Award nominations remain open

Oral Health Kansas is seeking nominations for the 2013 Excellence in Oral Health Awards. The awards recognize Kansans who have made significant contributions to the oral health community. Awards are given in several categories:

- Outstanding Organization
- Outstanding Dental Hygienist
- Outstanding Dentist
- Outstanding Community Leader
- Bob Bethell Outstanding Policy Maker
- Outstanding Oral Health Volunteer
- Outstanding Dental Champion

Details about the awards categories, a list of previous award winners, and the on-line nomination forms are available on the Oral Health Kansas website. **Nominations will be accepted through September 27.**

Awards will be presented at a luncheon during the Oral
2) for her service as the state's Dental Director over the last 7 years.

Next month Dr. Weno will begin her new position as the dental division director at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta.

State Dental Director Position announcement

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment will accept applications for the state's Dental Director position through September 27. The responsibilities of the position include:

- Maintain Kansas' public oral health infrastructure through the implementation and maintenance of evidence based community health interventions. This includes the creation, management and evaluation of federally funded programs including the Kansas School Sealant program.
- Assist communities, local health departments, local health care professionals and water operators with issues related to Community Water Fluoridation. Draft, implement and supervise all federal grant applications.
- Maintain Kansas Oral Health Surveillance System through the supervision of the Kansas School Screening Program, the Water Fluoridation Reporting System, periodic administration of Basic Screening Surveys, and submissions to the National Oral Health Surveillance System.

This position directs the activities of an Oral Health Epidemiologist and oral health research contractors, but the Dental Director drafts and approves all state oral health data reports including "Smiles Across Kansas", "Elder Smiles" and other data reports of state and national interest. Read more about the position requirements and how to apply on the Kansas Dental Association website.

Traveling Sugary Beverage Display

In August, the Oral Health Kansas traveling sugary drink displays will be on display at the Greenwood County Health Department, Haskell Township Library, and Dodge City Public Library.
Oral Health Kansas welcomes a returning Board member

During the Oral Health Kansas August board meeting, members elected Jo Clepper to the Board of Directors. Jo replaces Terri Jowett, who left the board this summer following a change to a new job.

Jo is a nurse and serves as the Education Director at Research Medical Center in Kansas City. She formerly served on the Oral Health Kansas board, and board members were pleased to invite her to re-join the organization.

If you are interested in having the drink display on display in your area, send an email to Tanya.

Drink displays are available for hosting this fall!

Delta Dental Goes Mobile

Brushing your teeth just got more fun! Delta Dental of Kansas recently released a new mobile app for Apple and Android smartphone users, and it boasts an entertaining 2-minute toothbrush timer.

Some features like obtaining an ID card, viewing benefits or checking claims status require a Delta Dental subscriber login, but non-subscribers are welcome to utilize the toothbrush timer and national dentist search. With the dentist search function, users can find a dentist based upon their current location or by entering an address. Results can be filtered or sorted to find a dentist that suits specific needs. You can save dentist information to your contacts, call to schedule an appointment or navigate directly to their office.

Delta Dental's new, free app is available for download via the App Store and Google Play. See for yourself the value of the Delta Dental app. And as fellow advocates of oral health, encourage your constituents to utilize it as well, especially the toothbrush timer!
Know...

100 years ago one half of all adult North Americans were toothless - today less than 10% of adults over 65 have lost their teeth.

StarSmilez

If you have an idea, story or suggestion for a Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update please contact us at info@oralhealthkansas.org.