



# PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

October – 2011 Volume 11, Issue 10

Bureau of Community Health Systems

Robert Moser, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

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### KPHA Awards Public Health Honors

*by Bureau of Community Health Systems*



The 68th Annual Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA) Fall Conference was held Sept. 21-22 at the Hyatt Regency in Wichita.

This year’s KPHA Award winners were:

Samuel J Crumbine Medal was awarded to Suzanne Reid Hawley, PhD, MPH, for her passionate dedication to improving the public health of Kansans through workforce and leadership development. Dr. Hawley has developed a national reputation for research and service in the field and is also a highly accomplished instructor.

The Special Service Award was given to Judy Seltzer, RN, BS, MSHCA, Reno County

Health Department Administrator, for her leadership and dedication to public health and her many years to Reno County and the State of Kansas.

A Special Service Award was also given to Elizabeth Ablah, PhD, MPH, Assistant Professor at the University of Kansas Preventative Medicine – Wichita for her numerous public health research projects and teaching in both the Master of Public Health and the Master of Science in clinical research programs. Dr. Ablah supervises an unprecedented number of student capstone projects and in recent years, has lead research efforts into the City of Wichita's environmental landscape.

The Dorothy Woodin Award was given to Lillian Akings, BSN, MSN, Barton County Health Department Administrator, for her contributions to public health nursing. Akings has been instrumental in the development of policies, systems and environmental changes that have impacted the county and the state.

Aiko Allen, MS, Director of the Center for Health Equity for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) was given the Virginia Lockhart Health Education award. Allen works closely with Kansas communities to support awareness of health disparities. This often includes tasks as diverse as providing data, assisting with program planning and conducting evaluations. Because of her cultural sensitivity, Allen is trusted by the state's tribal communities as a liaison and advisor on community-based health education strategies.

The 2011 Corporate Public Health Service Award was given to Sanofi Pasteur for their long-term support of public health and educational efforts. Their vision "A world in which on one suffers or dies for a vaccine-preventable disease," resonates with KPHA member's vision as public health practitioners.

Eldonna Chesnut, RN, BSN, MSN, Division Director of Adult and Child Care Facilities for the Johnson County Health Department, received the President's Award. This position requires her to work closely with KDHE and the Kansas Department on Aging in monitoring all elderly and child care facilities in Johnson County. Chesnut is dedicated to improving public health across the lifespan in Kansas.



### In the Spotlight – Neosho County Meltdown

*by Stephanie Henry*

*Neosho County Health Department*



Earlier this year, Neosho County Health Department (NCHD) began a new community program called, "Neosho County Meltdown," meant to provide their community with the tools to become healthier and more active. Over a nine week period, the program encouraged residents to join together and improve their health and fitness levels.

The Meltdown program focused on three key elements. First, the program encouraged participants to get moving through walking groups and group fitness classrooms. Second, was to learn healthy eating habits through nutrition and cooking classes. Third, was accountability via weekly weigh-ins and waste measurements. NCHD also offered weigh-in sites throughout the County at eight different locations to better accommodate participants.

The registration was significantly lower than a gym membership and included a T-shirt and access to fitness classes.

Results from the program have been outstanding and, as one participant stated, "It was a personal journey to weight loss. Knowing that there were other residents of Neosho County focusing on improving their health seemed to make the journey easier." Here are the results by the numbers:

- 62 participants.
- Participants lost an average of 12.6 pounds and several recorded a 20 pound weight loss during the nine week journey.
- 15 percent of participants attended weekly fitness classes, which included Walkfit, strength training with resistance bands and Turbo Jam, a cardio kickboxing class.

Social media sites like Facebook and a NCHD blog helped participants stay updated on events and provide motivation to the participants.

Due to the overwhelming success from the first session, a second session started last month and is currently beating all previous records. Total weight loss after the first week was 83.5 pounds and over 38 inches. The second session is also a joint effort with Allen, Bourbon, Crawford, Wilson and Woodson Counties with the focus to unify the health departments in their efforts to improve the health of participants and promoting a more active lifestyle.

NCHD and its partners are combining their passion to engage the community in becoming more active, healthier and happier. They have described their commitment and public health focus to change lives, "one heart at a time, one family at a time."

