

JOPLIN
MISSOURI

HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

HD Team | June 2026







JOPLIN

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

#HelpingServingProtecting

HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Main building located at 321 East Fourth Street

Animal Control Garage located on South Kentucky Ave



HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Health Department Overview: **History**



- History
  - Department dates to 1889
  - Early focus was on milk inspections
  - Records show that early Sanitary Officers in 1900's received a salary of $75 per month ($900 year) and had to provide their own horse
  - Several locations over the years: 201 Joplin Street, 1052 Main Street, 513 Kentucky Avenue

Current location since 2006:
321 East Fourth Street

HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Health Department Overview:

Key Statistics

DESCRIPTION	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	% Difference (in past year)
Animal Control Service Calls	5,186	5,447	5,018	**8%**
Vaccinations Provided	2,025	2,056	1,985	**4%**
Vital Records Issued	8,183	8,478	8,845	**4%**
Environmental Health Inspections	1,379	1,519	1,460	**4%**
WIC Clients	28,084	29,419	29,595	**1%**
Total	**44,857**	**46,919**	**46,903**	**<1%**

HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Health Department Overview:

Key Functions

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Joplin Health Department

- Article VIII of the City of Joplin's Charter details specific duties of the Health Director and the Health Department:
  1. Enforce the laws of the state and City relating to public health and welfare.
  2. Conduct programs necessary for preserving and promoting public health.
  3. Make and enforce reasonable polices for preserving and promoting public health.
  4. Provide oversight of general cleanliness.
  5. Prevent the spread of contagious and infectious disease.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Health Department Overview:

Key Functions

- **Administrative:**

Birth and death records,
Health education,
Liaisons and coalitions,
Contract and grant management,
Community Health Needs Assessment
Community Health Improvement Plan, and
General departmental oversight and direction



HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Health Department Overview:

Key Functions

- **Medical**

Vaccinations,
Communicable disease investigations,
Pregnancy testing,
TB testing,
STI and Hepatitis C testing, and
CPR training

- **WIC (Women Infants and Children)**

Income based supplemental food and education for pregnant and postpartum women, infants and children under 5 years old, and
Lactation support





HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Health Department Overview:

Key Functions

- **Emergency Preparedness**

Develops emergency response plans,
Participates in local coalitions, and
Coordinates with hospitals and MDHSS

- **Worksite Wellness**

Designs and implements employee wellness program,
Positively impacts employee's physical and mental health, and
Reduces healthcare costs for employees and City



HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Health Department Overview:

Key Functions

- **Environmental Health**

Regulatory inspections (food, lodging, childcare, pools, tattoo),
Commercial plan review,
Mosquito fogging, and
Education

- **Animal Control**

Strays and dangerous dogs,
Animal welfare and bite investigations,
Nuisance and wildlife complaints,
Trapping services,
Education, and
Spay/Neuter Financial Assistance Program







