



# PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

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Office of Local and Rural Health



Roderick L. Bremby, Secretary

Kathleen Sebelius, Governor

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## ESSENTIAL SERVICES TOOL

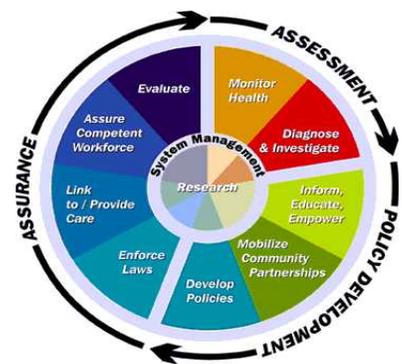
*submitted by Linda Frazier*

*KDHE, Public Health Workforce Development Specialist*

This month we will begin the discussion of various functions of the Essential Services Tool. The tool is located at <http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/index.html> and is to be used to increase understanding of Essential Services and Core Public Health Competencies.

When you “click” on an essential service on the tool logo, you will find a list of the public health competencies (knowledge) needed to perform that essential service. A health department that is providing essential services in their community is expected to have someone on their staff that has an advanced knowledge in the competencies needed to perform each essential service.

Kansas is looking at regional models where multiple health departments in the region work together to assure provision of essential services to all communities in that region. In this case, it may be adequate if someone in the region has advanced knowledge of certain competencies that are difficult to acquire in a short time, or a special knowledge for a task performed by only certain individuals for the entire region. As a starting point, several competencies are highlighted in yellow to indicate the competencies that could be found at an advanced level regionally vs. locally, as long as the essential service is being provided as a regional effort.



## IN MEMORY

*submitted by Elizabeth Ablah*

*University of Kansas School of Medicine - Wichita*



It is with great sadness that we announce the loss of one of our beloved faculty members, Doren Fredrickson, MD, PhD. He died from natural causes. One of our first recruits to the newly formed Department of Preventive Medicine in Wichita in 1993, Dr. Fredrickson was a "triple threat" in academic medicine: an outstanding clinician, a great educator, and a well-trained and respected researcher. His concern for those who were less fortunate was well known, and he was absolutely passionate about eliminating health disparities and correcting social inequalities.



Dr. Fredrickson received his undergraduate degree in Spanish from the University of Kansas and his medical degree from the University of Kansas School of Medicine. He completed his pediatric residency in Kansas City and then attended the University of North Carolina where he obtained a PhD in epidemiology and completed a second residency in Preventive Medicine. He was a tenured professor in Preventive Medicine and Public Health at the KU School of Medicine-Wichita and the Health Officer of the Sedgwick County Health Department. Most recently, he served as interim chair of Wichita's Preventive Medicine and Public Health Department.

One of Dr. Fredrickson's greatest pleasures was to visit his parents' farm outside of Emporia, helping them harvest their crops and raise their cattle. Please join us in extending our deepest sympathy to his family, loved ones, our colleagues and students.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made to the University of Kansas Endowment Association in Dr. Fredrickson's name to create a fund in his honor: KUEA, 1010 N. Kansas, Wichita, KS 67214, or <http://www.kuendowment.org/passion/ViewGivingDepartment.aspx?DepartmentUid=36>

### COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT BRIEFS

Cheyenne County: To be announced  
 Sherman County: Kathy Ryan new Administrator  
 Wallace County: DeAnn Appelhans new Administrator  
 Morton County: Rhianna Shaw new Administrator  
 Meade County: Barbara Johannsen new Administrator  
 Ness County: In the application process  
 Phillips County: Ashley Ryser new Administrator



### WORLD WATER MONITORING DAY

*submitted by Sondra Megrail  
 KDHE, Water Quality Education Officer*



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) would like to remind you to save the date of Sept. 18 for observance of World Water Monitoring Day™! World Water Monitoring Day™ is an international program that takes place each year in communities around the world between Sept. 18 and Oct. 18. Organizations and individuals, youth and seniors, monitor the condition of their local rivers, streams, estuaries and other water bodies.