If you have any questions about the program, please contact Stephanie Henry at 620-431-5770.

### In the Spotlight – Bureau of Community Health Systems (BCHS)

*by Michael McNulty, Director of Homeland Security Operations  
BCHS, KDHE*

On Aug. 22, the Preparedness Program within BCHS was visited by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Preparedness Program Project Officer Candice Jackson. The site visit provided an opportunity to review how Kansas responded to the 2009 H1N1 Influenza A Pandemic and discuss the 2011-12 Preparedness Program cooperative agreement. Accompanying Candice were Mark Green, CDC Preparedness Team Lead and Mark Frank from CDC's Influenza Coordinating Unit.



"Official site visits from our federal funders foster a thorough review of programmatic activities and management," said Mindee Reece, BCHS Director. "It's a great learning opportunity for all parties involved and a good way to document best practices and identify areas in need of improvement."

During the site visit, the CDC site visitors toured and met with staff at the Shawnee County Health Agency, Kansas Health and Environmental Laboratories, Kansas Division of Emergency Management and Kansas Association of Local Health Departments. Most of these discussions related to how the pandemic response went at the local health department, laboratory and state emergency operations center levels. The site visit also included various meetings with KDHE Preparedness staff to discuss planning, training, exercising and partnerships.

During the site visit exit interview with Preparedness and KDHE leadership staff, very positive feedback from the CDC was provided about all items covered during the site visit. A formal, final report from the CDC will be forthcoming.

### Safe Kids Kansas Celebrates 20 Years

*by Cherie Sage, Safe Kids Kansas  
Bureau of Health Promotion, KDHE*



Safe Kids Kansas, Inc. is a nonprofit coalition of over 70 statewide organizations, agencies, businesses and local coalitions dedicated to preventing accidental injuries to Kansas children ages 0-14. Safe Kids Kansas is a member of Safe Kids Worldwide, a global network of organizations whose mission is to prevent accidental childhood injury. The lead agency for Safe Kids Kansas is KDHE.

Safe Kids Kansas is celebrating 20 years of preventing childhood injuries to Kansas kids and wants to invite you to the party. Join Safe Kids Kansas on Fri., Oct. 14th, for an evening of wonderful food, entertainment and company. The 20th anniversary event will be held at the Topeka Civic Theatre and Academy (TCTA) in Topeka, beginning with dinner at 6:30 P.M. followed by a presentation and special performance by Laughing Matters, TCTA's own improvisational comedy troupe. Tickets are \$40 per person and may be purchased through the Safe Kids Kansas office or on their web site by clicking the Safe Kids logo. A portion of each ticket sale is tax deductible. Contact Cherie Sage at 785-296-1223, [csage@kdheks.gov](mailto:csage@kdheks.gov) or Daina Hodges at 785-296-0351, [dhodges@kdheks.gov](mailto:dhodges@kdheks.gov).

**Happy Halloween**



### **Kansas System for the Early Registration of Volunteers Local Administrator Training**

*by Emily Nickel, Planning and Volunteer Coordinator  
BCHS, KDHE*



The Bureau of Community Health Systems (BCHS) is pleased to announce the Kansas System for the Early Registration of Volunteers (K-SERV) Local Administrator Training is now available to public health and health care entities who wish to use the system at the local-level for volunteer management. The training is available on KS-TRAIN, <https://ks.train.org> course ID number is 1029628.

The K-SERV Local Administrator Training is available for anyone that would like to be an administrator of the system in their community. It is highly encouraged to have one local K-SERV administrator per county; however there can be more than one, such as a backup administrator. Once an individual takes the online training, they will need to email Emily Nickel directly to get the Confidentiality Agreement to be an administrator.

In addition to the online training, several Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) have been updated, including K-SERV Local Administrator SOP, K-SERV Healthcare Organization SOP, and K-SERV Local Emergency Operation Center (LEOC) SOP. To access these documents and other information on K-SERV, click the K-SERV logo above.

For more information on K-SERV, please contact Emily Nickel at [enickel@kdheks.gov](mailto:enickel@kdheks.gov) or 785-296-5201.

