



**PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS**  
**September – 2011 Volume 11, Issue 9**  
 Bureau of Community Health Systems

Robert Moser, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

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## 2011 KPHA Conference

*by Elaine Schwartz, Executive Director  
Kansas Public Health Association*

The 68th Annual Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA) Fall Conference will be held Sept. 21-22 at the Hyatt Regency in Wichita. Guest speakers include:

- Jeff Colyer, MD, Lieutenant Governor, State of Kansas,
- Robert Moser, MD, Secretary, Kansas Department of Health and Environment
- Kaye Bender, PhD, RN, FAAN, President and CEO, Public Health Accreditation Board
- Gina Frack, RN, BS, Administrator and Accreditation Coordinator Norton County Health Department
- Rex Archer, MD, MPH, Director, Kansas City, Missouri Health Department
- Paul D. Benne, MD, MOH, LTC, MC, Chief, Department of Public Health, Fort Riley

Conference topics include:

- Public Health Accreditation: Advancing Public Health Quality and Performance to Improve Health
- Study of Infant Mortality in the Fort Riley Area
- Current Directions in State and National Tobacco Control--What are our Next Steps?
- Advancing a Shared Vision for Health Policy in Kansas

For more information and registration click the conference logo.



### **KPHA Conference Pre-Session - Advancing Quality in the Kansas Public Health System Quality Improvement, Performance Management and Accreditation Readiness**

*by Shirley Orr, President Elect  
KPHA*

Is your agency exploring the next steps to excellence in performance and accountability through national public health accreditation? The Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA) Conference Pre-session on Sept. 20 from 1-5 P.M. will provide an update on efforts that are underway to advance system-wide quality improvement that began during the Multi-State Learning Collaborative. The pre-session will feature presentations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Public Health Improvement Initiative, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment Center for Performance Management and collaborative system partners. Don't miss the opportunity to dialogue with local, regional, state and national experts in the field and gain practical information and resources to support your agency's work in quality improvement, performance management and accreditation readiness. To enroll in the pre-session click the KPHA conference logo above.

#### **In the Spotlight – Thomas County**



*by Kasiah Rothchild, Administrator  
Thomas County Health Department*

The Thomas County Health Department located in Colby, serves a population of approximately 7,700. They have two registered nurses on staff; Amy Knipp and Kathy Ryan who conduct the clinic services, education and lactation program. Angie Gaede serves as the biller and is beginning her second year at the health department. Kendra Glassman handles the medical records and manages client intake. Kasiah Rothchild is beginning her fourth year as administrator at the health department. The agency has several part time staff include the Healthy Start Home Visitor; Joyce Schroeder, Family Planning Nurse Practitioner; Juanita Gatz translator; and Lucy Wood.

The Thomas County Health Department offers Family Planning Services, Maternal and Child Health, Immunizations, Chronic Disease Risk Reduction Program, Lab Services, KanBe Healthy Physicals, STD Treatment, disease investigation, lactation services and a Breastfeeding Boutique.

A major push of the health department in the past few years has been to build community relationships. This has been accomplished through holding school clinics, conducting mass dispensing exercises, education programs and collaborating with local partners. Staff members have been active in several committees and groups. The Certified Lactation Consultant, Kathy Ryan, educates at the hospital birthing classes and also conducts community education. Through the Chronic Disease Risk Reduction grant the

health department became involved with the Thomas County Coalition and has been witness to how a coalition can truly impact a community and be an example for others.

One major accomplishment of the coalition is their progress towards a community walking trail. Over twenty years ago a committee convened to try to get a walking trail in the community, however, because of lack of support from policy makers the proposal failed. With the addition of a new aquatic park the Thomas County Coalition and other community members decided to conduct community meetings to inform the public of the need and vision of the Colby Walking Trails. After two community meetings a community member challenged Colby to match his \$25,000 to go towards a walking trail. In less than a month's time the community had raised close to \$113,000. A Walking Trails Committee was created to plan the phases and manage the implementation. Jarrod Spencer, healthy community's coordinator for the Chronic Disease Risk Reduction Grant, has utilized technology to its full extent during the campaign through Facebook, texting and GoldMail. A grand opening of the trail is scheduled for Oct. 8 in conjunction with a Healthy Lifestyle Expo. The community has truly let its voice be heard and will soon have a half mile cement trail that can be used in coordination with public health programs. Through the trail development process we will be able to apply for further funding towards future phases of the Thomas County trail and make Colby the Most Walkable Community in Kansas.

### **In the Spotlight - Treece, Kansas: Removed from the Risk - a Town Relocated**

*by Bob Jurgens, Chief, Assessment and Restoration Section  
Bureau of Environmental Remediation, Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment*



Treece, Kansas was a small town of 120 residents located on the Oklahoma state line in Cherokee County and is less than a mile from Picher, Oklahoma. Treece and Picher were part of the greater Tri-State mining area covering parts of Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma. This area was a heavy supplier of lead, zinc and iron ore from the late 1800s to mid 1960s. From 1908 through 1930 area mines turned out a total of more than \$222 million in zinc and \$88 million in lead, including more than 50 percent of the zinc and 45 percent of the lead needed in World War I. Unfortunately, many years of mining left this region with piles of ground up rock (chat) as high as a 10-story building and tailing ponds that are contaminated with lead, cadmium and zinc.

