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To: jparnell@oralhealthkansas.org
Subject: Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS
Weekly Wednesday Update

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

Volume 2, Issue 11

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Celebration of Retirement

Congratulations to Bill McDaniel and the 32 years of assistance he has provided to Kansas citizens in both the

Legislative Update

Last week the House of Representatives passed HB 2241, a franchise dentistry bill. This bill represents a compromise by several parties on the current law and would allow the franchise practice of dentistry in Kansas. Oral Health Kansas has not taken a position on the bill but is following its progress.

Next week the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee has scheduled two days of hearings on SB 192. This is the Registered Dental Practitioner bill. We reported earlier that the same bill was introduced in the House (HB 2280) and received a hearing. No further action on that bill has occurred in the House as of this writing.

Oral Health Kansas recognizes the need to expand and strengthen the dental workforce in Kansas and supports the efforts being undertaken to address this issue through SB 132 (ECP III) and HB 2280/SB 192 (Registered Dental Practitioner). Oral Health Kansas is dedicated to collaboration; as such, we encourage the parties working on dental workforce models to collaborate on a model that works best to meet the oral health needs of all Kansans.

This week the House Social Services Budget Committee is concluding hearings on the FY 2012 Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services budget. Next week the same committee will hold hearings on the Department on Aging FY 2012 budget. Oral Health Kansas is testifying on both

SRS & KDOA services.

Congratulations and enjoy retirement Bill!

Champions Project

In two weeks the Delta Dental of Kansas Foundation will launch a "Champions Project." Through this project, people will have the chance to help a few organizations compete for small, one-time grants. Watch for details about how you can support Oral Health Kansas's grant proposal!

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budgets and asking for a study of the cost effectiveness of including a dental benefit for all people eligible for the Kansas Medicaid program.

New Oral Health Coalition in Harvey County

Community members have launched a new local oral health coalition. The members have chosen community oral health education as their first goal. The coalition contacted The Newton Kansan to propose having a regular oral health column in the newspaper. Since the paper already hosts similar columns, they are excited to add a bimonthly column in which local dentists and hygienists will be invited to answer oral health questions. The coalition hopes to expand the column to the other county newspapers.

The idea for a county-wide oral health coalition began in June, 2010 when a group of Harvey County social service agencies came together to discuss the oral health needs of their clients. Nancy Martin, RN, hosted the first meeting, as part of her position as Dental Coordinator for Mid-Kansas Community Action Program. During 2010, she traveled to south-central Kansas discussing oral health issues with similar groups. She explored with them ways local oral health coalitions could promote better oral health.

For more information contact Nancy Martin
nancy.martin.hmc@gmail.com

Here is information for other oral health coalitions around the state:

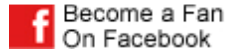
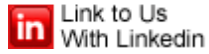
Wichita: Kim Walker, Sedgwick County (316) 660-7346
kmwalker@sedgwick.gov

Dodge City: Ethel Peterson (620) 227-6849
thecardfan@cox.net

Amber Sellers: United Methodist Mexican-American Ministries (620) 275-1766
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For information about starting an oral health coalition in your community, please contact Marcia Manter, Community Development Specialist, Oral Health Kansas:
mmanter@oralhealthkansas.org

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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