



PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

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Office of Local and Rural Health



Roderick L. Bremby, Secretary

Kathleen Sebelius, Governor

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NEW DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

*submitted by the Office of the Secretary
Kansas Department of Health and Environment*

The Office of the Secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is pleased to announce that Jason Eberhart-Phillips, MD, started work as the agency's Health Director and Kansas State Health Officer.

Dr. Eberhart-Phillips had been serving as the county health officer of El Dorado County, California since 2006. Prior to that, he served as senior lecturer in the Department of Preventive and Social Medicine at Otago University in Dunedin, New Zealand. He has also served as the chronic disease director for the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, as a medical epidemiologist for the ESR Health Communicable Disease Centre in Porirua, New Zealand, and as an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



Dr. Eberhart-Phillips earned his undergraduate degree in journalism from Northwestern University and his medical degree from the University of California San Francisco. He also holds a master's degree in public health from the University of California-Berkeley, and a master of divinity degree from the Pacific School of Religion.

Before becoming a physician, Dr. Eberhart-Phillips worked as a news reporter in Pennsylvania and Arizona. He has been the lead or principal investigator on a number of research and surveillance activities, and he is a well-published author, writing two books and numerous medical articles.

Dr. Eberhart-Phillips will be a wonderful asset to KDHE and the citizens of Kansas with his diverse experience and his dedication to public health. He has expressed his enthusiasm about making Kansas his home and be-

coming part of our state's talented and dedicated public health community. Please join us in welcoming Dr. Eberhart-Phillips to Kansas.

4TH ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE

submitted by the Governor's Public Health Conference Committee



The Governor's Public Health Conference Committee invites you to attend this year's education opportunity including the orientation session on Monday, April 20, "Your Role in Health Prevention, Promotion, and Protection of Kansas MCH Populations" and the two day general session, Tuesday, April 21 and Wednesday, April 22, "Kansas: A Great Environment for Growing Healthy Families." Registration for the orientation session and two day conference is through KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, course number 1016364. To learn more click the

conference image.

The content of the orientation session is for new staff recently entering the public health field or the MCH program. The topics presented will provide a broad overview of MCH services and the framework that will enable participants to begin working with women, infants, children and adolescents in community settings, including an introduction of the new Kansas MCH Manual.

The orientation session will address:

- An overview of public health core functions, essential services, and competencies
- Accreditation of local and state health departments
- Basic concepts of block grants
- Societal and economic factors that drive funding for public health programs
- Accurate data collection and reporting to support program strategies, policy development, and outcome measures
- Basic tenets and standards of practice for women of childbearing age
- Services for infants and young children and adolescents
- Review of State and local resources for use in local health department programs

The general conference will offer session topics pertinent to the environment in which we live in, as well as those "environments" we create in the workplace and in the homes of the Kansans we serve. Presenters will address timely topics that will enhance and build skills needed by public health practitioners and stakeholders in these turbulent socioeconomic times. With the challenges facing our state and nation, public health looks forward to the future with hope and innovative ideas to provide a great environment for growing healthy families.

2009 MIDWEST REGION 7/8 HEALTHY HOMES CONFERENCE

submitted by the Health Homes Conference Committee



The 2009 Midwest Region 7/8 Healthy Homes Conference, "Building Capacity and Mainstreaming Healthy Homes", will be held May 26th-29th, at the Marriott Down-town, Kansas City, MO. The Healthy Indoor Environments Coalition, HUD, and the Kansas Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Prevention Program at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment are the sponsors for this 11 state conference. Registration is through TRAIN at www.train.org, Course # 1016411.

What makes a healthy home or healthy indoor environment? As part of the 2009 Midwest Regional Healthy Homes conference, you can be part of the solution! The conference will cover how partnerships for building healthy housing programs

and initiative can be implemented from the local to state level. Sessions will include how creating capacity will provide a framework for healthy, affordable, green and energy efficient housing. Sessions will also cover how healthy housing principles can be mainstreamed into existing health and housing programs. During these four days, you will gain knowledge and background you need to make a difference the health and housing of your area.

