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ORAL HEALTH KANSAS
Weekly Wednesday Update

Our Mission:
To improve oral health in Kansas through advocacy, public awareness and education.

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KanCare Resources

New resources are available about KanCare, the state's new Medicaid managed care program. The Kansas Health Institute created a new fact sheet about the managed care organizations (MCOs) that have been awarded KanCare contracts. Learn more about the companies and how the state will evaluate the MCOs' financial performance [here](#).

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) has begun a biweekly newsletter to share information about KanCare. The first issue was released last week and contains information about training and work groups. Read more [here](#).

KDHE will host a series of Medicaid beneficiary meetings about enrollment in KanCare during the week of November 26-29. The schedule of the meetings is set to be released next week, and Oral Health Kansas will share it when it is available.

For more information about each of the MCOs, including provider and consumer enrollment, please visit their websites. Provider manuals have begun receiving approval from KDHE, and they are linked on the websites. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Oral Health Kansas.

KMOM 2013

The twelfth Kansas Mission of Mercy free dental project will take place March 1-2, 2013 at the Kansas Coliseum in Wichita, KS.

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!

Continuing Education Credits AVAILABLE

If you attended the 2012 Oral Health Kansas Conference

- [Amerigroup](#)
- [Sunflower State Health Plan](#)
- [United Healthcare](#)

2012 Excellence in Oral Health Awards

Norma Barkus was honored as the recipient of the 2012 Outstanding Community Leader Award at the Excellence in Oral Health Awards Luncheon during the annual Oral Health Kansas Conference in Wichita on Friday, Sept. 14th.

The Outstanding Community Leader Award is presented to a community leader that is distinguished from others in excellence, who goes beyond the call and is committed to improving the oral health of Kansans

As the director of the county's Council on Aging, Norma is linked to South Central Area Agency on Aging and the Older Kansans Information and Referral Association, and so she stays on top of any new service available to her constituents. When she heard that a dental clinic in Wichita had dental hygienists available to come to Elk County, she got on the phone right away. Norma's call to GraceMed Dental Clinic in Wichita five years ago to inquire about bringing dental hygiene services to Elk County has made a difference in the oral health and overall wellbeing of so many older Kansans. The clinic is set up in Howard, Kansas community center.

Norma acted on her own to create the dental hygiene program in her community and has used her own energy and innovation to help it grow and flourish. Often, hygienists approach community agencies about establishing dental hygiene services and most are not community-wide. Rather they serve only the population residing in a school or nursing home. Norma understands the importance of oral health to the overall well-being of Elk County older residents. In her words, she 'pushes' the program to those with ongoing health problems that can worsen without regular professional dental hygiene services.

and are needing CE certificates for the sessions you attended, send an email to [Julie](#) stating the CE's you are needing.

Oral Health Kansas is Pinning

Oral Health Kansas is Pinning! You can now find Oral Health Kansas on Pinterest, sharing everything from cool dental offices, to dental history and pictures from past KMOM events.

Follow us on Pinterest follow us here [here](#)

Dental Champions Corner

Jon Stewart, Class 5, was featured in an article by the Kansas Health Institute for the innovative work



Help Oral Health Kansas in congratulating Norma Barkus as the recipient of the **2012 Outstanding Community Leader Award**

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

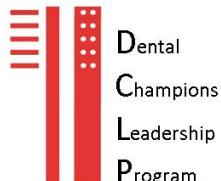
Oral Health Kansas Partners with the Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library

Oral Health Kansas has partnered with the Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library to bring our drink display into the library to promote healthy eating and drinking for healthy mouths, along with tooth brushing information. The display features bottles of typical drinks that kids and teens drink, with a jar of sugar representing how much sugar is in each bottle.

This display is right outside the entrance to the Kids Library, a high-traffic area for kids and parents. In one month, over 100 Tips and Tricks were picked up by our customers. The display background sign reminds visitors where in the library they can locate more information on oral health and nutrition.

the Heartland Community Health Center is doing on integrating care at the clinic.

Read the article [here](#)



a program of Oral Health Kansas, Inc.

Did You Know?

Fluoridation of drinking water has been used successfully in the United States for more than 50 years.

[Delta Dental](#)

If you want to make a similar display in your library, Oral Health Kansas can help with information resources, handouts, display materials and may be able to provide the display for your library. For more information send an email to Julie at jparnell@oralhealthkansas.org.



Fluoride Vote in 6 Days

Next Tuesday voters in Wichita will decide whether to fluoridate their community water supply. The ballot question will read as follows:

SHALL SECTION 17.12.340 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF WICHITA BE ADOPTED WHICH PROVIDES:

The City of Wichita's Director of Public Works & Utilities is authorized and directed to fluoridate the City of Wichita's public drinking water supply to the optimal levels beneficial to reduce tooth decay and promote good oral health as recommended by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and is thereafter responsible for the fluoridation of that public drinking water supply.

Upon the direction of the Director of Public Works & Utilities, the Wichita Water Department is authorized and directed to install, operate, and maintain the equipment necessary to introduce fluoride compound sufficient to raise the fluoride concentration in the public drinking water supply to the optimal levels as set forth in the previous paragraph.

Voting "Yes" is a vote for fluoridation, and voting "No" is a vote against fluoridation.

Many resources are available to learn more about the effort to provide access to fluoridated water for hundreds of thousands of Wichitans:

- New endorsement by the [Wichita Business Coalition on Health Care](#)
- [Fluoridation voter guide](#)
- [Fluoridation education](#)
- [Wichitans for Healthy Teeth](#)

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

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Try it FREE today.