

ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION

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Health fairs at African-American church in KC

Oral Health Kansas's staff member, Doug Bowman, recently participated in two community health fairs at the Greater Pentecostal Temple, an historic African-American church in the heart of the Argentine district, in downtown Kansas City. One fair was designed for young children, and the other was geared toward men's health. Approximately 100 people participated in the health fairs.

The most common question and discussion at the OHK exhibit table was how to practice brushing teeth. Other questions arose from our sugary drink display. Fair participants learned

New study: Failing to expand Medicaid is hurting provider networks

A new study from Georgetown University shows the significant negative impact failing to expand Medicaid is having on providers. Last week, [the KHI News Service reported on the Georgetown study](#), which interviewed providers in Missouri and Arkansas. Missouri, like Kansas, has not expanded its Medicaid program, but Arkansas has.

Providers, including hospitals and safety net clinics, in expansion states see far fewer patients who cannot pay for their care. The Affordable Care Act allows states to expand their Medicaid programs

that beverages that contain 100% juice also have sugar. Doug also helped fair-goers understand the link between diabetes and dental problems.

As we continue to provide outreach educational services to a traditionally under-served population, we hope to get a strong starting point for a new Wyandotte County oral health coalition for.

[Contact Oral Health Kansas](#) about health fairs in your community.



Kansas Oral Health Connections: A look at the first year

Last year Oral Health Kansas partnered with KAMU, Kansas Head Start Association and Kansas Bureau of Oral Health on a DentaQuest Foundation project called Kansas Oral Health Connections (KOHC).

The partners developed a [video](#) that looks back at the first year of their collective impact efforts. KOHC has a shared vision of oral health for all through [six shared goals](#). As a network, they are united in their vision of reaching a more equitable landscape for all Kansans by 2020.

Make sure you follow Kansas

to cover low-income adults who make too much money to qualify for Medicaid, but too little money to qualify for subsidies to purchase private insurance. These adults are the working poor, and they typically juggle multiple retail or food service jobs in order to make ends meet. Jobs like these usually do not offer health insurance and pay low wages. In Kansas, nearly 150,000 adults could receive health care coverage if Medicaid (KanCare) is expanded.

Reflecting on the study, Georgetown researcher Jack Hoadley said, "Often the results we see in a study are somewhat ambiguous. You see some factors pointing you in one direction, some factors pointing you in another direction. But this is a case where we really saw consistently and dramatic differences between what we were being told by the executives who worked in facilities in Medicaid expansion states versus those who came from non-expansion states."

A hospital administrator who operates facilities in both Arkansas and Missouri noted that before Medicaid expansion in Arkansas, a third of emergency room patients

Oral Health Connections on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter!](#)



Oral Health and Well-being in the United States

The [ADA Health Policy Institute](#) (HPI) has released the findings of a new survey that focuses on how oral health impacts quality of life. The inaugural report found that nearly all U.S. adults value oral health, but only 37% actually visit the dentist annually.

ADA American Dental Association®

June: Men's health month

June is Men's Health Month, and we want you to consider an interesting fact: men are less likely than women to take care of their physical health.

According to surveys and studies, their oral health is equally ignored. The average man brushes his teeth 1.9 times a day and will lose 5.4 teeth by the age of 72.

[Find out](#) out more about the oral health of men.

were uninsured, but that number has dropped to around 10 percent. Meanwhile, in Missouri the uninsured rate for people visiting emergency rooms has risen to 40 percent. Consequently, the hospital had to cut the number of full-time employees in Missouri by about 100 and was able to add a similar number of jobs at the Arkansas location.

Providers are able to ensure a well-staffed and well-trained workforce is available to meet the healthcare needs of their communities when their services are reimbursed. The lack of Medicaid expansion in both Missouri and Kansas means our healthcare workforce is in jeopardy. So far, over \$1.2 million in federal funding for Medicaid expansion in Kansas has been lost because Kansas has failed to take this important step. Learn more and get involved with the [Alliance for A Healthy Kansas](#).

Poll shows Kansans feel cold towards government

A [new poll](#) released last week by Zogby Strategies, commissioned



Sugary Drink Display

School is out and everyone is at a baseball game or at the pool! While you're enjoying the outside weather, what are you drinking to stay hydrated? Are your kids drinking sports drinks? Do you know how much sugar is in a sports drink?

Our drink display has 10 beverages that will show you how much sugar is in each! The drink display is free, and shipping costs are reimbursed when you return it to us. [Email us](#) to reserve a spot!



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

by the Kansas Health Foundation, showed that Kansans are overwhelmingly dissatisfied with their state government and with their choice of presidential candidates.

The majority of Kansans polled are deeply dissatisfied with their state government:

- 61 % answered with the worst possible score for the state government's overall performance
- 51 % answered with the worst score for the state's ability to hold the line on spending and save taxpayers money.
- 51 % answered with the worst score for the state's education spending, answering whether or not the state spends enough to ensure a quality education
- 46 % answered with the worst score for the state providing a safety net for the poor
- 41 % answered with the worst score for the state's economic development and job growth
- 40 % answered with the worst score for the state maintaining

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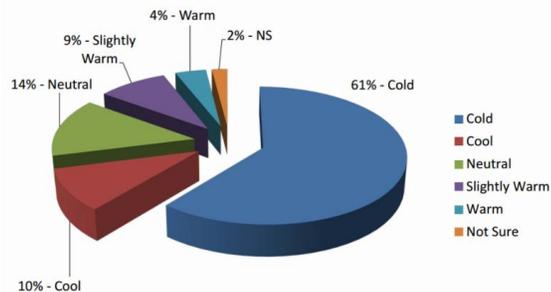
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infrastructure in the state, such as roads and bridges

PERFORMANCE OF KANSAS GOVERNMENT



To view a larger version of this graph, visit the [link](#) for the report.

OHK awarded ADA Foundation Samuel D. Harris Fund

Oral Health Kansas is excited to announce that we have been awarded a grant from the Samuel D. Harris Fund for Children's Dental Health. [The American Dental Association \(ADA\) Foundation's Harris Grant](#) program provides grants to nonprofit organizations that sponsor education programs for parents and caregivers to reduce the incidence of early childhood caries.

OHK's overarching goal is to prevent early childhood caries in babies and toddlers being served by Kansas Early Head Start Home Visitor programs. Stay tuned to learn more about the project we will launch with Harris Fund support.

ADA Foundation®

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