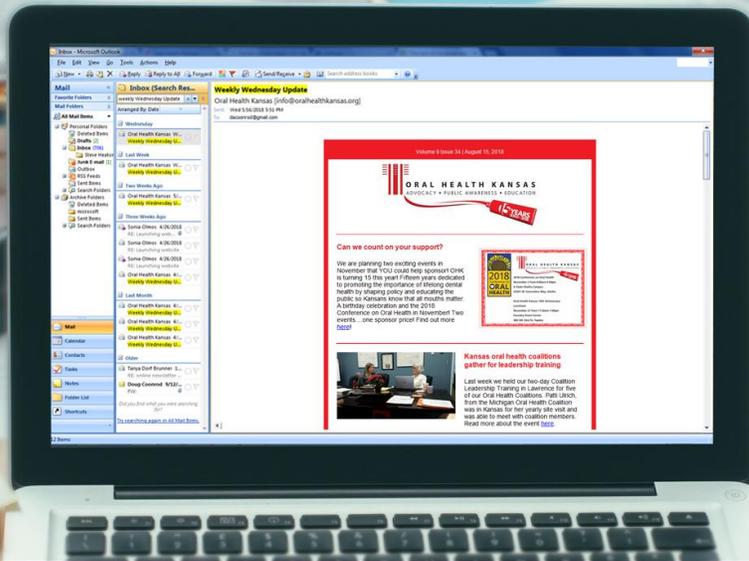




ORAL HEALTH KANSAS
ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION



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](#).

September 25, 2019

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Important Early Bird Deadlines To Remember

We have just a few exhibitor spots available for the 2019 Conference on Oral Health for Friday, November 8! The early bird exhibitor deadline is this Friday, September 27. If you would like to market your materials and reach professionals from all across Kansas, this is a great opportunity! We'll be at the Kansas State University Olathe Campus, 22201 W. Innovation Dr., in Olathe.

The early bird registration for the conference is Friday, October 4. Sign up to get the best rate! Bring a guest who has never been to the conference and get a discount!

Single registration rate:

\$90 (\$120 after Oct. 4)

Registration + new guest rate

\$125 (\$170 after Oct. 4)

Student rate: \$30

There is a block of hotel rooms for the night of Thursday, November 7 available at the Holiday Inn Express, Olathe, 12070 South Strang Line Road, Olathe, KS 66062. Call (913) 397-0100 by October 17 to reserve a room for \$129.

For all conference details and sign up, click [here](#)!



Legislative Activity Continues Throughout The Fall

We are happy to share this update on legislative activity from our lobbyist and advocacy advisor Stuart J. Little. The 2020 Session is less than four months away and the quieter days of summer at the Statehouse are over. Interim committees have been meeting and making recommendations while state agencies finalized their budgets before the September 15th deadline for submission in the Governor's budget. There is a lot of activity shaping up in Topeka and across the state.

KanCare Oversight:

- The Joint Committee on KanCare (Medicaid managed care) Oversight met at the end of August to hear from individuals, providers, state agencies, and MCOs about the status of KanCare and timelines for various projects. Oral Health Kansas testified at the hearing to thank the Committee for recommending a Medicaid dental rate increase, which passed in 2019. They are scheduled to meet again in November to make additional recommendations to the full Legislature.

Governor's Panel on Medicaid Expansion:

- In preparation for another round of debating Medicaid Expansion next Session, the Governor assembled this panel to study expansion in other states. Unlike the Senate Committee on Healthcare Access, the Governor's panel will not craft expansion legislation, but will examine and recommend policies for how Kansas might replicate successful practices other states have implemented. No meeting dates have been set, but the panel is

expected to meet three times before the 2020 Session. A list of panel members can be found [here](#).

Tobacco 21 Coalition:

- Support for Tobacco 21 legislation has gradually grown over the last few years. Last Session failed to see Tobacco 21 legislation introduced, but that will change in 2020. Eighteen states and hundreds of localities across the U.S. have already passed Tobacco 21 legislation. Over 20 cities in Kansas have raised the legal age to purchase tobacco products to 21, but statewide implementation would mean better enforcement, as well as better overall public health. Advocates are working together to draft legislation to be considered in 2020.

