



# ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION

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Our Water Access Manager and Dental Champions Class 8, [Kelly Rippel](#) was accepted into the 2018 Leadership Greater Topeka class.

## Topeka City Council Approves Tobacco 21 in 8-2 Vote

Thank you to all who contacted their Topeka City Council Members in support of [Tobacco 21](#)! Tuesday evening, Topeka City Council [successfully voted](#) to increase the age of sale and purchase of tobacco products from 18 to 21. We applaud the City Council for taking the next step in improving the city's public health. The ordinance will take effect Monday, December 11th. Learn more about Tobacco 21 [here](#).

Fifteen year old Mia Weiler testified in favor of Tobacco 21. She shared her story of losing her best friend at the age of 14 from lung cancer. She did not know her friend smoked until she was diagnosed. Thank you Mia for sharing your voice!



The program identifies outstanding potential leaders from various components of the community and teaches participants how to lead in a community setting.

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### Leavenworth County Creates Oral Health Coalition

Welcome Leavenworth County! Leavenworth County has made the decision to create a community oral health coalition and join our growing number of local coalitions. Their focus will be upon young children and families. One of the initiatives under consideration is to add oral health screenings to all developmental screenings done on preschool children. This is the approach taken by Butler County for the last few years. If YOU are interested in gathering together a group of committed individuals and entities to enhance the resources devoted to address your community's issues, contact [Doug!](#)

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### Cheney School District Joins Water Project

The Cheney Public School district has joined the Thirsty for Health program. USD 268 is a



[KSNT](#) and [WIBW](#) were both there to cover the story.

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### Prevent the Repeal of the ACA Individual Mandate

The U.S. House and Senate have each passed a tax bill and are in the process of convening a conference committee to decide on a single bill that can pass each chamber. The Senate version contains a plan to repeal the individual mandate tax of the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

Repealing this mandate would prevent a balance of consumers within the marketplace as healthy individuals may opt out of health insurance altogether. Without healthy consumers in the marketplace, the insurance market would remain unstable, jeopardizing health coverage for people with pre-existing conditions. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates the Senate's tax bill would increase the number of insured by 13 million. Contact your congressional members TODAY and ask them to remove the repeal of the ACA Individual

part of a network of school districts from Bonner Springs to Colby that are working to make drinking water more accessible to students throughout the school day. By joining [Thirsty for Health](#), administrators, teachers and students will have access to sample policies, promotional materials, and a curriculum, all designed to make it easier and more fun to choose to drink water at school. To learn more about Thirsty for Health, contact [Kelly Rippel](#).

## THIRSTY FOR HEALTH



  
ORAL HEALTH KANSAS  
[www.oralhealthkansas.org](http://www.oralhealthkansas.org)

### 2018 Kansas Mission of Mercy

On February 9-10, the Kansas Mission of Mercy will be held in Hutchinson. Doors open at 4:30 am and is first come first served.

Please share the [KMOM flyer](#) and [KMOM flyer in Spanish](#).

Mandate!

Read more information [here](#).

### Awards Presented in Wichita and Arkansas City

On December 5, Oral Health Kansas and the Kansas Bureau of Health Promotion presented awards to two honorees who could not be present at the 2017 Excellence in Oral Health Awards.

Wichita's Plastic Surgery Center Cleft Lip Cleft Palate Team was given the Outstanding Organization Award in recognition of their exemplary work to include dental and dental hygiene services as a part of an interdisciplinary team meeting the needs of children born with cleft lip/cleft palate.



Dr. Nataliya Biskup accepted the award on behalf of the team. Kathy Trilli nominated the team for the award and was on hand to help present it.

In 2016, twenty cities in the United States reaffirmed their commitment to



Kansas Mission of Mercy

Making a Difference

## Sugary Drink Display

Our sugary drink display is a perfect example to share with your family why it's important to watch what you drink! The sugary drink display has 10 popular beverages and shows how much sugar is in each. We also include some of our [Tips and Tricks](#) fact sheets and brush your teeth mirror clings! The display is free to use for up to a month, and we reimburse postage!



Send your reservation request ahead of time to ensure you will have one on hold! [Email us!](#)



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

800 SW Jackson, Suite 1120

Topeka, Kansas 66612

785-235-6039

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

community water fluoridation, and Arkansas City, Kansas, was one of those twenty.



The City Commission accepted an award from the American Dental Association, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors for reaffirming their commitment to fluoridation.



State Dental Director Dr. Cathleen Taylor-Osborne, along with OHK's Executive Director Tanya Dorf Brunner, presented the award to the City

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Commission and Mayor Dan Jurkovich.



Dr. Nick Rogers is a community leader in Arkansas City who led the effort to preserve fluoridation. He shared insights about the effort with the Commission on Tuesday evening.

Oral Health Kansas, 800 SW Jackson, Suite 1120, Topeka, KS 66612  
[info@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:info@oralhealthkansas.org)