

Project Overview

The Impact of State Preemption on the Health Equity & Economic Security of Communities of Color in the Kansas City Metro Area

Background: The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Policies4Action program funds projects to identify policies, laws, and other public and private sector levers that can support health and racial equity. The 2024 funding cycle asked researchers to explore the impact of state preemption. The program is administered by the Urban Institute.



About the National Academy of Public Administration

Chartered by Congress to provide non-partisan expert advice, the Academy is an independent, non-profit, and non-partisan organization established in 1967 to assist government leaders in building more effective, efficient, accountable, and transparent organizations. Learn more at www.napawash.org

Project Description

The Academy is working with a team of researchers at the University of Kansas to examine the drivers and effects of state preemption laws in Kansas and Missouri that limit local government control over economic and housing policies. Through narrative analysis, the project will examine:

- The motivations behind state preemption and its influence on local governance.
- The direct consequences of these preemptive policies on communities of color, especially in terms of health and economic stability; and
- The broader implications on regional policy making and the potential for local innovation and advocacy in the face of state-level restrictions.

The Academy has appointed a five-member Expert Advisory Group (EAG) to oversee and guide this study. Information on the EAG and Study Team is provided on the next page. A final report with findings and recommendations will be completed by May 16, 2026.

**Support for this research is provided by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect the views of the Foundation.*

[Click Here to Learn More About the Study](#)



Connect with the Academy



Expert Advisory Group

David Adkins, Executive Director/CEO, The Council of State Governments, 2008-Present; Trustee of Kentucky Retirement Systems, Kentucky Public Pensions Authority; Vice Chancellor of External Affairs, University of Kansas Medical Center, 2004 – 2008; State Senator, Kansas Legislature, 2001 – 2005; Attorney of Civil Litigation, Lathrop & Gage, LLC., 2001 – 2004; Founding Executive Director of The Community Foundation of Johnson County, Kansas, 1998-2001; State Representative, Kansas Legislature, 1993-2001; Attorney/Partner of Civil Litigation, Bennet, Lytle, Wetzer, Winn & Martin, 1986-1998.

Michael Rogers, Chairman and CEO, District Health Care Management, 2021 – Present; Interim City Manager, City of Charlottesville, 2022 – 2023; Executive Director of Strategic Planning and Consulting Services, Kaiser Permanente Mid-Atlantic States, 2015 – 2019; Chief Operating Officer, City of Petersburg, Virginia, 2018 – 2019; Vice President of University Advancement, University of the District of Columbia, 2013 – 2015; Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, DC Healthcare Systems, Inc., 2010 – 2012; Executive Vice President of Corporate Services, MedStar Health, 2003 – 2009; Executive Director, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, 1998 – 2003; City Administrator, Government of the District of Columbia, 1995 – 1998; Director of Minority Business Development Agency, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1994 – 1995; Director of the Mayor’s Office of Contracts and City Chief Procurement Officer, City of New York, 1991 – 1994; Vice President of Municipal Services, Ogden Services Corporation, 1986 – 1991, Deputy General Manager, Washington, D.C. Convention Center, 1981 – 1985.

Peggy Valentine, Vice President of Allied Health Education, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, 2021 – Present; Interim Chancellor, Fayetteville State University, 2019 – 2021; Dean of the School of Health Sciences, Winston Salem State University, 2006 – 2021; Professor, Associate Dean, Department Chair in the College of Allied Health Sciences, Howard University, 1980 – 2005; Registered Nurse, Sibley Memorial Hospital, 1972 – 1985; Physician Assistant in Student Health, George Washington University, 1979 – 1980.

Chet P. Hewitt, President and CEO, Center for Health Program Management, 2012 – Present; President and CEO, Sierra Health Foundation, 2007 – Present; Agency Director, Alameda County Social Services Agency, 2001 – 2007; Assistant Agency Director, Children and Family Services, Alameda County Social Services Agency, 2000 – 2001; Associate Director of Working Communities, Domestic Field Office, The Rockefeller Foundation, 1998 – 2000; Assistant Director of Working Communities, The Rockefeller Foundation, 1996 – 1997; Leadership Fellow, Children and Families, Annie E. Casey Foundation, 1995; Juvenile Director, Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice, 1993 – 1994; Community Coordinator, San Francisco Probation Department, 1991 – 1992.

Lisa Blomgren Amsler, Distinguished Professor, Paul H. O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University, 1992 – Present; Visiting Professor and Saltman Senior Scholar, William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada Las Vegas, 2010 – Present; Director, Indiana Conflict Resolution Institute, Indiana University, 1997-2006; Lecturer, Maurer School of Law, Indiana University School of Law, 1989 – 1992; Partner and Associate of Labor Law, Shipman & Goodwin, 1979 – 1989.

ACADEMY PROJECT STAFF

Joseph Mitchell, *Director of Strategic Initiatives & International Programs*

Nancy Augustine, *Project Director*

Brad Riley, *Senior Research Associate*

Lauren Boczkowski, *Senior Research Associate*

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS PROJECT STAFF

Christopher Koliba, *Edwin O. Stene Distinguished Professor of Public Administration, Policy & Governance*

Ashley Muddiman, *Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Communication Studies*

Maggie Swenson, *Assistant Professor, University of Wyoming*

D’Arlyn Bell, *PhD Student*

Noelle Broughton, *PhD Student*