



PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

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Roderick L. Bremby, Secretary

Kathleen Sebelius, Governor

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PUBLIC HEALTH DRIVE-THROUGH FLU CLINIC – A HUGE SUCCESS!

*submitted by Barbara Mitchell
Johnson County Health Department*



The Johnson County Public Health Department conducted a very successful drive-through flu vaccination clinic on Saturday, Oct. 27. Five hundred doses of flu vaccine were administered in less than two hours. The vaccines were provided free to the public.

The drive-through clinic was also designed as an exercise to test our incident command system and our ability to dispense vaccine as quickly as logistically possible. Fifty-five employees and volunteers arrived at the Johnson County Northeast Offices bright and early to get set up for the event. Incident Commander Liz Ticer of the Johnson County Public Health Department coordinated the effort with four community partners, including the Sheriff's Office, Med-Act, Mission. Police Department and the County Facilities Department. The community partners were very supportive and worked well together. The key was good communication before and after the event.

The weather cooperated and people seeking flu shots began lining up in their cars by 7:30 a.m. for a 9 a.m. start. It was estimated that for a person receiving a flu shot, from the start of paperwork to driving out of the parking lot, the whole process took seven minutes. Many people were turned away due to the limited quantities of

vaccine.

Leon F. Vinci, DHA, Director of Public Health, Johnson County Public Health Department commented "It was great to see such a well run operation and to hear such positive comments from the public."

NATIONAL LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WEEK

submitted by Shannon Babcock

Kansas Healthy Homes Lead Hazard Prevention Program - KDHE



Shannon Steinbauer, RN, testing children

The Kansas Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Prevention Program (KHHLHPP) celebrated National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week Oct. 22-26. Activities included a display in the Capitol's rotunda of artwork from Kansas preschools and daycares and testing events in Wyandotte and Sedgwick counties. Also, the program celebrated with the "Zooriffic Healthy Homes Fun Day" on Thursday, Oct. 25. The fun day included educational booths from various Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and Shawnee County agencies; team mascots included the University of Kansas (KU) Jayhawk, the Kansas City Royal's Slugger, and Chief's KC Wolf. Children who attended the event also received free admission to the zoo with an adult's ticket being discounted

to \$1. National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week is a time that the program can celebrate successes and educate the public on the hazards that may still effect them.

On Dec. 4-5 KHHLHPP will be hosting the 2007 Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Prevention conference in Kansas City, Kan. This conference will feature various speakers from around the country highlighting healthy homes issues, advocacy, and policy. Please plan to join us for this exciting two-day conference. Registration and more information is available on our Web site at www.unleadedks.com or KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, course #101204. If you have any questions please contact Shannon Babcock at (785) 368-7387.



Lead Prevention Team with Mascots

MR. SMITH GOES TO WASHINGTON

submitted by Janis Goedeke

Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA), President-Elect

Mr. Smith goes to Washington D.C., well, maybe not Mr. Smith. However, as president-elect of KPHA, I was privileged to attend the American Public Health Association (APHA) Conference in Washington, D.C. This was a great learning experience for me as well as the other Kansas attendees.

KPHA is one of the recipients of the APHA Kellogg Affiliate capacity-building initiative grant. While attending the conference, there were several meetings discussing the grant and giving the local affiliates some grant guidance. Elaine Schwartz, KPHA Executive Director, Shirley Orr, APHA Delegate; Sonja Armbruster, Treasurer KPHA, and I attended these meetings. Creative new ideas and challenges were presented to local affiliates.

The panel discussion that was held on the second day of the conference was phenomenal. During this meeting, participants learned that good relationships with legislators are no longer optional. Below are some pointers that I feel is essential to all of us so that we may become advocates for public health.

Key points to communicating with legislators include:

- Developing relationships with legislators (THIS IS NOT AN OPTION!!!);
- Educate legislators on public and public health issues; and
- Become a resource for legislators.

Key components on how to talk to your legislator include:

- Having a specific goal when talking with legislators;
- Be knowledgeable of the legislator's staff, and know who in the legislator's office is on the health committee;
- Use personal stories to communicate your point;
- Advocate for issues that are not just in the field of health as many issues effect more than one area. (example: Farm Bill that will effect agriculture as well as health);
- Be able to show where to get the money for the project you are requesting. (Example: Reduce defense budget by one percent and utilize that one percent to fund your project.);
- Never assume that the legislator knows your issue; and
- Include health committee person on conference calls, being sure that the conference calls are properly strategized. Mondays and Fridays are the best days to meet with the committee person.

