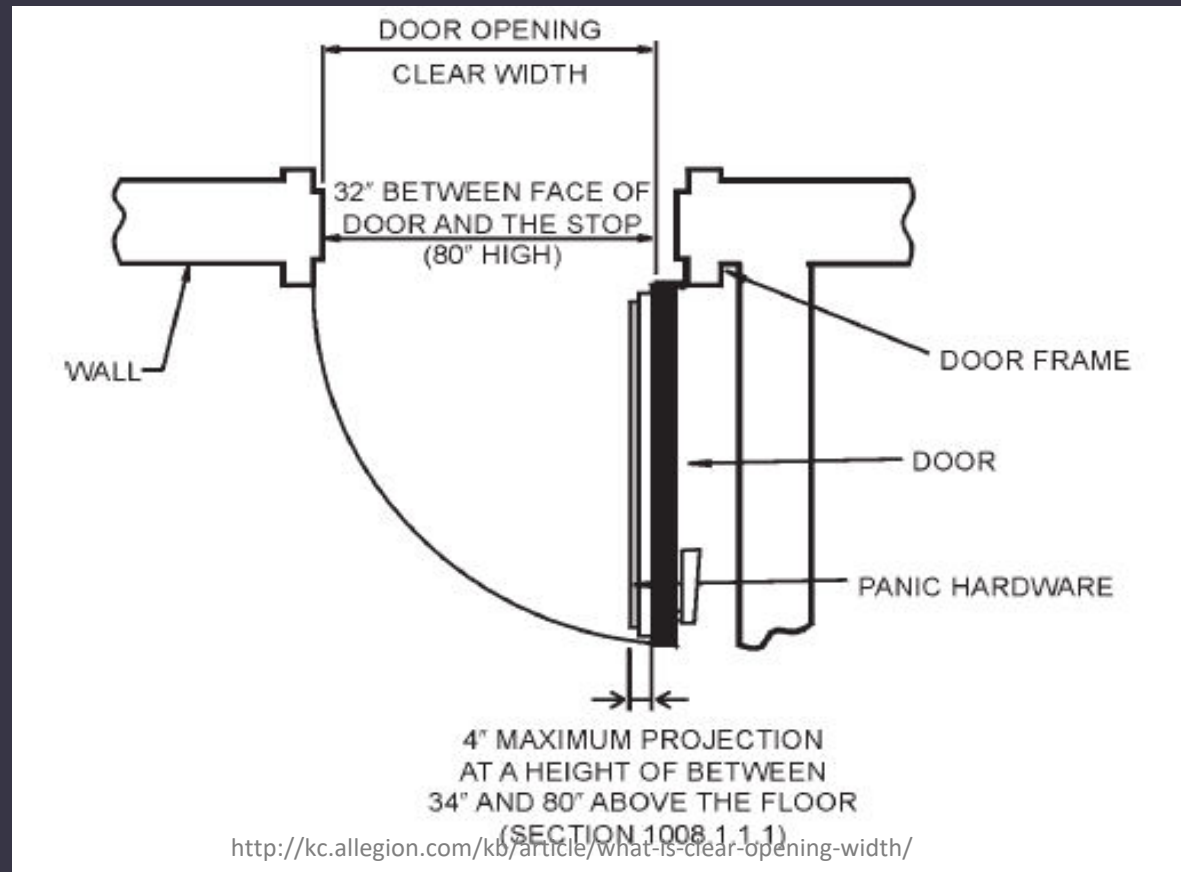
# Accessible Doorways



## Tall Threshold Solutions:



# How to properly measure the width of a doorway:



# Hinges

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**Regular Door Hinge:**



**Offset Door Hinge:**





# Accessible Parking Signs and Entrance Route Signs





# Using the Building – Key Results

Strengths	Areas for Improvement
8/10 had inviting lobbies with furniture arrangements that allow for space for a wheelchair to fit amongst a row of chairs.	9/10 hospitals lacked having at least a portion of their reception counter of an accessible height ( $\leq 36''$ from the floor).
9/10 had unobstructed and wide pathways (at least 36'' wide) and doorways (at least 32'' wide).	4/10 of the hospitals had interior doors (i.e. exam room doors) that were quite heavy and/or had non-usable door handles (i.e. round knobs instead of bar handle style).

