



PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

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Bureau of Community Health Systems

Robert Moser, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

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In the Spotlight - Bridging the Gap Between Theory and Life in the Trenches of Public Health

by Gina Frack, Administrator

Norton County Health Department



Undoubtedly, the experience of having been a beta site for the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) yielded a wealth of experience and knowledge regarding the reasons why public health in the United States needs to be striving towards becoming accredited.....in theory. Beta was practice, now Norton County Health Department (NCHD) finds itself back in the trenches of day-to-day life as a local health department (LHD) in rural America to be much further away from actually becoming accredited than the perception given by the Beta process. How do we get from where we are, to where we know we want and need to be? There belies our greatest challenge - bridging the gap between the proven theory of accreditation to

applying it to real life in the trenches of public health. Oh yeah, all while doing all the other "stuff" that gets done at a LHD!

The three foundational bricks upon which accreditation is built is the community health assessment (CHA), community health improvement plan (CHIP) and strategic plan (SP). All of which LHDs in Kansas have not been required to do. This has inadvertently created our first and greatest valley to cross. Lacking the resources, funding and most importantly the local expertise to lead these efforts is overwhelming as a LHD in a rural/frontier county. Rather than becoming overwhelmed with the size of this formidable gap it has been helpful to focus on the, "baby steps," that public health in Kansas has taken thus far. NCHD, along with other LHDs, has already taken the valuable, "baby steps," of creating awareness, gaining more knowledge and realizing the importance of striving towards accreditation within our respective departments. Emphasis is on the striving for, not just attaining accreditation. Vision has broadened to realize that there are Kansas LHDS that already have the knowledge and expertise of tackling these foundational bricks of the CHA/CHIP/SP. NCHD still has a lot of work ahead in mobilizing the necessary resources before the local effort of a true CHA can be initiated. Reminding oneself that the real goal here is progress, not perfection definitely helps when realizing of the vastness of this new territory.

Accreditation is based off the, "10 Essential Services and the 3 Essential Functions," of a LHD. That framework in itself is a cultural change within the existing workforce. Such change is evolutionary, not revolutionary. Public health has lacked such a consistent point of reference, but this unity holds much promise to strengthen not only each individual LHD but the greater public health system as a whole.

Continue to be, "vocal locals," by expressing what is needed for your LHD to make the baby steps towards completing a CHA/CHIP/SP. Those in the trench know best what is needed to help take accreditation from theory to something put into practice. Unity in this movement strengthens public health; separateness will only create greater disparity amongst LHDs.

Celebrate with Us!



November 15, 2012

(Events Planned November 11-17, 2012)

In the Spotlight - Governor's Council on Fitness Summit: Obesity in Kansas

*by Brandon Skidmore, Programs Grant Manager
Bureau of Health Promotion, KDHE*



On Sept. 6 more than 200 Kansas health officials and policymakers gathered in Topeka for the Kansas Obesity Summit hosted by the Kansas Governor's Council on Fitness. Dr. William Dietz, past director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity provided the keynote address. Lt. Governor Jeff Colyer spoke at the Summit and a panel discussion of State agency leaders provided a multi-sector perspective of the obesity problem and possible strategies to address obesity in Kansas.

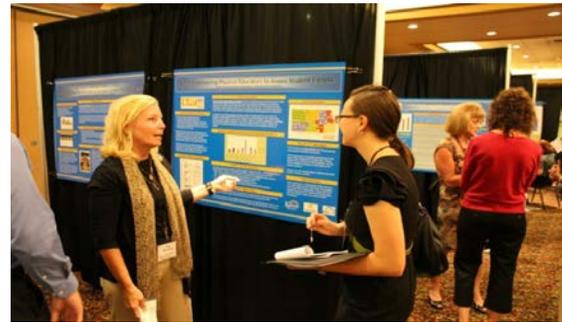
Obesity rates have steadily risen in the United States since the CDC started tracking the numbers closely in the 1990s. In Kansas it is estimated that \$1.3 billion is spent annually on health care costs related to obesity, such as care for diabetes and heart disease. Dietz said curbing obesity would improve the nation's overall health, be good for the environment by getting more people walking and biking instead of driving, would reduce health care costs.

