



# PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

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Bureau of Community Health Systems

Robert Moser, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

## What's Inside

In the Spotlight - Johnson County Department of Health and Environment Receives National Accreditation.....	2
71st Annual Public Health Association Conference Registration is Now Open.....	2
KDHE Announces New Planning and Outreach Specialist .....	3
2014 Population Health Webinar Series: The Kansas Perinatal Quality Collaborative .....	3
Regional Public Health Meetings: Dates and Topics Announced.....	3
Immunization Billing Stakeholder Meeting July 17 for Local Health Departments .....	4
Kansas Health Matters Website Adds New Indicators .....	4
O'Brien Named BEFS District Environmental Administrator.....	5
Exhibitor Registration Available for the 2014 KPHA Conference - Deadline Sept. 15 .....	5
Topeka's Seaman High School Offers Smart Snacks to Students.....	5
Use of Tuberculin and Isoniazid for Screening and Treating Tuberculosis Infection .....	5
Accreditation Corner .....	5
Standards and Measures Version 1.5 Now Available in Print.....	5
Kansas Accreditation Readiness Project.....	6
Seven National Public Health Training Plans Available on TRAIN.....	6
New Data Available: NACCHO's Forces of Change Survey .....	6
How to Find the Right Team for Your Next Quality Improvement Project .....	6
Funding Opportunities .....	7
Sunflower Trails Program - Deadline July 9 .....	7
Safe Routes to School 2014 Application Information - Deadline July 18.....	7
Team Nutrition Applications - Deadline August 31 .....	7
Training and Conference Announcements.....	8
Regional Meetings to Improve Community Health - July 18 - 29 .....	8
2014 Kansas Preparedness Summit - July 25 - 26.....	8
CHA and CHIP Learning Sessions Registration is Now Open - July 31 and Sept. 10 .....	8
Chronic Disease Self-Management Program Training - Various Dates and Locations .....	9
Kansas Health Summit on Breastfeeding to be Convene - Sept. 25 - 26 .....	9
Kansas Public Health History .....	9
News and Resources.....	9
Population Health and Preparedness State Wide Call.....	9
How to Start a Community Garden.....	10
2014 Text4baby State Enrollment Contest Launched.....	10
CDC Report on National Trends in Health Statistics .....	10
International Spread of Polio a Public Health Emergency.....	10
For the Public's Health: Investing in a Healthier Future .....	10
ASTHO Updates the Primary Care and Public Health Integration Strategic Map.....	11
Most Disease Outbreaks from Contaminated Foods Caused by Norovirus .....	11
Fact Sheet Series for At-Risk Populations .....	11
HIPAA Compliance Reported to Congress.....	11
NBPHE is Conducting a Job Task Analysis Survey .....	11
Worksite Health Scorecard Now Web-based.....	12
Terrific Apps Every Nurse Should Be Using .....	12
Minorities Lag in Health Outcome Measures.....	12
Mobile Application Puts Health Information at Your Fingertips .....	12
The Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) Now Available.....	12
Job Openings .....	12

Barton County Health Department..... 12  
 Lyon County Health Department..... 12  
 Reno County Health Department ..... 13  
 Sedgwick County Health Department ..... 13  
 Shawnee County Health Department..... 13  
 Wyandotte County Health Department..... 13  
 Kansas Department of Health and Environment Program Newsletters..... 13  
 Public Health Connections Information ..... 13

**In the Spotlight**  
**Johnson County Department of Health and Environment**  
**Receives National Accreditation**



*by the Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*

The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) announced June 18 that the Johnson County Department of Health and Environment (JCDHE) has been awarded a five-year national public health accreditation status. JCDHE is the first public health department in the state of Kansas to be accredited and the second in the four-state region of Missouri, Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska.

The department spent more than two years working on improvements and gathering documentation to meet the PHAB standard criteria as a public health department in the U.S. "We are pleased and excited to be one of the first 44 health departments in the nation to achieve national standards," said Lougene Marsh, JCDHE director. "The seal of accreditation shows that our department has been rigorously examined and meets or exceeds national standards that promote continuous quality improvement for public health," Marsh said.

PHAB-accredited health departments range in size from small health departments serving communities of 37,000 to those serving millions. Hundreds of tribal, state, local and territorial health departments are currently preparing to seek national accreditation through the program, which launched in September 2011 after more than a decade in development.

Public health departments play a critical role in protecting and improving the health of people and communities. Across the nation, health departments provide a range of services aimed at promoting healthy behaviors; preventing diseases and injuries; ensuring access to safe food, water, clean air and life-saving immunizations; and preparing for and responding to health emergencies.