# Usable Reception Counters

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At least 36" wide

≤36" from the floor

# Accessible Lobby



No Space



Chair  
Removed



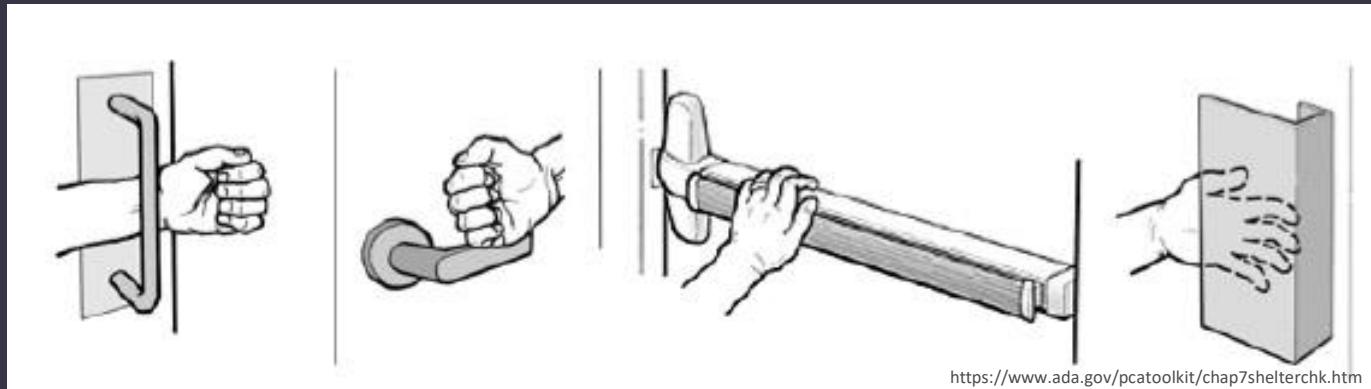
Space



# Accessible Door Handles



<http://labare-inc.com/news/article/6-most-common-ada-compliance-issues>

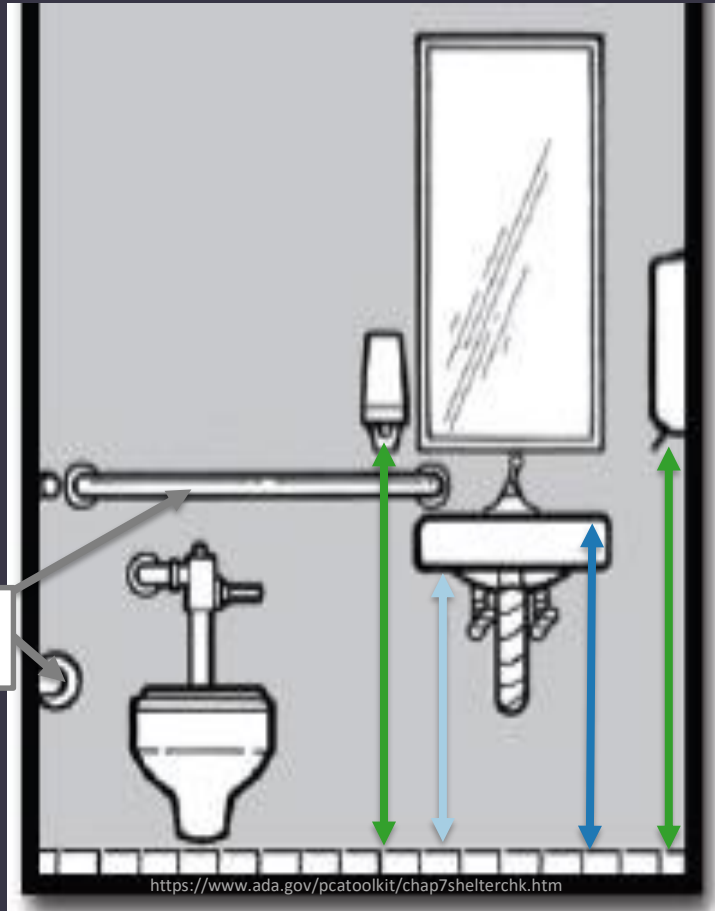


<https://www.ada.gov/pcatoolkit/chap7shelterchk.htm>

# Restrooms – Key Results

Strengths	Areas for Improvement
7/9 hospitals had two sturdily mounted grab bars to allow for safe transfers.	5/9 hospitals did not have wide enough restroom/stall doors ( $\geq 32$ inches wide).
9/9 hospitals had handles/latches on bathroom doors located no higher than 48 inches from the floor.	4/9 hospitals did not have restroom features such as soap dispensers and hand dryers at an accessible height ( $\leq 48$ inches from the floor).
6/9 hospitals had sink faucets that are able to be operated with a closed fist.	4/9 hospitals did not have an accessible (non-vanity style) restroom sink.

# Accessible Restroom Features



2 grab bars

$\leq 48''$  from the floor

$\leq 34''$  from the floor

$\geq 29''$  from the floor



# Size of Restroom Stalls

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# Usable Sinks

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# Overall CHEC Scores

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CHEC Category	Mean Score (range)	Median Score
Entrance	89.18 (68.64-100)	87.65
Using the Building	91.46 (74.32-100)	85.13
Restrooms	53.60 (22.19-100)	51.8
Overall	83.71 (68.77-96.83)	77.9

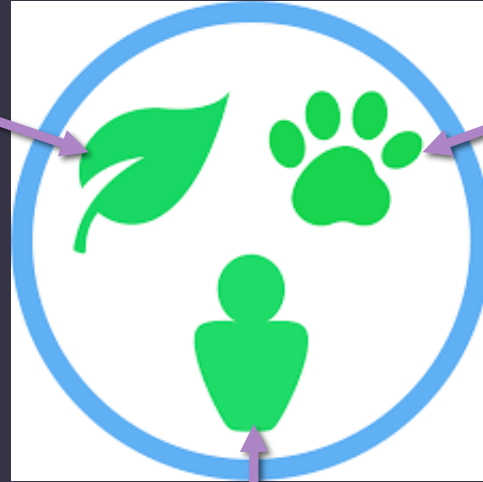
# Additional Tips to Improve Usability of Your Veterinary Hospital

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- Proactive and Helpful Staff
- Choose the Best Exam Room for your Client and Patient Needs
- Use People First Language
- Talk Directly to Clients with Disabilities

# ONE HEALTH

Increasing veterinarians' awareness to the public health concern of access for people with disabilities can help veterinarians improve their service to clientele with disabilities. One way is through identifying and removing environmental barriers that limit access.



Accessible veterinary hospitals can promote pet ownership amongst the population of people with mobility disabilities. Pets provide both physical and mental health benefits.

