



# PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

September - 2013 Volume 13, Issue 9

Bureau of Community Health Systems

Robert Moser, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

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**Governor Declares September “Kansas Preparedness Month”**

*by the Office of Communications, KDHE*



*General Tafanelli talks emergency preparedness kits with Governor Brownback and Dr. Moser.*

To highlight the need for emergency preparedness in the home, workplace, schools and community, Gov. Sam Brownback signed a proclamation Thursday designating September as “Kansas Preparedness Month.” The signing took place in the governor’s ceremonial office in the Kansas Capitol.

“I’m urging every Kansan to take a few simple steps this month to ensure they are prepared for any emergency that may arise,” said Brownback. “Take a little time to assemble a basic home emergency kit. You don’t have to do it all at once; add just a couple of items every month or so. Then make an emergency plan and practice it with your family. The steps you take now can make a big difference if you’re faced with a major emergency.”

Joining the governor at the ceremony were Maj. Gen. Lee Tafanelli, the adjutant general and director of the Kansas Division of Emergency Management; Col. Ernest Garcia, superintendent of the Kansas Highway Patrol; and Robert Moser, M.D., secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

“I hope that families, individuals and businesses will take advantage of this reminder by conducting inventory of their emergency kits and revisiting their response plans,” said Moser. “The storms we had this past winter are perfect examples of why preparedness is essential to our safety and wellbeing. This is also the time of year to prepare for the upcoming influenza season by getting your annual flu vaccine. The vaccine is the best way to avoid getting the flu.”

The proclamation signing was also an opportunity for Fred the Preparedness Dog to meet with the Governor and state officials to help promote emergency preparedness in Kansas. Fred, a two-year-old German Sheppard, is the live mascot for an educational campaign by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment Preparedness Program. KDHE and Fred work together to increase family and pet preparedness for all types of emergencies. The campaign is a mixture of personal appearances by Fred at various community events, occasional television and radio interviews, visits to schools and health preparedness education materials (with Fred’s cartoon caricature) in the form of activity books and a series of trading cards. Fred also has his own Facebook and Twitter accounts, which are maintained by his owner, Michael McNulty, KDHE’s emergency operations director. Fred’s activities are a portion of the work conducted under a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Hospital Preparedness Program and Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program.



*Fred the Preparedness Dog, alongside owner Mike McNulty, with Governor Brownback and Dr. Moser.*

Learn to build a kit and make a plan with your family by clicking the images above.

## Move Across Kansas



*by the Office of Communications, KDHE*

Kick off September right by staying active and enjoying the great outdoors. Whether you're taking advantage of the last few chances to go swimming or gearing up for football season by throwing the pigskin around, don't forget to record your activity on the site. Physical activity entries can be recorded for up to seven days into the past. As the tools on the site will be available year round, it's never too late to register and begin logging your time! Log in or register at [www.moveacrosskansas.ks.gov](http://www.moveacrosskansas.ks.gov). Questions and feedback for Move Across Kansas can be sent to [info@kdheks.gov](mailto:info@kdheks.gov).

## Kansas Health Matters iPad Giveaway



*by the Office of Communications, KDHE*

Everyone working in community health wears many hats. There often is not much time to share experiences and insights with others. Showcasing your work at the state and national level can help your community get visibility and improve community health services in Kansas.

Kansas Health Matters would like to increase the number of Kansas Promising Practices featured on the Kansas Health Matters website and share Kansas public health work with similar websites through the Healthy Communities Institute's (HCI) database of promising practices.

The Promising Practices database provides a collection of programs, practices and policies aimed at improving community health and quality of life. The database provides carefully reviewed, documented and ranked practices that range from good ideas to evidence-based practices.

If you would like to submit a promising practice and enter the iPad Giveaway, please review the Guidelines for Submitting Promising Practices and then complete the Promising Practice Submission form by clicking the Kansas Health Matters logo. All promising practices entered will be entered into the iPad Giveaway. If you need assistance submitting a Promising Practice, contact Sarah Hurd, Kansas Health Institute at 785-233-5443.

Upon submission of your promising practice, research staff at the Healthy Communities Institute will review it for inclusion in the database. If it meets criteria, it will be posted to all community sites. If it does not meet HCI criteria, Kansas Health Matters will make a final determination about including the program to the website. Either way, you will be entered for the iPad Giveaway.

Individuals or organizations may enter. Your name or organization will be entered for each promising practice that is submitted, so please enter all of your promising practices. Individuals and partner organizations of the Kansas Partnership for Improving Community Health are not eligible.

Individuals or organizations may enter their promising practices through Sept. 13. A drawing of all entries will take place at the Kansas Public Health Association conference on Sept. 18-19 in Wichita. You do not need to be present to win.