**71st Annual Public Health Association Conference Registration is Now Open**



*by the KPHA Conference Committee*

Register today for the 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA) Conference to be held at the Ramada Topeka Downtown Hotel and Convention Center, September 29 - October 1. Conference sessions will focus on the theme of "Health is Where You Live." The conference brochure, available through the KPHA logo, provides session descriptions for all plenary and breakout sessions. Registration for this event is online by clicking the conference logo. If you have any questions, please contact the Wichita State

University conference office at [conference.office@wichita.edu](mailto:conference.office@wichita.edu) or by phone at 316-978-6493. The KPHA conference committee hopes you will join them for this exciting conference.



## KDHE Announces New Planning and Outreach Specialist



by *Mindee Reece, Administrator, Director  
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*

Samantha Ramskill began working as the Planning and Outreach Specialist in the Bureau of Community Health Systems, Preparedness Program on June 9. Samantha came to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment from the Kansas Department of Agriculture where she served as the Records Center Supervisor. She has an extensive background in customer service and experience in utilizing quality improvement principles to review and improve business processes. Samantha has also been working on ways to update and improve agriculture databases, so that experience will prove to be beneficial while working on KS-HAN and K-SERV, the two primary Preparedness IT systems. You can reach Ramskill at [sramskill@kdheks.gov](mailto:sramskill@kdheks.gov).

## 2014 Population Health Webinar Series: The Kansas Perinatal Quality Collaborative

by *Ashley Muninger, Rural Health Analyst  
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*



The State Office of Rural Health is hosting a series of Population Health webinars to highlight a variety of statewide programs/services that impact population health in Kansas. Join us on Wednesday, July 9, at 12 noon to learn more about the Kansas Perinatal Quality Collaborative (KPQC) presented by Dr. Sue Hall, Chair, Kansas Perinatal Quality Collaborative.

State Perinatal Quality Collaboratives are networks of perinatal care providers and public health professionals working to improve pregnancy outcomes for women and newborns by advancing evidence-based clinical practices and processes. In this collective impact effort, key partnerships are forming with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services-Region VII, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Kansas Healthcare Collaborative, University of Kansas, Wichita State University, Kansas hospitals, perinatal providers and non-profits. The KPQC was formed in 2012 and has been working to identify and launch a quality improvement project. The KPQC selected exclusive breastfeeding.

To register for this webinar click the image above.

## Regional Public Health Meetings: Dates and Topics Announced

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

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

The agenda includes the following: Jennifer VandeVelde, C.H.E.S., Kansas Department of Health and Environment STI/HIV Section Chief will discuss structural changes within STI/HIV Programs to increase efficiency, reduce duplication of efforts and increase collaboration. Heather Smith, MPH Director of Special Health Services Programs will give an overview of Special Health Services programming efforts and provide updates from the Maternal Child Health Program. Henri Ménager, MPH, Senior Epidemiologist, KDHE Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics will introduce a new toolkit to assist local health departments in preparing for an extreme heat event.

The dates and locations are:

- Chanute - July 10
- Hutchinson - August 6
- Oakley - August 14
- Garden City - August 15
- Beloit- August 27
- Topeka - September 9

Register on [KS-TRAIN](#) Course ID# 1051773. If you have ideas for regional meeting topics please contact Teri Caudle at [tcaudle@kdheks.gov](mailto:tcaudle@kdheks.gov).



## Immunization Billing Stakeholder Meeting July 17 for Local Health Departments



by Stephanie Lambert-Barth, PMP, Project Manager  
Contractor, Kansas Immunization Billing Project

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Immunization Billing Stakeholder Meeting, July 17, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the Kansas Foundation for Medical Care's (KFMC) office, located at 2947 SW Wanamaker Drive, Topeka. KFMC encourages local health department staff to attend in person. Lunch will be provided. There is an option to participate in the meeting by webinar for those unable to travel to Topeka. To register for the event click the KFMC logo.

The focus of the July meeting will be to shift from identifying billing issues and needed resources to implementing solutions. A panel of Kansas local health departments (LHDs) will discuss their experiences with adopting external billing services and products. In addition, the American Academy of Procedural Coders (AAPC) has submitted a project proposal for development of LHD specific ICD-10 and CPT procedural coding, and will attend the meeting to talk more about how AAPC can help address the training needs of Kansas LHD's. Any LHD staff interested in joining the meeting is welcome.

Please check out the new and improved [LHD billing website](#). KFMC has simplified and streamlined the layout, with the main page containing project updates, stakeholder documents and meeting materials. On the right side of the main page you will find links for new materials recently added to the page. When you click the button titled "Billing Toolkit" in the upper right hand corner, you will find many more useful documents and tools to support your local billing improvement activities. KFMC would love to hear your feedback about the redesign.

