

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY UPDATE

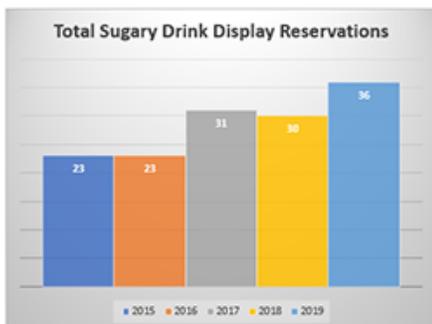
The Weekly Wednesday Update is our newsletter which we email every Wednesday with oral health, health and policy updates from around the state and nationally.

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

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

January 29, 2020

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Sharing Oral Health Kansas' Impact

Throughout 2020, Oral Health Kansas wants to share highlights of our work and the impact we are having. Each month we will feature a new subject, and we welcome feedback and questions. Let us know what else you are curious about! This month we want to share a little data about our sugary drink display. It is popular throughout the

state, and requests for it increase every year. Most of the displays are used for a month at a time at a school, health department, library, community health center, or early childhood center. Anyone is welcome to request the display. Details about how to do that are included in each issue of the Weekly Wednesday Update.



Learn About The Legislative Process

Do you have questions about the legislative process in Kansas? We want to answer them! Submit your questions [here](#). We will answer your questions during our next Biweekly Advocacy Webinar on Friday, January 31st at 12:00PM. You can listen in on the call or watch as a webinar. **Sign up [here](#)!**

What to expect from this week's advocacy webinar:

1. Legislative Bill Updates
2. Kansas Oral Health Improvement Act Update
3. What to expect next week
4. Answers to YOUR questions!

The webinars will be recorded. If you miss one you can [find them on our website](#)



Share Your Ideas

Sugar is in food and beverages. Sugar in beverages, also known as “liquid sugar”, may be more harmful. The sugar in beverages is often highly concentrated and easy to consume in large amounts without feeling full. According to an [article in Healthline](#), a major problem with liquid

sugar calories is that your brain doesn't register them in the same way as the calories from solid food. Drinking sugar contained beverages excessively causes weight gain.

What can you do to make sure you're watching your sugar and calorie intake? Read labels! Read the labels on the beverage to see how much sugar is in the entire bottle, can or jug. Also, pay attention to how much sugary beverages you are consuming. Drink in moderation and drink water with it as well!

Reserve a Sugary Drink Display to share at an event, office, school or training. The Sugary Drink Display has 10 beverages along with 10 jars to show how much sugar is in each beverage. Click [here](#) to learn more.



The Cost Of Expanding Medicaid

The Senate Public Health & Welfare Committee has been hearing testimony on [SB252](#), which would expand Medicaid coverage in Kansas. The Kansas Health Institute shared testimony on their new issue brief on the estimated enrollment and costs of Medicaid Expansion. The report shares that a total of 132,000 Kansans are estimated to newly enroll in KanCare if Medicaid is expanded. This would include 93,000 adults and 39,000 children. They estimate the annual hospital surcharge proposed in SB 252 would more than cover the net state cost of newly enrolled adults. Find the full issue brief [here](#).

Oral Health Kansas, along with other advocates, provided testimony in support of Medicaid Expansion. The Senate Public Health & Welfare Committee has been hearing testimony from both proponents and opponents of SB252 over the past two weeks. The final day of testimony will be Thursday, January 30th. Read our testimony [here](#).



Senator Pat Pettey introduced the Kansas Oral Health Improvement Act, OHK's comprehensive oral health bill, in the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee. This bill will make three big changes to the oral health system in Kansas:



1. Mandate the state have a State Oral Health Plan that is regularly updated and monitored with stakeholder input
 2. Increase Medicaid dental reimbursement rates
 3. Establish a comprehensive dental benefit for KanCare beneficiaries
- Watch for more details during the legislative session.



Reserve Your Drink Display For 2020

Reserve your Sugary Drink Display before the months go by! Or [purchase](#) a Sugary Drink Display to have as your own!



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.

We will do our best to fulfill requests of less than 30 days but there is no guarantee.

There is no charge to use the Sugary Drink Display; postage is reimbursed if you send in your receipt. All we ask is for you to fill out our survey included in the display materials and provide us with feedback about the display. [Click here](#) to make a reservation!

Interested in purchasing a Sugary Drink Display? [Click here](#) to download our brochure.

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