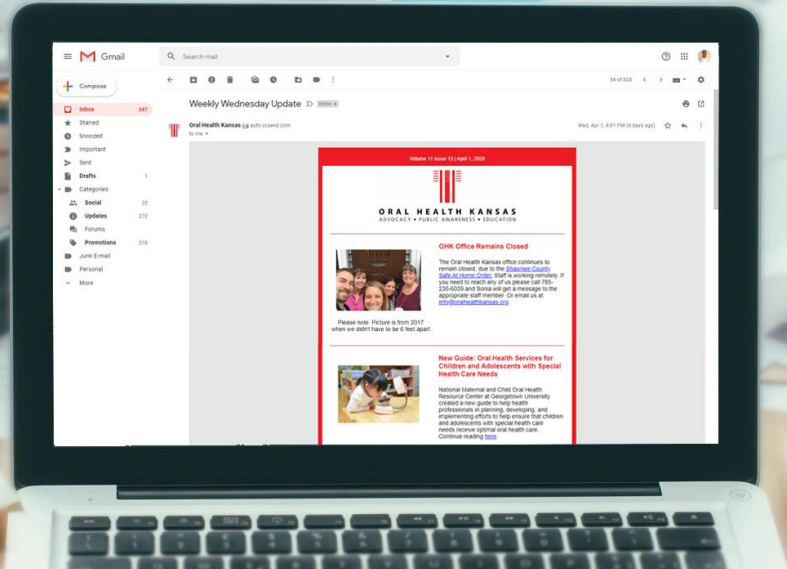




ORAL HEALTH KANSAS
ADVOCACY • PUBLIC AWARENESS • EDUCATION



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](#).

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Kansas Extends Postpartum Coverage

During the 2022 Kansas legislative session, legislators approved extension of Medicaid coverage for new mothers from six weeks to twelve months. The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services has now officially

approved Kansas' state plan amendment to extend postpartum coverage. The approval is retroactive to April 1.

As a result of this big change new moms in Kansas have access to comprehensive health coverage including routine check-ups, breastfeeding support, family planning and more. These mothers also have access to the new adult dental services, including fillings and crowns.

Oral Health Kansas was a part of the coalition advocating to extend postpartum coverage. It provides new moms and babies with the chance to get a healthy start. Learn more about the importance of oral health for pregnant people and infants on [Oral Health Kansas' website](#).



PACT Act Championed by Kansan

Today President Biden signed the PACT Act into law. This law was championed by Kansas' own Senator Jerry Moran, who is the Ranking Minority Member of the U.S. Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. In a [statement released today](#), Senator Moran said, "Today, we delivered on a promise made to our veterans that if someone serves in our military, we will take care of them and provide them with the benefits they have earned through their service." While the final version of the bill did not include oral health provisions, funding could potentially be used for oral-health related care, which is often out of reach for veterans.

Oral Health Kansas applauds Senator Moran's leadership on behalf of the health of our veterans. Senator Roger Marshall, along with Representative Sharice Davids also supported this landmark legislation aimed at improving veterans' health.



Teeth for Two is Back

After a number of false starts with the pandemic, illness, and inclement weather, Oral Health Kansas is once again offering full day in-person oral health workshops for home visitors and other health educators. Last week, OHK staff members Kathy Hunt and Devaki Menon facilitated a full day workshop full of great information, resources, and hands on activities. We have workshops scheduled for August 18th in Paola

and September 15th in Hutchinson. There is still some space available so we'd love to have you join us! **Registration is free and we even provide lunch.** Every participant will receive our newly revised Teeth for Two Oral Health Resource Guide along with a flash drive full of printable handouts and links to oral health videos for families.

Click [here](#) for information on the Paola workshops and [here](#) for Hutchinson. If you have other questions, please email us at info@oralhealthkansas.org.



