

**UNMC, College of Public Health**  
**Applied Practice Experience (APEX) Opportunities**

**Partner organization name:** Wyandotte County Public Health Department (WyCo PHD)

**Address:** 619 Ann Ave, Kansas City, KS 66101

**Partner organization website:** <https://www.wycokck.org/Health>

**Partner organization brief description:** WyCo PHD works to promote good health for the vibrantly diverse community of nearly 170,000 Wyandotte County residents, by providing an array of critical clinical, community, and environmental health services and programs for residents across the lifespan. In addition, as the Chief Health Strategist for Wyandotte County, we conduct ongoing surveillance and robust assessments to identify community health priorities.

**Partner organization's point of contact name and email:**

**Raegan Billinger**

Workforce Development Coordinator

Wyandotte County Public Health Department

[rbillinger@wycokck.org](mailto:rbillinger@wycokck.org)

Work Phone: 913-573-8232

Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



**Description of partner organization's priority opportunities (APEX activities): 4 opportunities total**

1. Health Communications and Media
  - a. Working closely with the Public Information Officer (PIO) in order to help create social media posts and YouTube Shorts to promote available services and events at the health department. This role would work closely with the Communications Ambassador Coordinator (see below) to create a health department annual report to be published at the end of the year.
2. Communications Ambassador Coordinator
  - a. WyCo PHD has a Communications Ambassador program, where staff located within different divisions of the health department serve as ambassadors for the Communications team to create social media posts and flyers for their own divisions in order to allow the PIO to focus on larger communications and media priorities. Students would have the opportunity to serve as the coordinator for this program, including scheduling, planning, and hosting quarterly meetings, serving as a supportive point-of-contact for ambassadors who have content creation questions, and helping to educate all health department staff on WyCo PHD's branding and style guide. This role would work closely with the Health Communications and Media position (see above) to create a health department annual report to be published at the end of the year.
3. Strategic Plan Implementation
  - a. Students would have the opportunity to learn about and assist with strategic plan implementation for WyCo PHD, allowing them to work with staff from all different divisions who are participating in strategic plan workgroups in order to create and

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implement SMART goals to effectively fulfill the strategic priorities listed in WyCo PHD's 2024-2028 strategic plan, located here:

[https://www.wycokck.org/files/assets/public/v/1/health/documents/wyco-phd\\_strategic\\_plan-2024-2028.pdf](https://www.wycokck.org/files/assets/public/v/1/health/documents/wyco-phd_strategic_plan-2024-2028.pdf)

Students would also be tasked with planning the annual strategic planning retreat for the health department, which takes place every January.

4. Grant Writing

- a. Students would have the opportunity to learn about and be involved with the entire health department grant cycle, including searching for and finding potential funding opportunities, crafting presentations to request approval to apply from our county's Board of Health, and completing grant applications.

**Timeframe of proposed activities:** Opportunities available for Fall 2025 and Spring 2026

**Benefit of proposed activities to partner organization:**

- Students would contribute to the efficacy of WyCo PHD, including allowing us to:
  - Better educate the public on the services offered at the health department
  - Effectively implement our 2024-28 strategic plan
  - Find funding opportunities that will allow us to better serve the residents of Wyandotte County

**Benefit of proposed activities to the student:**

- Gain experience working collaboratively with people from all divisions within a county health department
- Gain experience with community engagement in order to better promote the use of health department services
- Gain project management experience
- Gain experience with grant writing

**Skill sets of students requested:**

**For all roles:**

- Strong oral and written communication skills
- Strong organizational skills
- Ability to work collaboratively and meet deadlines

**For Health Communications and Media and Communications Ambassador Coordinator:**

- Experience with Canva
- Experience with digital content creation
- Bilingual (not required)

**Additional Information** (format of preferred engagement-virtual, hybrid, in-person; partner organization's location):

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**Hybrid is preferred, but fully remote opportunities may be possible.**

Wyandotte County Public Health Department is located approximately 2 hours and 45 minutes from Omaha, in Kansas City, KS.