



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 - Sedgwick County Health Department - Accredited by PHAB

by PHAB



The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) announced on September 18, that the Sedgwick County Health Department has joined the growing ranks of those reaping the benefits of national public health department accreditation. This decision brings the number of governmental public health departments, now accredited by PHAB to 54. PHAB is the non-profit organization that administers the national public health accreditation program, which aims to improve and protect the health of the public by advancing the quality and performance of the nation's Tribal, state, local and territorial health departments.

To receive accreditation, the Sedgwick County Health Department had to undergo a rigorous, multifaceted, peer-reviewed assessment process to ensure it meets or exceeds a specific set of standards and measures. The peer-review process provides valuable feedback to inform health departments of their strengths and areas for improvement so that they can better protect and promote the health of the people in the communities they serve.



"Residents of the Sedgwick County community served by a nationally accredited health department can be assured that their health department has demonstrated the capacity to protect and promote the health of that community," said PHAB President and CEO Kaye Bender, PhD, RN, FAAN.

Public health departments play a critical role in protecting and improving the health of people and communities. Across the nation, health departments provide a range of services aimed at promoting healthy behaviors; preventing diseases and injuries; ensuring access to safe food, water, clean air and life-saving immunizations; and preparing for and responding to public health emergencies.

Hundreds of health departments around the nation are currently preparing to seek national accreditation through the program, which launched in September 2011 after more than a decade in development. For more information, contact Teddi Nicolaus at tnicolaus@phaboard.org or phone 703-778-4549, ext. 118.

Learn more about PHAB and accreditation at www.phaboard.org.

NACCHO Announces Model Practice Awards Program

by NACCHO



From October 1 - 31, the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) will accept local public health (LPH) model practice applications. NACCHO's Model Practice Program nationally honors and recognizes outstanding local public health practice and shares the outstanding practices through the Model Practices Database. By submitting a practice, LHDs contribute to the overall improvement of public health through evidence-based best practice methods. NACCHO's Accreditation Preparation and quality improvement (QI) team encourage those communities working on performance improvement initiatives to consider submitting applications in the categories of accreditation and quality improvement, community assessment and Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships.

For more information and to submit a Model Practices application, click the NACCHO logo. Contact the Model Practices team at practices@naccho.org with any questions.

Unsung Heroes of Public Health Awards

by the Campaign for Public Health Foundation



The [Campaign for Public Health \(CPH\) Foundation](#) is reaching out to those working in public health to find, highlight and applaud the best and brightest in the disease control and prevention arena. Too often, public health is relegated to the back bench. While life-saving work, science and research is put into action 24-7 by our nation's public health leaders, most Americans don't realize the all the important work done by public health experts to keep them safe from disease, injury, infection and more. These awards are meant

to highlight this work and to bring their service to light in Washington, DC.

In each of the past four years, the CPH Foundation has flown winners to the nation's capitol to commend and applaud their efforts at a congressional reception. CPH introduces winners to legislators and policy leaders during a day of meetings so their work can be better understood. The stories of Unsung Heroes serve as examples of the type of work being done at the local, state and international level by public health leaders across the nation each and every day.

Nomination forms are due into the CPH office no later than Monday, November 3. Two public health award nomination forms can be found [here](#) (one form is used for both awards), with the media nomination form found at [this link](#).

For the Love of Play Campaign

*by Marley Sugar, RD, LD, Health and Wellness Program Manager
Midwest Dairy Council*



For the Love of Play Campaign encourages kids and the adults who care about them to get up and be active for 60 minutes a day - at school, at home and everywhere in between - as part of a healthy lifestyle. [For the Love of Play](#) empowers everyone from students and teachers to parents and community members to help keep kids moving for a healthier generation.

Play is universal for all ages and research shows that physical activity, in combination with good nutrition, is essential to a healthy lifestyle. That is why [Fuel Up to Play 60](#) and Quaker are teaming up to inspire everyone to get up and get active! This campaign reminds everyone that they have a role to play in emphasizing the importance of physical activity and good nutrition in order to lead healthier lives.

