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### In This Issue

[Dental Champions Corner](#)

[Conference Sponsors](#)

[Did You Know?](#)

[New Tools Available](#)

[Reinstate Dental Benefits](#)

### OHK Website Links

[Home](#)

[Our History](#)

[Dental Champions](#)

[Partnerships](#)

[Community Coalitions](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Legislative Alerts](#)

## Dental Champions Corner:

During the annual Dental Champions meeting last week, we announced the launch of a new Dental Champions website.

[Click here](#) to visit the site. [Please let us know](#) what else you would like to see on the new website.

## Oral Health Kansas Conference features new tools and resources

Over 150 people gathered at Johnson County Community College last week for the 2013 Oral Health Kansas Conference. Participants got a sneak peek at the 2014 Legislative Session and heard from national experts on water fluoridation campaigns. A health economist shared extensive data about the challenges Americans have in accessing dental care, and four pioneers in Kansas discussed the innovative ways they are offering dental services in our state. Over 100 dental professionals took part in a post-conference session about meeting the unique dental needs of people with disabilities.

### Brush with



Celebrating a Decade of Advancing  
Oral Health in Kansas

Copies of the presentations from the conference, including the slides about health economics and dental needs of people with disabilities, are available on the [Oral Health Kansas website](#).

Two new resources from Oral Health Kansas were debuted at the conference. The organization shared a new [Theory of Change](#), which outlines the three areas in which we believe



## Thanks to Conference Sponsors!

Oral Health Kansas thanks the following organizations for sponsoring the 2013 Conference:

**Delta Dental of Kansas Foundation**

**Comfort Dental**

**KDHE Bureau of Oral Health**

**DentaQuest**

**REACH Healthcare Foundation**

**Johnson County Community College**

**Kansas Dental Association**

**Medical Products Laboratories**

**Scion Dental**

These generous sponsors made possible the celebration of Oral Health Kansas' 10th anniversary with continuing education and networking opportunities!

## Did You

progress must be made in order to improve oral health across the state: improved geographic access to providers, increased financial capacity to pay for dental services, and better personal oral health behaviors. This Theory of Change guides all of the work of Oral Health Kansas. A new county-level data book also was released at the conference. The [2013 Kansas Oral Health Snapshot](#) features data about the economic status, along with information about the oral health challenges and resources for each of our state's 105 counties. The full report can be downloaded on the Oral Health Kansas website, as can individual county pages.

### 2013 KANSAS ORAL HEALTH SNAPSHOT A Kansas County Profile



The final tool debuted at the conference is a new water fluoridation education website. The new website is designed to share simple, easy-to-understand facts about the safety, effectiveness and cost savings available through community water fluoridation.



The site is found at

[www.fluoridekansas.org](http://www.fluoridekansas.org).

Social media also is available at [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

## Working to Reinstate Head Start Dental

## Know...

Fluoridated water can reduce tooth decay by up to 40%.



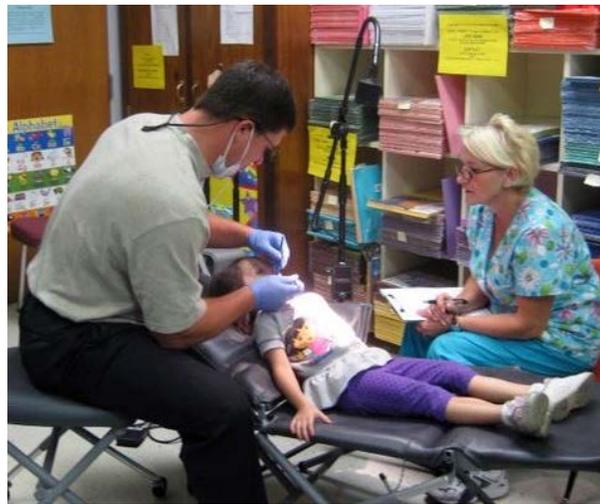
[Fluoride in Kansas](#)

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## Benefits

Oral Health Kansas and the Kansas Head Start Association are working to reinstate dental benefits available to kids in Head Start programs. The Kansas Health Institute reported this week on the on-going challenge to ensure dental benefits that have been available through Medicaid to children in the Head Start program remain available. Following the transition to KanCare at the beginning of this year, the benefits traditionally available through Head Start have been difficult to access.

[Read more about the success of the Head Start dental program](#) known as Kansas Cavity Free Kids and the challenge in reinstating the benefits.



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

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