Citizens of Picher were bought out and relocated over the last several years by the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, primarily using funds from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Citizens of Treece are also impacted by the same environment and have been taking part in a voluntary relocation project since Jan. 2010. EPA is providing \$3.5 million to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to fund the buyout of qualified occupants in the affected area. KDHE is providing a 10 percent match of \$388,888. A governor-appointed five-member Treece Relocation Assistance (TRA) Trust with the support of KDHE is managing the relocation efforts. EPA indicated the goal of the project is to remove the citizens of Treece from the area preventing another generation of exposure and hazards related to potential subsidence of mining. In addition, Treece lost much of the infrastructure they relied on as Picher, OK was relocated over the past several years.

Much of the exposure was from children playing in contaminated chat or people living in homes with impacted dust tracked in from outside. The dust can be breathed in or ingested when children put their hands or other dirt covered objects in their mouths. Children are more sensitive to the health effects of lead than adults. Fetuses exposed to lead in the womb, because their mothers have a lot of lead in their bodies, may be born prematurely and have lower weights at birth. Exposure in the womb, in infancy or in early childhood also may slow mental development and cause lower intelligence later in childhood. Lead exposure can also cause other problems in adults, such as increases in blood pressure, anemia and impaired nervous system or kidney function.

In April 2010 EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson stated that "Coping with this legacy of pollution has been an extraordinary challenge for this community. It's important that they have the support of their government and we're happy to be able to offer assistance as they relocate to a safer, healthier place. We hope this marks the beginning of a new chapter of health and prosperity for the families of Treece."

Relocation efforts are expected to wrap up in 2012 with the demolition of all remaining homes and businesses. Current plans include seeding the resulting vacant land to native grasses and conversion into a wildlife area.

## Mini-Grant Opportunities for Youth-Led Tobacco-Use Prevention Projects

*Erica Anderson, Program Coordinator  
Tobacco Free Kansas Coalition*



**TOBACCO FREE KANSAS**  
COALITION

Tobacco Free Kansas Coalition (TFKC) is providing approximately 30 competitive grant awards of up to \$1000 this fall to assist in engaging youth groups in tobacco prevention and education. The grant project is part of TFKC's continuing support for a statewide youth movement to reduce youth use of tobacco products in communities across Kansas.

"Empowering youth to develop their own tobacco prevention systems is a proven way to reduce initiation and use of cigarettes and tobacco products," says Mary Jayne Hellebust, Executive Director of Tobacco Free Kansas Coalition. She noted that Kansas high school smoking rates have declined from 26 percent in 2000 to 17.1 percent in 2009 but that the latest Youth Tobacco Survey statistics show that 4.1 percent of middle school boys and 15.5 percent of high school boys now report using smokeless tobacco. "These competitive mini grants help youth groups design their own projects to reveal the truth about tobacco use and the misconceptions and marketing tools that still result in almost 3,000 Kansas youth beginning to smoke each year."

Tobacco use, which still remains a leading cause of death and disease in Kansas, usually begins before the age of 18. With funding from the Kansas Health Foundation, TFKC's mini grant program offers funding of up to \$1000 for youth-led tobacco prevention projects that impact other teens at the community level. Youth from 12-17 within school, prevention, church and social groups, youth coalitions, youth sports and afterschool programs may apply for the funding by completing a short application.

Click the KFKC logo above for the grant application or contact TFKC Program Coordinator Erica Anderson at [eanderson@tobaccofreekansas.org](mailto:eanderson@tobaccofreekansas.org). The deadline for this round of applications is Sept. 15 with award announcement made by Sept. 22nd.

### 2011 Safe and Prepared Schools Conference



Educators, administrators, emergency management, first responders and all others interested in fostering a safe learning environment for Kansas students are invited to the 2011 Safe and Prepared Schools Conference Sept. 26-27 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel and Convention Center in Topeka. The conference is sponsored by the Kansas Center for Safe and Prepared Schools, Kansas Homeland Security, Kansas Division of Emergency Management, Kansas Attorney General's Office, Kansas Department of Education and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Keynote speakers for the conference will include Maj. Gen. (KS) Lee Tafanelli, the adjutant general and director of the Kansas Division of Emergency Management; Dr. Scott Poland, associate professor at the Center for Psychological Studies, Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; and Carol Greta, legal counsel for the Iowa State Board of Education. Registration for the conference is \$25. The registration deadline is Sept. 19. To learn more and register click the Safe Schoolhouse logo above.