In the most recent updates, the Kansas Association of Local Health Department's 2006 Billing Manual/CD materials were added to the website. This manual has been mentioned many times over the course of the stakeholder discussions and provides a great starting point for development of an up-to-date resource manual for LHD's. In addition, Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas shared several new items, including their Health Department Billing Guidelines. This is another example of a health department-specific resource from a key local insurer.

To request the full agenda for the July 17 stakeholder meeting and a meeting invitation, or for additional information about the billing project, contact Stephanie Lambert-Barth at [slambert@kfmc.org](mailto:slambert@kfmc.org).

## Kansas Health Matters Website Adds New Indicators

by Greg Crawford, Director, Vital Statistics Data Analysis  
Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, KDHE



Kansas Health Matters (KHM), a partnership for improving community health, has added 14 new indicators to its site, click the KHM logo. The indicators, available for every county, are based on evaluation of treatment data from the Medicare program. Dashboards using the Medicare data provide insight into the impact of leading causes of morbidity and mortality among Kansans 65 years of age and older. Kansas Health Matters now has 156 health indicators available. The new measures are:

- [Alzheimer's Disease or Dementia: Medicare Population](#)
- [Asthma: Medicare Population](#)
- [Atrial Fibrillation: Medicare Population](#)
- [Cancer: Medicare Population](#)
- [Chronic Kidney Disease: Medicare Population](#)
- [COPD: Medicare Population](#)
- [Depression: Medicare Population](#)
- [Diabetes: Medicare Population](#)
- [Heart Failure: Medicare Population](#)
- [Hyperlipidemia: Medicare Population](#)
- [Hypertension: Medicare Population](#)
- [Ischemic Heart Disease: Medicare Population](#)
- [Osteoporosis: Medicare Population](#)
- [Stroke: Medicare Population](#)

The mission of Kansas Health Matters is to empower communities and health care providers to improve health by providing data, supporting assessment, and identifying best practices through partnerships and collaboration. Kansas Health Matters is an asset to hospitals doing community health needs assessment and improvement plans. The site includes examples of successful community health improvement programs and activities, funding opportunities focused on community health, and a toolbox of tips and advice on how communities can improve their health.

### O'Brien Named BEFS District Environmental Administrator

*by the Office of Communications, KDHE*



The Bureau of Environmental Field Services (BEFS) is pleased to announce Victoria O'Brien as the new District Environmental Administrator in the Southeast District Office in Chanute. Vicki has been an employee of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment since 1995, working in various positions supporting the district office's waste inspection and compliance programs. Over the years, she has obtained a great deal of environmental experience, as well as knowledge of the local issues in the southeastern part of our state. Vicki can be reached through the district office at 620-431-2390 or [vobrien@kdheks.gov](mailto:vobrien@kdheks.gov).

### Exhibitor Registration Available for the 2014 KPHA Conference - Deadline Sept. 15

*by the KPHA Conference Committee*



Please join us as an exhibitor at the 71st Annual Kansas Public Health Association Conference. This annual event attracts public health leaders and professionals from around the state. These individuals represent a wide range of professions including academics, dental hygienists, dieticians, nurses, nursing home administrators, physicians, sanitarians and social workers among others. Exhibiting at the conference will provide you and your organization the opportunity to interact with key decision makers and to showcase your products and services.

For more information or to apply as an Exhibitor/Sponsor, click the conference logo above. The application deadline is Monday, Sept. 15.

### Topeka's Seaman High School Offers Smart Snacks to Students

*from the Oral Health Kansas website*



Seaman High School has been recognized for its efforts in implementing the USDA's updated [nutrition standards](#) for schools nationwide. These standards aim to put healthier food options in students' vending machines and lunch lines as part of the larger goal to improve health and achievement while lowering obesity rates. The school's success is highlighted [in an article](#) by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which explains what members of the [Alliance for a Healthier Generation's](#) Healthy Schools Program are doing to improve the quality of food students are being offered. Claudia Welch, physical education and health teacher at the Seaman High School, explained that Seaman worked with neighboring schools to show the demand for healthier snacks and drinks to vending companies. School officials also worked with students to gain their support and conduct taste tests to provide the most desired products possible.

### Use of Tuberculin and Isoniazid for Screening and Treating Tuberculosis Infection

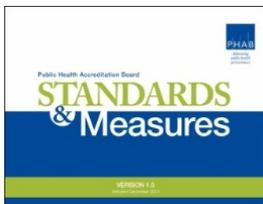
*by Phil Griffin, Director, Kansas Tuberculosis Control Program,  
Bureau of Disease Control and Prevention, KDHE*

During the June 24 monthly Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Population Health Call, Phil Griffin, Director, Kansas Tuberculosis Control Program, reviewed the Update of Recommendations for the Use of Tuberculin and Isoniazid for Screening and Treating Tuberculosis Infection. The recommendations can be found on the Kansas Tuberculosis Control Program web-page. Click [here](#) to view and download a copy.