## Register Today for the 2013 Kansas Public Health Association Fall Conference - Sept. 17-19



*by the KPHA Conference Committee*

Registration is still open for the 70th Annual Kansas Public Health Association Fall Conference to be held at the Hyatt Regency, Wichita, Sept. 17-19. Conference sessions will focus on "Integrating Systems for Health: A Shared Vision."

Keynote presentations include:

- Integrating Primary Care and Public Health: Why Take This Road and What Will It Take?
- Disseminating Lessons Learned in Public Health
- The FDA Center for Tobacco Products: Its Role in Reducing Tobacco Use
- Fred's BARK – Bringing Awareness to Reach Kids

This program has been approved for (5.7) contact hours for Day One of the Conference; (4.7) for Day Two of the conference and (5.4) for those nurses and social workers who attend one of the optional pre-sessions.

Registration for this event is online through KS-Train at <http://ks.train.org>, course ID 1045013. If you have any questions, please contact the [WSU Conference Office](mailto:WSU_Conference_Office) at or by phone at 316-978-6493. Click on the KPHA logo to view the conference brochure.

## 2013 Walk to School Day

*by Daina Hodges, Safe Kids Kansas  
Bureau of Health Promotion, KDHE*



It's time to start planning your 2013 Walk to School Day celebrations! This year, Walk to School Day is Oct. 9. Walk to School Day is a great opportunity to encourage students to build physical activity into their day and teach them how to be safe pedestrians.

For ideas and information to plan your event click the Walk to School Day and Walk Bike to School logos. Complete the Safe Kids Kansas sign-up sheet for your school and you may receive reflective zipper pulls for students. Register early as quantities are limited and sent out on a first-come basis.

Schools that register for Walk to School Day through Safe Kids Kansas will automatically be registered with the Walk to School Day web site. Click here to [register your school](#) to join Safe Kids Kansas.



### Kansas City Area Supports International Walk to School Day - Oct. 9

*by Eric Rogers, Executive Director  
BikeWalkKC & Kansas City B-cycle*



[International Walk to School Day](#) is coming up on Oct. 9. This world-wide celebration highlights events, programs and infrastructure improvements to make it safer and easier for kids to walk and bike to school. Click on the Walk to School KC logo for details on local celebrations in Greater Kansas City. Schools can register their events and parents can make a pledge to walk to school with their kids.

There will be a school professional workshop, Sept. 12, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for teachers, school administrators, transportation directors and other school personnel to get the tools and ideas to implement Safe Routes to School programs and infrastructure improvements. On Sept. 26, 6 to 8 p.m. a community workshop will be held for parents, care givers and community members. Learn what is working in local neighborhoods and around the country such as Walking School Buses, Bike Trains, crosswalk improvements and more.

Local Kansas City area celebrations of International Walk to School Day are led by the Mid America Regional Council (MARC), BikeWalkKC, the Kansas City Missouri Health Department and many local partners, schools and community members.

### Fred the Preparedness Dog Activities Highlighted During National Preparedness Month 2013

*from the ASTHO Website*



Over the years many efforts have been made to target the at-risk population of children, between the ages of five and twelve, and families to gain and keep their interest in preparedness activities. Programs must develop campaigns that speak to the kids in a manner that engages them without making the information scary or talking above or below them.

Fred the Preparedness Dog is a health and preparedness education campaign by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Preparedness Program that utilizes a two-year-old German Shepherd Dog as a mascot. Fred's work specifically targets children and families but has gained the attention of a wide range of community groups. Fred's campaign is a mixture of personal appearances at various community events in Kansas, visits to schools, social media such as Facebook (click image of Fred) and Twitter, [@FredPrepDog](#), health preparedness education materials (with Fred's cartoon caricature) in the form of activity books and a series of trading cards and occasional television and radio appearances.

Since March 2013, when the program was officially launched, Fred has provided over 1,000 personal interactions with individuals, has over 180 Facebook "Likes" to his page and appeared in a special television news report focusing on his efforts to prepare children for emergency events. Fred's Facebook page or posts has likes in Kansas, Georgia, California, Massachusetts, Colorado, Texas, Montana, Nebraska, Utah, Illinois, Connecticut, Missouri, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Panama and Australia. Fred has been invited to provide closing remarks at both the Kansas Preparedness Summit and the Kansas Public Health Association's Annual Meeting.

When Fred the preparedness dog enters a school the kids cheer in anticipation for what's coming next. The program's success is demonstrated in a Fred event documented by a news story. A kindergartener had been interviewed by the news reporter after the visit and in the course of that interview he stated that Fred informed him of the importance in having a bag full of the things you'll need in an emergency and to take shelter during

storms. This speaks to Fred's impact on children and the successful work he is doing to develop a culture of preparedness in Kansas and with those he meets.

