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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

Kansas Mission of Mercy Sees Over 1,100 Patients



Dental professionals helped provide \$803,590 in free dental care to 1182 patients at the 13th Kansas Mission of Mercy project held this weekend in Dodge City. Since the project began in 2003, 24,150 patients have received nearly \$13 million in free dental care.

The first patient of the clinic arrived on Thursday at 4:00 PM. Darci Burkes of Coldwater, KS, met her two friends in nearby Protection and caravanned north to the Western State Bank Expo Center in Dodge City. When they arrived at 4:00 PM on Thursday, they started the line that would continue to grow throughout the night.

"I think it's awesome they do this for people who cannot afford dental care," said Burkes. "Something like this means a lot to us."

Patients, volunteers, and followers all took to social media to give thanks and share the efforts made by



Dental Champions Class 6 volunteered at the 2014 Kansas Mission of Mercy in Dodge City this past weekend. To view more pictures of our Dental Champions in action, [visit our Facebook page here](#).



Traveling Sugary Drink Display



Reserve our traveling Sugary Drink Display for your business or event! Displays are available from May 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.

dental professionals. "I want to Thank You from the bottom of our hearts for the compassion and fun you made of the Dodge City clinic," wrote a woman identified as Tami.

Organizers raised \$160,000 to support the project, which does not include thousands of in-kind donations given locally.

The next Kansas Mission of Mercy has been scheduled for February 13-14, 2015 in Salina, KS.

The above story is from the Kansas Dental Association. For more articles on the Kansas Mission of Mercy, [click here](#).

Kansas Public Radio's Bryan Thompson also covered this year's Kansas Mission of Mercy event, in which Oral Health Kansas' Tanya Dorf Brunner was interviewed. To hear the story, [click here](#).

Medicaid Expansion Advocacy Day at the Capitol



Join advocates on March 18 to take a stand for Kansas to Expand Medicaid! The Kansas Medicaid Access Coalition will start at the Topeka Statehouse Rotunda at 9 a.m. The day will begin with speaker presentations and meeting with your legislators throughout the day to share with them why its important for Medicaid expansion. Insurance Commissioner Sandy Praeger will be a featured speaker.

Learn more and join the event on [Facebook](#).

20% Rule Bill Passes House

Last week was what is known as Turnaround Day in the Kansas Legislature. This means most bills must move from the House to the Senate or vice versa in order to be considered this year. One bill that made it out of the House and is being sent to the Senate is [HB](#)

[2611](#). This bill changes a seventy-year-old law that requires a dentist be in the office he or she owns at least fifty percent of the time. The Kansas Dental Association proposed HB 2611 to allow a dentist to be in an office he or she owns at twenty percent of the time. The bill was heard in the House Health and Human Services Committee in early February, and there were no opponents. It passed the House with a vote of 123 to 0, and it will be on its way to the Senate for consideration in the next few weeks.

Read more about the HB 2611 hearing in [this story](#) from the Kansas Dental Association.

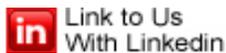
Fluoride Bill Testimony

Thanks again to everyone who contributed written and verbal testimony in opposing House Bill 2372 in the House and Human Services Committee on February 19th! To see all of the testimony that was submitted, visit our Fluoride in Kansas website [here](#).



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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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