



PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

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Bureau of Community Health Systems

Robert Moser, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

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New Year's Resolution for Better Health-KDHE Helps Tobacco Users Quit

by Ginger Park, Bureau of Health Promotion, KDHE



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) can help people keep their resolutions to quit tobacco in 2014. KDHE offers free cessation support by calling toll-free at 1-800-QUIT-NOW (784-8669) and information online by clicking the KanQuit logo to

help tobacco users who are ready to quit.

“Quitting smoking will reduce your risk of many diseases including cancer, heart disease, chronic pulmonary disease (COPD) and stroke,” said Robert Moser, M.D., KDHE Secretary and State Health Officer. “Quitting isn’t easy, but it’s worth the reward of a longer and healthier life. Working with a Quit Coach at the Kansas Tobacco Quitline can make quitting easier.”

Quitline enrollment is free and available 24 hours a day, seven days a week (except on major holidays). A Quit Coach™ works with participants during emails, live chats or one-on-one phone calls to prepare for a quit date and create a plan to fight cravings and face other challenges. Studies have found that using a tobacco Quitline can more than double a person’s chances of successfully quitting tobacco.

Some people fear their resolution to quit tobacco use will hurt their resolution to lose or maintain weight, but planning ahead can help people avoid weight gain. Exercise can be an effective tool in quitting tobacco use. When the urge to use tobacco hits, people can take a walk, go for a short run or participate in another physical activity they enjoy. Instead of replacing smoking or chewing tobacco with sweets or fatty food, people can try chewing sugarless gum or snacking on carrots, celery, other vegetables, air-popped popcorn, dried fruit or nuts.

KDHE’s Tobacco Use Prevention Program manages the Kansas Tobacco Quitline and provides resources and technical assistance to community coalitions for development, enhancement and evaluation of state and local tobacco prevention initiatives. For additional information on the Kansas Tobacco Use Prevention Program, visit www.kdheks.gov/tobacco.

In the Spotlight - Preparedness Group's Training Highlighted in CDP Alumnus Newsletter



by the Preparedness Program, Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE

The South Central Kansas Regional Hospital Preparedness Group is highlighted in the January-March 2014 issue of the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP), CDP Alumnus newsletter. The group, 53 in total, attended the Healthcare Leadership for Mass Casualty Incidents (HCL) course, representing 19 counties and 31 hospitals from the Sunflower State.

These healthcare professionals trained at the CDP's Noble Training Facility (NTF), the only hospital in the nation solely dedicated to preparing the healthcare, public health, and environmental health communities for mass casualty response to a catastrophic natural or man-made disaster. During the four-day class, the students trained to provide a realistic medical response in an actual treatment facility. The NTF provides the perfect setting to mirror an emergency department surge and the activation of a hospital's command center during a mass casualty healthcare response.

"Disasters are never planned," said Diana Lippoldt, Director of Nursing for Trauma, Critical Care and Emergency Preparedness at the Wesley Medical Center of Wichita. "This training places us in an environment we can very well expect in a disaster. The training helps us minimize chaos and deal with the emergency. It teaches us to communicate and manage an event." To view the complete article, click the logo above.

In the Spotlight - Brownfields Project Breaks Ground in KC



by the Office of Communications, KDHE

Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) staff recently attended a ground breaking ceremony to celebrate redevelopment of an 80-acre Brownfields property in the Fairfax District in Kansas City. The property was the location of a former General Motors facility and is contaminated with volatile organic compounds and hydrocarbons.

After General Motors filed for bankruptcy in 2009, the property was transferred to the RACER Trust for remediation. The Bureau of Environmental Remediation (BER), KDHE, has worked closely with the RACER Trust (holders of the property) and NorthPoint Development Company to coordinate remediation efforts with development of the property. The property, now called the Central Industrial Park (CIP), will accommodate three to eight modern manufacturing businesses and create up to 2,000 new jobs in the Kansas City area. Speakers for both the Wyandotte Economic Development Council and the RACER Trust thanked KDHE for their assistance and leadership to move the project forward. Greg Kindle, representing the Council stated: "This sort of successful collaborative effort isn't just an economic development boon for Fairfax. It's also an inspiring case study." Mark Holland, Mayor and CEO of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City said, "This project is a symbol to the rest of the metro area and the nation that this is what you can do, even on a brownfield site. This partnership shows what we can do by turning a brownfield site into 2,000 jobs."

According to Unified Government officials, this project will be the first development in Fairfax in more than 25 years. This property has been vacant and unproductive for over 20 years partially because of the environmental contamination issues. Inergy, a gas tank manufacturer, will be the first tenant of the CIP. BER, RACER and NorthPoint are working in a cooperative partnership to cleanup a major hydrocarbon source of contamination during the construction of the Inergy facility. It is anticipated that approximately 11,400 tons of contaminated soil will be removed from the area.

To learn more about the "Brownfields" program in Kansas click the logo above.

Immunization Billing Stakeholder Group

by Stephanie Lambert-Barth, Kansas Foundation for Medical Care



The Kansas Immunization Billing Stakeholder Group is scheduled to meet Tuesday, Jan. 14, 10:00-11:30 a.m. Planned presentations include updates on the Kansas Training/Certification Pilot Project and the California Billing Project's experiences with training local health department (LHDs) billing staff. In addition, time has been allocated to discuss new or persistent billing issues Kansas LHDs are currently experiencing.

This will be a web-based meeting, and we encourage anyone who is interested to attend and participate. If you have not received an invitation and would like to attend, please contact Stephanie Lambert-Barth at slambert@kfmc.org to request an invitation.

Saline-Saline County Health Department Celebrates Retirement of Public Health Staff

by Teri Caudle, Public Health Nurse Specialist, Local Public Health Program
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE

The Local Public Health Program congratulates Cathy Ahlstedt, Yvonne Gibbons, Del Myers, Joanie Justice, and Sue Banninger (left to right) on their recent retirement from the Saline-Salina Health Department. The retirement celebration was held at the Carver Center in Salina on Dec. 11, 2013. We extend our deepest gratitude for the exemplary dedication they have given to improve the health and wellness of Kansans during their decades of service in public health.



Environmental Health in Kansas at Crossroads

**Kansas environmental
HEALTH association**

by Edward (Ed) J. Kalas, Past-President
Kansas Environmental Health Association

Because of budget restraints, jurisdictional issues, institutional silos and lack of a common definition, environmental health (EH) is at a crossroads in Kansas.

