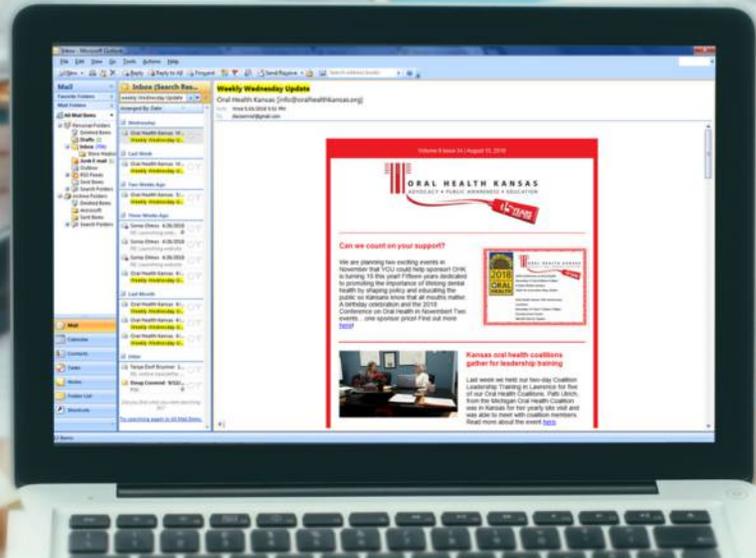




**ORAL HEALTH KANSAS**  
ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION



## 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](#).

March 4, 2020

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### House Committee Adds Rate Increase

For the second year in a row, the House Appropriations Committee has added \$3 million to the state budget for a rate increase for Medicaid dental services. The Committee approved the increase today. A Senate budget subcommittee is set to take up the rate increase issue sometime in the

next few days, and Oral Health Kansas has advocated for the same \$3 million dental rate increase in the Senate.

Last year the Kansas Legislature approved a \$3 million Medicaid dental rate increase that went into effect August 1, 2019. There was no change in dental provider enrollment in Medicaid from July through December 2019, which means the provider network is holding steady. But in order to make a difference in establishing a provider network that is sufficient to meet the dental needs of Medicaid beneficiaries more needs to be done. If another \$3 million increase passes this year, it may be enough to begin to attract more dentists to become Medicaid providers.



## Early Childhood Providers Learn About Good Oral Health

Dental Program Director, Kathy Hunt, exhibited and presented at the Kansas Division for Early Childhood Conference in Wichita from February 27 and 28. Kathy's presentation, "You Can't Be Healthy Without Good Oral Health" focused on how to keep children healthy from birth through kindergarten. Participants learned how acid impacts oral health through the acid attack demonstration, as well as

what snacks are considered every day snacks and special day treats. Nearly 70 attendees stopped by our booth over the two days.



## Families Learn About Healthy Behaviors

Kathy Hunt assisted with the Give Kids a Smile event at Marian Dental Clinic on Tuesday, February 25 in Topeka. She provided education to kids and their parents on adopting healthy behaviors. Families were excited to learn about the Acid Attack Kit and how it demonstrates the effect our foods and drinks

have on our teeth. Parents visited the sugary drink display and spoke with their kids about the sugar in each beverage and what options they can begin trying.



## What To Know About The Coronavirus

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment has been getting a great deal of calls from people asking for more information about the Coronavirus (COVID-19). To help answer questions, they created an online resource center for Kansans to get more information. Learn more about the virus and stay up to date with information at [www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus](http://www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus).



## Where is OHK?

March 24-26: Exhibiting and Presenting at the Kansas Rural Water Association Conference, Wichita

March 25: Exhibiting at Kansas Head Start Advocacy Day, Topeka



Dental Champion Junetta Everett (Class II) is serving as the Chair of the Wichita Chamber of Commerce this year. She is the first African-American woman to serve in this role. [This new video interview](#) celebrates Junetta's leadership and her legacy as a trailblazer as the first African-American in Wichita State University's dental hygiene program and one of the first employees at Delta Dental of Kansas. We hope you enjoy hearing more about her story as much as we do!





## Sugary Drink Display Reservations

Reserve your Sugary Drink Display for a health fair, office, or event! You can also [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 up to 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.



### Follow Us



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