



PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

Feb. - 2014 Volume 14, Issue 2
Bureau of Community Health Systems

Robert Moser, Secretary

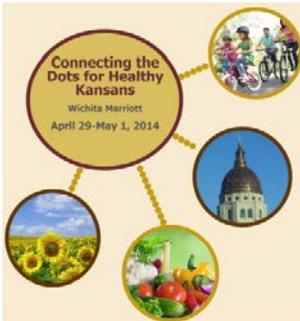
Sam Brownback, Governor

What's Inside

- 9th Annual Governor's Public Health Conference Agenda is Set..... 2
- It's Not Too Late to Immunize Against the Flu 2
- In the Spotlight - The Falling LinkS Toolkit and the Dickinson County Experience..... 3
- K-Fit Report Released on Fitness in Kansas Schools..... 4
- Upcoming Regional Public Health Meetings 4
- Loan Repayment Program 4
- Local Public Health Leadership Series 5
- Aid to Local Grant Applications..... 5
- Kansas Local Public Health Accreditation Readiness Project Summit 6
- Impacting Population Health 2014: Connecting Local Health Priorities with Healthy Kansans 2020 6
- Where are the Children in Your Community Eating This Summer?..... 6
- Health Homes 101 7
- Office of Communications - The Dispatch..... 7
- Get Active Kansas 8
- Sodium Reduction in Shawnee County 8
- Accreditation Corner 8
 - Public Health Accreditation Board Creates News Standards 8
 - Community Health Assessment and Improvement Planning in Kansas 8
- Funding Opportunities..... 9
 - New Grant Program for Building Capacity and Growing Impact - Deadline Feb. 24..... 9
 - Mobilization for Health: National Prevention Partnership Awards - Deadline March 3 9
 - Health Care Scholarship Application Period Open - Deadline March 31 10
 - HealthierUS School Challenge Training Mini-Grants 10
 - Healthy Habits 10
 - Do Something Grants 10
- Training Announcements 11
 - MAPP Training - Feb. 5-7 11
 - Recharging School Wellness - KSDE to Sponsor Regional Workshops..... 11
 - Bicycle Safety Education Webinar: Implementing Best Curriculum for Your Community - Feb. 20..... 11
 - Public Information Officer Training for Public Health Officials - March 27..... 12
 - CDC Introduces New Strategic National Stockpile Online Course 12
 - New Universal Sample Submission Form Overview..... 12
 - NACCHO University for Local Health Department Staff..... 12
 - EpiTrax Training for Elevated Blood Lead Investigators Online Course 13
- News and Resources..... 13
 - APHA Infographic Defines Obesity Problem, Public Health Opportunity 13
 - Resources Raise Awareness About Domestic Violence 13
 - Billing for Clinical Services: Health Department Strategies for Overcoming Barriers 13
 - 2014 Application Now Open for LHD of the Year Award..... 13
 - Kansas Rural Health Information Service (KRHIS) 14
 - Ensure Access to Community Resources 14
 - Text4baby Announces New Resources 14
 - Become a Disease Detective 14
 - Talk, They Hear You 14
 - Kansas Hospital STAT Reports Now Available 15

What Happens When the Food Budget is Exhausted.....	15
New York City's Flu Vaccination Requirement.....	15
Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month.....	15
Health Equity Resources	16
Job Openings.....	16
Johnson County Health Department.....	16
Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department.....	16
Lyon County Health Department	16
Sedgwick County Health Department	16
Shawnee County Health Department.....	16
Wyandotte County Health Department.....	16
Kansas Department of Health and Environment Program Newsletters	16
Public Health Connections Information.....	17

9th Annual Governor's Public Health Conference Agenda is Set



The 9th Annual Governor's Public Health Conference will be held April 29 through May 1 in Wichita. The theme of this year's conference is "Connecting the Dots for Healthy Kansans". Sponsors of the conference include the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, the Kansas Public Health Association, Kansas Association of Local Health Departments, Kansas Health Foundation and Wichita State University. The pre-conference day, April 29 learning sessions are focused on Maternal Child Health, Public Health 101 and Title X for those new to public health as well as sessions on Public Health Law and School Inspections, Current Issues in Kansas Public Health and a QI Booster Shot for new or seasoned public health professionals.

The general session topics for April 30-May 1, include the Kansas Baby Behavior Campaign, Environmental Public Health in Kansas, Connecting the Dots: Leveraging Chronic Disease Resources to Improve Community Health, Adverse Childhood Experiences, Building Connections with Primary Care and Rural Health, Opportunity for Public Health Worksites, the Healthy Lifestyles Initiative: Integrating Efforts to Accelerate Community Progress and much more.

