



PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

March - 2014 Volume 14, Issue 3
Bureau of Community Health Systems

Robert Moser, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

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Aid to Local Grant Applications - Final Call

by Jane Shirley, Population Health Center Director

Local Public Health Program Director, Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE

The state 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 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.

KHEL Address Change

by the Kansas Health and Environmental Laboratories

The Kansas Health and Environmental Laboratories have a new mailing address. The new address is: Kansas Health and Environmental Laboratories 6810 SE Dwight Street, Topeka, KS 66620. Facilities should start using the new address on all correspondence and packages immediately. Correspondence and packages will be delivered to the laboratory with the old address for only a short time. New mailing address labels will be sent to local partners soon.

National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day - March 10

from the Womenshealth.gov website



March 10 is National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, a nationwide observance that sheds light on how the disease affects women and girls. On March 10 and throughout the month of March thousands of individuals, organizations and public health officials will host events and share facts about HIV/AIDS.

HIV/AIDS is a serious public health issue for women and girls. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 1.1 million people in the United States are living with HIV. Of those people, one in four or 25 percent is a woman 13 or older. Approximately 27,000 women have HIV but do not know they have the disease. Public health partners can:

- Encourage women and girls to get tested and know their status
- Help decrease the number of women who are HIV-positive
- Increase awareness of safe practices to prevent HIV infection
- Help people become aware of the levels of care and treatment

To learn more click the ribbon above.

National Public Health Week - April 7-13

from the APHA website



National Public Health Week (NPHW) will be observed April 7-13. Partners help American Public Health Association disseminate messages and materials to state and local communities and the general public. A NPHW partner toolkit will help you with tips and suggestions on community events, legislative information, media outreach and social media promotion and other activities that you can do to get involved. Another great tool is the partner meeting webinar. Recordings can be found on the [Books and Resources](#) page on the NPHW website and provide information on NPHW, utilizing social media and this year's plans for NPHW. Click the NPHW logo to learn about each of the daily themes and activities.

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:

- March 11 – Topeka (NE)
- March 19 – (SE) rescheduled snow date to be conducted through Go to Meeting
- 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.

Kansas Local Public Health Accreditation Readiness Project Summit

by Cristi Cain, Public Health Specialist
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE



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. Robert Moser, M.D., Kansas Department of Health and Environment Secretary and 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 at <http://ks.train.org>, Course ID, 1049339.

Dates and locations are as follows:

- April 24, Chanute, TBD
- May 7, Hutchinson, Reno County Courthouse, Veteran's Room
- May 15, Oakley, Northwest Education Service Center
- May 16, Garden City, St. Catherine Hospital, Out Patient Building
- May 28, Beloit, North Central Kansas Technical College
- June 10, Topeka, Kansas Department for Children and Families Learning Center

National Women's Health Week - May 11-17



from the NWHW website

Join the Office on Women's Health in celebrating National Women's Health Week (NWHW). The goal is to empower women to make their health a priority. This year, National Women's Health Week will be celebrated May 11–17.

You can now start registering your National Women's Health Week event or activity using a new process - [Meetup Everywhere](#). The Office on Women's Health and Meetup are making it easy for anyone to organize and participate in National Women's Health Week events and promote women's health. Visit the NWHW website to learn more by clicking on the NWHW logo.

January Radon Action Month a Big Success

*Angela German, Public Health Educator for the Environmental Public Health Tracking Program
Bureau of Environmental Health, KDHE*



Thank you very much to all who participated in the January 2014 Kansas Radon Action Month. The project was very successful.

The purpose of the Radon Action Month activities was to raise awareness of radon as a public health issue and to encourage Kansas residents to test and mitigate their homes if high radon levels are found. Due to overwhelming requests the Bureau of Environmental Health (BEH) exceeded its initial goal of distributing 1,500 free radon test kits. BEH distributed approximately 2,200 free test kits through traditional and non-traditional stakeholders including local health departments, tribal liaisons, county extension offices, KDHE district offices and additional radon professionals.

