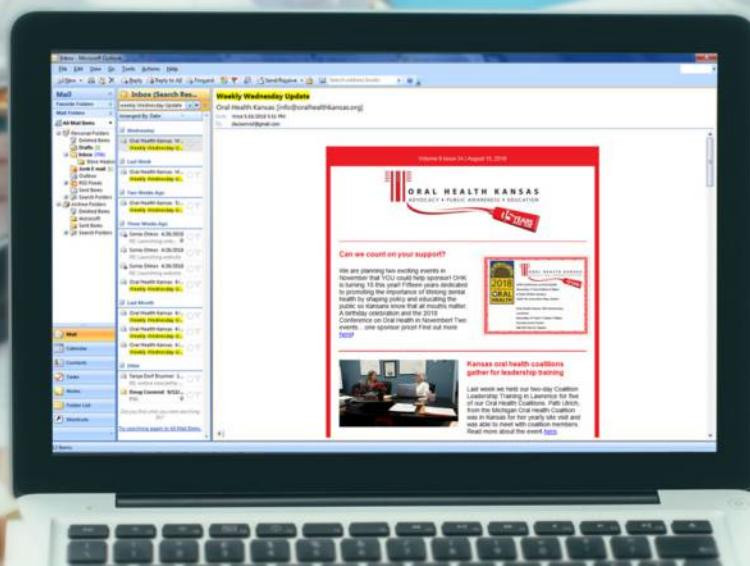




ORAL HEALTH KANSAS
ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION



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](#).

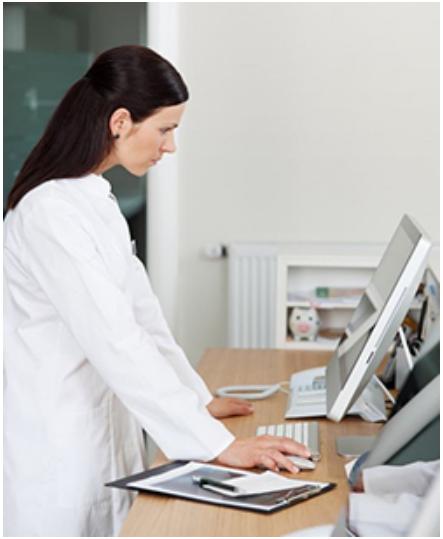
April 8, 2020

Volume 11, Issue 14

Teledentistry Authorized In Kansas During The COVID Crisis

The [Centers for Disease Control](#), [American Dental Association](#), [American Dental Hygienists' Association](#), and [Kansas Department of Health and Environment recommend](#) non-emergency dental care be postponed during this COVID-19 crisis. Emergency dental services should continue, and there are resources to help determine what an emergency is, how to assess urgent needs, and how to provide care safely.

Teledentistry is an important tool that is now available in Kansas to determine whether or



not a person needs emergency dental services. Oral Health Kansas advocated with the Kansas Medicaid program to cover teledentistry during this COVID-19 crisis, and that coverage is now available. The Kansas Medicaid program released [a provider bulletin](#) this week to announce the availability of teledental services. Private insurance companies, including [Delta Dental of Kansas](#) and [Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas](#), also are covering teledental services during this crisis. The specifics of each teledentistry authorization are a little different, but essentially, teledental services will be available to Kansas dental providers to assess the needs of their patients during this crisis while maintaining the distance needed for everyone to stay safe.

Dental providers should contact their insurance companies for specifics on teledental policies.

There are many resources available to learn how to implement teledentistry. Two of the nation's leaders in teledentistry are Dr. Paul Glassman and Dr. Nathan Suter. They teamed up to present a [webinar through the American Dental Association](#). It is free and available to anyone. More information about teledentistry and how to use it safely during this COVID crisis are available from Dr. Glassman in this [brief](#) and on [Dr. Suter's website](#).

Nothing in this article is meant to endorse a model or a company. The resources are shared as a way to learn how to use teledentistry and find the local and national resources that can help ensure people who have emergency dental needs can be served during this crisis. If you have questions or would like more information on other topics related to dental care during the COVID crisis, please contact us at info@oralhealthkansas.org. For more information about how consumers can understand what dental emergencies are, please see Oral Health Kansas' consumer COVID guide in [English](#) and in [Spanish](#).



