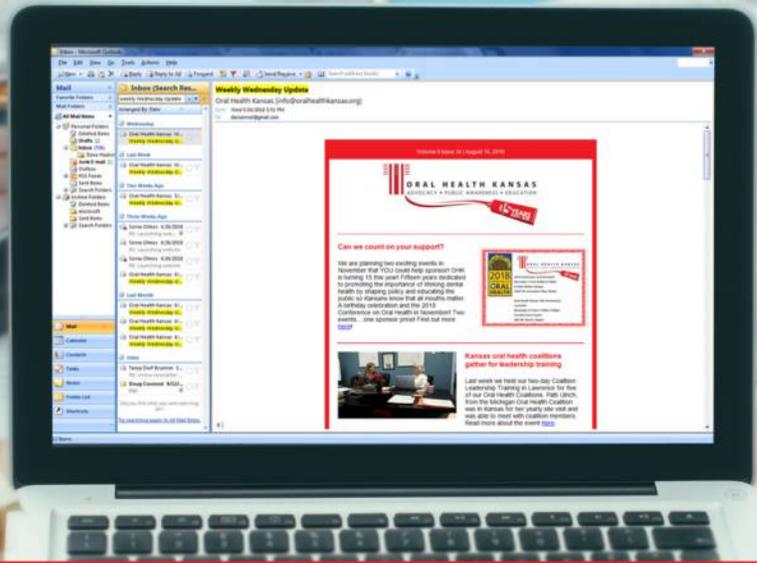




ORAL HEALTH KANSAS
ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION



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](#).

October 23, 2019

Volume 10, Issue 43



Come Visit With Our Exhibitors

While you're at the 2019 Conference on Oral Health, Friday, November 8, make sure you stop by and visit with our exhibitors. Learn about their resources and products they have to offer!

Our list of exhibitors this year:

[Aetna](#)

[Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas](#)

[Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas-Medicare Advantage](#)

[Envolve Dental](#)

[GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Health](#)

[Institute for Health & Disability Policy Studies-The University of Kansas](#)

[KC Children's Surgery Center](#)

[KDHE Tobacco Use Prevention Program](#)

[United Healthcare](#)

The last day to register online for the conference is Friday, November 1 by 5pm. Registration is filling up fast. You can pay at the door but we have to cut off registration when we meet capacity so please don't wait to sign up!

Single registration rate

\$120

Registration + new guest rate

\$170

Student rate: \$30

Thursday, November 7: Pre-Conference Session

Networking Opportunity: Community Oral Health Coalitions (by invitation)

Dental Champions Leadership Program Session Class 9 (by invitation)

Dental Champions Alumni reception follows in the evening

Date: Friday, November 8 All Day Conference

Location: K-State Olathe Campus

22201 W. Innovation Dr.

Olathe, KS 66061

Time: 7:30am-8:30am breakfast and registration

Conference sessions: 8:30am-4:00pm

For more conference details and sign up, click [here!](#)

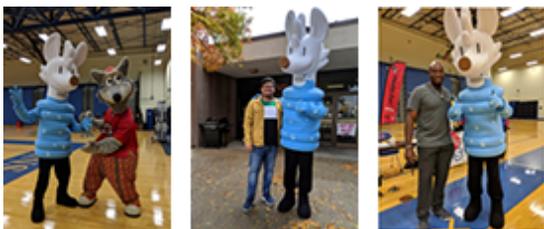
Conference attire is business casual!

#OHK2k19



Medicaid Rate Increase Details

Throughout this year, Oral Health Kansas has reported on the Medicaid dental rate increase we advocated for. The 2019 Legislature appropriated \$3 million for a rate increase, and it went into effect on August 1. [Thirty-nine dental codes](#) received a 6% rate increase. These codes include some restorative and preventive services. While the dollars allocated were not enough for a meaningful increase in all the Medicaid dental codes, the 6% increase on these codes is an important step. Oral Health Kansas will continue to advocate for additional rate increases in 2020 because improved Medicaid dental rates can make an impact on increasing the Medicaid dental provider network in our state.



