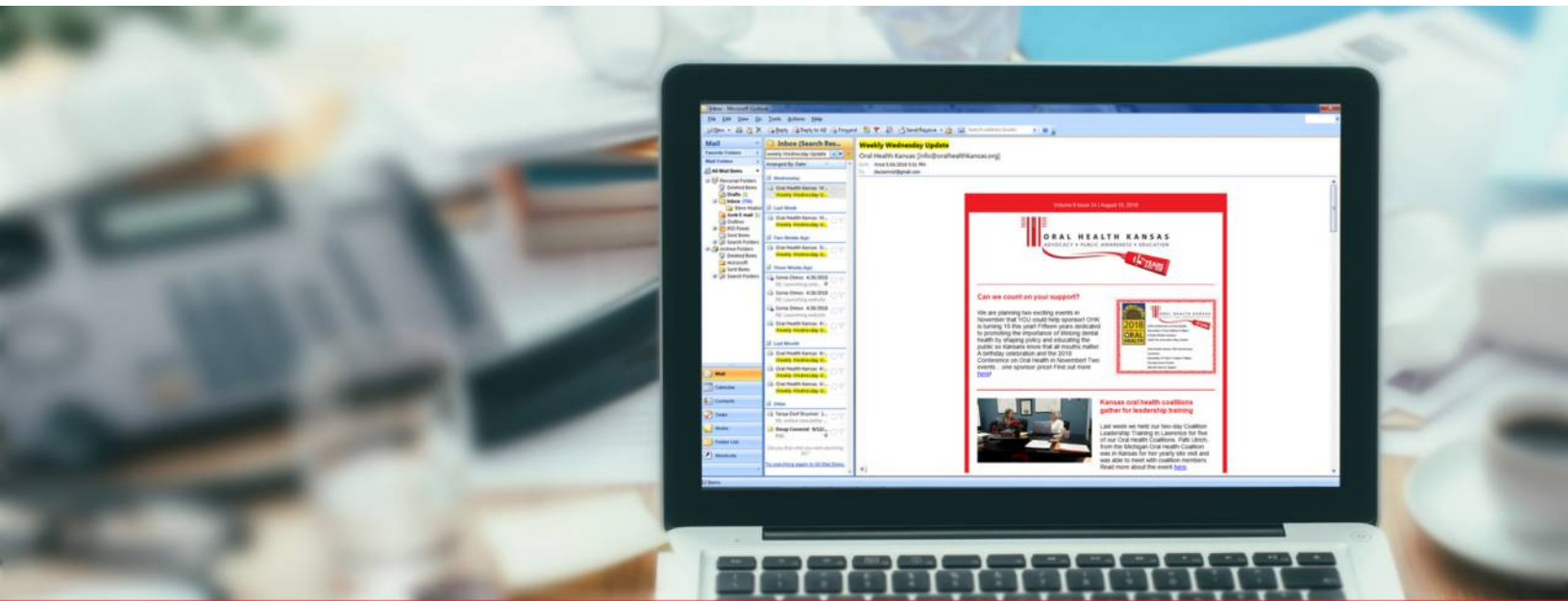




ORAL HEALTH KANSAS
ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION



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](#).

February 5, 2020

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Your Story Can Drive Oral Health Policy!

Oral Health Kansas is championing a comprehensive oral health bill, SB 349, in the Kansas Legislature this year. Last week, the bill was introduced in Senate Public Health and Welfare and we are currently working hard to get a hearing for it. The bill addresses several gaps in access to oral healthcare in our state, but we need your help to show

legislators oral health is not something that can be accessed easily for many Kansans! Please complete this survey to share your oral health story.

[SB 349](#), the Kansas Oral Health Improvement Act, will make three big changes to the oral health system in Kansas:

1. Mandate the state have a State Oral Health Plan that is regularly updated and monitored with stakeholder input
2. Increase Medicaid dental reimbursement rates
3. Establish a comprehensive dental benefit for KanCare beneficiaries

If you are interested in learning more about OHK's work during the 2020 Legislative Session, join us every other Friday at 12PM for our [Advocacy Update Webinars](#). Our next call will be February 14th. Sign up [here](#)!



