



## 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 4, 2019

Volume 10, Issue 36



## Honoring Those That Work Hard To Make Our Smiles Shine

Each year we honor the ones that work hard to make oral health improvements in the state of Kansas. In 2010, the Dodge City Rotary Club was given the Outstanding Organization Award. The members had seen a need in their community and helped establish a dental clinic in the Dodge City area.

Is there anyone you would like to recognize? Excellence in Oral Health Award nominations are due this Friday, September 6 by 5pm. The award winners will be recognized at the Conference on Oral Health on Friday, November 8 with the exception of the Ron Alexander Outstanding Dental Champion Award on Thursday, November 7. The Conference on Oral Health will be held at the KState Olathe Campus, 22201 W Innovation Dr, Olathe, KS 66061.

The categories for the Excellence in Oral Health Awards are:

- **Outstanding Organization Award**- An organization that is distinguished from others in excellence in promoting oral health awareness in Kansas.
- **Outstanding Dental Hygienist Award** - A dental hygienist that is distinguished from others in excellence, who goes beyond the call of duty and is committed to improving the oral health of Kansans.
- **Outstanding Dentist Award** - A dentist that is distinguished from others in excellence, who goes beyond the call of duty and is committed to improving the oral health of Kansans.
- **Outstanding Community Leader Award** - A community leader that is distinguished from others in excellence, who goes beyond the call of duty and is committed to improving the oral health of Kansans.
- **Bob Bethell Outstanding Policy Maker Award** - An outstanding policy maker that is distinguished from others in excellence, who shows support for the oral health of all Kansans.
- **Outstanding Oral Health Volunteer Award** - An outstanding non-dental volunteer who demonstrates a positive difference in an organization - someone who saw a problem and got involved to find a solution
- **Ron Alexander Outstanding Dental Champion Award** - This award is designed to recognize the outstanding work a Dental Champion has done as a direct result of participating in the Dental Champions Leadership Program. The award winner will be recognized *Thursday, November 7 in the evening*.

Click [here](#) to download the applications.



## Exhibitors! Early Bird Registration Ends September 27

We still have space for exhibitors at the 2019 Conference on Oral Health Friday, November 8 in Olathe, Kansas. This is an opportunity to market your products, share your message and attend the conference sessions for an opportunity to visit with participants.

The early bird rate of \$350 for exhibitors ends September 27. If you are a returning exhibitor, you also get a 10% off discount! As an exhibitor you will have the following benefits:

- A 6 foot table. A tablecloth will not be provided
- Two chairs, upon request
- Electricity, upon request
- Complimentary internet access
- Complimentary access to all conference meal functions and speakers

After September 27 exhibit space will be available for \$500. Click here to download the [exhibitor form](#).



## Dental Students Learn How To Care For People With Disabilities

The Commission on Dental Accreditation approved new standards this summer requiring all U.S. dental schools to train students in the assessment and management of patients with intellectual and developmental disabilities, among other special needs populations. The change means that by mid-2020, schools that offer degrees in dentistry, orthodontics, dental hygiene and dental assistant programs must include clinical training with a “special needs” population of patients in their graduation requirements or risk losing their accreditation. Learn more at [DisabilityScoop.com](http://DisabilityScoop.com).

People with disabilities have a difficult time finding care. They may also have more medical and dental needs that require an increase in care. Dental anxiety for anyone is difficult and if a person with a disability is sensitive to sounds or smells which create anxiety, makes the situation more difficult for them to receive dental care. Dentists who do not have the training may refer them somewhere else including hospital care if they need to be sedated.



## Survey Shows Supporters Want Dental With Medicare

[Families USA](#) and opinion company [YouGov](#) teamed up to survey 1,000 likely voters about dental benefits and healthcare ahead of the 2020 U.S. presidential election. The support for dental benefits was overwhelming. The [Families USA/YouGov Poll](#) found seven out of 10 likely voters support adding oral health coverage to Medicare.

Majority support for adding the benefit was found in both parties and across every age group, race, ethnicity, gender, region and ideology. "People are really concerned about oral health. It's a nonpartisan issue that people support regardless of political party," said Patrick Willard, senior director of state and national strategic partnerships at Families USA. "They know their oral health is critical to their overall health, and it's like the government is saying, 'we don't think you have teeth.' Well, most Americans now keep their teeth well into old age, and they need access to dental coverage in order to take care of them."

Read the full press release [here](#).



## Where Is Oral Health Kansas?

We'll be exhibiting! Stop by our table!

**Friday, September 6:** Community Health Fair, Humana Wilhelmina Gill Multi Service Center, 645 Nebraska Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas

**Wednesday, September 11 and Thursday, September 12:** Community Care Network of Kansas Annual Conference, Hilton Garden Inn, 410 S. 3rd Street, Manhattan, Kansas



Bonnie Branson, RDH, PhD, has recently celebrated her retirement from UMKC School of Dentistry. She was the Director of External Rotation Sites at UMKC and worked with safety net clinics both on the Kansas and Missouri side.

She is currently a Class 9 Dental Champions member and former Oral Health Kansas board member. Congratulations Bonnie!



Photo courtesy of UMKC



## Our Fall Reservations Are Coming In!

School is in session! Sports for the kids have started! Now is a good time to remind them what healthy drinks are before they reach for that sports drink!



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



**Oral Health Kansas** • 712 S. Kansas Ave., Suite 412 Topeka, KS 66603  
785.235.6039 phone • 785.233.5564 fax [info@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:info@oralhealthkansas.org)

Copyright 2019