Join us for another oral health community forum next month

Last month, during our oral health community forums around the state, we were able to visit with community members about their oral health issues in their areas and what they felt was important for their communities. On Thursday, June 22 we will be in Pittsburg. We want to hear from community members about the oral health concerns in this region as well. This is an opportunity to bring together people from around the area to share what concerns they have and for OHK to learn more about southeast Kansas issues.

**When:** June 22, 2017  
**Time:** 2:00 PM  
**Where:** Pittsburg State University, 1701 South Broadway Street, Pittsburg, KS 66762 at the Overman Student Center in the Governor’s Room

This month marks 8 years at OHK for our executive director, Tanya Dorf Brunner.

Over the past 8 years, Tanya has been driven by OHK’s mission - improving the oral health of all Kansans. Her abilities attract and inspire others, including volunteer board members and staff, to get behind the mission.
"Tanya is a wonderful leader for OHK. She’s enthusiastic about our work and takes an active interest in our growth and success." Sonia Olmos, Operations and Communications Manager for OHK.

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**Webinar: New Analysis Measuring Access to Dental Care in Every State**

On Thursday, May 31, the Health Policy Institute is releasing new analysis for every state based on a novel, peer-reviewed methodology to measure access to dentists. The analysis specifically addresses the Medicaid population separately from the population in general. See the results for your state and what they imply for policy makers and health care advocates.

To register click [here](#).

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**KanCare renewal public meetings across the state**

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) has scheduled a series of public meetings for the discussion of the state’s proposed renewal of the KanCare program and to provide input and ideas for changes.

Anyone may provide comment and input about the KanCare renewal at any time from June 14, 2017 until October 15, 2017. The state intends to submit the renewal request on November 1, 2017. Information about KanCare is available for public review at the KanCare website.

For more information and location and dates for meetings, [click here](#).
No fruit juice recommended before age 1

According to a new policy statement issued by the American Academy of Pediatrics, fruit juice offers no nutritional benefit to children under age 1 and should not be included in their diet. The new recommendations state that 100-percent fresh or reconstituted fruit juice can be a healthy part of the diet of children older than 1 year when consumed as part of a well-balanced diet.

Click here to find more recommendations!

Share the water, share the love

The average child in the United States now consumes over half of her body weight in sugar every year. Much of it comes from sugary beverages including juice, sports drinks, and soda. Too much sugar can lead to serious health issues such as obesity, diabetes, and poor oral health. We know that some children, especially Latinos, experience much higher rates of tooth decay than the general population. About half of all Latino children in the United States have experienced cavities and, in Washington State, the rampant rate of decay (seven or more cavities) among Latino children is on the rise, in part because of the increase in sugary beverage consumption.

As part of The Mighty Mouth campaign, Washington Dental Service Foundation recently partnered with University of California San Francisco and the University of Washington to develop Share the Water, Share the Love, a two minute animated, engaging video for Latino/a audiences that explains in plain language with fun images the benefits of drinking water to keep our bodies - including our mouths - healthier.

This video, available in English and Spanish, is worth sharing your networks to encourage them to learn about water for good health. Share the message! Water is the best choice for good health and especially for good oral health.

Reserve a sugary drink display

School is going to be out soon for the summer! That doesn't stop our sugary drink display's from educating others! Reserve a sugary drink display for an event, health fair, day care or summer camp!

Our sugary drink display has 10 popular beverages and shows how much sugar is in each. We also include some of our Tips and Tricks fact sheets and brush your teeth mirror clings! The display is free to use for up to a month, and we reimburse postage!

Reserving yours ahead of time is ensures you can get the date(s) you need. Sign up now!
2017 Marketplace enrollment in Kansas

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released a final summary enrollment date in March 2017 for the fourth open enrollment for the Affordable Care Act (ACA). As of January 31, 2017, a total of 98,780 Kansans had selected a health insurance plan or had been automatically re-enrolled for the 2017 plan year through the marketplace.

The Kansas Health Institute (KHI) prepared statewide maps showing the marketplace enrollment by county and zip code. See the enrollment for your county!