Board of Regents Establishes Oral Health Task Force

The Kansas Board of Regents has established a new task force study and make recommendations needed in the delivery of oral health in Kansas. The Board has asked the task force to study the feasibility of a dental school in Kansas, the placement of a branch campus in Kansas from an existing dental school outside of Kansas, securing additional slots at neighboring dental schools and/or the utilization of a scholarship program to attract and retain dentists in Kansas. A diverse group of stakeholders has been appointed to serve on the task force, including Kim Moore of the United Methodist Health Ministry Fund, state oral health director Dr. Kathy Weno, and Kansas Dental Association director Kevin Robertson.

The recommendations of the Board of Regents Oral Health Task Force are due to the Board by June 2012.

Read more about the new Task Force in this article from the Wichita Business Journal [HERE](#).

Just Add Water Campaign

In the first week of October, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment launched an 8 week pilot campaign to inform parents about the benefits of water and the health risks with sugary drinks. The campaign is called Just Add Water, and is a pilot project that will take place in Shawnee County. The campaign includes commercials, posters and billboards as well
Pediatrician Awarded Grant to Provide Oral Health Training

Kansas pediatrician Sarah Nelson, MD is a recipient of the first round of awards for the American Academy of Pediatrians Chapter Oral Health Advocate Support Program. Her award is designed to provide local training on oral health to pediatricians and other health professionals. Dr. Nelson joins pediatricians from California, Pennsylvania and Louisiana in this round of national awards. Dr. Nelson also serves on the Early Childhood Oral Health Advisory Council, which is facilitated by the Kansas Head Start Association and Oral Health Kansas.

For more information CLICK HERE

Has Health Reform Got You Bogged Down?

Learn more about the national health reform law in these

as a new website called Refresh Kansas

This new campaign shows that a single 20oz bottle of pop or even fruit juice can have as much sugar in it as two candy bars. "Parents are in control of the dietary decisions they make for themselves and their young children, but all of us need to know the facts before we can put them to good use," said Robert Moser, M.D., KDHE Secretary and State Health Officer. "Many parents may not realize how much sugar their kids are drinking each day. I hope this public health message gets the audience to think about the potential health consequences of too much added sugar."

To learn more about how less sugar can mean better health for you and your family visit the Refresh Kansas website by CLICKING HERE

Also to view the Just Add Water commercials CLICK HERE and HERE

CHC/SEK Receives Oral Health America Check

Congratulations to the Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas, who received a $25,000 grant from Smiles Across America, an Oral Health America program supporting dental services to underserved children nationwide. CHC/SEK will use the funds for screening and preventative oral health services in local schools.

For more information about the CHC/SEK and Oral Health America partnership CLICK HERE
easy-to-understand videos. They are short and informative about all the aspects of the law, part of which went into effect in 2010 and will culminate in 2014 with the health exchanges.

**Kaiser Family Foundation**

**Robert Wood Johnson Foundation**

If you have an idea, story or suggestion for a Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update please send an email to jparnell@oralhealthkansas.org