On the final day of the conference, Elaine Schwartz and I took advantage of being in Washington, D.C., and we went to the Kansas legislators' offices. We were able to meet with each office promoting the States Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) bill and the Farm Bill. This was a huge learning experience for me as I learned of the organization and the procedures of our legislative branch of government.

Unlike Mr. Smith who went to Washington and made a big impact, I went to Washington, and Washington made a big impact on me! It was a great experience and I felt very privileged to represent KPHA as president-elect. Thanks to all KPHA members for allowing me to be your representative.



WHAT IS PUBLIC HEALTH?

*submitted by the Office of Local and Rural Health
Kansas Department of Health and Environment*

To promote awareness of the Core Functions and Essential Services of Public Health, Connections will be highlighting an Essential Service of the month by utilizing *"What is Public Health?" An Orientation to the Public Health System for Participants and Spectators*. Click on the logo to download the complete document.

The Core Function Assurance is related to the implementation of legislative mandates and the maintenance of statutory responsibility. It is critical that mechanisms are in place to guarantee that necessary services are provided to both in the public and private sectors, accountability to people setting health objectives and providing reports on progress, and developing adequate responses to health crisis. The assurance function requires the exercise of authority. It also provides the guarantees for certain health services. This Core Function addresses Essential Services 6, 7, 8, and 9.



Essential Service #9: Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services.

This service calls for ongoing evaluation of health programs, based on analysis of health status and service utilization data, to assess program effectiveness and to provide information necessary for allocating resources and reshaping programs.

Once a health service has been instituted, an evaluation strategy must be in place to track performance related to outcome objectives. This evaluation strategy should address issues of effectiveness of process, as well as quality of personal and population-based programs. (Kouzes and Posner, 2002)

The following provides a sample of the activities performed under this service that impact the public's health: Demonstrate analytic abilities directed to program planning and function establish procedures to analyze systems for funding local health services; Evaluate quality improvement initiatives; Develop a process to ensure appropriate communication between individuals and departments; Analyze health agency ability to obtain credentialing and accreditation; Determination of the commitment and enthusiasm of members of the health team.

Professionals who provide these services include the Chief Operating Officer/Executive Director/Public Health Administrator, Director of Health Services, senior level managers, human resource directors, health planners, Director of Budget/Financial Officer, epidemiologists, Environmental Health Director.

Questions to ask yourself to help determine if you/your agency perform functions that contribute to Essential Service #9:

- Do I/my agency understand the importance of evaluating the quality of health services provided by my agency?
- Do I/my agency conduct regular community health assessments to monitor progress towards health related objectives?
- Do I/my agency analyze data obtained from community health evaluations?
- Do I/my agency disseminate evaluation data to appropriate parties?
- Do I/my agency meet regularly with departments to evaluate progress of quality delivery of health care?
- Do I/my agency keep current on data related to accessibility and quality of health services?

- Do I/my agency understand the relationship of Federal, State and Local health services related to access to health services?

If you/your agency are **not** checking one of the boxes, how will you/we **assure** that this essential service is provided in your community, and how do we as public health professionals work to fulfill that mission in the daily performance of our duties and responsibilities?

If you don't know where you're going, how are you gonna' know when you get there?

–Yogi Berra

Logic Model Development Guide from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation:

<http://www.wkcf.org/pubs/tools/evaluation/pub3669.pdf>

This is an excerpt from the introduction:

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation has made program evaluation a priority. The program logic model is defined as a picture of how your organization does its work – the theory and assumptions underlying the program. A program logic model links outcomes (both short- and long-term) with program activities/processes and the theoretical assumptions/principles of the program.

It is a conscious process that creates an explicit understanding of the challenges ahead, the resources available, and the timetable in which to hit the target. In general, logic modeling can greatly enhance the participatory role and usefulness of evaluation as a management and learning tool. Developing and using logic models is an important step in building community capacity and strengthening community voice. The ability to identify outcomes and anticipate ways to measure them provides all program participants with a clear map of the road ahead. This can be a strong tool in communicating with diverse audiences – those who have varying world views and different levels of experience with program development and evaluation.

