

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES IN LYON COUNTY, 1999

The League of Women Voters of Emporia believes one of the strengths of the Flint Hills Health Center lies in the dedication of its staff at every level. We believe that Lyon County and the Health Center Board should make every effort to offer competitive salaries and benefits to attract and retain adequate staffing. We believe the staff should be qualified for their positions and as many bilingual persons as possible be hired. We believe the employment of a doctor and the coming addition of a dentist to be positive steps and urge that these positions be retained for the future.

The League of Women Voters of Emporia supports the programs currently offered by the Center. The League believes the Health Center should continue to seek other sources of income to insure continued support for these programs. We further believe that there needs to be more cooperation and perhaps formal agreements between the Health Center, the hospital, and pharmacies for additional treatment requirements and the filling of prescriptions. We believe cooperation between the Senior Center and the Health Center should continue, and efforts be made to reach more of the senior citizens in the minority community.

The League of Women Voters of Emporia believes that the current building housing the Health Center is adequate for its present needs. We believe that the current and proposed remodeling will make the facility even more usable. The adequacy of the building to house the programs of the Health Center needs to be constantly evaluated and appropriate changes made when needed.

The League of Women Voters of Emporia believes that because of the constantly changing demographics of the area served by the Health Center, planning for future needs should be an ongoing priority. The League recognizes that there have been many changes since this study was started and supports the planning and funding necessary to take the Flint Hills Health Center into the next century.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES IN LYON COUNTY: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, 2000

The League finds that the staffing level of the Environmental Health Section of the Lyon County Health Department is adequate for the tasks it is expected to perform at the present time. We recognize that some of the positions are funded through grants and recommend that the County Commission be prepared to continue the services if the grants are not renewed.

We recommend that the county's sanitary code be reviewed and updated on a regular basis. We also see the need to increase cooperation between the city, county, and state to ensure the enforcement of the laws and codes that have been established.