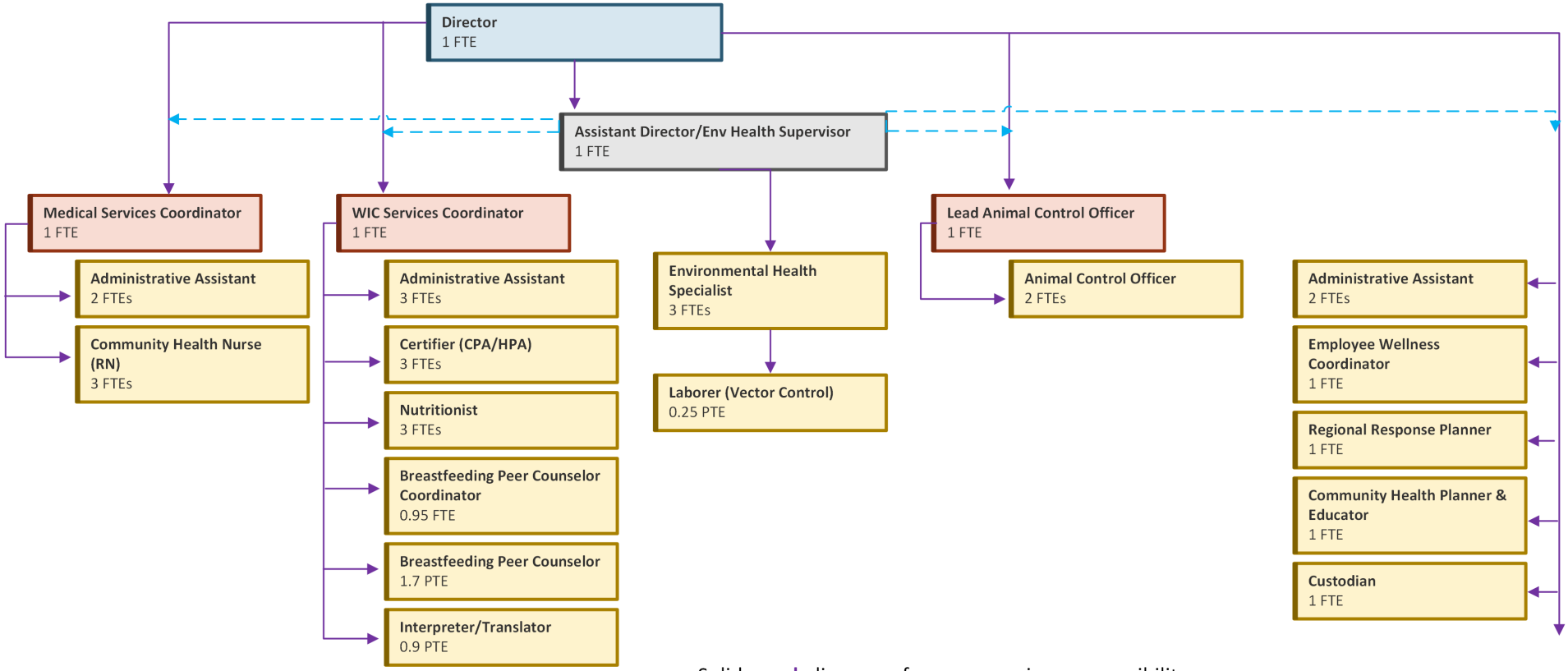





KANSAS CITY


JOPLIN
MISSOURI

HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Solid **purple** line = performance review responsibility

Blue **dashed** line - general oversight and involvment with daily operations

HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Staffing Update:

All positions are currently filled

NAME	POSITION	DOH	YOS
Ryan Talken	Health Director	2/28/2005	21
Devin Blankenship	Assistant Health Director	4/20/2015	11
Patrick Boyer	Custodian	10/2/2019	6
Annie Duff	Administrative Assistant	12/11/2023	2
Kayla Campbell	WIC Certifier	3/27/1995	31
Maranda Carroll	Animal Control Officer	2/16/2021	5
Wrandi Clayton	Regional Response Planner	12/27/2022	3
Rosita Davis	Administrative Assistant	1/24/2011	15
Cathrine O'Reilly	Environmental Public Health Specialist II	12/09/2025	1
Therasia Duplichan	WIC Services Coordinator	10/16/2023	2
Misty Hammer	Medical Services Coordinator	8/24/2020	5
Angela Jobes	Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Coord.	12/31/2012	13
Jared Laster	Environmental Public Health Specialist I	6/27/2022	3
Sara Lewis	WIC Certifier	1/03/2023	4
Kit Loveland	Community Health Nurse RN	1/9/2023	3
Kherzden Humphrey	Administrative Assistant	09/11/2025	1

HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Staffing Update:

All positions are currently filled

NAME	POSITION	DOH	YOS
Suzan Morang	Community Health Planner/Educator	4/23/2012	14
Hayley Collins	Administrative Assistant	08/25/25	1
Angie Queen	Administrative Assistant	3/7/2017	9
Megan Saba	Wellness Coordinator	1/08/2024	2
Sabra Reddell	Administrative Assistant	02/02/2026	1
Ryan Starchman	Environmental Public Health Specialist I	12/12/2022	3
Tamara Waterman	Community Health Nurse RN	2/4/2020	6
Mary White	Administrative Assistant	4/26/1971	55
Martin White	Lead Animal Control Officer	3/4/1996	30
Lauren Besparat	WIC Competent Professional Authority	02/23/2026	1
Jerri Hethmon	Community Health Nurse RN	02/01/2026	1
Brent Woirhaye	Animal Control Officer	1/31/2011	15
Emma Helwig	Nutritionist I	need	1
Jennifer Patterson	WIC Health Professional Assistant	1/5/2023	3
Trista Gardner	Peer Counselor Part-Time	5/03/2023	3
Viviana Junge	Interpreter Part-Time	9/20/2016	9
Stephanie Tillman	Peer Counselor Part-Time	8/30/2021	4

HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Retirements 2025:

