

What is C4CH?

Catalysts for Community Health (C4CH) is an interdisciplinary community health information curriculum that creates a network of practice throughout the MidContinental Region focused on meeting health information needs for low-income and rural communities. Students will create information and curricular resources to be widely distributed to the LIS education community and libraries, develop health information outreach and programming skills, and lead community health information networks.

Engagement: 12 students have been recruited to build local networks for health information, including libraries and community health and wellness settings such as clinics, senior centers, nursing homes, Boys & Girls Clubs, and schools.

Impact: This program intends to boost the number of embedded health information librarians (direct impact), and provide a curricular structure for educating health information librarians that can be emulated by other LIS programs (indirect impact).

C4CH Curriculum

Library Science:

- Students earn an ALA-accredited Master's degree, creating projects throughout that are tailored to health information needs of their community.

Department of Health Management and Informatics:

- Introduction to Health Informatics
- Consumer Health Informatics

School of Health Professions:

- Principles of Public Health
- Health Care in the United States

What makes C4CH unique?

C4CH is creating a place-based education model where the students will remain in their local communities for the duration of the program while we bring together several disparate strands of LIS and health information research including health information librarianship, embedded librarianship, and research on community impact of librarians. Combining these areas allows us to customize a curricular program that is oriented towards public health and uses librarians' roles as community catalysts to impact local, regional, and national well-being.

Our Advisory Board consists of local representatives (e.g., librarians and health information professionals) who play a leading role in addressing community health information needs, identifying promising potential students, guiding students through their community-based research, and sharing community values and strengths.

Advisory Board

James Bothmer: Associate Vice President and University Librarian/Assistant Professor, School of Medicine/School of Pharmacy and Health Professions (retired 2019)

Robin Newell: Library Director, Emporia Public Library

Julie Robinson: Refugee & Immigrant Services & Empowerment (RISE) Outreach Manager, Kansas City Public Library

April Roy: Director, Plaza Library, Kansas City Public Library

Maggie Shawcross: Health Sciences Librarian, University of Northern Colorado

Gwen Wilson: Medical Librarian, Department of Family and Community Medicine