This program was developed and is administered by Fred's owner, Michael McNulty, emergency operations director with the KDHE Preparedness Program. To contact Fred email [FredPreparedness@kdheks.gov](mailto:FredPreparedness@kdheks.gov) or call 785-291-3065.

### **Kansas Special Health Care Needs and CPRF Hold Outreach Clinics**



*by Heather Smith, Director for Special Health Services Section  
Bureau of Family Health, KDHE*

The Kansas Special Health Care Needs (SHCN) program is partnering with the Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation (CPRF) to hold outreach seating clinics in Garden City, Hays and Salina. These include both consultation and evaluation appointments for children and youth in need of seating supports and services.

Please note the various dates and opportunities available in your community and share with consumers in your area. Individuals may contact David Sierra at the Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation at 316-651-5211 for an appointment. Questions can be directed to CPRF or to the SHCN Program at 1-800-332-6262.

Garden City - Southwest Development Services, Inc., 1808 Palace Drive, Suite C

- Sept. 25, 2013 - Evaluation Day
- March 26, 2014 - Consultation Day
- April 23, 2014 - Evaluation Day

Salina - OCCK, Inc., 1710 W. Schilling Road

- Oct. 23, 2013 - Consultation Day
- Nov. 27, 2013 - Evaluation Day

Hays - LINK, Inc., 2401 E 13th Street

- Jan. 22, 2014 - Consultation Day
- Feb. 26, 2014 - Evaluation Day

### **News from the Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics**

*by the Office of Communications*

The Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics has posted a, "Toolkit for the Prevention of Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) in Organized Sports," document to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) website, <http://www.kdheks.gov/epi/>. Look for the link to the Toolkit on the left hand side of the web page.

Cumulative case reports of notifiable diseases by county are updated each week and posted to the KDHE website at [http://www.kdheks.gov/epi/case\\_reports\\_by\\_county.htm](http://www.kdheks.gov/epi/case_reports_by_county.htm).

### **Kansas Student Nurse Public Health Orientation Kansas TRAIN Courses**

*by Office of Local Public Health Section  
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*



School is back in session and many local health departments will host student nurses from time to time for community and public health experience.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Local Public Health Program has compiled a short list of suggested courses which are maintained on KS-TRAIN and available to the public that could be offered to students when they are in local agencies and have a few minutes of "down" time. They would also provide a nice introduction to public health.

To view the document, click on the KDHE Bureau of Community Health Systems logo for the list of courses.

### **Kansas City, Missouri Health Department Receives National Accreditation**



*by News from City Hall, City Communications Office  
City of Kansas City, MO*

The City of Kansas City, MO., Health Department is one of the first in the U.S. to receive accreditation and the first in the four-state region of Missouri, Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska.

The Kansas City Health Department was accredited by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) and was one of 20 to be awarded this new distinction out of hundreds of health departments across the country that are preparing to seek accreditation. The accreditation board sets standard goals for more than 3,000 public health

departments, requiring a strict, multi-faceted peer-reviewed process. The Kansas City Health Department spent about three years working on improvements and gathering documentation to earn the distinction.

"Our accreditation demonstrates increased accountability, quality of performance and credibility to the public, funders, elected officials and our partners," said Rex Archer, MD, MPH, Health Department director. "When you see our seal of accreditation, you will know the Kansas City, Mo., Health Department has been rigorously examined and meets or exceeds national standards, ensuring that we meet the public health needs of those we serve as effectively as possible."

Mayor Sly James also commented on the news. "I am very proud, but not surprised, to hear about this designation for our City's health department," he said. "Our City's public health programming and the staff who implement those programs, are top notch. I'm happy that the department is publicly recognized in this manner and appreciate the dedication of each employee who make it the tremendous resource that it is."

PHAB is jointly supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. PHAB sets standards against which the nation's more than 3,000 governmental public health departments can continuously improve the quality of their services.

More information on the Health Department click the City of Kansas City, MO. logo.

## Funding Opportunities

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

### Understanding and Promoting Health Literacy - Deadline Sept. 25



The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)/Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality/National Institutes of Health invites applications to develop research on health literacy in general areas that include, but are not limited to, the following: Nature and Scope, Lifespan and Cultural Differences, Mediators and Moderators of Health Literacy: Protective and Risk Factors, Impacts and Consequences of Limited Health Literacy, Education and Training, Health Systems Interventions and Methodology, and Research Technology Development.

Deadline is Sept. 25 and it should be noted that some steps in the application process can take several weeks to complete. For more information click the HHS logo.

