



WEEKLY WEDNESDAY UPDATE

The Weekly Wednesday Update is our newsletter which we email every Wednesday with oral health, health and policy updates from around the state and nationally.

To view past issues [click here](#).

Click here to sign up for our [Weekly Wednesday Update](#).

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Celebrating 20 Years

In 2003 a group of stakeholders came together to try to make a difference in the oral health of all Kansans. Stakeholders in Kansas recognized the critical issues statewide and determined the need for an oral health coalition to coordinate efforts aimed at improving oral health in the state. That was the year Oral Health Kansas was born.

Working together, we have made many improvements in our state around oral health, but our work is not done!

We are grateful for 20 years of partnering to improve oral health in Kansas through advocacy, public awareness and education. Watch for more updates as we share how we're going to celebrate two decades of our work!



Save the Date!

The OHK Board of Directors would like to announce the date for our 2023 Conference on Oral Health. Mark your calendars for Friday, November 3! The conference planning committee

will be meeting soon, and details, including the location and the program will be available in the coming weeks.



OHK 2023 Officers Elected

During our December 16 board meeting, our Board of Directors voted on new officers for 2023.

The following members are taking on new roles:

President

Preddis Sullivan, DDS, Delta Dental of Kansas

Past President

Sonja Armbruster, MA, Public Health Consultant

Secretary

Tami Allen, Families Together

Treasurer

Melanie Simmer-Beck, PhD, RDH, University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry

You can find the full list of board members on our [website](#).



Help Us Improve Dental Care Access

We are accepting applications to join our new Lived Experience Advisory Group. We are looking for people who have had trouble receiving dental care and who have experience with Medicaid. Your insight can help us improve systems in Kansas. This group will meet quarterly and will receive a stipend for their time.

Next step

Apply to join the Dental Care Access Lived Experience Advisory Group using [this form](#). Please share it with others who may be interested in joining.

Please share our flyer with anyone who may be interested. [Click here to download it.](#)



STAHR Scholars Program Applications Open

The [STAHR Scholars DAT Prep Program](#) is accepting applications for the Summer 2023 Program! We are excited to announce that [GEHA Solutions Diversity in Dentistry](#) has established fellowships to provide \$2000 in financial support for 15 participants.

Are you interested in taking the DAT Exam and applying to dental school for the 2023 application cycle? The [STAHR Scholars DAT Prep Program](#) is accepting applications for the Summer 2023 Program!

Are you interested in a healthcare career in Medicine, Dentistry or Pharmacy? STAHR also has programs that provide opportunities to learn more about and prepare to become a health professional for rising [high school juniors, seniors](#) and [undergraduates](#).

What is the cost? Participation in the STAHR programs is free.

What is the deadline to apply?

February 15, 2023 at 11:59 PM CST.

Who should I contact if I have questions? Please reach out to STAHR at stahr@umkc.edu if you have any questions.



Update Your KanCare Information

KanCare likely will restart eligibility reviews in 2023. If you are a KanCare (Medicaid) recipient it's important to make sure KanCare has your current address and contact information.

This will ensure you receive information when eligibility renewals resume. Here are several ways to update your information.

- Call your Managed Care Organization - the number should be on the back of your card
- Call KanCare at 1-800-792-4884
- Go to kancare.ks.gov and use the KIERA chatbot in the right-hand corner



Upcoming Events

- **Webinar: Improving Access to Oral Health Care for Tribal and Underserved Communities**, January 12, 1:00pm CST. Register [here](#).
- **Kansas Mission of Mercy**, March 24 and 25 in Topeka. Click [here](#) for more information.
- **2023 National Oral Health Conference**, April 17 - 19,

2023. Click [here](#) to register.

Congratulations to Niki Sadler on being named the new President of the [Kansas Society of Association Executives](#) (KSAE)! Niki is the Assistant Executive Director of the Kansas Dental Association and was in Dental Champions Class VII. She's a long-time partner of Oral Health



Kansas and serves on our conference planning team. She is a great advocate, and we know she will serve KSAE well in 2023!



Sugary Drink Display

Click [here](#) to learn more about sugary drink display reservations!

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