

Kendra Smith

Enterprise Vice President, Community Health & Impact

Advocate Health

Kendra Smith serves as Enterprise Vice President, Community Health & Impact with the Advocate National Center for Clinical & Community Impact, where she leads enterprise wide strategies to reduce health disparities and build healthy communities through programming, capital investment, policy support, and trauma safety services.

A national thought and practice leader in community health, urban planning, and community investment, Kendra is passionate about engaging communities in actionable plans that prioritize local voices and vision. She has led numerous place-based initiatives focused on addressing health and social needs, leveraging investments, and improving community conditions. Under her leadership, previous teams have earned the Foster G. McGaw Prize for Excellence in Community Service from the American Hospital Association and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Opportunity and Empowerment Award. Residing in Toledo, Ohio, Kendra serves on numerous local boards and is a past appointee to the Federal Reserve Board of Governors Community Advisory Council, where she advised the Board on community-based impacts of federal monetary policies, community investment, and strategic partnerships.

Kendra is a graduate of Kent State University's Master of Public Health program, with a focus on health policy and management, and holds a Master of Science in Urban Studies from Cleveland State University, with a focus on neighborhood and community development. She also holds additional degrees and certifications from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, Ohio University, and La Universidad Pública de Navarra in Pamplona, Spain. Kendra is an AICP certified urban planner through the American Institute of Certified Planners/American Planning Association.