### Baseball Tomorrow Fund - Deadline Oct. 1



The Baseball Tomorrow Fund (BTF) is a joint initiative between Major League Baseball (MLB) and the Major League Baseball Players Association (MLBPA). The fund awards grants to organizations involved in the operation of youth baseball and softball programs and facilities. The Kansas City Royals will fund new program, tangible items, one-time capital expenses or special supplies or purchases. The average amount per grant is \$5,000. To learn more click the Royals logo.

### CVS Caremark Community Grants - Deadline Oct. 31



The CVS Caremark Community Grants program awards funds to nonprofit organizations targeting children with disabilities under age 21, academic and enrichment programs at public schools and programs that provide access to quality health care services and health education for at risk and underserved populations of all ages. Grants of up to \$5,000 will be awarded to select applicants. Nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply.

Click the CVS Caremark logo to learn more.

### Sunflower Foundation New Funding for its Sunflower Trails Program - Deadline Nov. 1



The Sunflower Foundation: Health Care for Kansans announces a new Request for Proposals (RFPs) for the Sunflower Trails program, as well as a change in the submission process that should enhance the experience for all applicants. The trail funding initiative is designed to support the concept of the

"built environment" as a strategy to increase opportunities for outdoor physical activity and therefore reduce the prevalence of obesity. The foundation invites Kansas communities and schools to submit proposals for the development or improvement of trails. Further details about this RFP click the Sunflower Foundation logo.

### HealthierUS School Challenge Training Mini-Grants

*from the Kansas State Department of Education Child Nutrition and Wellness Newsletter*



The Kansas Health Foundation and the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE), Child Nutrition & Wellness Program are providing the opportunity for 50 schools to receive \$2,000 in training mini-grants to act as an incentive to apply for the HealthierUS School Challenge (HUSSC) and to help provide training to staff. Schools who choose to apply for the training mini-grant will commit to working towards applying for the HUSSC or advancing towards the next award level if already a recognized HUSSC award winning school over the next two school years. Using these funds schools can provide training opportunities to applicable staff (school foodservice, physical education teachers and staff involved in teaching nutrition education) that will assist the school in working towards meeting updated HUSSC criteria. For more information, including the application, go to the School Nutrition Programs, [What's New page](#) on the KSDE website or click the [HealthierUS School Challenge Training Mini Grant](#) title link.

### National Institutes of Health Grants

#### Developing Healthy Behaviors in Children and Adolescents - Ongoing



The Healthy Habits Small Grant Program funds research that identifies mechanisms of influence and/or promotes positive sustainable health behaviors in children and youth. Positive health behaviors may include practicing proper dental hygiene, eating a balanced diet and engaging in physical activity. Applications to promote these behaviors should target social and cultural factors such as schools, families and communities.

Awards of up to \$50,000 a year for two years will be available. Eligible organizations include public and private institutions of higher education, non-profit organizations, government agencies and faith-based or community-based organization. Contact the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for more information and to apply for funding by clicking the NIH logo.

#### Chronic Illness Self-Management in Children and Adolescents - Deadline Varies



The Chronic Illness Self-Management in Children and Adolescents grant program funds research to improve self-management and quality of life in children and adolescents, ages eight to 21, with chronic illnesses. Research related to sociocultural, environmental and behavioral mechanisms that contribute to successful and ongoing self-management of chronic illnesses in children is encouraged.

Awards of up to \$50,000 a year, for two years, are available. Eligible organizations include public and private institutions of higher education, nonprofits, for-profit organizations, government agencies at all levels and faith-based or community-based organizations. Click the NIH logo to learn more.

### Healthy Habits



MetLife Foundation supports projects to empower people to lead healthy, productive lives and strengthen communities. The Foundation makes grants in health, education, civic affairs and culture. Underlying the Foundation's programs is a focus on education at all ages and a commitment to increasing access and opportunity. The Healthy Habits program seeks to promote healthy habits and physical fitness for illness prevention, especially among children. Requests are accepted and reviewed throughout the year.

### Do Something Grants



American Express and dosomething.org provides grants of \$250-500 to spearhead national campaigns so 13 to 25 year-olds can make an impact. Applications are accepted on an on-going basis. To learn more click the Do Something logo.

# Training and Conference Announcements

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems



## Grant Writing Study at Home Eight Week Certificate Course - Sept. 11

Fort Hays State University (FHSU) is providing a grant writing course. This course involves thorough training in grant proposal writing, representing the core principles for writing small and large proposals to both public and private funding sources.

Dr. Keith Campbell has been teaching grant writing courses at Fort Hays State University for over 20 years and continues to be an active and successful grant writer, securing millions for a variety of clients.