In 2007, 3,544 sites were monitored worldwide in 43 different countries. The United States alone had 2,257 of those sample sites and 21,721 participants. With 2,709 participants and 377 registered sample sites, Kansas ranked second in the United States last year, and first in 2006. We are fighting for that number one spot again, so keep our reputation strong by joining us in this global event!

KDHE is providing a free, easy-to-use sample kit to any person or organization willing to test, register and record a minimum of ten sample sites during WWMD month! On-line recording makes the event simple and quick.

For more information about how to participate, please contact Sondra Megrail at (785) 296-0051 or [smegrail@kdhe.state.ks.us](mailto:smegrail@kdhe.state.ks.us). More information about World Water Monitoring Day can also be found at [www.WorldWaterMonitoringDay.org](http://www.WorldWaterMonitoringDay.org).

### **PUBLIC HEALTH CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

*submitted by Linda Frazier*

*KDHE, Public Health Workforce Development Specialist*

KDHE's Office of Local and Rural Health will be partnering with the Kansas University Medical Center – Wichita, Dept of Preventive Medicine and Public Health for the next Public Health Certificate Program (CPH). Planning is taking place now for an exciting learning opportunity. Classes will begin January of 2009, and will rotate between Topeka and Wichita with two day sessions every other month for one year. Look for more details this Fall in Public Health Connections. For more information contact Linda Frazier (785) 296-3641 or [lfrazier@kdhe.state.ks.us](mailto:lfrazier@kdhe.state.ks.us).



### **IMMUNIZATION RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DISASTER RESPONDERS**

*submitted by Sue Bowden*

*KDHE, Immunization Program Director*



CDC has recently updated and published immunization recommendations for disaster responders. Based on feedback received from local health departments requesting guidance on this issue, we hope you will find this information useful. As you are already doing, emphasis should remain on advance preparedness efforts that will result in an adequately immunized responder base. As a result, health department efforts after an event will not have to be so intensive in this area since many other needs must be met. Click on the CDC logo to view the updated article.

### **FLUORIDE VARNISH EDUCATION PROGRAM**

*submitted by Chris Steege, Executive Director*

*Kansas Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics*



The Kansas Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has updated the on-line course, "Bright Smiles for Kansas Kids." The Bright Smiles program through a grant from the United Health Methodist Ministry Health Fund will provide you with a free toolkit which includes 50 free fluoride varnish applications and reimbursement coding information. This will be delivered to your office by the KDHE Oral Health Outreach Coordinator. "Bright Smiles for Kansas Kids" is a one-hour online educational program, found on [KS-TRAIN](#), Course #1013066, for pediatric providers on fluoride varnish application along with a free tool kit featuring 50 free fluoride varnish applications for children ages 0-3. Program goals: provide education to providers on applying fluoride varnish for children ages 0-3, a free toolkit—that includes 50 free varnish applications, and coding reimbursement in-

formation.

Free Nursing Continuing Education (CE) credits are available. This program helps providers implement application of fluoride varnish as a part of the integration of oral health into physician's offices. Check [aapkansas.org](http://aapkansas.org) for updates on the Bright Smiles program!

### **HEALTHY MOUTH, HEALTHY BABY RIGHT FROM THE START!**

*submitted by Marcia Manter, Community Health Specialist*

*Oral Health Kansas*

Improving oral health for children with special health care needs calls for everyone's support... right from the start. Parents, especially Mom, can begin Day One, looking in her newborn's mouth. We always hear parents tell about counting babies' toes and fingers. The same inquisitiveness is equally important to look in the baby's mouth.

The parents can see the gums, lips, tongue, and palate. In most cases, all parts of the mouth will look complete and healthy. If the parents have any questions, this is the ideal time to ask the nurse and doctor for information and advice before bringing the baby home.



