2015-2016 John Snow Awardees Announced
by the Local Public Health Program and BEDPHI

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment would like to congratulate the local health departments who received the John Snow Disease Investigation Award at the 2016 Governor’s Public Health Conference. The local health departments recognized were: Barton, Bourbon, Butler, Lawrence-Douglas, Ellis, Flint Hills Community Health Center, Ford, Geary, Gove, Graham, Greeley, Greenwood, Harper, Haskell, Johnson, Leavenworth, McPherson, Mitchell, Neosho, Norton, Pottawatomie, Reno, Riley, Rush, Saline, Sedgwick, Shawnee, Sherman, Smith, Stafford, Trego, Wilson and Unified Government of Wyandotte. This Kansas award recognizes local public work in disease outbreak management which includes disease surveillance, investigation and reporting as emulated by John Snow who is considered one of the fathers of modern epidemiology.

National Environmental Public Health Tracking Week: We Track That
by Jessica Willard, Program Director, KEPHT, KDHE

July 11-15 has been designated as National Environmental Public Health Tracking Week, We Track That. To celebrate, the Kansas Environmental Public Health Tracking Program is launching a new website. So, be sure to check this site out in July! The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention tracking program, in collaboration with state and national partners including Kansas, will be utilizing various communication channels to send out messages on environmental hazards, associated health effects, and how the Tracking Network is a useful action tool to protect the public’s health. Questions about the Kansas Environmental Public Health Tracking Program can be directed to Jessica Willard at jwillard@kdheks.gov or call 785-296-3849.

Improving Health in Rural Counties Grant Addresses Mental Health Services in Central Kansas

The Center for Counseling & Consultation (The Center) and the Pawnee County Health Department recently unveiled a rural health grant program. The Improving Health in Rural Counties grant-funded project is aimed at promoting public awareness for the treatment of mental illness and substance use disorder as well as access to local behavioral health services.

The Centene Foundation for Quality Healthcare awarded a $110,000 grant last year to The Center and the Pawnee County Health Department to support the collaborative efforts of county health departments and court services/community corrections programs of central Kansas, including Barton, Pawnee, Rice and Stafford counties. The grant will help broaden access to services through technological solutions, including telemedicine. The grant project plan is to purchase the software and equip 11 mental health screen kiosk stations. The initial kiosk locations would include the lobbies of the four county health departments. The other kiosks will then be available for placement in community facilities such as the six community hospitals, the area’s family crisis center, libraries, high schools and middle schools in the community mental health center’s catchment area.

Centene Corporation and its Kansas subsidiary, Sunflower Health Plan, recognize The Center and the Pawnee County Health Department for their innovative efforts to transform the health of rural communities through individual focus and active local involvement.

"I believe this project will significantly improve the lives of many people in our central Kansas communities through an innovative implementation plan proposed by The Center for Counseling. It is a great opportunity for public health to work in partnership with the community mental health center towards improving mental health and substance abuse in a large rural geographic area. This an excellent example of how community engagement can be a foundation for success in mobilizing partners to identify and solve health problems," said Robin Rziha, RN, Administrator, Pawnee County Health Department. To view the complete article, click here.
Summer 2016 Regional Public Health Meetings Scheduled
by Teri Caudle, RN, PHN, Local Public Health Program
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE

The 2016 regional public health meetings are designed to connect local health departments (LHD) with programs and best practices that will benefit the work you do within your communities. They also provide the opportunity to network with other administrators and public health professionals. These meetings are planned for the local LHD administrator; however, any staff person interested in a particular topic is welcome to attend. Register on KS-TRAIN http://ks.train.org, Course ID #1064195.

The agenda includes the following: The agenda includes: Radon Outreach Program, Isabelle Busenitz, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) & Brian Hanson, K-State University; Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program, KDHE, Regional Case Managers; and Introduction to Immunize Kansas Coalition, Teri Caudle, KDHE.

The dates and locations for the meetings are:
- SE Region, Chanute - July 14
- SC Region, Hutchinson - August 3
- SW Region, Garden City - August 10
- NW Region, Oakley - August 11
- NC Region, Beloit - August 31
- NE Region, Topeka - September 13

Questions and topic suggestions for regional meetings can be directed to Teri Caudle at tcaudle@kdheks.gov.

Scholarship Opportunity for Health Professionals
by the Office for Workforce, Professional & Community Education, WSU

The Midwestern Public Health Training Center (mphtc.org) and Wichita State University (WSU) are partnering to offer scholarships for the Care of Population Health Professions Badges.

The Care of Population Health Professions badges provide professionals the opportunity to increase skill development for public health professionals by addressing the Tier 1 National Public Health Domains and Core Competencies. Upon successful completion of badges one through six, the student will possess skills and tools to support core public health functions and essential services.

