



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION

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Congratulations to [Pam Smith \(Dental Champions Class VII\)](#) on her new position as the Oral Health Specialist at the Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved (KAMU). Pam brings her experience from the KDHE Bureau of Oral Health to her new position.

Congratulations, Pam!

Help Keep Kansans Covered

Senate Republicans released the [Better Care Reconciliation Act \(BCRA\)](#) a few days ago. This bill retains many of the problematic provisions of the American Health Care Act (AHCA), which the House approved. Yesterday, the Senate delayed a vote on legislation to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The delay pushes Senate consideration of the bill until after a planned recess for the Fourth of July, but it does not guarantee that Republican senators will come together.

According to the [Children's Dental Health Project \(CDHP\)](#), if it becomes law:

- BCRA mirrors AHCA's drastic cuts to the Medicaid program, which currently covers 37 million children and about 1 in 5 Americans overall
- BCRA would end the ACA's Medicaid expansion after 2023. To date, more than 5 million adults

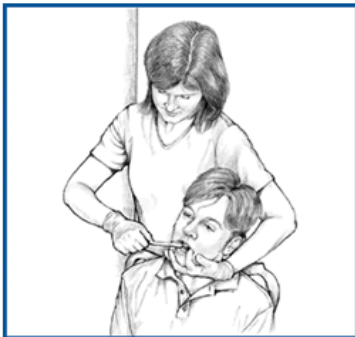


Dental care for people with developmental disabilities

If you are taking care of someone with a developmental disability, it may be challenging to help them with their dental care. It's important for them to keep up with their dental care to have a healthy mouth and overall good health.

[Here](#) are steps to help with a healthy mouth. Remember to use the techniques that work best for you and the other person.

Ex:

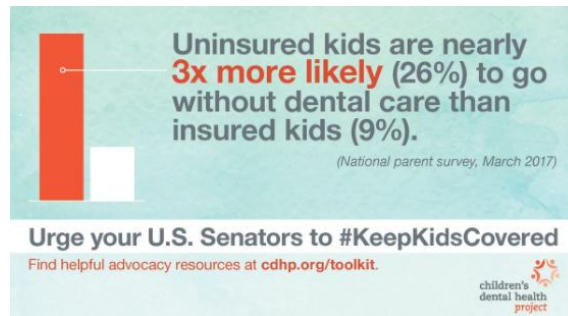


Stand behind the person or lean against a wall for additional support. Use your arm to hold the person's head gently against your body.

Fluoridated water protects your teeth

have gained dental benefits as a result of Medicaid expansion.

- The bill shrinks premium subsidies and allows states to waive essential benefits, making coverage less affordable.



What can you do?

- Call Senator Jerry Moran and tell him **THANK YOU** for not supporting the bill. "[The Senate healthcare bill missed the mark for Kansans and therefore did not have my support.](#)" Phone: (202) 224-6521.
- Call Senator Pat Roberts and ask him to protect vulnerable Kansans by changing his mind and voting against the bill. Phone: (202) 224-4774.
- Amplify your opposition through social media using the hash tags #ProtectOurCare, #ProtectMICare, #KeepKidsCovered, #SaveMyCare, #Medicaid, or #ProtectMedicaid.

Use this [tool](#) from the Public Health Institute to share messages on Twitter and Facebook.

Although other fluoride-containing products such as toothpaste, mouth rinses, and dietary supplements are available and contribute to the prevention and control of dental caries, community water fluoridation has been identified as the most cost-effective method of delivering fluoride to all members of the community regardless of age, educational attainment, or income level.

Almost 1.7 million Kansans receive fluoridated water, but Kansas still falls behind in our region for the percentage of residents that receive water from fluoridated public water systems.

Want to know more about fluoride in Kansas and learn the facts? Visit the [Fluoride Kansas website](#).



Sugary Drink Display: Teach healthy beverage choices

It's summer and along comes the summer heat! Reserve a sugary drink display for an event, health fair, day care or summer camp to show everyone healthy beverage options they can be choosing!

Our sugary drink display has 10 popular beverages and shows

- Urge colleagues, friends and family in other states to contact their and ask them to support health care for Kansans by opposing this legislation.

The [Medicaid is US campaign](#) is a TV and social media campaign to show how important Medicaid is and how important it is to protect Medicaid. This site allows you to connect directly with your Members of Congress through e-mail, Facebook or Twitter.

OHK conference keynote speaker addresses water fluoridation

In this [video](#), Brittany Seymour addresses water fluoridation. At our 2017 conference Dr. Seymour will share insight about how the internet and social media have changed our ways of communicating and how the internet shapes the public perception of issues like community water fluoridation. Perception matters more than facts, and this session will help the audience learn to adapt to the changing communication environment.

[Dr. Seymour](#) is an assistant professor in the Department of Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology at the Harvard School of Dental Medicine. She is a Faculty Associate at Harvard's Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society and a public health research consultant for MIT's Center on Civic Media.

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 ensures you can get the date(s) you need. [Sign up now!](#)



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Exhibitor opportunities at the OHK conference

We still have exhibitor slots open for the 2017 Oral Health Kansas conference! The conference will be held on November 2nd and 3rd, 2017 at the [K-State University, Olathe Campus](#) building at 22201 W. Innovation Dr. Olathe, KS 66061. Exhibitors will have the opportunity to visit with participants as well as attend conference sessions.



Last year's participants visiting exhibits

Returning exhibitors will receive a 10%

View our videos on 

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discount. The early bird registration deadline is **September 25**. Click here to download the [exhibitor form](#).

Stay tuned for a conference schedule!



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