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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KHF contribution to help train Kansas community health workers

WICHITA, Kan. – The Kansas Health Foundation (KHF) recently contributed \$50,000 to Made Men to create a new pilot program that will train 10 community health workers serving Kansas communities during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

Made Men is a nonprofit organization empowering men and women facing instability and economic hardships in Wyandotte County to succeed through education, training and career opportunities. Made Men will partner with the Center for Public Health Initiatives at Wichita State University’s Community Engagement Institute to offer community health worker training in Wyandotte County.

“We’re excited to partner with Made Men on this project as we know community health workers are trusted professionals who work in neighborhoods to improve individual and community health,” said Teresa Miller, KHF president and CEO. “Additionally, what’s exciting about this program, is that it works to help break cycles of poverty among Wyandotte County residents, through employment and education.”

This Kansas City, Kan. organization is known for helping Wyandotte County residents receive their GED to earn a higher wage and improve their quality of life. Its new intensive 30-day community health worker training program is a collaboration between the Kansas Association of Community Health Workers, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Vibrant Health, El Centro and Sunflower Health Plan, as well as other community health organizations. Individuals will receive training and then move into immediate employment.

Community health workers educate residents on healthy lifestyle changes to reduce chances of chronic disease and help residents understand how to manage conditions and avoid unnecessary trips to the emergency room. These health professionals may also conduct outreach for COVID-19 vaccination efforts and other specific health initiatives.

“We are truly grateful to KHF for its support in helping us to increase health equity within Wyandotte County,” said Nelson R. Gabriel, Made Men president & CEO. “Having the opportunity to engage credible voices that will advocate for our community is our greatest joy.”

Learn more about Made Men by visiting [the organization's website](#).

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ABOUT THE KANSAS HEALTH FOUNDATION

The Kansas Health Foundation is based in Wichita, but statewide in its focus. With a mission to improve the health of all Kansans, KHF envisions a culture in which every Kansan can make healthy choices where they live, work and play. During the past 35 years, KHF has provided more than \$600 million in grants to improve health in Kansas communities.

ABOUT MADE MEN

Made Men is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization headquartered in Kansas City, Kansas. MADE MEN is the Midwest’s most innovative community organization offering a broad spectrum of services to our clients. Its experienced team offers a proven track record of developing and executing strategic, value-added programs that focus on delivering measurable results and increasing resources. It provides creative and synergistic programs that tap into the mindset of those it serves. MADE MEN is a multi-faceted organization with one mission, one vision, and the motto of "Empowering men and women to do great things!".