

Master of Public Health Applied Practice Experience

By

Anna R. Van Brunt

MPH Candidate

submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Graduate Committee:

Dr. Elaine Johannes

Dr. Susan Rensing

Dr. Jennifer Hanson

Applied Practical Experience Site:

Mid-America Regional Council

January 1st 2025 – April 4th 2025

Applied Practical Experience Preceptor:

Marlene Nagel

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Manhattan, Kansas

2025

Table of Contents

Chapter 1 - Portfolio Products.....	2
Table 1.1 Summary of Portfolio Products	2
Table 1.2 Portfolio Products and Competency Addressed	3
Chapter 2 - Competencies.....	5
Table 2.1 Summary of MPH Foundational Competencies	5
Table 2.2 MPH Foundational Competencies Course Mapping	6
Appendix A - CHIP Inventory	8
Appendix B - Toolkit.....	11
Appendix C - Toolkit presentation	23
Appendix D - IRB Approval Letter	37
Appendix E - Semi-structured interview questions	39

Chapter 1 - Portfolio Products

For my experience, I completed my APE at my current place of employment, Mid-America Regional Council (MARC). MARC is the metropolitan planning organization and council of governments for the nine-county bi-state Kansas City metro area. My role at MARC is largely focused on traditional housing system solutions and while cross-sector partnerships are essential and I am involved in a variety of health efforts, approaching housing from a public health lens has not been the focus of my time. However, when thinking about an Applied Practice Experience (APE) to culminate my Master of Public Health, I thought it would be the perfect opportunity to explore these connections further and find a format to share what I have learned in my career thus far. As the housing coordinator I have been involved in many public health efforts, including recurring meetings for three CHIP processes in the region, public health learning and action sessions promoted by local philanthropic and hospital partners, and forging connections across the region. I began the preliminary research to inform my public health practice experience in November of 2024 and kicked off the development of my materials in January of 2025. While informed by my previous experience and involvement in these efforts, my APE also included a series of interviews with public health professionals leading CHIP processes in the region that are specifically focusing on and designing interventions for their community’s housing needs. The main product and work of my APE was the development of a guide for public health professionals engaging in housing work, titled “Bridging Housing and Health: A Toolkit for Local Public Health Action” (Exhibit X).

The MARC region covers 119 cities including very spread out, rural communities to the urban core of Kansas City. MARC has a wide variety of services and functions in addition to our planning work as the MPO. MARC serves as the Area agency on aging and the lead Head-Start grantee for the five counties on the Missouri side, the lead economic forecasting organization serving the region among other data and research services, hosts multiple public health and nutrition programs, coordinates the regional 911 system, runs the KC Regional Community Health Worker Collaborative, and offers many services to local governments.

Table 1.1 Summary of Portfolio Products

Portfolio Product	Description
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1	A systems exploration of the current status of intersect of public health and housing systems, and work going on in the Kansas City metro	To start my work, I created an inventory of all the local health departments in the MARC nine-county region, and documented those are working on housing issues or have prioritized this as a part of their CHIP. This created the baseline for who I would reach out to for conducting interviews as I developed the toolkit.
2	Bridging housing and health: A toolkit for local public health action	This is the main product of my work in my Applied Practice Experience. While I am doing housing work and creating many products everyday, this is the piece that I have spent the most time on to create something useful for public health agencies in the region.
3	Oral presentation slides to be presented to stakeholders interested in the role of local public health professionals in housing	In an effort to meet individuals and organizations where they are, I developed a presentation version of the guide. Not everyone may have the time in their day to read a long-form report, but a presentation is able to meet demand for this information more efficiently.

Table 1.2 Portfolio Products and Competency Addressed

Portfolio Product		Number and Competency Addressed	
1.	A systems exploration of the current status of intersect of public health and housing systems, and work going on in the Kansas City metro	5.	Compare the organization, structure and function of health care, public health, and regulatory systems across national and international settings
		13.	Propose strategies to identify stakeholders and build coalitions and partnerships for influencing public health outcomes
2.	Bridging Housing & Health: A Toolkit for Local Public Health Action	5.	Compare the organization, structure and function of health care, public health, and regulatory systems across national and international settings
		6.	Discuss the means by which structural bias, social inequities and racism undermine health and create challenges to achieving health equity at the organizational, community and societal levels

