



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION

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Health Literacy in Dental School

A new health literacy program at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine was launched last year. The program was focused on how dentists can communicate with patients on their level. Dental students learned how to better communicate the complexities of dentistry and to better navigate the healthcare system.

[Read](#) about this essential new program!

ADA American Dental Association®
America's leading advocate for oral health

Seeking a bilingual dentist in Kansas City

Turner House Children's

Governors Association recognizes importance of prevention in oral health

[The National Governors Association \(NGA\)](#) and the [National Academy of Medicine \(NAM\)](#) recently came together to host a series of state health care retreats designed to bring together key stakeholders and decision makers. Their goal was to align their common interest: improve health care performance and identify and further develop state best practices within various areas, including care delivery, purchasing, regulation and workforce development.

One area of their focus was to improve oral health. Some strategies governors can follow to improve oral health are:

- Dental sealant delivery programs, particularly those administered in schools
- Community water fluoridation programs
- Routine application of fluoride varnish by primary care providers

Clinic is hiring for a Bilingual Staff Dentist to provide clinical dental services in its new dental clinic. The position will be open until filled. Read the [job description](#) for more information and spread the word!



Drink Display

We have a few slots open for the December month and our January month is open!

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



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Kansas has a dental sealant program administered by the KDHE Bureau of Oral Health. For many years, primary care providers in Kansas also have been able to provide fluoride varnish to children. Kansas lags behind our neighboring states in the number of residents who have access to fluoridated water, but over 60% of Kansans are able to access this important public health benefit. The National Governor's Association's recognition of the importance of these preventive measures to improve oral health is an important milestone.




Read the NGA's new report, [Health Investments that Pay Off: Strategies to Improve Oral Health](#), to find out more about what other states are doing and what governors can do if they want to address oral health needs.

Wichita Chamber Supports Medicaid Expansion

Late last month, the Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce added its name to the growing list of organizations that support expanding the Medicaid program in Kansas. The [KHI News Service reported](#) that the Chamber supports Medicaid expansion, but on the condition that a revenue neutral approach be taken to expansion.

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The addition of the Wichita Chamber among the organizations supporting Medicaid expansion is an indication that the business community sees the value of ensuring the Kansas workforce is both healthy and able to access the health services they need to remain healthy.

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