Oral health screenings help improve cavities in kids

Kathy Hunt, RDH, our Dental Program Director, took some time out of her day on Friday to provide oral health screenings at a developmental screening event in Manhattan. She provided screenings and fluoride varnish to children from age 9 months to 4 years, as well as information and guidance to parents on ways to keep children cavity free. Kathy helped establish these screenings in Riley County in 2006.

Families are thrilled to have their oral health questions answered and for their kids to experience (many for the first time) having a dental experience. Butler County has recently begun integrating oral health into their "Child Find" screenings. If your community would like to find out more information on how to include oral health into these types of events, please contact Doug Bowman at dbowman@ohks.org or call 785-235-6309.
The PIT Crew is a new work group that is helping to design approaches to improving the dental care pregnant women, infants and toddlers in Kansas receive.

Community Health Summit

The Medical Society of Sedgwick County, Kansas Academy of Family Physicians, Health ICT and Humana are partnering with stakeholders to offer a half-day training on June 28 that will provide an opportunity for providers, community members, and advocates to network with health leaders from across the state to learn how to plan and implement a Clinical Town Hall in your community. A Humana representative who has much experience with Clinical Town Halls will be there to share her insights.

For more information, visit the event on Facebook!

Reserve a sugary drink display

If you tried reserving a sugary drink display and we were booked, it's important to reserve one before the slots are full! Reserve a sugary drink display even if its just for a one day event! Reserving yours ahead of time is ensures you can get the date(s) you need. Sign up now!

Our sugary drink display contains 10 popular beverages and shows how much sugar is in each. We also include some of our Tips and Tricks handouts and mirror clings! The display is free to use for up to a month,

Four states work together on oral health improvement

This week, representatives from Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska and Missouri met in Omaha at the Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium to learn more about the oral health policy and education work being done in each of the four states. Missouri and Kansas have statewide oral health advocacy coalitions: Missouri Coalition for Oral Health and Oral Health Kansas. While Iowa and Nebraska do not, there is a strong advocacy community in both states that is responsible for progressive educational and advocacy work to improve oral health for underserved people.

The four states plan future work together, including attending a regional dental conference in Iowa in October and exploring the possibility of a joint project to increase awareness about the lack of dental coverage in the Medicare program.
Call your legislators tomorrow!

Two weeks ago, President Trump celebrated with Members of Congress after they passed the AHCA through the U.S. House without hearings or estimates for the number of Americans who would lose their health insurance under the plan. The Senate hasn't taken action yet on the American Health Care Act (AHCA). The Alliance for a Healthy Kansas urges everyone to contact Senator Roberts and Senator Moran tomorrow, May 18 and share how important it is to protect the Affordable care Act (ACA) and how it helps Kansas families!

For more information click here!