This early step gives parents permission and encouragement to look in the baby's mouth. It also helps parents learn recognize good oral health when they see it.

After the baby comes home and begins nursing successfully, Mom needs to clean the residue of milk or formula from around the baby's gums. She can use a clean cloth, gauze pad, or a finger swab to wipe in and around the baby's mouth. This oral hygiene step needs to be practiced by everyone feeding the baby: siblings, grandparents, caregivers, and especially child care staff.

This action has four essential results for a lifetime of oral health care:

- 🌀 Mom develops a habit of cleaning her baby's mouth and examining it for any changes
- 🌀 Parents recognize the signs of teething as they watch the gums change and tiny teeth appear
- 🌀 Baby develops a comfort with the habit of having something foreign in the mouth
- 🌀 Baby will grow used to mouth examinations when there is a need for any special treatment and therapy in the mouth from a professional

Pediatricians and pediatric dentists recommend that each baby see a dental professional by the age of one year. This step is to make sure that the primary teeth (baby teeth) are developing properly and to apply fluoride varnish to ward off tooth decay.

This link will lead you to a Bright Smiles Bright Futures pamphlet from Colgate to give to new parents. [http://www.colgate.com/BrightSmilesBrightFutures/US/EN/Common/Articles/ArticlePDFs/par\\_0\\_months2.pdf](http://www.colgate.com/BrightSmilesBrightFutures/US/EN/Common/Articles/ArticlePDFs/par_0_months2.pdf)

### SMALL STEPS TOWARD GREAT CHANGE

*submitted by the KPHA Conference Committee*



The Kansas Public Health Association, with the support from the Kansas Health Foundation, and the Kansas University School of Medicine will sponsor the 2008 KPHA Fall Conference and Annual Meeting, "Small Steps toward Great Change" on September 17 and 18 at the Capital Plaza Hotel in Topeka. Approximately 315 individuals have participated in previous years. Attendees include public health professionals, physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, local and state health department employees and other health care

professionals throughout Kansas from public health as well as private practice. Registration is through KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, Course # 1013975.

There are several exciting opportunities for you, your agency, and/or your employer to demonstrate your support and interact with attendees. First, exhibit space is available as noted in the attached form. Space is limited, so please reserve your spot as soon as possible. Partial or full sponsorship of breakfast or lunch on September 17 and 18 is an additional opportunity. If you are interested, please contact our office to discuss further. This year we have reduced exhibitor's fees! They cover only the exhibitor table at the conference. For those exhibitors who want to attend conference sessions and meals you will need to register separately for the conference on our website at [www.kpha.us](http://www.kpha.us).

For more information on the conference or being an exhibitor go to the KPHA website at [www.kpha.us](http://www.kpha.us).

### TOP TEN REASONS TO ATTEND KPHA'S FALL CONFERENCE

*submitted by Nicole Heim  
KPHA Associate Director*



I am writing to you today as the new Associate Director of the Kansas Public Health Association. My name is Nicole Heim and I have spent my entire career, all five plus years of it, dedicated to public health. I know, five years isn't long when you consider how many of you have been working in public health for twenty, thirty, even forty years! But, that doesn't lessen the passion I feel for our mission as public health professionals. As the Associate Director, I have the great honor of growing membership and writing grants. Some of you may be wincing about the grant writing, but I'm the kind of person who loves writing, as you can see by this long-winded introduction. I just want all of you, here in the great State of Kansas, to feel free to contact me at any time should you have questions about our Association, membership, or if you would like to volunteer to forward our mission, "Working for a Healthier Kansas!" You can reach me any time at [nicole@kpha.us](mailto:nicole@kpha.us), and be sure to visit our new and improved website at <http://www.kpha.us>. I look forward to hearing from you!

