



WEEKLY WEDNESDAY UPDATE

The Weekly Wednesday Update is our newsletter which we email every Wednesday with oral health, health and policy updates from around the state and nationally.

To view past issues [click here](#).

Click here to sign up for our [Weekly Wednesday Update](#).

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We Are Moving!

With a new year comes a new location! The Oral Health Kansas office will be moving January 28 and we need boxes. If you have boxes for us, please call us at 785-235-6039 to arrange pick up. Our new address will be 712 S. Kansas Ave., Suite 412, Topeka, Kansas, 66603. We are excited for this new opportunity!

Submit Your Comments For the Surgeon General's Report



National Institute of Dental
and Craniofacial Research

The National Institute on Dental and Craniofacial

Research (NIDCR)

is accepting public comments on the upcoming Surgeon General's Report on Oral Health through January 25th. The first Report on Oral Health was issued by the U.S. Surgeon General in 2000. It famously described dental disease as a silent epidemic, and the insights offered in the report helped to shape the public oral health infrastructure across the country.

NIDCR is leading the project to produce this report. Last week, they hosted a webinar on the status of the report, as well as, details on how to submit comments. Below is a brief overview of the webinar, along with comment suggestions. The full webinar recording can be found [here](#).

Topics to be included in Surgeon General's Report on Oral Health:

- Oral health in children and adolescents
- Oral health in working adults and older adults
- Substance use, the opioid epidemic, high risk behaviors (such as tobacco use) and mental health
- Oral health integration, workforce, practice
- Emerging technologies and promising science to transform oral health

What should your comments say?

- Your views on oral health, including topics such as:
 - Importance of oral health as a public health issue
 - Contemporary issues affecting oral health
 - New knowledge that may transform the oral health of the nation
 - Future directions
- Examples of new partnerships/coalitions/providers that are not traditionally associated with oral health that have demonstrated improvement in the oral health and wellbeing of individuals, families, or communities
- Contributions that include data will be especially valuable

Where do I send my comments?

- Submit contributions on or before January 25, 2019
 - Email to: NIDCR-SGROH@nidcr.nih.gov
 - Mail to: SGR Team, NIH/NIDCR, 31 Center Drive, Room 5855, Bethesda, MD 20892
- Include:
 - Statement of your suggestion or idea for the report OR description of a strategy,

- program, or partnership that improves oral health
- Documentation of the idea or example that you are submitting
- Your name and contact information



Healthy People 2030 Comments Due Tomorrow!

[The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services \(HHS\)](#) is soliciting written comments on the proposed objectives for Healthy People (HP) 2030. This public comment period will allow comments on the proposed HP2030 objectives and the public can also propose

their own objectives.

This is your chance to be heard, and to speak up for prioritizing oral health!

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the HP2030 proposed goals for oral health.

[CLICK HERE](#) for an overview of the public comment process. Members of the public are invited to submit comments on the proposed objectives through January 17, 2019. [Learn more and submit your comments today!](#)

State Dental Director Job Opening

Kansas Department of Health and Environment is looking for a State Dental Director in the Bureau of Oral Health. This role would be responsible for maintaining Kansas' public oral health infrastructure through the implementation and maintenance of evidence-based community health interventions. This includes the creation, management and evaluation of federally funded programs including the Kansas School Sealant program; assisting communities, local health departments, local health care professionals and water operators with issues related to Community Water Fluoridation; drafting, implementing, and supervising all federal grant applications; maintaining BOH budgets; drafting and managing all partner contracts; and creating and monitoring performance measure for BOH initiatives.



Applications are being accepted through January 16. For more information and how to apply, visit the [Kansas Department of Health and Environment website](#).



Kansas Dental Hygienists' Association Advocacy Day

The Kansas Dental Hygienists' Association (KDHA) will have an advocacy day on January 30. The KDHA will be visiting with legislators to inform them about the Dental Therapist bill. SB 11 has been introduced in the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee.

Click [here](#) to learn more and to sign up for advocacy day!

Accelerating Community Health Conference

The Missouri Coalition for Oral Health will have their annual conference on February 28 and March 1 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, 415 West McCarty Street, Jefferson City, Missouri.



Dental Champions Class VII member, Megan Foreman will be presenting at the conference about local fluoridation advocacy and Angel Romero, from United Way of Greater Topeka will speak about Community Leadership. Sounds like a conference full of great information!

Find out more and register [here](#)!



This month Jane McGinley retired from the ADA after 21 years of service as the Manager of Fluoridation and Preventive Health Activities. For decades Jane has been the best source of information about community water fluoridation and efforts to fluoridate or roll-back fluoridation in communities across the country. She was a key advisor to Dental Champions Class VII and Class VIII as they learned about and developed projects to support water fluoridation in Kansas. She also has been a valuable resource as Kansans have fought to keep and promote fluoridation throughout the state. Over the years, Jane's boundless energy, deep understanding of the science and politics of



fluoride, and steady guidance have been something not just Oral Health Kansas, but all of the oral health stakeholders in Kansas, can rely on. Her impact across the country and in Kansas will be felt for many years to come. We appreciate Jane's dedication and her friendship, and we will miss her very much.



Now Taking Reservations For March

Our Sugary Drink Display is so popular, we have very few slots open for January but February is BOOKED! Make your March reservation now! What is a Sugary Drink Display? It's our

drink display that has 10 popular beverages and shows how much sugar is in each. You can reserve a child drink display or an adult drink display for a month. Spots fill up quickly! We will do our best to fulfill requests of less than 30 days but there is no guarantee.



Interested in purchasing a Sugary Drink Display? Great, email us at info@oralhealthkansas.org and we'll send you more info!

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