Attendees to the conference include healthy homes professionals, lead professionals, contractors, housing professionals, public health nurses and medical providers, parents, community activists, environmental special-

ists, property managers/landlords, realtors, and public/community health officials. To learn more click the image above.

KANSAS PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

submitted by Theresa St.Romain

University of Kansas School of Medicine - Wichita



The Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute (KPHLI) is seeking applicants for its seventh training cycle (2009-10). The year-long cycle will begin with an orientation and training session in Wichita in July. The KPHLI provides competency-based leadership training to professionals in public health and allied fields from around the state.

Through four quarterly training sessions, participants hear renowned speakers and complete directed readings and reflective writings in consultation with a mentor/coach. The training cycle culminates in the development and presentation of an applied public health capstone project.

Applicants must complete an online application form and a one-page biosketch/statement of interest and must provide a letter of professional recommendation. The application form, as well as a program brochure with all session dates, can be found on the KPHLI website by clicking on the KPHLI logo above.

For further information about applying to the KPHLI, contact KPHLI Assistant Director Theresa St.Romain at tstromain@kumc.edu. Applications should be submitted online no later than Friday, May 15. All applicants will be notified of acceptance status via e-mail by June 1.

STEP UP FOR SIDS

submitted by Christy S. Schunn

Executive Director



Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) is the sudden, unexpected and unexplained death of an otherwise apparently healthy infant. The SIDS Network of Kansas, Inc is a statewide non-profit organization providing grief services, community awareness, professional development and support for medical research efforts. This year's event is "Step Up for SIDS" will be held at Wichita State University's Cessna Stadium on Saturday, April 18, 10:00 a.m.

This year SIDS Network of Kansas has decided to create baby buttons to sell at Step Up for SIDS. If you would like to purchase buttons with your baby's picture, they will be \$3.00 each. If you will be ordering a large number of buttons please let us know ASAP. Requests should be made no later than April 16th to ensure buttons will be ready by Step Day. We can either use

the picture that we have on the SIDS Network Web site OR you may e-mail another picture to tmac48@cox.net.

There are five ways to register:

1. Online at www.sidsks.org to pay by credit/debit card, build teams and create a fundraising page to be sent to family and friends. Please contact the SIDS Network at (866) 399-7437 if you need assistance with the online registration process. (We have learned some shortcuts to uploading pictures and e-mail addresses).
2. At APEX Personal Training, 6429 E. Central in Wichita (packets available after April 6)
3. At First Gear, 111 N. Mosley in Wichita (packets available after April 6)
4. By mail or in-person at the SIDS Network, 1148 S. Hillside, Suite 10, Wichita.
5. On Step Day at Cessna Stadium.

The SIDS Network will extend office hours on Tuesday, April 14 and Thursday, April 16 from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. for registration and packet pick up.

66TH ANNUAL KPHA FALL CONFERENCE PROPOSALS

submitted by Eldonna Chesnut

2009 Conference Chair and KPHA President Elect



Proposals are now being accepted to fill the breakout sessions for the Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA) Fall Conference to be held on Sept. 23 and 24 at the Wichita Hyatt for this year's conference. This year instead of just general breakout sessions there will be three education tracks. The tracks are Children's issues, Adult and/or Environmental Issues, and Elder Issues. The goal is that there will be topics that appeal to everyone at this year's conference. KPHA will be offering continuing education hours this year for nurses, social workers, sanitarians, and dental hygienists. Please let the conference committee know if there is another discipline we should look into including.

When you submit your proposal please indicate which track(s) you wish to present in. Also indicate date preference and am or pm session. At this time breakouts will be one hour in length (60 minutes). The conference committee does not guarantee that all submissions will be accepted or that KPHA can meet presentation preferences. The deadline for submission is May 11 at 5:00 p.m. The committee will meet later that week to choose the breakout sessions that will become part of the conference. Presenters will be notified following the committee meeting. The call for posters will be coming out around July, please watch for that also.