Here are the top 10 reasons why the annual conference is the 'do not miss' event of the year:

10. Network, Network, Network—This is a great time to catch up with your public health friends from across the state!
9. Fun prize drawings throughout the conference and wonderful trips for winning poster presenters.
8. New presentation gadgets including an audience response system.
7. New and improved section meetings with excellent section specific presentations.
6. FREE Pedometer—Everyone gets a pedometer and is invited to take more than just a few small steps. Prizes will be given for participation in our one day pedometer challenge.
5. Ten breakout sessions and dozens of posters where Kansas professionals will share their successes and best practices to spark new approaches to improving health in Kansas.
4. Outstanding plenary sessions with national speakers including
  - a. Georges Benjamin, MD, Executive Director of the American Public Health Assoc.
  - b. M. Jane Lewis, DrPH, UMDNJ-School of Public Health (Tobacco)
  - c. Surgeon General Rear Admiral Steven K. Galson, M.D., M.P.H. (*invited*)
3. Updates from State Leaders about Health & Health Policy efforts in Kansas
  - a. Marcia Nielsen, PhD, MPH. Executive Director of the Kansas Health Policy Authority
  - b. Roderick Bremby, Secretary of Health and Environment
2. Vote on our policy platform and new section chairs.
1. Be inspired by the passion and heart of our award winning colleagues and a special presentation of public health in Kansas through pictures.

### PUBLIC HEALTH GRAND ROUNDS

*submitted by Mary Beth Warren*

*University of Kansas Medical Center, Area Health Education Centers*

The Kansas Association of Local Health Departments, Kansas Department of Health and Environment and KU Medical Center's Department of Preventive Medicine and Area Health Education Centers are once again collaborating to make available the Kansas Public Health Grand Rounds series. The Fall 2008 series will occur live on Wednesdays from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. between late August and mid-December via the internet utilizing the Elluminate



webconferencing system.

Based upon feedback from participants in the Spring 2008 series, as well as current issues in public health, topics identified for the Fall 2008 series include: Worksite wellness; Newborn screening update; Injury prevention; Special needs populations and emergency preparedness; Oral Health update; Certification exams for public health graduates; Community health assessments; Community environmental assessments; Preventing food borne outbreaks; Lessons learned from the Iowa flooding; and Built environments and local policies. Click the KU logo for more information.

The fee for the entire fall series (a total of 14 sessions) will be \$100 per organization and will include continuing education credit for physicians and nurses employed by your organization and attending at your location.

Sessions will be broadcast on the following Wednesdays from noon to 1:00 p.m. via Elluminate Webconferencing System:

- ✦ August 27
- ✦ September 3, 10 and 24
- ✦ October 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29
- ✦ November 5, 12 and 19
- ✦ December 3 and 10

### NEW TRAIN COURSE LISTINGS

*submitted by Debbie Nickels RN, BSN  
KS-TRAIN Administrator*

Open a new web-browser, add <http://ks.train.org>, log-in, click the course links. Forgotten your ID and password? Contact the [helpdesk@kdhe.state.ks.us](mailto:helpdesk@kdhe.state.ks.us) or call (785) 296-5655. Print out the TRAIN QuickGuide by clicking the icon.

1. Non-train Event: [Vision Screening & Assessment](#)



2. Non-train Event: [Kansas Home Care Association 2008 Annual Meeting](#)
3. Non-train Event: [Southeast Kansas Regional Trauma Council General Membership Meeting](#)
4. Non-train Event: [University of Kansas 10th Annual Conference on the Prevention and Treatment of Over-weight & Obese Individuals](#)
5. Non-train Event: [Trauma Outcomes and Performance Improvement \(TOPIC\) Course](#)
6. Non-train Event: [Trauma Nursing Critical Care \(TNCC\)](#)
7. [HazMed: Hospital Management of the Contaminated Patient For Non-Medical Personnel](#)  
(CourseID = 1005271) SessionID = 25373. Session Time Zone: CT
 

