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To: jparnell@oralhealthkansas.org  
Subject: Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS  
*Weekly Wednesday Update*

*Our Mission:  
To improve oral health  
in Kansas through  
advocacy,  
public awareness  
and education.*

Volume 3, Issue 22

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**Wichita is the 4th Largest U.S. City  
without Fluoridation**

Our state's largest city, Wichita, ranks as the fourth largest city in the United States that does not provide fluoridated drinking water for its residents. Community water fluoridation is cited by the CDC as one of the ten greatest public health achievements of the 20th century, yet in 2012 Kansas lags behind other states in ensuring our residents have access to fluoridated water. For two years in a row, the Pew Children's Dental Campaign gave Kansas a failing grade in the area of water fluoridation. Failing to provide fluoridated water can lead to tooth decay, needless dental pain, and expensive dental procedures.

Two new efforts are underway in Wichita to draw attention to the importance of community water fluoridation. A public education campaign by the Kansas Health Foundation is providing facts about the value and benefits of water fluoridation. A new website, [www.fluorideforus.com](http://www.fluorideforus.com), has been set up to provide information. Read more about the campaign and watch a public service announcement [here](#).

A volunteer coalition called Wichitans for Healthy Teeth also is getting involved in promoting community water fluoridation. This group is pushing for the Wichita City Council to act to protect Wichita residents from tooth decay through water fluoridation. Learn more about how to get involved with Wichitans for Healthy Teeth on their website, [www.wichitansforhealthyteeth.org](http://www.wichitansforhealthyteeth.org), and on their Facebook

## 2012 Annual Excellence in Oral Health Award Nominations

Be sure to check our website and your email inbox this Friday for the Award Nominations announcement.

Nominations will be accepted from this Friday, June, 1st until July 30th.

## Motivational Interviewing Skill Building Workshop

This FREE workshop will focus on a proven communication strategy - Motivational Interviewing - to encourage and support families of children birth to five to keep them cavity free.

The session will not be an introduction to Motivational Interviewing.

The entire workshop will be devoted to skill-building - demonstrations and coaching from the trainers, as well as practice sessions by participants.

Space is Limited, to register  
[CLICK HERE](#)

page [here](#).



## Deadline for Comments on KanCare Waiver is Next Week

Next week is the deadline to submit comments on the state's application for an 1115 waiver from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The waiver is being requested to allow the state to switch our Medicaid program to managed care through the KanCare proposal. Oral Health Kansas is preparing comments on the waiver application and will share them next week. If you have any questions or would like to craft comments as well, please contact Tanya Dorf Brunner for more information. [tdorf@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:tdorf@oralhealthkansas.org) or 785-235-6039.

The waiver application can be read: [Here](#)

Comments on the waiver can be submitted here through June 7: [Here](#)

## SAVE THE DATE

Make plans to attend the 2012 Oral Health Kansas Annual Conference September 13-14, 2012 at the [Hotel at Old Town](#) in Wichita, KS.

The Conference will feature a special reception with the new Big Mouth exhibit at [Exploration Place](#) sponsored by [Delta Dental of Kansas Foundation](#).



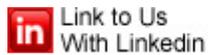
## Did You Know???

**Fluoridated water reduces tooth decay by as much as 25 percent.**

[www.fluorideforum.com](http://www.fluorideforum.com)

Join Our Mailing List!

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



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