



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](#).

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**Weekly
Wednesday
Update.**



OHK Works on Improving the Oral Health of Kansans Since 2003

This year marks our 20th anniversary. If we said we are celebrating 20 years, that would mean we are celebrating Kansans still needing the help to improve their oral health. That's not something to celebrate. What it does mean, is that our work is not done!

Over the past 20 years, we have educated thousands of Kansans and people around the state on the importance of oral health, how to maintain your oral health and how to teach others the importance of oral health. We have advocated at the Kansas legislature as well as the United States Capitol on why access to proper dental care is crucial to all. These are just some ways we are the voice of Kansans.

In honor of our 20th anniversary, OHK will be going on the road. We'll be exhibiting at conferences to share our work and resources as well as presenting at your meetings and workshops. We want you to join us on this journey. If your organization would be interested in a visit, email us at info@oralhealthkansas.org.

[Watch our 20th anniversary video!](#)



Help OHK Understand Dental Care Access Issues

The recently established Lived Experience Advisory Group had their second quarterly meeting and introduced a new member who has joined! The group has been meeting to learn from each other about what dental access issues they have encountered and what possible results they can work on. It has been helpful to hear their stories and bounce around ideas on what each one has tried. OHK

understands this is not easy and can be repetitive but it helps guide our work and what we need to do to have your voices heard.

If you have Medicaid and dental access experience and would be interested in joining the Lived Experience Advisory Group, click [here](#) for more information. The group has one hour virtual quarterly meetings and a small stipend is provided for your time.



Scholarships to Address Oral Health Disparities

GEHA (Government Employees Health Association, Inc.) celebrates 25 years this year and in honor of their celebration, it will enhance its support and invest more than \$270,000 toward addressing oral health disparities, specifically by expanding its giving and scholarship programs, and continuing to provide oral health education in local communities. With a special focus on diversifying dentistry and dental hygiene, [GEHA Solutions](#) will continue its partnerships with [University of Missouri - Kansas City's \(UMKC\) School of Dentistry](#) and national nonprofit [BrownGirl, RDH](#) to support representation and health equity, both in the local Kansas City area and beyond. For this reason, GEHA Solutions will offer more than forty scholarships and fellowships to increase diversity in the dental professions.

We're excited for the opportunity GEHA will continue to provide to students. To read more information about GEHA's work, click [here](#) and to learn more about the scholarships, click [here](#).



Special Report of the National Council on Disability

The National Council on Disability (NCD) is pleased to announce the release of a new Special Report entitled, "Incentivizing Oral Health Care Providers to Treat Patients with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities."

This groundbreaking report provides Key Recommendations to the President, Congress, and the Department of Health and Human Services on policy changes in Medicaid and Medicare aimed at improving access, care, and oral health equity for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). Amged M. Soliman, Esq., Senior Attorney Advisor at the Nation Council on Disability will present the Report at the upcoming Medicaid-Medicare CHIP Services Dental Association Symposium (MSDA) on May 2nd, where a detailed discussion of the study and recommendations will take place.

To view the NCD's Report, click [here](#). To learn more about the Recommendations proposed by the NCD and how you can become involved, click [here](#).



Save the Date

The Conference on Oral Health will be held on Friday, October 27 at the KU Edwards Camps. The event will be in person and virtual. We'll keep you updated with details.



Upcoming Events

- The WSU Community Engagement Institute 2023 Virtual Workshop Series (CST): .
[Self-Care](#), April 19 at 11:00am.
[Navigating Conflicts and Difficult Situations](#), April 26 at 11:00am.
- Course: An Introduction to Value-Based Care in Oral Health: Moving from Volume to Value, 1 CE. Click [here](#) for the course information.
- **Webinar:** Better Health Through Better Understanding Webinar: Promoting Health Equity & CLAS, April 21 at 12:00pm CST. Register [here](#).
- **Webinar:** Strategies for Treating Autistic Individuals, April 27 at 6pm CST. Register [here](#).
- **Facebook Live:** Emerging Practices in Promoting Health Equity, April 27, 3:00pm-4:00pm CST. [Follow OMH on Facebook](#) for more updates and to join in on the conversation.



This week OHK staff and American Network of Oral Health Coalition (ANOHC) members attended the National Oral Health Conference in

Orlando, Florida. ANOHC held it's annual meeting with several of their members and new members!.





Sugary Drink Display

We have Adult and Children's Sugary Drink Displays available for reservations. 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!

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