### Kansas Public Health Grand Rounds – Fall 2011

*by Mary Beth Warren, Statewide Director  
Area Health Education Center, University of Kansas*



The Kansas Association for Local Health Departments, Kansas Department of Health and Environment and University of Kansas 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 2011 series will occur live on Wednesdays Aug. 24 to Dec. 14 from 12:00–1:00 P.M. via the internet utilizing the Adobe Connect webconferencing system. A total of 15 sessions will be included. Based upon feedback from participants in previous series, as well as current issues in public health, topics identified for the fall 2011 series include:

- Antibiotic use in food animals
- Emergency preparedness
- Use of social media for public health messaging
- Public health issues as a result of the Joplin, MO
- KDHE strategic planning update
- STI trends
- Community breakfast norovirus outbreak
- National biomonitoring program
- Environmental tracking tornado
- Pediatric environmental health

The fee for the entire fall series (a total of 15 sessions) will be \$100 per organization per computer and will include continuing education credit for physicians and nurses employed by your organization and attending at

your location. Click the KU Medical Center logo to find a document covering details of the course as well as information regarding a “technology test” with the Adobe Connect webconferencing system. This is a new system, so all organizations will need to complete a technology test. Information will be provided after enrollment.

Enrollment for the fall 2011 series began on Aug. 1. Your organization may enroll by e-mailing [ksphgr@kumc.edu](mailto:ksphgr@kumc.edu) or calling 620-235-4040. If you have questions, please feel free to contact John Neuberger at 913-588-2745 or Mary Beth Warren at 620-235-4040.

### **Kansans Optimizing Health Program (KOHP)**

*by the Bureau of Health Promotion*



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and the Kansas Department on Aging (KDOA) are pleased to offer leader trainings in the Kansans Optimizing Health Program (KOHP) based on the Stanford model.

The Stanford Chronic Disease Self-Management Program trains leaders dealing with people with different chronic health problems. The content of the workshop is the result of focus groups with people with chronic disease, in which the participants discussed which content areas were the most important for them.

Subjects covered include:

- Techniques to deal with problems such as frustration, fatigue, pain and isolation
- Appropriate exercise for maintaining and improving strength, flexibility and endurance
- Appropriate use of medications
- Communicating effectively with family, friends and health professionals
- Nutrition
- How to evaluate new treatments

Stanford strongly recommends that leaders be individuals living with a chronic condition and that at least one of the two leaders must be a peer leader and not a health or social service provider. Applications must be received by the registration deadline associated with the training you are applying for. Applicants will be notified by e-mail when their application has been received by the coordinating agency either KDHE or KDOA. Applicants accepted into the training will be screened and notified by e-mail near the registration deadline date.

Participants must attend the full four days of training and facilitate a program to become a leader. Organizations offering this program through leader training from KDHE and the KDOA must do so under the KDHE and KDOA Chronic Disease Self-Management Program licenses with Stanford.

The four-day leader training is offered at no cost. KDHE or KDOA will cover mileage to and from the training at .50 a mile as well as hotel expenses at \$99.00 plus tax a night. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided at the training. Evening meals will be the responsibility of the participant. Participants will receive the leader manual and the, “Living a Healthy Life with a Chronic Disease” book.

For general information about the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program click the Stanford Patient Education Research Center logo above.

For more information please contact Lisa Williams at 785-296-2330 or [lawilliams@kdheks.gov](mailto:lawilliams@kdheks.gov); or Tamara Tiemann at 785-296-6445 or [Tamara.Tiemann@aging.ks.gov](mailto:Tamara.Tiemann@aging.ks.gov).

<b>Month/Dates</b>	<b>Registration Deadline</b>	<b>Location</b>
September 22, 23, 29 & 30	September 8	Wichita
October 20, 21, 27 & 28	October 5	Kansas City
November 10, 11, 17 & 18	October 27	Manhattan



by Lisa Williams, Kansas Arthritis Program  
Bureau of Health Promotion, Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Do these quotations from the research by Eugene C. Nelson, Paul B. Batalden and others on high-performing microsystems sound like your current place of employment?

"Together, the team works. When you take any part away, things fall apart. It's really the team that makes this a great place to work."

"We decided as a team that out-patients needed flu vaccinations, so we all volunteered on a Saturday, opened the practice and had several hundred patients come through. We ended up doing quite a bit more than flu shots including lab work, diabetic foot checks and basic check-ups."

Congratulations if these statements are representative of your place of employment. Your organization may already be a high performing microsystem. If not, then consider these two continuing education programs offered by the University of Kansas School of Nursing.

*TeamSTEPPS™ Fundamentals* on Oct. 20 is a one-day program in Kansas City, KS, for any health care professional who wants to learn team skills. *TeamSTEPPS™ Master Trainer* on Oct. 20-21 in Kansas City, KS, is for individuals who would like to become trainers in their own institution. Full program information and registration is available by clicking the KU School of Nursing logo above. To promote successful implementation of this evidence-based approach, we strongly encourage sending several people from a microsystem/work group. To support this approach, discounted group rates are available. See [http://bit.ly/group\\_rates](http://bit.ly/group_rates) or contact Mary Gambino at 913-588-1695 or [mgambino@kumc.edu](mailto:mgambino@kumc.edu) for additional information.

