



NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**First Kay Kent Excellence in Public Health Service Award
to be presented**

(Lawrence, KS) – The Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department’s Kay Kent Excellence in Public Health Service Award will be presented to a staff member for the first time next week.

The award presentation and staff appreciation luncheon will take place from noon to 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 8, at the Community Health Facility, second floor meeting rooms, 200 Maine St. in Lawrence. Remarks will start promptly at noon.

Six Health Department employees – Jaclyn Gifford, Nancy Jorn, Sue McDanel, Pat Meyers, Barbara Schnitker and DeeAnne Schoenfeld – were nominated by their peers for the award. The winner is selected by the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Board.

The Kay Kent Excellence in Public Health Service 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 Health 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, which will be presented each year during National Public Health Week to an outstanding Health Department employee.

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