



# ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION

Volume 8, Issue 38

September 20, 2017

## In This Issue

[Faces of OHK](#)

[Hey Dental Champions!](#)

[Sugary Drink Display](#)

[CHIP Thank You](#)

[ACA Repeal is Back: Urgent](#)

[Need to Fight Graham-Cassidy Bill](#)

[Dentistry is on the front lines of stopping opioid abuse](#)



We are happy to announce two new members to the [Dental Champions Advisory Board](#). Congratulations to [Rachel Alexander](#) and [Dr. James Trotter](#) both from Class VIII!

## CHIP Thank You

Thank you to everyone who participated in our CHIP Twitter Storm on Tuesday! We had participants from at least 15 states, along with national organizations! Great work! Keep the tweets coming and share your messages about extending CHIP. #ExtendCHIP #CHIPWorks #SaveCHIP #KeepKidsCovered



## ACA Repeal is Back: Urgent Need to Fight Graham - Cassidy Bill

Although we thought we were done with



---

## Hey Dental Champions! Submit your nominations!

Dental Champions! Was there someone in your leadership class that you thought did incredible work? Nominate them for an [Excellence in Oral Health Award!](#) Wouldn't that be great to see them get an award at our conference in November?

If you need help or have questions, call us at 785-235-6039 or [email us!](#)

---

## Sugary Drink Display

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.

ACA Repeal and Replace, Senate Republicans are pushing a renewed effort to pass a bill that would end up cutting health care coverage for as many as 32 million Americans. The latest ACA repeal bill is Graham-Cassidy, also referred to as Cassidy-Graham, which eliminates protection for those with pre-existing conditions and slashes federal funding for the Medicaid program.

Graham-Cassidy will:

1. Convert the Medicaid program to block grants putting states and Medicaid enrollees at financial risk
2. Eliminate the ACA's Medicaid expansion and ACA's marketplace subsidies in 2020 and replace them with an inadequate block grant that disappears in 2027.
3. Allow states to charge people higher premiums based on their health status as well as remove the "essential health benefits"

Senators are projected to vote on this bill as early as next Wednesday and need to hear your voice NOW!

What can you do?

Contact Kansas senators and tell them to vote NO on Graham-Cassidy:

Jerry Moran: Call 913-3930711

Pat Roberts: Call 913-451-9343

Join our twitter storm on Friday! Sample tweets can be found on the [homepage of Oral Health Kansas.](#)



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

800 SW Jackson, Suite 1120  
Topeka, Kansas 66612  
785-235-6039  
[info@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:info@oralhealthkansas.org)

Donate Now

Like us on Facebook

Follow us on **twitter**

FOLLOW US ON **Pinterest**

View our videos on **YouTube**

View on **Instagram**



## Dentistry is on front lines of stopping opioid abuse

Dentistry is the fourth highest reason people are prescribed opioids in the United States. This month, [National Public Radio reported](#) on how dental schools are beginning to teach students about being careful about prescribing opioids and the value of prescribing non-addictive pain medication. One of the new approaches schools are using is to prepare future dentists to help patients understand that having zero pain after something like a tooth extraction is not realistic. This year, the [Commission on Dental Accreditation revised the standards](#) dental students must meet for graduation by saying that, "graduates must be competent in providing oral health care ... including consideration of the impact of prescribing practices and substance abuse."

At this year's Oral Health Kansas Conference, participants will have the chance to learn about the latest research in opioid addiction and the role of dental professionals. Clinical social worker Alan Murray has extensive experience in strategies to help people conquer addictions. He will share insight about

how dental practices can incorporate best practices to stop opioid abuse before it begins. [Learn more and register to attend](#) the Conference on November 2-3 in Olathe.



Oral Health Kansas, 800 SW Jackson, Ste. 1120, Topeka, KS 66612  
[info@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:info@oralhealthkansas.org)