



**ORAL HEALTH KANSAS**  
ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION

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## **Dental Champions Corner**

Last weekend Greg Hill (Class 2) and former Oral Health Kansas staffer Caroline Stern participated in Colorado's Mission of Mercy!

## **Mental Health: New Topic at OHK Conference**

The Saturday conference session has been updated to focus on the integration of mental health and oral health.

Dental hygienists and dentists have increasing opportunities to become members of an interprofessional team working in the field of behavioral health. This workshop provides participants from the fields of mental health, social work, nursing, medicine as well as dentistry with an exciting chance to hear first-hand from clinicians who have experience in behavioral health.



Take advantage of the early bird registration, which ends next Monday, October 13th! The conference brochure and on-line registration are available through [Wichita State University](http://Wichita State University). Please contact Oral Health Kansas with any questions: 785-235-6039 or [info@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:info@oralhealthkansas.org).

## **Salina Campaign to Keep**



**DENTAL CHAMPIONS**  
Leadership Program  
a program of Oral Health Kansas, Inc.

## Conference Hotel Rate Extended

The deadline for special rates at Hotel at Old Town has been extended to October 17th!



Take advantage of this discounted rate by calling 316-267-4800 or book online at [www.hotelatoldtown.com](http://www.hotelatoldtown.com) using code ORALKS14.

## Cavity-Free Halloween

With Halloween right around the corner, it can be a scary time for healthy teeth. [Delta Dental](#) has highlighted some great tips to keep this Halloween cavity free!

## Fluoride in Full Swing

The Keep Fluoride coalition is working hard on the campaign to preserve water fluoridation in Salina this fall. At issue is the November 4th ballot initiative that asks voters to repeal the 1968 ordinance that initiated water fluoridation. The ballot language is confusing. In order to **keep fluoride**, residents must **vote no**.

As October hit, the campaign rolled out. The staff at medical and dental offices have undergone training and have educational materials for patients; the endorsements from city and community leaders are rolling in; campaign ads are up in CityGo busses; the Keep Fluoride Salina Facebook page has 438 "likes"; and so many people wanted yard signs the week they arrived, the campaign had to order more! Much, much more is planned for the final weeks until election day, and the team is confident in their ability to reach voters with the core message that fluoride is a safe, cost-effective way to prevent tooth decay.

Want to help? Please contact Megan Foreman at [mforeman@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:mforeman@oralhealthkansas.org) or visit the [Facebook page](#) and leave them a message! Everyone has a role to play in making sure the public understands the value of this public health measure.



[KeepFluoride.com](http://KeepFluoride.com) 

## OHK Joins Cover Kansas Coalition



One tip is to stay away from the sticky sweets and choose to hand out chocolate this year. It is more easily rinsed away and less likely to cause cavities!

## Traveling Sugary Drink Display

Reserve our traveling Sugary Drink Display for your business or event! Reservations are made for one month at a time. Return postage is covered by Oral Health Kansas. [E-mail Sarah here](#) if you would like to make reservation.



[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Oral Health Kansas has joined the Cover Kansas Coalition, which is administered by the Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved (KAMU). The coalition focuses on helping Kansans enroll in health insurance and includes a network of over 180 Navigators.



One of the ten essential health benefits offered through the health plans in the Affordable Care Act is pediatric dental coverage. Oral Health Kansas is working with the group to develop specific training for Navigators to understand how the pediatric dental benefit works and how Kansans can access it.

## National Health Literacy Month



October is Health Literacy Month! Health Literacy Month is a time for organizations and individuals to promote the importance of understandable health information. This annual, worldwide, awareness-raising event has been going strong since 1999. Check out

[these resources](#) to be a health literacy hero in your community!

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

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