

ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION

Volume 7, Issue 33

August 17, 2016

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Great feedback received!

Over 50% of Dental Champions responded to our alumni survey last week! Thank you all so much for your feedback and ideas. We are excited to dig into all the good information you shared so we can continue to improve alumni collaboration and re-connection opportunities!



Be an exhibitor
at our conference

Volunteer Spotlight

Here at Oral Health Kansas, we are a staff of seven oral health advocates. But we can't forget the advocates who are behind the scenes, helping us make things happen! Carolyn Weinhold has been a volunteer for a few years, helping us coordinate meetings, making phone call reminders, attending meetings with us and participating in webinars. Carolyn brings years of advocacy experience to our office. From working with the disabilities population, to working for Head Start for 18 years - ten years at the Salina Heartland Programs and eight years as the Head Start State Collaboration Coordinator and even serving as a state legislator, she is always willing to meet new people and try new initiatives.

On top of her busy schedule, Carolyn loves to play Pickleball! She challenges anyone who wants to try it out!

Exhibitor early bird registration ends **September 12**. Sign up!

OHK's [annual conference](#) is November 3-5 in Overland Park. This year's theme is "Igniting Collective Impact: Inspiring Communities. The conference this year will engage oral health advocates and practitioners in conversations about the collective approaches we all can take to inspire communities to make big differences in improving the oral health of their residents.

Exhibitors will participate on November 4 as well as have an opportunity to attend the day's sessions! If interested email [Sonia](#).



Award Nominations are Open!

Nominations for the 2016 Excellence in Oral Health Awards are open! In November we will honor outstanding accomplishments by Kansans in the following categories:

- Dentist
- Dental Hygienist
- Organization
- Community Leader
- Volunteer
- Policymaker
- Dental Champion

Help us tell the stories of the amazing work that goes on across the state every day by



We can't express how lucky we are to have such a talented volunteer to help us out! If you want to be a volunteer for OHK, [contact us!](#)

Achieving a health impact in 5 years includes community water fluoridation

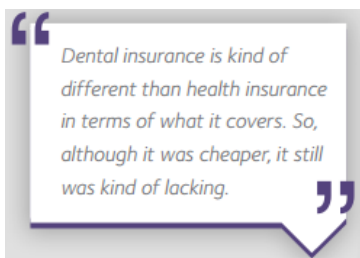
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has announced the release of [HI-5, "a list of non-clinical, community-wide approaches with a proven track record"](#). Each intervention listed is associated with improved health within five years and is reported to be cost-effective or cost-saving over the lifetime of the population or even earlier. Public and private organizations can use this list to quickly assess the scientific evidence for short-term health outcomes and overall cost impacts of community-wide approaches. The Health Impact in 5 Years (HI-5) initiative highlights non-clinical, community-wide approaches that have evidence reporting 1) positive

nominating someone for one of the awards. Details and the nomination forms are available on [Oral Health Kansas' website](#).



Millennials struggle to navigate dental options

Researchers from the University of Pennsylvania observed young adults as they shopped for medical and dental insurance on the health insurance exchange, HealthCare.gov, in Pennsylvania during the first open enrollment period in 2014. [See](#) what young adults said about their efforts to purchase dental coverage.



Sugary Drink Display

School will be back in session soon! Get your drink display reserved before we run out of spots!

health impacts, 2) results within five years, and 3) cost effectiveness and/or cost savings over the lifetime of the population or earlier.



Water fluoridation is one of the HI-5. Fluoride prevents tooth decay by keeping tooth enamel strong, providing a protective barrier against harmful bacteria. Dental caries is the most chronic disease in children and adolescents. [According to the CDC](#), among adults aged 20-64, 91 percent had dental caries and 27 percent had untreated tooth decay. Community water fluoridation has been a major contributor to the dramatic decline of tooth decay in the U.S. in the 1900s. CDC declared community water fluoridation one of the ten greatest public health advances of the twentieth century. Studies have shown caries are substantially lower in the communities with fluoride.

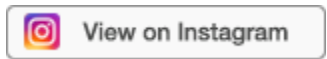
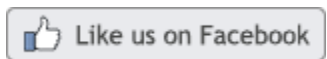
Our drink display has 10 beverages that will show you how much sugar is in each! The drink display is free, and shipping costs are reimbursed when you return it to us. [Email us](#) to reserve a spot!



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

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WATER WITH FLUORIDE BUILDS A FOUNDATION FOR HEALTHY TEETH.



Brush with fluoride toothpaste.



Visit the dentist regularly.



Drink water with fluoride.

Fluoride in water. 70 years and going strong.
At a faucet near you.
www.cdc.gov/fluoridation



Dental providers call for Medicaid Dental Advocacy

Last week several Kansas dental providers called for more advocacy to improve the dental services offered through the KanCare program (Medicaid) in a conference call with KanCare managed care organizations. The call was chaired by Prairie Village dentist, John Fasbinder. The main topic of conversation was the 4% Medicaid rate cut enacted last month as a part of a package of cuts to balance the state budget.

Concern was expressed during the call about the adequacy of the KanCare dental provider network. According to state officials, 395 dentists are enrolled as KanCare providers. Oral Health Kansas staff participated in the call and encouraged people to talk to legislative candidates this fall about the importance

of Medicaid dental services. Read more about the conference call from the [KHI News Service](#).

State officials announced this week that public forums would not be held about the 4% rate cut. They offered an email address to share concerns and feedback about the cut. If you have a story about the effect the rate cut is having on KanCare beneficiaries, please share it at KanCareReductions@kdheks.gov.

Additional details about the change from public forums to an email opportunity to provide feedback can be found in this story from the [KHI News Service](#).

Please note last week, we published another story about Dr. Fasbinder's advocacy and described him as an oral surgeon. He actually is a general dentist and dental anesthesiologist. We apologize for the error.