During the Summit, attendees were divided into seven work groups based on the 2012 Institutes of Medicines report titled, "Accelerating Progress in Obesity Prevention." Each group had a specific focus area to discuss and agreed on four strategies that could best serve Kansas. The following is a sample of the promising strategies and ideas that came from the small discussion groups:

- Continue and strengthen the Complete Streets policy and Safe Routes to School program
- Improve access to affordable healthy foods for employees
- Incorporate more physical activity into classrooms through staff development
- Expand school and community gardens, which help increase food literacy and physical activity
- Recognize mental health aspect of obesity prevention and treatment

Also during the summit, 20 posters were on display that presented current strategies and topics that address best practices to prevent obesity in Kansas.

Governor Brownback provided comments to open and close the Summit. He said the state's obesity prevention initiatives include improving opportunities for Kansas residents to take advantage of the state's outdoor attractions, such as hiking trails and parks. Brownback also said residents must work together and support each other in the fight against obesity.



Amber Waves Training Exercise - Sept. 25, 2012

by Office of Communications, KDHE



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and the Wyandotte County Health Department held a population monitoring exercise on Sept. 25 at the National Guard Armory in KCK as part of Amber Waves, the series of radiation incident response training scenarios that started earlier this summer. A scenario of two Radiation Dispersal Device explosions, one in Leavenworth and one in Kansas City, Mo., were the basis for the exercise.

During this exercise, the Wyandotte County Health Department practiced its plan for the establishment of a Community Reception Center for the purpose of monitoring citizens, their vehicles, their pets and animals, for potential radiological contamination and performing decontamination on those citizens, animals and vehicles as needed during such an event. The registry of these citizens and the process for long-term tracking of them were also practiced. The receipt, monitoring, decontamination and handling of animals were practiced in partnership with the Kansas State Animal Response Team. Other key players in the exercise were Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Department of Energy, the Medical Reserve Corps, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and surrounding county government groups such as the Johnson County Department of Health and Environment and the Jackson County Health Department, as well as local police and fire departments.



State and Local Health Departments Participate in Public Health Nurse Workforce Survey



*by Linda Frazee, Public Health Workforce Specialist
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment and thirteen Kansas local health departments recently were selected to participate in the Organization Level Public Health Nurse Workforce Survey, a part of the Enumeration and Characterization of the Public Health Nursing Workforce Project. Kansas had a 100 percent participation rate. An Individual Level Survey will also be distributed to selected RN's in the study.

Financial support for the project is being provided by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, in partnership with the University of Michigan Center of Excellence in Public Health Workforce Studies (UM CEPHS). An advisory committee composed of academic and practice partners interested in public health nursing workforce research has been responsible for guiding the study design and implementation, while UM CEPHS has served as the technical lead for the project. The Association of Public Health Nurses (formerly the Association of State and Territorial Directors of Nursing) is serving as the lead facilitator for this project through marketing and dissemination of the survey.

Developing a comprehensive profile of how many public health nurses are working in health departments, how they are trained and the nature of their job functions will help public health officials to identify gaps in workforce capacity. By participating in the study, Kansas will be eligible to receive a statewide public health nurse workforce report developed by UM CEPHS and the Association of Public Health Nurses.

Participating Kansas local health departments include:

- Gove County Health Department
- Grant County Health Department
- Hodgeman County Health Department
- Johnson County Public Health
- Linn County Health Department
- Meade County Health Department
- NEK Multi-County Health Department
- Neosho County Health Department
- Ness County Health Department
- Phillips County Health Department
- Rush County Health Department
- Salina-Saline County Health Department
- Wilson County Health Department

Kansas School Lunches Have Changed

*by Jane Shirley, Director of Local Health Programs
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*



The school day just got healthier! School lunches now include more fruits, vegetables and whole grain-rich foods; only fat-free or low-fat milk; "right-size" meals with portions designed for a child's age; and less saturated fat, trans fat and sodium. The changes in school meals, the first in 15 years, are based on the latest nutritional guidelines by the Kansas Department of Education (KSDE).