The Environmental Public Health Tracking Program has displayed some preliminary data on its public portal. Click the Environmental Public Health Tracking logo to access the data and maps covering: average indoor radon measurements with respect to surficial geology, invasive lung and bronchus cancer incidence and county estimates of smoking prevalence among adults. Thank you again for your participation and we enjoyed working with you on this project. For more information contact Angela German at agerman@kdheks.gov or call 785-368-7154.

Million Hearts 2013 Hypertension Control Challenge Champion

by the Bureau of Health Promotion, KDHE



The Bureau of Health Promotion (BHP) congratulates Dr. Jen Brull, Prairie Star Family Practice, for being selected as a Million Hearts 2013 Hypertension Control Challenge Champion. Dr. Brull and her colleagues have partnered with BHP to implement the Kansas Quality of Care project that aims to improve care for patients with heart disease, stroke and diabetes. She is one of nine large practices and health care systems selected from across the nation that have worked with their patients to achieve hypertension control rates at or above 70 percent. Hypertension is a leading risk factor for heart disease and stroke, which are leading causes of death in Kansas. Nearly one in three (30.7 percent) of Kansas adults have been diagnosed with high blood pressure (2012 BRFSS). Nationally, about half (47 percent) of people with high blood pressure have their condition under control (CDC 2011).

Congratulations to Dr. Brull, who reports that more than 70 percent of her patients with high blood pressure have their blood pressure in control.

Washburn University School of Nursing Launches Online RN to BSN Program

by Jeanne Catanzaro

Program Director, Washburn University



Washburn University School of Nursing is pleased to announce the opening of an entirely online RN to BSN program slated to go live in late July. This innovative program has been designed with best practice in online learning in mind providing the working RN with flexibility and affordable tuition. Course construction is based on the adult learner who has foundational knowledge with full-time and part-time program options.

Registered Nurses interested in this exciting opportunity to become a BSN, can contact Jeanne Catanzaro, Program Director and Advisor, at 913-723-1031 for further information. For a complimentary transcript review, send unofficial copies by email to RNBSN@washburn.edu or fax to 785-670-1032. To begin the application process, click the Washburn University logo then click on Undergraduate Programs. Scholarships and financial assistance are available to qualified applicants.

Council on Linkages Updating Core Competencies

from the COL website



The Council on Linkages is in the process of updating the Public Health Core Competencies based on feedback received from the public health community. The Council on Linkages has committed to adopting and making available the revised Core Competencies by June 30. In particular, the site states that:

Collected feedback on the Core Competencies in 2013 includes a variety of suggestions, such as:

- Simplify some of the language of individual competencies
- Keep the [eight domains](#)
- Create an additional tier for administrative and support staff
- Ensure that the Communication Skills domain addresses clear and culturally and linguistically appropriate communication
- Consider adding competencies to address topics such as budget preparation, health informatics, social marketing and health reform
- Crosswalk the Core Competencies with the Foundational Capabilities listed in:
 - Institute of Medicine - [For the Public's Health: Investing in a Healthier Future](#)
 - Trust for America's Health - [A Healthier America 2013: Strategies to Move from Sick Care to Health Care in Four Years](#)
 - Public Health Accreditation Board's
 - [Standards and Measures](#)
 - [Essential Public Health Services](#)

Additional comments focused on resources the Council on Linkages can provide to help organizations use the Core Competencies:

- More examples of what is meant by each competency
- Guidance on how competencies apply to various positions within public health organizations
- Additional sample job descriptions that incorporate the Core Competencies
- New examples that show use or attainment of the Core Competencies

Impacting Population Health Summit Report

by Jane Shirley, Population Health Center Director

Local Public Health Program Director, Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE

The final report from last summer's "Impacting Population Health" states summit and series of regional meetings is now available. The final document is now posted on the local public health page of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment website under "Recent News, Events and Documents." Click the logo to navigate to the webpage.