### **Bridging the Gap – Medical Interpreter Training**

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

Bridging the Gap – Medical Interpreter Training is a five-day training in healthcare and social services interpreting for bilingual interpreters. After attending all classes and passing a final exam, participants will earn a "Certificate of Completion in Bridging the Gap." The course runs from 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. and is free of charge through the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. If Continuing Education Unit's (CEU's) are required, please inform JVS ahead of time and they will prepare a letter outlining the course teaching points.

This session's training will be held on Oct. 17-21 at the Carnegie Library, 200 W 9th Street, Lawrence.

To register, please follow these steps:

1. Register on-line for Bridging the Gap course through KS TRAIN: <http://ks.train.org>
2. Complete the JVS application form/survey linked to the KS TRAIN, 'Go to Step 2 of Registration' button.
3. Send or email your application and survey to JVS, 1608 Baltimore Ave., Kansas City, MO 64108, [canders@jvskc.org](mailto:canders@jvskc.org), or fax it to 816-471-2930.
4. Cathy Anderson, the manager of Language and Cultural Services or Raul O. Guerrero, the course instructor, will conduct a short interview with you by phone. You will need to include a phone number where we can be reached during the day.
5. JVS will inform you when your registration is complete once you have registered through KS TRAIN, completed the JVS application and survey and conducted an interview with Cathy or Raul.

For more information about the course or application process contact Cathy Anderson at 816-471-2808.



## Partnerships: First Steps of Accreditation Process

by Brenda Nickel, Director  
Center for Performance Management, KDHE



The public health community nationwide is preparing to engage in the process of Community Health Needs Assessments with community hospitals and have turned to the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) Version 1.0 (PHAB, 2011) to provide the framework for planning. Agency accreditation is an exciting and challenging opportunity for local public health departments to begin to critically appraise community health needs with partners and residents and at the State health department level, discussion about accreditation and quality improvement processes has begun.

In Kansas, the process of accreditation will be undertaken by individual local health departments, regional coalitions that share resources and the State health department. Partnerships between local and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and key partners are forged by shared resources, including training, access to data, community health needs assessment and a State health needs assessment, identification of local and state health indicators and sharing of evidence-based strategies and promising practices through the process.

Kansas has a decentralized public health system, unlike many states whose public health system is centralized, as defined by PHAB (2011):

A state public health organizational structure that operates all or most of the local health departments . . . [with] employees are state employees, except for those in independent local public health departments, usually in one or more major city or county in the state. (p. 11)

As a decentralized state, where the governmental body is smaller than a state, local health departments have the authority to promote and protect the public's health with the authority defined by the state's constitution and laws or established by local ordinance (PHAB, 2011).

Accreditation will not be given to the State of Kansas, but will be attained by local public health departments and cross-jurisdictional partnerships in regions, as well as the State agency – all as separate entities, but with a common vision of a high performing public health system. The PHAB refers to "National Accreditation", however the term is used to identify PHAB's role as the national accrediting organization for public health (PHAB, 2011, p. 3). Although the State of Kansas will not be "accredited", the on-going process of quality improvement and performance management through each individual local applicant to the PHAB will ultimately result in a standardized delivery of public health services across Kansas.

There are specific steps that must be taken for agencies that intend to demonstrate that their delivery of public health services meet the specific standards set forth by PHAB. The PHAB has released the *Guide to National Public Health Department Accreditation* which provides guidance related to the accreditation process. This guide provides an overview of the accreditation process and resources for use by agencies wanting to begin the process. This guide, as well as the "PHAB Standards and Measures Version 1.0" can be found by clicking the PHAB logo above.

There is exciting public health quality improvement work being undertaken in Kansas, much well before the establishment of the PHAB. This includes the Norton County Health Department under Gina Frack's leadership becoming a PHAB Beta Test Site, and local health department initiatives to improve services delivery and the state being awarded the National Public Health Improvement Initiative (NPHII) as a result of partnerships and collaborations between the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments, Kansas Health Institute and KDHE. Click the image of Gina Frack to learn more. This collaboration has expanded to include the Kansas Hospital Association, Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved and the Kansas Health Foundation.



The collaboration of the aforementioned organizations has resulted in a shared vision that includes creating a new public health information system called KansasHealthMatters.com, a Healthy Communities Network System being developed through 2011 with implementation in early 2012. This new system will assist both communities and the state in conducting the essential health needs assessments which are core to beginning the accreditation process.



The upcoming KPHA conference will provide a wealth of resources for public health practitioners and partners, including a pre-conference session on work being undertaken in Kansas to assist with improving the public's health. The conference brochure and registration information is available

by clicking the logo above. For more information or resources, contact Brenda Nickel at [bnickel@kdheks.gov](mailto:bnickel@kdheks.gov).

The official public health accreditation launch event will be held Sept. 14, at the National Press Club in Washington, DC. To learn more about the event and other Public Health Accreditation Board news click the PHAB logo.

### **Kansas Statutes and the Role of the Local Health Officer**

*by the Bureau of Community Health Systems*

Many local public health departments in Kansas are currently experiencing change in leadership. New administrators should become familiar with the Kansas Public Health Statutes including [65-201](#), which references the qualifications for a local health officer along with the responsibilities of the county commissioners for appointing a qualified professional in the role of local health officer and [65-202](#), which sets forth the responsibilities of the local health officer including bonding, record keeping and communications with the Secretary of Health and Environment.

The Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA) has a great resource handbook for your library, "[Public Health Statutes and Regulations](#)" that can assist you in better understanding Kansas public health law. There is also a course on KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, [WALD: Public Health Emergency Management: Powers for Responding to Pandemic Flu \(1010085\)](#) that includes the history of public health law in Kansas.



A Former Kansas Health Officer, Dr. Samuel Crumbine.

### **New Challenges for Public Health**

*by Marvin Stottlemire, KPHA Health Policy Section Chair*

There is a sea of change in public health and the way we do business. In many ways we are the victims of our own success. Through immunization and clean water, we have greatly reduced the impact of infectious diseases. (With notable exceptions: sexual transmitted disease (STD's) and Influenza continue to be a challenge.) But the newer public health challenge comes from chronic disease. Diabetes, Coronary Disease, Asthma and Cancer are the new public health challenges and the good news is they are, for the most part preventable.

The bad news is that most of them require change in individual behavior. Alcohol consumption, smoking and obesity contribute heavily to these chronic diseases. Unfortunately for public health, it is extremely difficult to get individuals to change their behavior.

The answer I believe, lies in changing the system so healthy outcomes require little or no individual behavior modification. Examples include airbags in cars and fluoridation of water. These systemic interventions have saved many lives and prevented many cavities.

Additionally we can create an environment that makes it easier for individuals to make healthy choices: Subsidies for fresh fruit and vegetables; excise taxes on sugared drinks, tobacco and alcohol; building streets and highways that provide for bicycles and pedestrian traffic, are all examples of systemic changes that make it easier for individuals to make healthy choices.

The problem is that all of the above costs money and/or require government to change policies. In this political and economic environment, those policy changes are going to be difficult. This is all the more reason for the public health community to become active in advocacy. Do your legislative representatives know what you want?

Members of the Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA) join because the organization advocates for public health. This past year the health policy section was restructured from just being a legislative committee, with the Section Chair having a seat on the Board. KPHA is working on creating a grassroots volunteer system. At the 2010 annual conference there was a session titled, "165 Recruits needed" which means one volunteer for each Legislator in Topeka. If you are interested in becoming more involved and would like to write testimony, testify, work on a phone campaign or email campaign for bills public health supports or opposes, all you have to do is let KPHA. Call 785-233-3103 or visit the KPHA website by clicking the logo above.



## Kansas Core Public Health 2011

*by Kelly Kabler, Assistant Director,  
CPH and KPHLI, University of Kansas-Wichita*



CPH students and KPHLI scholars listen in as KPHLI graduates present their capstone projects.

Session three of the Kansas Core Public Health (CPH) took place on July 28-29 in Wichita. On day one, CPH Participants joined Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute (KPHLI) scholars during their annual capstone session. KPHLI Cycle IX scholars and CPH participants looked on as KPHLI Cycle VIII graduates presented their capstone projects. The capstone project is a year-long

applied public health project that is a culmination of each student's work throughout the course. CPH students and Cycle IX scholars were inspired as they begin to develop their own projects. Cycle VIII capstone project topics included "Assessment of Testing and Treatment of Newborns Exposed to HIV," "Development of Implementation Manual for Statewide Evidence-Based Chronic Disease Self-Management Program" and "Community Health Priorities: Community Engagement Surveillance."

On day two, CPH participants were again joined by KPHLI Cycle IX scholars as they heard from a panel of One Health Kansas speakers. The One Health Kansas initiative strives to educate the public about the connections between human, animal and environmental health. It was started at Kansas State University (KSU) in 2008. The group heard about human-animal relationships, how to prevent companion-animal zoonotic diseases, wildlife ecology and more. One Health speakers included Patricia Payne (KSU), Kate KuKanich, (KSU) Samantha Wisely (KSU), Ingrid Garrison (KDHE), Kelly Banna (Skaer Veterinary Clinic) and Doug Powell (KSU).

Session four of the CPH Program will be in conjunction with the Kansas Public Health Association Annual Conference on Sept. 21-22 in Wichita.

For more information about the program, click the CPH logo.



## Hilary's Eat Well

*by the Kansas Green Team*

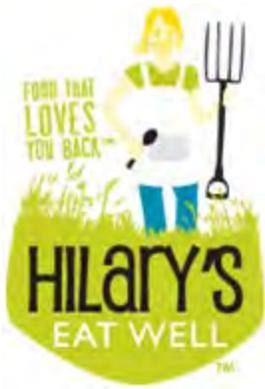


In 2005, Hilary Brown opened Local Burger® – a first-to-the-market sustainable fast food restaurant in Lawrence. The restaurant supports local farmers, advocates for the humane treatment of animals and workers, recycles right in the dining room and composts their organic waste. The idea for the restaurant came from years of exploration and education motivated by her diagnosis with severe food allergies. "I came from a family of entrepreneurs and I wanted to open a business that not only served good food but served food that considered the special diet, the environment, the economy and the health of everyone who eats here," Hilary said. Local Burger® has received tremendous regional and national recognition and remains a wildly successful operation in Lawrence.