Here are some important facts about the new school meals:

- The new school lunch provides one third of the *average* daily calorie needs for kids by age.
- Some highly active students, like athletes, may need more calories. Some schools may offer second helpings of fruits and vegetables. A second carton of milk may also be an option. Schools can also operate after-school snack and supper programs. Students and/or sports teams can also bring food from home.
- In practice, many students are being served the same amounts of protein as before under the new standards.

Children can learn good habits for life by making healthy food choices and getting proper exercise now. This year is a transition year as schools implement these new standards and work together with parents, to ensure that every child, in every community across America, has access to healthy and nutritious meals.



Keep updated on the changes, click on the United States Department of Agriculture logo.

Did You Know That Kids Who Are Physically Active Get Better Grades?

by Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE

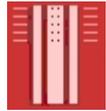
Research shows that students who earn mostly A's are almost twice as likely to get regular physical activity than students who receive mostly D's and F's. Physical activity can help students focus, improve behavior and boost positive attitudes. Do what you can to help your child be physically active, be it running, biking or swimming. Any type of physical activity is good and 60 minutes a day is best. Their grades will thank you!

For more information and great graphics to share with your community and your schools, click the Making Health Easier.org logo.



Tooth Problems Reduce Children's Performance at School

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



Oral Health Kansas (OHK) has launched our third year of monthly articles for educators, health professionals, school staff, families and community members. We appreciate your ongoing support over the past couple of years and welcome your continued role in publishing oral health articles in your newsletters and distributing them to your staff and community partners.

OHK workshop participants say at the end of each session, "Why didn't anyone ever tell me how important oral health is for a quality of life and health." We receive the same feedback from our articles you publish. So thank you for helping us spread the word.

TFKC Hires New Executive Director

*by Erica Anderson, Program Coordinator
Tobacco Free Kansas Coalition*



The Tobacco Free Kansas Coalition (TFKC) Board of Directors selected Linda J. DeCoursey as TFKC's new Executive Director to replace Mary Jayne Hellebust, who announced her retirement earlier this year.

"It was with both joy and sadness that the Board of Directors announced the retirement of Mary Jayne Hellebust," said Ken Davis, TFKC President. "Under Mary Jayne's leadership for the last seventeen years, TFKC has made tremendous progress. She has been a valuable asset and friend to all of us and will be greatly missed."

"Linda is an excellent hire as TFKC's next Executive Director because she has the knowledge, skills, experience, passion and commitment to lead TFKC into the future," indicated Mr. Davis.

Ms. DeCoursey is a native Kansan and has experience working with organizations and communities across the state. She has worked at the TFKC office as a program manager for the past year, and previously worked at the American Heart Association, where she advocated for a smokefree Kansas law. She earned a Bachelors Degree in Political Science at Washburn University which immersed her in public policy, plus her skills in organizational development, are priorities central to TFKC's continued progress.

Linda De Coursey began her duties as TFKC Executive Director on Sept. 16. A farewell to TFKC's esteemed first Executive Director, Mary Jayne Hellebust, will be held at the conclusion of the Kansas Public Health Association's fall conference on Oct. 3, at the Capital Plaza Hotel, Pioneer Room, in Topeka.

Public Health Needs Collaboration at County Level to Protect and Promote Health



by Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE

The following are excerpts from an article, "Public Health Needs Collaboration at County Level to Protect and Promote Health," in the County Comment, a publication of the Kansas Association of Counties (KAC). To read the full article, click the KAC logo and go to page 11 of the newsletter.

Perceptions about what public health is at the local level changes dramatically once a county commissioner is elected to office. As one commissioner said, "I really just thought it was another agency, but it is an asset to the county."

These comments are representative of commissioners who have been participating in a series of regional meetings sponsored by the KAC and Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) this summer and fall. The meetings are continuing through October.

At the KAC/KDHE regional meetings held so far, several themes started to emerge from the discussions between commissioners and local health department administrators. Among them were communication and collaboration. Many pointed to the importance of communicating with each other, but also the broader community and in some cases the region. Commissioners said they realize public health is a critical function – much like public works and public safety – but they have concerns, including difficulties planning for budgets in an era of reduced state funding.

