

NEWS RELEASE
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Contact: Lisa V. Horn,
Communications Coordinator
Office: (785) 843-3060

Ens presented with Health Department service award

(Lawrence, KS) – Kim Ens, Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department Preparedness Coordinator, was awarded the Kay Kent Excellence in Public Health Service Award Wednesday.

Ens has worked at the Health Department for 17 years and was nominated by Charlotte Marthaler, Director of Policy and Planning.

“Ask any number of Kim’s coworkers and community colleagues and they will say, without a doubt, that Kim is very passionate about the work of public health,” Marthaler said in her nomination. “Some of Kim’s really great qualities are teamwork, enthusiasm, a can-do attitude and a sense of humor.”

In addition to Ens, four other Health Department employees – Kathy Colson, Roxie Dohogne, Karen Flanders and Jennie Henault – were nominated by their peers for the honor, with the winner selected by the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Board.

The award is named after Kay Kent, who served as Director of the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department for 33 years. She is credited with building the Department into what it is today – from an agency with less than 10 employees and a handful of services in 1973, to a department of 50 employees, offering multiple community services.

Kent’s visionary leadership, dedicated work and passion for public health are the inspiration for the award, presented each year to an outstanding employee during National Public Health Week.