Kansas Child Care Licensing Indicator System Implemented

by the Bureau of Family Health, KDHE



The Child Care Licensing section within the Bureau of Family Health successfully piloted the Kansas Licensing Indicator System (KLIS) in January and implemented state wide in February. The KLIS is an annual survey tool that measures compliance with specific regulations that statistically predict compliance with the entire set of program regulations. Originally designed in Pennsylvania in the late 1970's, the use of indicator systems has grown. By 1994, a study revealed 30 states were using the methodology as a way to achieve maximum protection with the fewest possible resources (time, staff, funding, etc.).

The KLIS tool works by utilizing analysis of inspection data, compliance history and criteria set by the state and identifies which facilities are considered "compliant". Compliant facilities that meet the criteria eligibility are rewarded with an inspection of an indicator survey only. If a certain level of noncompliance with the indicators is documented, either a sub-section will expand or the full survey is conducted.

The benefit of using the KLIS tool is that compliant facilities that meet the criteria for eligibility are rewarded with an inspection of an indicator survey only, which reduces the survey time by at least half. The licensing surveyor can then utilize the time gained to provide additional monitoring, technical assistance and support to non-compliant facilities. The additional support increases compliance resulting in a shift to a "compliant" facility, which then ensures the health, safety and wellbeing of children in out-of-home care.

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.

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. In case you missed it, watch this video on the Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics with Lindsey Webb is now available. Click the KDHE logo to view this video.

To view recent episodes, click the links below:

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

Laboratory Information Management System Update

by Lori Boline, Health Section Chief

Kansas Health and Environmental Laboratories, KDHE



The Kansas Health and Environmental Laboratories (KHEL) launched a new Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS), December 2013 to track and report submitted laboratory specimens from clients. This is a major undertaking that requires a multi-phase implementation. When fully operational, this system will provide KHEL a more robust data

system that will present opportunities for enhanced data sharing and communication to partners and clients throughout the state.

As a part of this process, KHEL has revamped its universal laboratory specimen submission form to provide a more user-friendly format. The new form includes an optional field to capture your facility's patient medical record number (MRN) that will aid in electronic report linking. The new form is now available and can be ordered from the KHEL Customer Service webpage. Click KDHE logo and go to Request for Laboratory Specimen Kits to order new forms. The new forms are accompanied by a letter describing some of the features of the new universal form. KHEL offered live webinar training on the new specimen submission form, but if you were unable to attend one of these live webinar sessions, there is a 30 minute online version of this presentation available on KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, Course ID, 1047090.

The new test reports will in some cases, contain more detailed results not captured in the past because of limitations with the previous management system. One advantage of the new reporting system is that all the tests performed on a single sample matrix (e.g. blood) will be listed on the same final report. However, because different analyses may have varied testing frequencies, there could be a delay in the final report as it will not be released until all requested tests are complete. KHEL is working diligently to fix bugs and delays in reporting with the new LIMS. If you have any questions about the new system, or concerns about a delayed test result please don't hesitate to contact KHEL at 785-296-1620.

Accreditation Corner

Lifesaving Accreditation Tool



"Preparing for accreditation is complicated and requires a lot of organization," said Alicia Plati, Director of Planning & Development for the Oklahoma City-County Health Department (OCCHD) in her recent Public Health Foundation Pulse Blog post. OCCHD was one of the first eleven health departments to be awarded five-year accreditation status by the Public Health Accreditation Board almost one year ago. Read about and see the Accreditation Maintenance Tool that the department created to track and maintain its accredited status.

To read more click the OCCHD logo.

Transforming Public Health Practice Through Accreditation



The 20th anniversary issue of the *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice (JPHMP)*, dedicated to "Transforming Public Health Practice Through Accreditation," includes research articles, case reports and commentaries that depict current accreditation activities and perspectives in public health. The Public Health Foundation (PHF) is honored to have contributed to this special issue. Read highlights from the free January/February 2014 edition of this publication by clicking on the JPHMP image.

New Standards and Measures for Accreditation



The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) has released a new version of the Standards and Measures that clarifies the wording of requirements, stipulates the number of examples required for each measure and specifies the time frame for each measure. A limited number of noteworthy public health issues that are emerging have also been included. Version 1.5 becomes effective on July 1. Health department directors must submit their application in e-PHAB by 11:59 p.m. EDT on June 2 to be assessed under Version 1.0. Click the PHAB logo to learn more.

by 11:59 p.m. EDT on June 2 to be assessed under Version 1.0. Click the PHAB logo to learn more.