Date	Start Time	End Time	Location
9/15	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Lawrence Memorial Hospital
8. [HazMed: Medical Management of the Contaminated Patient: Re-Certification Course](#)  
(CourseID = 1006522) SessionID = 25374. Session Time Zone: CT
 

9/3	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Newman Regional Health, Emporia
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 (CourseID = 1006522) SessionID = 25375. Session Time Zone: CT
 

9/4	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Newman Regional Health, Emporia
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 (CourseID = 1006522) SessionID = 25376. Session Time Zone: CT
 

9/24	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Newman Regional Health, Emporia
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9. [Connecting the Pieces- Colorado Prevention Summit 2008](#) (CourseID = 1012908)  
SessionID = 23657. Session Time Zone: MT
 

9/15	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Antlers Hilton, Colorado Springs, CO
9/16	8:00 a.m.	1:00 p.m.	Antlers Hilton, Colorado Springs, CO
10. [Hawoper First Responder Operations Level Course - NWKHR](#) (CourseID = 1013374)  
SessionID = 25417. Session Time Zone: CT
 

9/23	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Graham County Hospital Conference Center, Hill City
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11. [KDEM Trng "\(DHS-PER-211\) Emergency Medical Services: Operations & Planning for WMD](#)  
(CourseID = 1013786) SessionID = 24702. Session Time Zone: CT
 

9/8	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Sedgwick County EMS, Wichita
9/9	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Sedgwick County EMS, Wichita
9/12	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Sedgwick County EMS, Wichita

 SessionID = 24703. Session Time Zone: CT
 

9/10	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Sedgwick County EMS, Wichita
9/11	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Sedgwick County EMS, Wichita
9/13	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Sedgwick County EMS, Wichita
12. [NEKHPR: HICS IV/ICS 100-200-700-800 Train the Trainer \(#1013802\)](#) (CourseID = 1013802)  
SessionID = 24709. Session Time Zone: CT
 

9/11	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Holiday Inn Holidome, Topeka
9/12	8:00 a.m.	12:00 p.m.	Holiday Inn Holidome, Topeka
13. [KDHE: Medical Management of the Contaminated Patient \(Fall 2008\)](#) (CourseID = 1014174)  
SessionID = 25411. Session Time Zone: CT
 

9/22	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Lane County Hospital, Dighton
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14. [Help Older Adults Live Better, Longer: Prevent Falls and Traumatic Brain Injuries](#)  
(CourseID = 1014185) SessionID = 25465. Session Time Zone: ET
 

9/25	2:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	Internet
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15. [KDEM Trng "\(G300\) Incident Command System \(ICS\) 300: Intermediate"](#) (CourseID = 1014269)  
SessionID = 25550. Session Time Zone: CT

9/22	6:00 p.m.	10:00 p.m.	City Hall, Lancaster
9/23	6:00 p.m.	10:00 p.m.	City Hall, Lancaster
9/24	6:00 p.m.	10:00 p.m.	City Hall, Lancaster
SessionID = 25701. Session Time Zone: CT			
9/29	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Prairie Land Electric Coop, Norton
9/30	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.	Prairie Land Electric Coop, Norton

### HIV COUNSELING, TESTING, AND REFERRAL UPDATE COURSE FOR 2008

*submitted by the Office of HIV/AIDS Prevention Section  
KDHE*



The required "HIV Counseling, Testing, and Referral Update Course for 2008" is now available online at the KSTrain website, <http://ks.train.org>, course # 1013855. All HIV/AIDS counselors must complete this course no later than December 31. If a counselor fails to complete the course, they will be required to repeat the initial certification process. There is no charge for the course, it is entirely self-paced, and should take approximately 30 minutes to complete. You do not need to notify the HIV/AIDS Prevention Section at the Kansas Department of Health & Environment when you have taken and passed the course as the website tracks records of the training. Contact Randy Burd if you have any questions, (785) 296-6174 or [rburd@kdhe.state.ks.us](mailto:rburd@kdhe.state.ks.us).

