

Purpose Statement from Retreat

- The role of the Health Commission, created by council ordinance and appointed by the Mayor, serves as an independent health policy voice to advocate on behalf of all KCMO for improvement of community health with a reminder that health is more than the absence of disease. A major focus is advocacy on behalf of the underserved who suffer from health inequities due to economics, race, lack of health care access, behavioral health services, or lack of access to other needed services which adversely affect health and wellness.

- Action strategies of Health Commission include the following:
 1. Fostering preventive services, disease management and accessible quality care to all residents of KC with a focus on reducing minority and economic disparities
 2. Relating the health of the community to such overriding issues as crime and violence, housing, and other social determinants of health.
 3. Assuring transparency and accountability of health levy funding to benefit the recipients of safety net health services and other health-related services funded by the health levy.
 4. Emphasizing collaboration among all city, regional, state, and federal public health, health care, mental health and human service resources-both public and private
 5. Communicating with and seeking joint advocacy among other public health, health care, mental health and human service interests in the region
 6. Convening and inviting grass roots input and participation in all Health Commission deliberations