Through the use of Blackboard, the online classroom system, interact with other students as you post progress, make comments and ask questions. There is no travel required. Cost for this eight week course is \$175, which includes the cost of the 100-page instruction manual as well as a training video. Also, earn 10 CEUs for completing the training. To register click the FHSU Tiger logo.

## KDHE Injury Prevention Grant - Sept. 13

Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is pleased to announce the opportunity for private or public non-profit community-based organizations, or units of local and state government to submit an application for an Injury Prevention Mini-Grant. This is a competitive grant process and applications are due no later than Friday, Sept. 13, by 5 p.m.

The purpose of this grant is to develop or enhance unintentional injury prevention interventions in the community. Awards will not exceed \$5,000.00 per community with all grants pending availability of funding.

Please review the attached Request for Proposal and application. Questions may be directed to Daina Hodges, Outreach Coordinator, Injury Prevention & Disability Programs, at 785-296-0351 or [dhodges@kdheks.gov](mailto:dhodges@kdheks.gov).

## ASTHO Annual Meeting - Sept. 18-20



The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) Annual Meeting and Policy Summit will be held in Orlando, Fla. on Sept. 18-20. This year's summit will present conversation to address strategic public health and leadership issues. For more information and how to register for this meeting, click the ASTHO logo.

## 2013 Kansas Built Environment and Outdoors Summit - Sept. 25-26



Register Today for the 2013 Kansas Built Environment and the Outdoors Summit, Sept. 25-26, at the Ramada Downtown Hotel & Convention Center, Topeka. Join a diverse group of health, recreation, environment and community advocates as they explore Healthy Places, Healthy People at the 7th Annual Kansas Built Environment and the Outdoors Summit (BEOS) sponsored by the Sunflower Foundation. Registration is now open for this statewide conference that focuses on the connection between the built environment and health. Learn how communities from across Kansas are enhancing their outdoor environment and making the healthy choice the easy choice.

This year's agenda addresses strategies around outdoor physical activity, access to local food and community engagement. Keynote presentations include researchers Paul and Ruth Ann Atchley from the University of Kansas, sharing their innovative work on how "hiking makes you smarter," and international journalist Jay Walljasper, who will inspire with lessons from around the world on "25 ways to improve your community."

Break-out sessions will explore ideas for helping rural grocery stores survive and thrive; success factors for a Farmers Market (from the farmers' point of view); and marketing strategies to promote "getting outdoors." In addition, the conference will feature the Funders Roundtable, off-site trail walks and case studies from Kansas success stories.

Conference attendees have the option of walking or biking to the evening social at Old Prairie Town and enjoying an onsite Farmers Market on the second day. Please join the Sunflower Foundation in this one-of-a-kind conference. For more information, a full conference agenda and registration details, click the Built Environment and the Outdoors Summit logo.

### Obesity Summit - Sept. 30



The Governor's Council on Fitness will hold the second annual Obesity Summit on Sept. 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Ramada Inn in Topeka. Additionally, summit coordinators are seeking a diversity of presentations that will be informative and relevant, encourage opportunities for learner engagement and/or demonstrate application of the project to address obesity. Click on the Kansas Governor's Council on Fitness logo to register.

### ASHA 2013 Annual School Health Conference - Oct. 9-12



The American School Health Association (ASHA) will be held Oct. 9-12 in Myrtle Beach, SC. The annual conference, "Charting a New Course for School Health," will provide school health professionals and interested stakeholders with stimulating workshops and speakers and opportunities to network with like-minded colleagues across the various school health disciplines. For more information and registration instructions click the ASHA logo.

### Governor's Water Conference - Oct. 24-25

*by Office of Communications, KDHE*



The Kansas Water Office (KWO) is excited to announce the Governor's Water Conference will be held Oct. 24-25 at the Hilton Garden Inn and Conference Center in Manhattan. The Governor's Conference on the Future of Water in Kansas will highlight the latest policy and research developments of water issues in Kansas. Many great speakers and topics are planned; a few are highlighted below.

Charles Fishman will be discussing the value of water. The author of two bestselling books: *The Big Thirst* and *The Wal-Mart Effect*, he speaks nationally on economic and social issues.

Pat Mulroy, who oversees the Las Vegas Valley Water District and Southern Nevada Water Authority, will talk on drought management.

Dr. James Stack, Director, of the Great Plains Diagnostic Network and Professor of Plant Pathology, Kansas State University, will speak on day two.

Day one includes topics such as drought resiliency and conservation, the value of water and meeting Kansas water needs. Day two will build on the water policy discussions from the previous day with technical presentation posters and talks.

Legislators, water managers, scientists, state, federal, city and county administrators as well as organizations, irrigators and citizens who share an interest in Kansas water resources are encouraged to attend.

