



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

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KanCare Expansion Forum

On Tuesday, January 5 there will be a forum at Johnson County Community College to learn more about the Kansas plan. The deadline to RSVP is December 30. [Here](#) is more information on the event.

University of Iowa College of Dentistry

The University of Iowa's College of Dentistry is searching for a full-time clinical or tenure-track faculty member in Department of Family Dentistry. Position available January 1, 2016; screening begins immediately. [Read more](#) information about the position (reference Req

Oral Health Kansas Awarded New Water Project

Drinking water is critical to prevent chronic disease, preserve and improve oral health, and for cognitive development in growing children. Yet, many communities struggle to provide their residents with clean, safe drinking water. And, it may not be easily accessible to Kansans where they live, work and play.

Through the Improving Public Health Through Access to and Consumption of Water initiative, the Kansas Health Foundation is funding five organizations across the state to improve health outcomes by improving Kansans' access to water. Oral Health Kansas is proud to be a part of this new initiative. We will work with school districts across the state to improve students' access to and consumption of water during the school day. The project will address barriers to drinking water during the day, as well as ways to make water the fun drink for students to choose.

#67981).



KMOM Volunteer Registration Open

The volunteer registration for KMOM is now open. If you wish to volunteer, go to the [Kansas Dental Charitable Foundation](#) website to find out more!



January 29-30, 2016

Cold Weather and Your Teeth

Brr.....its cold outside! Do your teeth hurt when its cold? Have you ever wondered why?

Sensitivity typically occurs when dentin, the tissue that makes up the core of each tooth, is exposed. [Here](#) are other reasons that may cause your teeth to hurt during cold weather.

Kelly Rippel will join the Oral Health Kansas staff on January 4 to manage the project and work with school officials and students across the state.



Kelly brings years of experience in project development and communications to Oral Health Kansas. He come to us from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas, where he most recently served in the Kansas Health Data Systems department. Kelly's enthusiasm and energy, along with his experience in policy and message development will be assets to both the project and the Oral Health Kansas team.

"Water is essential to life and a healthy, prosperous Kansas," said Jeff Willett, Kansas Health Foundation Vice President for Programs and Policy. "These grants will help organizations improve public health by making clean drinking water readily available to more Kansans."

The other grantees are:

- Kansas Health Institute
- KU School of Medicine-Wichita
- Northwest Kansas Council on Substance Abuse, Inc.
- Sunflower Community Action, Inc.

[Read more](#) about the initiative and each of the projects.



Drink Display

With the holidays around the corner, don't forget to reserve a drink display! Make sure you have it when school is back in session or offices open back up!

If you are interested in reserving a drink display for the 2016 year, [email us!](#) It is free to use and shipping is reimbursed!



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Kansans Welcome Montana to Speak About Medicaid Expansion

On Monday, dozens gathered to hear Kim Abbott of the Montana Human Rights Network and Tara Jensen of the Montana Budget and Policy Center talk about their efforts in expanding Medicaid in their state. Although it took two years, last month Montana became one of the states to expand.

One of the lessons the Montanans said Kansas could learn from them, is to bring advocates together in an organized way. It helped them coalesce around a set of concepts rather than take opposing stances on elements such as premiums and co-pays. "We knew that our dream legislation, for all of us, was not going to happen," Jensen said. "We did not have the votes at all, so you have to get to a place where you all agree. We needed to show a collective unified force, so the votes we needed could be a collective, unified force."

Persistence is very important. Montana said they continued to put the pressure on legislators at the Capitol and in their districts. Another key factor is having consumers share their story.

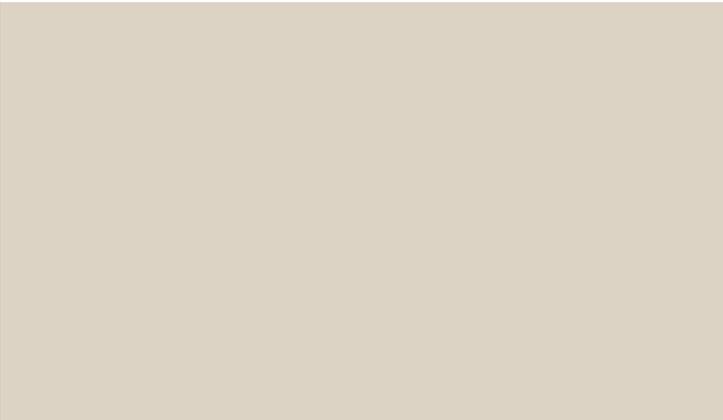
To [read more](#) about the event, view KHI's coverage.

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