As the association representing professionals in the field of environmental health in Kansas, the Kansas Environmental Health Association (KEHA), convened an EH Summit the summer of 2013, and continues to meet, with organizations that influence how environmental health is practiced in the state. The organizations include the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Kansas Association of Local Health Departments, Kansas Public Health Association, Kansas Health Foundation, Kansas Association of Counties, University of Kansas and the Kansas Department of Agriculture.

Areas on which the group agreed, are the definitions of environmental health and of the professionals who practice it. The definitions below were taken from those that the National Environmental Health Association adopted this summer.

Environmental health is the science and practice of preventing human injury and illness and promoting well-being by:

- identifying and evaluating environmental sources and hazardous agents; and
- limiting exposures to hazardous physical, chemical, and biological agents in air, water, soil, food, and other environmental media or settings that may adversely affect human health.

An environmental health professional or specialist is a practitioner with appropriate academic education and training and registration or certification to:

- investigate, sample, measure, and assess hazardous environmental agents in various environmental media and settings;
- recommend and apply protective interventions that control hazards to health;
- develop, promote, and enforce guidelines, policies, laws, and regulations;
- develop and provide health communications and educational materials;
- manage and lead environmental health units within organizations;
- perform systems analysis;
- engage community members to understand, address and resolve problems;
- review construction and land use plans and make recommendations;
- interpret research utilizing science and evidence to understand the relationship of health and environment; and
- interpret data and prepare technical summaries and reports.

For more information about the EH Summit workgroup or environmental health, visit the KEHA website by clicking the logo above.

Add the Regional Public Health Meetings to Your Calendar

by Teri Caudle, Public Health Specialist, Local Public Health Program
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE

Don't miss the opportunity to attend one of the upcoming regional public health meetings aimed to connect local health departments with programs and best practices that will benefit the work that you do within your communities. These meetings are designed for the local public health department administrator; however, any staff person interested in a particular topic is welcome to attend.

In January, two regions will close out the last quarter of 2013 meetings (NW on Jan. 9 in Oakley and SE on Jan. 16 in Chanute). The topics covered are Enforcement of Hotel and Restaurant Inspections from Adam Inman with the Kansas Department of Agriculture and Disease and Outbreak Investigation from a Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) expert. The 2014 schedule will bring information from Dave Thomason on the WIC program. Peter Bodyk, Director of the Immunization Program will attend the regional meetings in areas he wasn't able to visit during the last quarter.

The dates and locations are:

- February 5 – Hutchinson (SC)
- February 20 – Oakley (NW)
- February 21 – Garden City (SW)
- February 26 – Beloit (NC)
- March 11 – Topeka (NE)
- March 20 – Chanute (SE)

Register on KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, Course ID: 1047085 for the January meetings and course number 1048258 for the February sessions. If you have ideas for regional meeting topics please contact Teri Caudle at tcaudle@kdheks.gov.

Sunflower Foundation 2014 Advocacy Fellows Announced

from the Sunflower Foundation website

Congratulations to Lisa Moritz, Administrator/School Nurse, Greeley County Health Department, Michelle Ponce, Executive Director, Kansas Association of Local Health Departments, and Robert Stiles, Director of Operations/Clinic Director, Montgomery County Clinic, Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas, who have been chosen to the 2014 class of Advocacy Fellows for the Sunflower Foundation: Health Care for Kansans. This year's class of 14 nonprofit leaders from across the state will learn how to become effective public policy advocates for their organizations and the people they serve.



The Advocacy Fellowship class is part of the foundation's non-partisan advocacy initiative, which is designed to provide education and training opportunities for nonprofit leaders. The goal is to bring the perspective of the nonprofit world to public policy.

"We are proud to build on the success of our first four classes with this fifth year of outstanding Fellows," said Billie Hall, President and CEO of the Sunflower Foundation, which launched the advocacy program in 2008. "We are pleased with the diversity of individuals and organizations that are represented and look forward to another year of exceptional involvement from the group."

The fellowship program includes six sessions over the course of a year, including one visit to Washington, D.C. Topics include how to develop advocacy strategies, build coalitions and grassroots efforts, navigate the political process and work with the media. Doug Farmer, the foundation's Vice President for Policy, oversees the program.

"Bringing together nonprofit leaders with a wide range of experiences and interests really brings a new voice to policy discussions – on a local, state and national level," Farmer said. "These Fellows, as well as the classes before them, are committed to learning, engaging and building a network across the state that can address health care issues facing us now and in the future."

To read brief bios and see photos of each of the 2014 Advocacy Fellows, [click here](#). For more information about the Advocacy Fellowship program, visit the Sunflower Foundation website at www.sunflowerfoundation.org.



Just a Reminder that January is National Radon Action Month



Just a reminder that it is not too late to contact Angela German for free radon test kits to disseminate. In Jan. (Radon Action Month) 1,500 radon test kits will be distributed free through county health departments and local organizations.

The success of this project is dependent on the participation of many partners. You still have time to join in on this project. A greater number of partners will help ensure the success of the radon kit distribution as well as increase the knowledge of Kansans regarding exposure to radon as a risk for the lung cancer, especially among those who smoke or are exposed to second hand smoke.

Thank you in advance for your interest and participation. To get involved contact Angela German by Jan. 10 at agerman@kdheks.gov or call 785-368-7154.

Aid to Local Grant Applications

by Jane Shirley, Population Health Center Director
Local Public Health Program Director, Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE

The state to local grant package for SFY 2015, referred to as "Aid to Local", will be posted and open for access, as usual, on Jan. 15, 2014. All instructions, forms and documents will be available on the Local Public Health Aid to Local webpage found at www.kdheks.gov/doc_lib/index.html. All grant applications are due by close of business on March 14, 2014.

For new administrators or new applicants for these grant funds, an introductory course is available on [KS-TRAIN](#), "BCHS: Public Health Aid To Local 2015 Grant Process," course #1041097 which explains step-by-step the process and forms that need to be completed.

New this year, all questions and communications should be directed by email to aidtolocal@kdheks.gov or by phone to Pat Behnke at 785-296-0425.

KDHE Dispatch Produces YouTube Video on Foodborne Illness

by the Office of Communications, KDHE



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Office of Communications hosts the Dispatch, a video series, posted to YouTube, which spotlights programs in the agency.