The initial keynote session will include comments from Michael Lu, the administrator of the Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA) Maternal and Child Health Bureau and Hani Atrash, Director of the HRSA Healthy Start and Perinatal Services Division. The conference will conclude with an entertaining and educational presentation sponsored by the Kansas Health Foundation, "Red Blood and High Purpose" a live dramatic portrayal of [Dr. Samuel Crumbine](#), the Kansas pioneer of public health. Conference registration is through KSTRAIN, <https://ks.train.org>, course ID 1048441. Click the conference logo to download the complete conference brochure.

It's Not Too Late to Immunize Against the Flu

from the January Population Health Call

During the Jan. 28, Population Health Call, State Epidemiologist Charles Hunt presented the Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics recent Influenza surveillance update. Both Hunt and Robert Moser, MD, Secretary and State Health Officer encouraged listeners on the call to inform their communities that it is not too late to be vaccinated for the flu.

The surveillance information can be found in the January 2014 issue of [Epi Updates](#). According to Hunt the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) saw significant increase in influenza-like illness (ILI) activity observed in mid-December with activity sustained at a high level for the past six weeks. The predominant strain in Kansas has been 2009 A/H1N1 which is the same virus that caused the 2009 influenza pandemic. All flu vaccines that were administered this season are designed to protect against H1N1.

In the Spotlight - The Falling LinKS Toolkit and the Dickinson County Experience

by LaVeda Montgomery APRN-CNS, Dickinson County Health Department and Teresa Radebaugh, Sc.D., Wichita State University



Dickinson County Health and Emergency Medical Services set a goal of reducing the risk of falls among Dickinson County residents over 65 years of age. To meet this goal, a county wide community-based unintentional injury reduction program, the Fall Risk Reduction Program, was initiated using the Falling Less in Kansas (Falling LinKS) Toolkit. This county wide collaborative effort included the Dickinson County Health Department, Dickinson County Emer-

gency Medical Services, Dickinson County Department of Aging, Herington Municipal Hospital, Home Health Hospice of Dickinson County, Memorial Health Systems and local Dickinson County medical providers.

The Falling LinKS Toolkit was developed by the Regional Institute on Aging Research Team, Wichita State University, in collaboration with Envision Vision Rehabilitation Center, the Harvey County Department on Aging and the United Methodist Health Ministry Fund. The purpose of the Toolkit is to address a major deficit in fall risk reduction programming: the lack of materials for older adults who live in rural and/or health care professional shortage areas.

The recommendations for fall risk reduction published by the National Council on Aging and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are the foundation of the Toolkit. The Toolkit is organized into sections based on these recommendations such as, physical activity, medication review, vision screening and home safety evaluation. Each section includes publicly available instruments and information on their purpose and use. The Falling LinKS Toolkit sections can be introduced in several stages, or in a single session, depending on local interests and community resources.

The Dickinson County project provided the Toolkit to individuals living in their own homes as well as those living in group facilities. The Toolkit was presented at four senior nutrition sites in a five session educational format in partnership with subject matter experts from Dickinson County. Each session lasted about 20 minutes. Pre- and post-questionnaires were administered to a total of 74 participants at the senior nutrition sites.

In addition, Toolkits were provided to county residents who requested a copy, housebound residents and senior managed housing residents (N=121). Three single condensed sessions were held at local clubs and organizations (N=124), but pre- and post-questionnaires were not administered in these settings.

Results of the pre- and post-questionnaires (N=74) from the four senior nutrition sites were:

1. 84 percent reported talking to their healthcare provider about medications.
2. 22 percent who had difficulty walking or standing reported asking their healthcare provider if physical therapy or treatment by a specialist would help.
3. 31 percent of participants who reported not having an eye exam in the last two years scheduled an eye exam post program.
4. 68 percent reported implementing home safety changes.
5. 96 percent reported that the information in the Fall Risk Reduction Program was beneficial.

A major outcome of the Dickinson County Falling LinKS Fall Risk Reduction Program is the connections made between the Dickinson County Health Department and the older residents of the county. "They know us, and we know them. We have formed a strong bond, and we trust each other," states Montgomery.

K-Fit Report Released on Fitness in Kansas Schools

Healthy Kansas Schools

CHILD NUTRITION & WELLNESS, KSDE
BUREAU OF HEALTH PROMOTION, KDHE

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

On Thursday, Jan. 30, at Seaman High School in Topeka, a report was formally announced detailing the results of Kansas Fitness Information Tracking (K-FIT), a statewide initiative to track and improve fitness in Kansas schools. The initiative is funded by the Kansas Health Foundation and is a collaboration between the Kansas Department of Education, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and schools across the state.

