

**From:** Oral Health Kansas <jparnell@oralhealthkansas.org>  
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## Water Fluoridation Fails in Wichita

After a very hard-fought campaign to educate Wichita voters about the health benefits and cost effectiveness of water fluoridation, we learned early this morning that the ballot measure failed. Significant software and absentee ballot problems in Wichita led to a lengthy delay in the election results, including the result of the water fluoridation ballot measure. The final results were not available until nearly 2 a.m. Wednesday.

The result is disappointing, but the work of the proponents of water fluoridation remains impressive. Over 500 medical and dental professionals supported water fluoridation, as did over 50 local and state organizations. The Wichitans for Healthy Teeth coalition worked tirelessly for many months to educate elected officials and the public about water fluoridation. The unprecedented fluoride education campaign raised the profile of the issue and re-kindled a community conversation about the importance of providing effective preventive dental care for all Wichitans. The result of the election means nearly half a million Kansans will remain without access to fluoridated water and will continue to see tooth decay at a higher rate than Kansans who do have access to fluoridated water.

## 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

Oral Health Kansas congratulates the Wichitans who worked so hard to provide accurate information about water fluoridation on their heroic efforts. We remain committed to working with our partners to find all ways possible to ensure Kansans have access to effective preventive dental care.

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## 2012 Excellence in Oral Health Awards

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

The Outstanding Oral Health Volunteer Award is presented to 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.

Jill Quigley's community involvement and commitment to improving the health of underserved Kansans are the reasons she volunteers with Oral Health Kansas. She not only began volunteering as a Development Committee member while still serving in the Kansas Legislature, but as soon as her term concluded, she volunteered to join the Board of Directors. Ever since then she has volunteered to do more work every time her talent was needed. She currently serves as the Advocacy Committee Chair. In that role, she convenes the Advocacy Committee for weekly meetings during the Legislative Session and advises the committee and staff on legislative strategy. She has helped write testimony, attended hearings, and even provided testimony when staff was unavailable to do so. These tasks are above and beyond what is normally expected of a volunteer Advocacy Committee chair. Her commitment to using her talent in the legislative arena and her passion for helping underserved Kansans have added up to one of the most dedicated volunteers Oral Health Kansas has had. As if all of this wasn't enough, she also graduated from the Dental Champions Leadership Program's class 5 this year.

Kansas Conference 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

Dental Champions, Oral Health Kansas likes to stay in contact with you, if you have any



**Help Oral Health Kansas in congratulating Jill Quigley as the recipient of the *2012 Outstanding Oral Health Volunteer Award***

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

## KanCare Enrollment to Begin Soon

State officials confirmed on a conference call with providers and advocates today that KanCare enrollment packets will be mailed very soon. The enrollment packets will inform every Kansas Medicaid beneficiary of which managed care organization (MCO) they were assigned to. Beneficiaries will be able make a different MCO selection between now and the end of March 2013, and the entire Medicaid program is scheduled to switch to managed care, known as KanCare, on January 1, 2013.

To provide additional information about the transition of Medicaid to managed care, the state will host a KanCare member enrollment tour during the week of November 26-30 in twelve cities across the state. To view details of the locations and times, please visit the KanCare [website](#).

At the end of December, Medicaid beneficiaries will receive

contact information that may have changed, please send an email to [Julie](#)



## Did You Know?

Sports related injuries account for about 5 million lost teeth per year.

Protect your teeth and your children's teeth with a mouth guard whenever playing sports.

[Delta Dental](#)

welcome packets from the MCO they have been assigned to. Included with their MCO welcome packet will be their new medical card. Beneficiaries will be able to keep their current medical card numbers, but they may also be assigned a plan number by the MCO. Questions about the enrollment process can be directed to the KanCare Enrollment Center at 866-305-5147.

The MCOs also are beginning to plan more provider education forums and post their provider manuals on their websites. To learn more about the provider education available, please visit each MCO's website:

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

As always, please send Oral Health Kansas any questions you have about KanCare consumer or provider enrollment. [info@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:info@oralhealthkansas.org)

## State Revenues Projected to Plummet

The State Consensus Revenue Estimating Group (CREG) met on Election Day for one of their twice-yearly reviews of the state revenue projections for the current and next fiscal years. The CREG estimates for the current fiscal year continue to project a positive ending balance, but the estimates for FY 2014, which begins July 1, 2013, are projected to fall by \$705 million. FY 2014 is the year when the full extent of the sweeping income tax cut go will be felt. The ending balance in FY 2013 next summer will cover part of the revenue loss in FY 2014, but nearly \$330 million in additional budget cuts and/or tax increases are expected to be needed to make up the remaining shortfall.

The significance of the current budget projections is that Governor Brownback will use these numbers when he builds his FY 2014 budget that he will present to the 2013 Legislature in January. It is far too early to know exactly how various parts of the state budget will be affected by the revenue decline, but we know that state agencies were asked to prepare for a 10% cut in their budgets for FY 2014. The Kansas Health Institute released a state budget puzzle earlier this year to help people better understand

the components of the state budget and how they work together. While the new CREG estimates are not included in the [budget puzzle](#) yet, it remains a useful tool in understanding the state budget.

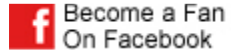
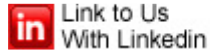
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## Kansas Legislative Races

In response to the 2010 U.S. Census count, the court drew new boundary maps in June of this year for all Kansas House of Representative and Senate districts. The new districts bore little resemblance to previous districts and resulted in several incumbent legislators running against each other and other districts containing no incumbent at all. Many races were decided during the Primary election in August, but all races were settled in yesterday's General election. The basic makeup of the House and Senate will remain roughly the same in 2013 as it was in 2011-12. The House will have about 92 Republicans and 33 Democrats, and the Senate will have 32 Republicans and 8 Democrats. But, the ideological makeup of the leadership of both chambers will change, as a majority of conservative Republicans have been elected in both chambers. In about a month newly-elected legislators will gather in Topeka to elect House and Senate leadership. The leadership election will determine not only the Senate President and Speaker of the House, but also will result in the assignment of all the House and Senate committees.

The makeup of the Legislature also will change somewhat as yesterday's election saw a few familiar faces defeated and a few high-profile races retaining incumbents. One of the most notable defeats is Rep. Brenda Landwehr, who serves as the House Health and Human Services Committee Chair. She lost to fellow incumbent Rep. Nile Dillmore, a Wichita Democrat. Ranking minority member of the Health and Human Services Committee Rep. Geraldine Flaharty also lost her race to fellow incumbent Wichita Rep. Phil Hermanson. The ranking minority member of the House Appropriations Committee, Rep. Bill Feuerborn of Garnett, also was defeated, but by political newcomer Kevin Jones. In three high profile races, Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee chair and ranking minority member Sen. Vicki Schmidt and Sen. Laura Kelly were re-elected, as was Senate minority leader Anthony Hensley. Full election results are available at the Secretary of State's website. Some election results remain very close, so the [final results](#) may vary a bit.

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



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