		7.	Assess population needs, assets and capacities that affect communities' health
		12.	Discuss multiple dimensions of the policy-making process, including the roles of ethics and evidence
		13.	Propose strategies to identify stakeholders and build coalitions and partnerships for influencing public health outcomes
		22.	Apply systems thinking tools to a public health issue
3.	Housing and Public Health 101: Presentation	21.	Perform effectively on interprofessional teams
		5.	Compare the organization, structure and function of health care, public health, and regulatory systems across national and international settings
		19.	Communicate audience-appropriate public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation

Chapter 2 - Competencies

Table 2.1 Summary of MPH Foundational Competencies

Number and Competency		Description
5	Compare the organization, structure and function of health care, public health and regulatory systems across national and international settings	I obtained this competency by looking at different Community Health Assessments and Community Health Improvement Plans throughout the Kansas City region. By doing this I investigated how different agencies organize their CHIP work, whether it is led by the agency or hospital system. I also learned about agencies outside the region when searching for promising practices and other work.
6	Discuss the means by which structural bias, social inequities and racism undermine health and create challenges to achieving health equity at organizational, community and systemic levels	This knowledge has been foundational to all the work I have done throughout my role and APE. The Kansas City region has large inequities in its housing system from poverty and food access to homeownership rates. Our region has a fraught history of racist lending practices that still affect the health of our communities today.
7	Assess population needs, assets and capacities that affect communities' health	This is work I do every day when handling housing data to determine community needs in affordability, housing types, and locations. I also have done work interpreting this for a broader audience through the writing of blogs posted on MARC.org.
12	Discuss multiple dimensions of the policy-making process, including the roles of ethics and evidence	I developed this competency through the work I have done at MARC to learn about the legislative process, particularly during the most recent session when housing and health topics have both been up for discussion frequently. I have learned the importance of using data to inform policy and included this within the guide I produced.
13	Propose strategies to identify stakeholders and build coalitions and partnerships for influencing public health outcomes	This competency was achieved through the creation of my main APE product "Bridging Public Health and Housing". In this toolkit I provided recommendations of ways public health agencies and practitioners can be involved in housing solutions, particularly using convening and partnerships.

19	Communicate audience-appropriate (i.e., non-academic, non-peer audience) public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation	The presentation and guide I created were both tailored towards communicating with public health professionals about public health topics. I have also gained experience writing and presenting complex housing topics to general audiences during my APE through the creation of blogs.
21	Integrate perspectives from other sectors and/or professions to promote and advance population health	These are skills I began honing early in my career but was especially able to put into practice during my APE. During my experience, I took more leadership and ownership of my work and was more involved in collaborating across MARC's departments and with external partners. I have received feedback that I achieved the goal of performing well in these team environments and taking leadership roles
22	Apply a systems thinking tool to visually represent a public health issue in a format other than a standard narrative	This is largely the work of housing and public health as most of the interventions that need to happen are at the systems level. Many of the housing solutions needed in our region require policy interventions, live in institutions, and have been perpetuated by practice. The toolkit I created looks at the systems level to create more effective partnerships.

Table 2.2 MPH Foundational Competencies Course Mapping

22 Public Health Foundational Competencies Course Mapping	MPH 701	MPH 720	MPH 754	MPH 802	MPH 818
Evidence-based Approaches to Public Health					
1. Apply epidemiological methods to settings and situations in public health practice	x		x		
2. Select quantitative and qualitative data collection methods appropriate for a given public health context	x	x	x		
3. Analyze quantitative and qualitative data using biostatistics, informatics, computer-based programming and software, as appropriate	x	x	x		
4. Interpret results of data analysis for public health research, policy or practice	x		x		
Public Health and Health Care Systems					
5. Compare the organization, structure and function of health care, public health and regulatory systems across national and international settings		x			