K-FIT, a Healthy Kansas Schools project, links fitness-measure test results with academic performance of students in grades four through nine. The K-FIT project seeks to further validate the importance of physical education and physical activity to the academic mission of schools. More than 13,000 students were tested in 152 schools. K-FIT measures aerobic capacity, muscular strength, endurance and flexibility to determine whether students are in a "healthy fitness zone" for their age and gender. Preliminary results show that students who are physically fit score above standard on reading and math assessments, and have fewer absences. A representative from one school believes K-FIT has led to greater buy-in for physical activity with the administration which has helped to create a "culture of wellness". For more information about K-FIT, click the logo above. If your school or district is not currently participating in K-FIT but is interested, send Mark Thompson an email at FG@ksde.org.

Upcoming Regional Public Health Meetings

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

Don't miss your opportunity to attend one of the upcoming regional public health meetings, which are designed to connect you with programs and best practices that will benefit the work you do within your communities. Learn more about Maternal and Child Health and the WIC Program: 40 Years of Impacting Mothers and Children for Good Health, the impact of emerging technology for non-invasive hemoglobin assessment, and Health Homes: A Care Management Service Model.

The dates and locations are:

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

Register on KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, Course ID: [1048258](#). If you have ideas for regional meeting topics or have any questions, please contact Teri Caudle at tcaudle@kdheks.gov.

Loan Repayment Program

from the NHSC website

The National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Loan Repayment Program (LRP) is now open, with March 20 as the deadline for submission. Click the NHSC logo to learn more.

This program is open to licensed primary care medical, dental, and mental and behavioral health providers who are employed or seeking employment at approved sites. In addition, applicants should be interested in working with underserved communities in high need areas throughout the United States and its Territories.

The Program is expected to be competitive and applicants are encouraged to begin the application process early. On average it takes a few weeks to complete an application.

Technical assistance conference calls have been scheduled to address questions. Mark your calendar for the following conference calls.

- Conference Call: Feb. 5 at 7 - 8:30 p.m.
- Conference Call: Feb. 12 at 7 - 8:30 p.m.

To learn more, please view a member story video featuring [Nick Box](#), a current NHSC Loan Repayment program participant. Mr. Box is a Physician Assistant practicing at Clearwater Valley Hospital and Clinics in Orofino, ID.



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 the KALHD logo.

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



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", was posted and open for access Jan. 15. All instructions, forms and documents are available on the Local Public Health Aid to Local webpage found at http://www.kdheks.gov/doc_lib/index.html. All grant applications are due by close of business on March 14.

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 ID,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.

Kansas Local Public Health Accreditation Readiness Project Summit



The Kansas Local Public Health Accreditation Readiness Project (KARP) sponsored by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), The Kansas Association of Local Health Departments and the Center for Community Support and Research, Wichita State University, will hold a kick-off summit April 17, from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Wichita State University Marcus Welcome Center. There is no charge to attend the event but registration is required and available on [Kansas TRAIN](#), Course ID, 1048695.

The purpose of this learning event is to provide an overview of the accreditation process for local health departments including helpful resources, success stories and lessons learned from peer agencies that have applied for accreditation.

This project will help your local health department:

- Recognize readiness to apply
- Identify gaps in documentation, required activities or practices
- Discuss the PHAB requirements at a detailed level

After the summit, participants will have the opportunity to join a group of representatives from health departments across the state who will work together on accreditation, domain by domain, and receive free technical assistance and other resources. For more information, contact Cristi Cain, Local Public Health Program, KDHE, at 785-296-3641 or ccain@kdheks.gov.

Impacting Population Health 2014: Connecting Local Health Priorities with Healthy Kansans 2020

*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) would like to announce that plans are underway for another series of regional meetings, "Impacting Population Health 2014: Connecting Local Health Priorities with Healthy Kansas 2020," which will continue the discussions started last year through the Impacting Population Health events. Dr. Robert Moser, State Health Officer, will be present at all events which will begin at 12:45 p.m. Attendees will hear about the state health assessment, Healthy Kansans 2020, and discuss connections with local community health assessments and improvement plans. KDHE encourages representatives from a broad group of health care providers, including public health, hospitals, primary care clinics, primary care providers and others to plan to attend. There will be no cost to attend and additional details will be distributed and registration via Kansas TRAIN will be posted soon.