Still, according to the conversations, local health departments are doing what they can to assess the health of communities, define priorities and plan accordingly. The process, said those who participated in the regional meetings, provides a structure that can lead to a more efficient and effective health department.

Accreditation Corner

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

What is "Accreditation"?



Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) Standards and Measures examine the capabilities and capacity of the agency as a whole. Achieving accreditation will demonstrate that the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's (KDHE) Division of Health, Division of Environment and Division of Health Care Finance has met the national standards for the three core functions identified by PHAB: Assessment, Policy Development and Assurance. This is about how we all approach population-health and assure a safe and healthy environment by either delivering services to Kansans directly or in making certain that required services are being delivered by another responsible party. Click the PHAB logo to review the standard and measures.

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



What Will This Work Entail?

KDHE Accreditation members (A-Team) will work with colleagues from across the agency with knowledge and expertise related to the work of protecting health and the environment collecting evidence that demonstrates the KDHE meets national standards and measures of a quality state health department, identifying quality improvement projects where gaps are identified and serving as agency ambassadors during the accreditation process.

Two-day Work Session Frame KDHE Accreditation "A-Team's" Future Work

Selected Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) staff spent two days learning about the KDHE's public health accreditation readiness journey with the emphasis on team building. Secretary Robert Moser welcomed the KDHE A-Team members and presented each team member with a letter acknowledging their selection. He also presented the Accreditation Coordinator with his completed PHAB Orientation Certificate,

as the health department director, one of two staff that, “must complete the orientation prior to the health department submitting a Statement of Intent (SOI) to PHAB.” KDHE intends to submit their SOI March 2013.



The A-Team worked together in large and small group activities to learn about Public Health Accreditation Board standards and measures, its relevancy to the work of the agency through a discussion of evidence or documents that demonstrate KDHE meets the accrediting requirements and developed a Team Charter to guide the work of the team over the next 18 months. Shirley Orr, Public Health Consultant, facilitated the session with the Center for Performance Management Director, Brenda Nickel.

What's next for the A-Team and KDHE?

Team members will be taking the online PHAB Orientation by Dec. 1 and will reconvene to finalize the Team Charter. The Accreditation Center will be developed for use by team members and will begin meeting monthly for team development and ongoing accreditation readiness training. A data/document collection system will be developed by the KDHE IT Department and agency-wide learning opportunities will be offered to all staff. A-Team members will be working across Divisions and Bureaus to help secure the importance information, documents and resources demonstrating the value of the work each employee brings to KDHE. Everyone has an important role to play as a KDHE staff member demonstrating excellence in protecting and improving the health and environment of Kansans. Contact Brenda Nickel at 785-296-1418 or bnickel@kdheks.gov.

Funding Opportunities

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

Finding Local Funding Sources for Safe Routes to School – Webinar Oct. 4



There are many ways to fund community and state-wide Safe Routes to School programs. From traffic fines to sales taxes to government and private grants, learn how to sustain your program, and about the new funding opportunities in the federal transportation act: MAP-21. Webinar will be held on Oct. 4 at 1 – 2 P.M. Click the Safe Routes to School logo to register.

Improving Our School's Together – Deadline Oct. 12



Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation (LCEF) knows how hard you work for your kids and your community and we're dedicated to helping your parent-teacher group achieve even more for your school. Apply for our Toolbox for Education Grant and build on your already impressive parent group success with Lowe's. To learn more click the Toolbox for Education logo.

Rural Health Network Development Planning Grant Program Opportunity – Deadline Oct. 15



The Office of Rural Health Policy (ORHP) is pleased to announce the release of the FY 2013 Rural Health Network Development Planning Grant Program (announcement number: HRSA-13-153). This one-year grant provides an opportunity for rural communities to bring together key parts of a rural health care delivery system, particularly those entities that may not have collaborated in the past, to work together to establish or improve local capacity and coordination of care. Grantees will use their funds to lay out the foundation of a community health project by convening collaborating partners to conduct planning activities. Grantees may also use the funds to develop and assist healthcare networks establish and/or become operational.

