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Subject: Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update

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ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

Weekly Wednesday Update

*Our Mission:  
To improve oral health  
in Kansas through  
advocacy,  
public awareness  
and education.*

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## Dental Champions Corner:

### Oral Health Education Tool-kits Project Launched

In a collaborative venture,  
the Wichita State University  
School of Nursing and the  
Department of Dental

## Register for the Oral Health Kansas Conference Today!

Registration for the 2013 Oral Health Kansas Conference is open. On November 7 and 8, join your friends and colleagues at Johnson County Community College to learn about state and national trends in oral health and the economics of the future dental care delivery system. National experts on water fluoridation advocacy efforts will be on hand to share their insights.

A full list of conference sessions is available on the [Oral Health Kansas website](#). The link to register on-line also is available on the website. A group discount of 10% is available for two or more people attending from the same organization. **Early bird rates are available until October 4.**

Hygiene seek to train their students how to use oral health care kits customized to meet the specific needs of older adults and geriatric patients in the WSU DH Clinic, skilled nursing facilities or hospitals.

The educational sessions funded by a grant from Patterson Dental will be taught by nursing faculty member, Susan Parsons, and dental hygiene faculty member, Kathy Trilli. The Oral Health Education Tool-kits will be provided to the students during an inter-professional education session.



(Left to Right) Lynette Murphy-Senior Director of Development, WSU Foundation (Class 5); Angie Holladay, Patterson Dental, Wichita Branch Manager (Class 5); Susan Parsons PhD, RN, Assistant Professor of Nursing, WSU; and Kathryn Trilli, RDH, BSDH, EXP II, Clinical Educator, WSU (Class 4)

# Brush with

# Greatness



Celebrating a Decade of Advancing  
Oral Health in Kansas

The conference will feature a reception with tours of the Johnson County Community College dental hygiene clinic and will include nine dental continuing education credits.

Hotel rooms are available at the Hawthorne Suites by Wyndham Overland Park, 11400 College Boulevard. Please call 913-344-8100 to reserve your room now. Ask for the special "Oral Health Kansas" rate of \$89 per night. The special rate is available until October 7.

Call 785-235-6039 or email [info@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:info@oralhealthkansas.org) with any questions.

## Award nominations accepted through September 27

Oral Health Kansas is seeking nominations for the 2013 Excellence in Oral Health Awards. The awards recognize Kansans who have made significant contributions to the oral health community. Awards are given in several categories:

- Outstanding Organization
- Outstanding Dental Hygienist
- Outstanding Dentist
- Outstanding Community Leader
- Bob Bethell Outstanding Policy Maker
- Outstanding Oral Health Volunteer
- Outstanding Dental Champion

Details about the awards categories, a list of previous award winners, and the on-line



a program of Oral Health Kansas, Inc.

## Traveling Sugary Beverage Display

In September, the Oral Health Kansas traveling sugary drink displays will be on display at the Greenwood County Health Department, and Haskell Township Library.



If you are interested in having the drink display on display in your area, send an email to [Tanya](mailto:tanya@oralhealthks.org).

Drink displays are available for hosting this fall!

## Did You Know...



nomination forms are available on the Oral Health Kansas website. **Nominations will be accepted through September 27.**

Awards will be presented at a luncheon during the Oral Health Kansas Conference at Johnson County Community College on November 8.

## ACA Educational Tour Begins

The [Kansas Health Institute](http://www.insureks.org) reported this week on Insurance Commissioner Sandy Praeger's upcoming state tour to educate Kansans about the Affordable Care Act and how to use the law's new online marketplace to purchase health coverage and qualify for federal subsidies.

The tour runs through Oct. 22. It includes scheduled stops in 12 cities. A full list of the dates and times for the consumer education meetings is available below and on the insurance department website at [www.insureks.org](http://www.insureks.org). The site also features information about how to use the new online marketplace and a "premium estimator" to help consumers calculate the cost of premiums.

Praeger said she scheduled the meetings to help Kansans learn how to use the online marketplace, not build support for the still controversial health reform law. Nevertheless, she said she believes opposition to the law, which remains high in Kansas, will diminish when consumers learn more about it.

"Not at lot changes if you think about it," Praeger said. "All this (the ACA) does is make private health insurance more affordable for the average person and available to folks who otherwise have been denied (coverage) in the past because of health status."

The reform law prohibits insurers from using many of the tools they once used to manage risk, including denying

The average North American can exert approximately 30-40lbs per square inch of pressure with their jaws - denture wearers can get up to about 15lbs. Some Inuit people can exert 350lbs of pressure.



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coverage to persons with pre-existing medical conditions and limiting annual and lifetime benefits.

## State Dental Director Position announcement

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment will accept applications for the state's Dental Director position through September 27. The responsibilities of the position include:

- Maintain Kansas' public oral health infrastructure through the implementation and maintenance of evidence based community health interventions. This includes the creation, management and evaluation of federally funded programs including the Kansas School Sealant program.
- Assist communities, local health departments, local health care professionals and water operators with issues related to Community Water Fluoridation. Draft, implement and supervise all federal grant applications.
- Maintain Kansas Oral Health Surveillance System through the supervision of the Kansas School Screening Program, the Water Fluoridation Reporting System, periodic administration of Basic Screening Surveys, and submissions to the National Oral Health Surveillance System

This position directs the activities of an Oral Health Epidemiologist and oral health research contractors, but the Dental Director drafts and approves all state oral health data reports including "Smiles Across Kansas", "Elder Smiles" and other data reports of state and national interest. Read more about the position requirements and how to apply on the [Kansas Dental Association website](#).

## Thanks to Conference Sponsors!

Oral Health Kansas thanks the following organizations for sponsoring the 2013 Conference November 7-8 in Johnson County:

**Delta Dental of Kansas Foundation**

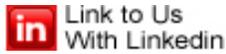
**Comfort Dental**

**Bureau of Oral Health**

**DentaQuest**

Contact [Oral Health Kansas](#) to learn how to join in November the celebration of Oral Health Kansas' 10th anniversary with continuing education and networking opportunities!

If you have an idea, story or suggestion for a Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update please contact us at [info@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:info@oralhealthkansas.org).



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