Funding Opportunities

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

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 12th 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 upcoming 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:scunningham@kha-net.org) at scunningham@kha-net.org.

Training Announcements

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

2014 Population Health Webinar Series-Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP) - March 5

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



The Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP), developed at Stanford University, is a highly interactive, evidence-based program where people learn and practice new skills over a six week period to manage their chronic condition. Participants meet once a week at a two and a half hour

workshop to discuss and problem solve a variety of topics relevant to coping with chronic conditions. Workshops are held in community settings, such as senior centers, churches, libraries and hospitals. Discussion is facilitated by two trained leaders who guide the participants through four to six topics each week, including:

- Techniques to deal with problems such as frustration and pain
- Appropriate exercise
- Appropriate use of medications
- Decision making
- Effective communication
- And more

Participants are encouraged to share their successes in dealing with a variety of topics so participants can learn from each other and build their confidence in dealing with their chronic condition.

Join this free, 30-minute webinar on Wednesday, March 5, 12-12:30 p.m., to learn more about CDSMP and its impact on population health in Kansas, how to become a trained leader and how to start CDSMP in your community. Click the link to register for the free Webinar at www1.gotomeeting.com/register/880397041.

9th Annual Governor's Public Health Conference - April 29 - May 1



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.

Diabetes Self-Management Leader Training - May 12, 13, 19 and 20

The Diabetes Self-Management Program is holding workshops in Wichita on May 12, 13, 19 and 20 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. In this training, participants will learn the curriculum and facilitation skills necessary for the Diabetes Self-Management Program (DSMP) workshop. Subjects covered include: techniques to deal with symptoms of diabetes, appropriate exercise for maintaining and improving strength and endurance, healthy eating, appropriate use of medication and working more effectively with health care providers. Classes are highly participative, where mutual support and success build the participants' confidence in their ability to manage their health and maintain active and fulfilling lives. Contact Ariel Capes at 785-296-1627 or acapes@kdheks.gov.

ICD-10 Introductory Online Courses Posted to KS-TRAIN

by Debbie Nickels, KS-TRAIN Administrator, Local Health Program
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE



The Kansas Health Information Management Association (KHIMA) with support from the State Office of Rural Health, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, has created two International Classification of Diseases, Clinical Modification ([ICD-10-CM](#)) online coding courses to assist you in understanding the terms, the basic use of ICD-10 codes and the transition from ICD-9.

On Oct. 1, the ICD-9 code sets used to report medical diagnoses and inpatient procedures will be replaced by ICD-10 code sets. The transition to ICD-10 is required for everyone covered by the [Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act \(HIPAA\)](#). Please note, the change to ICD-10 does not affect current procedural terminology (CPT) coding for outpatient procedures and physician services.

Introduction to the World of Coding, Course ID 1048532 introduces you to what coding is, answers some questions you may have about these impending changes and gives you some informative tips and tidbits about this classification system. This short online course is a building block for your beginning understanding of ICD-10-CM.

ICD Coding Basics, Conventions and Guidelines, Course ID 1048055 provides basic training needed to use the current ICD-9-CM code book to assign ICD Codes using coding conventions and guidelines. ICD codes are used in all types of health care settings. They are used to identify conditions treated, procedures performed, services provided, submit claims for payment, provide statistics for research and plan for the future of the health care provider.

ICD Coding Basics, Conventions and Guidelines is intended to be used as a refresher for Coding Basics and to prepare to attend an ICD-10 live training.

Those who complete this training will:

- Understand the organization of the ICD-9-CM Code Book.
- Apply the definitions used in the code book.
- Follow the steps to currently assign ICD-9 codes.

In addition, KHIMA is offering some live ICD-10 training throughout the state, beginning in March and going through June. The ICD Coding Basics, Conventions and Guidelines online course must be completed before attending any of the KHIMA live training. Click the KHIMA logo to navigate to the steps to enroll in KHIMA Basic and Advanced ICD-10 live courses.