Weeks after opening Local Burger®, Hilary developed and began serving her own veggie burger – that quickly became known as The World's Best Veggie Burger. The restaurant offers nine protein choices on the menu including pork, beef, buffalo, elk, turkey, tofu, two veggie burgers and more. Year after year the original World's Best Veggie Burger is consistently the second-best seller, behind only local grass-fed beef! Hilary's veggie burgers are made with two organic gluten-free whole grains, four organic vegetables and healthy organic fat to create a veggie burger that is enjoyable for many.



In response to customer requests and bulk sales at the restaurant, Hilary started Drink Eat Well™ Inc. (DEW) in 2007 in order to market the original Veggie Burger and other delicious and health-supportive creations for retail and foodservice sales. The burgers are sold under the brand Hilary's Eat Well™, which is distributed by DEW. The company initially operated out of the Local Burger® kitchen, supplying The World's Best Veggie Burger to local retailers and restaurants. They now have their own facility and staff with regional distribution and have expanded their product line to include a new flavor, the Spicy Adzuki Bean Burger. Hilary is currently developing even more common-allergen free products for Hilary's Eat Well™ and is expecting national distribution in the near future.



Hilary's Eat Well™ burgers are made with organic ingredients purchased from local producers whenever possible. The purchase of locally grown organic ingredients not only stimulates the Kansas economy, but also cuts down on the cost and environmental impact of transportation. The packaging for the product is 100% recyclable and biodegradable. The bags are made from ECLE, a low-density polyethylene with a proprietary additive that causes biodegradation in nine months to five years. This is unique, as most products that use environmentally friendly packaging are either recyclable or compostable but not both. They compost their organic waste. Oil waste from cooking the product is given to the KU Biodiesel program. They have a company-wide recycling program, recycling everything from paper to packaging. "Sustainability is a cornerstone of this company. We consider the environmental impact of every decision we make. We think good taste, good stewardship and good



health are synergistic values," said Hilary.

Visit Local Burger® by click their logo above. Visit Hilary's Eat Well™ website by clicking their logo.

### Four Steps to Help Children Have Healthy Mouths

*by Marcia Manter, Community Development Specialist  
Oral Health Kansas*



**STOP:** Stop for three minutes once a month to check children's teeth, gums and mouth for potential signs of disease.

**LOOK:** Look for white spots along the gum line that might be signs of early tooth decay, dark spots that might show decay and chipped/broken teeth. Look for food collected in between the teeth and between the cheeks and gums. Look for sores, swelling or bleeding on the gums or walls of the cheeks. Look for swelling around the cheeks and mouth. Look for ways to teach children of all ages what you are looking for so it becomes their lifetime habit.

**LISTEN:** Listen when children of all ages talk about their mouths hurting, when they say chewing is painful and cold beverages hurt their teeth. Listen and learn when they complain that kids say that their breath smells bad.

**GO:** Go to the phone to make a dental appointment if you have concerns and tell the dental office staff what you are seeing and hearing. Ask the dentist to examine the child's teeth and mouth for problems that need to be treated.

Click the Oral Health Kansas logo for a reminder card to stick on the refrigerator. For more information, please contact Marcia Manter at 785-235-6039 or [mmanter@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:mmanter@oralhealthkansas.org).



### Bureau of Environmental Health (BEH)

Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) samples recreational bodies of water for blue-green algae when the agency is alerted to a potential algae bloom. When harmful algal blooms are present, KDHE, in cooperation with the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWPT), responds by informing the public of these conditions. Based upon sampling results and established health risk levels, the following warnings and advisories are in place. (\* denotes a new listing)

Kansas public waters currently under warning:

- Santa Fe Lake, Augusta, Butler County
- Memorial Park Lake, Great Bend, Barton County
- Rigg's Park Lake, Haysville, Sedgwick County
- Warnock Lake, Atchison County
- Harvey County East Lake, Harvey County\*
- Augusta City Lake, Augusta, Butler County\*



- Logan City Lake, Phillips County
- Milford Lake, Clay, Geary and Dickinson Counties\*
- Dillon Park Lake, Hutchinson, Reno County\*
- River Pond at Tuttle Creek, Pottawatomie, Riley Counties\*

Kansas public waters currently under advisory:

- Marion County Lake, Marion County
- Cheney Lake, Reno, Kingman, Sedgwick Counties\*

For more information on algae and algae blooms, including up-to-date conditions, click the image above.

