



# ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION

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## Dental Champions Corner

Congratulations to Dr. Allison Lesko (Class 7) on being awarded the Kansas Dental Association's 2015 President's Award! Her dedication to improving dentistry and public health have thusly earned her awards as the American Associate of Public Health Award in 2007, Crown Council's Young Dentist of the Year in 2011, Soaring Eagle Award in 2015, and Outstanding Community Leader by Oral Health Kansas in 2015.



## Change the Tune

We all remember the 1971 Coca Cola ad where singers are on a hillside, expressing their wish to "buy the world a coke". Now its time to change the tune. [The Center for Science in the Public Interest](#) reworked the ad, with people who have real soda related health problems such as diabetes, tooth decay and weight gain. Now, "I'd like to buy the world a drink that doesn't cause disease" is one of the new lyrics.

"Soda is just one of several contributors to diet-related disease, but it's a major one," said Dr. Jeffry Gerber, a Denver-area physician who appeared in the film. "As a physician who asks all of my patients about the foods and drinks they choose, I see the connection between soda consumption and chronic conditions like diabetes, heart disease, and obesity every day of the week. It's hard to ask patients to practice moderation when all of the advertising, marketing, and overall ubiquity of soda rewires people to overconsume sugary drinks."

[Surgeon General's Report on Oral Health, 2000](#), reports the sugars and acids in sodas promotes tooth decay.

The new video can be viewed [here](#).



## Save the Date!

### The 2015 Oral Health Kansas Conference will be November 12-14 at Kansas State University in Olathe.

Please plan to attend. Details coming soon!



## Reserve your sugary drink display for the Fall!

The Oral Health Kansas sugary drink display has been traveling around the state, making stops across Kansas such as Garnett, El Dorado and Erie.

Reserve our traveling sugary drink display for your event! This display is completely free, and return shipping costs are reimbursed by Oral Health Kansas. Learn more [on our website](#) and [email us](#) if you are interested in hosting the display!

## Kids Missing School Due to Dental Problems

[Delta Dental](#) releases [survey findings](#) concluding 31% of children between ages six and 12, who missed school the past year due to oral health issues.

School absence breakdown:

- How much school missed: 18 percent of parents reported their children missed at least a half a day of school, four percent said their children missed one day, four percent reported children missing two days and six percent said their children had to miss three or more days.
- By region: School children in the Northeast reported the most absences because of a dental issue, with 36 percent of parents reporting their six to 12 year olds missed school, followed by the South (33 percent), the Midwest (28 percent) and the West (28 percent).
- By parents' age: Parents age 35-44 reported the most amount of school missed by their children (35 percent), followed closely by parents 18-34 (34 percent), while parents 45 and older reported the least amount of school missed (19 percent)



## Five year anniversary Kansas Clean Indoor Air Act

The Kansas Clean Indoor Air Act went into effect July 1, 2010. This year marks five years of a smoke free Kansas! The campaign was years of work by legislative leaders, advocates and grassroots support. The law prohibits smoking in restaurants, bars and within 10 feet of any doorway, open window or air intake where smoking is prohibited are some



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examples.

[The Kansas Clean Indoor Air Act fact sheet](#) can provide more information on the specifics of the smoking ban.

Oral Health Kansas continues to support the Kansas Clean Indoor Air Act and submitted [testimony](#).



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