As part of the campaign, enter the [Make the Play](#) contest and share the unique ways your family plays for a chance to win a \$50.00 NFLShop.com Online Gift Card.

As we all continue to work together towards a common goal of helping kids lead healthier lives and fueling healthy families, it is crucial that community health professionals spread the word about the importance of physical activity and its impact on health. Below are ways you can get involved and spread the word about the importance of getting active through play.

- Share your favorite ways to play with a photo, selfie or short video. Use the hashtag #LoveOfPlay and tag @FUTP60. Tag friends, partners and others and ask them to show how they play.
- Like, comment and share [Fuel Up to Play 60's](#) campaign content. Look for posts, videos and photos featuring NFL players and students' favorite ways to get active through play in October on Fuel Up to Play 60 social channels.
- Reach out to the [Midwest Dairy Council](#) to find out how you can get involved in the campaign.

New Online Tool Targets Smoking and Physical Activity



from the *Community Health Advisor Website*

[HealthPartners Institute for Education and Research](#) and [Partnership for Prevention](#) have introduced a new product to help public health leaders, decision-makers and others who want to reduce

smoking and increase physical activity in their communities. The product, [Community Health Advisor](#), is an on-line tool that provides customizable information about the potential health and cost impact of implementing evidence-based interventions.

Community Health Advisor starts with policies and programs recommended in [The Community Guide](#). It builds on those recommendations by providing customizable information that community leaders can use. For example, how would smoking rates or obesity prevalence change if policies and programs were implemented? What would be the impact of changes in smoking and physical activity rates on illness and death from cancer, cardiovascular disease, or other conditions? And how would medical care costs change with changes in health?

The Community Health Advisor includes the following features:

- An interactive tool that generates national, state and county-level estimates of the health and cost impact of implementing community interventions;
- The option to view estimates by demographic group based on sex, age and race/ethnicity;
- Summary information about recommendations and evidence from the Community Preventive Services Task Force;
- General information to help users estimate the cost of implementing interventions in their own communities; and
- Links to related resources.

Users can view detailed, 30-year projections for various measures of health behavior, health impact and medical care cost, including:

- Smoking prevalence and the number of smokers who start smoking or quit;
- Obesity and overweight prevalence and the percentage of the population that meets physical activity guidelines;
- Disease prevalence and health events, including cancers, cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease and diabetes;
- Years of life and quality-adjusted years of life; and
- Medical care costs from smoking-attributable and obesity-related disease.

For more information, email info@communityhealthadvisor.org.

Kansans Needs Your Help to Improve HPV Vaccination Coverage

by *Stephanie Lambert-Barth, PMP, Project Manager*

Kansas Foundation for Medical Care



Did you know, according to the National Immunization Survey (NIS), Kansas ranks among the lowest states when comparing Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination rates for adolescents nationally? The Kansas

Foundation for Medical Care (KFMC) is working on an important initiative in Kansas to increase HPV vaccination rates for adolescents. HPV is a common virus that impacts both men and women. The HPV vaccine reduces the risk for HPV-related cancers. In the United States, each year HPV causes about 17,600 cancers in women and 9,300 cancers in men. HPV vaccination has been recommended since 2011 by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) for both boys and girls. The HPV vaccines, administered as a series of three shots over six months, produce a higher immune response in pre-teens than older adolescents. To increase immunity to the virus before exposure, the ACIP recommends routine vaccination against HPV-related cancer and diseases for girls and boys at age 11 or 12 years.

The HPV vaccine is highly effective in preventing HPV infections that cause cancer. Nationally, HPV vaccination rates are lower than those for other vaccines recommended for adolescents; NIS data shows the 2013 Tdap (Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis) vaccination rate was 86.0 percent, while the rate for the HPV vaccine three dose series was only 13.9 percent for boys and 37.6 percent for girls. In Kansas, data show current rates for the HPV vaccine three dose series of 8.6 percent for boys and 17.2 percent for girls, leaving another generation of Kansans vulnerable to HPV cancers. Strong provider recommendations that the HPV vaccine is necessary for adolescent patients and educating parents about the benefits and safety of the vaccine will help Kansans prevent future cancers.