## Accreditation Corner

### Standards and Measures Version 1.5 Now Available in Print

*from the PHAB website*



Printed copies of the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) Standards and Measures Version 1.5 are now available. In addition to being offered as a free [download](#) from PHAB's website, you may now purchase hard copies of PHAB Standards and Measures Version 1.5. Please note that a small fee will be assessed to cover the cost of printing, shipping and handling. In addition, printed copies of [Acronyms and Glossary of Terms, Version 1.5](#) and [PHAB Standards: An Overview of Version 1.5](#), are also available. For pricing and ordering information, please contact PHAB Office Manager Lisa McAllister at 703-778-4549, ext. 100, or via email at [lmcallister@phaboard.org](mailto:lmcallister@phaboard.org).

## Kansas Accreditation Readiness Project

*by Cristi Cain, Certified Prevention Professional  
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*



The Kansas Accreditation Readiness Project (KARP) Learning Group had its first session on June 19. A total of 24 counties, including one five county multi-jurisdictional region, applied and were selected to participate. KARP Learning Group participants will work to review and compile documentation from their local organization domain by domain during this year long project.

Those participating in KARP will receive:

- Free technical assistance including coaching from trained PHAB site visitors
- Free access to a file sharing tool (Catalyst). This is the same tool that is being used by KDHE for the accreditation process.
- Peer support with the process of gathering accreditation documentation
- Specific feedback about their organization's documentation

A goal of the KARP Learning Group is that each participant organization will make significant progress toward compilation of documents for each domain after the year-long project.

Participating counties include: Butler, Coffey, Chautauqua, Crawford, Elk, Franklin, Finney, Geary, Grant, Gray, Haskell, Marion, Montgomery, Neosho, Ness, Reno, Riley, Rooks, Sedgwick, Seward, Stevens, Sumner and Wabaunsee.

Go to the Public Health Accreditation Board website <http://www.phaboard.org/> to learn more about accreditation.

For more information about the KARP Learning Group, contact Cristi Cain at [ccain@kdheks.gov](mailto:ccain@kdheks.gov) or 785-296-3641.

## Seven National Public Health Training Plans Available on TRAIN



*from the Public Health Foundation website*

Workforce development plans contribute to organizations' abilities to deliver [Essential Public Health Services](#) and improve the health of their communities. Critical components of a workforce development plan identify gaps in staff skills and competence as well as ways to address these gaps. The new [national training plans](#) hosted on [TRAIN](#) include topics on Basics of Public Health Preparedness, E is for Epidemiology, I is for Investigation, Medical Reserve Corps Epidemiology, Women's Integrated Systems for Health and the Community Tool Box series from the Kansas State Office of Rural Health and the Work Group for Community Health and Development, University of Kansas. To view and enroll in national training plans login to your [KS-TRAIN](#) account, click the Course Search button on the TRAIN Navigation bar and search by Training plan link. Click the TRAIN logo to download user instructions on accessing and navigating national training plans.

## New Data Available: NACCHO's Forces of Change Survey



*from the NACCHO website*

The National Association of County-City Health Officials (NACCHO) has released 2014 Forces of Change, a series of five research briefs that contain new findings on the forces that affect change in our nation's local health departments (LHDs). In 2014, more LHDs have been formally engaged in the Public Health Accreditation Board's voluntary accreditation program. One percent of LHDs have achieved accreditation and 11 percent have submitted an application or Statement of Intent, nearly double the level of engagement measured in 2013. Accreditation will provide the pathways to ensure accountability, consistency, better fit between community needs and public health services and improved performance. Learn more about how economic and political forces have contributed to LHDs pursuing accreditation: [Local Health Department Accreditation](#).

## How to Find the Right Team for Your Next Quality Improvement Project



*from the Public Health Foundation website*

The success of any quality improvement endeavor depends on the team working on it. It is not the number of people, rather - how well they function and work together - that makes a team successful. How do you select the right team members for your project? [Start with the Team Member Selection Tool](#) and the accompanying [Team Member Selection Matrix](#) to rate QI team candidates to provide a common sense approach in constructing a team that is likely to succeed.

# Funding Opportunities

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

## Sunflower Trails Program - Deadline July 9



The Sunflower Foundation: Health Care for Kansans is pleased to release the 2014 Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for its Sunflower Trails program. Trail funding is available to municipalities and non-profit organizations across Kansas that seek to improve their community's "built environment" by creating safe, accessible places for outdoor physical activity.

"Everyone knows about the importance of exercise, but a critical component is access to safe and convenient places to walk or bike," said Billie Hall, President and CEO of the Sunflower Foundation. "Trails encourage Kansans of all ages and abilities to enjoy both physical activity and the great outdoors."

