



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION

Volume 6, Issue 37

Sept. 16, 2015

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Dental Champions Corner

Congratulations to Marlou Wegener (Class 1) on appearing in this month's issue of [TK Business Magazine](#). The article highlights all the great work Marlou does on behalf of Kansans through her role at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas.



 **DENTAL CHAMPIONS**
Leadership Program
a program of Oral Health Kansas, Inc.

Kansans Help Celebrate 70 Years of Fluoridation

Kansans participated in last weekend's national 70th Anniversary Fluoridation Celebration in Chicago. The meeting was collaboratively planned by the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Association of Public Health Dentistry, American Dental Association, Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Advocates and practitioners from across the country learned about the history, science, and engineering of water fluoridation. They also learned about recent state legislation and about recent efforts to keep fluoride in communities across the country.

Kansas' own Dr. Allison Lesko presented the successful campaign to Keep Fluoride in Salina last November. She discussed the campaign strategies used, the stakeholders involved, and the two-to-one margin of victory. Dr. Lesko is a Salina dentist who led the campaign and is a member of Dental Champions Class VII. She also is the recipient of the Oral

Does Your Job Impact Your Oral Health?

Do you chew on a pencil while you're working? Or are you a seamstress and put needles in your mouth while sewing? Some jobs were listed as being harmful to your teeth, including taste testers.

Oral Health on the Job



Save the Date!

The 2015 Oral Health Kansas Conference will be November 13-14 in the Johnson County area at the Olathe K-State University campus.



Registration for the conference will begin soon! Mark your calendars now to take part in this event focused on health and oral health equity.

Health Kansas 2014 award for Outstanding Community Leader and of the Kansas Dental Association 2015 President's Award.

Oral Health Kansas staff members Tanya Dorf Brunner and Rachel Alexander also participated in the national fluoridation celebration.



Allison Lesko speaking to attendees

National Senior Center Month

September is National Senior Center Month, honoring centers in your area who provide social gatherings, meals, education and various support for seniors. Seniors are at high risk for decay and gum disease which in turn can have a negative impact on other parts of the body. Educating them in senior centers is a good way to raise awareness and provide information.

In July, volunteers gathered to assemble dental kits which were later distributed to senior centers in the Johnson County area. The locations included: Lenexa, Merriam, DeSoto, Spring Hill, Overland Park and Gardner. Thank you to the wonderful hygienists who delivered the kits and provided a 20-minute presentation: Patty Martinette, Lorraine Brockmann, Pat Collins, Deidre Winters,

Drink Display

What a busy week for our sugary drink display! We have one in Southeast Kansas, one made its way to Wichita and another one in Lawrence!

If you want to reserve the drink display for your organization or event, [email us](mailto:info@oralhealthkansas.org). Remember the display is free to use and return shipping costs are reimbursed by Oral Health Kansas.

Slots are filling up fast!



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

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Karen Sutherland and Jenni Ferguson.



Volunteers
assembling dental kits



DeSoto Senior
Center



Lenexa Senior
Center

Out In The Community

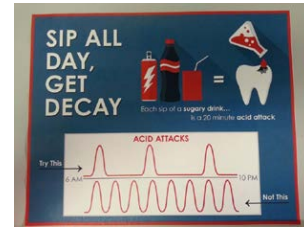
Community Coalition Coordinator, Doug Bowman, took the time out of his Saturday, to visit with families at the Moms Everyday event hosted by WIBW. Moms Everyday is a source of trending information, reliable information, humor, advice, recipes and mom-tested knowledge...all in one place. The event was held at the Westridge Mall in Topeka. Doug was able to visit with about 150 families, sharing our sugary drink display and educating about sugary beverages and "better choice" beverages. He stressed the importance of our acid attack sign and magnets... "Sip all day....get decay", encouraging to drink water instead. Remember, you can reserve the sugary drink display by [emailing us](mailto:info@oralhealthkansas.org)!

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Congratulations on 10 years!

Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City celebrated their 10 year anniversary this week! During their luncheon, Kathleen Sebelius spoke to attendees about the future of health in Kansas. She challenged the group with the question: How can you make Kansas City the healthiest area of the country over the next ten years?

The Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City has produced a publication, [A Decade of Difference](#), compiled of challenges and successes their partners had reported via a survey. Also included, a piece about oral health, past, present and future hopes. OHK's successes were mentioned: broadening the dental hygienist Extended Permit Law (2007), securing funding for Medicaid dental services for pregnant women (2008), incorporating a Medicaid preventive dental benefit for adults in the state's new Medicaid managed care program (2012), and defeating legislation that would have compromised water fluoridation (2014).



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