### MEDICAL INTERPRETER AND CULTURAL COMPETENCY TRAININGS

*submitted by Cathy Anderson, Manager  
Language and Cultural Services, Jewish Vocational Service (JVS)*



Jewish Vocational Service of Kansas City, Missouri is partnering with the Kansas Social and Rehabilitation services (SRS) office and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to offer medical interpreter training and cultural competency training throughout the state in 2008-09. All trainings are free of charge.

Bridging the Gap, the forty-hour medical interpreter training, will be offered in Garden City Oct. 13-17, Lawrence Jan. 26-30, 2009 and Wichita Feb 23-27, 2009.

Participants may register with both JVS and KS TRAIN: <http://ks.train.org>. For registration information and an application for any course, please contact Cathy Anderson at JVS: (816) 471-2808, Ex. 1124 or [canders@jvskc.org](mailto:canders@jvskc.org).

Additionally, JVS will offer "Improving the Health and Well-being of New Communities," a six-hour cultural competency training session sponsored by the Kansas SRS office in Wichita, Hays, and Pittsburg. These three trainings will be open to all social services, health care and first-responder staff in the state. Please see locations and dates in the chart below. (The Pittsburg location and date in 2009 will be announced later.) Two other trainings will be offered in October for the staff of the Johnson County Health Dept. and the Wyandotte County Courts.

For the first time, JVS will offer an advanced interpreting course for graduates of Bridging the Gap. "Advanced Interpreting in Family Abuse" is an eighteen-hour, three-day course offered Nov. 5, 6, and 7 in Great Bend. Location will be announced.

### NEWS AND UPDATES

#### School of Public Health Online Math Review

Thinking about going back to school, but feel your math skills are a little rusty? The University of Minnesota has developed a self-guided math tutorial. The math review contains four review sections, plus a glossary and resources page:

1. Ratios and Proportions
2. Algebraic Expressions
3. Exponents
4. Logarithms
5. Glossary and Links

<http://cpheo.sph.umn.edu/cpheo/courses/math.html>



## Public Health Communications Toolkit

*submitted by Linda Frazier*

*KDHE, Public Health Workforce Development Specialist*



The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) has developed a Public Health Communications Toolkit. The centerpiece of the toolkit is a set of three different fact sheets describing the role local health departments play in the communities they serve. The fact sheets are designed to help communicate the role of local public health with our peers, community, the media and policy-makers. They are written to communicate across diverse audiences.

- ✦ Fact Sheet 1 provides a general overview of the functions of a Local Health Department (LHD) and references both directly and indirectly most of the Ten Essential Services from the Operational Definition. It was tested with focus groups representing the "general public" and is intended to convey a sense of the vitality and versatility of LHDs and how powerfully LHDs relate to people's lives.
- ✦ Fact Sheet 2 is the most technical and specific of the three fact sheets when defining the role of local public health and is most closely aligned with the Ten Essential Public Health Services from the Operational Definition. It was survey-tested with a group of individuals representing various facets of governmental public health.
- ✦ Fact Sheet 3 uses short phrases and specific examples to provide an overview of local public health focused mostly on results and outcomes. The fact sheet was survey-tested among a group of policymakers. The intent of the fact sheet is to emphasize that LHDs are a terrific investment and that policymakers can rely confidently on their information, expertise and advice.

To use the fact sheets in communication when talking to the media, the community or policymakers about local public health, there are a few key things to remember:

1. Speak in plain English and avoid "public health speak"
2. Focus on outcomes, not process
3. Use stories and examples to illustrate your point

Here is a list of ideas, many of which were drawn from successful experiences of LHDs, on how you might use the fact sheets in your community and when working with colleagues.