There are a variety of funding options for potential trail projects. Applicants are invited to review the following RFPs as a first step to determine the best fit for their project:

- [RFP #14-101-106](#) - Community-Based New Trails or Trail Expansions. This RFP is designed for communities of any size who wish to construct a trail at least one half mile in length, or expand an existing trail by adding half a mile. Funding is available up to \$55,000, contingent upon project budget and bids and all grants require a \$1 for \$1 match.
- [RFP #14-101-107](#) - Community-Based Existing Trail Enhancements. This RFP is designed for communities who wish to improve an existing trail with either infrastructure (i.e., bridges), trees for trail shading and/or distance signage. Funding is available up to \$20,000, contingent upon project budget and bids, and all grants require a \$1 for \$1 match.
- [RFP #14-101-108](#) - Community-Based Trail Connectors. This RFP is designed for communities who wish to link an existing trail with another trail or an access point to improve usability. The trail connector may be less than one-half mile. Funding is available up to \$30,000, contingent upon project budget and bids and all grants require a \$1 for \$1 match.
- [RFP #14-101-109](#) - School-Based New Trails. This RFP is designed for schools who wish to construct a trail at least one quarter mile in length on the school property. Funding is available up to \$25,000, contingent upon project budget and bids with all grants require a \$1 for \$1 match.

Please visit [SunflowerFoundation.org](http://SunflowerFoundation.org) for more information and to download the RFPs.

Online applications are due Wednesday, July 9 at 5 p.m. CT. Funding decisions are expected in August. All interested applicants should review the RFPs and then contact program officer Elizabeth Stewart at [estewart@sunflowerfoundation.org](mailto:estewart@sunflowerfoundation.org) or 785-232-3000 or toll-free 866-232-3020. After the initial conversation, the applicant will either be given a link to the online application, or provided with further guidance and instructions to increase application readiness.

## Safe Routes to School 2014 Application Information - Deadline July 18

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) is pleased to announce that it is accepting applications for the Safe Routes to School Program (SRTS). The SRTS program was created to encourage more children to walk and bicycle to school and to make it safer for them to do so. This federally funded program will provide reimbursements to cities, counties and school districts for projects that focus around education, encouragement, enforcement, engineering and evaluation. You can find a copy of the application information by clicking on the KDOT logo.



## Team Nutrition Applications - Deadline August 31

*by Jill Ladd RD, LD, Team Nutrition Project Director  
Child Nutrition and Wellness, KSDE*

Power Panther Pals Primary Level (K-2) and Intermediate Level (3-5): Applications are being accepted for this eight week health education curriculum that incorporates nutrition education, physical activity and cooking/tasting activities. Sub-grant funding in the amount of \$5 per student is available to help implement the cooking/tasting activities. Participating classrooms will also receive a teacher implementation manual and student activity booklets for every student.

Power Up! This eight week health education program curriculum for middle school students includes sub-grant funding, \$5 per student, to help cover the costs of cooking/tasting activities. Curriculum contains nutrition



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continued from page 7

education, physical activity and self-esteem boosters for middle school students. Participating classrooms will also receive a teacher implementation manual and student activity booklets for every student.

**Power Panther Professionals (Staff Wellness Program):** Apply for this six to 12 week customizable staff wellness program designed for school personnel. Choose from three program offerings including MyPlate Basics, Wellness Every day and Incorporating Nutrition Education and Physical Activity into Curriculum. Sub-grant funding in the amount of \$100 per participating school is available.

To download an application and additional information click the Kansas State Department of Education logo above. You may contact Jill Ladd at [jladd@ksde.org](mailto:jladd@ksde.org) or Emily Brinkman at [ebrinkman@ksde.org](mailto:ebrinkman@ksde.org) with program questions.

## Training and Conference Announcements

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

### Regional Meetings to Improve Community Health - July 18 - 29



The Kansas Alliance for Wellness in partnership with the Tobacco Free Kansas Coalition will be hosting regional meetings to facilitate a dialog about community mobilization to improve community health. The meetings will provide communities an opportunity to share their experiences, success and challenges related to community health efforts in order to learn from one another. If you are considering implementing a healthy food initiative this is a great opportunity to learn about, discuss and explore what is going on in your part of the state. The three meetings will be held:

- July 18 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Topeka Shawnee County Public Library
- July 29 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Dillon Nature Center in Hutchinson

To RSVP please send an email to [misssty.lechner@heart.org](mailto:misssty.lechner@heart.org) with the following information:

- Name
- Organization (if applicable)
- Contact information
- Dietary restrictions (if applicable)
- Your community's health priority or priorities
- Which meeting you plan to attend

### 2014 Kansas Preparedness Summit - July 25 - 26



*by the Preparedness Program*

*Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*

The 2014 Kansas Preparedness Summit will be July 25-26 in Topeka. This conference is hosted by the Kansas Division of Emergency Management. It will offer sessions for voluntary organizations active in disaster staff and volunteers, Citizen Corps groups, emergency managers, human service in disaster professionals, animal responders and citizens. Registration is free with a limited number of rooms available on a first come, first serve basis. Registration is through [KS-TRAIN](#) Course ID# 1051110.