To view recent episodes click the links below:

- [Foodborne Illness Outbreak](#)
- [South Central District Office](#)
- [Kansas Brownfields Program](#)
- [Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics Vital Statistics](#)
- [Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy](#)
- [Child Care Licensing](#)

Where are the Children in Your Community Eating This Summer?

by the Child Nutrition and Wellness Program,
Kansas State Department of Education



During the summer of 2013, over one million meals were served to Kansas children representing only ten percent of the children fed during the school year. The Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) challenges you to help reach out to more communities, more organizations and more children.

The Child Nutrition and Wellness Program, Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE), invites you to discover the opportunities to feed children in your community during the summer of 2014. It is not too early to think beyond the winter snow. View the KSDE website, [Summer Food Service Program](#) for more information, or click the logo to download an upcoming announcement about a January 23, Summer Meals Summit, in Topeka.

Local Public Health Leadership Series

by Jane Shirley, Population Health Center Director
Local Public Health Program Director
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments (KALHD) are offering a leadership development opportunity for public health professionals in Eastern Kansas for Spring 2014. Sessions have been held in the western and central parts of the state and it is anticipated that future opportunities will be made available in other regions.

The purpose of the Local Public Health Leadership Series is to equip individuals and their departments to exercise leadership for the enhancement of the Medicaid service system.

Leadership involves mobilizing others, sometimes without direct authority to do so, in an effort to address difficult community challenges. These difficult, daunting, adaptive challenges don't have a single expert or manager that can fix them. In fact, they can't be "fixed." Progress can be made to address adaptive challenges but it will require learning, involvement of stakeholders and persistent efforts. Public health professionals are in key positions to provide this kind of leadership.

The Local Public Health Leadership Series will develop core knowledge and skills related to identifying and responding to adaptive challenges. The focus will be on development of leadership competencies identified by the Kansas Leadership Center: Diagnosing the Situation, Managing Self, Energizing Others and Intervening Skillfully.

The Wichita State University Center for Community Support and Research (WSU-CCSR) will serve as faculty and coaches for the series which is modeled after the Kansas Leadership Center's (KLC) training curriculum and methods. If you want to know more, click the KLC logo or email seth.bate@wichita.edu.

Materials, hotel accommodations ([Holiday Inn Convention Center](#)), travel stipends and most meals are provided.

This will require attendance at four 1½-day sessions which will take place at the Holiday Inn, Lawrence.

- March 5 afternoon and evening; March 6 morning and afternoon
 - April 10 afternoon and evening; April 11 morning and afternoon
 - May 5 afternoon and evening; May 6 morning and afternoon
 - June 5 afternoon and evening; June 6 morning and afternoon
- (schedule subject to updates)



In addition to class sessions, participants will be expected to spend about three hours completing assignments between each session. Assignments may include reading, written reflections, conversations with a coach and consulting with a peer group. All work between sessions can be accomplished individually, by phone or online.

If you are interested in participating in this program, click on the KALHD logo and complete the application by Dec. 31, and return it to michelle.ponce@kalhd.org.

Enrollment is limited; those not selected will be eligible to apply for future development opportunities.

National Health Service Corps to Open Nurse Corps Local Repayment Program

by Jane Shirley, Population Health Center Director, Local Public Health Program Director
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE



The Primary Care Office, Kansas Department of Health and Environment announced that the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) expects to open the Nurse Corps Loan Repayment Program (formerly Nursing Education Loan Repayment Program) application cycle in January. To participate in this program, the practice site does not have to be an approved NHSC site. This program enables dedicated registered nurses committed to caring for underserved people to serve in hospitals and clinics. Those interested, click the Nurse Corps logo to learn more about the program and sign up for email notifications when the application cycle opens.

The Nurse Corps Loan Repayment Program puts registered nurses (including advanced practice nurses and nursing faculty) on a rewarding career path while paying off 60 percent of their unpaid nursing student loans in just two years – and an additional 25 percent of the original balance for an optional third year. In return, Nurse Corps members fulfilling a service obligation at any one of thousands of nonprofit hospitals, clinics and other facilities located in designated primary medical care or mental health professional shortage areas across the U.S. Nurse Corps members enjoy the same the competitive pay and benefits negotiated with their employer as non-members.

Kansas Rural Health Information Service (KRHIS)

by Ashley Muninger, Rural Health Coordinator
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE

KRHIS provides timely news on health topics and issues affecting Kansas. Users receive email notices on a broad range of health issues and can explore an online database of health information. This service is FREE and open to the public.

Information isn't just limited to rural health issues. Topics include:

- Grants, Funding & Federal Updates
- Policy, Regulation & Reimbursement
- Education & Training
- Recruitment & Retention
- Preparedness
- and more!



Online registration is fast and easy. Select from a variety of categories in order to receive notices that are of specific interest to you. Click the KRHIS logo above to learn more and to register. Need more information contact the Office of Rural Health at ruralhealth@kdheks.gov.

Nurses Retain Top Spot as Most Ethical Profession

from the American Nurses Association



Public continues to rate nurses as the most trusted profession, according to this year's Gallup survey that ranks professions based on their honesty and ethical standards.

"Nurses are on the front lines of health care. We advocate on patients' behalf whether we are at the bedside or in the boardroom," said American Nurses Association (ANA) President Karen A. Daley, PhD, RN, FAAN. "Patients understand that nurses are committed to improving the quality of their care, and this poll reflects the high regard they have for the profession."

Registered nurses are increasingly being recognized as leaders in transforming the health care system to meet the burgeoning demand for prevention, wellness and primary care services with a focus on improving quality and managing costs. In addition to their clinical expertise, they are being sought out to serve in a variety of new roles, such as care coordinators and wellness coaches, and in leadership roles.

As millions of Americans are able to access health care coverage through the Affordable Care Act, ANA and its constituent and state nurses associations will continue to advocate for measures that will allow the public to benefit fully from nurses' skill and expertise.

For the past 12 years, the public has voted nurses as the most ethical and honest profession in America in [Gallup's annual survey](#). This year, 82 percent of Americans rated nurses' honesty and ethical standards as "very high" or "high," a full 12 percentage points above any other profession.

Nurses consistently capture patient and public trust by performing in accordance with the [Code of Ethics for Nurses](#) that supports the best interests of patients, families and communities.