Removing environmental barriers promotes inclusion and provides opportunity for people with mobility disabilities to interact with their community.

# Veterinary Usability Products:


## □ Survey

### Survey Investigation into Awareness and Accessibility for Clients with Disabilities at Veterinary Practices in Kansas

- How many years have you been working in the veterinary profession?
  - Less than 1 year
  - 1 - 5 years
  - 5 - 10 years
  - Greater than 10 years
- How many veterinarians are at your current practice?
  - 1
  - 2
  - 3
  - 4
  - 5+
- Choose the answer that best describes the geographic location of your practice.
  - Northeast Kansas
  - Southeast Kansas
  - Northwest Kansas
  - Southwest Kansas
  - Central Kansas
  - I do not practice in Kansas
- Choose the answer that best describes the general location of your veterinary practice.
  - Rural (less than 10,000 people)
  - Suburban (10,000 to 100,000 people)
  - Urban (Greater than 100,000 people)
- Choose the answer that best describes the patients of your veterinary practice.
  - Small animal predominant (greater than 75% dogs, cats, pet birds and/or pocket pets)
  - Large animal predominant (greater than 75% food animal and/or equine)
  - Mixed animal (varied species with at least 25% from companion animal and 25% from either food animal or equine)
- In your time of working in the veterinary community, have you ever served clients with disabilities? (circle one)  
Yes                      No
- In your current place of work do you serve any clients with disabilities? (circle one)  
Yes                      No
- If you answered yes to question #7, please check any disabilities you have recognized in your clientele, including elderly clients.
  - Mobility \_\_\_\_
  - Cognitive \_\_\_\_
  - Sight \_\_\_\_
  - Hearing \_\_\_\_
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Are you aware of any specific areas in your veterinary practice that clients have difficulty using? (circle one)  
Yes                      No  
If yes, please share details of concern or suggestions for change:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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□ Veterinary Hospital Evaluation Reports



VETERINARY PRACTICE  
ASSESSMENT AND  
SUGGESTIONS TO  
MAXIMIZE USABILITY  
FOR CLIENTS WITH  
DISABILITIES

**ANIMAL HOSPITAL**

(IDENTIFYING INFORMATION REMOVED TO MAINTAIN ANONYMITY)

Kansas State University | Emma Winkley | September 11, 2018

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❑ Veterinary Hospital Usability Fact Sheet



# VETERINARY HOSPITAL EVALUATION AND SUGGESTIONS TO MAXIMIZE USABILITY FOR CLIENTS WITH MOBILITY DISABILITIES

Emma Winkley<sup>1</sup>, Kate KuKanich<sup>1</sup>, Dot Nary<sup>2</sup>, Joe Fakler<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Master of Public Health Program and Department of Clinical Sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine; <sup>2</sup>Department of Research and Training Center on Independent Living, University of Kansas; <sup>3</sup>Concordia Small Animal Clinic



## Research Poster

### INTRODUCTION

According to the Census Bureau about 21 million Americans had a mobility-related disability in 2017. Rates of disability increase with age and therefore, with the forecasted growth in the aging population in the coming years the percentage of people with a mobility disability will likely increase. All these individuals are potential pet owners and veterinary clients. Therefore, two concepts need to be addressed by the veterinary community. First, how hospitals can be constructed or structurally modified to increase accessibility and usability. Second, awareness of the overall veterinary visit experience for clients with mobility disabilities. In order to begin to address these concepts we set out to gather baseline data on usability of veterinary hospitals in Kansas as well as gain insight about veterinarians' current knowledge of potential barriers to usability and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations.

### METHODS

A survey (n=59) was distributed to Kansas veterinarians online and at a local conference. Topics covered in the survey included demographics of the veterinarians, their experience with serving clients with disabilities, and their ability to self-assess their veterinary hospitals for accessibility and usability barriers. Two researchers (EW, KK) were certified by Community Health Environment Checklist for Mobility (CHEC-M) and used the CHEC standardized forms to evaluate 10 veterinary hospitals in Kansas. These forms were then scored by a blinded CHEC personnel. Each hospital received 3 section scores (entrance, using the building, and restroom) and an overall score. In addition to the CHEC report, an individualized report was created by our research team for each hospital describing strengths as well as short- and long-term suggestions for areas of improvement.

### WHAT IS THE CHEC?

The Community Health Environment Checklist (CHEC) is a tool to measure how usable public spaces are for people with disabilities. It is not a comprehensive ADA assessment, but rather it is a usability tool focusing on key concerns identified by people with disabilities. The CHEC was developed by researchers at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. This tool is used to assess public spaces like restaurants, stores, doctor's offices, and now, veterinary practices. CHEC assessors are trained to complete a standardized evaluation of measurable features in a site, which produces a score based on 100 as the optimum. CHEC evaluations can be posted online (checkpoints.com) for public viewing as a tool when deciding which public places will be most usable for their needs.