The scholarship covers the cost tuition for one badge, a $100 value, and can only be used for the 2016 fall session. To apply for the scholarship, please email your name, email address and contact number to keshia.ezerendu@wichita.edu by Monday, August 1, 5:00 p.m.

Once WSU receives your information, applicants will be notified about their scholarship status by email. Five scholarships will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis with a limit of one per person. Applicants from a state or local health department will be given priority.

To learn more about the badge program, visit www.wichita.edu/HPbadges. For more information, please contact Keshia Ezerendu at 316-978-7579 or keshia.ezerendu@wichita.edu.

Wichita State VISTA Fellows Project Expands, Seeks VISTA and Sites
by the Community Engagement Institute, WSU

Wichita State University (WSU) Community Engagement Institute continues its mission of strengthening organizations and communities through its WSU VISTA Fellows Project. Currently, there are 19 AmeriCorps VISTAs serving in nonprofit, health, education and social service organizations across Kansas. VISTAs provide support for program development, volunteer recruitment and training, fundraising efforts, data tracking and community collaboration/partnership development. They serve 35-40 hours per week for a full year. Applications for the next placement should be submitted by August 15.

Currently, there is an open position for a VISTA at the Wichita State University Center for Public Health Initiatives where they are looking for someone who cares about public health. For more information about hosting a VISTA or applying for an opening, contact Angela Gaughan, VISTA project specialist, at angela.gaughan@wichita.edu, or go to the WSU website.

The NATION’S HEALTH
Take this week’s public health news quiz from The Nation’s Health
Kansas State Department of Education Provides Assistance on Health and Nutrition to Kansas Schools and Communities  
by the Child Nutrition & Wellness Program, KSDE

The Child Nutrition & Wellness (CNW) team at the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) provides information, resources, training and technical assistance to help create healthier Kansas schools and communities. One such resource is Team Nutrition. Team Nutrition is an initiative of the USDA Food and Nutrition Service to support the Child Nutrition Programs through training and technical assistance for foodservice, nutrition education for children and their caregivers, and school and community support for healthy eating and physical activity. Team Nutrition’s goal is to improve children’s lifelong eating and physical activity habits by using the principles of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and MyPlate.

KSDE CNW is currently implementing three Team Nutrition Training Grants that support Team Nutrition programs in schools and child care centers across the state by: providing fun and interactive nutrition education for children, teachers, parents, and other caregivers; providing training and technical assistance to child nutrition foodservice professionals to enable them to prepare and serve nutritious meals that appeal to children; and building school and community support for creating healthy school environments that are conducive to healthy eating and physical activity. Visit the Kansas Team Nutrition webpage to learn more and to request free nutrition education resources and technical assistance with meeting school wellness policy goals.

KSDE CNW also administers Healthy Kansas Schools (HKS) which promotes school health policies, procedures and programs that improve health behaviors. HKS operates from the premise that healthy children are more capable of learning and, thus, better students. The logical extension is that better students help create healthy communities. Healthy Kansas Schools initiatives emphasize the connection between recommended health practices, academic achievement, and lifelong healthy behaviors. Healthy Kansas Schools is multi-faceted; providing technical assistance, health policy and standards guidance, training opportunities, and direction on funding opportunities.

One such effort has been a collaboration with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment on the Kansas Fitness Information Tracking (K-FIT) Training. Course ID# 1060620, on KS-TRAIN at http://ks.train.org. This course provides an overview of the Kansas Fitness Information Tracking (K-FIT) project and instruction on how to register and use Fitnessgram®. The course is designed for Kansas Physical Education teachers who are interested in implementing fitness testing with their students. The course includes videos that demonstrate proper testing protocols and tips for efficient use of class time.

KSDE also developed an online course for child care providers, Feeding Infants in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Course ID# 1053196. In this online course, child care providers will learn appropriate foods for infants as they develop from birth to 12 months; USDA requirements for feeding infants and required documentation for offering and claiming meals on CACFP.

For more information and resources from the CNW team at KSDE check out their website here.

KDHE Moving to Microsoft Office 365  
by the Communications Office, KDHE

Office 365 is coming soon to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE). The Information Technology office has been working with the state of Kansas, Executive Branch of Information Technology (EBIT) office to prepare for the move from the current email system to Microsoft Office 365, a cloud hosted email solution. This switch to the new system will begin in July with employees moving to the new system in groups, not all at once. All KDHE employees will have a new email address, firstname.lastname@ks.gov.

TRAIN 3.0 Coming Down the Tracks  
by the Public Health Foundation

Kansas TRAIN will be getting a new look and a new, modern platform. The Public Health Foundation, the national non-profit that operates TRAIN, is building a new learning management system platform that will make it easier for Kansas TRAIN learners to navigate and use the website. Other major benefits include the ability to use Kansas TRAIN on any device from a cell phone to a tablet and simplified ways to create an account and register for courses.