Sunflower Foundation Awards Nearly \$400,000 for Trails

from the Sunflower Foundation website



The Sunflower Foundation Board of Trustees recently awarded nearly \$400,000 to eight communities and six school districts to build new trails or enhance existing trails. The Sunflower Trails program is designed to promote healthy living by helping communities provide all populations with safe and accessible opportunities for outdoor physical activity.

"We are pleased the Sunflower Trails program ended 2013 on such a high note, with so many motivated Kansas towns and schools," said Billie Hall, President and CEO of the Sunflower Foundation. "What is particularly impressive is how many applicants are doing local fundraising to help support their trail. These efforts demonstrate a level of community involvement and investment that we know will lead to successful projects."

To read the names of the community-based trail awardees click the Sunflower Foundation logo.

Kansas Vaccination Manual from IKK and KAAP



The Kansas Vaccination Manual from Immunize Kansas Kids (IKK) and the Kansas Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (KAAP) is now available in app form for Android phones and tablets and for iPhone and iPad devices.

This app will help providers manage the ever-changing immunization situation, in a concise and easy-to-use source. Tailored for the busy Kansas provider, it is written by Kansas health care professionals who understand the immunization issues providers encounter in their practices.

The Immunize Kansas Kids project is a unique partnership among the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), the Kansas Health Institute and dozens of stakeholder organizations across Kansas. IKK's goal is to protect every Kansas child from vaccine preventable diseases. This project is made possible by funding and support from the Kansas Health Foundation. The Kansas Health Foundation is a philanthropic organization whose mission is to improve the health of all Kansans.

To download an app version visit:

[Android App Link](#)

[iTunes App Link](#)

To request hard copies of the manual and find online resources, including a PDF version of the manual, visit kansasaap.org. For phone support, call KDHE's Kansas Immunization Program at 855-896-7337, and for immunization questions, contact KAAP at immunizations@kansasaap.org.

Kansas Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Members Attend National Conference

by *Emily Nickel, Planning & Volunteer Coordinator, Preparedness Program Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*

Approximately 27 Kansans went to New Orleans Dec. 11-13, 2013 to attend the 2nd Annual National Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Conference. The conference brought in attendees from local, regional and state organizations and also representatives from different countries. It was an opportunity for coalition members to share essential best practices and lessons to assist with capability building and enhancing partnerships. The Kansas City, Kansas Healthcare Coalition co-presented a breakout session with the State of Virginia titled When Rural Meets Urban in Preparedness and Response. Steve Hoeger, University of Kansas Hospital/Regional Coordinator, Liz Ticer, Johnson County Department of Health and Environment, and Cary Gerst, Johnson County Emergency Management shared strengths and lessons on how to best collaborate as a healthcare coalition.



Fred Rinne, Southeast Hospitals Regional Emergency Preparedness Coordinator said the conference allowed for a great learning environment. "Some of the things we learned reinforced what we have accomplished. . . . And naturally it pointed out a lot of work for us." Lastly, one of the most important aspects of the conference was the ability to grow relationships and establish new partnerships.

The Kansas healthcare coalition members are from a spectrum of disciplines: Public Health, Hospital, Emergency Management, Funeral Director, Behavioral Health, Emergency Medical Services, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and Kansas Hospital Education and Research Foundation. For a full list of Kansas attendees, click the image above.

Public Agrees on Obesity's Impact, Not Government's Role

from the *Pew Research website*



Most Americans (69 percent) see obesity as a very serious public health problem, substantially more than the percentages viewing alcohol abuse, cigarette smoking and AIDS in the same terms. In addition, a broad majority believes that obesity is not just a problem that affects individuals: 63 percent say obesity has consequences for society beyond the personal impact on individuals. Just 31 percent say it impacts the individuals who are obese but not society more broadly.

(Cont'd)

(Cont'd from page 9)

Yet, the public has mixed opinions about what, if anything, the government should do about the issue. A 54 percent majority does not want the government to play a significant role in reducing obesity, while 42 percent say the government should play a significant role. And while some proposals for reducing obesity draw broad support, others are decidedly unpopular.

The new national survey by the Pew Research Center, conducted Oct. 30-Nov. 6, 2013 among 2,003 adults, finds that two-thirds (67 percent) favor requiring chain restaurants to list calorie counts on menus. But just 31 percent support limits on the size of sugary soft drinks in restaurants and convenience stores – 67 percent oppose this idea. More than half (55 percent) favor banning TV ads of unhealthy foods during children's programming, but barely a third (35 percent) supports raising taxes on sugary soft drinks and unhealthy foods. On each of these policies, Democrats and women are more supportive than Republicans, independents, and men.

Click the Pew Research logo to access the complete article.

CDC Releases 2012 Water Fluoridation Statistics

from the Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently released the 2012 water fluoridation statistics, measuring the number of people on public water systems who benefit from fluoridated drinking water. About 2.7 million Kansans rely on community water systems, but only 63.6 percent of them benefit from optimally fluoridated water. This means that over one million people who could be served by fluoride are not receiving this preventive public health intervention.

According to the CDC, "Water fluoridation prevents tooth decay mainly by providing teeth with frequent contact with low levels of fluoride throughout each day and throughout life. Even today, with other available sources of fluoride, studies show that water fluoridation reduces tooth decay by about 25 percent over a person's lifetime."

The positive effects of fluoride-preventing and reversing tooth decay-are especially necessary for populations without regular access to oral health care. According to Dr. Paul Kittle, a pediatric dentist from Leavenworth, "Cavities continue to increase in children, especially in those areas without water fluoridation, and lead to unnecessary pain, discomfort, absence from school, and significant costs to parents and society."

"Water fluoridation is the single most effective public health measure in use today because of its unique ability to decrease the risk of dental cavities, the most common infectious disease in the world."

Still, Kansas ranks 35th in the percentage of its population with optimally fluoridated water. Every surrounding state bested Kansas in the rankings-Missouri ranked 26th, Nebraska was 30th, Oklahoma was 32nd, Colorado came in at 28th and Iowa topped the list at 12th.

Dr. Kittle speculates that Kansas ranks low because of "misinformation and scare tactics," a fact he finds very disturbing. "To deny the general public a significant health benefit because they've heard misinformation, scare tactics and non-scientific garbage does a great disservice to the citizens, especially the children, of Kansas."

