



# ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION

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## Dental Champions Corner

### Leadership Lessons from the World Series Champs

Oral Health Kansas is celebrating the Kansas City Royals' 2015 World Series victory! Through our Dental Champions Leadership Program, we partner with the Kansas Leadership Center to build a network of community leaders in our state.

This week, the Kansas Leadership Center reflected on the lessons the World Champion Royals can teach us about leadership and never giving up.

1. Stay in the game.
2. Make your own breaks.
3. Keep your eyes on the

## Only Days Away



What are some obstacles your communities are facing in accessing oral care? Questions such as this will be answered at our Oral Health Kansas conference next week! Meet with leaders who are facing similar issues and learn how we can work together.

We are only days away from the conference. Because of the interest, we have continued to keep our registration open. This means once the slots are full, we will close registration. [Register](#) soon before we are full!

This year the conference is at the new K-State Olathe building 22201 W Innovation Dr, Olathe, KS 66061.

- prize.  
4. Turn to unlikely heroes.  
5. Hold to purpose.

Read all about the Royals' leadership lessons in this [Kansas Leadership Center blogpost](#).



## Alzheimer's Crisis

Women who are 65 and older have a better chance of developing Alzheimer's. One study from Duke University showed that, for people with mild memory loss, brain function declines approximately twice as fast in women as in men. This means women with mild cognitive impairment are at higher risk of developing Alzheimer's or other types of dementia.

During the late stages of Alzheimer's, oral care can become challenging. The Oral Health Kansas Conference will be offering a Saturday session (November 14) on Compassionate Oral Care for People with Dementia. [Learn more about the session and how to sign up!](#)



For more information, view our [website](#) or email us at [info@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:info@oralhealthkansas.org).



Oral Health Kansas is seeking candidates for a full-time position to manage a new grant-funded project called Thirsty for Health. The initiative is designed to partner with Kansas school districts to establish plans and resources that expand access to drinking water at schools. The overall goal is to increase the number of elementary, middle school, and high school students who choose water as their regular beverage at school instead of soda pop, sports drinks, juice or energy drinks.

View our [website](#) for the job description.

If interested email cover letter, resume and writing sample to Oral Health Kansas at [info@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:info@oralhealthkansas.org) by close of business on November 17, 2015.

## Indiana Medicaid Expansion Model Shared In Kansas

On Tuesday, November 3, Via Christi Health and several health foundations hosted a forum for Kansans interested in

## Drink Display

We have just a few slots open in November and December if you would like to reserve the sugary drink display!

You might have seen our display around your community. We provide all supplies for the sugary drink display, including handouts for health eating habits and toothbrushing. Shipping costs are reimbursed by Oral Health Kansas. [Contact us](#) to reserve a display!



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

800 SW Jackson, Suite 1120  
Topeka, Kansas 66612  
785-235-6039

[info@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:info@oralhealthkansas.org)

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learning more about options to expand the Kansas Medicaid program known as KanCare. A delegation of Indiana hospital officials addressed a large crowd in Wichita and webcast viewers about the plan approved in January 2015 to expand the Indiana Medicaid program. The Indiana model is one of the most recent "red-state" models to receive federal approval as well as endorsement of a conservative state administration.

According to a [news story from the Kansas Health Institute \(KHI\) News Service](#), the Indiana plan "uses Medicaid dollars to purchase high-deductible health insurance plans for adults making up to 100 percent of the federal poverty level, annually \$11,770 for individuals and \$24,250 for a family of four". One of the plans adults can purchase includes dental and vision benefits, and the Indiana hospital officials responded to a question from Oral Health Kansas saying that the dental benefit has been a big draw. Almost 70% of people who had the option to do so chose a plan with dental benefits.

A panel of Kansas lawmakers reflected on the Indiana model and the political climate in our state. Senate Vice President Jeff King (R-Independence) noted, "Saying 'no' to everything has to stop being a viable political option because there are real lives that are being affected." Representative Jim Ward (D-Wichita) agreed that "no" is no longer an option and said it is important for Kansas lawmakers to have the debate about Medicaid expansion.

[Read more](#) from the KHI News Service about the Medicaid forum and find a link to the full webcast of the forum.

View our videos on 

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