6. Discuss the means by which structural bias, social inequities and racism undermine health and create challenges to achieving health equity at organizational, community and systemic levels					x
Planning and Management to Promote Health					
7. Assess population needs, assets and capacities that affect communities' health		x		x	
8. Apply awareness of cultural values and practices to the design, implementation, or critique of public health policies or programs					x
9. Design a population-based policy, program, project or intervention			x		
10. Explain basic principles and tools of budget and resource management		x	x		
11. Select methods to evaluate public health programs	x	x	x		
Policy in Public Health					
12. Discuss multiple dimensions of the policy-making process, including the roles of ethics and evidence		x	x	x	
13. Propose strategies to identify stakeholders and build coalitions and partnerships for influencing public health outcomes		x		x	x
14. Advocate for political, social or economic policies and programs that will improve health in diverse populations		x			x
15. Evaluate policies for their impact on public health and health equity		x		x	
Leadership					
16. Apply leadership and/or management principles to address a relevant issue		x			x
17. Apply negotiation and mediation skills to address organizational or community challenges		x			
Communication					
18. Select communication strategies for different audiences and sectors	DMP 815, FNDH 880 or KIN 796				
19. Communicate audience-appropriate (i.e., non-academic, non-peer audience) public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation	DMP 815, FNDH 880 or KIN 796				
20. Describe the importance of cultural competence in communicating public health content		x			x
Interprofessional Practice					
21. Integrate perspectives from other sectors and/or professions to promote and advance population health		x			x
Systems Thinking					
22. Apply a systems thinking tool to visually represent a public health issue in a format other than a standard narrative			x	x	

Appendix A - CHIP Inventory

MARC Region Community Health Improvement Plan Index

Health Department	Jurisdiction	CHIP Cycle	CHIP Priorities
Wyandotte County Public Health	Wyandotte County, KS	2024 – 2028	Community Violence Health care access Employment and income Affordable housing or homelessness Drug Misuse Mental Health and suicide Chronic disease Poor nutrition or obesity
Johnson County Department of Health and Environment	Johnson County, KS	2025 – 2029	Affordable housing Jobs with livable wages Affordable mental health treatment Affordable healthcare coverage
Kansas City, Missouri Health Department	Kansas City, MO	2022 – 2027	Robust Public Health and Prevention Infrastructure Safe and Affordable Housing Trauma-informed and Funded Education

			Implementation of Medicaid Expansion Violence Prevention COVID-19
Jackson County Public Health	Eastern Jackson County (Jackson County except Independence and KCMO)	2023 – 2027	Housing and economic stability Mental and behavioral health
Northland Health Alliance	Platte and Clay Counties, MO	2024 – 2027	Access to transit Access to healthy food Access to M&BH
Cass County Public Health	Cass County, MO	2023 – 2025	Mental and Behavioral Health Social determinants of health Access to Care
Ray County Public Health	Ray County, MO	N/A	N/A
Miami County Public Health	Miami County, KS	N/A	N/A
Independence Health Department	Independence, MO	2025 – 2028	TBD
Leavenworth County Public Health	Leavenworth County, KS	N/A	N/A

Community Health Assessment Questions including housing:

Wyandotte County Public Health Department

- Have you experienced one or more nights where you did not have a place to stay within the last 12 months?

- In the past 12 months, did you have to stay with friends or family for an extended period of time (>1 week) due to lack of stability or reliability in your own living situation?
- If yes to Q25 or Q25a, please check ALL of the following resources you weren't able to access.
- If yes to Q25 or Q25a, what helped you gain housing or shelter again? [Select ALL that apply.]

JCPH

- Between 2020 and today, have you or your household been evicted or forced to move out of a residence? Please choose all that apply.
- Think about the place where you live. Do you have problems with any of the following? Please choose all that apply.
- Had to choose between buying groceries and paying another bill, such as utilities, medical bills, or gas/ transportation?
- Rating factors of community strengths/community concerns including SDOH topics

