



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

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Dental Champions Corner

Congratulations to Dr. Mark Herzog (Class 1) on his appointment to the Kansas Dental Board last month! Dr. Herzog practices in Ellsworth, serves as the President of the Kansas Dental Charitable Foundation, and is a past member of the Oral Health Kansas Board of Directors.

[Read more](#) about Dr. Herzog's appointment to the Kansas Dental Board.

Proposed rule would make dental coverage more affordable

On July 6, the IRS released a [notice of proposed rulemaking](#) proposing a number of clarifications and technical amendments to its earlier regulations, in particular its premium tax credit (PTC) regulations. The [Children's Dental Health Projects says](#) that while the Affordable Care Act allows children's health and dental coverage to be offered separately, the IRS has, until now, interpreted the law in a way that makes it unlikely for families to receive a tax credit for pediatric dental coverage. This rule represents a reversal of the interpretation and clarifies a process for accounting for the cost of children's dental coverage when calculating a family's premium tax credit amount.

Currently, only about a third of marketplace health plans include pediatric dental benefits and, in some marketplaces, pediatric dental coverage



Oral Health Kansas award nominations open

Each year, we honor outstanding individuals and organizations who are dedicated to improving oral health in Kansas. We are currently accepting nominations for [2016 Excellence in Oral Health Awards](#) and [2016 Outstanding Dental Champions](#). This is a chance to honor someone who has made a difference! The deadline for nominations is **Monday, September 26 by 5 pm**. Award winners will be honored at the Excellence in Oral Health Award Reception on Thursday, November 3 in Johnson County.

is only available through a standalone dental plan. This means that many families must purchase a separate dental plan to ensure that their children have the full range of essential health benefits identified by the ACA.

Since the amount of PTC which eligible individuals or families may receive often depends on the benchmark plan premium, the determination of the benchmark premium is a key issue under the ACA. The proposed rules would further refine the definition of the benchmark plan premium, with the changes applicable for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2018. The proposed rule includes 15 examples of how its benchmark premium rules operate.



Oral Health Kansas provides dental hygiene supplies to Topeka Metro

A couple of weeks ago, OHK was contacted by Maci at the Topeka Metro. "Can you help us?" Maci asks. The Topeka Metro was putting together hygiene kits for some of their riders. She



Shawnee County Legislative Candidate forum

OHK is among eleven local organizations co-hosting a candidate forum on Tuesday, July 26 at 7pm. The forum will be at the Topeka Shawnee County Public Library. All Shawnee County legislative candidates with a primary election opponent have been invited.

If you want to know more about this exciting event, contact [Doug Bowman](#).



State Loan Repayment Program

The [State Loan Repayment Program \(SLRP\)](#) is available to primary care, dental and mental health care providers to obtain partial or full repayment of their student loans in exchange for a minimum of two-year service commitment, or one year

was calling to ask if we could provide dental supplies. OHK staff put their heads together and agreed this was a project they felt needed their help.

We provided toothbrushes, floss and toothpastes to add to their hygiene kits. Maci says the summer months are sometimes the easiest times for riders to get a shower, since bathing with cold water is not so bad. Therefore, providing hygiene kits at this time of year is particularly helpful, and Oral Health Kansas was happy to help them.

Thanks Topeka Metro for helping out to the Topeka community!



From left to right: Maci, Topeka Metro staff; Kathy and Sonia, OHK staff

Grace Med and Topeka School District partner for medical and dental clinic

We were excited to hear that Wichita's Grace Med and Topeka's USD 501

service commitment for a continuing contract.

Application Period Opens: June 13, 2016

Application Priority Date: July 29, 2016

Applications received on or before the priority date will receive a courtesy review for completeness.

Application Period Closes: August 13, 2016

Visit their [website](#) to find out more!



Sugary Drink Display

Get your drink display reserved for the upcoming school year! We already have requests!

Our friends at Pleasanton Lincoln Library in Pleasanton, Kansas, borrowed our drink display (pictured below). They had so many families stop to look at it and be educated about healthy drinks!



Our drink display has 10 beverages that will show you

partnership for a medical and dental clinic. According to the [Topeka Capital Journal](#), the goal is for GraceMed to open and operate the clinic starting in January 2017 at the combined State Street Elementary-Chase Middle School campus in the Oakland neighborhood. In addition to serving students, the site would be open to the public.

"We know that school-based clinics make a significant contribution to both the health and educational levels that children achieve", GraceMed CEO Dave Sanford said. It is seeking a federal grant of \$650,000 annually to assist with the Oakland project, but Sanford said the organization intends to move forward even if that money doesn't come through. "I would say its going to happen, its just a matter of timing", he said. "And the timing depends on whether we can collect or raise the appropriate funds".

This partnership will help the Topeka area in so many ways. Using a school in a lower income area as a dental clinic location will provide consumers the access they need to visit a dentist. Instead of having to find transportation to a dentist, now they can simply walk there. Students will be able to get the oral health care they need and parents wouldn't have to take the time off of work to get them to the dentist.

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!



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State seeks feedback on KanCare

During the state's feedback forums about the KanCare (Medicaid) program in May, state officials asked for feedback or ideas about the Kansas Medicaid program. An email address has been set up to share feedback, models of care and ideas.

Please share your ideas with state officials at kancarerewal@kdheks.gov.