- ✦ Incorporate a fact sheet into presentations to town councils, legislative committees, community forums, classes or seminars and other groups
- ✦ Post a fact sheet on Web sites and at front desks or bulletin boards in schools, clinics, hospitals, etc.
- ✦ Distribute a fact sheet at local fairs, conferences, community meetings, Board of Health meetings, etc.
- ✦ Use a fact sheet to help educate and orient Board of Health members, employees, community partners and students
- ✦ Provide a fact sheet to local policymakers and media as an accompaniment to an interview, a component of a media kit, an attachment to written testimony, or part of a response to a request for information.

For more information click on the NACCHO logo above.

### Pediatric Asthma Initiative



The Pediatric Asthma Initiative serves to integrate environmental management of asthma into pediatric medical and nursing education and practice through our "Environmental Management of Pediatric Asthma: Guidelines for Health Care Providers" and other pediatric asthma resources. This site includes

a Pediatric Environmental History Primer and form. Click on the National Environmental Education Foundation logo to view more information.

### Useful Web Sites

The Partners in Information Access for the Public Health Workforces (PHPartners) has provided a list of useful Web sites for information to improve and protect the public's health. Below are topics of interest:



Education and Training: The National Library of Medicine (NLM) Training Manuals and Resources Manuals and instruction materials used for training on NLM's information resources.

#### Grants and Funding:

Chronic Disease Funding Opportunities

<http://www.chronicdisease.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3574>

#### News:

Center for Health and Health Care in Schools New Alerts

<http://www.healthinschools.org/News+Room/News+Alerts/NewsAlerts.aspx>

News about school health including news of court decisions, important publications, and government actions at local, state and federal levels.

#### News:

HHS and DHS Announce Guidance on Pandemic Vaccination Allocation

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2008pres/07/20080723a.html>

The U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Homeland Security (DHS) have released guidance on allocating and targeting pandemic influenza vaccine. The guidance provides a planning framework to help state, tribal, local and community leaders ensure that vaccine allocation and use will reduce the impact of a pandemic on public health and minimize disruption to society and the economy.

#### News:

National Birth Defects Prevention Study Finds Pre-pregnancy Diabetes Increases Risk for Multiple Types of Birth Defects

<http://www.cdc.gov/media/pressrel/2008/r080730.htm>

Women who receive a diagnosis of diabetes before they become pregnant are three to four times more likely to have a child with one or even multiple birth defects than a mother who is not diabetic, according to a study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), released in the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

## HHS AND NIH LISTSERVS

Medical issues and the accompanying data are often complex and confusing. With over 395,581 active LISTSERV lists on the Internet, the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) have made locating quality, objective health information listservs easy with just the click of a mouse. The following are a sampling of listservs that can help you make health decisions that reflect your needs and values, and keep you updated on the latest developments in health-related issues.

#### ***CAM at the NIH: Focus on Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM)***

A quarterly newsletter published by the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, National Institutes of Health. NCCAM is dedicated to exploring complementary and alternative healing practices in the context of rigorous science, training CAM researchers, and disseminating authoritative information to the public and professionals.

To subscribe: <http://www.nccaminfo.org/subscribe/subscribe/addsubscriber.asp>



### **CDC Public Health Law News**



A weekly e-mail digest from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) of current, worldwide news stories, court opinions, announcements and special features related to public health law and legislation.

To subscribe: <http://www.cdc.gov/subscribe.html>

### **Family Violence Prevention Fund Health eNews**

This bi-weekly e-newsletter provides up-to-date news and information the healthcare industry's domestic violence prevention efforts, groundbreaking research, programs, policies and technical assistance materials. This publication is funded in part by the Family and Youth Services Bureau of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth and Families.



To subscribe: <http://action.endabuse.org/fvpf/mlm/signup/>

### **healthfinder®**

The award-winning Federal web site for consumers offers health headlines and announcements via e-mail. Sign up to receive daily health news headlines or monthly announcements featuring upcoming health observances, health tips, and new online health information resources. This Web site was Developed by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.