### **NACCHO Releases 2010 National Profile of Local Health Department Report**

*by Bureau of Community Health Systems*



The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is pleased to announce the results of the 2010 Profile of Local Health Departments study. With 82 percent of local health departments (LHD) having completed their surveys, the data collected by the profile study are the most comprehensive and accurate source of information

about LHD infrastructure and practice in the United States. This high response provides the information needed to update the picture of local public health.

The profile data is useful to practitioners and policymakers at the local, state and federal level; researchers; the media and the public. With information on LHD governance, funding, workforce and activities, services and more, the data can be used to make local and regional comparisons, drive policymaking, educate the workforce about local public health practice and conduct research. This study was made possible through the support of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. To learn more, click the NACCHO logo above.

### **Health and Human Services Awards Health Center Planning Grant in Cowley County**

*by David Brazil, Administrator  
City-Cowley County Health Department*



Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, announced on Sept. 15th grant awards to 129 organizations across the country to develop community health centers. The City-Cowley County Health Department and its Community Partners were awarded \$80,000 for development of a comprehensive health center.

The availability of accessible health care facilities was identified by Cowley County Vi-

sion 20/20 as a priority by a broad based public opinion survey in 2005. In 2006, Vision 20/20 developed the Cowley County Community Strategic Plan which included this priority.

The Vision 20/20 Accessible Health Care Committee formed partnerships with the City-Cowley County Health Department, William Newton Hospital, South Central Kansas Medical Center, Cowley County Mental Health, Legacy Foundation and Friends of Accessible Health Care. On behalf of this partnership the City-Cowley County Health Department submitted a federal planning grant application this past March.

The one year planning project will address each of the factors listed below:

- Completing a comprehensive needs assessment.
- Designing an appropriate health care service delivery model based on the comprehensive needs assessment.
- Securing financial, professional and technical assistance.
- Increasing community involvement in the development of a comprehensive health center.
- Developing linkages, partnerships and contracts with other health providers in the community including the health department, local hospitals and rural health clinics.

Federally Qualified Health Centers improve the health of our nation's underserved communities and vulnerable populations by assuring access to comprehensive, quality primary health care services. The Health Center Program targets the nation's neediest populations and currently funds over 1,100 health centers that operate more than 8,100 service delivery sites around the country. In 2009, nearly 19 million medically underserved patients received quality primary health care services through the Health Center Program. "Supporting the development of new community health centers will help us meet the healthcare needs of millions while supporting local jobs and economic growth in communities nationwide," said Sebelius.

### Western Kansas Medical Provider Group Receives \$253,551 Technology Grant

*by KHI News Service*



Greeley County Health Services will receive a \$253,551 federal grant to implement a network for prescriptions and the exchange of electronic health records, the Department of Health and Human Services announced.

The grant comes as part of the \$11.9 million Rural Health Information Technology Initiative. "We need health information technology to bring our health care system into the 21st century," said HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius. "These funds will help safety net providers acquire state-of-the-art health information technology systems to ensure the delivery of quality care to some of the most remote areas of our country."

Officials at Greeley County Health Services said the grant would be used to create the Western Kansas Frontier Information Network. Initial network participants will be:

- Dixon Pharmacy
- Greeley County emergency medical technicians
- Greeley County Health Department
- Greeley County Health Services

"This grant will provide us with the unique opportunity to utilize our experience in health information systems development to create a truly functional medical home," says Chrysanne Grund, Greeley County Health Services Project Director.

Greeley County Health Services is a network of three doctors, two rural health clinics and a long-term care facility, all stretched along a 30-mile corridor of Kansas Highway 27 near Tribune. Robert Moser, MD, Secretary Kansas Department of Health and Environment, was once the leader of Greeley County Health Services.

### Center for Performance Management

*by Brenda Nickel, MS, RN, Director  
Center for Performance Management, KDHE*



Strategic planning for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's (KDHE) Center for Performance Management (CPM) was held at the Wichita Hyatt prior to the Kansas Public Health Association fall conference. The session was facilitated by the Center's Director, Brenda Nickel with the following members of the Performance Management Team and Local Public Health assisting: (Pictured left to right) Linda Frazee, Public Health Workforce Specialist, KDHE; Michelle Ponce, Executive Director, Kansas Association of Local Health

Department; Mindee Reece, Director, Bureau of Community Health Systems; Cyndi Treaster, Director, Special Population Health; Tatiana Lin, Senior Analyst, Kansas Health Institute and Jane Shirley, Director, Local Public Health.