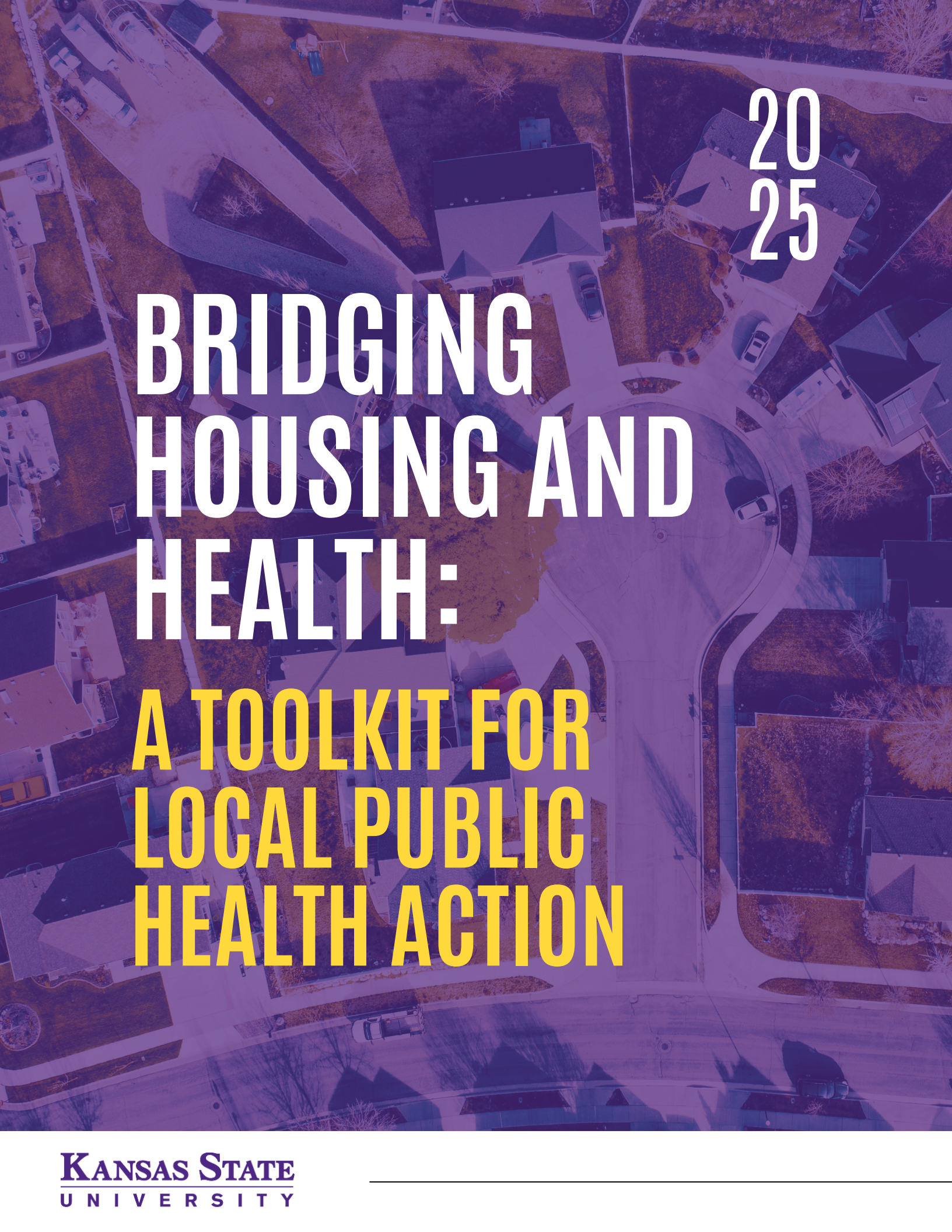
Johnson County DHE

- Ranks from strongly disagree to strongly agree and importance
- Affordable housing is available for all stages of life
- People find and keep jobs that pay well enough to support themselves and their families
- How often would you say you worried or stressed about finances?

Cass county – CHNA

- Scale rating with the housing question: “I can find affordable housing in my community”
- List of factors impacting health in your community, including a factor titled “housing and homelessness”

Appendix B - Toolkit



20
25

BRIDGING HOUSING AND HEALTH:

A TOOLKIT FOR LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH ACTION

Table of Contents

Health Starts at Home	_____	1
Housing Basics	_____	2
Understanding Community Needs	_____	3
Measuring Progress	_____	4 - 5
Local Public Health Levers	_____	6
Case Studies & Potential Actions	_____	7
Acknowledgements	_____	8
Sources	_____	9

A message from the author:

This toolkit was created as a part of my culminating experience of my Master of Public Health degree as a practice-based project, combining professional experience, semi-structured interviews, and research on best-practices. The creation of this toolkit was intended to allow me to practice skills in data collection and systems-thinking principles, and gain knowledge on the typical structure and roles of local public health agencies. This toolkit is intended to be used by professionals at these local public health agencies, particularly in urban metro areas, but should only serve as a starting point for learning about the housing field. Information was obtained within the Kansas City metro, including Leavenworth, Wyandotte, Johnson and Miami counties in Kansas, and Platte, Clay, Ray, Jackson and Cass counties in Missouri. I greatly appreciate the time participants in this process have taken, and hope this serves as a starting point for this work.