Practical Evaluation of Public Health Programs Workbook - prepared by the University of Texas-Houston Health Science Center School of Public Health and the Texas Department of Health. Supported by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Association of Schools of Public Health Cooperative Agreement 97-0531(P)-BHPR. Provided through the Public Health Training Network

<http://www2a.cdc.gov/phtn/pract-eval/workbook.asp>

The Community Tool Box

Section 1. A Framework for Program Evaluation: A Gateway to Tools

http://ctb.ku.edu/en/tablecontents/sub_section_main_1338.htm

Section 5. Developing an Evaluation Plan http://ctb.ku.edu/tools/EN/sub_section_main_1352.htm

Section 7. Ten Essential Public Health Services http://ctb.ku.edu/en/tablecontents/sub_section_main_1804.htm



REGIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH MEETINGS – 2008

Upcoming Regional Public Health Meetings and Billing Workshops.

- **Central Region:** Feb. 27 at the Reno County Health Department, 209 W Second, Hutchinson, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Please contact Jon Anderson at (785) 296-8435 if you have any questions.
- **North Central Region:** Mar. 25, please contact Debbie Whitmer at (785) 827-9639 for meeting location and time.
- **Northeast Region:** Mar. 13 at the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 SW Jackson, Flint Hills Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Topeka, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Please contact Linda Frazier at (785) 296-3641 if you have any questions.
- **Northwest Region:** Mar. 13, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the NW Educational Service Center, Oakley. Contact Georgette Schoenfeld, RN, Logan County Health Department, for a lunch reservation at (785) 672-4502. Please contact Debbie Whitmer at (785) 827-9639 if you have any questions.
- **Southeast Region:** Feb. 14, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Southeast District Office, 1500 W Seventh, Meadowlark Room, Chanute. Please contact Jon Anderson at (785) 296-8435 if you have any questions.
- **Southwest Region:** Feb. 15, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Finney County Administration Building, 311 N Ninth, Garden City. Please contact Debbie Whitmer at (785) 827-9639 if you have any questions.

BILLING WORKSHOPS - 2008

- **NE Billing Group** will meet on Feb. 7 at the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 SW Jackson, Flint Hills Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Topeka, 9 a.m. - noon. For more information, contact Linda Frazier at (785) 296-3641.
- **Billing Biddies** will meet on Mar. 5 from 9 a.m. – noon. For more information, contact Debbie Whitmer at (785) 827-9639.
- **Billers Anonymous** will meet on Feb. 13 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. For more information, contact Debbie Whitmer at (785) 827-9639.
- **Mission Impossible Group** will meet on Feb. 28 from 9 a.m. – noon, Reno County Health Department, Hutchinson. For more information, contact Jon Anderson at (785) 296-8435.
- **KUG's** meets from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Satanta District Hospital's education room (in basement). For more information, contact Michelle Miller (620) 675-8191 mmiller@satantahospital.org.
- **Billers-R-U's** will meet Feb. 14 at the district office in Chanute, Meadowlark Room, 9 a.m. - noon. For more information, contact Jon Anderson at (785) 296-8435.

NEW COURSES ON TRAIN

Open a new web-browser, add <http://ks.train.org>, then click the course links. Forgotten your ID and Password? Contact the helpdesk@kdhe.state.ks.us or call (785) 296-5655. Learners can also print out the User's Handbook by clicking the TRAIN icon below.



General Public Health

National Courses:

1. [Acute and Chronic Noise Exposure: Strategies for Preventing, Diagnosing, and Treating Hearing Loss](#)
2. [Unified Health Communication 101 \(with Continuing Education Credits\)](#)
3. [Working in a Point of Dispensing \(POD\)](#)
4. [Preparedness and Community Response to Pandemics](#)
5. [Unified Health Communication 101A](#)

Health Care

National Course:

1. [A Health Professional's Guide to Pediatric Oral Health Management](#)

Kansas Course:

1. [Bright Smiles for Kansas Kids \(#1010214\) \(online\)](#)

Environmental

National Courses:

1. [ATSDR Environmental Medicine Grand Rounds: Arsenic Toxicity - \(Web-based\) - WB1254](#)
2. [Occupational and Environmental Radiation Protection: Principles and Practices of Radiation Safety](#)
3. [Management Skills for Emerging Leaders in Environmental Health & Safety](#)
4. [Integrated Emergency Planning: A Step-By-Step Approach to the "One Plan"](#)

Laboratory

Kansas Course:

1. [KDHE Packing and Shipping of Diagnostic Specimens and Infectious Substances: Inclusive of Evidence Control Measures](#)

Terrorism/Emergency Readiness

National Course:

1. [The POD Game](#)
2. [Emergency Preparedness: Are We Ready? \(online\)](#)
3. [Medical Reserve Corps \(MRC\) Training Introduction - Part 1-A Module - 1004807 - On Line](#)
4. [Medical Reserve Corps \(MRC\) Training Introduction - Part 1-B Module - 1004805 - On-line](#)