ABC's of Asthma for Child Care Workers Online Course Now Available

by Debbie Nickels, KS-TRAIN Administrator, Local Health Program
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE



ABC's of Asthma for Child Care Workers was developed by Beth Marolf, American Lung Association-Plains/Gulf Region for child care providers with support from the Environmental Protection Agency and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment Child Care Licensing program as an approved education offering.

At the conclusion of this education activity learners will be able to:

- Relate the scope of asthma in the US and Kansas
- Describe what asthma is and isn't
- Identify and remediate triggers that cause asthma attacks
- Properly administer asthma medications to children with asthma in your care
- Execute the use of an Asthma Action Plan
- Demonstrate how to effectively respond in an asthma emergency

This is a self-paced, one hour course with audio, pre-post assessment and an evaluation. A certificate will be available post completing the requirements of this course. Registration for the training is through [KS-TRAIN](#), Course ID, 1047617.



Looking for Kansas Department of Health and Environment approved child care provider courses on KS-TRAIN? Click the KS-TRAIN Logo to download the complete list and registration instructions.

News and Resources

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

Get Active Kansas



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 post-

ings 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 or how to nominate a Physical Activity Champion for your community.

Patients Hospitalized with West Nile Virus Disease



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that hospitalized West Nile virus cases have resulted in a total of \$778 million in health care expenditures and lost productivity in the United States. The economic impact study and findings, which cover a period from 1999 through 2012, is available in the *American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (AJTMH)*. The study includes initial hospitalization costs and the long-term direct and indirect costs during a five-year period following hospitalization. Costs include such things as follow-up doctor visits, medications and how much job or school time was missed. Prior to this study, little was known about the longer-term health needs of individuals affected by West Nile virus or the economic cost of the disease to the nation. Click the AJTMH logo to read the complete article.

Master of Public Health Degree Report



The Framing the Future Task Force, convened by the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH), tasked the Master of Public Health (MPH) Expert Panel with updating the MPH degree. In January, the panel released its report, "A Master of Public Health Degree for the 21st Century: Key Considerations, Design Features and Critical Content of the Core." To learn more about the report click the ASPPH logo. Questions and comments are welcomed at mphrefort@aspph.org.

A Comprehensive Look at Local Health Departments



A report of findings from the 2013 National Profile of Local Health Departments (NPLHD) study has been released by the National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO). The study provides a comprehensive look at local health department governance, funding, workforce and activities, including those in specific areas, such as information technology. To learn more about this study click the NPLHD logo.

Accomplishments and Lessons Learned from HRSA



A new supplement from *Public Health Reports* focuses on the accomplishments and lessons learned from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Division of Nursing Summit "Nursing in 3D: Workforce Diversity, Health Disparities and Social Determinants of Health." The topics featured in this supplement are inextricably linked to health equity, a critical component of HRSA's mission. A few highlighted articles are:

- [Addressing a diverse workforce and the social determinants of health](#)
- [The differences between health disparities and health equity](#)
- [HRSA's diversity data collection](#)
- [Integrating social determinants, health disparities and healthcare workforce diversity](#)

Click the Public Health Reports logo to review the supplement.

President Commends CVS Caremark's Announcement



[President Obama](#) and Health and Human Services Secretary [Kathleen Sebelius](#) commended CVS Caremark's announcement that it would stop selling cigarettes and other tobacco products at its more than 7,600 CVS/pharmacy stores across the United States by Oct. 1. CVS is the first national pharmacy chain to make this type of decision. In a [press release](#), Larry J. Merlo, president and Chief Executive Officer of CVS Caremark, says, "Put simply, the sale of tobacco products is inconsistent with our purpose." To read the complete announcement, click the CVS Pharmacy logo.