Health Starts at Home

Housing is an important social driver of health. Access to stable, healthy, and affordable housing creates more resilient and connected communities.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic the field of public health has dramatically expanded its reach. The public awareness gained and additional resources devoted to making healthier communities that would better withstand the next emergency provided a basis to extend our reach. The systems level change local health departments, hospital systems, philanthropic organizations and nonprofits partners had been working to create for decades experienced a new burst of energy that allowed us to look even farther upstream towards systemically impacting the social drivers of health.

Through the pandemic we witnessed the most clear display of how systemic racism in our institutions and practices contributed directly to disparities in health outcomes. A meta-analysis that included over 4.3 million patients demonstrated that across the pandemic, a patient who identified as being from a historically marginalized racial group contributed to higher rate of disease and ICU admission. [1] Pandemic outcomes also highlighted the critical influence social drivers of health have on our lives.

Housing stability in particular has become an important element of the built environment as our housing crisis in America has worsened. The field of public health has taken notice to the many ways stable, healthy, and affordable housing creates healthier communities and has been called to action to help build more effective systems. [2] A pathway for doing this work that has become impactful in the Kansas City region is Community Health Improvement Planning (CHIP). CHIPs have long been a vessel for community change as they provide the space for innovation and intervention creation within the field, and in Kansas City, many local public health agencies have prioritized housing in their plans. This toolkit will provide a starting point for public health professionals engaging in housing work in their communities, many for the first time.

Housing Basics

Definitions and resources

Housing is a diverse field that engages many different disciplines and backgrounds. From development, local government processes, diverse financing models and more, there is a lot to cover and it can seem overwhelming at the beginning

Key Term / Concept	Definition	Additional Resources
Affordable housing	Housing that a household can pay for, while still having money left over for other necessities like food, transportation and health care	• <u>Basics of Affordable Housing - NYU Furman Center</u>
Workforce housing	Affordable to households at 80 - 120% of the area median income. Typically, these households make too much for assistance but not enough for market-rate housing.	• <u>Workforce housing and middle income housing subsidies - a primer, Brookings Institution</u>
Inclusionary Zoning	Policies or programs that require developers to set-aside 10-30% of units for lower-income renters. Some programs offer incentives.	• <u>A 2016 law makes IZ illegal in Kansas</u> • <u>Inclusionary Housing from Grounded Solutions Network</u>
Incremental Development	A type of development that focuses on smaller-scale projects to revitalize neighborhoods block by block	• <u>Incremental Development from Strong Towns</u> • <u>Incremental Development Alliance</u>
Housing cost-burden	When a household is spending more than 30% of their gross income on housing	• <u>Healthy People 2030 - Health and Housing Costs Lit Review</u>
Basics of housing development: Developing housing is complex, but usually consists of five main parts: creating a development strategy, site selection, predevelopment (permitting), construction, and occupancy. View the links to the right for more in depth information about a city's role in the process and how affordable projects are financed		• <u>Municipality's role</u> • <u>Affordable Housing Basics: Financing, Incentives and More</u>

Kansas City's housing needs at a glance

A regional lens

Attempting to address housing needs in the Kansas City region will look different for each and every community. However, it is important to keep a regional context in mind as housing supply and demand is connected across communities. All data obtained from the [**Mid-America Regional Council Housing Data Hub**](#) and can be found there.

The region **lacks** 64,000 units to meet the needs of low-income families.

\$1,278



Median monthly renter costs

37% of renters or 108,000 are cost-burdened

15% or nearly **85,000** households that **own their homes** are **cost-burdened**

215,000 occupied housing units with **1 or more documented housing problems**



\$1,777

Median monthly owner costs

Measuring Progress

Community Health Assessment Questions

Community Health Improvement Plans (CHIPs) are a powerful vehicle for creating community change and begin with a Community Health Assessment (CHA) that asks questions to get to the root of what is most impacting community health. While it may feel most important to collect data around housing, it is important to ask questions around all social drivers of health to ensure your CHIP is reflective of your community.

Many agencies in the Kansas City region follow the Johnson County Housing Continuum to determine what populations struggle the most with housing. As discussed above, it is important to remain balanced in questions about housing on a Community Health Assessment. However, there are a variety of metrics to collect and monitor that will assess community needs in each area. Below are recommended questions that could be included in a CHA to ascertain how housing issues are impacting community health, based on a scan of CHAs in the Kansas City metro. All can be found on each health department's respective website, or at [Kansas Health Matters](#).

