

# Charles E Sepers, Jr, PhD, MPH

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Mission-driven public health administrator with over 10 years of progressively responsible leadership and implementation experience in health promotion and prevention programs. Skilled in program and policy analysis, public health system modernization, program implementation and evaluation, and public health emergency preparedness and response. Experience in supervision and management of professional staff and fiscal oversight. Fervent advocate for the health and well-being of all people.

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## *Competencies*

- **Strategic Planning**—implemented four Community Health Needs Assessments, facilitated more than a dozen workshops on strategic planning with professional organizations and community groups.
- **Personnel Management & Team Development**—managed large and small teams, including public health workforce development.
- **Budget Development, Program Implementation, & Evaluation**—co-authored more than \$10 million in external funding proposals. Directs and monitors an annual budget of \$2 million and \$10 million in total assets. Evaluated sprawling state and national public health initiatives using a variety of evaluation frameworks, including collective impact.

## *Work Experience*

### **Health Director/Chief Public Health Officer**

04/2019-Present

#### **East Central District Health Department, Columbus, NE**

- Leads the day-to-day management of programs, personnel, budgets, and administrative tasks across three locations.
- Manages and mentors 20 full-time staff and more than 40 volunteers working on site and remotely.
- Directs and monitors an annual budget of \$2 million and \$10 million in total assets.
- Pursues funding to advance the strategic vision and mission of the Department.
- Leads the Department in serving as the health district's Chief Public Health Strategist.
- Leads the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) compliance and quality improvement activities.
- Builds and maintains collaboration with local, regional, and state partners to achieve Department strategic goals.
- Represents the Department and District on local, regional, and statewide commissions and committees.

### **Evaluation Project Coordinator**

01/2016-04/2019

#### **Center for Community Health and Development, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS**

- Coordinated the Missouri Foundation for Health's Healthy Schools, Healthy Communities childhood obesity initiative's participatory evaluation.
  - Provided evaluation technical assistance to project grantees in more than 70 schools, 15 counties, and more than 33 school districts.
- Coordinated the participatory evaluation of the Bristol-Myer Squibb Foundation's national Together on Diabetes initiative.
  - Provided evaluation technical assistance to project grantees within 22 implementation projects and 75 communities, worksites, and healthcare systems.
- Coordinated the Partners for Prevention initiative which provided evaluation technical assistance to federal Drug-Free Communities grantees utilizing the Strategic Prevention Framework.
- Project coordinator for the Rural Futures Institute's Platte County Lifestyle Coalition's Capacity Building for Implementation initiative.
- Developed qualitative and quantitative monitoring and evaluation data collection platforms.
- Designed and implemented participatory research agendas.
- Trained health department staff as part of two academic health department agreements.
- Directed more than 20 professional staff in data collection, report generation, and dissemination.
- Coauthored funded grants totaling more than \$2.5 million.

### **Graduate Research Assistant**

08/2012-01/2016

#### **Center for Community Health and Development, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS**

- Evaluated the Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation's Together on Diabetes initiative across 75 communities.
- Evaluated the NHLBI-funded Healthy Community Study focusing on childhood obesity.
- Evaluated the 2014 CDC REACH grant in Wyandotte County, KS and supervised the quality-assurance team consisting of 20 professional staff.

- Implemented four Community Health Needs Assessments (CHNA) and Community Health Improvement Plans (CHIP).
- Implemented three NACCHO MAPP public health infrastructure assessments within three communities.
- Prepared and presented more than 30 workshops and invited presentations to NGOs, government agencies, and other community stakeholders.
- Prepared and presented 33 peer-reviewed papers and sessions on topics related to preventive health and public health program implementation and evaluation.
- Co-authored and published six peer-reviewed, scientific papers.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

08/2012-01/2016

**Center for Community Health and Development, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS**

- Assisted faculty with classroom instruction, exam, record keeping, grading, and guest lectures.

**Evaluator, Full Service Community Schools**

08/2011-06/2013

**University of Nebraska at Kearney, Kearney, NE**

- Coordinated all aspects of data organization including collection, verification, cleaning, and statistical analysis.
- Developed internal and external reports including Department of Education reporting requirements.

**Representative Service**

- Chairperson (current)—Board of Directors, Centro Hispano Comunitario de Nebraska, Columbus, NE
- Vice Chairperson (current)—Community Advisory Board, Community and Family Partnership of the Columbus Area United Way, Columbus, NE
- Member (current)—Board of Directors, Nebraska Association of Local Health Directors, Lincoln, NE
- Member (current)—Community Action Board, CDC Childhood Obesity Research Demonstration (CORD) 3.0, Kearney, NE
- Preceptor (2020)—University of Nebraska Medical Center MPH Applied Experience Internship

**Education**

**Doctor of Philosophy** (2021) Behavioral Psychology: Community Health and Development

**University of Kansas, Dissertation Title:** Examining Leveled Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support Interventions to Improve Clinical Outcomes in a National Diabetes Initiative

**Master of Public Health** (2017)

**University of Kansas Medical Center, Capstone Title:** Evaluating Efforts to Improve Quality of Care of a National Diabetes Treatment Initiative Targeting Medically Underserved Patients

**Master of Arts** (2015) Behavioral Psychology: Community Health and Development

**University of Kansas, Thesis Title:** Measuring the Implementation and Effects of a Coordinated Care Model Featuring Diabetes Self-Management Education within Four Patient-Centered Medical Homes

**Bachelor of Science** (2012) Psychology & Exercise Science

**University of Nebraska Kearney, Kearney, NE**

**Associate of Arts** (2009) Psychology & Exercise Science

**Central Community College, Grand Island, NE**

**Honors, Fellowships & Awards**

- 2021** University of Nebraska Medical Center Chancellor's Distinguished Service Award
- 2021** Central Community College Outstanding Alumni Award, Columbus, NE
- 2019** Nebraska Latino American Commission Hispanic Heritage Month Organizational Award
- 2014** Friends of the Life Span Institute Graduate Research Assistant Award
- 2013** Psi Chi Graduate Assistantship Grant
- 2012** Recognition of Outstanding Achievement in Research, Council on Undergraduate Research
- 2012** Donald L. Stumpff Award, Outstanding Student in Psychology, Department of Psychology, University of Nebraska Kearney
- 2012** Department of Psychology Student Service Award, University of Nebraska Kearney
- 2012** Distinguished Honors in Psychology, Department of Psychology, University of Nebraska Kearney
- 2012** Exercise Science Student of the Year, Department of HPERLS, University of Nebraska Kearney