Register now by clicking the KWO logo above. Registration deadline is Oct. 15. Conference details, brochure, speakers and sponsors can be found online as well.



### NICHHD SIDS Risk-Reduction Curriculum for Nurses



The National Institutes of Child Health and Human development (NICHD) is providing a free program that provides nurses with the most current and accurate information to communicate risk factors and answer parents' questions about Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). Nurses who successfully complete the course will earn 1.1 contact hours of continuing education credit. To learn more click on the NICHD logo.

### Kansas Public Health Grand Rounds Archived Sessions Available on TRAIN



*by the Local Health Program  
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the University of Kansas (KU) Medical Center's Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health and Area Health Education Centers are making available the *Kansas Public Health Grand Rounds series as Archived Webcasts* via TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org> for Kansas learners or [www.train.org](http://www.train.org) for national learners. Click the KU logo to download the archived grand round session information.



### Fall 2013 Kansas Public Health Grand Rounds

To learn more about the live Kansas Public Health Grand Round Sessions and how your organization can participate, click [here](#) or contact the University of Kansas Medical Center, Area Health Education Centers at 620-235-4040 or email at [ksphgr@kumc.edu](mailto:ksphgr@kumc.edu). Click the Jayhawk to view the announcement.

### EpiTrax Disease Surveillance System Modules Now Available on KS-TRAIN



The EpiTrax Disease Surveillance System Modules posted to KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org> via the EpiTrax Training Plan provide an introduction to the Kansas electronic surveillance system to help new users get started in EpiTrax and for the experienced user to refresh their skills and knowledge about the system. Twenty modules are included that represent five major areas; Security, Navigation of System, User Settings, Confidential Morbidity Report

(CMR)\*management and CMR\* Editing.

New users should complete modules one through six before attempting other modules. Modules seven, eight, nine, ten and those associated to CMR editing (Modules 11-20) are not useful unless CMR's have been created and assigned to the user's jurisdiction. Other users may wish to focus on more specific modules based on their experience with the system. Click the EpiTrax logo for the EpiTrax Training Plan information. Click the Kansas Department of Health and Environment logo to download the EpiTrax Manual for Users.



## News and Resources

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

### The Guide to Community Preventive Services



Also known as The Community Guide, this guide is a free resource for evidence-based recommendations and findings from The Community Preventive Services Task Force (Task Force), an independent, nonfederal, volunteer body of public health and prevention experts. The Task Force bases its recommendations and findings on systematic reviews of scientific literature. These reviews are conducted, with oversight from the Task Force, by scientists and subject matter experts from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in collaboration with a wide range of government, academic, policy and practice-based partners.

The Community Guide covers many health topics and types of interventions for behavior change, disease prevention and environmental change, and identifies where more research is needed and complements other decision support tools, such as [Healthy People 2020](#) and [The Guide to Clinical Preventive Services](#).

### September is National Preparedness Month



The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) invites you to join the National Preparedness Community and download the 2013 National Preparedness Month Toolkit. Click the FEMA National Preparedness community logo.

The National Preparedness Community is where more than 29,000 people connect and collaborate on emergency preparedness. You can join the community and use the Toolkit to empower yourself to prepare and coordinate activities with your family and neighbors during National Preparedness Month.

Here are the top 5 reasons to join:

- Download the 2013 National Preparedness Month Toolkit
- Get access to preparedness resources
- Promote your national preparedness event on the calendar
- Connect and build relationships with emergency management personnel
- Share and compare preparedness plans

[Join the National Preparedness Community Now!](#)

### New Report: Adult Obesity Rates Hold Steady but Remain High



The Trust for America's Health (TFAH) and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation released a press release that ranks Kansas at 14th in the country, with a rate of 29.9 percent for adult obesity. The report includes a growing set of strategies

that have improved health— but stresses that they are not yet implemented or funded at a level to reduce obesity trends significantly. The news release includes key recommendations regarding strategies that should be taken to scale. Click the TFAH logo to read more on this press release.

### Human Papillomavirus Vaccination Coverage Among Adolescent Girls, 2007-2012

Human Papillomavirus Vaccination (HPV) vaccination coverage has lagged behind other vaccines recommended for adolescents. In the report from the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) asking parents who did not intend to vaccinate their daughters in the next 12 months the response for the top five responses were as follows:



- 19.1 percent - vaccine not needed
- 14.2 percent - vaccine not recommended
- 13.1 percent - vaccine safety concerns
- 12.6 percent - lack of knowledge about the vaccine or the disease
- 10.1 percent - daughter is not sexually active

To read more about this report click on the image above.