### CHA and CHIP Learning Sessions Registration is Now Open - July 31 and Sept. 10



*by Sarah Hartsig, Research Analyst*

*Kansas Health Institute*

Mark your calendars for two in-person training and peer sharing Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) sessions. You may attend one or both of the sessions held on July 31 (CHA) and Sept. 10 (CHIP), 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Previous attendees are welcome to attend again for additional skill-building and practice. Because these are a condensed version of previously-held sessions, each will require participants to complete approximately two hours of pre-session work to prepare for discussion and interaction during the sessions. More information and registration is on [KS-TRAIN](#), the CHA session is Course ID# 1051459 and CHIP is Course ID# 1051474. These sessions will meet the Accreditation-Readiness Mini-Grant attendance requirement.

Contact Mary Beth Warren at [mwarren2@kumc.edu](mailto:mwarren2@kumc.edu), with questions. Brought to you by the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, the University of Kansas Area Health Education Centers and the Kansas Health Institute.

### Chronic Disease Self-Management Program Training - Various Dates and Locations

The Kansans Optimizing Health Program (KOHP) would like to invite you to be a Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP) leader. As a trained leader you will be certified to facilitate CDSMP workshops; workshops meet once a week, for six weeks. Each workshop is facilitated by two trained leaders, at least one of whom is living with an ongoing health condition.



This is a great opportunity to:

- help others learn to take control of a chronic condition and improve their quality of life
- provide a valuable educational program in the community
- form new and lasting relationships

Upcoming CDSMP leader training opportunities are scheduled for:

- August 18, 19, 28, 29 in Wichita
- October 20, 21, 27, 28 in Olathe
- November 17, 18, 19, 20 in Cimarron

This training will be from 9 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. on each day listed above, and registrants must attend each day of the training in full to receive certification. Training materials will be provided. Registrants may be eligible to be reimbursed for their travel expenses if they have traveled at least 20 miles to attend the training.

Attached is an application for the training. For more information about the program click the image on the left. Read and submit completed [applications](#) and questions to Ariel Capes, 785-296-1627, [acapes@kdheks.gov](mailto:acapes@kdheks.gov), as soon as possible.

We would love for you to join our team. Space is limited, so don't wait. Get your application in today.

### Kansas Health Summit on Breastfeeding to be Convene - Sept. 25 - 26

*by Virginia Elliott, Vice President for Programs  
United Methodist Health Ministry Fund*



The first Kansas Health Summit on Breastfeeding will be held at the Kansas Leadership Center and Kansas Health Foundation Conference Center in Wichita on Thurs., September 25. The summit offers an opportunity for leaders from multiple sectors to be part of an important conversation about smart strategies for improving breastfeeding rates in Kansas. The program will explore barriers to breastfeeding and opportunities for improving breastfeeding rates in Kansas, which currently fall below national averages.

Keynote speakers include Robert Moser, MD, Secretary and State Health Officer, Kansas Department of Health and Environment and Todd Wolynn, MD, MMM, IBCLC, founder and CEO of the National Breastfeeding Center. The Kansas Health Summit on Breastfeeding is being sponsored by the Kansas Health Foundation and the United Methodist Health Ministry Fund. More details and registration information will be available by August 1.

The Kansas Breastfeeding Coalitions Conference, hosted by the Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition, is September 26 in Wichita and will help develop action plans for community breastfeeding support. Dr. Todd Wolynn will also be the keynote speaker for this meeting and will go into more depth on community-level implementation of key strategies.

## News and Resources

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems



### Population Health and Preparedness State Wide Call

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) hosts a monthly Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call the fourth Tues. of the month. The July call will be held Tuesday, July 22. To view minutes from the monthly calls click the KDHE logo.

### How to Start a Community Garden



The Kansas Green Team's e-newsletter, Kansas Green Guide, recently sent out information on How to Start a Community Garden. If you're looking for an activity that people of all ages can enjoy, it is not too late to start a community garden. Rallying support from your neighbors, friends or community-led organizations is a great way to start a garden in your back yard, so to speak. Before you start a garden of your own, read this step-by-step guide, which offers important information about how to safely grow your own fruits and vegetables with others in your community. Click the Kansas Green Teams logo to learn more.

