

2014 KPHA Newsletter 4th Quarter

President's Message

As I look back on 2014, I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to serve as the president of the Kansas Public Health Association. In January, I was very daunted by the responsibility that was ahead of me. But thanks to an amazing board of directors, so much was accomplished throughout the year. This year has gone so quickly and there is much to celebrate, but I feel that there are still so many things left to do! I know, however, that there will always be opportunity for all of us to engage with and be involved in the work of the organization. For example, so many of you commented on the quality of the fall conference. It definitely was a *very* successful conference, but it would not have been without you. KPHA is your organization. It represents all of you in public health: clinicians, advocates, administrators, academic researchers, and students. In order to survive and thrive, the organization needs you to serve on communications committees, membership committees, fundraising committees, policy committees and more.

Some of the highlights of the year include our participation in a County Health Rankings event with the Kansas Health Institute, having a proclamation signed by the governor and resolutions accepted in the Kansas House and Senate for National Public Health Week, and attendance at the MINK regional meeting in Iowa and the APHA convention in New Orleans. Additionally, KPHA became a charter member of the Kansas Workforce Development Coordinating Council and partnered on the KDHE state and local workforce assessment project. I am certainly looking forward to what will come from KPHA in 2015! Be sure to watch for opportunities from Mark Thompson and the section and committee chairs in the coming months. I encourage all of you to take advantage of wonderful opportunities to network with colleagues from across the state and be a part of the larger public health community in Kansas.

Thank you, again. Best wishes and good health in the year ahead!



Tanya Honderick, RN, MS, MPH, PHCNS-BC
KPHA President



KPHA 2015 FALL CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 16 & 17TH

HILTON GARDEN INN
MANHATTAN, KS



The following board members will be ending their terms this December.
Thank you for your service and dedication to KPHA!



Ellen Averett

Immediate Past-President (2014)
Financial Strategy Committee (2014)
Conference Planning Committee (2014)
President (2013)
President-Elect (2012)
Conference Chair (2012)
Director-at-Large (2009, 2010 & 2011)
Research and Evaluation Chair (2005-2008)

Greg Crawford

Director-at-Large (2013 & 2014)
Membership Committee Chair (2013 & 2014)
Conference Planning Committee (2014)
Research and Evaluation Section Chair (2012)

Emily Farley

Preparedness Section Chair (2013 & 2014)
Conference Planning Committee (2013 & 2014)
Poster Competition Co-Chair (2014)

Ty Kane

Director-at-Large (2013 & 2014)
Board Development Committee (2014)

Joe Kotsch

Treasurer (2013 & 2014)
Financial Strategy Committee (2014)
Conference Planning Committee (2014)

Jenny Maciaszek

Student Section Chair (2014)

Dick Morrissey

Policy Section Chair (2013 & 2014)
Legislative Action and Issues Committee Chair (2013 & 2014)
Conference Planning Committee (2014)

John Neuberger
Oral Health Section Chair (2014)

Eldonna Chesnut Chosen to be Council of Affiliates Chair-Elect in 2015

By Tanya Honderick, President



KPHA is very proud to announce that Eldonna Chesnut was elected at the annual meeting in New Orleans to be the next chair-elect of the APHA Council of Affiliates. The Council of Affiliates (CoA) was formed to promote efficient and effective communication and coordination of affiliate activities and affairs with APHA (<https://www.apha.org/about-apha/affiliates-original/council-of-affiliates>). This speaks very highly to Eldonna's standing in MINK and with other affiliates across the country. The CoA Chairperson serves as an ex officio member of the APHA Executive Board and is a voting member of the Executive Board.

Salina Votes to Keep Public Water Supply Fluoridated

By Jack Brown, Environmental Health Section Chair and John Neuberger, Oral Health Section Chair

The city of Salina has been fluoridating their water supply since 1968. However a petition lead by a citizen's group known as Salina Cares successfully placed an item on this November's mid-term election ballot asking that the city of Salina repeal a city ordinance that allows for the fluoridation of the city's public water supply.

