



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](#).

May 29, 2024

Volume 15, Issue 21

Scan the QR code



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



Be a Part of the Dental Provider Advisory Group

We want to understand the experiences of dental providers across the state by bringing together dentists and dental hygienists who represent Medicaid providers, non-Medicaid providers, sedation dental providers, non-sedation dental providers, rural providers, urban providers and more to discuss a range

of topics such as sedation dental care access, barriers and solutions to becoming a Medicaid provider, and practicing in a rural community. These members will create our first Dental Provider Advisory Group in the state of Kansas! This is an amazing opportunity for you to help make a change!

When: We plan to meet quarterly for 2-hour virtual meetings at a time best suited to Advisory Group members. Stipends will be provided for each meeting.

Sign up: Click [here](#) to sign up or [here](#) for the flyer.

If you are not sure if you would like to join or have any questions about the group, don't hesitate to ask! You can email MaryAnne at mlynchsmall@oralhealthkansas.org.



Dental Public Health Leadership Opportunities

Don't miss the opportunity to apply for two American Institute of Dental Public Health Academy experiences: Federal Service Immersion (FSI) program and the Dental Public Health Leadership Academy. Deadlines are approaching soon, apply now!

- The AIDPH Federal Service Immersion (FSI) Program will be held on **September 16 - 19, 2024** in Washington DC, The AIDPH FSI is a week-long, immersive learning experience exploring the intersection of dental public health infrastructure, federal funding, policy, programming, and advocacy. FSI hosts in-person site visits to federal health agencies where participants can engage with leaders to learn about the role and operations of each agency. [The application guidance can be found here](#). **Applications close June 3rd.**
- AIDPH is excited to open applications for the 2024 - 2025 cohort of the Dental Public Health Leadership Academy, a 12-month virtual fellowship designed to elevate and empower up to 20 early- to mid-career professionals who desire formal training in leadership principles and want to apply their skills in oral health and public health work. [The application guide can be found here](#). **Applications close June 3rd.**



Register for the Fall 2024 Local Public Health Leadership Series

The purpose of the Local Public Health Leadership Series is to enhance the ability of the local and state public health workforce to exercise leadership in the delivery of Medicaid services. The LPHLS will develop core knowledge and skills related to identifying and responding to adaptive challenges. The focus will be on leadership

competencies identified by the Kansas Leadership Center: Diagnosing the Situation, Managing Self, Energizing Others and Intervening Skillfully. This is a four-session training offered by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment in collaboration with the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments.

Who Should Participate?

Any Kansas public health professionals in the state or local health departments, community health centers, or other public health professionals who provide services to Medicaid beneficiaries and want to lead more effectively. Leadership involves mobilizing others, sometimes without direct authority to do so, in an effort to address complex community challenges. These difficult, adaptive challenges don't have a single expert or manager that can fix them. Progress can be made to address these challenges, but requires learning, involvement of stakeholders and persistent efforts. Public health professionals are in key positions to provide this kind of leadership. (Priority will be given to state and local health department applicants.)

The Wichita State University Community Engagement Institute will serve as faculty and coaches for the series, which is modeled after the Kansas Leadership Center's training curriculum and methods.

Applications are due July 22, 2024. If you have any questions; please feel free to contact Kristina.Helmer@wichita.edu for any questions.

Apply [here](#) or click on the flyer [here](#).



It's Not Too Early to Prepare to Vote

Are you registered to vote? If you're not sure, you can visit this [website](#), enter your name and date of birth. It will say whether you are registered or not. You can register to vote [online](#) or on paper in [English](#) or [Spanish](#).

Kansas allows voters to advance vote in person at county election offices or satellite voting locations up to 20 days before an election. For the 2024 election, counties may begin in-person advancing voting on July 17 for the primary election and October 16 for the general election. The deadline for in-person advance voting is 12:00 p.m. August 5, 2024 for the primary election and 12:00 p.m. November 4, 2024 for the general election. Voters are encouraged to contact their local election office to confirm advance voting dates and locations for their respective county. The Secretary of State's office will also provide this information in July and October prior to each election.

Individuals who vote in person at the county election office or at a satellite location must show photographic identification. If an advance voter does not provide identification, or if the information is not valid, the county election officer may issue a provisional ballot to the voter. The provisional ballot will not be considered valid until the voter submits their photographic identification to before the county canvass.

By Mail

Voters are allowed to vote by mail prior to election day in the state of Kansas. In order to do so, you must complete an application for an advance ballot and include your driver's license number or a copy of your photo identification. The deadline to submit advance voting applications to your county election official is July 30 for the 2024 primary election and October 29 for the 2024 general election. Ballots will be mailed to those who apply beginning July 17 for the 2024 primary election and October 16 for the 2024 general election. All ballots MUST be postmarked on or before election day and received in the county election office by the close of business on the third business day following the election.

You can find this information on the Kansas Secretary of State website:

<https://sos.ks.gov/elections/voter-information.html>

Here are some important dates to remember:

- July 16th - *Deadline to register to vote or update to participate in Primary Election*
- July 17th - *Ballots Mailed for Primary Election*

- July 22nd - *Primary Elections Early Voting*
- August 6th - *Primary Elections*
- October 16th - *Ballots Mailed for General Election*
- October 21st - *Early General Voting in Office*
- November 5th - *General Elections*



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](#).
- Community Care Network of Kansas and the Health Center Association of Nebraska (HCAN) are co-hosting the second annual two-day Dental Clinic Leadership Conference, June 13 - June 14. Register [here](#).
- **Save the date!** 2024 Conference on Oral Health will be Friday, November 8 at the Kansas State Olathe Campus, 22201 W Innovation Dr., Olathe, KS.

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



We are excited to have **three students** who have chosen to do their internships with Oral Health Kansas! Meet our interns!



- **Dr. Manali Raskar** earned her Bachelor of Dental Surgery from Dr. DY Patil Dental College and Hospital in India. During her journey as a public health dentist working in rural areas of India, she recognized a significant gap

between clinical dentistry and public health. Consequently, she decided to pursue a Master's in Public Health at Columbia University in New York City, where she gained comprehensive insights into healthcare systems, epidemiology, and health policy.

- **Saloni Ramnathkar** received a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Arkansas Fort Smith and is pursuing a Master's in Public Health at A.T. Still University in Columbia, Missouri. She has always had a passion for helping others and plans to continue her studies to become a dentist. Saloni is conducting research for OHK on integrating oral health into after-school programming.
- **Shriya Jain** is originally from Fort Wayne, Indiana. She is a dual-degree student at Columbia University College of Dental Medicine and Mailman School of Public Health. Her decision to pursue public health was driven by a passion for improving community oral health and addressing systemic disparities in access to dental care. Shriya is also actively involved with the American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Dentistry, which is committed to improving the quality of healthcare for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Shriya is excited to work with Oral Health Kansas this summer!



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
Copyright 2024