Applicants may propose funds for up to one-year from April 1, 2013-March 31, 2014. The maximum award is up to \$85,000. Click [Funding Opportunity Synopsis](#) for more information on the grant opportunity. Click [Funding Opportunity](#) to apply. Deadline to submit is Oct. 15. All applications have to be submitted electronically in <http://www.grants.gov>.

A grant technical assistance call was recorded. To access the playback call 800-396-1242, passcode 5342. For further questions on this funding opportunity, please contact the program coordinator, Linda Kwon, lkwon@hrsa.gov, 301-594-4205 or project officer Sheila Warren, swarren@hrsa.gov, 301-443-0246.

National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, 2013 – Deadline Oct. 18



This funding opportunity provides support for activities and events in support of National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (NWGHAAD) in the United States and its affiliated territories. The purpose of NWGHAAD is to highlight the increasing impact of HIV/AIDS on women and girls and encourage women and girls to take action by knowing their HIV status and understanding their risk. More information about NWGHAAD click their logo. To download the NWGAAAD request for proposals click the image of the women on the right.



Grants Available for Community Health Needs Assessments – Deadline Oct. 25



Applications are now being accepted for another round of the Kansas Rural Community Health Assessment mini-grant opportunity supported by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's Office of Rural Health and the Kansas FLEX Program. The Kansas Rural Community Health Assessment Mini-grant is intended to foster the process of bringing together a broad-based group of community leaders to discuss local health needs, explore data and indicators, set priorities and develop potential action strategies. In the end, this project is aimed at building and sustaining local capacity for this process.

The ultimate goal is achieving progress toward a completed Community Health Needs Assessment/Community Health Assessment (CHNA/CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). At the end of this project, the grant recipient must demonstrate that a systematic process is underway to broadly engage their community in assessing the health needs of the community. Small grant awards of up to \$4,000 will be given to eligible rural communities to help cover costs related to engaging local community leaders in community health assessment activities. Rural communities served by a Critical Access Hospital are eligible for these mini-grant awards. Grant recipients must engage both the hospital and the local health department in the community health needs assessment process. Funds must be used to carry out activities conducted during the grant period and cannot be used to supplant other dollars. The application deadline for the Kansas Rural Community Health Assessment Mini-grant is Oct. 25. For application to be considered, all sections must be completed and must have signatures. More details about this grant opportunity are available on the application form.

For questions or technical assistance in completing this application, contact [Jane Shirley](#) at or [Sara Roberts](#) at. Click the BCHS logo above to download application.



Healthy School Makeover Contest – Deadline Oct. 31

In support of National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month, Sports, Play and Active Recreation for Kids (SPARK) has teamed-up with other leading health and physical education organizations to provide a nationwide Healthy School Makeover Contest, with the winner receiving a grand prize worth \$45,000 in educational materials, training and equipment. Nominate your school by submitting a short video explaining why your school needs a healthy school makeover and how you'll use the Grand Prize award to improve the health of your students.

One award worth up to \$45,000 is available. Public and private K-12 schools are eligible to apply. To learn more click the SPARK logo.

Immunize Kansas Kids



IMMUNIZE KANSAS KIDS

Immunize Kansas Kids (IKK) coalition, which supports innovative, is requesting proposals to collaborative and sustainable methods to increase age-appropriate immunization for young Kansas children, age zero to five years. Through the Community Coalition Grants, IKK seeks to support the creation of local coalitions that will work to increase immunization rates. The IKK quality improvement grants support the use of quality improvement tools to target immunization barriers. Grants will be awarded to select-

ed communities or agencies in order to improve their immunization practices at the local level. The two grant opportunities are "Community Coalition Grants" and quality Improvement Grant." To learn more and apply, click the IKK logo above.

Training Announcements

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

Bi-State Viral Hepatitis Summit – Oct. 4



The Hepatitis Foundation International is sponsoring a one day professional education and training summit for health professionals and others working with people who are affected by or infected with viral hepatitis. Viral hepatitis patients are encouraged to attend, as they will have the opportunity to learn first-hand current and reliable information from experts in the field.

This summit will be held on Oct. 4 at the Kansas City Airport Marriott, 775 Brasilis Avenue, Kansas City, MO. To learn more about this summit, or to register, click the Hepatitis Foundation logo on the left.