Congressional Candidate Update:

- In 2020, all members of the Kansas House of Representatives, the Kansas Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and one U.S. Senate seat face election. At this point, there is not enough data on State House and Senate candidates filing for reelection to make a clear assessment of who is running for state offices. For Congress, the main candidates are already shaping up. At least seven people have announced a run for the open U.S. Senate seat. Three people are in each of the races for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd U.S. House seats, and just the incumbent Ron Estes (R-Wichita) is running so far in the 4th U.S. House race.

Oral Health Kansas is planning to introduce a comprehensive oral health bill in 2020. The contents and details will be worked out this fall, but we know it will address Medicaid dental services, among other issues. Additionally, the 2020 Oral Health Kansas Public Policy Priorities will be announced in December.



Colgate Van Visits Topeka Library

The Colgate mobile dental van visited the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library on Wednesday, September 18. Topeka families took advantage of the opportunity for a free dental screening! The services provided are for children ranging from three to 12 years of age. They receive free dental check-ups, treatment referrals (if needed), and learning materials that include a tube of Colgate kid's toothpaste, a Colgate kid's toothbrush and brushing instructions. Dental Program Director, Kathy Hunt, assisted with dental screenings. Members of the Shawnee County Oral Health Coalition visited the van to learn more about it!



OHK Staff Wow KPHA Members With Demonstration

OHK staff exhibited at the Kansas Public Health Association conference on Tuesday, September 24 at the Ramada Convention Center in Topeka. The conference attracted professionals from various organizations, including students. The OHK table was busy with participants asking great questions about oral health, including a conversation with a respiratory therapist about the connection of oral health to chronic disease and the importance of good oral hygiene while on a ventilator!

As expected, our Sugary Drink Display was an attention catcher for all! Parents shared with us their habits of limiting sugary beverages in their homes. Dental Program Director, Kathy Hunt, demonstrated the effects of sugary drinks or foods on one's teeth using our Acid Attack Kit. The two parents pictured were amazed and agreed that the demonstration puts the effects in perspective.

If you're interested in purchasing a Sugary Drink Display or an Acid Attack Kit, you can view our resources brochure [here](#)! These two items are valuable education pieces and are easy to use!



Where Is Oral Health Kansas?

Come see us at the upcoming events! We'll be exhibiting and sharing our resources!

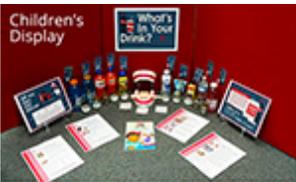
October 11: Kansas State Nurses Association, Capitol Plaza Hotel, 1717 SW Topeka Boulevard, Topeka, Kansas

October 19: Will To Succeed Foundation Health Fair, 7250 State Ave, Kansas City, Kansas

October 23 & 24: Kansas Library Association Conference, 6100 College Boulevard, Overland Park, Kansas



The members of Oral Health Kansas' Board are not just involved in improving lives here at home, but also abroad. We are proud that Krista Hahn, RDH, ECP III, spent three weeks volunteering in Dominican Republic. She returned home earlier this month after working with missionaries there and even providing an oral health workshop for seminary students. In this photo, Krista is organizing food and supply baskets for local families.



Our Fall Reservations Are Coming In!



Reservations for the Sugary Drink Display come in on a weekly basis. The October month is booked! Get your reservation in before another month gets booked! Or [purchase](#) a Sugary Drink Display to have as your own!



What is a Sugary Drink Display? It's our drink display that has 10 popular beverages and shows how much sugar is in each. You can reserve a child drink display or an adult drink display for a month.

We will do our best to fulfill requests of less than 30 days but there is no guarantee.

There is no charge to use the Sugary Drink Display; postage is reimbursed if you send in your receipt. All we ask is for you to fill out our survey included in the display materials and provide us with feedback about the display. **Click [here](#) to make a reservation!**

Interested in purchasing a Sugary Drink Display? Click [here](#) to download our brochure.

Follow Us



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