The data are compiled biennially from the CDC's Water Fluoridation Reporting System (WFRS). States use the database to ensure the quality of their water fluoridation systems.

To learn more about water fluoridation in Kansas click the Oral Health Kansas logo above.



Accreditation Corner

Kansas Department of Health and Environment Submits Statement of Intent to Apply for Accreditation

By Kate Watson, Director

Center for Performance Management, KDHE



Center for Performance Management

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) submitted a Statement of Intent (SOI) on Dec. 4, 2013 to inform the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) of the department's intention to apply for public health department accreditation. According to PHAB, KDHE has until Dec. 4, 2014 to submit an application to become an accredited state health department or it will have to submit another SOI. However, KDHE plans to submit its application in April or May of 2014.

(Cont'd)

(Cont'd from page 10)

Prior to submitting the SOI, KDHE conducted a readiness assessment to determine whether the necessary steps and activities that are required to complete before submitting a formal application to PHAB had been accomplished. For example, health departments are to demonstrate progress toward meeting the PHAB prerequisites—complete or revise their community health assessment, develop or update their community improvement plan, and complete an agency strategic plan based on the specifications outlined by PHAB. KDHE has completed the strategic plan and community health assessment and will finalize the community health plan by March 2014. In the interim, an Accreditation Team (A-Team) has been coordinated with representation from KDHE's Division of Public Health and Division of Environment to begin work on identifying the required documentation to meet the PHAB Standards and Measures. Progress is well underway to position KDHE to apply for PHAB Accreditation in 2014.

Funding Opportunities

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

Rural Health Network Planning Grant Opportunity - Deadline Jan. 16



The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy recently released the application for the Rural Health Network Development Planning Grant Program. The purpose of this grant is to help in the development of an integrated healthcare network. Applicants may request up to \$85,000 for 1 year to create a network infrastructure and form a coordinated plan to address local health needs.

The deadline to submit an application is Jan. 16, 2014. Click on the Grant.Gov logo to access the application then type in HRSA-14-043 in the funding opportunity box.

CAPE Project Will Fund Eight Pilot Communities - Proposals Due Jan. 21

healthbench.info

Benchmarking community behavioral health

The Community Assessment and Education to Promote Behavioral Health Planning and Evaluation (CAPE) project will fund eight pilot communities to participate in a joint exploration of what communities are now using to gauge community behavioral health and how these methods can be improved. This includes an online survey of local health decision makers aimed at developing a better understanding of where local leaders draw their information about community behavioral health trends as well as a joint shaping and testing of new tools to make the process more accurate and efficient.

The CAPE project is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and facilitated by the USDA. Important information about behavioral health is often published at the county level, so this project focuses primarily on a county-level definition of community. Measuring and monitoring the various behaviors and related health outcomes can provide pivotal information to community decision-makers.

A webinar describing the project is archived at the project web site.

Timeframe & Available Support:

- Proposals are due Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2014. Community selections are expected to be announced at the end of January.
- The pilot program is expected to run from March 3-Oct. 31, 2014.
- Communities selected for this program will receive funds to buy out up to eight months of up to 1.0 FTE (0.67 FTE total) per selected community for current staff members to join the CAPE project.
- Funding will come in the form of a contract with the land grant institution leading the community effort.
- Community teams of one, two, or three individuals will be considered.

CAPE

Click the logo above for details and how to apply.

Mobilization for Health: National Prevention Partnership Awards - Deadline Mar. 3

Health and Human Services (HHS) announces funding, Mobilization for Health: National Prevention Partnership Awards (NPPA). This grant opportunity is designed to:

- Promote and accelerate partnerships
- Catalyze collaborations to improve health and wellness through access to and use of preventive services across the United States
- Educate and train health workers and the public

HHS.gov

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- Establish communication programs for all community populations regardless of social and economic barriers or race/ethnicity

Applications are due March 3 by 4:00 p.m. (CST). Applicants should clearly identify Part A (1-year award) or Part B (up to a 3-year award) in their application. Successful applicants will be single organizations that coordinate and oversee multiple partners that will implement the proposed activity. All applications for this funding opportunity must be submitted electronically through <http://grants.gov>.

A pre-application webinar will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2014 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. (CST). [Register to join the public pre-application webinar](#). A registration confirmation email will be sent to you. Keep this email within easy reach when joining the webinar because it includes your conference access information, including a unique PIN. Questions during the webinar can be entered into the webinar chat box.

Click the HHS logo to view grant details.

HealthierUS School Challenge Training Mini-Grants

from the Kansas State Department of Education Child Nutrition and Wellness Newsletter



The Kansas Health Foundation and the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE), Child Nutrition & Wellness Program are providing the opportunity for 50 schools to receive \$2,000 in training mini-grants to act as an incentive to apply for the HealthierUS School Challenge (HUSC) and to help provide training to staff. Schools who choose to apply for the training mini-grant will commit to working towards applying for the HUSC or advancing towards the next award level if already a recognized HUSC award winning school over the next two school years. Using these funds schools can provide training opportunities to applicable staff (school foodservice, physical education teachers and staff involved in teaching nutrition education) that will assist the school in working towards meeting updated HUSC criteria. For more information, including the application, go to the School Nutrition Programs, [What's New page](#) on the KSDE website or click the [HealthierUS School Challenge Training Mini Grant](#) title link.

Healthy Habits



MetLife Foundation supports projects to empower people to lead healthy, productive lives and strengthen communities. The Foundation makes grants in health, education, civic affairs and culture. Underlying the Foundation's programs is a focus on education at all ages and a commitment to increasing access and opportunity. The Healthy Habits program seeks to promote healthy habits and physical fitness for illness prevention; especially among children. Requests are accepted and reviewed throughout the year.

Do Something Grants



American Express and dosomething.org provides grants of \$250-500 to spearhead national campaigns so 13 to 25 year-olds can make an impact. Applications are accepted on an on-going basis. To learn more click the Do Something logo.

Training Announcements

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

Spring 2014 Kansas Public Health Grand Rounds



The Spring 2014 Kansas Public Health Grand Rounds series will occur live on Wednesdays from Jan. 22 through May 7 from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. via the internet utilizing the Adobe Connect webconferencing system.