The ballot question read: Should the city of Salina repeal the ordinance that allows for the fluoridation of the city's public water supply? "A "yes" vote would stop fluoridation of the city's water supply; a "no" vote means fluoridation would continue.



In response to what many Salina dentists and doctors felt was an important local public health issue; a grass roots campaign was launched to educate the public about the positive benefits of fluoridated water. Twenty-one doctors, 39 dentists, other community members and organizations joined a pro-fluoride coalition in support of continued fluoridation of Salina's public water supply.

The Salina Dental Society and colleagues obtained an endorsement from the KUMC Medical School Dean – Salina, hired a campaign strategist, set up a Facebook page, provided fluoride educational materials to dental and medical offices, created hundreds of yard signs, provided the local health department with fluoride information, advertised on city buses, advertised on the local news website, encouraged supporters to write letters of support to the Salina Journal, created newspaper ads, and went door-to-door to almost 400 homes. Activities of supporters also

included Oral Health Kansas conducting a phone poll. The Oral Health Kansas website contains information on the state testimony presented on fluoridation earlier in the year. The location of this information was made available to the Salina Dental Society as an addition resource supporting the merits of fluoridation.

The pro-fluoride campaign was successful. The measure to de-fluoridate Salina's water supply was defeated by a 2 to 1 vote, the actual final count was Yes votes: 3,160 and the No votes: 6,596.

Allison Lesko, president of the Salina Dental Society stated "We are very excited to see Salina continue water fluoridation, as it is an important public health benefit for our community. We were also very pleased with how the medical and dental community could come together on this issue, and we are thankful to the community for voting tonight."

Dr. Robert Moser, secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, touted the pro fluoridation work in Salina as a "good public health principle" based on sound science.

Enroll Wyandotte Makes Big Impact on Uninsured Rates in County

By Dr. Larry Franken, Infectious Disease Section Chair

Wyandotte County, Kansas has historically had the highest number of uninsured residents in the State. Most of these uninsured are in low-income working families. People without health insurance coverage typically have worse access to care and are less likely to receive preventive care and services for major health conditions than those with insurance.



To address this problem of high number of uninsured residents Enroll Wyandotte was created. Enroll Wyandotte is a volunteer outreach and enrollment assistance campaign aimed at educating and enrolling Wyandotte County residents into the Health Insurance Marketplace created by the Affordable Care Act. The program was a joint effort of the Community Health Council of Wyandotte County and the Wyandotte County Public Health Department. The programs visibility was also significantly enhanced through the efforts of Kansas City Mayor Mark Holland and his staff.

The program began with the 2013-2014 enrollment period where over 4,000 applications for insurance were completed through the Marketplace. This accounted for a drop of 8 %, tying Seward Count for the largest decrease in uninsured in the State of Kansas. According to Wesley McKain, Wyandotte County Public Health Department, "Wyandotte County was able to take advantage of the largest expansion of health insurance coverage since the 1960's. We did so by building trust and communication among community partners who cared about this issue." To see how your county did in their enrollment efforts check out this New York Times article at: <http://goo.gl/mzkUyS>.

The 2014-2015 enrollment period began this past November 15 and will continue through February 15, 2015. The group is using the network of partners it developed last year to provide public outreach and enrollment assistance for the Marketplace. “This effort demonstrates how a local public health department can take a leadership role in mobilizing the community around an important issue” stated McKain.

2014 KPHA Conference Awards

By Greg Crawford, Director at Large and Becky Tuttle, Awards Committee Chair

The Kansas Public Health Association today recognized Dr. Won Choi, Executive Director of the University of Kansas Master of Public Health Program, as the 2014 winner of the association’s Samuel J. Crumbine Medal.

“Dr. Choi has demonstrated dedication to and excellence in the field of public health through teaching, research, and service. His efforts as educator and leader of public health education at KU have resulted in over 200 public health workers in the state of Kansas – making a direct impact on the improvement of public health in the state,” said Tanya Honderick, KPHA President.