Show Me Your ID

February is [National Children's Dental Health Month \(NCDHM\)](#). This year's NCDHM campaign slogan is "Fluoride in water prevents cavities! Get it from the tap!". The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) states about 1 of 5 (20%) the children aged 5 to 11 years have at least one untreated decayed tooth. Children

living in communities with fluoridated tap water have fewer cavities than children whose water is not fluoridated. Children who drink fluoridated water as their teeth grow will have stronger teeth that resist decay better over their lifetime. Also, brushing for two minutes twice a day and flossing helps keep your teeth cavity free!

Learn more [facts about fluoride](#) and how it can help prevent cavities.



Free Dental Care On February 25

The Marian Dental Clinic will sponsor their annual Give Kids A Smile event on February 25, 2020 at 3164 SE 6th Ave., Topeka, KS, 66607. At the event, an estimated 50 children will receive free dental services consisting of

exams, x-rays, cleanings, fluoride treatments, sealants, fillings, crowns, education, and healthy snacks. Appointments are first come first serve. Registration opens at 7:00AM.

Marian Dental Clinic also has opportunities to volunteer at their Give Kids A Smile

program. This unique, inspiring event presents the opportunity to interact with children, their families, dentists and their team members. It is also a chance for you to gain firsthand knowledge about the critical health needs and potential solutions.

[Click](#) here for more information and [here](#) for the information in Spanish.



Surgeon General Releases First Report Focused On Smoking Cessation

On January 23, the Surgeon General released the [first report on smoking cessation](#), in 30 years! Preventing tobacco use remains a high priority of the Office of the

Surgeon General because, even with that decrease, it continues to be the leading cause of preventable death in the United States. The report finds that more than two-thirds of U.S. adult cigarette smokers report interest in quitting cigarette smoking, and the majority of adult cigarette smokers in the United States have tried to quit during the past year. People who use tobacco also increase their risk of tooth decay and tooth loss. In addition, smokeless tobacco often contains sugar that can promote decay as well as sand and grit that can wear down the teeth.

Some of the major conclusions from the report: for the full report.

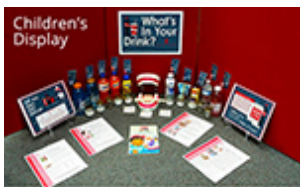
- Smoking cessation reduces the risk of premature death and can add as much as a decade to life expectancy.
 - Smoking cessation reduces the risk of many negative health effects, including reproductive health outcomes, cardiovascular diseases, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (or COPD), and numerous cancers.
 - Cessation medications approved by the FDA and behavioral counseling increase the likelihood of successfully quitting smoking, particularly when used in combination.
- To learn more about the report's conclusions, click [here](#) for the full report.



We are so excited about the Kansas City Chiefs big win at the Super Bowl on Sunday! We are all Chiefs fans, and we have been waiting a long time for

attended a couple of [Will to Succeed](#) Health Fairs and had the honor of meeting Will Shields himself. Will played for the Chiefs for 14 years. We are sure.

that he is just as excited as we are for the Chiefs winning the Super Bowl!



Reserve Your Drink Display For 2020

Reserve your Sugary Drink Display before the months go by! Or [purchase](#) a Sugary Drink Display to have as your own!

What is a Sugary Drink Display? It's our drink display that has 10 popular beverages and shows how much sugar is in each. You can reserve a child drink display or an adult drink display for a month.

We will do our best to fulfill requests of less than 30 days but there is no guarantee. There is no charge to use the Sugary Drink Display; postage is reimbursed if you send in your receipt. All we ask is for you to fill out our survey included in the display materials and provide us with feedback about the display. **[Click here to make a reservation!](#)** Interested in purchasing a Sugary Drink Display? [Click here](#) to download our brochure.

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