Dates and locations are as follows:

- April 24, Chanute
- May 7, Hutchinson
- May 15, Oakley
- May 16, Garden City
- May 28, Beloit
- June 10, Topeka

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 during the summer of 2014.

The Child Nutrition and Wellness Program, Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE), invites you to discover the opportunities to feed children in your community. It is not too early to think beyond the winter snow. View the KSDE website, [Summer Food Service Program](#) for more information.

Health Homes 101

*by Jane Shirley, Population Health Center Director
Local Public Health Program Director, Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE
and Sonja Armbruster, Public Health Initiatives Coordinator,
Center for Community Support and Research, Wichita State University*



A critical component of the positive health outcomes expected from KanCare is the provision of Health Homes. Starting July 1, Health Homes will be implemented for identified KanCare recipients with certain chronic conditions such as mental illness, diabetes or asthma. Consumers who also receive Medicare along with Medicaid may also be eligible. Most of the time, managed care organizations (MCOs) will identify a recipient based on their medical or behavioral conditions.

A Health Home serves to integrate and coordinate all services and supports to treat the “whole-person” across the lifespan. A Health Home is not a building or a place for someone to live. It is a comprehensive and intense method of care coordination. It also provides supports and referrals for the person and their family. Health Homes do not replace services like doctor visits, prescription drugs, hospital care, or therapies.

Health Homes help people live healthier lives by insuring that:

- Important information is shared among providers and with consumer
- The consumer has the tools needed to help manage his chronic condition
- Needed screenings and tests are done when they should be
- Unnecessary emergency room visits and hospital stays are avoided
- Community and social supports are in place to help maintain health

Health Homes will be partnerships between the KanCare MCOs and health home partners (HHPs), which could be any one of a many different types of providers, like:

Doctors

Clinics

Local Health Departments

Community mental health centers (CMHC)

Other providers who meet the requirements and contract with an MCO

Health Homes must provide or make arrangements for the provision of these six core services:

- Comprehensive care management
- Care coordination
- Health promotion
- Comprehensive transitional care, including appropriate follow-up, from inpatient to other settings
- Member and family support (including authorized representative)
- Referral to community and social support services, if relevant

Payment for Health Homes will be made to the MCOs who will sign agreements with different HHPs to help provide health home services. Some of the services will be provided by the MCOs directly and some will be provided by the HHPs. Another important requirement for HHPs is full implementation of an electronic health record (EHR) and ability to connect to one of the certified state Health Information Exchanges (HIE), Kansas Health Information Network (KHIN) or Lewis and Clark Information Exchange (LACIE).

For additional information and to read the monthly Health Home newsletters, visit the Health Homes webpage by clicking the KanCare logo.

Office of Communications - The Dispatch

by the Office of Communications, KDHE



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Office of Communications launched the Dispatch, a video series posted to YouTube which spotlights programs in the agency. A new video on the Bureau of Environmental Health with Kim Steves is now available. Click the KDHE logo to view this video.

To view recent episodes, click the links below:

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

Get Active Kansas



by the Office of Communications, KDHE

The [Governor's Council on Fitness](#) and the [Kansas Department of Health and Environment](#) are excited to announce the Get Active Kansas! Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/GetActiveKansas>. This site was created to promote physical activity happenings around the state and will include postings from Physical Activity Champions representing their communities as leaders in healthy living. Not yet familiar with Get Active Kansas! Click the image above to learn if there is a Physical Activity Champion in your area.

Sodium Reduction in Shawnee County

by the Bureau of Health Promotion, KDHE



Uncontrolled hypertension, a leading risk factor for heart disease and stroke, has been labeled a “winnable battle” by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Bureau of Health Promotion, in partnership with the [Shawnee County Health Agency](#) and local Heartland Healthy Neighborhoods (HHN) coalition members recently completed implementation of one of five sodium reduction demon-

stration projects in the nation.

Presentations to summarize project impact were made to the Shawnee County Commission and Topeka City Council to highlight several impressive results, including: 13 convenience stores in Topeka offered and promoted fresh fruit and lower sodium food items; local government worksites implemented changes in vending, concession and cafeteria options; the “Spot the Salt” media campaign reached more than 85 percent of Shawnee County residents; new sodium reduction tools were developed and made available to employers and convenience stores. The Topeka Zoo experienced a 58 percent reduction in the sodium content of their patron entrée items after creating a new menu and replacing fryers with ovens and freezers with refrigerators.

The [Topeka Zoo, Spot the Salt](#) and other HHN coalition efforts have been featured on national webinars and trainings during the course of the project and is already being replicated in other communities across the country working to create healthier food environments and lower sodium consumption.