CHA Questions

- Have you experienced one or more nights where you did not have a place to stay within the last 12 months?
- In the last year, have you or your household be evicted or forced to move out?
- In the past year, have you had to choose between buying groceries and paying another bill, such as utilities, medical bills, or gas/transportation?
- Many CHAs feature a lickert scale where respondents are asked to rate factors impacting their communities health. These should include factors across all SDOH areas, such as access to quality, affordable childcare, access to nutritious food, and transit access.

Measuring Progress

Potential Metrics by Housing Continuum Population



Johnson County Housing Continuum (Johnson County Government, n.d.)

Chronic Homelessness

Chronic Homelessness can be monitored using HUD's Point-in-Time Count data

Vulnerable Populations

Also determined through shelter visits for those that have a shelter, or partnerships with social service agencies. Using screening tools you can measure housing instability within these populations

Potential Homeowners

These needs could be determined by working with organizations providing home-buyer education in your jurisdiction to assess their demand for service.

Experiencing Homelessness

Metrics for these are harder to pin down. Some ideas include shelter visits within the jurisdiction and how many of those individuals are not chronically homeless

Cost-burdened renters

Cost-burdening can be obtained from HUD's Comprehensive Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data

Cost-burdened homeowners

This data can also be obtained and tracked yearly from HUD's CHAS data.

Local Public Health Levers

Gaps in housing solutions that can be filled by public health strengths

Interviews conducted with public health professionals in the Kansas City region and research on other public health efforts in housing identified multiple areas where public health agencies are uniquely positioned to act. All of these represent strengths of public health and actions that can be taken in housing work if not being done already.



Convening

Public health is by nature, a convener. The health of communities depends upon connections with social service agencies and residents.



Research

The field of public health has long been a subject matter expert in collecting, analyzing, interpreting, and communicating about data. There is an opportunity to use these research capabilities to fill a gap in housing studies



Policy & Advocacy

Public health agencies are looked to as experts on the health of their communities, and therefore many have experience in researching, writing and advocating for policy change.

Promising Practices

The following are promising practices of health departments in the United States making strides in their community's health by addressing housing needs. Each includes high level takeaways and a link for more information. A local example that could be expanded, made more robust, and better supported is [Kansas City's Healthy Homes program in partnership with Children's Mercy Hospital.](#)

Minneapolis Health Department



HiAP + Pb

- Used the Health in All Policies (HiAP) framework to address home lead exposure

[More information here](#)

Alameda County



Asthma Start Program

- Uses a community partnership approach to addressing childhood asthma

[More information here](#)

Boston, Massachusetts



Housing partnerships in the city of Boston

- The Boston Public Health Commission, Boston Housing Authority, university, and hospital partners align work for healthy housing

[More information here](#)

Illinois Housing Development Authority



H3C Partnership

- Convened healthcare and public health agencies with developers for capacity building

[More information here](#)

Public health has a seat at the table in housing conversations. These agencies have important skills that are needed to solve housing issues, of which cannot be addressed in silos. It is essential to create the greatest impact through partnership and data-driven solutions.

Acknowledgements

This toolkit was created as a part of the Applied Practice Experience for the culmination of an The creation of this guide would not have been possible without the generous contributions of time and expertise from the following individuals:

Author

Anna Van Brunt, Mid-America Regional Council

Additional Contributors

Marlene Nagel, Mid-America Regional Council

Elaine Johannes, K-State Research and Extension

Kiki Saragnese, Jackson County Public Health

Valorie Carson, Johnson County Department of Health and Environment

The Wyandotte County Safe and Affordable Housing Action Team

The Jackson County Public Health Housing and Economic Stability Lab

We thank you for your contributions and all the work you do for communities across the Kansas City region.

Contact

Anna Van Brunt, Housing Coordinator
Mid-America Regional Council
600 Broadway Blvd., Ste. 200, Kansas City,
MO 64106

avanbrunt@marc.org
(816) 701-8388
marc.org

Sources and Additional Information

INCLUDED LINKS AND ADDITIONAL SOURCES

*sources are listed in the order they appeared. All links were current as of 3/17/2025 but have not been monitored for their existence since, particularly pertaining to federal websites

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Appendix C - Toolkit presentation



BRIDGING HOUSING AND HEALTH:

A TOOLKIT FOR LOCAL
PUBLIC HEALTH ACTION

20
25

Overview

Health Starts at Home	1
Housing Basics	2
Understanding Community Needs	4
Measuring Progress	5
Local Public Health Levers	8
Case Studies & Potential Actions	9
Acknowledgements	10
Sources	11

Health Starts at Home

Housing is an important social driver of health. Access to stable, healthy, and affordable housing creates more resilient and connected communities.

