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Working Together for Overall Health

This year OHK and KAMU are teaming

Interim Legislative Study: Adult Dental Services

Last week the Legislative Coordinating Council assigned a study of the cost effectiveness of an adult dental benefit in the Kansas Medicaid program to the Legislative Budget Committee. The Budget Committee will spend one day this fall studying the issue. This was an issue OHK highlighted many times during the 2011 Legislative Session. We are pleased to see the Legislature agreed the issue merits additional study.

Oral Health Kansas believes all people deserve access to a way to pay for routine dental services, rather than being forced to suffer through dental pain and risk disease. Research shows that people who receive routine dental services are able to better manage oral health problems that could lead to more serious and costly health problems, including pneumonia, strokes, and heart conditions. Investing in routine, preventive dental services can help reduce future health costs.

The cost of not providing a dental benefit for Medicaid-eligible adults is paid in complications people with chronic disease experience and an increased use of hospital emergency departments. We look forward to talking more about the issue with legislators this fall. When a date for the hearing is announced, we will share it.

up to bring a joint conference. It will be held September 14-16, 2011 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Overland Park, Kansas.

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Nominations are open for the 2011 Excellence in Oral Health Awards

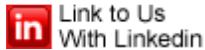
Do you know of an individual who is a community leader in oral health? Maybe you know a clinician or organization that has made a positive impact? If so, Please let us know by **NOMINATING SOMEONE TODAY!**

[CLICK HERE](#) for the 2011 Nomination Form.

Awards will be presented at the 2011 Oral Health Kansas Conference September 14-16, 2011 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Overland Park Kansas.

Nominations will be accepted until July 29.

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



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