To learn more about the Spot the Salt Campaign click the image above.

Accreditation Corner

Public Health Accreditation Board Creates News Standards

from the PHAB website



2013 was a busy year for the [Public Health Accreditation Board](#) (PHAB). In December, the national safeguard for quality assurance within U.S. health departments reached another important benchmark - creating updated “[Standards and Measures](#)” to address today’s public health reality. The update, which becomes effective on July 1, is the first since the Board was founded in 2011 and better clarifies how health departments can gain accreditation. Though not a complete overhaul of the [original](#) standards, the revision includes important changes in: editorial guidelines, communication science, informatics, workforce development, emergency preparedness and health equity. The Standards and Measures, Version 1.5 document provides assistance to health departments as they work to select the best evidence to serve as documentation. PHAB strongly recommends that health departments pay close attention to this document when selecting their most appropriate documentation to meet a measure.

In 2013 the Board awarded its first-ever accreditations in [March](#) and five more in [August](#).

Community Health Assessment and Improvement Planning in Kansas

from the KHI website



The Kansas Health Institute recently published a brief on the Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Improvement Planning (CHIP) in Kansas. This issue brief summarizes the results of a study of community health assessments and community health improvement plans. The information for this study was gathered through various focus groups and surveys about experiences and outcomes in Kansas.

Between 2012 and 2013, public health practitioners in Kansas have gained confidence in their CHA/CHIP skills, and have made significant progress toward completing community health assessments and improvement plans. Some have been faced with the challenges of limited internal capacity and a lack of local data, but have

pushed forward through partnerships with local hospitals and the guidance of external consultants. Although many communities are still in early stages and have not yet begun to implement health improvement plans, positive impacts have been identified in terms of increased community awareness of health issues, and strengthened community collaborations and partnerships. To view the brief, click the KHI logo.

Funding Opportunities

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

New Grant Program for Building Capacity and Growing Impact - Deadline Feb. 24



The Sunflower Foundation is pleased to announce a statewide grant opportunity through the release of a Request for Proposals (RFP) titled Building Capacity/Growing Impact. This RFP will award grants for short-term strategies that build technical and/or human capacity – priority strategies designed to increase core organizational strength and impact.

Grants awarded under this program are intended for nonprofit organizations providing health care and prevention services to low income and uninsured populations and other vulnerable populations in Kansas. Proposals must be submitted by 5 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 27, using the foundation's online application. [Click here](#) to download the *General Guidelines* document, which provides complete details on eligibility, qualifying projects, grant limits, timelines and the application process. This information is also available on the foundation's website by clicking their logo.

Potential applicants are also encouraged to participate in the telephone briefing conference call hosted by the foundation to discuss the RFP. The conference call is scheduled for, Feb. 5, at 10 a.m. To participate in the call, dial 888-387-8686, enter Room Number 8407364, then press the # key. The call is expected to last approximately one hour. The foundation also welcomes questions about the RFP through direct contact. Address inquiries to Chery Bean by email at cbean@sunflowerfoundation.org or 785-232-3000 (local) or 866-232-3020.

Providing grant support to help health-related nonprofits build their organizational capacity and grow their impact has been an interest of the Sunflower Foundation since its beginning. To date, the foundation has invested nearly \$6 million for this purpose through grants to over 200 organizations across Kansas. This RFP is offered in response to very clear feedback provided by nearly 300 Kansas nonprofit organizations that participated in a recent survey undertaken by the foundation – feedback confirming that building organizational capacity continues to be a necessity and a challenge.

Mobilization for Health: National Prevention Partnership Awards - Deadline March 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
- Establish communication programs for all community populations regardless of social and economic barriers or race/ethnicity

The program seeks to establish integrated, collaborative local, state, regional and tribal partnerships to increase community awareness and action on preventive health services, particularly those provided through prevention programs.

Any public or private entity, including but not limited to community-based and faith-based organizations, research and academic organizations are eligible to apply American Indian/Alaska Native/Native American (AI/AN/NA) Tribes and organizations are eligible to apply, as well as state and local health departments. A successful applicant should have at least three partnerships included in the application.

Here are some important links to connect you with the resources and information you need:

- The Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) direct link: [OS-PAW-14-001](#) or click the GRANTS.GOV logo
- The FOA is announced on the HHS website and can be found by clicking on the HHS logo
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) are now posted: www.hhs.gov/ash/nppa-faq.html
- Please see the topic areas in the FOA, and let your community know they are able to apply with evidence-based immunization projects.



