



## **Ellen Bertels**

*Directing Attorney, Kansas Name Change Project, Kansas Legal Services*

Ellen Bertels (she/her) is the Directing Attorney for the Kansas Name Change Project at Kansas Legal Services. The Kansas Name Change Project provides free legal services to low- and moderate-income transgender Kansans, with an emphasis on name changes and ID corrections. Because of this work, Bertels is passionate about the intersections of poverty, access to justice, and LGBTQ liberation both through and outside of the law.

A lifelong Jayhawk, Bertels earned her JD from the University of Kansas School of Law in 2021. During law school she co-founded the KU Law Gender Marker and Name Change Project, and interned at the ACLU of Kansas, Federal Public Defenders of Kansas, and the Brennan Center for Justice. Bertels was also an ACS Chapter Leader.