### 2014 Text4baby State Enrollment Contest Launched



The 2014 Text4baby State Enrollment Contest launched on May 11, which will see which state can enroll the most text4baby users between now and November 1. Winners will be announced in mid-November in conjunction with the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting. Last year's winners were North Carolina, Arkansas and South Dakota. Text4baby is a free mobile information service designed to promote maternal and child health. Whether you have promoted text4baby in the past or not, this contest presents a great opportunity to kick-start or energizes your promotional efforts to enroll women in this valuable service. The contest web page has a press release template, talking points, public service announcements and other resources to help you promote the contest in your state.

### CDC Report on National Trends in Health Statistics



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently released Health, United States, 2013 report which presents national trends in health statistics on such topics as morbidity and disease prevalence, national and state health expenditures, preventive care and mental health. It includes a special section on prescription drugs, including opioid analgesics, with data on the number and classes of drugs used by Americans (including antibiotics and antidepressants). The report examines access and quality issues, deaths from the misuse of opioids, providers' adoption of electronic health record systems and trends in national spending on prescription drugs. Click the CDC logo to learn more.

### International Spread of Polio a Public Health Emergency



In May, the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) accepted the recommendations of an emergency committee, declaring the international spread of polio to be a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC) under the authority of the International Health Regulations (IHR) (2005) and issued vaccination requirements for travelers in order to prevent further spread of the disease. IHR is an international agreement among countries to prevent, protect or control the international spread of disease. All countries have agreed to be bound by recommended activities under IHR. The "temporary recommendations" in response to this PHEIC, the second ever to be issued under IHR, will be reviewed and possibly revised by WHO's emergency committee in three months. The burden for enforcement of the polio vaccination requirements under this PHEIC declaration lies with polio-affected countries (termed "polio-infected" by WHO). At this time, the United States government is not expected to implement requirements for entry into the United States.

### For the Public's Health: Investing in a Healthier Future

## RESOLVE

The Public Health Leadership Forum, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), and organized, managed and facilitated by RESOLVE, convened a group of stakeholders in April of 2013, to further explore a recommendation from [For the Public's Health: Investing in a Healthier Future](#) (IOM 2012). The group further defined a minimum package of public health services, including foundational capabilities and an array of basic programs no health department can be without, termed foundational areas. Over the course of several meetings, the working group built on efforts in Washington state, Ohio and other states to [draft an initial](#) Foundational Public Health Services model. The document is intended to be used as a discussion piece within the public health community to continue the development of, support for, and coalescence around the case for foundational public health services essential for the health system to work in communities everywhere. In addition, the Public Health Leadership Forum launched a new Foundational Public Health Services [website](#), with a variety of materials meant to provide additional information and elicit feedback, including an [FAQ](#) document and [feedback form](#).

## ASTHO Updates the Primary Care and Public Health Integration Strategic Map



The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) convened national and state leaders in primary care and public health to update the Primary Care and Public Health Integration Strategic Map. The original [strategic map](#) (click boxes on the map to see related resources) was created in 2012 by key public health and primary care leaders. To update the strategic map, key stakeholders and partners representing 27 organizations deployed public health and primary care expertise with the goal of building upon the successes and momentum of the ASTHO-Supported Primary Care and Public Health Collaborative over the past two years while considering future opportunities and challenges. Several federal agencies were also represented, including CDC, HRSA and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. For more information, [including dozens of examples](#) of programs that work to integrate primary care and public health, see the [ASTHO-Supported Primary Care and Public Health Collaborative](#) website.

## Most Disease Outbreaks from Contaminated Foods Caused by Norovirus



In a recent issue of *Vital Signs*, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced that its [data](#) show most disease outbreaks from contaminated foods are caused by norovirus and most of these outbreaks occur in food service settings. CDC researchers analyzed norovirus outbreak data reported by state, local and territorial health departments from 2009 to 2012 through CDC's [National Outbreak Reporting System](#) (NORS). Over the four year study, health departments reported 1,008 norovirus outbreaks from contaminated food, most of which occurred in food service settings such as restaurants and catering or banquet facilities. Factors contributing to food contamination were reported in 520 of the outbreaks, with an infected food worker implicated in 364 (70 percent) of them. Of these outbreaks, 54 percent involved food workers touching ready-to-eat foods with their bare hands. Of 324 outbreaks with a specific food item implicated, more than 90 percent were contaminated during final preparation (such as making a sandwich with raw and already cooked ingredients) and 75 percent were foods eaten raw. Leafy vegetables, fruits and mollusks, such as oysters, were the most common single food categories implicated in these outbreaks. The report provides key recommendations to help the food service industry prevent norovirus outbreaks from contaminated food, underscoring provisions in the [Food and Drug Administration model Food Code](#) and CDC [guidelines](#). To read more, visit the [recent issue](#) of *Vital Signs*.

