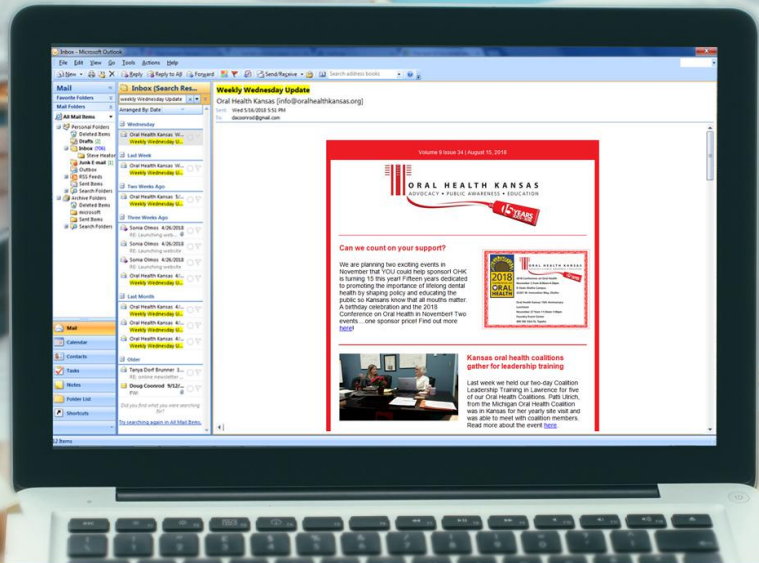




ORAL HEALTH KANSAS
 ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION



WEEKLY WEDNESDAY UPDATE

The Weekly Wednesday Update is our newsletter which we email every Wednesday with oral health, health and policy updates from around the state and nationally.

To view past issues [click here](#).

Click here to sign up for our [Weekly Wednesday Update](#).

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Conference Registration Opening Soon!

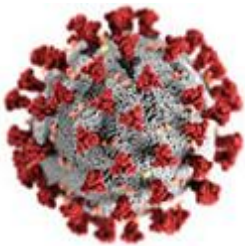
The 2021 Conference on Oral Health registration will be opening soon! The virtual conference will be held November 4 from 8:00am-12:00pm and November 5 from 8:00am-12:30pm with a special Dental Champions Alumni Battle Royale reception the evening of November 4! National and state thought leaders will join us this year and cover topics including: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Dental Care, serving people with

disabilities and a panel on new delivery models. Watch for registration instructions very soon!



National Hispanic Heritage Month

Today begins National Hispanic Heritage Month. From September 15 to October 15, we recognize the achievements and contributions of Hispanic American champions who have inspired others to achieve success. While there is much to celebrate, this month also offers us the chance to recognize that despite the fact that Hispanics or Latinos are the largest racial/ethnic minority population in the U.S. they are also three times as likely to be uninsured as non-Hispanic whites. The Dental Insurance Coverage And Unmet Dental Needs in Kansas report, shares children and nonelderly Kansas adults who are Hispanic, Any Race, were more at risk of not having dental insurance and having unmet dental needs. Oral Health Kansas is committed to understand the disparities and working on solutions to address them.



CDC Updates Guidance for COVID in Healthcare Settings

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has updated its infection prevention and control (IPC) guidance for healthcare settings for the COVID-19 Pandemic. These updates do not contain substantial changes in recommended practices but, rather, have primarily been made to streamline and consolidate existing healthcare IPC guidance so that it is applicable to multiple settings and scenarios, which will make it easier to for healthcare providers to find relevant guidance. This guidance does not include restaurants or other non healthcare settings. The updated guidance can be found on our website at <http://oralhealthkansas.org/Covid19.html> or directly at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html>.



Racial Equity for Federal Agencies

Download the nation's first racial equity blueprint for federal agencies, [For Love of Country: A Path for the Federal Government to Advance Racial Equity](#). It provides tools, resources, and a plan to implement President Biden's executive order on advancing racial equity. Although it's geared towards federal agencies, the tools are applicable to equity advocates inside and outside the government! Read more about it [here](#).



Upcoming Events

- 2021 Conference on Oral Health, presented by Oral Health Kansas, November 4 and 5. More information will be provided [here](#).
- Webinar series: Integrating Race Conversations into Healthy Patient-Provider Interactions, 3rd Friday of every month at 12:00pm CST. Find more information [here](#).
- Alliance for Health Policy Virtual Health Equity Summit, September 15-16, 2021, 7:00 am CST.
- Community Care Network of Kansas Virtual Conference, September 20 - 23, 2021. Register [here](#).
- Kansas Public Health Association Virtual Conference, September 21 - 23, 2021. Register [here](#).
- Self Advocate Coalition of Kansas (SACK) Conference, virtually on October 16, 9:30am-5:30pm. Registration coming soon!

We are happy to celebrate our colleague Dawn Downes this week. Dawn was a member of the third Dental Champions class in 2008, and she has served as a project Director and Senior Program Officer at REACH Healthcare Foundation since 2007. She has been a champion of oral health programs in Kansas and Missouri and of Oral Health Kansas for 14



years. She started her work at REACH leading a children’s oral health initiative called Project Ready Smile. Her years of experience made her a valuable member of our Advocacy

Committee where she provided great insight into the policy issues facing our state. Dawn is taking a new job as the Vice President of Program Administration at [The Children’s Place](#) in Kansas City, and we congratulate her on her many years of service at REACH and to Oral Health Kansas as she brings her talents to her new position.



Picture courtesy of Reach Healthcare Foundation



Sugary Drink Display Sanitation

Out of an abundance of caution, we are suspending use of the Sugary Drink Display until further notice.

During this time, hand washing and social distancing is on everyone’s mind. We want everyone to have the comfort of knowing we sanitize our sugary drink displays. They are wiped down and cleaned off after they have been returned.



Follow Us



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