The three-hour session began the planning process that included a review of current planned projects, developing a vision and mission for the work of the Center and identifying priorities to be addressed over the next four years. This will include the development of a website that will provide resources and information for public health departments, training for public health staff and assistance with implementation of the KDHE's strategic plan.

The CPM is funded through the Center for Disease Control's Office of Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support (OSTLTS) through the Strengthening Public Health Infrastructure for Improved Health Outcomes grant. This initiative is to promote and support performance management and quality improvement tools in public health settings "as an opportunity to increase the effectiveness of public health agencies, systems and services." KDHE is in the second year of a five-year grant cycle. To learn more, click the image on the right or contact Brenda Nickel at [bnickel@kdheks.gov](mailto:bnickel@kdheks.gov).



### News from the Public Health Foundation (PHF)

*by Public Health Foundation*

#### The Tools You Need to Prepare for Public Health Accreditation - Domain 9 Standards

Health Departments are beginning to prepare and compile materials for the Public Health Accreditation Board's voluntary accreditation program that was launched on Sept. 14. PHF has the tools to help you prepare for and successfully [meet the requirements of Domain 9](#): evaluate and continuously improve health department process, programs and interventions.

#### Training Your Workforce on Accreditation and Quality Improvement



Quality improvement and accreditation are invaluable within the field of public health in both its development and advancement. Until now, there has not been a national accreditation program to confirm that public health departments are providing and constantly advancing the quality of services delivered to their communities. State, tribal and local health departments throughout the country have been experiencing great enthusiasm for this new national accreditation program.

Through [TRAIN](#), you can utilize TRAIN's features to identify, access, take and post [training on both accreditation and quality improvement](#).

#### Test Drive the Newly Enhanced Public Health Improvement Resource Center

The [Public Health Improvement Resource Center](#) contains more than 300 resources and tools for evaluating and building the public health capacity, including numerous resources to support health departments preparing for public health accreditation. [New and improved features](#), including an advanced search page where you can [search by accreditation domain](#), were just introduced to make discovering resources quick and easy.

### Recycling Glass

*by the Kansas Green Team*



**Kansas Recycles**

For centuries, glass has served as a universal packaging container, holding precious commodities like wine and olive oil. Today, manufacturers use glass to hold everything from soda to perfume.

Some facts about glass:

- Americans generated 11.8 million tons of glass in the municipal solid waste (MSW) stream in 2009.
- About 26 percent of the glass was recovered for recycling.
- Glass recycling increased from 750,000 tons in 1980 to more than three million tons in 2009.
- Food, soft drink, beer, wine and liquor containers represent the largest source of glass generated and recycled.
- Glass in durable goods, such as furniture, appliances and especially consumer electronics, round out the sources of postconsumer glass.

Glass, especially glass food and beverage containers, can be recycled over and over again. In fact, 90 percent of recycled glass is used to make new containers. Recycled glass can also be used in kitchen tiles, counter tops and wall insulation. Glass recycling has grown considerably in recent years through increased collection through community recycling programs and glass manufacturers' increased demand for recycled glass.

Most glass manufacturers rely on a steady supply of recycled crushed glass, known as "cullet," to supplement raw materials. To make glass, manufacturers mix sand, soda ash, limestone and cullet; heat the mixture to a temperature of 2,600 to 2,800 degrees F; and mold it into the desired shape. Every ton of glass that's recycled results in the savings of more than one ton of raw materials including 1,300 lbs. of sand, 410 lbs. of soda ash, 380 lbs. of limestone and 150 lbs. of feldspar.

Using cullet saves money and helps the environment, because:

- Cullet costs less than raw materials.
- Cullet prolongs furnace life and saves energy since it melts at a lower temperature.
- Less energy used means reduced emissions of nitrogen oxide and carbon dioxide, both greenhouse gases.

Glass container manufacturers need a steady supply of quality cullet to make glass containers. Ninety percent of recycled glass is used to make new containers and the demand for quality cullet is greater than the supply.

Recycling includes buying products made from recycled materials, or buying products that contain some recycled content. This is commonly referred to as "closing the loop." When you buy recycled products you are in effect, completing the recycling process. Buying products made from recycled materials, or recycled content products, reduces the amount of virgin materials needed to make products. This, in turn, saves energy and conserves the amount of raw materials needed in the production process.

