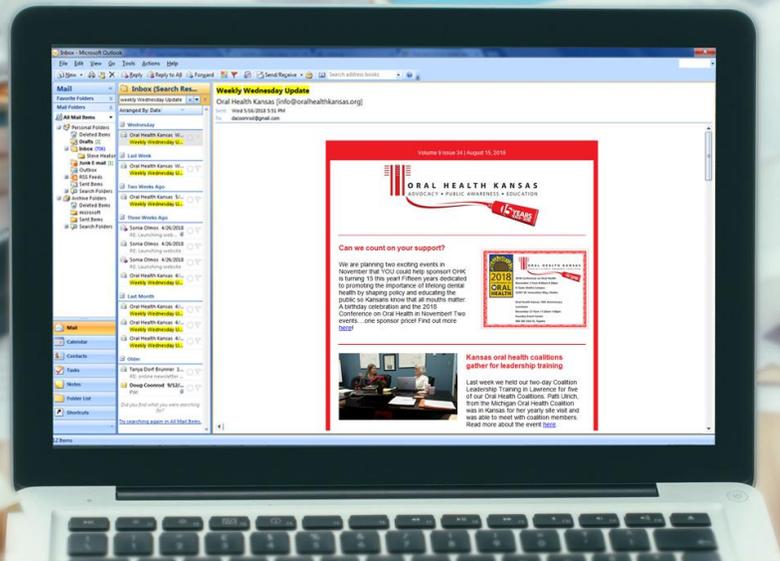




ORAL HEALTH KANSAS
ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION



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 3, 2018

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Early bird conference registration extended!

Our conference will be here before you know it! We are getting excited and feeling generous. We decided to extend the early bird conference registration for another week! That means you have until **October 9 by 5pm** to sign up with the early bird fee!

With new participant incentives this year, inspiring speakers and a chance drawing, we want to provide everyone an opportunity to attend!

[Sign up to register for the 2018 Conference on Oral Health](#)

Don't forget to attend our 15th anniversary luncheon on November 27 in Topeka. Come share in the history of Oral Health Kansas and tasty food from Simply Sarah's catering! Find out more information and sign up [here](#)!

Learn what states are doing to address public health policy

David Adkins, a former Kansas state senator, leads [The Council of State Governments](#) as its executive director and CEO. Adkins was a Kansas state senator from 2001 to 2005 and served in the Kansas House from 1993 to 2001 and is looking forward to coming back to Kansas for the 2018 Conference on Oral Health as our Keynote Speaker.



Adkins will discuss how states are addressing huge, intractable policy issues. He will share ways each of us can break the issues into components that can be understood and addressed by policymakers. He will use his knowledge of public policy across the country to talk about some of the factors all states are experiencing in their quests to improve public health policy.



Do you know who Kansas' dental hygienist liaison is?

Our Dental Program Director, Kathy Hunt, RDH, wears many hats. One of her hats is a dental hygienist liaison (DHL) for Kansas. A DHL is integral to promoting good oral health for pregnant women and children. Kathy and several other DHL's were interviewed for the [American Dental Hygienists Association \(ADHA\) magazine, Access.](#)

Here is one of the questions asked:

What do you like most about being a DHL?

Kathy: Being a DHL helps you see the bigger picture of how oral health fits into the whole-child concept of Head Start. DHL's often provide input to national leaders. It is very

gratifying to be able to have an impact on a broader scale than what we experience in the operatory.

Access publishes news and information relevant to dental hygienists with a focus on helping them improve their job performance. ADHA members and paid Access subscribers can view the full article.

Congratulations ADCF for 10 years!



On Friday, Aug. 17, 2018, [America's Dentists Care Foundation \(ADCF\)](#) hosted a 10-year anniversary celebration at its office in Wichita. The America's Dentists Care Foundation (ADCF) is a national non-profit organization located in Wichita, Kansas, dedicated to delivering oral health care to the underserved. The ADCF supports dental Mission of Mercy (MOM) clinics and other dental clinics that provide free oral health care to any person who attends and also support larger-scale holistic medical clinics or smaller-scale clinics for specific populations, such as our country's veterans.

Since 2003, MOM events have helped more than 254,000 patients and provided \$166 million in free oral health care.

Read the full press release [here](#).



New KanCare value-added dental benefits announced

This week, officials from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, along with representatives of the three managed care organizations (MCOs) that will be providing KanCare services in 2019, held meetings across the state to prepare providers and consumers for the new KanCare contract year. The new KanCare (Medicaid managed care) contracts begin January 1, 2019. Two MCOs will continue to provide KanCare services: Sunflower Health Plan and United Healthcare. Aetna Better Health of Kansas will replace Amerigroup as the third MCO for KanCare.

KanCare consumers currently enrolled with Amerigroup were told at the meetings and in letters sent to their homes that they will be enrolled with Aetna Better Health of Kansas automatically, but they will have the option to choose any of the MCOs before April 3, 2019.

The new value-added benefits offered by the MCOs to KanCare consumers also were revealed this week, and the benefits include more dental services for adults over age 21. The benefits for each MCO are as follows:

Aetna Better Health of Kansas 1-855-221-5656
\$500 per year toward dental services, including: exams and cleanings twice per year, annual bitewing X-rays, fillings, extractions and fluoride treatment.
Sunflower Health Plan 1-877-644-4633
Two screenings and cleanings each year. Dentires for people on the Frail and Elderly HCBS waiver, based on determination of need.
United Healthcare Community Plan 1-877-542-9238
\$500 per year toward screenings, X-rays, cleanings and fillings. People on the Frail and Elderly HCBS waiver may be eligible to receive a full set of dentures every five years.

Providers can learn more about each MCO by emailing the following addresses:

Aetna: ProviderExperience_KS@aetna.com

Sunflower: ProviderReleations@sunflowerstatehealthplan.com

United: ckimes@uhc.com or visit www.UHCProvider.com

Additional information is available on the [KanCare website](#). If you have any specific questions or concerns about KanCare dental services, please contact Oral Health Kansas at info@ohks.org, and we will help find the answer.

Douglas County, Kansas raises age to 21 to purchase tobacco products

The Douglas County Commission has raised the minimum age to purchase tobacco products in the county's unincorporated areas to 21. Several local organizations urged commissioners to raise to 21 the legal age to buy tobacco products, saying it would end the social chain of 18- through 20-year-old friends buying tobacco products for minors.



For more information, read the story from the [Lawrence Journal World](#). The Douglas County commissioners are not concerned about a [lawsuit as the City of Topeka faced earlier this year](#). Learn more about the [Tobacco 21 campaign](#).



New Twitter account

Some of you may know we had problems with our Twitter account being locked last month. Please continue to support us on social media! Our new Twitter account: https://twitter.com/OralHealth_KS.



[Class 5 Dental Champions](#), will have a session at the 7th Annual Kansas Education Conference on Dementia on November 13. Her session is titled Oral Health Care-Working with Special Populations. Click [here](#) for more information on the conference.





Reserve a Sugary Drink Display Today!

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 up to a month. Reserve the drink display for your event or classroom. Even sororities have used the display to educate youth!



Please note requests made 30 days or less may not be filled. To learn more about our Sugary Drink Display and to register click [here!](#)

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