Please submit your abstract by e-mail to stacey.stroh@jocogov.org. Click the KPHA logo to download the conference submission form. A confirmation e-mail will be sent that your abstract was received. Please remember to use the abstract submission form. Conference brochure and registration will be available by June 1. If you have any questions or for some reason cannot submit your proposal electronically please feel free to contact Ms. Chestnut at (913) 477-8366 or e-mail eldonna.chesnut@jocogov.org.

KANSAS RURAL HEALTH INFORMATION SERVICE

*submitted by Jane Faubion, Director Rural Health
KDHE, OLRH*



Kansas Rural Health Information Service (KRHIS) is a free subscription-based e-mail notification and news system of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Office of Local and Rural Health (OLRH). Interested parties may register online to receive important information on topics impacting rural health in Kansas. KRHIS is designed to provide targeted, useful information by allowing registrants choose the kind of information they want from a wide range of categories. You can select as many or as few categories as you want. For more information contact Jane Faubion, Director, Kansas Office of Rural Health, at (785)

296-1200 or jfaubion@kdheks.gov. Visit KRHIS by clicking the logo above.

NEW HAMILTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATOR

*submitted by Debbie Whitmer
KDHE, Office of Local and Rural Health*



The public health community would like to welcome Monique Cheatum, RN, Hamilton County Health Department Administrator/Health Officer. Cheatum moved to Syracuse from Colorado five years ago. She and her husband have four children, two girls and two boys. Her family lives on a farm and raise wheat, milo, corn, sunflowers, alfalfa, horses, beef cattle, and sometimes pheasants. Cheatum was a LPN for five years before entering a registered nursing program and graduating in May of '08. She is excited about being the county health nurse and working to improve the public's health in Hamilton County. Even though Cheatum has only been on board a short while, she can see progress being made

and it is most gratifying to see an idea evolve into a project or tool that the public embraces.

THE NURSES' HEALTH STUDY

*submitted by Glenda Kelly
ASTDN Communication Coordinator*



Sponsored by the Harvard School of Public Health, the Nurses' Health Studies are among the largest and longest running investigations of factors that influence women's health. Started in 1976 and expanded in 1989, the information provided by the 238,000 dedicated nurse-participants has led to many new insights on health and disease. While the prevention of cancer is still a primary focus, the study has also produced landmark data on cardiovascular disease, diabetes and many other conditions. Most importantly, these studies have shown that diet, physical activity and other lifestyle factors can powerfully promote better health.

Coordinators of Nurses' Health Study are currently seeking female nurses between the ages of 22 and 42 years to participate in the third phase of this groundbreaking study. The goal of this new study is to learn more about how women's lifestyles (including diet, exercise, birth control, pregnancy, etc.) during their 20's, 30's and 40's can influence health throughout life.

To participate in this Web-based study, simply do the following:

- 1) Log-on to www.nhs3.org/register
- 2) Enter a Password of your choosing and your email address. You will receive your Login ID and a personalized link to the questionnaire by email.

If this phase of the project is successful, you will be asked to complete follow-up questionnaires of similar length in 6 months and then approximately every 2 years. If you become pregnant, you will be offered the option to answer additional questions about your pregnancy. Study coordinators will hold all personal information you provide in the strictest confidence and use it solely for medical statistical purposes. The initial questionnaire will take around 30 minutes to complete. We hope that you will collaborate with us on this long-term study. The results could have important implications for the prevention of cancer and other illnesses as well as the diet and lifestyle practices which lead to optimal health. Please help us with this effort and forward this email to your female nurse colleagues and students between the ages of 22 and 42. For more information, see the Nurses' Health Studies Web site at www.channing.harvard.edu/nhs or contact NHS3@Channing.Harvard.edu.

