



## 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](#).

## October 19, 2022

Volume 13, Issue 42

## The Countdown Begins!

Friday, **October 21 is the last day to get the early bird registration price** to attend the Conference on Oral Health November 4 at the Kansas State University Campus, 22201 W. Innovation Dr, Olathe, Kansas, 66061. Register and attend virtually or come in person to network with participants from around the state. We'll have vendors marketing their materials and answering questions. Visit vendors to earn the chance to win a prize! The conference and



the pre-conference sessions will allow you the opportunity to earn up to 11.5 CE's. The pre-conference sessions will be recorded and on our website for you to watch at your convenience. A completed evaluation is required to earn CE's.

There will be a Dental Champions Leadership Reception on Thursday, November 3 and everyone is invited! Beverages and snacks will be provided but you must

register.

Space has been set aside at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Kansas City Olathe for this conference. Rate is \$139 + tax Group code: WIC Click [here](#) to register online or register over the phone by calling (913) 353-9280 and mention Oral Health Kansas to receive the group block rate. Hotel registration deadline is 10/27.

The agenda for the Conference on Oral Health is below:

### **Thursday, November 3**

#### **6:00pm Dental Champions Leadership Program Reception**

### **Friday, November 4**

#### **7:30 am Exhibits and Registration Open 8:30 am Impacting Dental Disparities in Kansas**

Panelists:

- Kevin Robertson, MPA, CAE, Kansas Dental Association
- Mark Herzog, DDS
- Alice Weingartner, MEd, Community Care Network of Kansas

#### **9:20 am Integrating Care for Kansans**

Panelists:

- Laura Gigstad, RDH, ECP III, Heartland Community Health Center
- Nick Kim, RDH, HealthCore Clinic
- Kathy Hunt, RDH, ECP II, Oral Health Kansas, Inc.

#### **10:40 am Keynote: Understanding the History of Racism in Healthcare**

Carlos Smith, DDS, MDiv, FACD, Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry

#### **11:30 am Excellence in Oral Health Awards**

#### **12:00 pm Kansas Policy Landscape for 2023**

Stuart Little, Ph.D. Little Government Relations

## **1:30 pm Using Equity to Improve Oral Health for Kansans with Disabilities**

Panelists:

- Seth McGinnes, NAMI-Kansas
- Kathy Keck, Advocate
- Ben Hudson, CPA, Sensory Health

## **2:20 pm New Kansas Dental Benefits Bring Smiles**

Tanya Dorf Brunner, Oral Health Kansas

## **3:40 pm Taking Care of Yourself When the Work Gets Tough**

Vanessa Lohf, LBSW, WSU Community Engagement Institute

**Register [here!](#)**



## **Thank YOU to our Sponsors!**

We wanted to express our gratitude and thank our sponsors for their support of this year's conference. Because of their generosity in supporting our conference, we bring to you a hybrid event with some exhilarating speakers with a wealth of knowledge, while keeping our registration fee at a low cost. Some of our sponsors will be at our conference. Please take the time to show them your appreciation. They are listed below:

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## Advanced Voting Begins Today

Today begins advanced voting for the general election. If you applied for advanced voting, you may have received an advance ballot or you can vote in person for advanced voting. If you applied for a mail in ballot, ballots will be mailed out today, October 19.

Ballotpedia is a website that shows you all the candidates in your district and shares details about the two constitutional amendments. Simply **[enter your home address on the Ballotpedia website](#)** to learn who **and what will be on the ballot for your vote in November.**

November 1: Deadline for votes to [apply for advance mail ballot](#)

**November 8: General Election**

## Celebrating the first LGBTQIA+ Oral Health Week

This week is the first LGBTQIA+ Oral Health Week, and Oral Health Kansas is proud to participate with our partner American Institute of Dental Public Health (AIDPH). We know that members of the LGBTQIA+ community often face health disparities driven by medical bias, barriers to access, insufficient social support, and a lack of culturally competent providers.



Together, we can change that. One place to start is terminology.

During the dental visit, oral health professionals can foster a safe, inclusive environment for patients. That starts with terminology -- a foundational aspect of LGBTQIA+ health equity and education. For example, when addressing new patients, it's best avoid pronouns or gender terms like "sir" or "ma'am." Instead, ask "How would you like to be addressed?" or simply use the person's name. In the Centers for Disease Control and Preventions guidance about terminology, they say that any accidental mis-steps in referring to patients "are almost always unintentional and can be prevented by training all staff in basic principles and strategies. All members of the health care team, from front desk staff to clinicians, can play a role in creating an environment that respects and responds to the needs (of their patients)." Remember, identity labels mean different things to different individuals, the resources below are to simply serve as a guide.

Visit and bookmark these resources to learn more:

- [Glossary of LGBTQIA Terms for Health Care Teams](#)
- [Pronoun Guide](#)
- [CDC Communication Strategies & Scripts for healthcare professionals](#)
- [LGBTQIA+ Workshops and Online Training](#)
- [Recorded workshop - Supporting oral health care for the transgender community](#)

**Learn more!** Visit <https://aidph.org/lgbtqia-oh-week/>

*The 2022 LGBTQIA+ Oral Health Week is hosted by AIDPH in partnership with the American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD), American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA), American Network of Oral Health Coalitions, CareQuest Institute for Oral Health, MouthWatch, National LGBTQIA+ Health Education Center, National Network for Oral Health Access (NNOHA), Oral Health Nursing Education and Practice Program (OHNEP), the Oral Health Progress and Equity Network (OPEN), Organization for Safety, Asepsis, and Prevention (OSAP) and the Santa Fe Group.*



## The Dignity of a Healthy Smile

Monday marked [International Day for the Eradication of Poverty](#). In planning for this recognition, the United Nations reflected on the 1948 Universal Declaration of

Human Rights, which begins with, "Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world." Dignity is at the core of human rights, and this international day of recognition emphasizes that there is an inequality of opportunities including access to key services such as access to nutritious food and to health care.

The 2022 theme focuses on dignity which is one of many things that comes when people have healthy teeth. When people are able to eat healthy foods, feel confident in their oral health, and simply smile they have dignity. There is so much we all can do to ensure all Kansans have the dignity of a healthy smile. We invite you to join us in promoting the new [Medicaid adult dental benefit](#) in Kansas, because access to this coverage can change tens of thousands of Kansans' lives by giving them the dignity of a smile.



## Upcoming Events

- **2022 Conference on Oral Health:** Friday, November 4. Conference will be a hybrid event. Thursday, November 3: Dental Champions Reception.
- **Conference on Oral Health Preconference Sessions** on Fridays in October (register [here](#)) October 21 - Oral Health Policy Across the Country and October 28 -

Advocating for policy change in Kansas

- **Webinar: Improving Oral Health Experiences for the LGBTQIA+ Community**, October 20 at 12pm CT. Register [here](#).

### Deadlines to remember for General Election:

November 1: Deadline for votes to [apply for advance mail ballot](#)

**November 8: General Election**

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Congratulations to Dental Champion Greg Hill on being inducted as an Honorary Fellow of the International College of Dentists last week. Greg is the Executive Director of the New York



about Greg's honor.

State Dental Association. He got his start at the Kansas Dental Association and was a leader in the Dental Champions Advisory Board for a number of years. We are proud of Dental Champions near and far, and we are excited



## Sugary Drink Display

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

### Follow Us



**Oral Health Kansas** • PO BOX 4567Topeka, KS 66604  
785.235.6039 phone • 785.233.5564 fax[info@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:info@oralhealthkansas.org)  
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