### RESULTS

#### Key Findings:

- 1) Veterinarians serve clients with disabilities, yet might not be fully aware of potential usability concerns for people with mobility disabilities.**
  - 93% (55/59) of surveyed veterinarians reported serving clients with mobility disabilities.
  - Every veterinary hospital visited had at least 1 area identified on the CHEC form which could be addressed to improve accessibility for their clients with mobility disabilities, yet only 51% (30/59) of surveyed veterinarians reported being aware of any specific areas within their veterinary hospital that clients may have difficulty using.
  - Only 38% (22/58) of surveyed veterinarians reported being comfortable with their knowledge of current ADA requirements for accessibility.
- 2) Most veterinary hospitals have potential barriers to people with mobility disabilities.**
  - Tables 2-4 list the most common areas identified for improvement in visited Kansas veterinary hospitals.
- 3) Problem areas identified in visited hospitals were self reported with similar frequency via survey.**

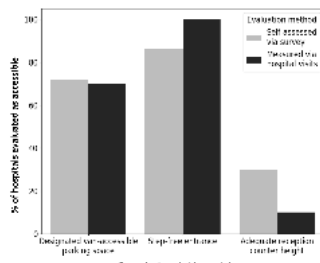


Figure 1. These three criteria (parking spaces, step-free entrance, and counter height) were assessed via hospital visits and survey self-assessment. The results suggest that if veterinarians are given a specific accessibility requirements most can accurately self-assess their hospitals and become aware of potential areas for improvement.

#### Hospital Visit Results:

CHEC Category	Average Score (100 pt. scale)
Entrance	89.18
Using the Building	91.46
Restrooms	53.60
Overall	83.71

Table 1. Overall, the veterinary hospitals assessed were found to be quite usable for clients with mobility disabilities. As many veterinary hospitals are located in older buildings with structural limitations, several common challenges were recognized. Strengths and areas for improvement amongst each of the three CHEC categories are displayed in the tables below.

#### Entrance:

Table 2. Strengths and areas for improvement in hospital entrances.

Strengths	Areas for Improvement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7/10 hospitals had signs designating adequately wide van accessible parking spaces closest to the entrance (Figure 2).</li> <li>9/10 had clear entrance routes, free of level changes.</li> <li>9/10 had adequately wide doorways (&gt;32 inches wide)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6/10 hospitals had heavy entrance doors. Aim for automatic or lighter user friendly entrance doors</li> <li>3/10 hospitals had gravel parking lots which can cause wear and tear on wheelchair tires.</li> <li>4/10 hospitals had too high of entrance thresholds (&gt;0.25").</li> </ul>



Figure 2. To maximize usability veterinary hospitals should provide at least 1 paved van accessible parking space designated by a sign near the entrance on an accessible route. (parking space + access aisle at least 16' wide)

#### Using the building:

Table 3. Strengths and areas for improvement for using the veterinary hospitals.

Strengths	Areas for Improvement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8/10 had inviting lobbies with arrangements that allow for space for a wheelchair to fit amongst a row of chairs (Figure 3).</li> <li>9/10 had unobstructed and wide pathways (36" wide) and doorways (32" wide)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only 1/10 of the hospitals had at least a portion of their reception counter at an accessible height (&lt;36" from the floor).</li> </ul>

Figure 3. Quick fix to creating a wheelchair-friendly lobby:



#### Restrooms:

Table 4. Strengths and areas for improvement for restrooms.

Strengths	Areas for Improvement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7/9 had two sturdy mounted grab bars to allow for safe transfers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4/9 hospitals had wide enough restroom/sall doors (&gt;32")</li> <li>Only 5/9 hospitals had accessible paper towel/dryer height (&lt;48" from floor).</li> <li>Only 5/9 hospitals had an accessible (non-vanity style) sink.</li> </ul>

#### Additional ways to make veterinary visits positive for all:

- Have proactive and helpful staff available to assist clients who may need extra assistance into the building with their pet and throughout their visit.
- Consider the needs of a person who may benefit from a larger room to interact more easily.
- talk directly to clients with disabilities. Do not avoid eye contact or speak only to a client's companions.
- Use people first language (i.e. "person with a disability" instead of "disabled person" or "person who uses a wheelchair" rather than "wheelchair bound").

### CONCLUSIONS

Veterinarians serve clients with mobility-related disabilities; therefore it is critical that veterinarians are aware of the accessibility and usability of their veterinary hospitals, to provide optimal service. Improving awareness of client needs in addition to providing practice-specific suggestions for improving and maintaining accessible veterinary hospitals is a positive step towards allowing clients to fully participate in their pet's veterinary care. Through education, the Kansas veterinary community can become more cognizant of potential physical barriers to people with mobility-related disabilities, including our increasing elderly population, and can make action plans for short and long term modifications to their hospitals to remove barriers and improve access for all.

### Moving toward a comprehensive assessment of accessibility and development of educational resources:

In the future, similar projects can be carried out to identify potential barriers in veterinary hospitals for people with other disabilities (i.e. low vision, hearing, cognitive, etc.). Continued work could lead to the development of a comprehensive veterinary hospital usability assessment as well as educational materials to encourage improvement of accessibility for all people with disabilities. Future collaborative work with ADA experts could result in increased educational materials to help veterinarians become more comfortable with their knowledge of ADA requirements.

Any sites that receive CHEC assessments are invited and encouraged to have their scores and forms posted online to the CHEC website for the benefit of people with disabilities.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors would like to thank all the veterinary hospitals that participated in the visits and all the veterinarians who contributed to this project by completing the survey. This research was supported by Grant/Cooperative Agreement Number DD000006 from the US Centers for Disease Control, National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, Disability and Health Branch. The authors would also like to thank Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine and the Master of Public Health Program.