## Fact Sheet Series for At-Risk Populations



The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) is developing a fact sheet series that describes populations and partnerships with which state and territorial health agencies work to reach at-risk populations. At-risk populations are those people most at risk of severe consequences from a public health emergency, including societal, economic and health-related events. The fact sheets focus on the value of these partnerships and reaching diverse populations. This includes examples of how public health agencies have successfully done so. Fact sheets highlighting [American Indian and Alaska Native tribes](#), [faith-based organizations](#) and [schools](#) are now available.

## HIPAA Compliance Reported to Congress



The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office for Civil Rights announced that it issued two reports to Congress on HIPAA compliance. The first report addresses [breaches of unsecured protected health information](#) and the second report pertains to [compliance with the HIPAA privacy, security and breach notification rules](#). The reports are mandated by federal law and cover activities in calendar years 2011 and 2012.

## NBPHE is Conducting a Job Task Analysis Survey



The National Board of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE) is seeking your participation in a [job task analysis](#), which will be used to strengthen its Certified in Public Health (CPH) credentialing program. This job task analysis will define performance domains and tasks performed by a public health professional. The survey will take approximately 30 minutes to complete and everyone working in public health is invited to respond. A summary of the findings of the study will be available on the NBPHE web site by the fall of 2014.

### Worksite Health Scorecard Now Web-based



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released the Worksite Health Scorecard as a [web-based application](#). State health departments may assist employers and business coalitions in using the tool and help identify ways of establishing healthier workplaces. State health departments also can use the tool for monitoring worksite practices, establishing best practice benchmarks and tracking improvements in worksite health promotion programs to more effectively direct resources to support employers.

### Terrific Apps Every Nurse Should Be Using



Check out the [guide to apps](#) every nurse should be using. Mobile applications for tablets and even smartphones have the capacity to make any nurse or nursing student's life easier. The National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) study apps for those seeking their [RN license](#) are comprehensive and often offer specialized learning modules for different parts of the test. A tablet or phone with the right apps can quickly become a nurse's best ally for maintaining order and sanity with an incredibly busy lifestyle.

### Minorities Lag in Health Outcome Measures



Racial and ethnic minorities still lag in many health outcome measures. They are less likely to get the preventive care they need to stay healthy and more likely to have serious chronic illnesses, such as diabetes or heart disease. When they get sick, they are less likely to have access to quality health care. [The National Partnership for Action to End Health Disparities](#) (NPA) was established to mobilize a nationwide, comprehensive, community-driven and sustained approach to combating health disparities and achieving health equity. [Take the pledge](#) to support a nation free of disparities in health and health care.

### Mobile Application Puts Health Information at Your Fingertips



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention mobile application puts health information at your fingertips. It features important health articles and it highlights a disease each week, popular journals and prevention tips. It also provides updates timed with important health concerns and events throughout the year. The app has easy access to social media so you can share stories, links, podcasts and videos with your friends and family. In an increasingly mobile world, this app gives you 24/7 access to timely, vital health information so you can protect yourself and your loved ones. [Download it free today](#) on iOS, Android and Windows 8 tablets.

### The Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) Now Available



The [Social Vulnerability Index](#) (SVI) is now available through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). Social vulnerability refers to the resilience of communities when confronted by external stresses on human health, stresses such as natural or human-caused disasters, or disease outbreaks. Reducing social vulnerability can decrease both human suffering and economic loss. ATSDR's Social Vulnerability Index uses U.S. census variables at tract level to help local officials identify communities that may need support in preparing for hazards, or recovering from disaster. On the ATSDR website you can view a SVI map for your community with just a click of a button, customize interactive maps and download data and tools as well as a [fact sheet](#).

## Job Openings

### Barton County Health Department

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

- [Public Health Director](#)



### Lyon County Health Department

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

- [Dental Access Specialist](#)
- [Family Physician or APRN](#)
- [Licensed Practical Nurse \(LPN\)](#)
- [Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner](#)



### Reno County Health Department

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

- [Registered Dietitian Part-Time](#)



### Sedgwick County Health Department

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

- [Community Health Nurse](#)
- [Immunizations Nurse](#)
- [Post-doctoral Research Associate](#)
- [Registered Dietician](#)



### Shawnee County Health Department

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

- [Fetal Infant Mortality review Coordinator/Abstractor](#)
- [Medical Director](#)
- [Mid-Level Practitioner](#)



### Wyandotte County Health Department

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

- [Dietitian](#)
- [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](mailto:pbehnke@kdheks.gov)

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[http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/public\\_health\\_connections.htm](http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/public_health_connections.htm)

Send your public health news to

Pat Behnke at [pbehnke@kdheks.gov](mailto:pbehnke@kdheks.gov) or

Debbie Nickels at [dnickels@kdheks.gov](mailto:dnickels@kdheks.gov)