Kansas HPV Vaccination Rates 11-18 Years of Age		
	≥1 dose HPV	≥3 doses HPV
Male	15.2%	8.6%
Female	24.5%	17.2%
Combined	19.7%	12.8%

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KFMC is providing education and assistance for providers to increase the HPV vaccination rates in our state. To learn more click the KFMC logo. For more information on how you can participate in KFMC's initiative to improve HPV vaccination rates in Kansas, contact Laura Sanchez, RN, at lsanchez@kfmc.org or 800-432-0770, ext. 339.

Cleary Joins BHP as EMSC Coordinator

by the Bureau of Health Promotion, KDHE



Tracy Cleary recently joined the Bureau of Health Promotion (BHP) as its Coordinator for Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC). She will work from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's (KDHE) South Central District Office in Wichita. Tracy has been a paramedic in south central Kansas for the past 12 years. She has served on the EMSC advisory committee for five years and has been an affiliate faculty member with the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians, teaching an Emergency Pediatric Care course. A native Kansan, Tracy received an associate's degree from Northern Oklahoma College in athletic training, an associate's degree of applied science in paramedicine from Hutchinson Community College and is currently pursuing a nursing degree. Tracy can be reached at tcleary@kdheks.gov or 316-337-6110.

New AAP Recommendations on the Use of Fluoridated Toothpaste

from Oral Health Kansas



The [American Academy of Pediatrics \(AAP\)](#) recently released new recommendations about preventing the most common chronic illness in childhood: dental caries. The recommendations states that all children should start using fluoridated toothpaste as soon as the first tooth appears. Previous recommendations called for use of fluoride toothpaste after 24 months, but this new edict calls for maximizing the benefits of fluoride at an earlier age. The document advises parents to use a tiny "smear" or grain of rice-sized amount of fluoride toothpaste on the first tooth and to then increase the amount of toothpaste to pea-sized after age three.

This news is important because it changes parenting and primary care practices that have been in place for years. The recommendations also call for the application of fluoride varnish in a primary care setting every three to six months after the first tooth erupts. Many very young children do not receive dental care but do routinely visit the pediatrician. With these recommendations, pediatricians have the opportunity to help prevent tooth decay.



To learn how fluoride works, click the Campaign for Dental Health logo.

The Cape Project - Life is HOT

by the Bureau of Health Promotion, KDHE



The Cape Project - Life is HOT (Healthy Options Today) is an initiative in Wichita-area beauty salons to educate, motivate and incentivize African American women to get regular mammograms. Why African-American women? African American women are more likely to be diagnosed with late-stage breast cancer and are more likely to die from the disease if not found early.

Why in beauty salons? Beauty professionals offer a level of trust that allows women to talk about whatever is on their mind. This also allows a captive audience and an opportunity to educate. Beauty professionals are asked to use the Life is HOT cape, which has several health messages, during hair appointments to help start a conversation about a healthy lifestyle, along with placing a window cling on their mirror to prompt clients to ask questions. Once they identify a woman who has not received a yearly mammogram, she is encouraged and incentivized by offering a \$10 off coupon for their next beauty appointment after they get their yearly mammogram with validation by the mammography facility. Women without insurance are referred to the [Early Detection Works!](#) program for eligibility. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment has partnered with 25 beauty professionals and six mammography facilities that have agreed to validate the coupon cards. Please contact the Early Detection Works! program at edw@kdheks.gov or call 877-277-1368 with questions.

Office of Communications - The Dispatch

the Dispatch

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Office of Communications launched the Dispatch, a video series posted to YouTube which spotlights programs in the agency. Click the Dispatch logo to hear from Samantha Ramskill with the Preparedness Program on the Kansas Health Alert Network (KS-HAN) and the Kansas System for the Early Registration for Volunteers (K-SERV).

