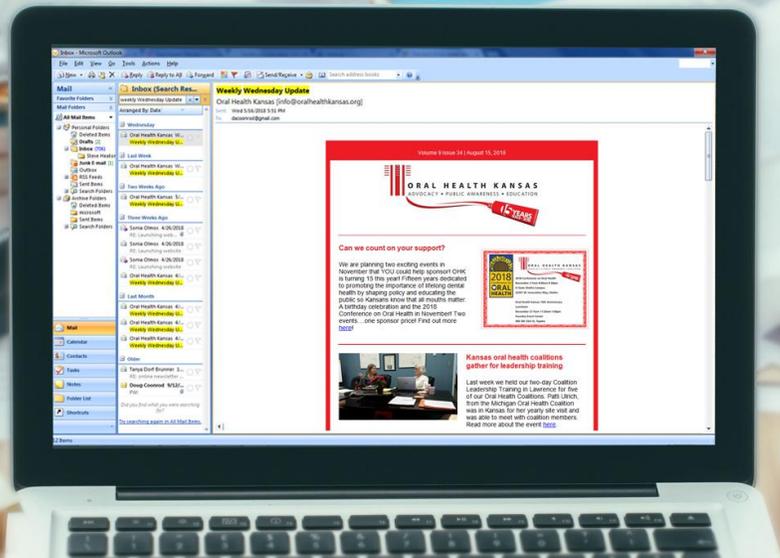




ORAL HEALTH KANSAS
ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION



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](#).

January 9, 2019

Volume 10, Issue 2



Leadership Gears Up For 2019 Legislative Session

The 2019 Legislative Session will begin on Monday and state leadership has been preparing for the new administration. Governor-Elect Laura Kelly continues to unveil her picks to lead the state alongside her. Kelly announced earlier this week that Dr. Lee Norman will serve

as interim Secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, replacing Jeff Anderson. Laura Howard will replace Gina Meier-Hummel and Timothy Keck to lead the Department of Children and Families, as well as the Department for Aging and Disabilities Services.

Legislature leadership has also been announcing their picks for committees and leadership for the 2019 legislative session. Health committee members are listed below:

Senate Public Health & Welfare: Gene Suellentrop, R-Wichita, Chair; Ed Berger, R-Hutchinson, Vice Chair; Barbara Bollier, D-Mission Hills, Ranking Member; Ty Masterson, R-Andover; Bud Estes, R-Dodge City; Molly Baumgardner, R-Louisburg; Mary Pilcher-Cook, R-Shawnee; Mary Jo Taylor, R-Stafford; and Pat Pettey, D-Kansas City.

House Health and Human Services: Brenda Landwehr, R-Wichita, Chair; John Eplee, R-Atchison, Vice Chair; Monica Murnan, D-Pittsburg, Ranking Minority; Tory Arnberger, R-Great Bend; John Barker, R-Abilene; Emil Bergquist, R-Park City; Elizabeth Bishop, D-Wichita; Doug Blex, R-Independence; Ken Collins, R-Mulberry; Ron Ellis, R-Meriden; Broderick Henderson, De-Kansas City; Cindy Holscher, D-Overland Park; Eileen Horn, D-Lawrence; Ron Howard, R-Wichita; Jim Kelly, R-Independence; Megan Lynn, R-Olathe; and Kellie Warren, R-Leawood.

Medicare Dental Benefit Act Of 2019 Introduced

[Senate Bill 22](#) was introduced by Senator Ben Cardin from Maryland. The bill would amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of dental services under the Medicare program. Currently, Medicare does not pay for routine oral health care like checkups, cleanings and x-rays, restorative procedures, or dentures. "Good oral health is essential to overall health, but quality oral care can be expensive - essentially out of reach - for too many people in Maryland and around the nation", Senator Cardin. "We've made incredible progress expanding dental coverage to children, now we must do the same for the older Americans across this country." Read the full press release [here](#).



Contact your Members of the U.S. Congress to ask for support on S.22! Click [here](#) to find out who represents you in Congress.



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](#).

Different Name, Same Mission

Recently, the Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved (KAMU) has changed their name and are now Community Care Network of Kansas.

Although they have changed their name, they continue to make sure all Kansans have access to high-quality, community-based, whole-person comprehensive health care close to home. They are a statewide association made up of a network of community care clinics. "Our new name brings our two most important ideals to the forefront – community and care. We want whole-person, comprehensive care to be the standard of health care for ALL Kansans, with community care clinics leading this transformation in the communities they serve," said Denise Cyzman, CEO.



The Community Care Network of Kansas also has a new website. Click [here](#) to read more about their work.



National Institute of Dental
and Craniofacial Research

TOMORROW, Thursday, January 10! Webinar On New
Surgeon General's Report

In 2000, the U.S. Surgeon General issued the first Report on Oral Health. The report 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.

The Surgeon General plans to release a new Report on Oral Health in 2020. [The National Institute on Dental and Craniofacial Research \(NIDCR\)](#) is leading the project to produce the report, and they are hosting a webinar on the status of the report in January. Mark your calendar to join the webinar on Thursday, January 10 from 11:00 to 11:30 am. [Click here for details about the webinar.](#)

NIDCR is accepting public comments on the upcoming report by January 25, 2019. Members of the public may submit their ideas about oral health, its impact on public health, and new trends. Oral Health Kansas will share sample comments after the January 10 webinar.

Job Opening For A Registered Dental Hygienist

Health Ministries Clinic in Newton, Kansas is seeking a PRN Hygienist for their Outreach program.



Schedule is somewhat flexible and variable, potentially 2-3 days per week working in various schools, nursing homes, and other facilities throughout Harvey County.

Extended Care Permit 2 or 3 desired.

Please send questions and resumes/availability to: Jenifer Carter Health Ministries Clinic - Newton jcarter@hmcks.org



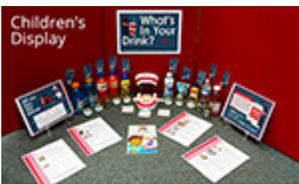
In December we had to bid farewell to two long-term board members, Dr. Becky Smith and Steve Peppes. Dr. Becky Smith is a professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry and served on the board from 2013 through 2018. She



worked hard during her time on the board and led efforts such as revising the organization's bylaws and developing a transition plan to ensure the organization's continuity. Steve Peppes is the Director of Sales at Delta Dental of Kansas and served as both Treasurer and President of Oral Health Kansas during his services from 2013 to 2018. Most recently, Steve worked to ensure the success of our 15th Anniversary Celebration, leading the event as emcee.

Both Steve and Becky leave indelible marks on our organization. They are cheery, thoughtful, and fiercely dedicated to their work, and they are two of the hardest working board members Oral Health Kansas has had. We were so fortunate to have the chance to work with them for six years, and while we will not see them quite as often, they both will remain engaged in our work.

Thank you for your service and your dedication, Becky and Steve! We will miss you.



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!

Follow Us



Oral Health Kansas • 800 SW Jackson, Suite 1120 Topeka, KS 66612
785.235.6039 phone • 785.233.5564 fax info@oralhealthkansas.org
Copyright 2018