

Subject: Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update
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A new opportunity for oral health partners

Have you heard the news? Oral Health Kansas and six other organizations have received a DentaQuest Foundation grant. Read more about this in [our press release](#).

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Support KMOM-Topeka on June 2

Oral Health Kansas encourages Topeka-area residents/employees to support the 2016 Kansas Mission of Mercy (KMOM) in Topeka by attending the annual Topeka Gives event. Topeka Gives is a one-day event sponsored by the Topeka Community Foundation (TCF) celebrating charitable giving. The Tuesday, June 2 event at the

Legislative Session continues past the 90-day deadline

The Kansas Legislature was scheduled to conclude its 2015 session last weekend, but work continued this week on a plan to fill a \$400 million gap in the fiscal year that starts July 1. Legislators continue to debate a variety of tax and spending packages.

Oral Health Kansas supports a proposal to increase the tobacco tax, but legislative interest in that tax has not been hesitant. This week, the Senate tax committee sent a tax proposal to the full Senate for consideration. This proposal includes a 50 cent per pack increase on cigarette taxes. This is far less than the original \$1.50 per pack increase proposed by the Governor, but health advocates remain supportive of the change as both a way to increase state revenue and deter Kansans from smoking. Learn more about the Senate's tax proposal from the [Kansas Health Institute's News Service](#).

Fairlawn Plaza Mall (21st & SW Fairlawn), will provide \$60,000.00 in "match" money for contributions made to support 130+ different nonprofit organizations in Topeka.

Matching contributions can only be made to KMOM-Topeka by supporters who attend the Topeka Gives event in person between the hours of 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. Contributions can be made via cash, check or credit card through the Topeka Community Foundation.

The Kansas Mission of Mercy (KMOM) is a charitable dental clinic conducted annually by the Kansas Dental Charitable Foundation (KDCF). As a 501 (c)(3) charitable not-for-profit foundation, KDCF has held 14 KMOM dental projects across Kansas since 2003, providing approximately 25,000 Kansans with \$14 million in free dental care. KMOM-Topeka is scheduled for January 29-30, 2016 at the Kansas Expocentre.



January 29-30, 2016

Webinar: Reducing Early Childhood Tooth Decay

Wednesday, May 27, 2015 from 12:00 - 1:30 PM CST

States across the nation are redesigning their health care systems to promote higher quality health care, healthier populations, and lower per capita costs. Children's oral health has been



This week the Kansas Health Institute News Service also reported on talk floating at the Capitol to eliminate the Earned Income Tax Credit for low-income Kansans and use those funds to expand the Medicaid (KanCare) program. Kansas is one of twenty-one states that has not expanded Medicaid. The Kansas Hospital Association led a broad base of advocacy organizations this year, including Oral Health Kansas, urging the Legislature to expand Medicaid. The conservative leadership in both the Kansas House and Senate have not supported Medicaid expansion, but alternative ideas have been discussed off and on over the last several months. [Read more](#) about this possible legislative debate.

Sugary Drink Display makes stops across the state

The Oral Health Kansas sugary drink display has been traveling around the state, making stops this month in six communities, including the Neosho County Health Fair and the State Capitol.

recognized as a key contributor to overall health, both in childhood and into adulthood. Redesigning the way Medicaid and CHIP approach the problem of early childhood caries to focus on preventing and managing it rather than paying costly bills for cases that become severe, could produce better care, better health, and lower costs.

Learn more and sign up for this webinar here.



Join In: WSU Dental Day June 26th

Wichita State University Advanced Education in General Dentistry Program is hosting a Dental Day for students interested in a career in dentistry. Dental Day is a great opportunity for students to gain hands-on experience in the field of dentistry and dental hygiene. This camp is geared toward high school students interested in the field of dentistry, including dental hygiene and dental assisting.

This program will be held Friday, June 26, and registration closes June 1st or until all spots are filled. Find out more about this opportunity at the [Dental Day website!](#)



Reserve our traveling sugary drink display for your event! This display is completely free, and return shipping costs are reimbursed by Oral Health Kansas. Learn more [on our website](#) and [email Sarah](#) if you are interested in hosting the display!



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