# Outline

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## COMPETENCIES

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- II. MPH EMPHASIS AREA COMPETENCIES



# PET THERAPY

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SUMMER 2018

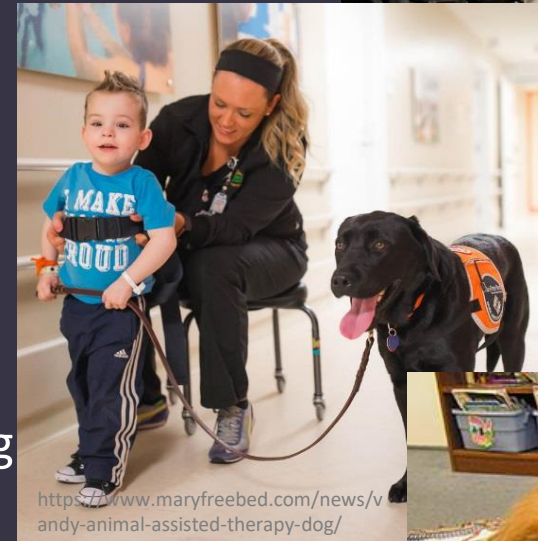
APPLIED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE PRECEPTOR: JAN SCHEIDEMAN, MS

SITE: RILEY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

# Background

## Animal therapy has been shown to...

- stimulate release of serotonin, prolactin, and oxytocin (Handlin, 2012)
- decrease cortisol levels and blood pressure (Beetz, 2012)
- lower anxiety, provide comfort, and reduce loneliness
- be useful to counselors by helping their clients feel safe and comfortable
- encourage patients recovering from injury to perform certain movements to regain mobility, such as brushing, petting, or walking a dog
- comfort patients who are ill in the hospital
- help children with reading aloud



# Learning Objectives

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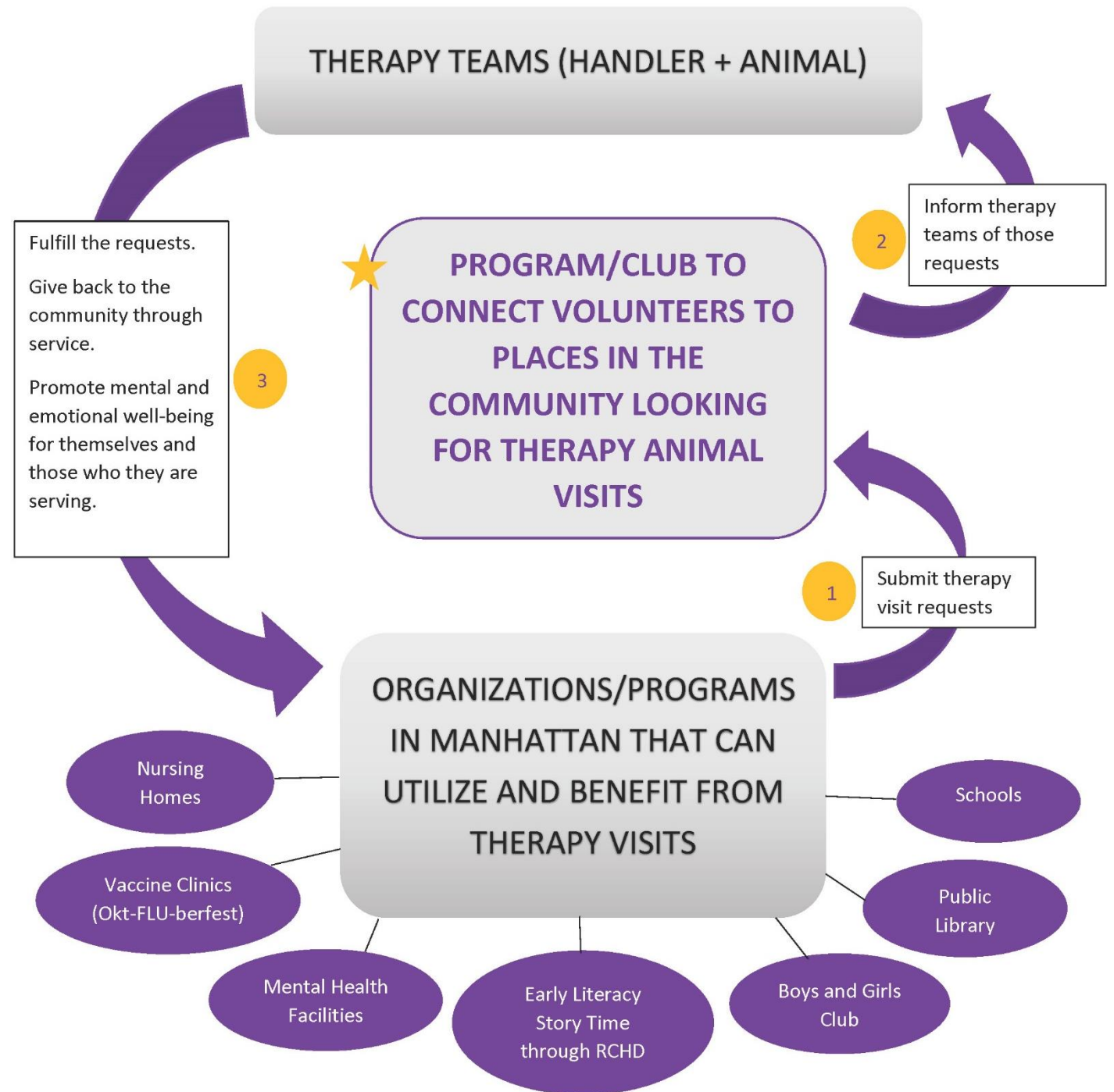
1. Gain knowledge about how government public health agencies function
2. Research established therapy animal programs to learn about what has been successful vs. what has not
3. Identify factors that may contribute to organizations not using or being hesitant to use therapy animals
4. Grow in my leadership and communication skills

