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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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Dental Champions Corner

Congratulations to
Natalie Olmsted
(Class 6) on being
named the Clinic

Rescheduled Fluoride Hearing: February 19



The hearing on HB 2372, which threatens community water fluoridation, was cancelled last week when the legislature closed for inclement weather. The hearing has been rescheduled for Wednesday, February 19th at 1:30 pm. We know what a moving target this has been, but please, use the extra time to contact your legislators and encourage others to do the same. **Please also consider coming to Topeka to show your support for fluoridation in person.** Maybe by then spring will have sprung...

Learn more at <http://www.fluoridekansas.org/HB2372.html>.

Kansans receive insight about possible Medicaid Expansion

On January 28, the Kansas Health Institute sponsored a luncheon to share insight about the possibilities Medicaid Expansion could hold for states. Harvard researcher Kate

Director of the Advanced Education in General Dentistry program at Wichita State University.



Along with her new role managing the clinic operations, Natalie also will be a liaison for the program to the dental community of Wichita and Kansas.



Reader's Survey

How are we doing? What kinds of stories would you like to see in the Weekly Wednesday Update Take our short, five minute survey [here](#).

Baicker shared her research with legislators and stakeholders about an opportunity the state of Oregon had to expand Medicaid to low-income adults. She shared details about the health outcomes and the overall impact the Medicaid insurance had on the lives of people who gained Medicaid coverage.



The Kansas Health Institute News Service reported, "The results dispelled what Baicker called the 'overly pessimistic' and 'overly optimistic' views held by those on both sides of the Medicaid expansion debate." She told the assembly that while the health outcomes did not necessarily improve once people had Medicaid coverage, their lives were significantly better because they were more financially secure and had better overall mental health.

Read more about the Oregon study and Dr. Baicker's insight at the [KHI News Service](#).

Children's Dental Health Month Social Media Kit



February is Children's Dental Health Month!

The Children's Dental Health Project (CDHP) has created a [social media kit](#) of 60 messages that can be used by any oral health advocate for Twitter, Facebook and blog posts. Choose from among the many diverse messages and feel free to change the wording to meet your particular needs. CDHP simply requests that you use the hashtag "#DentalsFundamental" on any Twitter or Facebook messages.

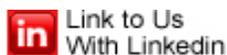
Traveling Sugary Drink Display

Reserve our traveling Sugary Drink Display for your business or event! Availability is available from March onward and reservations are made for one month at a time. Postage is covered by Oral Health Kansas. [E-mail Caroline here](#) if you are interested.



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If you have an idea, story or suggestion for a Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update please contact us at info@oralhealthkansas.org.



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