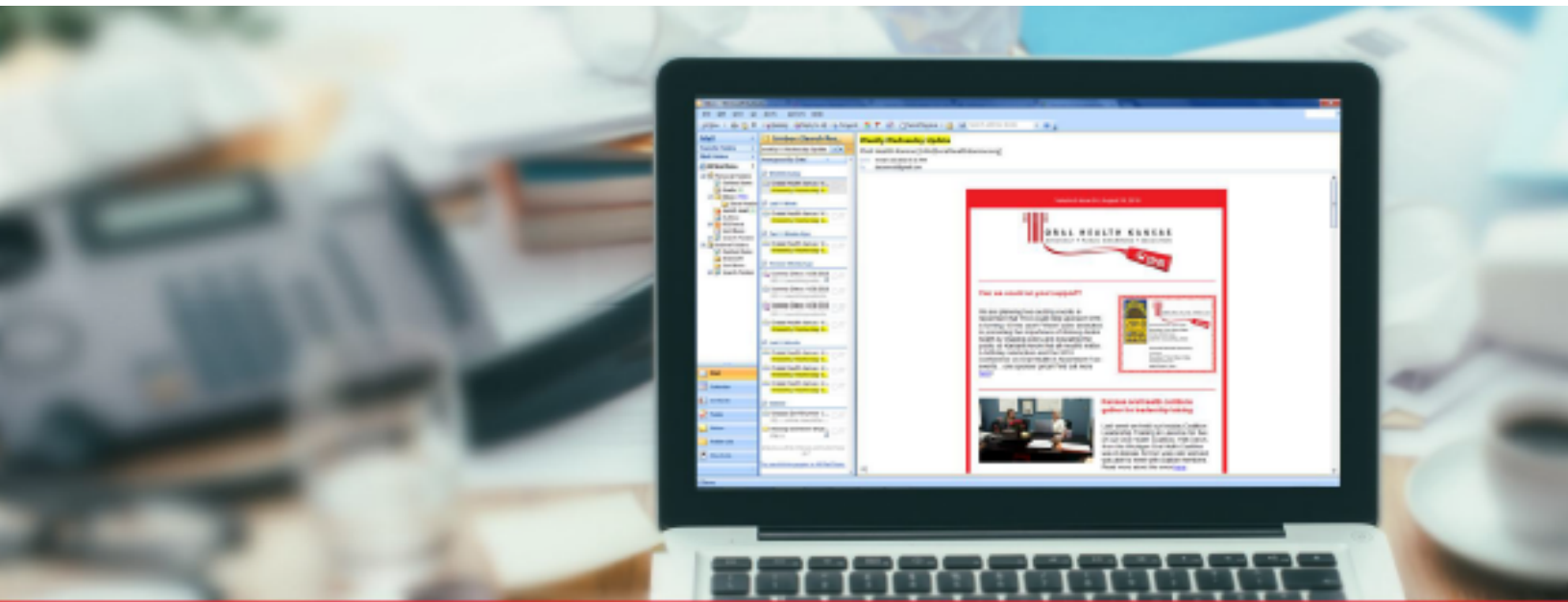




ORAL HEALTH KANSAS
ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION



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](#).

May 11, 2022

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Eighteen Years of Awards

This year marks the 18th year we are honoring oral health advocates in the state of Kansas. Being an oral health champion takes a unique individual and we want to give you the opportunity to acknowledge someone for all of the work they have done! Pick one category from the list below and submit a nomination. You can

remain anonymous although we think the nominee would be thrilled to know who thought of them! The award winner will be recognized during the hybrid 2022 Conference on Oral Health, Friday, November 4.

- Outstanding Organization Award
- Outstanding Dental Hygienist Award
- Outstanding Dentist Award
- Outstanding Community Leader Award
- Bob Bethell Outstanding Policy Maker
- Outstanding Oral Health Volunteer Award
- Ron Alexander Outstanding Dental Champion Award

Click [here](#) to view the award nomination forms and past winners.



