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Van Liew Named Unified Government Public Health Department Director
New Health Department Leadership in Wyandotte County

Juliann Van Liew has been named Director of the Unified Government Public Health Department in Wyandotte County by County Administrator Doug Bach.

Van Liew completed her undergraduate degree at Drake University with a Bachelors Degree in International Relations and Political Science. She received her Masters Degree in Public Health from the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. She managed performance and quality improvement for visiting nursing agencies and a large safety net healthcare clinic.

With Van Liew’s efforts, the Unified Government Public Health Department has worked to meet the public health demands of the 21st century by prioritizing quality improvement, performance management, workforce development, and accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board. The Health Department has also worked with a robust team of community partners to publish and begin implementing a five-year Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) aimed at addressing health access issues, jobs and education, safe and affordable housing, and violence prevention.

“It has been very exciting to be a part of the progress our health department has made the past two years, and I am honored to build on that as Director. I am stepping into this role at a time when our community is facing challenges it has never seen before – challenges that are evolving every day,” said Van Liew.

“Our department must work with our partners to be nimble in our response in the short term to COVID-19, while not losing sight of our longer-term goals of improving health outcomes for our residents and addressing the health disparities our community has faced for years. It is well known that Wyandotte County routinely experiences poor health outcomes, but there is also a tremendous amount of partnership, determination, and movement among those dedicated to improving health in our community.”

County Administrator Doug Bach commented, “I really need a strong leader with a lot of vision, and Juliann is the right person for the future of our community, especially with the current pandemic we are in.”

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