There is plenty of room to grow with regards to glass recycling in Kansas. Glass cullet goes to a number of local manufacturers, most notably Owens Corning and Johns Manville, which use it to make fiberglass insulation and Verallia, which turns it into new glass bottles. These companies need far outweighs the amount currently recycled. To find a glass recycling site near you, visit Kansas Recycles by clicking their logo above.



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

### Healthy Celebrations for Healthy Teeth

*by Cathy Gray, Healthy Kansas Kids Director  
Child Care Aware® of Kansas*

Special occasion celebrations like birthdays, holidays and new classmates are an important part of a child's social development. When food is part of a celebration, parents and caregivers can support healthy habits by ensuring that the snacks and treats are healthy options for young bodies. Best of all, you don't have to eliminate the fun factor! Here are some tips to consider when choosing treats and snacks for children to avoid:

- Licorice, sticky or chewy sweets and fruit chew snacks because of their high sugar content, stay on teeth longer and cavity-causing germs cause an "acid attack" that weakens teeth and leads to decay.
- Candy with crunchy or hard coating can cause choking hazard for young children while candy and suckers coat teeth in sugar over a longer time.
- Tiny graham crackers and granola bars have moderate sugar content but small particles stick in crevices of teeth.

Offer no-calorie treats and create celebrations that are about fun and sharing, such as stickers, pencils, pencil toppers or erasers, mini-bottles of bubbles, spider rings, bouncy balls, sugar-free gum and mini containers of play dough.

If you must provide a sweet treat, remember smaller is better. Consider bite size chocolates that melt away and leave the mouth quickly, like Kisses, Peanut Butter Cups or a Peppermint Patty.

Some snacks and celebration foods to avoid include cupcakes, cookies, baked goods, soda pop, fruit-flavored punch, chips, crackers and granola bars.

In addition to being low in calories and high in nutrients, the foods listed below also support the development of strong teeth:

- Raw vegetables (carrot or celery sticks, cherry tomatoes)
- Fresh fruit with low fat yogurt dip
- String cheese or cheese cubes
- Low fat turkey or ham cubes

- Low fat milk (add a few drops of food color to tint, if desired)
  - Whole grain muffins
- For more ideas on healthy celebrations, check out these resources:

- [Tasty Treats for Teeth Brochure](#)
- [Tasty Treats for Teeth Cookbook](#)
- [Healthy Food for Healthy Celebrations](#)

For more information contact Marcia Manter at 785-235-6039 or [mmanter@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:mmanter@oralhealthkansas.org)



### Bureau of Environmental Health (BEH)

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) and the Army Corps of Engineers respond by informing the public of these conditions. Based upon sampling results and established health risk levels, the following warnings and advisories are in place.

As of Sept. 30 Kansas public waters currently under warning (\* denotes a new listing):

- Augusta City Lake, Augusta, Butler County
- Harvey County East Lake and West Lake, Harvey County
- Logan City Lake, Phillips County\*
- Memorial Park Lake, Great Bend, Barton County
- Milford Lake, Clay, Geary and Dickinson Counties\*
- Santa Fe Lake, Augusta, Butler County

Kansas public waters currently under advisory:

- Dillon Park Lake, Hutchinson, Reno County
- Harvey County Camp Hawk Lake, Harvey County\*
- Rigg's Park Lake, Haysville, Sedgwick County\*
- Warnock Lake, Atchison County

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



*Picture courtesy of Susan Abbott, USACE Milford Lake 2011*

### Bureau of Disease Control & Prevention (BDPC)

#### Influenza Facts

- Influenza (flu) is a contagious and serious disease. It is one of the top 10 leading causes of death in the United States. Anyone can get sick from the flu.
- While the flu can make anyone sick, certain people are at a greater risk for serious complications from the flu, causing hospitalization or even death, such as:
  - People 65 years of age and older
  - Young children
  - Pregnant women
  - People with certain health conditions, including chronic lung disease (such as asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), diabetes (type one and two), heart, lung or kidney disease, a weakened immune system and certain other long term medical conditions.