A total of 14 sessions are planned. Based upon feedback from participants in previous series, as well as current issues in public health, topics for the Spring 2014 series include: Public health law; Kan-Care update; information on KUMC poison control center; public education initiative on health care exchanges; adolescent vaccine platform; colorectal cancer disparities in urban and rural areas and status of HPV vaccinations in Kansas.

To learn more about the live Kansas Public Health Grand Round Sessions and how your organization can participate, click [here](#) or contact the University of Kansas Medical Center, Area Health Education Centers at 620-235-4040 or email at ksphgr@kumc.edu. Click the Jayhawk to view the spring series dates and topics.

Central Plains Geriatric Education Center Hosts Jan. 15 Education Opportunity



from the Central Plains Geriatric Education Center website

The Central Plains Geriatric Education Center will present via ITV and Adobe Connect on Jan. 15, 2014 from 4:00-6:00 p.m., [T-POPP Bi-State Initiative Update](#). The first hour of the session will

cover concepts related to trajectories of functional decline in serious illness and at end of life.

An understanding of these trajectories informs communication between patients, families and medical providers and frames the need for effective advance care planning. The second hour of discussion will introduce Transportable Physician's Orders for Patient Preferences (T-POPP), a program created to promote the translation of patients' care preferences into actionable physicians' orders which move with the patient across the continuum of medical care. As a POLST paradigm, the T-POPP program joins multiple other state efforts nationwide to improve advanced care planning and communication of orders and goals for treatment across the continuum of care. T-POPP is presently piloting in Topeka, with the goal to spread statewide in Kansas and Missouri.

Click the Evidenced-Based Clinical Care logo above to learn about the program and education offerings.

Recharging School Wellness - KSDE to Sponsor Regional Workshops

Jill Ladd, RD, LD, Team Nutrition Project Director

by the Child Nutrition and Wellness Program, Kansas State Department of Education

The Kansas State Department of Education will be hosting six interactive workshops to:

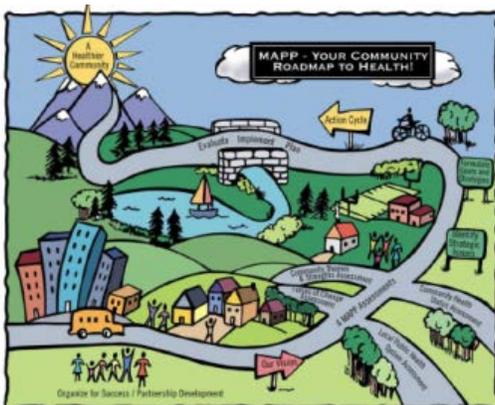
- Provide training to school personnel on Smart Snacks in School - U. S. Department of Agriculture's, "All Foods Sold in Schools" Standards (formerly known as competitive foods)
- Solicit input on a draft of the revised Kansas School Wellness Policy Model Guidelines
- Disseminate resources for managing food allergies in schools
- Promote current Team Nutrition, Let's Move Active Schools and K-FIT opportunities

Workshop Dates:

- Jan. 22, Topeka
- Jan. 29, Clearwater
- Feb. 4, Salina
- Feb. 13, Greenbush-Girard
- Feb. 18, Sublette
- Feb. 19, Oakley

These free workshops will be conducted from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Lunch and a \$300 stipend will be provided by the Kansas Health Foundation for sponsors who have two or more representatives attend. The stipend can be used to offset travel costs and substitute pay. Registration forms are available at www.kn-eat.org, School Nutrition Programs, What's New. Contact Jill Ladd at jladd@ksde.org or 785-296-2790 with any questions about the workshops.

Registrations is Now Open for the Winter MAPP Training - Feb. 5-7



The Winter Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) Training will be held Feb. 5-7 in Washington, DC. MAPP is a community-owned strategic planning process informed by comprehensive assessments for improving the public's health. MAPP works as a framework to help communities prioritize public health issues, identify resources for addressing them and take action. As a MAPP training participant, you will learn the nuts and bolts of the MAPP process, hear stories from the field from MAPP users and gain concrete skills for engaging community organizations, partners and community members in your MAPP process. This is an introductory level training. To learn more or register click the MAPP roadmap above.

If you are unable to attend the 2014 Winter MAPP Training, please note that there will be an additional MAPP Training in Atlanta, Ga. this summer adjacent to the NACCHO Annual Conference in July.

CDC Introduces New Strategic National Stockpile Online Course



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has released its first online, self-paced introductory course on the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) and its operations. The course is designed to provide basic background information and definitions of federal agencies, stakeholders and other partners that will help understand all SNS operations during a public health event. The SNS Overview Course will fill the professional practice gap by providing the states and local agencies with information to manage SNS assets that may be deployed to sites during a public health emergency. The participants will learn the levels of support provided by the SNS and the response concepts, the planning functions needed for consideration and operational requirements for receiving, distributing and dispensing of SNS material. SNS will provide information on the SNS formulary as well as rules and regulatory requirements to consider when distributing and dispensing those assets. Learners will also become familiar with the planning functions for designing a system to quickly dispense prophylactic medications to the public. Access the course through <https://ks.train.org>, Course ID: 1041004. This online course provides continuing education credit for nurses, pharmacists, physicians and certified health education specialists.

New Universal Sample Submission Form Overview

The Kansas Health and Environmental Laboratories have developed a new universal submission form. The course, KHEL: New Universal Sample Submission Form Overview, at <https://ks.train.org>, Course ID: 1047090 is the 30 minute online version of the webinar training that Laura Ross, from the Kansas Health and Environment Laboratories, has been conducting to introduce the new universal sample submission form. At the conclusion of this training the learners will be able to:

- Discuss the reason and transition for the change from the old forms, both the Universal and Blood Lead to the new forms
- Discuss the changes and the differences of the forms
- Discuss the requisition of the new forms
- Discuss new policies relating to sample submission
- Discuss the changes to the reports
- Discuss how to effectively communicate with the laboratory
- Discuss the future of sample submission
- Discuss who to contact with questions

LPHP Offers Orientation Guide for Nursing Students



*by the Local Public Health Program
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*

School is back in session and many local health departments will host student nurses from time to time for community and public health experience.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Local Public Health Program (LPHP) has compiled a short list of suggested courses which are maintained on KS-TRAIN and available to the public that could be offered to students when they are in local agencies and have a few minutes of “down” time. They would also provide a nice introduction to public health.