THE 3 E'S OF OFFICE PAPER REDUCTIONS: ECONOMICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, EFFICIENT

"as the most easily managed waste is material that never becomes waste"

submitted by the Kansas Green Team



Economical: Saving paper saves money. You're probably thinking, "What's the big deal, my office doesn't spend much on paper." But what most people don't realize is that the cost of buying paper is just the tip of the paper iceberg. For each sheet of paper used, a company incurs not only purchasing costs, but also storage, copying, printing, postage, disposal, and recycling – it adds up.



Environmental: Saving paper reduces our impact. Creating paper from trees requires a lot of natural resources. Paper is an office necessity and is needed to complete essential tasks, but there are ways that we can help by reducing the amount of paper we consume.



Efficient: Saving paper increases efficiency. Paperwork brings to mind filling out unnecessarily complicated forms. Electronic forms can now make that job easier and more efficient. Businesses that have converted to electronic forms and filing systems have found that it takes less time to both find and process information. This doesn't mean that electronic forms should replace all paper. In some instances, paper will be the best tool, but most businesses find that reducing their paper use increases their efficiency. Whenever we have fewer sheets of paper in our homes and offices, we spend less time looking for those that

are misplaced or lost.

Not quite what you learned in school!

- ✚ Use double sided printing. Select the file tab; then print and properties; document options; and then print both sides.
- ✚ When proofing, use the print view or read view in page layout. For print view select file; then print preview. For the read view, select view and then read layout.
- ✚ Print only the pages that are needed. In the document, select file, print and then the page numbers of the sheet that you need. Don't forget to select double sided print.
- ✚ Educate staff on paper reductions, use screen savers for reminders on paper usage and conduct training on software and printers.

ESSENTIAL SERVICES TOOL

submitted by Linda Frazier

KDHE, Public Health Workforce Development Specialist

In past Connections, we have highlighted four of the functions it could be used for:

1. Increase understanding of Essential Services and Core Public Health Competencies
2. Create job descriptions
3. Develop Training Plans
4. Begin a Community Health Assessment

Click on the Essential Services and Core Public Health Competencies logo to view this month we will highlight:

5. Complete the National Public Health Performance Assessment Tool

The NPHPSP www.cdc.gov/od/ocphp/nphpsp/ is a national partnership effort to improve the practice of public health and the performance of public health systems. The NPHPSP assessment



instruments guide state and local jurisdictions in evaluating their current performance against a set of optimal standards. These standards are based on the 10 Essential Public Health Services (EPHS), and are aligned with the proposed Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) standards. Resources in the tool were listed to complement completion of the NPHPS Assessment and the Operational Definition of a Local Health Department Assessment.

IN THE NEWS HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT



submitted by Michael McMulty

Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Center for Public Health Preparedness

Kansas successfully and officially submitted Kansas' application for the 2009 Homeland Security Grant Program, all associated paperwork and eight investment justifications to the Department of Homeland Security / FEMA through the Grants Management System and Grants Reporting Tool online applications. Captain John Eichkorn, Kansas Highway Patrol Homeland Security Section said, "I am very happy with our submission, which I believe strongly incorporates our state and local partner's contribution. Once again, this was truly a team effort." Kansas leaders expect to be notified of awards sometime this summer.

If you have any information you would like to share via the Kansas ESF 8 Network, please send a note to ksesf8@kdheks.gov.

If you know of individuals interested in joining the Kansas ESF 8 Network, please have them send an email with their name, email address, and organization to ksesf8@kdheks.gov.

PLANNING FOR HEALTH PLACE WITH HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

submitted by Michael McMulty

Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Center for Public Health Preparedness



Planning for Healthy Places with Health Impact Assessments is a 'how to' guide for conducting health impact assessments (HIAs), developed by the American Planning Association (APA) and the National Association of County and City Health Officials, sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This online course

will explain the value of conducting an HIA and the steps involved in conducting an HIA. Throughout the course, examples of health impact assessments have been highlighted and discussed. This course is available for free, thanks to a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. For more information about this course click on the APA logo above.