Symptoms of influenza can include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people may also have vomiting and diarrhea. People may be infected with the flu and have respiratory symptoms without a fever. Flu can cause high fever, pneumonia and worsen existing medical conditions. It can cause diarrhea and seizures in children. Each year thousands of people die from flu and even more require hospitalization.

Flu vaccine is the best protection:

- The first and most important step in protecting against the flu is to get a flu vaccination each season.
- Flu can affect people differently based on people's immune systems. Even healthy children and adults can get very sick from the flu. Anyone with the flu can spread it to family and friends. Protect your family and friends from the flu by getting yourself vaccinated.
- Since protection from flu vaccine has been shown to decline over time, annual vaccination is recommended for optimum protection against influenza, even in seasons in which vaccine virus strains do not change.
- Everyone six months of age and older is recommended to be vaccinated against flu every year, even if they got vaccinated the year before.
- Get vaccinated as soon as vaccine becomes available in your community.

Protection from flu vaccine wears off over time and last year's vaccine may not fully protect you this season. For the best protection, get vaccinated every year.

### Bureau of Community Health Systems (BCHS)

KDHE received a recognition award from the Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved at its recent annual meeting. The agency's commitment to improving oral health to Kansans through the Kansas Dental Hub Project was acknowledged. Thank you to the Primary Care Program staff, who deserve the credit for this award.

## News and Resources

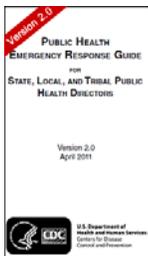
Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

### Women's Health

[womenshealth.gov](http://womenshealth.gov)

The Office on Women's Health (OWH), part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), works to improve the health and sense of well-being of all U.S. women and girls. OWH serves as the focal point for women's health activities within HHS offices and provides a listserve as well as posts information to Twitter and Facebook on women's health funding opportunities. Click the logo above to learn more.

### CDC Public Health Emergency Response Guide



State, local and tribal health departments play an important role in all-hazards emergency preparedness and response. Public health professionals within these departments should have immediate access to guidance and information that will assist them in rapidly establishing priorities and undertaking necessary actions during the response to an emergency or disaster. The National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH), Division of Emergency and Environmental Health Services (EEHS) has developed an all-hazards public health emergency response guide to address this need. Click the image on the left to download the entire Response Guidebook.

### HHS Launches Million Hearts Initiative



The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) launched Million Hearts, an initiative that aims to prevent one million heart attacks and strokes over the next five years. Currently, cardiovascular disease costs \$444 billion every year in medical costs and lost productivity in Americans. Building on work already underway thanks to the Affordable Care Act, Million Hearts will help improve Americans' health and increase productivity. Click the heart to learn more about this initiative.



### Measles Cases Abroad Linked to Increase of Disease in U.S.

A decade ago, the public health community celebrated a major milestone when measles, a disease that once caused thousands of deaths each year in the United States and tens of thousands of hospitalizations, was declared eliminated. But in many parts of the world the disease still rages, posing a growing threat to U.S. travelers and those who come in contact with them. To read more about the American Public Health Association's (APHA) reporter Teddi Dineley Johnson, click the APHA logo.

### New CDC Learning Connection Spotlight on Emergency Preparedness



on the left to learn more about the CDC Learning Connection.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is spotlighting "Emergency Preparedness" by providing public health learning products and resources designed to help educate the public health community on all-hazards approaches to emergency preparedness and response. Click the image

### Public Health Accreditation Board Launches National Accreditation for Health Departments



The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) has launched the first national accreditation program for all public health departments. The goal of PHAB's accreditation program, initiated and supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is to protect and improve Americans' health by advancing the quality and performance of all of the nation's public health departments-state, local, territorial and tribal. Click the PHAB logo to learn more.

### Job Openings

#### Harper County

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

- [Home Health Registered Nurse](#)



#### Johnson County Health Department

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

- [Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner \(ARNP\) #MNH22222](#)
- [Health Supports Specialist \(LPN\) #JCD100611](#)



#### Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department

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

- [Public Health Nurse](#)



#### Shawnee County Health Agency

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

- [Licensed Practical Nurse](#)



#### Wyandotte County

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

- [Nurse Practitioner](#)
- [Program Coordinator - Home Visitor](#)



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**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/publications.htm](http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/publications.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)