# Additional Goals

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5. Increase utilization of therapy animals within the Manhattan community to promote public health
6. Educate the public on topics pertaining to the use of therapy animals
7. Connect therapy animal handlers to places in the community seeking the benefits of therapy animal work
8. Establish a sustainable organization to carry on my vision of using the human animal bond to make an impact on the community

# The Vision



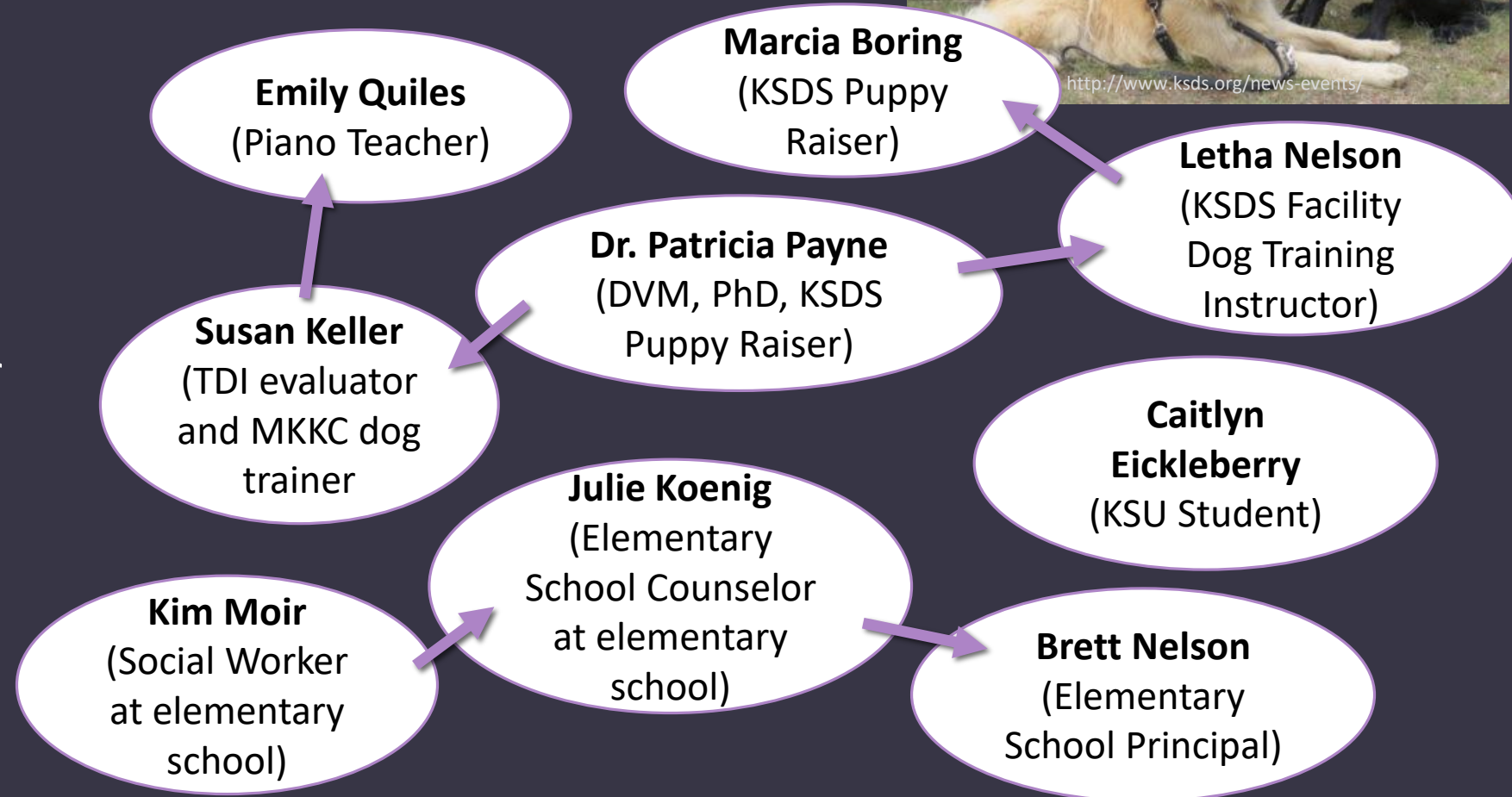


**KSDS**  
Assistance Dogs, Inc.



# Activities Performed

- Collaborated with others passionate about therapy and service animal work and who were more knowledgeable in the subject than I, in order to gain knowledge and guidance from them.
- Connected with therapy animals handlers within the community



# Activities Performed

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- Founded Paws for People as a KSU organization
  - Created organization constitution
  - Applied to become KSU organization through OrgSync
  - Designed brochures to distribute to places in community who may be interested in utilizing therapy animals
  - Organization logo
  - Gathering members
- Paws for People Activities to date:
  - Club Meetings
    - Dr. Patricia Payne and two counselors (Jesi Courser-Downs and Kim Lapo) with their therapy dogs (Skye and Rye) from KSDS
  - Therapy Dog International evaluation at the Manhattan Kennel Club
  - Okt-FLU-ber Fest (Riley County Health Department annual flu vaccine event)