Dr. Choi received his PhD in Epidemiology in 1996 from the University of California at San Diego. He has been with the University of Kansas Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health since 2000.

The Crumbine award is the association’s highest honor and is named after a Kansas physician and public health pioneer, Samuel J. Crumbine.

The Kansas Public Health Association also recognized nine other individuals and one organization for their contributions to public health.

Public Health Policy Maker of the Year	Representative Barbara Bollier, MD Overland Park Senator Laura Kelly Topeka Senator Elaine Bowers Concordia
Dorothy Woodin Award	Nancy Wynn, RN Child Care Licensing Program Director Unified Government of Wyandotte County/KCK Public Health Department
Corporate Public Health Service Award	Health and Wellness Coalition of Wichita
Virginia Lockhart Health Education Award	Craig Barnes Health Promotions Coordinator Shawnee County Health Agency

Jane Addams Award

Christy Schunn
Executive Director
Kansas Infant Death and SIDS Network

Special Service Award

Dr. Robert P. Sherman
Tuberculosis Medical Consultant
Unified Government of Wyandotte
County/KCK Public Health Department

Claudia Blackburn
Former Director
Sedgwick County Health Department

President's Award

Ellen Averett
Program Director
Master of Health Services Administration
Program
University of Kansas School of Medicine

KPHA on Social Media

By Nikki Keene Woods, KPHA Secretary



Be sure to “like” KPHA on Facebook and follow on the newly created Twitter site. The KPHA Communications Committee is currently developing a social media plan for the organization. If you have a special interest in social media, please contact us (via one of the sites) to join the committee. The goal is to support the overall KPHA mission of “Promoting and Improving Population Health in Kansas” through our social media presence.

Position Announcement

The Kansas Association of Local Health Departments (KALHD) is seeking a full-time Workforce Development Project Specialist will work in conjunction with KALHD staff and partner organizations to:

- support activities of the Public Health Workforce Development Coordinating Council,
- meet objectives for the assessment of the public health workforce,
- conduct course reviews,
- develop and implement communication tools,
- provide training and technical assistance to local public health agencies across the state, and
- assist in the promotion and implementation of performance standards and quality improvement.

Minimum Requirements:

- 2 years of experience in an applicable field with preference for teaching live classroom or community education programs, or for developing and delivering public health programming. Additional education may be substituted for work experience.
- Bachelor's degree in public health, nursing, health care management or administration, communications, education, or related.
- Must be able and willing to travel statewide.

Required Skills:

- Computer and technical skills
- Excellent oral and written communication skills

Preferred:

- Experience in development of curriculum, course content, instructional materials development or evaluation, classroom teaching, and management.
- Master's Degree in Public Health, Nursing, Education, Public Management
- Experience in online course curriculum and course development, use of course development software, instructional design

To apply, submit cover letter and resume to michelle.ponce@kalhd.org by December 19, 5:00 p.m.

New CDC Funding Awards

By Nikki Keene Woods

<http://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/about/2014-foa-awards.htm#awards>



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

CDC has announced new funding awards, supported in part by the Affordable Care Act, to all 50 states and D.C. to support cross-cutting programs to prevent and control chronic diseases—the leading causes of death and disability in the United States. Chronic diseases are responsible for 7 of 10 deaths among Americans each year, and they account for more than 80% of the \$2.7 trillion our nation spends annually on medical care.

In all, 193 awards totaling nearly \$212 million (first-year funding) are going to states, large and small cities and counties, tribes and tribal organizations, and national and community organizations. The grants are organized into six programs that focus on populations hardest hit by chronic diseases. **Kansas received 5 grants from CDC in \$5,185,869.**

The programs involve partnerships at the national, state, and/or local levels because public health cannot solve these problems alone. Awardees will coordinate prevention activities to achieve three overall goals:

- Reduce rates of death and disability due to tobacco use.
- Reduce prevalence of obesity.

- Reduce rates of death and disability due to diabetes, heart disease, and stroke.