Sippy Attends Health Fair In Wyandotte County

On Saturday, October 19, Oral Health Kansas (OHK) staff and Sippy attended the [Will to Succeed Health Fair](#) in Kansas City, Kansas. The [Will to Succeed](#)

[Foundation](#) seeks to guide & inspire, empower & improve the lives of those less fortunate by providing financial, educational and other everyday resources to those identified as most in need. Families were provided opportunities from vendors to learn about resources in Kansas, health exercises and could also participate in yoga.

During the event, Sippy and KC Wolf were excited to see each other since their last event together. OHK visited with families who were interested in learning more about preventative oral health habits for their children. Our [Sugary Drink Display](#) was a draw to our table and the expressions on parents and children's faces when they saw the amount of sugar in drinks, was priceless. Sippy was there to encourage families to drink water and reminded them of just how cool it was to choose water!

A big THANK YOU to our Board Member, Alex Martinez, for taking time out of his Saturday to help us!

Start Preparing For Children's Dental Health Month

[National Children's Dental Health Month](#) (NCDHM) is in February but start preparing your resources now! The 2020 theme will be "Fluoride in water prevents cavities! Get it from the



tap!" The American Dental Association (ADA) has provided posters both in English and Spanish.

Begin thinking about how you can promote NCDHM and the importance of drinking water with fluoride. The ADA also provides a program planning guide to help you with the process. You can also look at the [Fluoride in Kansas website](#) for facts about fluoride!



Where Is Oral Health Kansas?

Come see us at the upcoming events! We'll be exhibiting and sharing our resources!

October 23 & 24: Kansas Library Association Conference, 6100 College Boulevard, Overland Park, Kansas



Mourning the loss of an oral health champion

Oral Health Kansas joins our colleagues across the country in mourning the death of U.S. Representative Elijah

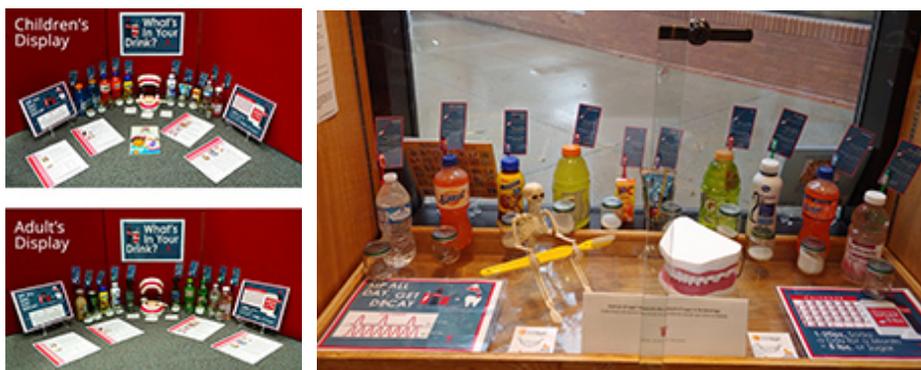
Cummings (D-MD) last week. Cummings served in Congress for over 20 years representing the city of Baltimore. Deamonte Driver was one of his constituents, and following Deamonte's tragic death from a tooth abscess at age 12, Cummings became one of Congress' fiercest advocates for oral health. He co-chaired the Congressional Oral Health Caucus and worked tirelessly to teach his fellow lawmakers about the importance of oral health and the need to expand dental coverage through Medicaid, Medicare, the Affordable Care Act, and Veterans Affairs. He was an advocate for dental care through school-based clinics and in community health centers.



[In a February 13, 2019, speech on the House floor commemorating Children's Dental Health Month](#), Cummings announced his plan to reintroduce his comprehensive Dental Reform Act

this Congress, saying, "Fortunately, we have made great strides in access to dental care, particularly for children, since Deamonte's death in 2007. Passage of the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act and the Affordable Care Act have filled the gaps in dental care for children who are eligible for these programs. Yet, there is more that must be done," he added. "Dental services must no longer be thought of as an optional health benefit for children or adults."

While Rep. Cummings did not represent Kansas, his passion for improving oral health for everyone had a deep impact both here and across the country.



Our Fall Reservations Are Coming In!

The October month is booked! Get your reservation in before another month gets booked! 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.

Follow Us



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