# Okt-FLU-ber Fest Paws for People Booth

- Assistance Animal Flyer
- Children's Animal Behavior Game
- Therapy animal handlers and their dogs were present to use pet therapy to allow children to practice safely approaching an animal in a safe environment





# Okt-FLU-ber Fest Paws for People Booth



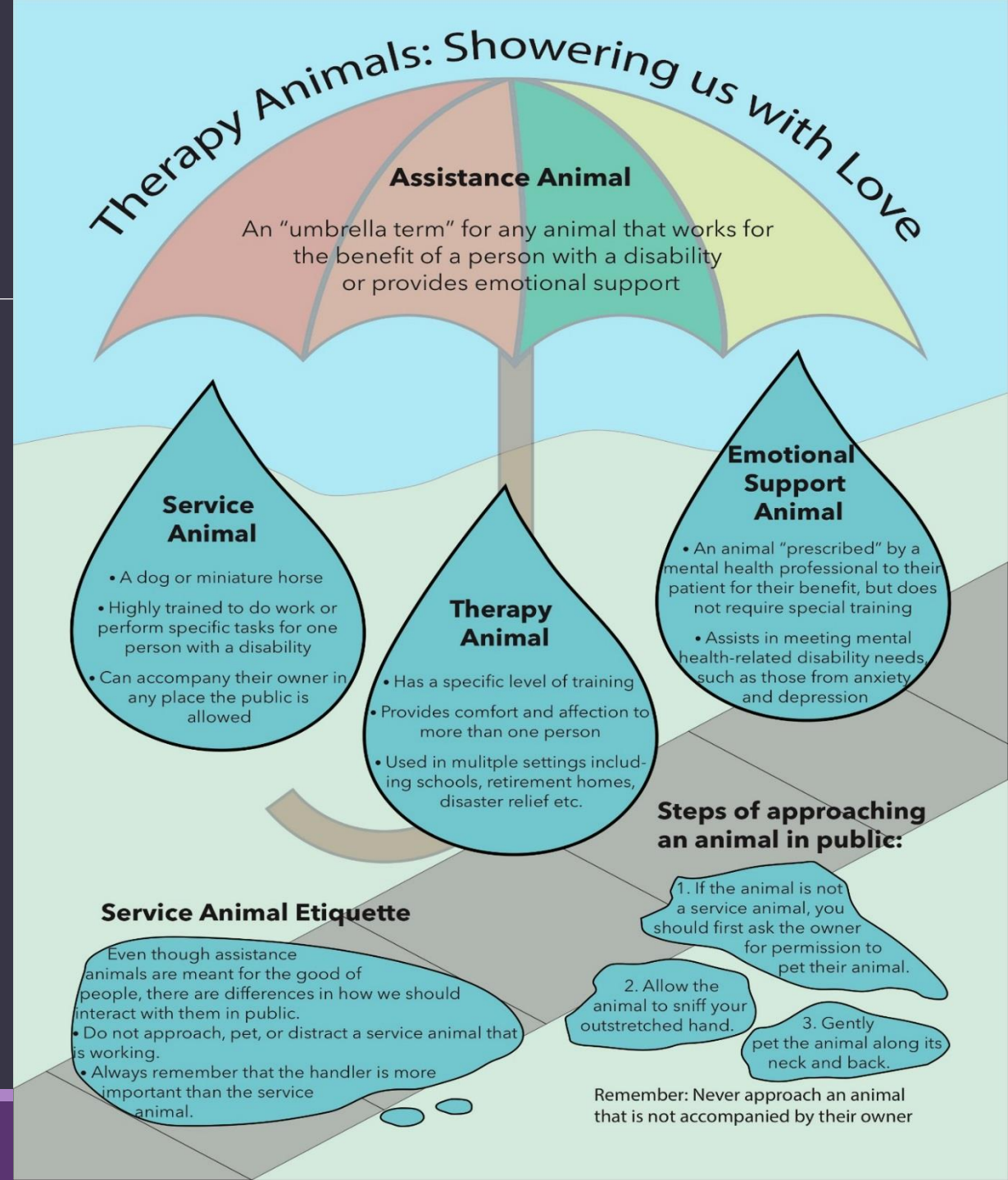
# Education

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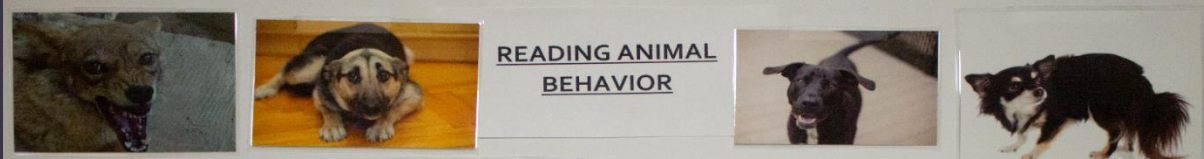
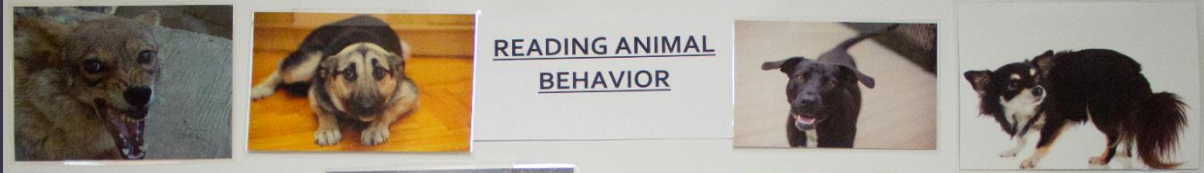