Kansas Course:

1. [Via Christi: Advanced Burn Life Support](#)

Injury/Violence/Trauma

National Course:

1. [CISM: Assisting Individuals In Crisis](#)

Reproductive Health

National Course:

1. [Title X Orientation](#)

How to Create Your Own Learner Account on KS-TRAIN (if you do not already have an account):

1. Log onto <http://ks.train.org>
2. Click "create account" on the left hand side of the screen beneath the "login" button.
3. Complete the learner account by filling out all the necessary profile information on the subsequent pages. Required fields are indicated with a red asterisk (*).
4. Write down your User ID and Password in a secure place.

ORAL HEALTH

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



Here are frequently asked questions for providers of Oral Health for the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) and Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (MRDD) Waiver.

What is the service?

Beginning April 1, 2007, a new service was approved through the HCBS/MRDD waiver. The oral health services allows the HCBS/MRDD population to receive needed dental care services in Kansas. With the exception of HCBS/MRDD and enrollees, Kansas Medicaid does not currently provide dental care to adults except a dental examination, x-ray, and/or extraction in an emergency situation.

What will the service provide?

Oral Health Services offers preventive and restorative treatment for consumers receiving services through Title 19 - HCBS adult ages 21 and over, MRDD waivers. (Please refer to the Kansas Medical assistance Program (KMAP) Dental Manual, and the covered benefit table exhibit D)
<https://www.kmap-state-ks.us/Documents/Content/Provider%20Manuals/Dental%2010012007%20735.pdf>

How is this service funded?

The service is funded through Medicaid federal funds and state match.

How do dentists enroll in the HCBS/MRDD program?

If already enrolled in Title XIX, dentists may accept HCBS/MRDD patients and bill Medicaid using their current dental provider number. For those wishing to enroll as a new provider, they complete the non-physician application, checking *Title XIX services* on the application where asked. The application is submitted to Electronic Data Service (EDS) with a copy of the dentist's license and National Provider Identifier (NPI) number. Provider enrollment staff members at EDS (785) 274-5914 are always available to guide dental office staff through the application process.

What is the time frame for processing enrollments?

The timeframe for processing enrollments is approximately two weeks.

How much will it cost for a dental provider to participate?

Dental providers pay no fee to participate. The provider agrees to accept Medicaid rates. (Please refer to the KMAP Dental Manual, and the covered benefit table exhibit D)

Which adults are eligible to participate?

The service will provide oral health services for adults who are receiving services through HCBS/MRDD.

What is the process for the consumer to enroll?

Community Development Disabilities Organizations (CDDO's) assist individual consumers in determining their eligibility for the HCBS/MRDD waiver. Once they are receiving HCBS services, the individual is able to receive the reimbursable dental services through Medicaid. Dental office staff can determine if the patient is eligible for the HCBS/MRDD Medicaid reimbursement by looking for the HCMRDD code on the Medicaid card.

Are there fees that the HCBS patient must pay?

There are no fees involved. The HCBS program covers the cost of the required services.

How does this new service benefit a dental provider?

Participation provides a needed service to people in their communities, whether it's the adult with developmental disabilities or family members responsible for caretaking. Consumers' oral health decline because they struggle to maintain their personal daily oral hygiene. Consumers and their family members have difficulty accessing routine dental care due to the lack of available dentists prepared to provide the specialized care that consumers may need. As a result many come to the dental office or hospital with severe oral disease, calling for significant restoration or tooth extraction. With poor oral health, their overall health deteriorates and other chronic diseases can escalate. Emergency room and hospitalization costs drain the local economy. Dentists can play an essential role in helping all community residents maintain optimum oral health.

Which partners are involved?

Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS) – Community Supports and Services, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), Office of Oral Health KDHE, Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities, Oral Health Kansas (OHK), Kansas Dental Association (KDA), Community Developmental Disabilities Organizations (CDDO), Community Service Providers (CSP), Electronic Data Systems (EDS), Kansas Health Policy Authority (KHPA), and Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved (KAMU).

Whom do I call if I have more questions?

