

ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION

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We are sad to announce, this is the last Dental Champions class Ron Alexander will be coaching. Ron has been leading the Dental Champions Leadership program since it began in 2005. He has inspired scores of Kansans to exercise leadership to improve oral health in Kansas.

Shawnee County, Kansas raises age to purchase tobacco products

[Tobacco 21](#), is a national campaign aimed at raising the minimum legal age (MLA) for tobacco and nicotine sales in the United States to 21. According to the [National Survey on Drug Use and Health](#), 90 percent of adult smokers began smoking before the age of 20.

In Kansas, on August 10th, the Shawnee County Commissioners voted 2-1 to ban the sale or furnishing of cigarettes, electronic cigarettes, tobacco products or liquid nicotine to anyone under 21 in those areas. Shawnee County is the 18th locality in Kansas to adopt Tobacco 21. See the list [here](#).

The resolution holds retailers responsible for violations committed by their employees, with violators being subject to a \$200 fine. It takes effect 30 days after being published in the official county newspaper, which is [The Topeka Capital-Journal](#).



Open slots still available for exhibitors

OHK still has open slots for exhibitors for our annual conference in November. This year the conference will be held November 2-3 at the KState Olathe Campus in Olathe. Your exhibitor registration will provide the following benefits:

- An 8 foot table with tablecloth and skirting
- Two chairs
- Electricity, upon request
- Complimentary internet access
- Complimentary access to all conference meal functions and speakers

If you have any questions, email us at info@oralhealthkansas.org

To fill out an exhibitor form, click [here](#).

MEETING the
CHALLENGE
of **CHANGE**

How can you change

Some people, especially our youth, don't realize the effects tobacco has on our oral health. [Here](#) are just a few issues:

- 50 percent of smoking adults have gum (periodontal) disease.
- Smokers are about twice as likely to lose their teeth as non-smokers.
- Cigarette smokers are nearly twice as likely to need root canal treatment.
- Smoking leads to reduced effectiveness of treatment for gum disease.
- Smoking increases risk of mouth pain, cavities and gum recession (which can lead to tooth loss).



Sippy is ready for school!

Thirsty for Health is going strong! Sippy started making a splash into Kansas schools this year when an action kit was released to participating schools on Friday, August 11th. Included in the action kit were a Sippy themed crossword puzzle and word search for teachers, a sample newsletter article for schools along with social media messaging specific to the project. More updates and materials will continue to be released

oral health in your community?

We know how! Whether you are interested in learning how to promote oral health in children or increasing oral health services in nursing homes, we can provide you resources to help!

To find out more information, click [here!](#)

The power of community to create health is far greater than any physician, clinic or hospital-
Mark Hyman



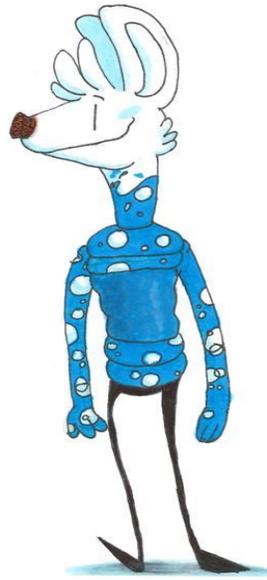
Sugary Drink Display

Use the drink display at schools, for classroom education, health fairs or even at your office! Our August schedule is booked! Sign up before the months fill up!

Our sugary drink display has 10 popular beverages and shows 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. [Email us](#) and let us know when you would like to reserve a drink display.

throughout the year and more exciting announcements will be coming soon!



If you have questions about Thirsty for Health contact [Kelly](#) or visit our [website!](#)

National Health Center Week

This week, is [National Health Center Week \(NHCW\)](#) This year's theme is "Celebrating America's Health Centers: The Key to Healthier Communities." Health centers provide services to people regardless of their ability to pay or what insurance they have.

[The Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved \(KAMU\)](#) represents 44 independently operated safety net clinics with a total of 88 locations that serve more than 261,000 Kansans through approximately 786,000 visits per year. The Kansas Safety Net is made up of medical, dental, and behavioral health

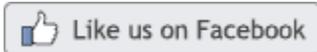


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 View on Instagram

clinics across Kansas with a mission to provide access to comprehensive health care for underserved populations, regardless of their ability to pay.

Are there any events in your area that are celebrating this week? Find out [here](#) if your community has an event planned!



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