Another new video highlights the Physical Activity and Nutrition Program within the Bureau of Health Promotion. Anthony Randles shares how this program brings communities, farmers and agencies together to help provide healthy food choices and reduce the risk of chronic disease for Kansans. Click the image of Aimee and Anthony to view this You Tube video.



Aimee Rosenow and Anthony Randles

Sunflower Foundation Awards More Than \$240,000 to Develop Community Trails



The Sunflower Foundation Board of Trustees has awarded a total of \$244,675 to seven Kansas communities and one school district to build new public trails or enhance existing ones. "It's a pleasure to grow the Sunflower Trails family, creating more and more outdoor space for communities to share," said Billie Hall, President and CEO of the Sunflower Foundation. "What started as a way to help communities enhance their built environment has evolved over ten years into a dynamic way to engage people around health and wellness," Hall said. "Each project reflects its unique community and it's exciting to see the creative ways each trail is used."

Since its inception in 2005, the Sunflower Trails program has partnered in more than 125 trail projects in more than 50 Kansas counties. For additional information about the Sunflower Trails program, contact Healthy Living and Active Communities program officer Elizabeth Stewart at estewart@sunflower-foundation.org or 785-232-3000.



MEADE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Barbara Johannes, Administrator, Mead County Health Department announced in August that they had just updated their website, <http://meadecohealth.com/>. Congratulations Barbara and team on a job well done!

Regional Public Health Meetings Scheduled for the Fourth Quarter of 2014

by Teri Caudle, Public Health Specialist, Local Public Health Program
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE

Don't miss the opportunity to attend one of the upcoming regional public health meetings aimed to connect local health departments with programs and best practices that will benefit the work you do within your communities. These meetings are designed for the local public health department administrator; however, any staff person interested in a particular topic is welcome to attend. Register for the meeting at Course ID # 1053042 on [KS-TRAIN](#).

The agenda includes the following: KDHE District Environmental Administrator from each respective region will discuss Investigating Public Health Nuisances including a group exercise to think through a hypothetical situation. Bob Medina, KDHE Environmental Scientist, will give an overview of the Illegal Dump Clean-up Program and discuss how to handle a difficult conversation when dealing with a nuisance.

The dates and locations are:

- Chanute October 9
- Hutchinson November 5
- Oakley November 20
- Garden City November 21
- Beloit December 3
- Topeka December 9

If you have ideas for regional meeting topics please contact Teri Caudle at tcaudle@kdheks.gov.

Have You Updated Your Occupational Exposure Policies



by the Local Public Health Program, KDHE

On March 27, 2014, the [Kansas Register](#) published revised regulations, 28-1-23 on the management of occupational exposures. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment is recommending that you review your current organization policies to assure that the changes to the regulations are incorporated in to your policies and that your employees are made aware of the revisions.

Funding Opportunities

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

CVS Caremark Community Grants - Deadline October 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.

School Garden Grant - Deadline October 31



Created in partnership with FoodCorps, the [School Garden Grant](#) program provides a \$2,000 monetary grant to a K-12 school, or a non-profit working in partnership with a K-12 school, to support a new or existing edible garden on school grounds.

Eligibility criteria includes:

- School garden must be an edible school garden (such as growing fruits, vegetables, herbs, grains, etc) and located on the grounds of a K-12 school (public, private or charter, elementary, middle or secondary)
- Applicant must be a nonprofit K-12 school (public, private or charter, elementary, middle or high) or a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization working in partnership with a K-12 school.
- Applicant cannot be a previous recipient of a Whole Kids Foundation School Garden Grant.
- Applicant must have the participation and support of a specific partner organization from the community (such as a nonprofit, a farm, a local business, a Whole Foods store, or a garden club) that brings added support and sustainability to the initiative. The applicant, if a nonprofit, may be the community partner for this grant.

Sunflower Foundation Announces New Funding for Trails Program - Deadline November 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. For more details about this RFP, click the Sunflower Foundation logo.

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. To contact the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for more information and apply for funding, click 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. Click the MetLife logo to access grant information.

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.

