

From: tdorf@oralhealthkansas.org on behalf of [Oral Health Kansas](#)

Subject: Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update

Date: Wednesday, October 02, 2013 10:21:08 AM



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

Weekly Wednesday Update

*Our Mission:
To improve oral health
in Kansas through
advocacy,
public awareness
and education.*

Volume 4, Issue 39

October 2, 2013

In This Issue

[Dental Champions
Corner](#)

[Sponsorships Available](#)

[Did You Know?](#)

[Early Bird Deadlines
Expiring](#)

[ACA Educational Tour](#)

OHK Website Links

[Home](#)

[Our History](#)

[Dental Champions](#)

[Partnerships](#)

[Community Coalitions](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Legislative Alerts](#)

Dental Champions Corner:

Congratulations to Douglas County Dental Clinic on being featured in a [Lawrence Journal-World article](#) about the challenges of the dental

Health Insurance Marketplace Opens

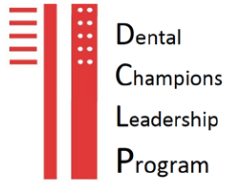
On Tuesday, October 1, the Health Insurance Marketplaces opened across the country, despite the federal government shutdown. Kansas, like 25 other states, is using a federal Marketplace. There were glitches in the on-line health insurance enrollment system, due in part to the large volume of people across the state trying to log-on and learn about their insurance options. The Kansas Health Institute (KHI) published a story on October 1 about the Insurance Marketplace roll-out. In that article, they quoted Linda Sheppard, a top official at the Kansas Insurance Department, "Basically, when we've been out talking to the crowds in various locations, we've been encouraging them to wait maybe two or three weeks to let some of the potential bugs or glitches smooth out." Sheppard is suggesting people wait until early December to begin choosing a plan.

Read more about the opening of the Health Insurance Marketplace in the [KHI article](#).

This week KHI also published [an issue brief](#) about the plan and cost options available to Kansans through the Marketplace. Key points in that issue brief include:

- While technical challenges may initially limit the online functionality, the Kansas marketplace features four insurance companies offering 72 plans at four coverage levels, or "tiers," in addition to

care delivery system. The clinic is led by Julie Branstrom (Class 5) and Raymond Munoz (Class 3).



a program of Oral Health Kansas, Inc.

Traveling Sugary Beverage Display

In October, the Oral Health Kansas traveling sugary drink displays will be on display at the Sublette Elementary School and Ottawa Health Fair.



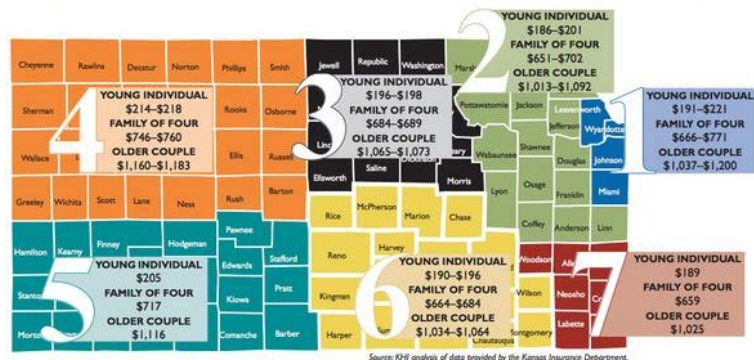
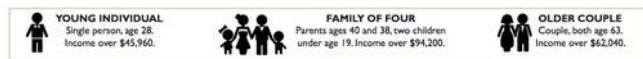
If you are interested in having the drink display on display in your area, send an email to Tanya.

Drink displays are available for hosting this fall!

Thanks to Conference Sponsors!

low-cost catastrophic plans.

- In each Kansas county, at least two companies sell insurance through the marketplace and the average number of plans available is 37. The national average is 53 plans.
- Many low- and moderate-income Kansans will receive assistance purchasing insurance through premium tax credits.
- The average monthly premium for the "benchmark" insurance plan - a middle-of-the-road plan in terms of covered benefits and cost - in the Kansas marketplace is \$260, below the national average of \$328 and lower than all but four other states.
- Kansas and other states that have not expanded Medicaid as allowed under the health reform law created an unexpected "coverage gap" where people with incomes below the federal poverty level may not be eligible for Medicaid nor financial assistance in the marketplace.



Watch for more details from Oral Health Kansas about the pediatric dental benefit available through the Affordable Care Act.

Conference and Hotel Early Bird Deadlines are approaching

Registration for the 2013 Oral Health Kansas Conference is open. On November 7 and 8, join your friends and colleagues at Johnson County Community College to learn about state and national trends in oral health and the economics of the future dental care delivery system.

Oral Health Kansas thanks the following organizations for sponsoring the 2013 Conference November 7-8 in Johnson County:

Delta Dental of Kansas Foundation

Comfort Dental

Bureau of Oral Health

DentaQuest

Contact [Oral Health Kansas](#) to learn how to join in November the celebration of Oral Health Kansas' 10th anniversary with continuing education and networking opportunities!

Did You Know...

You can learn more about the Kansas Health Insurance Marketplace at www.insureks.org.



National experts on water fluoridation advocacy efforts will be on hand to share their insights.

A full list of conference sessions is available on the [Oral Health Kansas website](#). The link to register on-line also is available on the website. A group discount of 10% is available for two or more people attending from the same organization. **Early bird rates are available until October 4.**

Brush with



Celebrating a Decade of Advancing Oral Health in Kansas

The conference will feature a reception with tours of the Johnson County Community College dental hygiene clinic and will include nine dental continuing education credits.

Hotel rooms are available at the Hawthorne Suites by Wyndham Overland Park, 11400 College Boulevard. Please call 913-344-8100 to reserve your room now. Ask for the special "Oral Health Kansas" rate of \$89 per night. The special rate is available until October 7.

Call 785-235-6039 or email info@oralhealthkansas.org with any questions.

ACA Educational Tour Continues

Insurance Commissioner Sandy Praeger's state tour to educate Kansans about the Affordable Care Act and how to use the law's new online marketplace to purchase health coverage and qualify for federal subsidies will continue through October 22.

October 2: Independence
October 3: Emporia
October 16: Garden City
October 17: Liberal

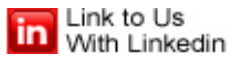
The site features information about how to use the new online marketplace and a "premium estimator" to help consumers calculate the cost of premiums.

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

October 22: Kansas City

A full list of the dates and times for the consumer education meetings is available below and on the insurance department website at www.insureks.org.

If you have an idea, story or suggestion for a Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update please contact us at info@oralhealthkansas.org.



[Forward email](#)



Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to dcoonrod@kc.rr.com by tdorf@oralhealthkansas.org | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Oral Health Kansas | 800 SW Jackson | Ste. 1120 | Topeka | KS | 66612