



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION

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Time is Running Out!

The deadline for the Excellence in Oral Health Awards nominations is Monday, September 28 by 5pm. This would be such a thoughtful way to honor someone for the hard work he/she has done.

Take the time to fill out the forms below:

[2015 Excellence in Oral Health Awards Nomination Form](#)

[2015 Outstanding Dental Champion Award Nomination Form](#)



Registration is Open!

We are excited to announce registration for the 2015 Oral Health Kansas annual conference is open! The conference will be November 12-14, at the Kansas State University Olathe Campus, 22201 W. Innovation Dr., Olathe. This year's theme is Oral Health for All: It's Within Reach. The conference will engage oral health advocates and practitioners in a thoughtful conversation about what health equity means and how to remove barriers for underserved people. Participants will learn more about the current efforts in Kansas and across the country to build a strong network of individuals and organizations who are catalysts for change and who are ready to improve the oral health of all people. Perennial favorite sessions will be featured as well, including a public policy panel and the annual State of the State in Oral Health.

Blog Post

Oral Health Kansas has partners on both sides of the midlevel dental professional issue. This month REACH Healthcare Foundation President and CEO Brenda Sharpe shared her thoughts in a blog post on the role of philanthropy and the foundation's support of advocacy efforts to promote the Registered Dental Practitioner model.

The full blog post, "[From Charity to Philanthropy: Supporting Dental Therapy and Proven Models of Care.](#)" was published by Community Catalyst.



Job Opportunity!

The Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved (KAMU) is hiring for a Cover Kansas Coalition Coordinator. This position is responsible for planning, coordinating, and evaluating the Cover Kansas Coalition, and lead KAMU to facilitate long-term involvement of state and community organizations to connect Kansans to affordable health insurance.



Don't miss out on such an informative opportunity! [Read more](#) about the conference and make sure you [register](#) before October 19 for the early bird special! We also have [exhibitor](#) and [sponsorship](#) opportunities!

OHK Honored by Public Health Association

In a September 17 awards ceremony, Oral Health Kansas was presented with the Kansas Public Health Association's 2015 Corporate Public Health Service Award. The award recognizes Oral Health Kansas' work over the last twelve years to educate and advocate for better oral health policies in the state. The Dental Champions Leadership Program and advocacy efforts, including promoting Medicaid dental services, were noted as some of the defining activities of the organization. Oral Health Kansas' involvement in protecting community water fluoridation at the state and local levels also were praised. The Kansas Public Health Association honored OHK by saying, "Oral Health Kansas in a short period of time has carefully structured a framework to influence decision-makers, health professionals, and Kansans for better

For more information visit their [website!](#)



ER Referral Program Expands

St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital and Effingham Catholic Charities in Effingham, Illinois, have been working together to help patients who come into the emergency room for oral health issues. Patients are happy to find some kind of relief to get help from a dentist. [Check out](#) the great outcomes their work has done!



Drink Display

We have open slots for reservations in the late fall! If you want to reserve the drink display for your organization or event, [email us](#). Remember the display is free to use and return shipping costs are reimbursed by Oral Health Kansas.

overall health."

Executive Director Tanya Dorf Brunner (below) accepted the award on behalf of the board, staff and volunteers. Board member Jill Quigley and Community Development Specialist Marcia Manter attended the ceremony, along with a host of Dental Champions.



ECP Model to be Studied By UMKC

The University of Missouri at Kansas City (UMKC) has been awarded a federal grant that will allow them to study the twelve-year-old model of delivering preventive dental care to underserved students in schools. The Extended Care Permit (ECP) model is designed to allow dental hygienists with the permit to provide preventive services in schools, Head Starts, nursing homes, community developmental disabilities organizations, and other places that serve underserved Kansans.

The new National Institutes for Health (NIH) grant enables the UMKC School of Dentistry to study the cost-effectiveness of the ECP model in 108 Kansas school



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districts. Dr. Melanie Simmer-Beck, the project's co-primary investigator and a long-time collaborator with Oral Health Kansas, said, "This grant will hopefully show that this model is cost effective and improves the oral health of whoever the recipient is."

UMKC will partner with the Kansas Bureau of Oral Health's school sealant program, which works with ECP hygienists to provide preventive services in schools across the state. Bureau of Oral Health Director Cathleen Taylor-Osborne noted that the grant, "will allow the evaluation, data collection and formulation of evidence-based recommendations to further improve the health of Kansas children."

Read more about the project [in this story](#) from the Kansas Health Institute News Service or in this [UMKC news story](#).



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