Accreditation Corner

KDHE Tracking Performance Through Catalyst



*by Kate Watson, Director,
Center for Performance Management, KDHE*

Performance Management is a systematic process which assists an organization in achieving its mission and strategic goals by improving effectiveness, empowering employees and streamlining decision making. In public health, [performance management](#) means actively using performance data to improve the public's health, including the strategic use of performance standards, measures, progress reports and ongoing quality improvement efforts to ensure an agency achieves desired results.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment's (KDHE) performance management system [Catalyst](#), provides the ability to track and measure progress from the top of the agency down to the programmatic level. Catalyst is a web-based management system that can enhance capacity for increasing efficiency, coordination and collaborative efforts by managing information. The structure of information is as important as the structure of programs. Catalyst provides a coordinated structure to manage vast amounts of information and turn it into useable knowledge by associating and integrating information from multiple programs that can be used to leverage resources for individual programs.

Within Catalyst, the [KDHE Strategic Map](#) is the conduit for linking programmatic activities across the agency resulting in greater collaboration and integration while reducing redundancies. The state health improvement plan, quality improvement plan and projects, program objectives/activities are all linked to the KDHE Strategic Map. By clicking on a given objective in the Strategic Map, Catalyst provides a dropdown list of all activities being conducted throughout KDHE that contribute to meeting the selected objective. This provides an easy way to quickly see the results of KDHE's strategic planning.

At the program level, Catalyst transforms stand-alone hard-copy program work plans and logic models into electronic, interactive and visual tools used for querying work plans and reporting on areas of potential (and sometimes missed) opportunities for improving program efficiencies. It provides a framework for inter-program information exchange where work plan commonalities are easy to identify at a fraction of the administrative burden of collaborating in hard-copy. In other words, Catalyst is a cross-cutting system facilitating integration and enhancing programs' capacity to work more effectively and efficiently by making all information accessible through a single interface.



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In the near future, Catalyst will be also be utilized by external partners to apply for KDHE funding opportunities. If you have questions about Catalyst you can reach Kate Watson at kwatson@kdheks.gov or 785-296-1418.

Accreditation Readiness Mini-Grants: Round 1

*by Sarah Hartsig, Analyst
Kansas Health Institute*



The Accreditation Readiness Mini-Grants: Round 1, are in the amount of approximately \$5,000 each. Funds may be used for activities related to developing a community health assessments, community health improvement plan or strategic plan. These mini-grants are awarded on a rolling basis through November 30. Applications received after that date will be considered on a case-by-case basis. All activities must be completed by March 31, 2015. For the application email Sarah Hartsig at shartsig-@khi.org.

Accreditation Readiness Mini-Grants: Round 2

Accreditation Readiness Mini-Grants: Round 2, are in the amount of approximately \$5,000 each. Funds may be used for activities related to documenting how the health department meets the requirements of one or more measures in the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) Standards. Proposals addressing any of the PHAB measures will be considered. Preferred measures for these mini-grants include the creation of quality improvement plans, performance management systems, or workforce development plans. These mini-grants are awarded on a rolling basis through November 30. Applications received after that date will be considered on a case-by-case basis. All activities must be completed by March 31, 2015. For the application email Sarah Hartsig at shartsig-@khi.org.

Technical Assistance Network Offered

The Kansas Health Foundation is pleased to announce the availability of our Technical Assistance (TA) network. If you are working on your Community Health Assessment, Community Health Improvement Plan or Strategic Planning and need short, focused assistance to overcome a barrier in the process, this TA is for you. It is offered at no cost. Please email Sarah Hartsig at shartsig@khi.org with questions.

Training and Conference Announcements

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

Register Now for the 2014 Kansas Obesity Summit - October 8



The 2014 Kansas Obesity Summit will be held October 8, in Manhattan. Join other participants from across the state to review promising practices and develop solutions to the problems of physical inactivity and poor access to healthy foods in Kansas.

