



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](#).

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Deadline Coming Up!

The Excellence in Oral Health Awards and Ron Alexander Outstanding Dental Champions Awards nominations are still open but only for another day! The deadline to submit nominations is **Thursday, September 30 by 5pm**. Submit your nominations now! If you have any questions, reach out to us at info@oralhealthkansas.org.

The categories are:

- Outstanding Organization
- Outstanding Volunteer
- Outstanding Dental Hygienist
- Outstanding Dentist
- Outstanding Community Leader
- Bob Bethell Outstanding Policy Maker
- Ron Alexander Outstanding Dental Champion

To find the nomination forms, visit our website at <http://www.oralhealthkansas.org/AwardWinners.html>.



Oral Health Coalition To ReLaunch Brush Book Bed

The Shawnee County Oral Health Coalition is excited to announce they received funding from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), Bureau of Oral Health, to relaunch the [Brush+Book+Bed](#) project. They also received [Smile Kits](#) from Delta Dental of Kansas.

The coalition members will be working with families in Parents as Teachers programs in the Topeka area as well as Head Start and Community Action programs. If you are interested in learning more about the Shawnee County Oral Health Coalition, email us at info@oralhealthkansas.org.



New Website for Maternal and Child Health

The federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) has a [new webpage](#) to feature program priorities and investments in oral health. Oral health is vital to the health and well-being of pregnant women, children, adolescents, young adults, and families. To improve oral health, MCHB aims to increase access to preventive

services, foster an integrated workforce, and achieve health equity. To do so, MCHB envisions integrating oral health within the rest of the health care system, providing culturally sensitive and cost-effective preventive care, and empowering communities and people to follow recommendations for good oral health and overall health.



We Want Healthy Meals in Schools

The Build Back Better Act (BBBA), formerly known as the American Families Plan, includes both a request for healthy school meals for all and for a \$1 billion healthy foods demonstration project for healthy school meals. The BBBA expands free school meals to 9 million children through the expansion of the community eligibility provision.

We know how important it is for children to have healthy meals at lunchtime to be productive throughout the school day. Eating foods that are high in sugar or carbohydrates creates acid-producing bacteria that cause tooth decay and remain on your teeth for twenty to thirty minutes after eating.

Please join Oral Health Kansas in advocating for the school nutrition provisions of the BBBA. [Click here](#) to learn more and send a message to your member of Congress.



Upcoming Events

- 2021 Conference on Oral Health, presented by Oral Health Kansas, November 4 and 5. Register [here](#).
- Webinar series: Integrating Race Conversations into Healthy Patient-Provider Interactions, 3rd Friday of every month at 12:00pm CST. Find more information [here](#).
- Center for Science in the Public Interest Speaker Series, Addressing Diversity in Nutrition and Dietetics: Moving Beyond the Why, October 5, 2:00pm-3:00pm. Register [here](#).
- Self Advocate Coalition of Kansas (SACK) Conference, virtually on October 16, 9:30am-5:30pm. Register [here](#).



We are proud to share [this thank you message](#) from Kansas elected officials created by our partners at the Kansas Hospital Association. It has been a difficult

**Thank you to Kansas
health care workers!**
From your Kansas elected officials

2020 and 2021 for health and oral health workers. Their perseverance to continue to help patients while managing a changing world is admired by us all.



Sugary Drink Display Sanitation

Out of an abundance of caution, we are suspending use of the Sugary Drink Display until further notice.

During this time, hand washing and social distancing is on everyone's mind. We want everyone to have the comfort of knowing we sanitize our sugary drink displays. They are wiped down and cleaned off after they have been returned.



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