# Results/Products

## □ Assistance Animal Flyer



Children's Animal Behavior Game



- Paws for People service organization

## Paws for People:

*A pet therapy connection*



## Paws for People:

*A pet therapy connection*



# COMPETENCIES

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# MPH FOUNDATIONAL COMPETENCIES

Number and Competency	Description
4 Interpret results of data analysis for public health research, policy, or practice	Through analysis of the data collected from the usability survey and hospital evaluations, patterns and trends were recognized and used to identify common areas for potential improvement of usability in veterinary hospitals. This information from data analysis was used to create the “Top 10” flyer, hospital reports, and research poster.
16 Apply principles of leadership, governance, and management, which include creating a vision, empowering others, fostering collaboration, and guided decision making	Through the creation of a service organization, Paws for People, I was able to apply many principles of leadership and management as I began with a vision and then worked to gather a team and foster collaboration to turn my vision into reality. Through this organization I feel that I have empowered other students and community members by providing opportunities to increase their knowledge about therapy animals and to give back to their community through service. I also applied this competency when working on the individualized hospital reports as I worked to gain feedback and collaborate with others on our research team. Our hope is that these reports empowered other veterinarians to become more attentive to usability concerns within the profession and potentially make changes to their own hospitals to increase usability for clients with mobility disabilities.
18 Select communication strategies for different audiences and sectors	When producing the hospital reports, Top 10 flyer, animal assistance flyer, and animal behavior game it was important to take into consideration what audience I was trying to reach and how I could best communicate with that audience. By taking into account the target audience, communication of public health topics can become more effective.
19 Communicate audience-appropriate public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation	This competency was applied when writing many of my APE products and when presenting my research poster at KSU Research and the State and at Phi Zeta Research Day. I also utilized this competency when making the children’s interactive animal behavior game.
21 Perform effectively on interprofessional teams	Working on interprofessional teams was a rewarding and major part of my MPH APE. I had the privilege of working closely with Dr. Dot Nary who works for the Kansas Disability and Health Program. I also collaborated with many therapy animal handlers who work outside of veterinary medicine, one a piano teacher and another a librarian. Additionally, I was welcomed onto the Raising Riley team this past summer at the RCHD. I also collaborated with many veterinarians across northeast Kansas during hospital visits.

# MPH FOUNDATIONAL COMPETENCIES

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- ❖ 4: Interpret results of data analysis for public health research, policy, or practice
  - ❖ Analyzed data collected from the usability survey and hospital evaluations
  - ❖ Utilized the data in the creation of the Top 10 flyer, hospital reports, and research poster
- ❖ 16: Apply principles of leadership, governance, and management, which include creating a vision, empowering others, fostering collaboration, and guided decision making
  - ❖ Founding and running a new service organization, Paws for People
    - ❖ Created vision, gathered team, fostered collaboration
  - ❖ Collaborated with research team to produce individualized hospital reports
    - ❖ Empowered veterinarians to become more attentive to usability concerns



# MPH FOUNDATIONAL COMPETENCIES

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- ❖ 18: Select communication strategies for different audiences and sectors
  - ❖ Identified my target audience and tailored communication strategies/styles when producing hospital reports, Top 10 flyer, animal assistance flyer, and animal behavior game
- ❖ 19: Communicate audience-appropriate public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation
  - ❖ Presented my research poster on the veterinary usability project at KSU Research and the State, KSU CVM Phi Zeta Day, and RCHD Bugapalooza Public Health Poster Competition
  - ❖ Designed the interactive animal behavior game for children to play
  - ❖ Wrote hospital reports and Top 10 flyer to spread awareness of the public health concern of accessibility of public spaces for people with mobility disabilities

# MPH FOUNDATIONAL COMPETENCIES

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- ❖ 21: Perform effectively on interprofessional teams
  - ❖ Dr. Dot Nary (Kansas Disability and Health Program)
  - ❖ Therapy animal handlers (piano teacher, librarian, etc.)
  - ❖ Raising Riley team at RCHD
  - ❖ Veterinarians across Northeast Kansas during hospital visits

# MPH EMPHASIS AREA COMPETENCIES

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Number and Competency		Description
1	Pathogens/Pathogenic Mechanisms	Evaluate modes of disease causation of infectious agents.
2	Host Response to Pathogens/Immunology	Investigate the host immune response to infection.
3	Environmental/Ecological Influences	Examine the influence of environmental and ecological forces on infectious diseases.
4	Disease Surveillance	Analyze disease risk factors and select appropriate surveillance.
5	Disease Vectors	Investigate the role of vectors, toxic plants and other toxins in infectious diseases.

# MPH EMPHASIS AREA COMPETENCIES

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- 1: Pathogens/Pathogenic Mechanisms (Evaluate modes of disease causation of infectious agents)
- 2: Host Response to Pathogens/Immunology (Investigate the host immune response to infection)
- 3: Environmental/Ecological Influences (Examine the influence of environmental and ecological forces on infectious diseases)
- 4: Disease Surveillance (Analyze disease risk factors and select appropriate surveillance)
- 5: Disease Vectors (Investigate the role of vectors, toxic plants and other toxins in infectious diseases)

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# Thank You!

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- ❖ The veterinarians who participated in the usability survey
- ❖ The veterinarians who participated in the hospital evaluation
- ❖ Jan Scheideman and the Raising Riley team at the RCHD

# QUESTIONS?

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