Understanding The Federal Financial Relief For Small Business During COVID-19

On Friday, March 27, 2020, the President signed into law the CARES Act, which contains \$376 billion in relief for American workers and small businesses.

Paycheck Protection Program authorizes up to \$349 billion in forgivable loans to small

businesses to pay their employees during the COVID-19 crisis. All loan terms will be the same for everyone.

Conditions:

The loan amounts will be forgiven as long as:

- The loan proceeds are used to cover payroll costs, and most mortgage interest, rent, and utility costs over the 8-week period after the loan is made; and
- Employee and compensation levels are maintained.

Eligibility:

All businesses - including nonprofits, veterans' organizations, Tribal business concerns, sole proprietorships, self-employed individuals, and independent contractors - with 500 or fewer employees can apply. Businesses in certain industries can have more than 500 employees if they meet applicable SBA employee-based size standards for those industries.

When can you apply:

- April 3- small business and sole proprietors
- April 10- independent contractors and self-employed individuals

Where to apply:

- You can apply through any existing SBA lender or through any federally insured depository institution, federally insured credit union, and Farm Credit System institution that is participating. Other regulated lenders will be available to make these loans once they are approved and enrolled in the program. You should consult with your local lender as to whether it is participating. Visit www.sba.gov for a list of SBA lenders.

Resource & more information

Economic Injury Disaster Loans

Conditions:

The loan proceeds may only be used for expenses that could have been met had the disaster not occurred, such as payroll and other operating expenses. The loans are for up to 30 years and the interest rate for nonprofit organizations is 2.75%. Principal and interest may be deferred for up to four years.

Where to apply:

Eligible nonprofit entities may apply for a EIDL at a local [SBA District Office](#) or online at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>.

\$10,000 Emergency Grants:

Conditions:

An Emergency Injury Disaster Loan applicant may request that up to \$10,000 of the amount it has applied for be given as a grant, which the SBA is required to pay within

three days after the SBA receives the EIDL application provided that the applicant certifies, under the penalty of perjury, that it is an eligible entity, i.e., an ESOP, small agricultural cooperative, or private nonprofit organization.

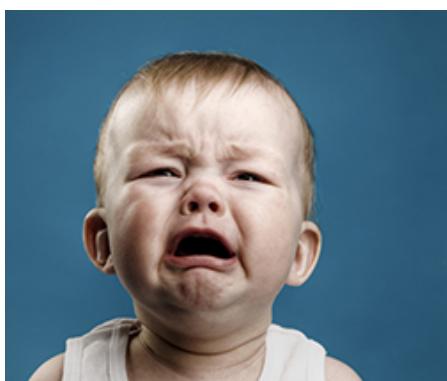
The funds can be used for any allowable purpose, including but not limited to, (1) providing sick leave to employees unable to work due to the direct effects of COVID-19; (2) maintaining payroll to retain employees during business disruptions or substantial slowdowns; (3) meeting increased costs to obtain materials due to interrupted supply chains; (4) making rent or mortgage payments; (5) and repaying other obligations that cannot be met.

**The grant does not have to be repaid even if the EIDL application is denied.*

Resource & More Information

Additional Resources:

- Small Business Administration Disaster Assistance in Response to Coronavirus:
 - <https://www.sba.gov/disaster-assistance/coronavirus-covid-19>
 - <https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources>
- [Nonprofits and Coronavirus](#)
- [Dentists can apply for Economic Disaster and Injury Loans and Payment Protection Program Loans](#)
- [Employment Law FAQs](#)



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

This is a time to act collectively to raise awareness and empower people across the nation to play a role in helping children, families, and entire communities thrive. Throughout Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month, and in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, we're reinforcing the message that **"Everyone can make great childhoods happen - especially you, especially now!"**

happen - especially you, especially now!" Click [here](#) for a printable pinwheel coloring sheet, and share your pinwheels on social media with the hashtags #WearBlue, #GreatChildhoods, and #CAPMonth.