- There is no cost to the summit, but registration is required: www.surveymonkey.com/s/ObesitySummit-Reg.
- See the Get Active Kansas webpage for more information; it will continue to be updated as the conference date approaches: www.getactivekansas.org/obesity-summit.asp.

Evidence Based Public Health: A Course for Local & State Practitioners - Deadline October 17

by the Bureau of Health Promotion, KDHE



Applications are now being accepted for the 2014 Kansas Evidence-Based Public Health Course to be held November 18-19, in Topeka. Applied use of evidence-based interventions at the state and local levels is critical to achieving successful public health outcomes, a skilled and adaptable workforce and more efficient and effective use of resources.

This training is offered by the Bureau of Health Promotion at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) in collaboration with the University of Kansas School of Medicine. Adapted from the Prevention Research Center in St. Louis' highly regarded Evidence-Based Public Health Course, the Kansas course features state specific data, insight from successful Kansas initiatives and guidance

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from instructors who practice public health in Kansas. As state and local health departments prepare for public health accreditation, the topics, techniques and tools provided through this course will enhance current understanding of principles of health assessment, improvement planning and evaluation. Don't miss this unique training opportunity.

Click the KDHE logo to learn more about the Kansas Evidence Based Public Health course and to complete the application form. Please email applications to cbohn@kdheks.gov by Friday, October 17.

Chronic Disease Self-Management Program Training - Various Dates and Locations

The Kansans Optimizing Health Program (KOHP) would like to invite you to be a Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP) leader. As a trained leader you will be certified to facilitate CDSMP workshops; workshops meet once a week, for six weeks. Each workshop is facilitated by two trained leaders, at least one of whom is living with an ongoing health condition.



This is a great opportunity to:

- help others learn to take control of a chronic condition and improve their quality of life
- provide a valuable educational program in the community
- form new and lasting relationships

Upcoming CDSMP leader training opportunities are scheduled for:

- October 20, 21, 27, 28 in Olathe
- November 17, 18, 19, 20 in Cimarron

This training will be from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. on each day listed above and registrants must attend each day of the training in full to receive certification. Training materials will be provided. Registrants may be eligible to be reimbursed for their travel expenses if they have traveled at least 20 miles to attend the training.

For more information about the program click the image above. Read and submit completed [applications](#) and questions to Ariel Capes at acapes@kdheks.gov or 785-296-1627, as soon as possible.

We would love for you to join our team. Space is limited, so don't wait. Get your application in today.

5th Annual Health Literacy Missouri Summit - October 23 - 24



The 5th Annual Health Literacy Missouri Summit will be held at the Hilton President hotel in Kansas City, MO, October 23 - 24. The event will gather hundreds of health care professionals in Missouri and Kansas as they take part in skill-building workshops, sit in on panel sessions and celebrate the achievements of some of the states' and nation's top health literacy scholars and practitioners. Topics include:

- Controlling health care costs while improving quality
- Cultural agility: Techniques for navigating health care with vulnerable populations
- How health literacy impacts health reform and the marketplace
- Resilience, empathy and mindfulness as a path to health literacy

[Click here](#) to register. Event partners include the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Region VII, Center for Health Policy (University of Missouri), St. Luke's Hospital (Kansas City), Kansas University Medical Center, the Healthcare Foundation of Greater Kansas City, Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved, Health Literacy Kansas, Health Literacy Missouri and Kansas Head Start Association. The summit is sponsored by the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City.

New e-Learning Course - Environmental Assessment of Foodborne Illness Outbreaks

by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Learning Connections



The interactive e-learning module, Environmental Assessment of Foodborne Illness Outbreaks, Course ID # 1051682 on [KS-TRAIN](#), provides training on how to use a systems approach in foodborne illness outbreak environmental assessments. The free course will help prepare individuals to serve on a team that investigates foodborne illness outbreaks in restaurants and other food service venues. Course participants acquire in-depth skills and knowledge necessary to:

- Investigate foodborne illness outbreaks as a member of a larger outbreak response team,
- Identify an outbreak's environmental causes and
- Recommend appropriate control measures.