- Housing as a social driver of health has increasingly become more widely recognized
 - Highlighted with health disparities and outcomes witnessed during the pandemic
- A home that promotes safety & stability, access to healthy food, and economic opportunity promotes health

Social Determinants of Health



Social Determinants of Health
Copyright-free

 Healthy People 2030

Housing Basics

Housing is a diverse discipline with a steep learning curve that can feel overwhelming at first...and that’s okay!

Key Term / Concept	Definition	Additional Resources
Affordable housing	Housing that a household can pay for, while still having money left over for other necessities like food, transportation and health care	• Basics of Affordable Housing - NYU Furman Center
Workforce housing	Affordable to households at 80 - 120% of the area median income. Typically, these households make too much for assistance but not enough for market-rate housing.	• Workforce housing and middle income housing subsidies - a primer, Brookings Institution
Inclusionary Zoning	Policies or programs that require developers to set-aside 10-30% of units for lower-income renters. Some programs offer incentives.	• A 2016 law makes IZ illegal in Kansas • Inclusionary Housing from Grounded Solutions Network

Housing Basics Continued

Key Term / Concept	Definition	Additional Resources
Incremental Development	A type of development that focuses on smaller-scale projects to revitalize neighborhoods block by block	• Incremental Development from Strong Towns • Incremental Development Alliance
Housing cost-burden	When a household is spending more than 30% of their gross income on housing	• Healthy People 2030 - Health and Housing Costs Lit Review
Basics of housing development	• Creating a development strategy • Site selection • Predevelopment (permitting) • Construction, • Occupancy	• Municipality's role • Affordable Housing Basics: Financing, Incentives and More

Kansas City's Housing Needs | A regional lens

The region lacks **64,000** units to meet the needs of low-income families.

37% of renters or 108,000 are **cost-burdened**

\$1,278



Median
monthly renter
costs

215,000 occupied
housing units with **1**
or more documented
housing problems



15% or nearly **85,000** households
that **own their homes** are **cost-**
burdened

\$1,777

Median
monthly
owner costs



Measuring Progress

Potential CHA Questions

- Important that questions cover all social determinants of health for an accurate representation of community health
 - Have you experienced one or more nights where you did not have a place to stay within the last 12 months?
 - In the last year, have you or your household be evicted or forced to move out?
 - In the past year, have you had to choose between buying groceries and paying another bill, such as utilities, medical bills, or gas/ transportation?
- Many CHAs feature a lickert scale where respondents are asked to rate factors impacting their communities health. These should include factors across all SDOH areas, such as access to quality, affordable childcare, access to nutritious food, and transit access.

Measuring Progress

Metrics by population on the Johnson County Housing Continuum



Chronic Homelessness

Chronic Homelessness can be monitored using HUD's Point-in-Time Count data

Experiencing Homelessness

Metrics for these are harder to pin down. Some ideas include shelter visits within the jurisdiction and how many of those individuals are not chronically homeless

Vulnerable Populations

Also determined through shelter visits for those that have a shelter, or partnerships with social service agencies. Using screening tools you can measure housing instability within these populations

Measuring Progress

Metrics by population on the Johnson County Housing Continuum



Cost-burdened renters

Cost-burdening can be obtained from HUD's Comprehensive Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data

Potential Homeowners

These needs could be determined by working with organizations providing home-buyer education in your jurisdiction to assess their demand for service.

Cost-burdened homeowners

This data can also be obtained and tracked yearly from HUD's CHAS data.

Local Public Health Levers

Gaps in housing solutions that can be filled by public health strengths

01

Convening

Public health is by nature, a convener. The health of communities depends upon connections with social service agencies and residents.

02

Research

The field of public health has long been a subject matter expert in collecting, analyzing, interpreting, and communicating about data. There is an opportunity to use these research capabilities to fill a gap in housing studies

03

Policy & Advocacy

Public health agencies are looked to as experts on the health of their communities, and therefore many have experience in researching, writing and advocating for policy change.