All six programs address one or more of the leading risk factors for chronic disease: tobacco use, poor nutrition, and physical inactivity. Some of the programs also address key health system improvements and community supports to help Americans manage chronic conditions such as high blood pressure and pre-diabetes.

This is one of many ways the Affordable Care Act is improving access to preventive care, and coverage for people with pre-existing conditions. Under the Affordable Care Act, 76 million Americans nationwide in private health insurance have gained access to preventive care services without cost-sharing and issuers can no longer deny coverage to anyone because of a pre-existing condition.

New HRSA Awards

By Nikki Keene Woods

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2014pres/09/20140902a.html>



1. HHS Secretary Sylvia M. Burwell today released \$65 million in grants to help 87 organizations in 33 states reduce high infant mortality rates and other health problems related to pregnancy and mothers' health. **Kansas grantees include Kansas Department of Health and Environment and Sedgwick County Health Department.**

Healthy Start is targeted to the needs of vulnerable mothers and infants in areas of the country with disproportionately high rates of infant mortality. Twenty-two of these awardees serve rural communities, four will serve the United States-Mexico border, and three programs will serve a predominately Native American population. Also, 22 organizations will be using these funds to create Healthy Start programs for the first time.

2. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced this fall approximately **\$700,000 in grant funding to the Midwestern Public Health Training Center (MPHTC)**. The regional training center is led by the University of Iowa, School of Public Health, with partners from all 4 states in the Federally designated Region-7 (Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri). The training center's mission is to improve the ability of the public health workforce to provide public health services, with a focus on the Chronic Disease - Diabetes. This project will also include student stipends for project that impact medically underserved areas for each state including Kansas. This is a one year planning grant that will work to continue for 3 additional years. Suzanne R. Hawley, WSU Professor and Chair of the Department of Public Health Sciences, in the College of Health Professions, will serve as a co-investigator and one of the Kansas liaisons for a newly funded initiative along with partners from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Project leadership will also interface with the Kansas Public Health Workforce Development Coordinating Council (KPHWFDCC) that represents a partnership between academic, state health department, local health departments, and organizational public health agencies. This Coordinating Council and related members will serve a key role in informing the statewide work priorities with the PHTC over the next year.

Flu Season Is Here Get Vaccinated Today

Who should get the vaccine?

EVERYONE 6 MONTHS AND OLDER

Everyone **6 MONTHS OF AGE AND OLDER** should get the flu vaccine. Seasonal flu vaccines have a very good safety track record.



PEOPLE AT HIGH RISK

It is especially **IMPORTANT TO GET THE VACCINE IF YOU, SOMEONE YOU LIVE WITH, OR SOMEONE YOU CARE FOR IS AT HIGH RISK** of complications from the flu.

- Children & Infants
- Pregnant Women
- Seniors
- People with Disabilities
- People with Health Conditions
- Travelers & People Living Abroad

How should I get the vaccine?

There are **TWO TYPES** of vaccine, the flu shot and the nasal spray. Both protect against the same virus strains.

FLU SHOT



Made with inactivated (killed) flu virus

Given by needle



Approved for use in healthy people older than 6 months and people with chronic health conditions

NASAL SPRAY



Made with weakened live flu virus

Given with a mist sprayed in your nose



Approved for healthy people between the ages of 2 and 49, except pregnant women

Can I get the flu from the vaccine?

NO, YOU CAN'T GET THE FLU

NO, YOU CAN'T GET THE FLU from the flu vaccine. The flu vaccine protects you from the flu, not the common cold. But you may experience some side effects.



MILD REACTIONS

MILD REACTIONS such as soreness, headaches, and fever are common side effects of the flu vaccine.



When should I get the vaccine?



Get your flu shot or spray **TODAY**. Flu season usually peaks in January or February, but it can occur as late as May. **EARLY IMMUNIZATION IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE**, but it is not too late to get the vaccine in December, January or beyond.

Where can I get the vaccine?

Visit **FLU.GOV** and use the **FLU VACCINE FINDER**.