To subscribe to daily or monthly health news: <http://www.healthfinder.gov/aboutus/listserv.asp>

### **Healthy Women Today**

Is a monthly newsletter of the National Women's Health Information Center, a division of the United States Department of Health and Human

**womenshealth.gov**

Services. The publication features a variety of links to women's health news, health articles, and specialty pages from their award-winning web site. To subscribe: <http://www.4woman.gov/pub/>

### **MedWatch E-list**



The **MedWatch E-List**, published by the Food and Drug Administration, provides medical product safety alerts. Also includes new consumer-oriented FDA posting related to the safe use of prescription and over-the-counter medicines.

To subscribe: <http://www.fda.gov/medwatch/elist.htm>

### **NIH News in Health**

A monthly newsletter bringing you practical health news and tips based on the latest National Institute of Health research. The NIH plays a major role in finding better ways to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent diseases. The practical health information in **NIH News in Health** is based on research conducted either by NIH's own scientists or by our grantees at universities and medical schools around the country.

To subscribe: <http://newsinhealth.nih.gov/>

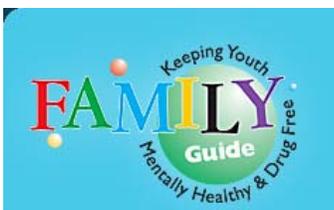
### **National Institute of Mental Health**

The NIMH mission is to reduce the burden of mental illness and behavioral disorders through research on mind, brain, and behavior. The **NIMH E-News** provides updates on the latest mental health news, research advances, upcoming events, publications, clinical trials, meeting summaries, and more.



To subscribe: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/tools/newslistserv.cfm>

### **SAMHSA's Family Guide Update**



The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) developed the educational Web site *A Family Guide to Keeping Youth Mentally Healthy & Drug Free* to support adults—parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, and other youth mentors—in their efforts to promote mental health and discourage drug use among children aged 7 to 18. The Family Guide's e-mail **Update** provides highlights of new items on the Web site.

To subscribe: <http://family.samhsa.gov/main/listserve.aspx>

### **The United States Consumer Product Safety**

The United States Consumer Product Safety Commission the public from unreasonable risks of serious injury or 15,000 types of consumer products. You can find in-product recalls and recall alerts—be among the first to safety information. To subscribe:

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsclist.asp>

For additional listservs, visit [http://list.nih.gov/cgi-bin/show\\_list\\_archives](http://list.nih.gov/cgi-bin/show_list_archives).



### **Commission Email Alert**

is charged with protecting death from more than formation on over 4,000 receive new recalls and

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR**

Tobacco Free Kansas Coalition seeking community outreach coordinator to assist community health and youth coalitions with tobacco prevention and clean indoor air projects. Master's degree preferred, but experience considered. Travel required. Office location is in Topeka. Send resumes and references to Tobacco Free Kansas Coalition, 5375 SW 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100, Topeka, KS 66607.



### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

## **ORAL HEALTH KANSAS**

Oral Health Kansas announces its Fifth Annual Conference to be held at the DoubleTree Hotel in Overland Park, on Friday, November 7. In response to requests from participants, the clinical track workshops will be offered twice on Friday so that everyone has the opportunity to hear both speakers. We are excited to announce our presenters -- two exceptional dental practitioners who draw rave reviews from conference attendees at national and state dental events. Each is addressing topics of significant importance to Kansas dental and medical communities – women and frail elders' oral health conditions.

- 📖 "What Women Want and Need... from Dental Care" by Barbara J. Steinberg, DDS
- 📖 "Reaching out to elders with oral health care" by Gregory Folsie, DDS
- 📖 "Getting Oral Health on the Public Agenda – How to Influence Decisions at the State and Community Level" by Vera Bothner and Tami Bradley, Bothner & Bradley Communication

For more information on the conference go to <http://www.oralhealthkansas.org/calendar-meeting.html>

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

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