Environmental Public Health Tracking 101 - Free CEUs



by Janet Neff, Director

Kansas Environmental Public Health Tracking Program, KDHE

Looking for free continuing education units (CEUs)? Consider taking the "Tracking 101" on-line course. You'll learn about the National Environmental Public Health Tracking Program and environmental health in general. This opportunity will disappear in December, so if you want need/desire CEU's, visit the National Environmental Health website by clicking the Tracking 101 logo.

To learn more about the Kansas Environmental Public Health Tracking Program, visit their website at <http://keap.kdhe.state.ks.us/epht/portal/>, or contact Janet Neff at jneff@kdheks.gov at 785-296-3849.

News and Resources

Submitted by the Bureau of Community Health Systems

Population Health and Preparedness State Wide Call



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) hosts a monthly Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call the fourth Tuesday of the month. The next call will be October 28. To view minutes from the monthly calls click the KDHE logo.

Educational Materials for Agricultural Safety and Health Messages Available



The [Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health \(CS-CASH\)](#) in collaboration with the International Society of Agricultural Safety and Health (ISASH) developed Agricultural Safety and Health messages for September's National Farm Safety and Health Week. These flyers are designed as generational messages and can be used at any time during the year. Each one asks the question: Who's at Risk on the Farm? The farm message topics include toddlers, school-aged children, new and young farmers, mid-life farmers and aging farmers.

For more information contact Ellen Duysen, at ellen.duysen@unmc.edu or 402-552-3394. To view the flyers click on the title.

- [Toddlers on the Farm](#)
- [School Age Children](#)
- [New and Young Farmers](#)
- [Mid-life Farmers](#)
- [Aging Farmers](#)

Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Centers: Lessons and Models



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response (OPHPR), in collaboration with the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH), has recently released the Journal of Public Health Management and Practice (JPHMP) supplement entitled [Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Centers: Lessons and Models](#). This journal supplement is about the Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Centers (PERLC) program. Click the Journal's logo to access examples of promotional material that has been cleared by CDC. Feel free to distribute the material to your colleagues as appropriate.

Updated Information for the Testing Approach for ICD-10 Implementation



The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently provided updated [information](#) for the testing approach for ICD-10 implementation. Included in the plan are updated dates for acknowledgement and end-to-end testing. The newly announced deadline is October 1, 2015. End-to-end testing will be offered to approximately 2,550 volunteer submitters during three testing opportunities in 2015. CMS will be providing registration information at a later date.

AAP Releases Policy Statement on School Start Times for Adolescents



The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) released the policy statement, "[School Start Times for Adolescents](#)," recommending that middle and high schools delay the start of class to 8:30 a.m. or later to combat teen sleep deprivation. "Chronic sleep loss in children and adolescents is one of the most common and easily fixable public health issues in the U.S. today," says pediatrician Judith Owens, MD, FAAP, lead author of the policy statement, which was published in the September 2014 issue of *Pediatrics*. The policy statement is accompanied by a technical report, "[Insufficient Sleep in Adolescents and Young Adults: An Update on Causes and Consequences](#)," which updates a prior report on excessive sleepiness among adolescents.

CVS Caremark Changes Corporate Name to CVS Health



CVS Caremark changed its corporate name to [CVS Health](#) effective September 3 to reflect a commitment to driving innovations in the future of health. In addition, CVS Health officially announced that all CVS pharmacies are now [tobacco free](#) as of September 3, nearly a month ahead of the October 1 target date. This makes CVS Health the first national pharmacy chain to take this step in order to support the health and well-being of its patients and customers. CVS Health also released the results of a [new study](#) that shows the enactment of policies to eliminate the sale of tobacco products at retailers with pharmacies will lead to substantially lower rates of smoking, with implications for reducing tobacco-related deaths. CVS Health is launching a comprehensive, personalized smoking cessation campaign with the goal of helping millions of Americans quit smoking. To raise awareness about the health benefits of quitting, CVS Health launched the [#OneGoodReason](#) social campaign for individuals to share personal stories of how smoking and tobacco use has affected their lives.

