KanCare Moving Forward

Last Friday state officials announced plans to implement KanCare (the state's transition to Medicaid managed care) will proceed on schedule with a planned start date of January 1, 2013. The state will begin automatic assignment of Medicaid beneficiaries to one of the three managed care organizations (MCOs) this month and will begin sending enrollment packets to beneficiaries in November. An enrollment education tour is planned for November 26-29. Specific times and locations will be announced. Information is available about the plan options on the state's KanCare website.

The three MCOs continue to enroll providers and plan to begin holding provider educational sessions. Sunflower State Health Plan has published a training schedule.

Amerigroup has posted provider resources on their website and will announce details about provider training.

Similarly, United HealthCare has posted resources on their website and will announce provider training.

As reported several weeks ago, each of the MCOs will offer value-added dental benefits to all Medicaid beneficiaries, which means all adults on the Kansas Medicaid program will be eligible for these preventive dental services. A chart
<table>
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<th>2013</th>
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<td>The twelfth Kansas Mission of Mercy free dental project will take place March 1-2, 2013 at the Kansas Coliseum in Wichita, KS.</td>
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This will also mark the ten-year anniversary of the project. Community support is needed to provide thousands of Wichitans with free dental care in March.

Learn how to help by visiting The Kansas Dental Association's website or find the Kansas Dental Charitable Foundation on Facebook!

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<tr>
<th>2012 Excellence in Oral Health Awards</th>
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<td>Dr. Deana Bender was honored as the recipient of the 2012 Outstanding Dentist Clinician Award at the Excellence in Oral Health Awards Luncheon during the annual Oral Health Kansas Conference in Wichita on Friday, Sept. 14th.</td>
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The Outstanding Dentist Clinician Award is presented to a dentist that is distinguished from others in excellence, who goes beyond the call and is committed to improving the oral health of Kansans.

Dr. Bender has not only operated a successful private practice, but also has worked hard to meet dental needs in the safety net arena. After she retired from her private practice, she went to work feeding her passion for helping people who are dentally underserved. She visited Family Health Care, a safety net health clinic in Wyandotte County and saw space that was available for a dental clinic. She quickly agreed to serve as Family Health Care's first Dental Director and helped them expand to meet the dental needs of their patients by opening the dental clinic in 2006. She recruited volunteer dentists to supplement the clinic's small staff, hired dental hygienists, established policies and procedures, and helped with fund raising. She made the new dental clinic a warm, inviting place for patients and staff, even bringing wall décor from her own home to set the tone for a professional, yet supportive, caring, positive environment.

More recently, when the denture lab at the Topeka Correctional Facility needed a dentist to teach and supervise the inmates in making dentures for safety net clinics, Dr. Bender stepped up again. She filled in as the dental instructor when the prison needed someone to keep the lab operating. Until a full-time dentist could be hired, she commuted from Kansas City to Topeka to help the...
sessions you attended, send an email to Julie stating the CE's you are needing.

Dental Champions Corner

Last June Krista Hahn of Class 5 became the Dental Director at Community Health Ministry in Wamego.

Previously Krista was a Dental Hygiene Program Director at Manhattan Area Technical College. Her special interest is in managing patients with special needs; emphasis on children, pregnant women, and elderly.

Did You

inmates continue to produce the dentures so many low-income Kansans need.

Help Oral Health Kansas in congratulating Dr. Deana Bender as the recipient of the 2012 Outstanding Dentist Clinician Award

Oral Health Kansas will be featuring another outstanding award winner next week!

KHCC Plans Medicaid Expansion Rally

The state of Kansas, along with all other states, will have the option to expand eligibility of the Medicaid program in 2014. Approximately 130,000 Kansans who currently struggle to obtain affordable insurance would become eligible for Medicaid. The Kansas Health Consumer Coalition will host a rally next month to support increased access to health insurance through Medicaid expansion. The rally is scheduled to take place on Friday, November 9 from noon to 1 pm at the State Capitol in Topeka. Though it is not required, RSVPs are encouraged. CLICK HERE to sign up.

Additional details about the rally are available here.
Bottled water doesn't contain the tooth-decay fighting fluoride, which is added to most municipal water supplies. Ditch the bottle and drink from the tap.

Delta Dental

Water Fluoridation Resources

The Wichita Eagle has published the answers to several questions Wichita voters have about water fluoridation, including "How does Wichita's dental health compare to cities that fluoridate their water?" Read more in their article HERE.

A voter guide, including a copy of the fluoridation ballot issue is available at http://fluoridevoterguide.com.

Oral Health Kansas also has an educational fluoride website available at www.fluoride4ks.org.

If you have an idea, story or suggestion for an Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update please send an email to jparnell@oralhealthkansas.org