### Support for Complete Smoking Ban Increases to 22 Percent



A report from the Gallup® Wellbeing shows that more Americans want to ban smoking outright: 22 percent say so today, up from 12 percent in 2007. Though support is growing, the percentage of Americans wanting to ban smoking entirely remains relatively low. The same survey finds that Americans' attitudes toward the harmfulness of smoking and secondhand smoke have remained relatively stable over the past decade, with 82 percent now saying smoking is "very harmful" to adults. Another 13 percent deem it somewhat harmful, while 4 percent see it as not too or not at all harmful. To read more about their findings, click the Gallup Wellbeing logo.

### U.S. Breastfeeding Rates Continue to Rise



Breastfeeding rates have continued to rise over the past decade, according to [data](#) released today by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The percent of babies breastfeeding at six months increased from 35 percent in [2000](#) to 49 percent in [2010](#). The percent of babies breastfeeding at 12 months also increased from 16 percent to 27 percent during that same time period. The data show that babies who started breastfeeding increased from 71 percent in 2000 to 77 percent in 2010. To read more about this press release click the CDC logo.

### New Prevention Infographic by APHA and Public Health Institute



The Public Health Institute (PHI) and the American Public Health Association recently released a new infographic called "Prevention Means Business" that illustrates how disease prevention and health promotion efforts in the workplace can help improve a company's bottom line. Click the PHI logo to learn more and to download the infographic.

### Improving Awareness as States Gear Up for Health Exchanges



An article from the Americans Public Health Association's (APHA), *Nation's Health*, polls find widespread public confusion about the Affordable Care Act, which could spell trouble as insurance marketplaces are expected to begin open enrollment in October. A Kaiser Family Foundation poll released in April found that about half the public said they did not have enough information to understand how the health reform law will affect their families, with even higher rates among uninsured and low-income households. And four in 10 Americans were unaware that the Affordable Care Act is still law.

Efforts are underway to prepare Americans for the start of open enrollment in the marketplaces. The state marketplaces are designed to be one-stop shops where people can shop for and buy insurance and find out if

they qualify for subsidies, Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program. Among those working to raise awareness is APHA, which is providing information advocates can use to educate their communities about the health reform law. Vanessa Forsberg, MPP, APHA public health policy analyst, said public health workers will be critical to raising public awareness.

### **KDHE Preparedness Healthcare Coalitions**

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment Preparedness Program has created a Kansas Preparedness Healthcare Coalition webpage on the [KSPrepared.com](http://KSPrepared.com) website.

The webpage contains the following information:

- About Kansas Preparedness Healthcare Coalitions;
- Kansas Healthcare Coalition Map;
- Kansas Statewide Healthcare Coalition Steering Committee (HCC) overview and meeting minutes;
- Kansas Specific Healthcare Coalition Resources; and
- Kansas Healthcare Coalition Program Measures.

### **FDA Takes Step to Help Ensure the Safety of Imported Food**



The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued two proposed rules aimed at ensuring that imported food meets the same safety standards as food produced in the United States. These proposals are part of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) approach to modernizing the food safety system for the 21st century. FSMA focuses on preventing food safety problems, rather than relying primarily on responding to problems after the fact. The FDA encourages Americans to review and comment on these important proposed rules. To learn more click the FDA logo.

### **MERS-CoV Infection Changes**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently provided [updated guidance](#) on who should be tested for Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV) infection, as well as information on changes to CDC's "probable case" definition and what specimens should be obtained when testing for MERS-CoV.

### **Reporting Requirements for Not-for-Profit Hospitals**



The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) [released](#) a final rule outlining new reporting requirements for not-for-profit hospitals. The final rule specifies the time frame in which hospitals must pay penalties if they fail to meet the Affordable Care Act's requirement to conduct regular community health needs assessments. Hospitals that fail to perform the assessment to IRS specifications every three years face a \$50,000 fine and loss of tax exempt status.

### **Survey Report on Coordinated Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Program**



The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) recently [released a survey report](#) outlining the FY 2013 Coordinated Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Program funding allocations' impact on chronic disease programs across the country. To collect the information, NACDD sent a survey to the nation's chronic disease directors to collect pertinent information related to chronic disease funding and related programs. Respondents were asked to describe any positive or negative impact the 2013 allocations will have on associated programs. The report should be useful in educating members of Congress about the impact these cuts will have on their states and provide them with the best information as they consider future funding decisions.

