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ORAL HEALTH KANSAS
Weekly Wednesday Update

*Our Mission:
To improve oral health
in Kansas through
advocacy,
public awareness
and education.*

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2012 Oral Health

February is Children's Dental Health Month

February is Children's Dental Health Month and Oral Health Kansas wants to help spread the word about the importance of oral health in children and to raise awareness about the importance of oral health.

Developing good habits at an early age and scheduling regular dental visits helps children get a good start on a lifetime of healthy teeth and gums.

Whether you're a member of a dental team, a teacher or a parent, Oral Health Kansas has put together age specific oral health packets that can help with oral health presentations, ideas for the classroom and coloring and activity sheets that can be used as handouts which are all available [HERE](#) on our website.

Kansas Conference

Make plans now to attend the 2012 Oral Health Kansas Conference September 13-14 at the [Hotel at Old Town](#) in Wichita, Kansas.

The Conference will feature a special reception with a new exhibit at [Exploration Place](#).

Kansas Mission of Mercy 2012

KMOM is a two day clinic designed to provide urgent dental care to as many patients, both adults and children, as volunteer dental professionals are able to treat. Patients are treated on a first come, first served basis so there is no advance patient registration or qualifications. Patients will simply arrive for care the morning of the clinic.

Registration for volunteers is now open, to volunteer [CLICK HERE](#)

Learn more at the [Kansas Dental Charitable Foundation](#)

Did You



Welcome New Oral Health Kansas Board Members

Dr. Becky Smith DDS graduated from UMKC School of Dentistry in 1995. She has been in private practice in Blue Springs, Missouri. Dr. Smith has been married for 13 years to Dr. Bradley Smith DDS, an orthodontist in Johnson County. They have two children together and live in Olathe, KS. Dr. Smith began her teaching career at UMKC School of Dentistry in 2006. She currently teaches clinical dentistry, Table Clinics, Grand Rounds and Dentistry for the Special Patient. Dr. Smith is currently working with Oral Health Kansas on an oral health surveillance of older Kansans.



Dr. Becky Smith



Jo Clepper RN, BSN, MHA

Jo Clepper graduated into the nursing field in 1981 and hold a

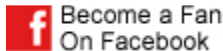
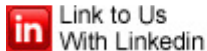
Know???

**Did you know
everyday,
adolescents
receive
approximately
11% of their
calories, or 15
teaspoons of
sugar from soft
drinks.** (Massachusetts
Dental Society)

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Bachelors in Nursing and a Masters in Health Care Administration and a national certification in critical care the CCRN. Jos clinical focus was critical care, transport, and ER with an emphasis on nursing executive leadership. Jo most recently she was a head nurse of a surgical trauma ICU in New York City. In New Jersey she was Director of Administrative Services at an outlying hospital. Later she became the Director of Emergency Nursing Services. In Kansas she took Galichias ED from dirt to operating status. She was then hired to assist in the creation and opening of a new hospital for Via Christi of which she became the Administrative Nursing Director/ CNO. An opportunity opened at Wichita State University allowing Jo to utilize her MHA in a more diversified job description allowing her to perform as a Chief Operation Officer under the title Practice Administrator for Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD). She joined WSU in June of 2010, oversaw the opening, operations, and established all processes to get the AEGD program started. Jo has related the divide over 90+ years that has separated medical versus dental is now being narrowed as people understand the critical connection in overall health that oral health plays. Jo and her husband have two daughters and the family resides in Wichita, Kansas.

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



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