### **Kansas Health and Environmental Laboratories (KHEL)**

KHEL recently initiated an important step in electronic laboratory data messaging with a site visit from the Public Health Interoperability Project (PHLIP) Assistance Team (PAT). The PAT includes Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) consultants working with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to upgrade State Public Health laboratory data transfer systems to Health Level Seven International (HL7) messaging using national standard code sets. The workgroup included KHEL, Kansas Department of Health and Environment Information Technology (KDHE IT) and Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics (BEPHI) staff, who focused on the initial PHLIP goal of electronic transfer influenza surveillance data to CDC. Various process improvements will enhance the quality of future data transmitted, including influenza like illness (ILI-Net) (sentinel) provider information desired by CDC. Kansas will be the first state to provide this data via PHLIP. Ultimately, PHLIP is planned to facilitate electronic test requests, results reporting and health information exchange among nationwide public health partners and CDC.

### **Bureau of Water (BOW)**



Kansas' plan for its Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) at the Lower Big Blue/Lower Little Blue River (LBB/LLB) watershed is considered one of the best plans of its kind in the nation, according to a report by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). KDHE's Watershed Management Section and Kansas State University were responsible for developing a plan to divert phosphorus, total suspended solids and atrazine away from Tuttle Creek Lake, the flood control reservoir in Kansas to which the transboundary LBB/LLB watershed drains.

### **Division of Health Care Finance (DHCF)**

KDHE's Enhanced Prior Authorization (PA) System for prescriptions went live Tuesday, Aug. 23. Launching the Enhanced PA will ensure medical services and prescription drugs provided to beneficiaries are medically necessary and cost effective. This new system queries patients' medical and pharmacy claims history in real time to determine the appropriateness of therapies based on established best practices criteria. Pharmacists will receive real time notification, generally within seconds, of PA denials or requirements for additional information allowing them to select more appropriate therapy at the point of care. "We expect savings from the implementation of Enhanced PA will meet or exceed the original estimate of \$1.5 million per year," said Barbara Langner, State Medicaid Director.

### **Bureau of Oral Health (BOH)**

Bureau of Oral Health dental hygienists Mary Ann Percy and Jenni Ferguson completed the first Smile Across Kansas 2012 oral health screenings in Garnett and Kansas City this week. This project collects data on dental decay, dental sealants and urgent dental care needs in Kansas elementary schools. This is a basic oral health screening protocol that is done nationally to monitor the oral health of third graders. In a new collaboration with the Bureau of Health Promotion, this is the first year that the Bureau will also collect height and weight data. The new report is due out in June 2012.



### **Bureau of Health Promotion (BHP) Kansas Tobacco Use Prevention Program**



The Kansas Tobacco Quitline recently added an online tobacco cessation counseling service, Web Coach®. The online service managed by KDHE's tobacco Use Prevention Program is available at KanQuit website (click logo)

provides counseling and support materials based on individuals' readiness to quit tobacco use. The program, which is free, will help tobacco users create an easy-to-follow quitting plan that will help them prepare, take action and live without tobacco.

Web Coach provides online access to highly trained cessation Coaches by live chat and e-mail. Users will also gain membership to a private, online community where they can complete activities, watch videos and join in discussions with others in the program. Interactive trackers on the Web site measure the money saved and progress made during the quitting process. Web Coach can be used alone or in addition to phone support.

Web Coaches help people successfully quit using all forms of tobacco, including smokeless products. Tobacco users can e-mail, use live chat or call the Quitline toll-free anytime they need additional information or support. The phone and online service is staffed by expert Quit Coaches from 7 a.m. to 2 a.m. daily. For additional information on the Kansas Tobacco Use Prevention Program click the logo on the right.



## News and Resources

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

### The Center for Health and Health Care in Schools



The Center for Health and Health Care in Schools supports the good health of children and adolescents by working with parents, teachers, health professionals and school administrators to strengthen successful health programs at school. Their web site combines information on key school health issues with guidance on organizational and financing challenges. High-quality school health programs are

the most direct, efficient ways to assure that all children get the help they need to lead healthy and productive lives.

### DoSomething-Seed Grants



DoSomething.org is awarding grants to people who are working to start a community action project or program and need money to put their ideas to work. Grants up to \$500 are given every week to help young people. Eligibility is open for applicants who are 25 years of age or younger and a U.S. or Canadian citizen. Click the image on the left to learn more about this grant.

### Jump Rope for Heart Grant Program



The American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD) is accepting applications for its Jump Rope for Heart program. The purpose of the program is to enable organizations that have held a Jump Rope for Heart or Hoops for Heart events in the previous year to purchase equipment to improve their physical education opportunities for children, receive the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE) quality

Physical Education (PE) package, continue membership with AAHPERD and attend the AAHPERD National Convention and Exposition.

### CVS-Community Grants Program



The CVS Caremark Community Grant program awards funds to organizations targeting children with disabilities. Projects will focus on healthcare to the uninsured and underserved and to public schools. Grants of up to \$5,000 will be awarded to nonprofits for programs targeting children under age 21 with disabilities that address health and rehabilitation services or enabling and encouraging physical movement and play. Organizations applying must have a CVS pharmacy store located within the state where the community organization resides.

### APHA Public Health Newswire



The American Public Health Association (APHA) has launched the "Public Health Newswire." This online portal will provide public health news, opinion and exchange. To read more click the APHA logo.