2012 Cross Cultural Healthcare Symposium – Oct. 9



The 2012 Cross-Cultural Healthcare Symposium seeks to equip and mobilize regional healthcare students, professionals and community leaders to effectively bridge cultural barriers in providing healthcare services to culturally diverse populations found in the Greater Kansas City area. This symposium will be held Oct. 9 at the Kansas University - Edwards Campus, 12604 Quivira Road, Overland Park. Featured speaker Anne Fadiman, author of, "The Spirit Catches You And You Fall Down," chronicles the trials of an epileptic Hmong child and her family living in California. To register, click the Institute for International Medicine logo.



Diabetes Education and Self-Management Classes – Oct. 11

Riverview Health Services (RHS), a nonprofit organization established in 1989, works with the community's low-income residents to quickly and efficiently match individuals with the health services needed. RHS is providing classes for Diabetes Education on Oct. 11, 18 and Nov. 1, 8 and 15 from 1 – 3 P.M. at the offices in Kansas City, KS. For more information or the register for this class call 913-371-7070. To learn more about RHS, click their logo above.

KDA and KDHE Conducting Zoonotic Disease Workshops – Oct. 11

*by Ingrid Garrison, State Public Health Veterinarian
Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, KDHE*

The Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA) and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) are facilitating, "One Health Zoonotic Disease Workshops," for veterinarians, health care professionals and the public health workforce in 2012 and 2013. The day-long workshops will be held Oct. 11, Dodge City, Jan. 13, 2013 in Topeka and Mar. 2, 2013 in Wichita. Registration for the learning events, are through KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org> Course ID# 1033834.

The objectives of the workshop include:

- Information sharing regarding zoonotic and foreign animal disease preparedness and response measures.
- Discussion of general accepted practices regarding surveillance, disease prevention, routes of transmission, disease reporting, disease reporting and biosecurity, cleaning & disinfection.
- Overview of specific zoonotic and foreign animal diseases.
- Encouraging networking and communication among the participants.



The workshop will include various presentations and conclude with an informal discussion based exercise. Please direct workshop questions to Dr. Tarrie Crnic, Kansas Department of Agriculture, 785-296-2326 or tarrie.crnic@kda.ks.gov.

Local Health Program Sponsoring Quality Improvement (QI) Training – Oct. 18



*by Jane Shirley, Director, Local Public Health Program
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*

Don't wait! Sign up now for the interactive workshop, "KDHE: Quality Improvement (QI) in Kansas Public Health," on Oct. 18, at the

Webster Center in Salina. Funding through the Kansas Health Foundation is supporting this education event to assist local health departments in development of their agency QI plans. Registration is now open through KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, course # 1034581.

6th Annual Built Environment and Outdoors Summit – Oct 24 - 26

by Erika Devore, Director

Community and Program Outreach, Kansas City Healthy Kids



The 2012 Built Environment and the Outdoors Summit (BEOS) will be held on Oct. 24-26, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Manhattan. The Summit continues its tradition of excellence by providing its attendees with resources to enhance their efforts to promote health as it relates to the built environment and the outdoors. The summit highlights the ways in which the design of a community - where people live, work, learn and play - and the built environment - a community's design, bikeability and walkability, access to fresh fruits and vegetables, and safety - profoundly affect each community member's ability to be healthy and active. The event is planned and coordinated by a variety of state, local government, non-profit and community organizations and advocates who are committed to promoting active lifestyles and healthy environments.



etables, and safety - profoundly affect each community member's ability to be healthy and active. The event is planned and coordinated by a variety of state, local government, non-profit and community organizations and advocates who are committed to promoting active lifestyles and healthy environments.



The mission of the summit is to promote health in Kansas by focusing attention on the connection between the design of the physical environments in a community and the well-being of the individuals who live, work, learn and play there.

The 2012 BEOS offers conference attendees numerous opportunities over three days to learn about the many resources available to promote healthy and active lifestyles in their communities through enhancements to infrastructure and access.

Individuals will have the chance to network and engage with a diverse audience of presenters, panelists and other conference attendees representing a wide array of public and private entities. Attendees will also bolster their organization's knowledge of best practices and replicable interventions and benefit from the lessons learned by others around the country working to improve community health through the design and re-design of built and outdoor environments.



