

Kate Bender

Kate Bender is a Deputy Performance Officer with DataKC, a division of the City Manager's Office in Kansas City, Missouri. She began her career with the city in 2007 as a Cookingham Fellow, one of the oldest management fellowship programs in the country. In 2009, she helped form the DataKC office, which focuses on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of city services through data-driven decision-making. DataKC works to support the City of KCMO in data-driving decision-making through citywide efforts like administration of the City's resident survey, data and process improvement training for City employees, and projects in partnership with department staff.

Kate earned a BA in Political Science from Brown University and a Master of Urban Planning degree from the Wagner School of Public Service at New York University. Kate completed the Centurions Leadership Program with the Greater Kansas City of Chamber of Commerce in 2013 and the Bloomberg-Harvard City Leadership Initiative in 2018. In 2016 she was recognized by the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) with their Emerging Leader Award of Excellence. She is a member of the 2020 class of the Greater Missouri Leadership Challenge.