

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](#).

February 21, 2024

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**Weekly
Wednesday
Update.**

Progress at the Capitol

Yesterday the Senate Ways and Means Human Services Subcommittee recommended the full \$4.8 million for adult preventive dental services in Medicaid! The House Social Services Budget Committee made the same recommendation last week. This is the best possible news for the advocacy to add preventive dental care to the Medicaid adult dental benefit that already



includes fillings, crowns, periodontal care, and dentures. Thank you to all of our partners and supporters for your support of this important advocacy.

There are a few more steps in the budget process, so it's not official yet. In a few weeks we should know for sure if the Medicaid adult preventive dental coverage goes into effect July 1 as we hope it will. Thank you to everyone who helped with the advocacy this year. Learn more about the adult

preventive dental care advocacy on our [website](#).



Advancing Veteran Oral Health in Kansas Webinar

We are excited to extend an invitation to an important Virtual Road Tour stop event hosted in partnership with the American Institute of Dental Public Health aimed at enhancing oral health care for veterans in Kansas. Join us on March 12 at 12:00pm CST for this engaging and informative session. Learn from experts, share your insights, and earn one CEU! The interactive session will

feature an overview of Kansas veteran oral health state profile, along with state and national efforts underway to improve the oral health of veterans. Register [here](#)!



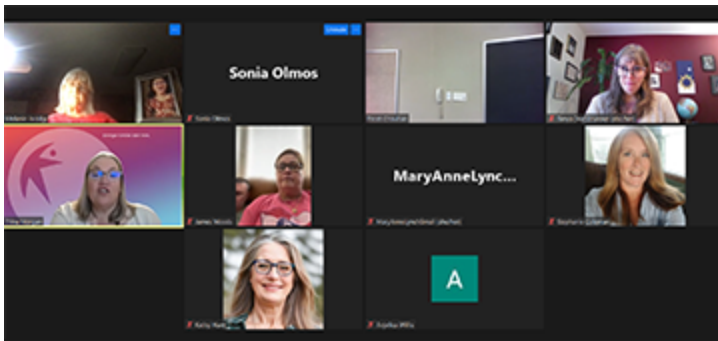
Help Us Shape Oral Health in Kansas

As our partners, we look to you for answers. We are in the beginning stages of our strategic plan and would like to hear from you on potential steps to improve oral health in Kansas over the next five years. Using [Thought Exchange](#), this brief survey consists of four multiple choice items and one Exchange question on potential steps. How does it work?

- It's completely voluntary.

- After you have responded, you will also have the opportunity to rate the importance of ideas shared by others. We encourage you to rate as many ideas as you can and to come back often to rate newly shared ideas.
- You can continue to share and rate thoughts up until the survey close date of **Thursday, February 29, 2024.**

The more responses we receive, the more assistance we have to create a goals for our strategic plan and help make improvements in our oral health! Click [here](#) to respond to this quick survey.



Become a Member of our Lived Experience Advisory Group

The Lived Experience Advisory Group is recruiting members. We are looking for members with lived experience that have had trouble receiving dental care as a

Medicaid recipient or a caretaker of a Medicaid recipient or work with consumers receiving Medicaid. The group was created in 2023 and has made many strides to help OHK create a consumer friendly [Finding a Dentist page](#), presented to UMKC Dental Students on their experiences as care takers for loved ones with a disability, helped us improve [My Dental Passport](#) as well as provided testimony. We want to share this experience with more members!

To find out more information, go to the [Lived Experience Advisory Group webpage](#). If you have questions, please email us at info@oralhealthkansas.org

Upcoming Events

- Course: An Introduction to Value-Based Care in Oral Health: Moving from Volume to Value, 1 CE. Click [here](#) for the course information.
- Self paced courses: [Providing Oral Health Care to Autistic Individuals](#) and [Caring for Individuals with Disabilities: Practical Considerations for Dental Providers.](#)



- **Webinar:** Abuse, Neglect and Trafficking: Our Responsibility, February 21, 6p-7p CST. Register [here](#).
- **Webinar:** The Critical Role of Black Dental Providers, February 22 from 12p-1pm CST. Register [here](#).
- **Webinar:** Community and Population Health Projects, Wednesday, February 28 from 6p-7p.m. CST. Register [here](#).
- Medicaid Expansion Rally, March 6 at 12:30pm CST in the 2nd floor rotunda of the Kansas Statehouse. RSVP [here](#).
- Missouri Oral Health Policy Conference, March 7-8, 2024, DoubleTree by Hilton, Jefferson City, Missouri. Register [here](#).
- **Webinar:** Advancing Veteran Oral Health in Kansas, March 12 at 12pm CST. Register [here](#).
- Alliance for a Healthy Kansas monthly meetings, [Events | Alliance for a Healthy Kansas 2022 \(expandkancare.com\)](#)
- **Save the date!** 2024 Conference on Oral Health will be Friday, November 8.

If you would like to add your event to this list, email info@oralhealthkansas.org.



Shawnee County Oral Health Coalition members have been out and about in the Topeka

community this month! They provided oral health resources to families at the Rescue Mission - Hope Center while sharing the

importance of keeping their mouths healthy. Coalition members GraceMed Capitol Family Clinic, GraceMed Highland Park Clinic and Marian Dental Clinic hosted tables full of oral health resources for families in their waiting rooms. Thank you to Kate Hamilton, Carolyn Campbell, Richard Martin and LaTonya Hidalgo for all of your hard work! A thanks to new coalition member, Tamela Carter with Healthy Blue for providing fun swag and helping us promote National Children's Dental Health Month.



If you're interested in learning more about the Shawnee County Oral Health Coalition, email us at info@oralhealthkansas.org.



Sugary Drink Display

We have Adult and Children's Sugary Drink Display's available for reservations. These displays are eye catching at exhibits, schools, library, dental offices, clinics and just about anywhere you see them!

We only have a limited amount so please sign up soon if you're interested in reserving one. Click [here](#) to learn more about sugary drink display reservations!

Follow Us



Oral Health Kansas • PO BOX 4567 • Topeka, KS 66604

785.235.6039 phone • 785.233.5564 fax • info@oralhealthkansas.org

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