**In This Issue**

- OHK on Social Media
- Dental Champions Corner
- 2013 OHK Conference
- Did You Know???
- KanCare Legislative Oversight Advances
- Sign the Medicaid Expansion Petition
- A Way to Give
- Traveling Drink Display
- OHK Website Links
  - Home
  - Our History
  - Dental Champions
  - Partnerships
  - Community

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### KanCare Legislative Oversight Advances

The Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee passed HB 2025 on Tuesday, March 19. The bill establishes a permanent legislative oversight committee for the KanCare (Medicaid managed care) program. A similar measure was considered in 2012, but failed because the chambers failed to agree on which chamber would chair the committee first. The bill passed the House of Representatives unanimously on March 1 of this year and is now on the list of bills for the full Senate to debate. Little doubt remains this year about this bill's passage, and we look forward to seeing legislative oversight of KanCare begin this summer.

### Sign the Medicaid Expansion Petition

The Kansas Health Consumer Coalition is continuing to collect signatures on their petition asking Kansas legislators and the Governor to support Medicaid expansion. Through the Affordable Care Act, states can expand their Medicaid eligibility to cover adults with very low incomes. Kansas has one of the lowest Medicaid eligibility thresholds. Medicaid expansion in Kansas would provide Medicaid coverage to at least 100,000
adults whose income is between 33% and 133% of the Federal Poverty Level. A single person with a household income of $11,170 would be at 100% of the Federal Poverty Level.

Please sign the petition urging lawmakers to support Medicaid Expansion and reject a resolution that opposes Medicaid Expansion, **HCR 5013**. To sign the petition and join growing numbers of Kansans who support extending health care coverage to 100,000 uninsured Kansans **CLICK HERE**.

To read the letter Oral Health Kansas sent to Governor Brownback and legislative leaders, please visit our **website**.

### A Way to Give

During a time when resources for Topekans can be tough to come by; Delta Dental of Kansas Foundation, Greenbush, a Kansas Department of Corrections contractor and Topeka Correctional Facility inmates teamed up to provide participants in programs facilitated by YWCA Center for Safety and Empowerment and the Employment Training Division at Kansas Legal Services, Topeka Moving Ahead Program, a gift...of dental supplies.

Delta Dental of Kansas Foundation donated enough supplies to assist TCF inmates participating in the facilities dental technician program in creating over 2000 bags of toothbrushes, floss and other dental care items. Ralph Beacham of Greenbush, a KDOC contractor responsible for teaching inmates participating in the dental technician program shared he "wishes to formally recognize and thank Delta Dental of Kansas Foundation, both for their continued support of the dental technician program, and also for their support of the toothbrush gift bag program. The TCF program would not exist but for the strong support of Delta Dental."

Recipients of the donations expressed their appreciation of the gift. Laura Burton from the YWCA in Topeka said "We're so appreciative to the residents and staff of TCF. Many families have to leave their old homes quickly. It's important we are able to meet basic needs when they come to us."

Lea Vincent from Kansas Legal Service said "We serve populations who are chronically homeless, on cash assistance and/or disabled. We address barriers, provide resources, and teach life skills, computer skills and job readiness. Many of our participants lack the necessities for proper oral hygiene. This donation of gift bags will help them, and give them confidence. We are extremely grateful to TCF dental lab students and Delta Dental of Kansas Foundation for providing these products."

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**Dental Champions Corner**

Oral Health Kansas welcomes Dental Champions Class 3 alumni Dr. Brian Smith to the Oral Health Kansas Board of Directors

Dr. Smith is the Superintendent of Schools in Galena, Kansas and an adjunct instructor for Northwest Missouri State University. He is originally from Columbus, Kansas and received his Bachelor of Science degree in English Education in 1989 from Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kansas.
SAVE THE DATE!

Join us in November to celebrate Oral Health Kansas' 10th anniversary at the:

2013 Oral Health Kansas Conference
Johnson County Community College
November 7-8, 2013

Did You Know???

Most tooth loss in people under 35 years of age is caused by athletic trauma, fights or accidents.

StarSmilez

Traveling Drink Display

Currently the OHK traveling library drink displays are on display at the Pawnee County Library and the Ashland Library.

If you are interested in having the drink display on display in your area, send an email to Julie.

If you have an idea, story or suggestion for a Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update please send an email to jparnell@oralhealthkansas.org