Healthy Community Design Toolkit



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released the Healthy Community Design Toolkit, a four-part online resource that provides information and education materials for individuals, local and public health officials and planners to use in creating healthy communities. The toolkit includes a healthy community design checklist, PowerPoint presentation for educating community members, neighborhood health profile tool using CDC's [Environmental Public Health Tracking Network](#) and a "planning for health" resources guide. The toolkit was developed in partnership with the American Planning Association's Planning and Community Health Research Center and adds to the collection of resources developed by CDC's [Healthy Community Design Initiative](#) to increase awareness of how changing a neighborhood's physical design can lead to a healthier community. The toolkit also advances the National Prevention Strategy's commitment to healthy and safe community environments. Click the CDC logo to view the toolkit.

Health Behavior Changes Through Music



Hip Hop Public Health (HHPH) is an organization committed to fostering positive health behavior changes through music and other entertainment-based approaches. HHPH has created five school-based multimedia musical educational curricula. Each program is delivered to children aged eight - 12 in schools. Through "Child Mediated Health Communication", children educate their parents and grandparents about healthy eating habits, exercise and stroke prevention. HHPH's educational products include musical cartoons, video games, comic books and two full-length musical compilation albums featuring hip hop celebrities. To access the fun and engaging health education materials click on the Hip Hop image above.

United States Public Health 101



Have you ever tried to explain public health to your family and friends? Do you want a quick refresher on public health's core functions and essential services? The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Public Health Professionals Gateway offers a customizable PowerPoint presentation that individuals and organizations may tailor for their own informational and educational purposes. Download the United States Public Health 101 presentation and teach others about public health basics. Click the Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support logo to view the presentation.

CDC Reports Flu Hit Younger People Particularly Hard This Season



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports in the *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)* that this influenza season has been particularly hard on younger and middle-age adults. Individuals age 18-64 represent 61 percent of all hospitalizations from influenza, up from the previous three seasons, when this age group represented only about 35 percent of such hospitalizations. Influenza deaths followed the same pattern; more deaths than usual occurred in this younger age group. A second report in this week's *MMWR* showed that influenza vaccination offered substantial protection against the flu this season, reducing a vaccinated person's risk of having to go to the doctor for flu illness by about 60 percent across all ages. Click on the image above to read more.

PUBLIC HEALTH Reports

Standards for Adult Immunization Practice

The recent issue of *Public Health Reports* published the National Vaccine Advisory Committee Standards for Adult Immunization Practice. Click the logo to read the complete report. These standards acknowledge the current low levels of vaccine coverage among adults and include specific actions that public health departments and healthcare providers can take to improve coverage. The standards for public health departments acknowledge the provision of vaccine services as well as the public health roles of assessing immunization program needs and the impact of vaccination programs. [Additional resources](#) on adult immunization are available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Partnership for Public Health Law



The Partnership for Public Health Law has developed [six fact sheets](#) to help increase the knowledge and use of law among the partner organizations and their members. The fact sheets provide a broad overview of public health law and discuss legal issues relevant to public health, including due process, nuisance and privacy. Fact sheets are also available on food safety and the regulation of synthetic drugs. Other legal resources are also available on the Association of States and Territorial Health Official's public health law webpage by clicking on their logo.

Health Education Material for Health and Policy Professionals



CommunicateHealth is working with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to develop health education materials for health and policy professionals. CDC and CommunicateHealth are asking public health department staff, policymakers, or individuals who work for an organization that partners with CDC to provide feedback on these materials through an online survey. It should take about 15 minutes to evaluate the materials. Email [Caroline Conena](mailto:Caroline.Conena@cdcindex.communicatehealth.com) at cdcindex@communicatehealth.com of CommunicateHealth if you are interested in participating.

Job Openings

Harvey County Health Department

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

- [Director of Nursing/Assistant Director](#)



Johnson County Health Department

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

- [Registered Nurse](#)



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](#)



Reno County Health Department

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

- [Home Health & Older Adult Program Coordinator](#)
-



Sedgwick County Health Department

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

- [WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor – part-time](#)
- [Registered Dietician/Registered Nurse - WIC](#)

Shawnee County Health Department

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

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



Wyandotte County Health Department

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

- [Medical Technologist](#)
- [Nurse Practitioner](#)
- [Program Specialist](#)



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](#)

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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