To view the list of courses, click on the KDHE Bureau of Community Health Systems logo.

EpiTrax Training for Elevated Blood Lead Investigators Online Course

EpiTrax Training for Elevated Blood Lead Investigators online course has been added to KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, Course ID 1047905.



The objectives of this training are:

- To briefly discuss the history of blood lead surveillance in Kansas and to discuss why blood lead test results are now being made available to local health departments in EpiTrax.
- To outline investigator responsibilities when a local health department receives notification of an elevated blood lead result in their jurisdiction.
- To help orient local health department and statewide investigators on how to access blood lead data in EpiTrax.
- To provide investigators with the resources they will need to complete the minimum required investigator responsibilities.

EpiTrax is the state electronic disease surveillance system. This 30 minute training assumes that disease investigators have taken the introductory training to EpiTrax provided on KS-TRAIN and are familiar with the surveillance system. If you have not taken the EpiTrax Introductory training please log into KS-TRAIN and under the

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Course Search tab, click the My Training Plans link in the left menu to navigate to the EpiTrax Disease Surveillance System Modules Training Plan.

CDC Learning Connection-Where the Public Health Community Goes to Learn

from the CDC website



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Learning Connection (CDC LC) is a one-stop learning resource that can help increase public health knowledge and skills and meet professional development needs.

CDC LC was created to increase access to quality public health learning. Features include:

- Quality e-learning
- A monthly spotlight on public health topics
- CDC TRAIN, a dynamic public health learning management system (LMS)
- Quick-Learn lessons for mobile learning on the go

These features form a learning system that provides free access to products developed by CDC, CDC partners and other organizations recognized for developing public health education and training resources. Although the CDC LC is intended for the public health community, it can be accessed by healthcare professionals and the general public.

Click the CDC Learning Connection logo to learn more about the website and to sign up for the monthly e-newsletter.

News and Resources

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

Senate Health Committee Makes Changes to the Pending Newborn Screening Saves Lives Act



The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported on Dec. 18, 2013, that the U.S. Senate health committee moved to have experts systematically track and improve the timeliness of newborn screening programs through the country for the first time. The Senate health committee made changes to the pending Newborn

Screening Saves Lives Act of 2013 after a Milwaukee Journal Sentinel investigation in November found that thousands of hospitals were sending babies' blood samples late to state labs that test nearly every baby in the country for genetic disorders. To read the complete article, click the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel logo.



2013 Kansas Community Hospital EHR Status Report

Kansas community hospitals have made significant progress in health information technology adoption based on the 2013 Kansas Community Hospital EHR Status Report published December 2013. Ninety-one percent of hospitals use some form of electronic health records and more than half are fully electronic. Eighty percent have or plan to attest to Stage 1 meaningful use in 2013 and 97 percent will have attested by 2015 when payment adjustments go into effect. Click the image on the left to view the report.

KanCare Advisor



The KanCare Advisor bulletin is designed to provide updates on KanCare, the new Medicaid program in the State of Kansas. Information is published by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services. The Dec.19, 2013, edition of the KanCare Advisor news bulletin can be found online by clicking the KanCare Advisor logo.

Hospitals are Incorporating Population Health Into Their Strategic Operations



The Association for Community Health Improvement and the American Hospital Association (AHA) released a report on how hospitals are incorporating population health into their strategic operations. The report includes survey results from 24 percent of acute care hospitals and will serve as a baseline for integrating population health management and improvement into the health care system. The survey reveals 98 percent of Chief Executive Officers, "believe hospitals need to investigate and implement population health management strategies," requiring qualified workforce, translatable data and senior hospital leadership. Click the AHA logo to view the report.

CDC Learning Connection has a New Resource Section



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Learning Connection has a new resource section on public health and healthcare collaboration, aimed at increasing quality and efficiency, maximizing cost savings and improving individual and community health outcomes. The collected resources identify background information and different ways that public health and healthcare collaborate to improve population health. To learn more, click the CDC Learning Connection logo.

Global Infectious Disease: Impact on State and Territorial Health



Growing migration and global climate change have expanded the variety, range, and incidence of infectious diseases in the United States at a time of rising healthcare costs and shrinking state and local budgets. State and territorial public health activities are affected by migration patterns, whether they are within a state, within the United States, or from other countries. The Association of State & Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) held its first-ever global health meeting in July 2013 to examine current migration trends, identify pressing issues related to disease and human migration, and identify opportunities for collaboration and coordination at the state, federal, and international levels. The report from those proceedings is now available on the ASTHO website by clicking their logo above.

UHF Releases its 2013 America's Health Rankings



December 2013, United Health Foundation (UHF) released its 2013 America's Health Rankings: A Call to Action for Individuals & Their Communities. Hawaii took the title of healthiest state. While Kansas ranked 27th however, across the country, the report found improvements in the majority of measures captured by America's Health Rankings, including smoking and physical inactivity. Click the UHF logo to learn more.

Guidance on the Release of Information Concerning Deaths, Epidemics or Emerging Diseases



Following the H1N1 pandemic in 2009, the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, the National Association of County & City Health Officials, and the Association of Health Care Journalists (AHCJ) created a guidance document on what information should be made public when someone dies or falls ill during a public health emergency. "Guidance on the Release of Information Concerning Deaths, Epidemics or Emerging Diseases," is available to help public health officials balance the need to be transparent and keep the public informed with requirements to maintain individuals' privacy. Click the AHCJ logo to learn more.

Eating Healthy on a Budget from the USDA



The livescience website offers 12 Tips for Eating Healthy on a Budget from the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA). Eating healthy doesn't have to come with a hefty price tag. It's possible to make good nutritional choices without breaking the bank and easier if you know the cost-saving tricks. Click the logo to access the 12 tips and Ten Ways to Eat Well.

Vaccination Programs Have Prevented Contagious Diseases

According to a new study published in the [New England Journal of Medicine](#) (subscriber access only), U.S. childhood vaccination programs have prevented more than 100 million cases of serious contagious disease since 1924. The research was conducted by the University of Pittsburgh using historical public health reports. Researchers analyzed reports to determine the drop in disease rates after vaccinations were introduced and projected the number of cases that would have occurred had vaccines not been widely disseminated. More information is available in the [New York Times](#) and [Washington Post](#). The data are currently available on the University of Pittsburgh [Project Tycho website](#) and will soon be available on [HealthData.gov](#).