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> and must be received by 4 p.m. on March 3.

Health Care Scholarship Application Period Open - Deadline March 31

by Susan Cunningham, Scholarship Coordinator, KHERF



The Kansas Hospital Education and Research Foundation (KHERF) is currently accepting applications for the twelfth annual Health Care Scholarship. Any Kansan who is currently enrolled or planning to enroll in a Kansas school accredited by an appropriate state licensing health career board is eligible to apply. Priority will be given to professions experiencing shortages in Kansas, individuals seeking new degrees or certifications, demonstrated leaders and committed Kansans. For more details, follow this link to see the [Guidance and Application](#).

Thirty health care scholarships are being offered for the 2013-2014 academic year in the following categories:

- Nursing Scholarships - \$800 min. (KHERF)
- Graduate Scholarships - \$800 min. (KHERF)
- Nursing or Allied Health Education Faculty Scholarships - \$800 min. (KHERF)
- Other Health Scholarships - \$800 min. (KHERF)
- Kansas Association of Health Care Executives Scholarships - \$500 min. (KHHRA)
- Kansas Hospital Human Resources Association Scholarships - \$500 min. (KAHCE)
- Health Information Technology Scholarships - \$500 min. (KHERF and KFMC and KSHIMSS)

Applications must be postmarked no later than March 31. Original, photocopied and electronic applications are acceptable. You may find an application by clicking the KHERF logo. If you have any questions or need further information, call 785-233-7436 or email [Susan Cunningham](mailto:Susan.Cunningham@kherf.org).

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 (HUSSC) 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 HUSSC or advancing towards the next award level if already a recognized HUSSC 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 HUSSC criteria. For more information, including the application, go to the School Nutrition Program's [What's New page](#) on the KSDE website or click the [HealthierUS School Challenge Training Mini Grant](#).

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. Click the MetLife logo for more information.

Do Something Grants

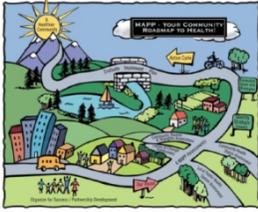


American Express and dosomething.org provides grants of \$250-500 to spearhead national campaigns so 13 to 25 year-olds can make an impact. Applications are accepted on an on-going basis. To learn more click the Do Something logo.

Training Announcements

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

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, Georgia this summer adjacent to the NACCHO Annual Conference in July.

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

Final workshop dates:

- Feb. 13, Greenbush-Girard
- Feb. 18, Sublette
- Feb. 19, Oakley

These free workshops will be conducted from 9 a.m. - 3 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.

Bicycle Safety Education Webinar: Implementing Best Curriculum for Your Community - Feb. 20



The Safe Routes to School National Partnership is hosting a free webinar: Bicycle Safety Education: Implementing the Best Curriculum for your Community, Feb. 20, from 1-2 p.m.

Sometimes teaching bicycle safety can feel like rocket science. Between balancing the competing needs of scheduling available classroom time, checking off necessary safety skills, training educators and securing a bike fleet and equipment – choosing and implementing the best curriculum for your community can start to feel overwhelming. Join Safe Routes to School as they talk about the important components of bicycle safety curricula and help attendees think through what might be best for their programs. Then chat with Safe Routes to School Education experts as they dive into the various types of bicycle safety that can be taught in the classroom and the tips and tricks for programmatic success.

Bonus: Safe Routes to School will be fielding questions about your bicycle safety programming and related issues during the webinar, send your questions ahead of time to dave@saferoutespartnership.org.

Speakers:

- LeeAnne Ferguson, education director, Bicycle Transportation Alliance
- Jenna Berman, education director, Bicycle Colorado
- Dave Cowan, program manager, Safe Routes to School National Partnership

This free webinar is part of a series of monthly National Learning Network webinars on topics related to Safe Routes to School and other policy and program initiatives that can increase walking and bicycling to school and in daily life. To register for this free webinar, click on the Safe Routes to school National Partnership logo.

Public Information Officer Training for Public Health Officials - March 27



by the Office of Communications, KDHE

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) has scheduled additional sessions of, Managing Communication During Times of Crisis, for March 27, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. in Scott City, and during the June, Kansas Association of Local Health Departments mid-year meeting. The first session of this training was October, 2013 at the Kansas Association of Counties Annual

Meeting. The training will serve to meet the objectives of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness work plan and will provide an opportunity for attendees to discuss cases during which KDHE and the local health departments have worked together to communicate public information. In addition to sharing insight between state and local perspectives, the training will provide attendees with resources used in public health emergency information.