FDA Issues NSE Orders to Star Scientific, Inc



The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued not substantially equivalent (NSE) orders to Star Scientific, Inc. to [stop the sale](#) and distribution of seven dissolvable tobacco products (Ariva Cinnamon, Ariva Wintergreen, Ariva Mint, Ariva Java, Ariva Citrus, Stonewall Natural and Stonewall Java). The NSE orders were based on a complete scientific review of the seven products that found each had different characteristics compared to the predicate products identified by the manufacturer. Star Scientific, Inc. failed to show that the new products rose different questions of public health. Click the FDA logo to read more on the NSE orders. Additional information about this order is on the FDA Center for Tobacco Products [website](#).

Shortage of Peritoneal Dialysis Solution Developing Nationally



A serious shortage of peritoneal dialysis (PD) solution is developing nationally, which is caused by increased demand for PD services. The shortage has hit Baxter, one of the main manufacturers of sterile solutions. In an effort to address the PD solution shortage, Baxter has increased PD solution production by moving production to additional lines. This has resulted in shortages of other solutions, particularly for irrigation solutions, which are widely used in hospitals. Baxter has put its clients on allocation for a number of these solutions, which is resulting in shortages in some hospitals. The sudden increases in demand have now caused shortages at two other manufacturers, B. Braun and Hospira. More information about the [irrigation solution shortages](#), as well as the entire [FDA current drug shortage list](#), can be found online.

Health System Financial Sustainability After a Disaster Webinar Available for Replay



The Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness & Response has released a [replay](#) of its August 21 webinar on preparing for health system financial sustainability after a disaster. Registration for the event exceeded capacity. Webinar topics included the conditions needed for HHS to waive certain Medicare, Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act requirements; Federal Emergency Management Agency reimbursement; and Small Business Administration disaster loans.

How Health System Changes Through the Affordable Care Act Report



In November 2013, the Institute of Medicine held a workshop to discuss how health system changes through the Affordable Care Act could affect medical and public health preparedness throughout the nation. A [report](#) summarizing the workshop is available for download or purchase. A companion [infographic](#) and more detailed [table](#) of potential effects are available, as well.

Job Openings

Flint Hills Community Health Center

The Flint Hills Community Health Center is accepting applications for the following positions:

- [Family Medicine Doctor \(MD/DO\) or Nurse Practitioner \(APRN\)](#)
- [Licensed Practical Nurse \(LPN\) or Medical Assistant \(MA\)](#)
- [Registered Dental Hygienist \(RDH\)](#)



Kansas Department of Health and Environment

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment is accepting applications for the following position:

- [Public Health Nurse III](#)



Lower 8 of Southeast Kansas Preparedness

The Lower 8 of Southeast Kansas Preparedness Group is accepting applications for the following position:

- [Lower 8 Regional Coordinator](#)

Pottawatomie County Health Department

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

- [Public Health Nurse](#)



Reno County Health Department

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

- [Preparedness Coordinator](#)



Saline County Health Department

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

- [Nurse Practitioner](#)



Sedgwick County Health Department

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

- [Director of Health Department](#)
- [Medical Assistant](#)
- [Public Health Nurse](#)
- [Registered Dietician/Public Health Nurse](#)
- [WIC Medical Data Clerk](#)



Shawnee County Health Agency

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

- [Registered Nurse](#)



Wyandotte County Health Department

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

- [Nurse Practitioner](#)



Kansas Department of Health and Environment Program Newsletters

[Epi Updates Newsletter](#)

[Health Homes Herald](#)

[KanCare Advisor](#)

[Kansas Environmental News](#)

[Kansas Health Statistics Report](#)

[Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program](#)

[Newborn Screening Newsletter](#)

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

Public Health Connections Information

To receive the monthly E-Newsletter

Email Pat Behnke at pbehnke@kdheks.gov

Previous issues of Public Health Connections maybe found at

http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/public_health_connections.htm

Send your public health news to

Pat Behnke at pbehnke@kdheks.gov or

Debbie Nickels at dnickels@kdheks.gov