Community Care Clinic Week

This week is Community Care Clinic Week, which is celebrated in Kansas in conjunction with National Health Center Week. Community Care Clinic Week, August 7 -13, highlights the innovative community-based health care that is giving Kansans in need the chance to lead healthy, productive lives.

Governor Laura Kelly signed a proclamation honoring the week, highlighting the role that Community Care clinics play in serving 1 in 9 Kansans, making up more than 326,000 individuals.

If you need help finding a clinic in your area, [visit our website!](#)

[Visit Community Care Network of Kansas](#) to find additional resources and social media tools to help you celebrate your local clinics.



Pain Management and Oral Health in Adolescents

Compared to adults, children and adolescents are at higher risk for opioid misuse or abuse. There are many medications prescribed for pain. Opioids (narcotics) and benzodiazepines (muscle relaxers) may not be the best options, as these drugs tend to be addictive. Studies have demonstrated that just three days of opioid use can increase the likelihood of addiction. Dentists prescribe 12 percent of immediate-release (typically within 30 minutes) opioids in the United States. Therefore, they have an opportunity to minimize the potential for opioid

misuse that begins during childhood or adolescence. Learn more [here](#) including tips to help with the misuse of opioids.



Learning Collaborative Opportunities

Oral Health Kansas is pleased to share several learning collaborative opportunities from the National Network of Oral Health Access (NNOHA).

- NNOHA is recruiting interested health centers to participate in the third cohort of a **Breakthrough Series Learning Collaborative on Integrating Diabetes and Oral Health (IDOH)** funded through NNOHA's National Training and Technical Assistance Partnership with the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The Learning Collaborative will take place from September 2022 to June 2023. The IDOH Learning Collaborative will implement **[NNOHA's User's Guide for Implementation of Interprofessional Oral Health Core Clinical Competencies](#)**. Participating teams will adopt and implement the oral health core clinical competencies (Risk Assessment, Oral Health Evaluation, Preventive Interventions, Communication and Education, Inter-professional Collaborative Practice) resulting in integration of oral health and primary care and improved outcomes for health center patients.â€‹
[Online applications](#) are due by 11:59 pm PT on August 19, 2022.

- Henry Schein Cares, Inc., in partnership with the National Network for Oral Health Access is offering NNOHA Organizational Members the opportunity to apply for support through the Global Product Donation program to receive supplies over two years (beginning January 2023).

NNOHA and Henry Schein will award up to ten (10) Global Product Donation grants to provide a broad selection of health care products and supplies for two years, all of which are new and useable, although in some instances they may be imperfectly packaged.

Only current NNOHA organizational members are eligible to apply. Click [here](#) for more information.

- The NNOHA Oral Health Leadership Institute is looking for applications! The NOHLI is a year-long, in-person and online training program providing core knowledge and competencies that health center/safety-net oral health leaders need to develop as effective

managers, directors, and advocates for oral health and their communities. Click [here](#) to learn more.



Upcoming Events

- **Webinar: The Science of Advocacy**, August 18 at 7pm CST. Register [here](#).
- **Kansas Public Health Association** annual conference, September 29 in Wichita, Kansas. Click [here](#) as more information is shared.
- **Community Care Network of Kansas** annual conference, October 5-7 in Manhattan, Kansas. Click [here](#) for more information.
- **2022 Conference on Oral Health**: Friday, November 4. Conference will be a hybrid event. Thursday, November 3: Dental Champions Reception.



We are sad to say this is the last official last week for our intern, MaryAnne Lynch Small, BDS. MaryAnne is a student from Columbia's Mailman School of Public Health and will be earning her Master of Public Health. She has been leading our Dental Homes for Kids initiative this summer at OHK. She also has been helping us with website revisions to make our content more user friendly. We will miss her but wish her well!



If you are interested in an internship or volunteer with OHK, email us at info@oralhealthkansas.org



Sugary Drink Display

Stay tuned as we are continuing to make decisions on the Sugary Drink Display!



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