Training Objectives: At the conclusion of this training session, attendees will be able to:

- Discuss the role, responsibilities and resources of state and local communications personnel during public health emergencies in Kansas.
- Identify crisis communications principles to apply during media engagement.
- Develop a message map for agency spokespeople.

Registration for the training is through [KS-TRAIN](#), Course ID 1047477.

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.

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

NACCHO University for Local Health Department Staff

The National Association of County and City Health Officials, NACCHO University, provides courses to help local health department (LHD) staff develop public health knowledge and competencies. The platform also has tools and resources related to public health emergencies, community environmental health assessments, and strategic planning. To learn more visit the [NACCHO University](#) website.

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

News and Resources

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

APHA Infographic Defines Obesity Problem, Public Health Opportunity



Obesity is a growing problem in the U.S, but a new [infographic](#) produced by the American Public Health Association shows how public health can lower the nation's weight. The infographic, "Public health takes on obesity: A route to better health," shows how improved food choices, the built environment, safer neighborhoods and increased opportunities for physical activity combine to keep the fat off. In fact, after many years of growth, childhood obesity rates have actually declined since 2003. Click the APHA logo to learn more.

Resources Raise Awareness About Domestic Violence



The National Health Resource Center on Domestic Violence, in collaboration with the American Academy of Pediatrics, has developed a [screening and counseling kit](#) regarding domestic violence. Exposure to domestic violence and other adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) is associated with a multitude of behavioral and mental health consequences for children. By discussing abuse, pediatricians can make a difference for families experiencing ACEs. Click the Futures Without Violence logo to learn more.

Billing for Clinical Services: Health Department Strategies for Overcoming Barriers



The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) recently released, *Billing for Clinical Services: Health Department Strategies for Overcoming Barriers*, an issue brief that focuses on billing for clinical services at LHDs. It examines the current landscape, outlines what NACCHO is doing to support LHDs, explores barriers to third-party reimbursement, and offers strategies to overcome billing challenges. Click the NACCHO logo to learn more.

2014 Application Now Open for LHD of the Year Award



The National Association for County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) will recognize local health department that have adopted outstanding policies that are internally or externally-focused. This award values that local health departments are the local stewards of public health, known for helping to ensure the safety of the water we drink, the food we eat, and the air we breathe. This award recognizes and honors outstanding accomplishment of Local Health Departments (LHDs) across the country for their innovation, creativity, and impact on communities. To access an application click the logo.

Kansas Rural Health Information Service (KRHIS)



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.

Ensure Access to Community Resources

Online resources are posted to the [Physical Activity and Nutrition](#) page on the Kansas Department of Health and Environment web site. Two tabs were created with the following information, Resources for Healthy Kansas Communities, which contains tools to increase opportunities for physical activity, access to healthy foods, tobacco use prevention and control, leadership development and chronic disease self-management. The second tab, Bicycle and Pedestrian Resources, contains resources related to education and safety, program planning, funding, program evaluation, policy, resources/partners and awareness/media.

Text4baby Announces New Resources



Text4baby is a free service for pregnant women and new moms that provides important health information, support and reminders timed to mom's due date or the baby's birthday. New resources have been developed. Use the new brochure and infographic to inform pregnant women and new moms of this valuable, free service! Please share the new [Text4baby brochure](#) and [infographic](#) with your patients, and post to your social media pages/website.

Recently in Kansas, mini-grants have been incredibly successful in driving promotions to increase enrollment of [Text4baby](#). The Kansas Early Childhood Advisory Council and Kansas Project LAUNCH awarded \$40,000 in mini-grants to promote technology designed for providing mothers with quick access to essential health information. Public awareness strategies included print materials, radio and television PSA's, movie advertisements, promotional materials, community baby showers, health fairs and increased social media.

Become a Disease Detective



Are you ready to earn the highly coveted Disease Detective badge? The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has released a new update to Solve the Outbreak, the popular, free iPad app that puts you in the shoes of a member of the Epidemic Intelligence Service. The app now has six newly released outbreaks, giving you lots of opportunities to have fun. Do you have what it takes to solve "The Queens Killer" scenario, or "Hiding in Plain Sight"?

The immensely popular app has fans clamoring for more. So if you've been stuck as a Senior Specialist, now's your chance to climb the ranks and earn new badges and achievements! Work hard to earn the Clever Clogs or Smarty Pants achievements; but beware of the Grim Reaper and Underachiever that appear if you fail to solve the outbreak. Click the Disease Detective Badge to download the app.

