



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

2012 Public Policy Priorities

| POLICY AREA | SPECIFIC INITIATIVE OR LEGISLATION | LEVEL OF SUPPORT |
|--|---|--|
| Access to Dental Provider | Insure that all Kansans have access to comprehensive oral health care. Address policies and practices that would restrict or impact the ability of citizens to access oral health care. | Support and monitor. Take the lead when appropriate. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce a bill to modify the ECP law to allow ECP Hygienists to see all children in schools, with parental permission. • Support amendment of the ECP law to expand the scope of practice of ECP Hygienists. • Support the identical House and Senate bills to create a Registered Dental Practitioner. • Support efforts to enforce the current school dental screening law. | | |
| Access to Funding Source | Insure that Kansans have good oral health by reducing financial barriers associated with professional dental care. Full dental benefits for all Medicaid enrollees are a priority. | Partner and take the lead. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for inclusion of a dental benefit for all Kansas Medicaid beneficiaries. • Ensure the children’s dental benefit and other oral health provisions in the Affordable Care Act are implemented fairly and appropriately. | | |
| Increase Awareness of the Importance of Oral Health | Engage in legislative activities that increase the knowledge and understanding of decision makers about the need and the impact of investments in oral health. | Take the lead to position OHK as an expert and resource. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide general oral health information to individual legislators and committees as appropriate. • Advocate to require tooth brushing as a part of the child care licensing regulations • Advocate to include oral health questions in the eligibility determination tools in the aging, disabilities, and early childhood service systems. • Create an Oral Health Caucus to arm legislative supporters with information about oral health policy and generate more awareness of the issue among legislators. | | |
| Improve Public Oral Health | Engage in activities to increase the oral health of all Kansas citizens using evidence-based public health strategies. | Support and monitor. Take the lead when appropriate. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate to increase the number of Kansas residents with access to fluoridated community water supplies. • Support the existing statewide smoking ban. | | |

Note: All bolded initiatives are those on which Oral Health Kansas plans to lead the advocacy efforts.