

## Contact

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(LinkedIn)

## Top Skills

Economics

Tax Policy

Public Policy

## Languages

German (Limited Working)

English (Native or Bilingual)

French (Professional Working)

# Edward Johnson

Assistant Health Commissioner at Columbus Public Health  
Columbus

## Summary

Edward is the Assistant Health Commissioner for External Affairs for Columbus Public Health, the local health department for the second largest city in the Midwestern United States. Since 2018, Mr. Johnson advises the health commissioner on a variety of health policy issues; leads the department's Center for Public Health Innovation, which is addressing racism as a public health crisis; the Environmental Health Division; the Addiction Services Division; and assists in leading the City of Columbus's response to the once-in-a-century COVID-19 pandemic.

Formal training in philosophy, politics and economics have seen Edward as far afield as South Africa to analyze labor markets and policies in the economic engine of sub-Saharan Africa, and brought him back to serve the Buckeye State as an aide to the Ohio House of Representatives Minority Leader.

That sense of service and dedication brought Mr. Johnson to Columbus City Council, where he served as the director of legislative affairs to multiple City Council presidents. In 2016, he was the principal staff officer for the Charter Review Committee, which was the first successful effort in the 103-year history of the Columbus City Charter to enact changes to the manner in which city council members would be elected.

A native of Columbus, Edward was born and raised in the Driving Park and Forest Park East neighborhoods. An avid runner, he is always looking to consume the most calories from Columbus' best barbecue spots while lowering his personal bests in the 5K and half marathon. Edward currently reside in the Rocky Fork-Blacklick area of Columbus.

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## Experience

## City of Columbus

7 years 8 months

### Assistant Health Commissioner

June 2022 - Present (2 months)

Columbus, Ohio, United States

### Director of Public Health Policy

May 2018 - June 2022 (4 years 2 months)

Columbus, Ohio, United States

### Director of Legislative Affairs

March 2016 - May 2018 (2 years 3 months)

### Legislative Analyst

December 2014 - March 2016 (1 year 4 months)

## Ohio House of Representatives

2 years

### Director of the Minority Leader's Office

2013 - December 2014 (1 year)

Columbus, Ohio

Serves as the Minority Leader's office director by managing her personal staff, and overseeing all administrative, communication, research and public functions of the Leader's Office.

### Senior Legislative Aide to Minority Leader

2013 - 2013 (less than a year)

Columbus, Ohio

Assisted the Minority Leader of the Ohio House of Representatives in fulfilling her public obligations by providing support services in the areas of administration, communication, research, and public relations.

### Senior Legislative Aide to the Minority Whip

2012 - 2013 (1 year)

Columbus, Ohio

Assisted the Minority Whip of the Ohio House of Representatives in fulfilling her obligations by providing support in the areas of administration, communication, research, and public relations.

## Ohio Legislative Service Commission

### Legislative Fellow

2011 - 2012 (1 year)

Columbus, Ohio

## Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Young Adult in Global Mission

2008 - 2010 (2 years)

Recruiter for ELCA Global Mission

- Organized and conducted recruitment visits to universities to recruit young adults to the Young Adults in Global Mission program and Global Mission two-year programs.
- Conducted recruitment efforts at job and volunteer events.
- Initiated contact with career development offices, professors, campus ministries and other universities groups.
- Performed database entry and contact follow-up with professional contacts throughout the Midwestern United States.

Policy Analyst for the Ecumenical Service for Socio-Economic Transformation

- Analyzed government policies and their impact on informal workers in Johannesburg, and seasonal and short-time workers in surrounding rural areas in South Africa.
- Hosted conferences and forums regarding the informal economy to facilitate increased awareness and dialogue with local and provincial policymakers.
- Edited and reviewed articles concerning workers in the informal economy.

Special Projects Manager for the Lutheran Community Outreach Foundation

- Overhauled the Foundation's Kids' Week event from a system originally meant for 75 participants to now accommodate 600 participants.
- Organized, administered and provided logistical support for Kids' Week three times a year for between 450 and 550 participants.
- Managed 70 volunteer leaders for Kids Week and mentored senior leaders.
- Provided cost management by entertaining, feeding and supplying 550 youths and leaders on a budget of \$1,500 for a week.
- Generated community support and involvement in Kids' Week by overseeing the procurement of food, supplies and equipment donations from local businesses equal to 75 percent of the budget.

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## Education

Xavier University

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Philosophy, Politics and Economics · (2004 - 2008)

Valparaiso University

Master of Science (M.Sc.), International Business/Trade/  
Commerce · (2010 - 2010)