Promising Practices

Illinois Housing Development Authority

H3C Partnership

- Convened healthcare and public health agencies with developers for capacity building

[More information here](#)

Minneapolis Health Department

HiAP + Pb

- Used the Health in All Policies (HiAP) framework to address home lead exposure
- See also Kansas City Healthy Homes program with Children's Mercy

[More information here](#)

Boston, Massachusetts

Housing partnerships in the city of Boston

- The Boston Public Health Commission, Boston Housing Authority, university, and hospital partners align work for healthy housing

[More information here](#)

Alameda County

Asthma Start Program

- Uses a community partnership approach to addressing childhood asthma

[More information here](#)

Acknowledgements

This toolkit was created as a part of the Applied Practice Experience for the culmination of an The creation of this guide would not have been possible without the generous contributions of time and expertise from the following individuals:

Author

Anna Van Brunt, Mid-America Regional Council

Additional Contributors

Marlene Nagel, Mid-America Regional Council

Elaine Johannes, K-State Research and Extension

Kiki Saragnese, Jackson County Public Health

Valorie Carson, Johnson County Department of Health and Environment

The Wyandotte County Safe and Affordable Housing Action Team

The Jackson County Public Health Housing and Economic Stability Lab

We thank you for your contributions and all the work you do for communities across the Kansas City region.

Contact

Anna Van Brunt, Housing Coordinator
Mid-America Regional Council
600 Broadway Blvd., Ste. 200,
Kansas City, MO 64106

avanbrunt@marc.org
(816) 701-8388
marc.org

Sources and Additional Information

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Appendix D - IRB Approval Letter

TO: Elaine Johannes
Manhattan, KS 66506
Applied Human Sciences

Proposal Number: IRB-12645

FROM: Lisa Rubin, Chair
Committee on Research Involving Human Subjects

SUBJECT: Clearance for Non-Research Project

DATE: 02/14/2025

RE: "Exploring the Intersections and Areas of Alignment in Housing and Public Health."

The Institutional Review Board (IRB) for Kansas State University has reviewed the proposal identified above and has determined that this is a **Non-Research Application**. The proposed activity as described does not meet the criteria in 45 CFR 46 for the definition of "research" involving human subjects, and therefore does not require review by the Committee for Research Involving Human Subjects (IRB).

This determination applies only to the proposal/document currently on file with the IRB. Any change affecting human subjects must be approved by the IRB prior to implementation.

Feel free to call our office if you have any questions.

Electronically signed by Lisa Rubin on 02/14/2025 10:52 PM ET

Appendix E - Semi-structured interview questions

**Public Health and Housing – Semi-structured interview questions by Anna Van Brunt
Jan. 2025**

(SCRIPT) The purpose of the following interview questions is to gather data that will inform the development of a guide for public health professionals engaging in housing programs that support the [NAME OF THE COUNTY/TOWN] community health improvement plan. The questions focus on housing needs, systems, processes and recommendations for improvements that can be included in the guide. May I record our interview on my cell phone? This recording and transcript of our interview will only be used as notes to supplement my memory of your input. Thank you.

1. Can you state your name, organization, and role?
2. How did you get involved in housing work as a public health professional?
 - 2a) What kinds of housing work or programs have you been involved in?
3. What do you think are the connections between public health and housing?
 - 3a) Do most public health professionals also understand those connections?
 - 3b) Why or why not?
4. How does your organization or your work currently focus on housing?
 - 4a) Do you think most public health organizations currently have a focus on housing?
 - 4b) Do you think this current work is effective? I
 - 4c) If it is effective, what contributes to that effectiveness?
 - 4d) If it's not, how can it be improved?
5. What aspects of housing do you struggle with the most or you were least familiar with when you first started this work?
6. What would have been most helpful to you or your colleagues when first starting to work on housing needs, systems, and processes?
7. When you think about housing problems and housing solutions in [NAME OF COUNTY/TOWN] what do you think are leverage points unique to public health professionals? In other words, what are the potential win-wins between public health and housing?
8. What do you see are the positive aspects of aligning public health and housing initiatives?
 - 8a) What are the negative aspects of that alignment?
9. Is there anything else you'd like to add or discuss before we conclude our interview?

(SCRIPT) Thank you for your time and thoughts today. I'll be connecting back with you a [#] weeks ahead to ask you to review a draft of the guide I'm developing for public health professionals who are working to address housing issues. If you have questions, I can be reached at [provide email].