Greg Wintle, Program Manager with SRS (785) 296-3561

Marcia Manter, Community Development Specialist with OHK (785) 235-6039

Ruth Williams, Enrollment with EDS (620) 983-9041

Provider Enrollment with EDS (785) 274-5914

ORIENTATION TO KAN BE HEALTHY



Registered Nurses, not previously Child Health Assessment Nurse Provider (CHANP) certified are invited to attend the KAN Be Healthy Health Screening on Tuesday, Mar. 18 from 1 – 5 p.m. (not required for ARNPs). The classroom style four-hour training session will be a review of the orientation training manual. There will be no equipment demonstrations provided. Other training options:

- ✚ Independent (home) self-study
- ✚ Classroom Style
- ✚ Web-based

Following the training sessions and successful completion of the quiz, the registered nurse will be “approved” to provide KAN Be Healthy screenings. All training options are identical.

Location is at Washburn University, Benton Hall, Room 407, 1700 SW College Blvd., Topeka. Registration fee is \$50 and deadline is March 15. This course is posted on KS-TRAIN, <http://ks.train.org>, #1002706.

For more information call (785) 670-1399 or visit our Web-site for other training options at www.washburn.edu/ce/kbh/training/. The Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services developed this orientation. Course contact is Joanne Ramberg, RN, at (785) 670-2615. Coordinated by the Washburn University, Division of Continuing Education, Topeka.

PUBLIC HEALTH FOUNDATION LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

*submitted by Linda Wilburn
Public Health Foundation*

The Eagle Book Series and Educational Guide: Tools for Community Diabetes Prevention is a valuable package from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Indian Health Service. It is a series of four books containing messages to help children, families, and communities make positive health changes. The series includes "Through the Eyes of the Eagle" which compares the healthy lifestyles of ancestors with the sedentary lifestyles of today; "Knees Lifted High" encourages physical activity every day; "Plate Full of Color" teaches the value of eating a variety of colorful and healthy foods; and "Tricky Treats" encourages children to eat healthy food and snacks.



The 62-page educational guide is an excellent companion resource for anyone using the Eagle Book series and includes curricula, activities, recipes, and more. This guide can be used in the classroom, library, health clinics, home and other settings to promote overall wellness and health. The books are also available individually in packages of 68. Click on eagle to review.

JOHNSON COUNTY JOB OPENINGS



The Johnson County Public Health Department, located in the Kansas City Metro area is seeking applicants for the following position:

- Health Educator/Senior Wellness #100566
- Outreach Nurse #100571
- Public Health Nurse #104318

To review the job specifications click on the Johnson County logo on the left and scroll down the page. Interested applicants may send resume and cover letter to Stacy Barr, Recruiter; stacy.barr@jocogov.org or for complete details and to apply on-line, visit <http://hr.jocogov.org>; or fax resume to (913) 715-1419; or mail to: Johnson County Human Resources; 111 S. Cherry, Suite 2600; Olathe, KS 66061. EOE

JOB OPENING AT SEDGWICK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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

- Community Health Nurse II - Immunization Clinic - 20002637112607

For more information click the Sedgwick County Seal on the right, or contact Jeff Goetzinger, Human Resource Assistant, Sedgwick County Health Department at (316) 660-7333.



**LOCAL HEALTH SECTION
OFFICE OF LOCAL & RURAL HEALTH**

Shirley Orr
Director, Local Health
1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340
Topeka, KS 66612-1365
Office phone – 785-296-7100
Cell phone –316-250-6940
Fax number 785-296-1231
E-mail address – sorr@kdhe.state.ks.us

Jon Anderson
PH Nurse Specialist
1500 W. 7th
Chanute, KS 66720-9701
Office phone – 620-431-2390
Cell phone 785-231-9828
Fax number – 620-431-1211
E-mail address – janderso@kdhe.state.ks.us

Linda Frazier
PH Workforce Development Coordinator/DLC
1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340
Topeka, KS 66612-1365
Office phone – 785-296-3641
Cell phone – 785-231-4504
Fax number – 785-296-1231
E-mail address – lfrazier@kdhe.state.ks.us

Vacant
PH Nurse Specialist
1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340
Topeka, KS 66612-1365
Office phone – 785-296-1200
Cell phone –
Fax number - 785-296-1231
E-mail address –

Debbie Nickels
Kansas TRAIN Administrator
1000 SW Jackson, Suite 340
Topeka, KS 66612-1365
Office phone – 785-291-3457
Cell phone – 785-231-4503
Fax number – 785-296-1231
E-mail address – dnickels@kdhe.state.ks.us

Debbie Whitmer
PH Nurse Specialist
2501-D Market Place
Salina, KS 67401-7699
Office phone –785-827-9639
Cell phone – 785-452-5986
Fax number – 785-827-1544
Email address – dwhitmer@kdhe.state.ks.us