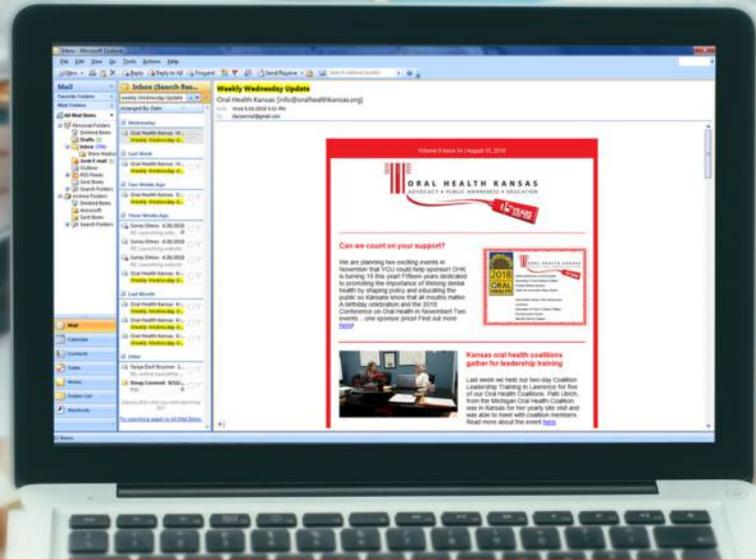




ORAL HEALTH KANSAS
ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION



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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Preparing For The 2020 Legislative Session

The legislative session in Kansas begins Monday, January 13. About two-dozen bills have been filed by legislators before the legislative session has begun. Legislators will be able to consider bills that did not pass last year as well as introduce

new bills and consider new ideas this year. One of the biggest issues they will consider is Medicaid Expansion.

Oral Health Kansas will continue to advocate for access to providers, increased financial capacity to pay for dental services, and improved public oral health. We will share regular updates about the 2020 Legislative Session in the Weekly Wednesday Update and n update calls every other Friday. The complete list of our 2020 Oral Health Kansas Public Policy Priorities can be found on our [website](#). We plan to introduce an oral health bill this year and will share details very soon!



Show Me Your ID

On December 20, 2019, the President signed legislation to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and [raise the federal minimum age of sale of tobacco products from 18 to 21 years](#). It is now illegal for a retailer to sell any tobacco product - including cigarettes, cigars and e-cigarettes - to anyone under 21. Raising the age to 21 has shown it keeps tobacco out of the hands of youth and helps prevent them from becoming regular tobacco users later in life.

The [American Dental Association \(ADA\) states](#) although cigarettes are the most commonly used form of tobacco, other recreational tobacco formulations include conventional smokeless tobacco; compressed dissolvable tobacco, cigars, tobacco pipes and water pipes (i.e., hookahs) and electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes).

[Facts about the harm of nicotine from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:](#)

- Nicotine can harm the developing adolescent brain. The brain keeps developing until about age 25.
- Using nicotine in adolescence can harm the parts of the brain that control attention, learning, mood, and impulse control.
- Each time a new memory is created or a new skill is learned, stronger connections - synapses - are built between brain cells. Young people's brains build synapses faster than adult brains. Nicotine changes the way these synapses are formed.
- Using nicotine in adolescence may also increase risk for future addiction to other drugs.

The Kansas Quitline can offer plans and programs to help someone quit smoking. If you know someone who wants to quit but doesn't know where to start, have them contact the Quitline.

Share Your Ideas



Join one of the six community open houses throughout the state in January to learn how the health system is working for women, infants and children and share your own ideas about ways Kansas can better care for families through the Maternal and Child Health program.

KDHE is holding the open houses in partnership with KU Center for Public Partnerships & Research (CPPR) as part of the Title V MCH Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment.

Click [here](#) for a list of events and times.



Get The Heck Into Dodge

The Kansas Mission of Mercy for 2020 will be February 7-8 at Western State Bank Expo Center in Dodge City, Kansas. If you're interested in volunteering you will need to [sign up](#). If

you know someone who would like to participate in the services provided, there is a list of frequently asked questions that will be helpful to review BEFORE they go to the clinic. The clinic opens at 5:30 AM on both Friday and Saturday. Waiting in line, or determining how early to get in line, is up to the patient but it is FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE. [Click here](#) to review the questions.



Congratulations to Alice Weingartner, Dental Champions Class 9 member who recently joined the staff at Community Care Network of Kansas as the Chief Strategy Officer. Alice was previously the Director of Community Development at Grace Med Health Clinic in

Topeka. We are excited to continue to work with Alice to help improve the health of Kansans.





Photo courtesy of USD 465

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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Oral Health Kansas • 712 S. Kansas Ave., Suite 412 Topeka, KS 66603
785.235.6039 phone • 785.233.5564 fax • info@oralhealthkansas.org
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