Pregnancy and Oral Health

National Women's Health Week is May 8-14! This weekend we celebrated moms everywhere and thanked them for what they have done. Mothers do so much for us before and after we are born. One important task is taking care of their oral health as part of their prenatal care. Gum (periodontal) disease is an infection of the gums and bone that support your teeth. It can affect 4 out of 10 pregnant women and may have a negative impact on your pregnancy. Poor oral health outcomes affect both the mother and baby.

Eating behaviors and hormones during pregnancy may make mothers more prone to cavities. It's important to have healthy eating habits and monitor how much sugary foods and beverages you are consuming while pregnant. Brush your teeth twice a day and floss daily and visit the dentist. To learn more about pregnancy and oral health, read [Tips and Tricks Pregnancy and Dental Care](#) and [Pregnancy, Gum Disease and Diabetes](#).

New Release: Guide to Understand Health Equity and Race



Robert Wood Johnson
Foundation

May is Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AA and NHPI) Heritage Month. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [published a guide](#) for community leaders and advocates who want to advance health equity by calling for changes in the way race and ethnicity data is collected, analyzed, and reported. The guide addresses the impacts of categorizing diverse AA and NHPI as well as American Indian and Alaska Native communities under the term "other," a practice that can mask unique needs and strengths.

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Medicaid Training Opportunities

KDHE Division of Health Care Finance is offering six Medicaid Training virtual courses that started this week on May 9th. The courses in this curriculum provide an overview of Kansas Medicaid with the following topics: the Early & Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT Mandate); Medicaid Overview; Kansas Medicaid Grievance, Appeals, & State Fair Hearings; Medicaid Eligibility; Medicaid Eligibility - Home and Community Based Services (HCBS); Presumptive Medical Disability Team (PMDT). Click [here](#) for a schedule of trainings.

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Registration

To register, all individuals need to create an account in KanLearn by following this link, <https://lsglm700.learnsoft.com/LSGLM/Login/kdhelogin.aspx>.

- On the landing page, under the login button, choose "Click Here." by new user to create an account. ***(If an individual already has an account and has forgotten their password, please use the "forgot password" link. If an individual has forgotten their username, please email MedicaidTraining@ks.gov. All individuals should check their junk mail folder after using the "forgot password" link.)***



Upcoming Events

- **Webinar:** Special Conditions and Barriers and Challenges Providing Dental Care to Patients with IDD, May 13 at 12:00pm CST. Register [here](#).
- **Webinar:** Mister Rogers and Individuals with Disabilities, Monday, May 23rd at 11:00am CST. Register [here](#).
- **Webinar:** The Brain-Mouth Connection: Mental Health & Oral Health. Tuesday, May 24th, 2:00pm-2:20pm CST. Register [here](#).
- **Save the Date!** 16th Kansas Disability Caucus on August 10th-12th. Click [here](#) for details.
- **2022 Conference on Oral Health:** Friday, November 4. Conference will be a hybrid event. Thursday, November 3: Dental Champions Reception



Carolyn Campbell and Kate Hamilton, members of the Shawnee County Oral Health Coalition, exhibited at the Safe Kids Day at the



Zoo on Saturday, May 7 in Topeka. They educated families on the importance of brushing their teeth and keeping up with their oral health. Families had fun brushing Maji Dragon's teeth! One mother was interviewed on a local news station and shared how much she learned about dental health! Thank you both for taking the time out of your weekend to connect with families in our community. If you are interested in learning more about the Shawnee County Oral Health Coalition, email info@oralhealthkansas.org.



Sugary Drink Display Sanitation

Out of an abundance of caution, we are suspending use of the Sugary Drink Display until further notice.

During this time, hand washing and social distancing is on everyone's mind. We want everyone to have the comfort of knowing we sanitize our sugary drink displays. They are wiped down and cleaned off after they have been returned.



Follow Us



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