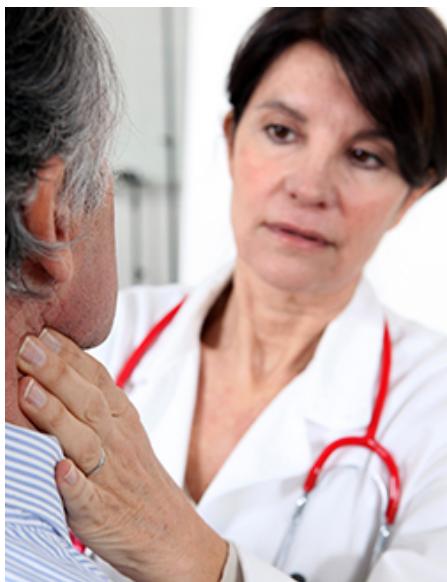
Dental neglect is also a form of abuse and can include rampant caries - tooth decay affecting many or most of the child's teeth. The American Academy Of Pediatric Dentistry defines dental neglect as willful failure of the parent or guardian to seek and follow through with treatment necessary to ensure a level of oral health essential for adequate function and freedom from pain and infection. The Kansas Department for Children and Families adds that this neglect is not due solely to the lack of financial means of the child's

parents or other custodian.

We all have a role to play in preventing dental neglect. We now know that you cannot be healthy without good oral health...at any age. Some families express a lack of concern about children's decaying teeth, with the mistaken idea that baby teeth don't matter. If you suspect that a child has dental problems that are being ignored, take time to find out about the values of the child's caregiver...good health, adequate function, financial cost, appropriate behavior, healthy social/emotional bonds...and tie those values back to the importance of healthy baby teeth. You can also help families find ways to remove barriers to care. Here are some resources that may help:

Oral Health Kansas- Finding a Dentist- [http://www.oralhealthkansas.org/
FindingDentist.html](http://www.oralhealthkansas.org/FindingDentist.html)

The Parent Helpline- Free, anonymous information and referral service. 1-800-CHILDREN. Available 24/7 in English and Spanish Kansas Protection Report Center- Report concerns- 1-800-922-5330 or DCF.KSPRC@ks.gov



Join Us In Celebrating National Public Health Week

Every year, the first week of April brings communities together to recognize the contributions of public health and highlight issues that are important to improving our nation. Our celebrations may look a little different this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but public health professionals are working harder than ever to protect the health of their communities. As physical distancing is helping to stem the community spread of COVID-19, all National Public Health Week (NPHW) events will be online this year. The NPHW website has many resources that both organizations and consumers can utilize this week. Below are some social

messages developed by the American Institute of Dental Public Health to use during NPHW to promote the importance of oral health to overall health. You can also use the hashtag #thankyoupublichealth to recognize public health professionals in your life!

- Oral health is integral to overall health. #NPHW2020
- Achieving #oralhealthequity is critical to eliminating health disparities. #NPHW2020
- True #oralhealthequity means we work together to create #systemschange in public health. #NPHW2020
- Everyone deserves equitable access to #oralhealth. #NPHW2020



For National Dental Hygienists Week, we wanted to highlight OHK's Dental Program Director, Kathy Hunt. Kathy is a registered dental hygienist and has an ECP II license. She began her work in public health in 2004 when she took advantage of a new expanded dental practice act to design the first system in Kansas that provided preventive dental care in schools, Head Starts, and health departments. She is co-author of several oral health resource materials focused on families with young children and works as a tireless advocate for the oral health needs of pregnant women and children birth to five.

Kathy is also celebrating her 5th year anniversary at OHK!



Sugary Drink Display Sanitation

During this time, hand washing and social distancing is on everyone's mind. We want everyone to have the comfort of knowing we sanitize our sugary drink displays. They are wiped down and cleaned off after they have been returned.

Out of an abundance of caution, we are suspending use of the Sugary Drink Display until May 1. You can begin making reservations for later in the year now, though.



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. Click [here](#) to learn more! 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.



Save the Date!

Mark your calendars for the 2020 Conference on Oral Health scheduled for Friday, November 13! Location in Johnson County! Watch for more details!

Follow Us



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