CDC Health Disparities and Inequalities Report



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released the CDC Health Disparities and Inequalities Report - United States, 2013, the second supplement in a series addressing differences in mortality and disease risk related to behaviors, access to healthcare, social determinants of health. Topics covered include unemployment, education and in

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come, access to healthier food retailers, residential proximity to major highways, homicides, and infant deaths, among others. Although measuring health disparities is the focus of the series, most of the reports also mention existing evidence-based interventions or strategies. To learn more click the CDC logo.

Drug Quality and Security Act



In response to 2012's meningitis outbreak and other product safety incidents involving compounded drugs, President Obama signed the Drug Quality and Security Act into law. The new law provides the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) with increased authorities for regulating compounded drugs in an effort to make these products safe for the public. The law requires compounders to register with FDA to become "outsourcing facilities," making them subject to current good manufacturing practice. These facilities will also be subject to inspection by FDA on a risk-based schedule. Drugs produced by compounders that are not registered as outsourcing facilities must meet other conditions outlined in the law or they will be regulated by FDA as conventional drug manufacturers. Generally, state boards of pharmacy will continue to have primary responsibility for day-to-day oversight of state-licensed pharmacies, including traditional pharmacy compounding. FDA will continue to cooperate with state authorities to address pharmacy compounding activities that may be in violation of the Federal Food Drug and Cosmetic Act. Click the logo above to view the FDA website on compounding.

US Healthiest Creates its Signature Initiative



Because research has demonstrated that employee health and productivity are inextricably linked, US Healthiest, a 501(c)3 public/private collaboration, is committed to building a connection between a healthy workplace and the agenda to improve the well-being of our nation, its workers, and the organizations they serve. Recognizing that America must build a culture and environment that focuses on wellness, rather than on health care, US Healthiest has created its signature initiative, the HealthLead™: US Healthiest Workplace Accreditation Program.

Through the HealthLead accreditation process, US Healthiest not only recognizes organizations that demonstrate best practices in employee health management and well-being, but also helps them better align these practices with business sustainability, health, productivity and financial outcomes. As such, HealthLead provides an ongoing continuous quality improvement process, irrespective of an organization's size and experience in worksite health management. To learn more click the HealthLead logo.

IOM Report Summarizes Family Preparedness Resources



The Institute of Medicine (IOM) recently released a report summarizing resources from a workshop on preparedness, response and recovery considerations for children and families. The workshop examined existing tools and frameworks that can be adapted in various settings, including pediatricians' offices. In addition to the report, an [infographic](#) captures speaker highlights and resources for parents, child care providers, schools and pediatricians, as well as a [resource list](#) of all tools and materials mentioned throughout the workshop. Click the IOM logo to learn more.

Fitch Rates Outlook for Non - Profit Hospitals



For the first time since 2009, Fitch ratings lowered the outlook on not-for-profit hospitals to negative. Fitch expects to see more volatility in earnings results next year because of soft volumes, reimbursement cuts and possible performance penalties under the Affordable Care Act. Fitch also states that the financial performance will depend largely on how quickly hospitals and systems can cut costs, flex staffing and create clinical and operational efficiencies. Daniel Steingart, a Moody's analyst, said that, "what all this boils down to is low revenue growth." To read more about this report click the Fitch Ratings logo.

Support Group Database



The online database, from the Wichita State University's (WSU) Center for Community Support and Research contains over 2,500 local and national support group resources. Groups and resources can be searched by topic and/or by county. Topics include medical conditions, disabilities, relationship issues, parenting, grief, abuse, caregiving and addiction, among many others. The Center is looking for free support groups that are open to the public that can be added to the database. To learn more or to add a support group click the WSU logo. If you know of one, please email the details to Angela Gaughan at SupportGroups@wichita.edu.



Fast Food f.a.c.t.s.

In 2010, researchers at the Yale Rudd Center for Food Policy & Obesity issued “Fast Food f.a.c.t.s.” The report examined the nutritional quality of fast food menus, advertising on TV and the internet, and marketing practices inside restaurants. Since 2010, fast food restaurants have introduced healthier kids’ meal options and regular menu items. At the same time, they have introduced high-calorie, nutritionally poor menu items, often supported by sophisticated marketing campaigns. Objective and transparent data are necessary to evaluate restaurants’ progress in addressing the harmful effects of fast food consumption on the diets of young people. Three years after the first report Fast Food f.a.c.t.s. quantifies changes in the nutritional quality of fast food and how it is marketed to children and teens. Click the logo to view the complete report.

Job Openings

Johnson County Health Department

The Johnson County Health Department is accepting applications for the following positions:

- [ARNP](#)
- [Registered Nurse - RN \(3 month temporary\)](#)
- [Registered Nurse - RN \(on-call/prn\)](#)



Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department

The Lawrence Douglas County Health Department is accepting applications for the following position:

- [Public Health Nurse](#)



Lyon County Health Department

The Lyon County Health Department is accepting applications for the following position:

- [Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner](#)



Pottawatomie County

The Pottawatomie County Health Department is accepting applications for the following position:

- [Public Health Nurse](#)



Sedgwick County Health Department

The Sedgwick County Health Department is accepting applications for the following positions:

- [Preventive Health Division Director](#)
- [Registered Dietician/Registered Nurse - WIC](#)



Shawnee County Health Department

The Shawnee County Health Agency is accepting applications for the following positions:

- [Dietitian](#)
- [Medical Director](#)
- [Registered Nurse \(WIC\)](#)



Wyandotte County Health Department

The Wyandotte County Health Department is accepting applications for the following position:

- [Nurse Practitioner](#)



Kansas Department of Health and Environment Program Newsletters

[Epi Updates Newsletter](#)

[Health Homes Herald](#)

[KanCare Advisor](#)

[Kansas Environmental News](#)

[Kansas Health Statistics Report](#)

[Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program](#)

[Newborn Screening Newsletter](#)

[ZIPS Newsletter - Bureau of Family Health/Children and Families](#)

Public Health Connections Information

To receive the monthly E-Newsletter

Email Pat Behnke at pbehnke@kdheks.gov

Previous issues of Public Health Connections maybe found at

http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/public_health_connections.htm

Send your public health news to

Pat Behnke at pbehnke@kdheks.gov or

Debbie Nickels at dnickels@kdheks.gov