Talk, They Hear You



The "Talk, They Hear You" campaign provides underage drinking prevention resources to encourage parents and other care givers to talk with children about the dangers of alcohol. The website will provide you a more complete idea of the potential resources available to promote a campaign in your home,

school or community. Start the Talk is an interactive tool will assist you in learning the do's and don'ts of talking to kids about underage drinking. Using avatars, you'll practice bringing up the topic of alcohol with a teen, learn what questions to ask and get ideas for keeping the conversation going long after the initial talk has ended. To learn more click the Substance Abuse and Mental Health services Administration logo.

Kansas Hospital STAT Reports Now Available



The Kansas Hospital Association STAT reports provide statistics about hospitals and the health care industry in Kansas. Designed for the hospital community, public and others, the STAT reports are a resource anyone can use to find detailed information easily. The Kansas Hospital Association (KHA) discharge data, the American Hospital Association/KHA Annual Survey, the KHA Compdata Workforce survey and others are resources for the information. Hospital-specific data can be queried in an [online searchable tool](#) or downloaded to [Excel](#). Updated as new data becomes available, the reports contain demographic information, hospital-payer trends, workforce statistics and more. Click on the KHA logo to view the reports.

What Happens When the Food Budget is Exhausted



A study, Exhaustion Of Food Budgets At Month's End And Hospital Admissions For Hypoglycemia, was recently published in Health Affairs, and followed up in [Forbes](#), states that one in seven American households can't consistently afford to buy food and most people who receive SNAP benefits—better known as food stamps—run out before the end of the third week. Then they face a decision whether to spend whatever money they have left on food, rent, heat or other items. For people with diabetes, that is a particularly grim choice that carries serious consequences. The study shows that hospital admissions for hypoglycemia—episodes of low-blood sugar that can cause complications ranging from dizziness to stroke—spike in the final week of each month among low-income Californians. To read more about this study click the Health Affairs logo.

New York City's Flu Vaccination Requirement



Mandatory childhood vaccinations help curb the spread of diseases such as polio, measles and pertussis. The New York City Board of Health recently added another mandatory vaccination to their list, requiring children under age 5 in city-licensed preschools and day care centers to be vaccinated against seasonal flu starting in 2014 unless exempt for medical or religious reasons. The new requirement has sparked a national debate, but critical information about the public health impact of vaccinations often get lost in this debate.

To learn more about vaccinating children for Influenza check out the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Seasonal Influenza website by clicking on the CDC logo. Influenza ("the flu") is more dangerous than the common cold for children. Each year, many children get sick with seasonal influenza; some of those illnesses result in death.



- Children commonly need medical care because of influenza, especially before they turn 5 years old.
- Severe influenza complications are most common in children younger than 2 years old.
- Children with chronic health problems like asthma, diabetes and disorders of the brain or nervous system are at especially high risk of developing serious flu complications.
- Each year an average of 20,000 children under the age of 5 are hospitalized because of influenza complications.
- Flu seasons vary in severity, however some children die from flu each year. During the 2012-2013 influenza season, more than 165 flu-related pediatric deaths were reported.

To read the complete article click the CNN parents logo above.

Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month



The Public Health Foundation (PHF) is pleased to offer [resources](#), [training](#), and [tools](#) on healthy relationships to support Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month in Feb..

According to the [Journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics](#), over 80 percent of school counselors report being unprepared to address incidents of abuse. In order to stop this growing epidemic, all sectors need to work together to increase awareness of this issue. To learn more click the logo above.



Health Equity Resources

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) website now has a section titled [Health Equity Resources](#). KDHE encourages you to reference and make use of this material in your work to protect and improve the health and environment of Kansans. KDHE is committed to reducing health disparities, moreover, the agency has moved to making health equity a cross-cutting theme in all activities through the performance management process at the director level. It is important for the state agency and its partners to remain focused on health equity and address disparities as the strategic priorities for Healthy Kansans 2020 and the State Health Improvement Plan are being finalized.

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 \(on-call/prn\)](#)
- [Women's and Men's Health Program Supervisor](#)



Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department

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

- [Public Health Nutrition Consultant](#)



Lyon County Health Department

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

- [Dentist](#)
- [Family Physician](#)
- [Licensed Practical Nurse \(LPN\)](#)
- [Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner](#)



Sedgwick County Health Department

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

- [Registered Dietician/Registered Nurse - WIC](#)



Shawnee County Health Department

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

- [Dietitian](#)
- [Intermittent Outreach and Enrollment Specialist](#)
- [Medical Director](#)
- [Mid-Level Practitioner](#)
- [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