



**NEWS RELEASE**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Public invited to honor LMH Health during April 5 breakfast**

**(Lawrence)** – The Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department will honor LMH Health as the first recipient of the Healthier Together Leadership award, which recognizes an organization that has demonstrated commitment to advancing the goals outlined in the Douglas County Community Health Plan.

LMH Health leadership will accept the award at the Community Health Breakfast, which will be from 7:30-8:30 a.m. Friday, April 5, at the Community Health Facility, 200 Maine St. The event is open to the public and part of the Health Department's celebration of National Public Health Week.

The Lawrence-Douglas County Health Board selected LMH Health for its active and collaborative community leadership in the county's collective pursuit of a healthier community for all.

"We are excited to honor an organization that has truly modeled the way as a partner in several community health coalitions," Director Dan Partridge said.

### **LMH Health**

LMH Health, formerly Lawrence Memorial Hospital, was founded in 1921, and includes a 174-bed hospital located in Lawrence, Kansas, as well as a number of primary and specialty care clinics throughout Lawrence, Douglas County, Jefferson County and Leavenworth County. With projects continuing today, it has expanded its physical presence and services in the region.

Partridge said LMH Health's leadership has exhibited consistent, long-term membership in several community health coalitions and contributed in various ways to support the Community Health Plan by:

- Expanding its emergency department for behavioral health patients and creating an integrated crisis team.
- Being willing to provide crisis center project management.
- Successfully recruiting new psychiatry providers into the community and working with system partners to leverage their impact in the community.
- Planning to open a clinic in east Lawrence, which will expand access to an underserved area.
- Partnering with the Health Department to support advancement of health equity.

- Supporting data-driven decision making by producing semi-annual reports on behavioral system of care services.

At the Community Health Breakfast, the Health Department will also honor the 2019 Douglas County Health Champions — Mitchell Tegtmeier of Eudora and Dee Boeck and Gene Wee of Lawrence — who have made significant contributions to model, encourage and promote health in the community. Tegtmeier has provided education and opportunities to support health and fitness among youth in Eudora. Boeck and Wee are longtime organizers of the Lawrence Thanksgiving Day 5K that has provided support for Lawrence Public Schools marathon clubs and other youth fitness groups around Douglas County.

### **About the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department**

The nationally accredited Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department has served the Lawrence and Douglas County community for more than 120 years. Its mission is to advance policies, practices and programs that promote health for all, prevent disease and protect the environment.

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*Together, day by day, building a healthy community*

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