### OSTLTS Performance Improvement Managers Network



The Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support (OSTLTS) Performance Improvement Managers Network provides monthly webinars on performance management. The webinars are, "designed to support and facilitate training and professional development of the NPHII grantee performance improvement managers. The calls are a venue for a variety of topics that are developed and selected based on the needs of the PIM Network membership and will include topics such as experiences with performance improvement offices, accreditation, performance management and quality improvement." To learn more about the monthly webinars click the image to the left.

### ASPH and Partners Release Undergraduate Public Health Learning Outcomes Model



The Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH) and their partners have developed "The Learning Outcomes Model Version 1.0." The model is designed to facilitate the introduction of general public health for all undergraduate students in two- and four-year colleges and universities. This version represents public health knowledge, concepts and skills that can be integrated into a wide variety of curricular and co-curricular undergraduate educational opportunities. It seeks to enable students to become more active participants in their own and their community's health. To learn more click the ASPH logo.

### CDC Releases Data on Distracted Driving



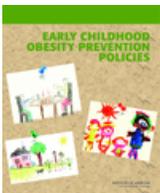
The CDC reports that nearly 15 people die each day in the United States in crashes that involve distracted driving and another 1,200 people are injured. Distracted driving involves driving while doing another activity that takes your attention away from driving. Texting while driving is especially dangerous because it combines visual, manual and cognitive distractions. Driving while distracted is serious and life-threatening, not just to you and your passengers, but also to others on the road. To see more of this report click the image of the distracted driver.

### Office of Minority Health Releases National Plan for Action to End Health Disparities Toolkit



The National Partnership for Action (NPA) Toolkit for Community Action provides community members information and resources to engage communities and local media as they educate others about the impact disparities have in the lives of individuals and society. Click the NPA logo to learn more.

### Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Policies



Even the youngest children in the United States are at risk of becoming obese. Today, almost 10 percent of infants and toddlers carry excess weight for their length and slightly more than 20 percent of children between the ages of two and five are already overweight or obese. Because early obesity can track into adulthood, efforts to prevent obesity should begin long before a child enters school. Click on the book cover to read about this on-line resource.

### PHSSR Inside Track e-Newsletter



The Public Health Systems and Services Research (PHSSR), is a study that examines the organization, financing and delivery of public health services in communities and the impact of these services on public health. This three section e-newsletter typically includes a recent selection of PubMed search results relevant to PHSSR, general PHSSR news and a feature of one of the Center's mini-grantees. To learn more about PHSSR click the PubMed logo above.

### New Immunization Video Collection from NACCHO



A new National Association of County and City Health Officers (NACCHO) webpage gathers many short vaccination videos that cover issues such as influenza, pertussis, adolescent immunization and personal stories about vaccine-preventable diseases. One story is "Stay Healthy America!" with Elmo and Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius. Click on the image to view the stories.

### APHA's Get Ready Video Contest



To help spread the word about preparedness, students in sixth through 12th grade, the American Public Health Association (APHA) "Get Ready" campaign is holding a video contest for students. The video contest is to raise awareness about emergency preparedness. Submit a video and you can win up to \$500. Submissions are due Oct. 14. To learn more click the APHA logo.

### New Community Health Assessment and Health Reform NACCHO Webpage



Provisions of the Affordable Care Act require each non-profit hospital facility in the United States to conduct a community health needs assessment (CHNA) and adopt an implementation strategy to meet identified community health needs. In conducting the CHNA, non-profit hospitals are required to take into account input from persons who represent the broad interests of the community served, including those with special knowledge of or expertise in public health.

NACCHO is committed to helping local health departments (LHDs) strategically align their community health assessment efforts with other assessment initiatives such as those of non-profit hospitals. The Community Health Assessment and Health Reform webpage provides information to help LHDs and non-profit hospitals conduct collaborative community health assessment and improvement processes. Click the NACCHO logo to access the new webpage.

### Enhancing Communication and Collaboration



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has developed two new products designed specifically to enhance communication and collaboration with state, tribal, local and territorial (STLT) health agencies. These new products resulted from surveys conducted with STLT health agencies on how to improve communication with and navigation of CDC. The STLT Gateway is a one-stop shop; all content on the site is tailored to or has been requested by the STLT community. CDC is continually working to ensure the site includes information that matters to and is needed by health departments. The Facebook page will allow STLT colleagues to engage with CDC and each other in open, real-time conversations. Click the CDC logo to view the STLT Public Health Gateway website and the [CDC STLT Connection Facebook page](#).

### Job Openings

#### Johnson County Health Department

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

- [Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner \(ARNP\) #MNH222222](#)
- [CRI Coordinator #PBH082511](#)



#### Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department

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

- [Public Health Nurse](#)



#### Sedgwick County Health Department

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

- [Community Health Nurse II](#)



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### Shawnee County Health Agency

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

- [Licensed Practical Nurse](#)
- [Medical Director/Health Officer](#)

#### Public Health Connections Information

To receive the monthly E-Newsletter

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

Previous issues of Public Health Connections maybe found at

[www.kdheks.gov/olrh/LHD\\_ConnectEditor.htm](http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/LHD_ConnectEditor.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)