WEEKLY WEDNESDAY UPDATE

The Weekly Wednesday Update is our newsletter which we email every Wednesday with oral health, health and policy updates from around the state and nationally.

To view past issues click here.
Click here to sign up for our Weekly Wednesday Update.

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Deadline Tomorrow! Apply For The Dental Champions Program

The deadline to apply for the Dental Champions program is Thursday, February 28. Anyone interested in making progress in oral health for pregnant women and children 0-3 should apply! Dental Champions is a leadership program that started in 2005 and includes 129 alumni.

The program offers participants leadership and personal development skill-building as well as advocacy, messaging, and content training about the oral health landscape in Kansas and
The goal of the program is to develop state-level leaders with a progressive vision of oral health improvement in Kansas who are poised to make changes to improve oral health. The program includes three phases: leadership development, understanding the issue, and developing initiatives. Class members will develop at least one project to address the barriers and challenges they discover.

Click here for more information including a list of meeting dates and the application.

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**Early Learning Day At The Capitol Sparks Oral Health Interest**

On Tuesday, February 26, OHK joined other early childhood advocates in exhibiting during Early Learning Day at the Kansas Capitol. Staff member Kathy Hunt demonstrated how acid attacks that cause cavities occur in your mouth. People were amazed to find out that how frequently you eat sugary foods is more important to good oral health than how much sugary food you eat. Did you know that every sip of a sugary drink is a 20 minute acid attack? Check out our Sip All Day, Get Decay magnets!

We have developed this demonstration into a kit that you can use to help spread the word!

To learn more about our Acid Attack Kits and our magnets, click here!

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**Turnaround Day Is Tomorrow**

Tomorrow, February 28th, is Turnaround Day in the 2019 Kansas Legislature. Turnaround Day is the deadline for bills from non-exempt Committees need to be passed by one chamber (House or Senate) to be considered for the remainder of the session. There are several exempt
committees that can still introduce bills after this deadline, and there are loopholes to have new bills heard outside of these committees.

Exempt committees are:

- Senate/House Federal and State Affairs
- Senate Ways and Means/House Appropriations
- Senate Assessment and Taxation/House Taxation
- House Calendar and Printing

The legislature will take a short break following Turnaround Day. They are scheduled to return on Wednesday, March 6th.

Fun Facts About Children's Oral Health

February is Children's Dental Health Month. Although it's the last week of February, that doesn't mean to stop learning and sharing about oral health. Michigan Dental Association has some fun 10 Fun Facts About Children's Oral Health. Here's one fact:

Tooth decay is by far the most common oral childhood disease. It is five times more common in children than asthma. It is also one of the most preventable diseases.

Wow! Read here for some more fun facts to share with your family.

Kansas Mission Of Mercy To Be Held in Pittsburg

The 18th Kansas Mission of Mercy (KMOM) will be held in Pittsburg, Kansas on April 26-27 at the Pittsburg State University. If you know anyone who would benefit from the clinic, please share the information. The clinic opens at 4:30 AM on both Friday and Saturday. Services are first come, first served and ALL patients must be able to wait in line – no appointments.

For more information and to find out how YOU can volunteer, click here!
On February 22, OHK staff member Kathy Hunt visited Marian Dental Clinic during their event offering free dental services to children. Kathy spoke to families about how many times they eat and drink sugary items affects their oral health. Families had fun doing the experiment!

Reserve A Sugary Drink Display

"The last time we had a display one of our teachers quit drinking Dr. Pepper “cold turkey” and is still sticking with it! I’m so proud of her"-Ms. Sue, Butler Community College.

What is a Sugary Drink Display? It's our drink display that has 10 popular beverages and shows how much sugar is in each. Make your reservation now! You can reserve a child drink display or an adult drink display for a month. Spots fill up quickly! We will do our best to fulfill requests of less than 30 days but there is no guarantee. Click here to make a reservation!

Interested in purchasing a Sugary Drink Display? Great, email us at info@oralhealthkansas.org and we'll send you more info!