LEARN ABOUT PROPOSAL WRITING

submitted by Linda Frazier

Public Health Workforce Development Specialist

Partners in Information Access for the Public Health Workforce provides opportunities for fellowships, grants and other awards, including awards from members of the Partners project. Click on the logo to view the many opportunities .

TRAINING COURSES

The Foundation Center provides a list of training courses, both online and in the classroom at various levels, to learn how to write grant proposals. To view these courses click on the Foundation Center's logo.



SNAPS: SNAP SHOTS OF STATE POPULATION DATA

The Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has updated Snap Shots of State Population Data (SNAPS) to provides local-level community profile information nationwide. It can be browsed by county and state and searched by zip code. SNAPS serves as a valuable tool when responding to public health emergency events at the state, Tribal, and/or local levels. It provides a "snap shot" of key variables for consideration in guiding and tailoring health education and communication efforts to ensure diverse



audiences receive critical public health messages that are accessible, understandable, and timely. Click on the picture to view this information.

CDC'S PINK BOOK

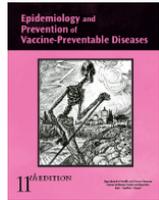
submitted by the Public Health Foundation

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), more than 20% of children are not fully protected against vaccine-preventable diseases. To continue to protect America's children and adults, we must obtain maximum immunization coverage in all populations, establish effective partnerships, conduct reliable scientific research, implement immunization systems, and ensure vaccine safety.

The CDC's Pink Book (*Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases*) is an essential resource for all public health and health care professionals who provide immunizations. The all-new 11th Edition contains information on:

- Principles of Vaccination
- General Recommendations on Immunization
- Immunization Strategies for Healthcare Practices and Providers
- Vaccine Safety
- Vaccine Schedules and Recommendations
- Vaccine Storage and Handling
- Vaccine Administration

The new 11th Edition of "The Pink Book," *Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases*, is on sale now with special pre-order pricing! Save 15% by [ordering now](#) for just \$29.75 per copy. This sale ends April 10, 2009.



JOB OPENING

SEDGWICK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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

- Community Health Nurse II – Maternal & Infant [20002336021309](#)
- Healthy Babies Fiscal Associate / Interpreter [20003160031809](#)

Click on a job number to view details. For more information click the Sedgwick Seal on the right, or contact Jeff Goetzinger, Human Resource Assistant, Sedgwick County Health Department at (316) 660-7333.



HARPER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Harper County Health Department is taking applications for the following position:

- [Public Health Services/Home Health Agency RN](#)

Click on the job title to view details. For more information click on the Harper County Courthouse logo or contact the Harper County Health Department/Harper County Home Health Agency at (620) 842-5132.



**LOCAL HEALTH SECTION
OFFICE OF LOCAL & RURAL HEALTH**

<p>Shirley Orr Director Local Health 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340 Topeka, KS 66612-1365 Office phone – (785) 296-7100 Cell phone – (316) 250-6940 Fax number (785) 296-1231 E-mail address – sorr@kdheks.gov</p>	<p>Jon Anderson Public Health Capacity Development Manager 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340 Topeka, KS 66612-1365 Office phone – (785) 296-8435 Cell Phone – (785) 231-9828 Fax number – (785) 296-1231 E-mail address – janderson@kdheks.gov</p>
<p>Linda Frazier Public Health Workforce Development Specialist 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340 Topeka, KS 66612-1365 Office phone – (785) 296-3641 Cell phone – (785) 231-4504 Fax number – (785) 296-1231 E-mail address – lfrazier@kdheks.gov</p>	<p>Debbie Whitmer PH Nurse Specialist 2501-D Market Place Salina, KS 67401-7699 Office phone – (785) 827-9639 Cell phone – (785) 220-8326 Fax number – (785) 827-1544 Email address – dwhitmer@kdheks.gov</p>
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