To learn more about the summit, or to register, click any of the images above.

National Center for Farmworker Health Webinar – Nov. 1

*by Cyndi Treaster, Director Special Population Health
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*



Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program (KSFHP) will host a webinar at noon on Nov. 1 with Hilda Bogue, RN, MS, CHES from the National Center for Farmworker Health. The National Center for Farmworker Health (NCFH) is a national non-profit organization dedicated to improving the health status of farmworker families by providing technical assistance, training, information services and other resources to community centers, migrant health programs, private providers and other organization and individuals involved in farmworker health. This webinar will provide health providers and their staff with training and tools for understanding and

correctly determining the migratory or seasonal status of their farmworker users. For more information please contact Cyndi Treaster, Director of KSFHP at ctreaster@kdheks.gov or call (785) 296-8113.

Community Health Assessment On-line Trainings Available

Office of Rural Health

*by Sara Roberts, Director of Rural Health
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*

KS-TRAIN has several Community Health Assessment trainings available.

These short online trainings provide practical guidance for conducting community health assessments. It is intended for staff from state and local health departments, including those seeking accreditation, hospital staff who are considering new federal requirements for non-profit hospitals and those in community benefit programs, non-profit organizations and community leaders/members.

You can complete each module at one seating, and to pick and choose what you would like to complete from the course library that are posted to TRAIN, click the Office of Rural Health logo.

- [Community Facilitator 101 Training \(1030875\)](#)
- [Community Toolbox Module 1: Assuring Engagement in Community Health Improvement Efforts \(1033673\)](#)
- [Community Toolbox Module 2: Identifying Community Health Needs and Assets \(1033674\)](#)
- [Community Toolbox Module 3: Conducting Community Health Assessments \(1033675\)](#)
- [Community Toolbox Module 4: Setting Community Priorities Based on Identified Issues \(1034102\)](#)
- [Community Toolbox Module 5: Developing a Logic Model for Community Health Improvement \(1034103\)](#)
- [Community Toolbox Module 6: Developing a Strategic Plan for Community Health Improvement \(1034104\)](#)

What's New on the CDC Learning Connection Website

*by Mary Bryant-Mason, Health Education Specialist
Educational Design and Accreditation Branch, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*

In August, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) programs listed 17 courses on CDC TRAIN and KS-TRAIN. Some of the new courses are listed below. Visit [CDC TRAIN](#) or [KS-TRAIN](#) to view the complete list of public health training resources available, many of which offer free continuing education.

- [Autism Case Training: Part 1](#) (Web-based) (Course ID 1034736) [CE]
- [Autism Case Training: Part 2](#) (Web-based) (Course ID 1034687) [CE]
- [Autism Case Training: Part 3](#) (Web-based) (Course ID 1034727) [CE]
- [Good Laboratory Practices for Molecular Genetic Testing](#) (Web-based) (Course ID 1034724) [CE]
- [Diagnosis and Management of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome](#) (Web-based) (Course ID 1034737) [CE]
- [Immunization Update 2012](#) (Webcast) (Course ID 1034917) [CE]

Announcements from CDC

The "[Learning Connection](#)," has received CDC's 2012, "James Virgil Peavy Honor Award," for, "Excellence in Human Capital Management-Employee Development." It was recognized for coordinating public health training products, serving as a one-stop resource to fulfill public health training and continuing education needs, and introducing standards and guidance to improve the quality of public health learning products.

Quick Learn Lessons

Two new, "Quick Learn Lessons," are available to access via your mobile device or desktop computer.

- Using an EPI Curve to Determine Mode of Spread
- Using EPI Curve to Determine Most Likely Period of Exposure

MMWR (Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report)

Did you know that many articles in MMWR offer free CE? Find articles offering CE by typing "MMWR" as the keyword on CDC TRAIN's Course Search tab.

News and Resources

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

Adult Obesity Rates Could Exceed 60 Percent in 13 States (including Kansas) by 2030



The number of obese adults, along with related disease rates and health care costs, are on course to increase dramatically in every state in the country over the next 20 years, according to, "F as in Fat: How

Obesity Threatens America's Future 2012," a report released by Trust for America's Health (TFAH) and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF). Click the TFAH logo to read more about the report.