NAME	POSITION	DOH	YOS
Julie Martin	Administrative Assistant	4/07/2006	20
Joyce Doty	WIC Services Coordinator	09/30/1994	31
Lisa Black	Custodian	11/27/2017	7

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Animal Control:

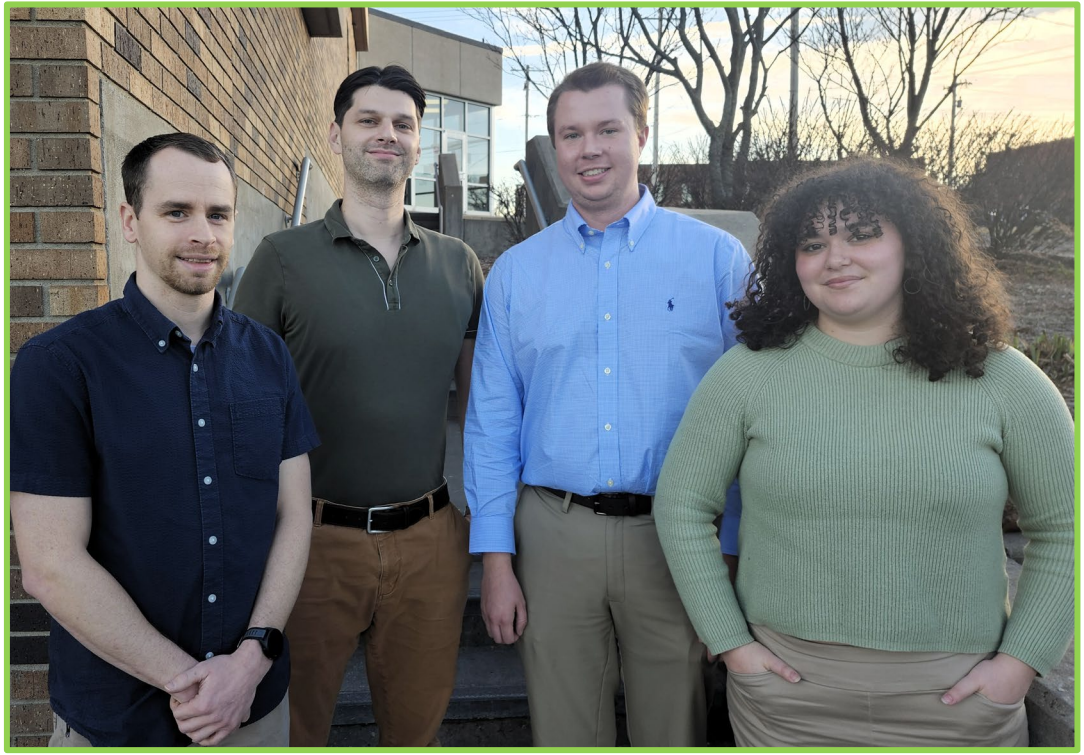
Brent, Maranda, Martin



HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Environmental Health:

Devin, Jared, Ryan, Rin



HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical:

Annie, Angie, Misty, Tamara, Kit



HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

WIC (Women, Infant and Children):

Adriana, Hayley, Emma, Angie, Jennifer, Stephanie, Trista, Sabra, Kherzdan, Therasia, Joyce, Kayla, Sara, Jasey, Yolanda



HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Administration, Custodian, Wellness Works, Planner/E ducator:

Patrick, Ryan, Devin
Rosita, Megan, Mary,
Suzan



HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

2025 Key Initiatives

1. Departmental Operational Assessment-Completed
2. Feasibility Study for Animal Control Shelter - In Process
3. Increase Engagement in Wellness Works For Overall Health Improvement and Reduce Cost - In-Process

HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Additional FY2025 Projects and Major Tasks

- Building Improvements
- Equipment Upgrades
- Food Service Inspection Online Portal
- Animal Control Code Update
- Staff Advancement to EPHS II
- WIC Position Restructuring
- WIC MOWINS Transformation, Medical Transformation Spirit

HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Additional FY2025 Projects and Major Tasks

- Health Fair
- Community Presentations
- GAP Analysis Project Completion
- Grants and Contract Management
- Community Health Needs Assessment Finalization
- NICE Group Creation
- Measles Informational Sessions With Schools

Looking To Future

- Strengthened Partnership Animal Control / Police
- Food Inspection Scoring Study
- Community Wellness Event
- Trap Neuter Release Implementation
- Expanded Laboratory Services

Questions?