### **Funding Cuts on Healthy Homes and Childhood Lead Prevention Programs**



The National Center for Healthy Housing (NCHH) released [survey results](#) July that document the significant impact of federal public health funding cuts on Healthy Homes and childhood lead prevention programs, including the elimination of 57 percent of programs nationwide. Congress reduced the budget for the CDC Healthy Homes/Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Programs from \$29 million in FY11 to \$2 million in FY12, effectively eliminating grants to state and local health departments for lead poisoning prevention. In response to the budget cuts, NCHH conducted an online survey to gauge the impact of the loss of this funding. Based on responses from 22 state programs, the survey showed that more than half of the positions funded by CDC grants have been either eliminated or shifted to other duties due to the federal budget cuts. The positions lost include those focused on

preventing lead poisoning, providing services to children who have already been exposed to lead and enforcing state and local laws that require homes to be made lead-safe.

### CDC Stacks



CDC Stacks is a free digital repository of CDC publications on a broad range of public health topics. The documents are available to public health professionals and researchers, as well as the general public. Visitors can search the full text of all documents, browse journal articles by public health subject and explore curated collections of more than 16,500 articles and documents on relevant topics. Collections of articles include "Guidelines and Recommendations," "Emerging Infectious Diseases," "Reproductive Health Surveys," "Influenza Surveillance Reports," and more. Additional collections and ongoing additions to existing collections are planned for the future. [Visit CDC Stacks](#).

### ASTHO has Redesigned Tobacco Control Webpage



The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) has redesigned its Tobacco Control web page, which features new resources geared toward state health agencies. [Comprehensive Tobacco Control: Guide for State and Territorial Health Officials](#) provides the basic framework that guides state-level tobacco control policies and programs, reviews the current evidence base that supports the framework and highlights examples from states. [Smoking Cessation Strategies for Women Before, During and After Pregnancy: Recommendations for State and Territorial Health Agencies](#) discusses recommendations such as promoting awareness of cessation benefits and treatment through media campaigns targeting women during childbearing years; extending pregnancy-specific and postpartum specific quitline services to women during and after pregnancy; including Women, Infants and Children sites as points for intervening with pregnant and postpartum women; and highlights examples from states.

### 2012 Kansas Infant Mortality Findings



The 2012 Kansas infant mortality findings and a discussion on the statistics were published in a research brief by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics. The number of infant deaths to Kansas residents increased from 247 in year 2011 to 254 in 2012. This resulted in an infant mortality rate of 6.3 per 1,000 live births. This is slightly higher than the rate of 6.2 in 2011, which was the lowest infant mortality rate in Kansas since the first records of 1912. The leading causes of infant deaths in Kansas are prematurity or low birth weight, birth defects, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) or suffocation in bed and maternal complications of pregnancy. The 2012 research brief can be found online by clicking on the KDHE logo.

### Job Openings

#### Harvey County Health Department

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

- [Community Health Nurse](#)



#### Johnson County Health Department

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

- [Women's and Men's Health Program Supervisor](#)



#### Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Bureau of Community Health Systems



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Bureau of Community Health Systems, Local Public Health Program is recruiting to fill the position of Public Health Specialist. This individual will support activities that further local and state public health workforce development through data collection, training, outreach and educational implementation. The position will also function to design and disseminate programs, projects, and objectives within the Local Public Health program providing technical assistance, training, and support to communities and local health departments for successful implementation of core public health functions, including community assessment and other steps toward public health accreditation and will provide technical assistance for quality assurance and quality improvement activities, programs and procedures.

Prefer educational and professional experience in public health programs, administration and/or public health nursing. Position requisition number is 175224 and is open until filled. See details and how to apply by clicking the KDHE logo above.

### Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department

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

- [Health Promotion Specialist](#)



### Lyon County Health Department

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

- [Outreach Enrollment Specialist](#)



### Reno County Health Department

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

- [Public Health Nurse](#)



### Riley County Health Department

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

- [Breastfeeding Counselor - WIC](#)
- [HIV/AIDS Case Manager](#)



### Sedgwick County Health Department

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

- [Community Health Educator](#)
- [Health Promotion and Fetal Infant Mortality Review \(FIMR\) Manager](#)
- [Registered Dietician/Registered Nurse - WIC](#)



### Shawnee County Health Agency

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

- [Fetal Infant Mortality Review Coordinator/Abstractor](#)
- [Licensed Practical Nurse](#)
- [Physician](#)
- [Registered Nurse](#)
- [Social Worker-MSW](#)



### Wyandotte County Health Department

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

- [Nurse Practitioner](#)
- [Program Aide](#)
- [Program Coordinator](#)



## Kansas Department of Health and Environment Program Newsletters

[Epi Updates Newsletter](#)

[KanCare Advisor](#)

[Kansas Environmental News](#)

[Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program](#)

[Newborn Screening Newsletter](#)

[ZIPS Newsletter - Bureau of Family Health/Children and Families](#)

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To receive the monthly E-Newsletter

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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)