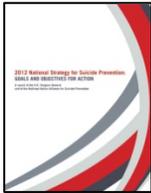
New Systematic Reviews and Findings Added to the Community Guide

Community Preventive Services Task Force

the logo above to learn more.

The Community Preventive Services Task Force has released five new evidence-based findings. Topics include alcohol, skin cancer, emergency preparedness, mental health and motor vehicle injury prevention. Click

National Suicide Prevention Strategy Launched



The 2012 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention, a report prepared by the U.S. surgeon general and the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention, reviews national strategy for reducing the number of deaths by suicide by better identifying and reaching out to those at risk. This includes community-based approaches to curbing the incidence of suicide, details new ways to identify people at risk for suicide and outlines national priorities for reducing the number of suicides over the next decade. Click the image on the left to receive a free copy of this report.

NIH Expands Safe Infant Sleep Outreach Effort



Officials of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) have announced that the U.S. national campaign to reduce the risk of sudden infant death syndrome has entered a new phase and will now encompass all sleep-related, sudden unexpected infant deaths. To read more about this news release click the NIH logo.

Performance Measurement for Public Health Policy



The American Public Health Association (APHA) and the Public Health Foundation (PHF) have worked collaboratively to develop this tool to help health departments and their partners assess and improve the performance of their policy activities. While other performance measurement and evaluation guides exist, this is the first tool to focus explicitly on performance measurement for public health policy. To learn more or to download this tool, click the APHA logo.

Public Health Emergency Law Tools



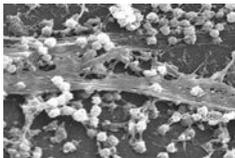
The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) has developed a series of toolkits that address the key information needs of public health officials in understanding and using legal authorities to prepare for and respond to public health emergencies. The toolkits and their component documents are designed to be used as a resource to assist in education, training and planning activities to prepare for emergencies, as well as to serve as a quick reference resource during an emergency response to an event. Click the ASTHO logo to learn more.

ASPR Twitter Challenge Sparks Innovation in Tracking Local Health Trends



The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) has announced that local public health officials can use a free new web-based application, MappyHealth, to track health concerns in real time in their communities using Twitter. Health officials can use data they gain through the app to complement other health surveillance systems in identifying emerging health issues and as an early warning of possible public health emergencies in a community. Click the HHS logo to learn more and download this app.

MRSA found on 80 percent of dollar bills according to SPC Study



A St. Petersburg College biological sciences professor and some of her students set out to discover how much, "bad bacteria," is found on frequently handled fomites like paper money and credit cards. The preliminary findings from this study showed that high prevalence of methicillin resistant [Staphylococcus aureus \(MRSA\)](#). Click the image on the left to learn more about this study.

The Interagency Working Group of Youth Programs



Grants.gov provides information on more than 1,000 grant opportunities for 26 federal grantmaking agencies. FindYouthInfo.gov has developed a customized search of Grants.gov to

help you find open grant announcements for programs that serve youth and their families. To find more information, click the Find Youth Info logo.

Job Openings

Finney County

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

- [APRN Employee Clinic](#)
- [Office Clerk-WIC](#)



Lyon County Health Department

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

- [Registered Nurse](#)



Reno County Health Department

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

- [Home Health Aide](#)



Riley County Health Department

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

- [Child Care Licensing Supervisor](#)



Sedgwick County Health Department

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

- [CHN II - TB Control Program](#)
- [Healthy Today Healthy Tomorrow Educator](#)



Shawnee County Health Department

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

- [Clinical Medical Assistant](#)
- [Registered Nurse \(Primary Care/Women's Health/Float\)](#)



Public Health Connections Information

To receive the monthly E-Newsletter

Email Pat Behnke at pbehnke@kdheks.gov

Previous issues of Public Health Connections may be found at

www.kdheks.gov/olrh/publications.htm

Send your public health news to

Pat Behnke at pbehnke@kdheks.gov or

Debbie Nickels at dnickels@kdheks.gov