TRAIN is a national learning network for professionals who protect and improve the public’s health. The network is comprised of 28 state and federal TRAIN affiliates—including Kansas TRAIN—that operate branded TRAIN web portals. In addition to the TRAIN affiliates, the learning network includes hundreds of government agencies, universities, and organizations post trainings to TRAIN as well as more than one million TRAIN learners from across the U.S. and around the world.

Stay tuned for updates on when Kansas TRAIN will move to the new platform, trainings to help you use the new system, and more. Questions can be directed to Debbie Nickels, KS-TRAIN Administrator at kstrain@kdheks.gov or call 785-291-3457.
Myths that Fuel Resistance to Public Health and Hospital Collaboration

Assumptions and mistrust can prevent hospitals and health departments from boldly and effectively collaborating to address community health problems. An article from the Public Health Foundation sheds light on the myths that can stall progress and challenges that healthcare and public health organizations have to moving bravely forward. Learn what public health experts and hospital community benefit practitioners see as the keys to a successful partnership and what keeps these partnerships from forming cohesively.

PHF and PHAB to Host Webinar on Updated PHAB Guide

The Guide to National Public Health Department Initial Accreditation was updated last year and went into full effect on February 1. Whether you are a new applicant or applied for accreditation prior to the release of the new guide, these guidelines apply to your organization. Join Public Health Accreditation Board’s (PHAB) David Stone and the Public Health Foundation’s Margie Beaudry on Wednesday, August 17, 12 - 1:30 p.m. for a webinar titled Practical Application of the Updated PHAB Guide. This webinar will provide an overview of the updates to the Guide and how the changes fit into PHAB’s seven-step process. Attendees will learn lessons from the experiences of health departments that were among the early applicants and plan to integrate a performance improvement mindset while using the Guide to avoid common pitfalls. Register for the webinar today.

Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) hosts a Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 10 a.m. The next call will be July 26. To view minutes from the monthly calls, click the KDHE logo.

Funding Opportunities

Healthy Cities Leadership Challenge - Deadline July 27

The Healthy Cities Leadership Challenge is an open innovation challenge focused on recruiting up to 10 communities to compete for matching grants of $25,000 and a chance to secure additional funding during a year-long learning collaborative. The goal of the program is to train community and business leaders to work together to develop and support new models for approaching population health challenges and ultimately improving the health of working families living in their cities, towns and communities. Applications are now open here, and will remain open until July 27.
American Dental Association Announces Access to Care Grants - Deadline July 29
The American Dental Association (ADA) Foundation is now accepting applications for its Semi-Annual Grants Program: Access to Care.
- Please read the complete grant information and guidelines document.

All grant applications must be submitted through this online system in order to be considered for funding from the ADA Foundation. The application deadline is 11:59 p.m., Friday, July 29. The ADA Foundation hopes to announce the selected grantees in November or early December. The applicant will need to create a user log in first, and will then have access to all documents. To find the grant application click apply on the left hand side in the grant online system once a user log in has been created. Please note that the user will be taken to a third party website to complete an application. If you have any questions contact Tracey Schilligo, Grants Manager at schilligot@ada.org or at 312-440-2763.

The ADA Foundation is committed to supporting U.S. based organizations exempt from taxation under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code whose charitable activities within or without the United States provide access to care and dental homes to the underserved. The ADAF defines the dental home as the ongoing relationship between the dentist who is the primary dental care provider and the patient, which includes comprehensive oral health care, beginning before age one, and continuing throughout the patient's lifetime, with appropriate referral as necessary.

U.S. based organizations exempt from taxation under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code are eligible to apply. Grants will be awarded up to, but not exceed, $10,000 in the case of Access to Care grants and 5,000 in the case of Education grants. Organizations may submit only one grant request per year for Semi-annual Grant funding under Education, and one grant request per year for Semi-annual Grant funding under Access to Care.

Community-Based Grant Program - Deadline August 14
The Union Pacific Building America Foundation awards grants through an annual application process beginning July 1, which nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations located in Union Pacific communities may apply. Applications are accepted only through the online process. The Foundation does not provide leadership gifts or support requests for which it is asked to be the sole funder. An organization is allowed to complete only one application for only one program/project during the open application process. A Foundation invitation to submit an application in no way guarantees funding of that request. The Foundation receives a multitude of grant requests for worthwhile projects every year. To see recent grants awarded to organizations in your state or community, please visit Community News Releases section and look for your state.

The community where the organization is based must be served by Union Pacific Railroad. If you are not sure, check the map where Union Pacific Railroad operates in the United States. Your community must be located on or be reasonably close to these railroad lines. The Foundation does not accept applications from organizations located outside the Union Pacific served area even though the intent may be to operate a program in a Union Pacific community or county.

The Foundation has a strong interest in promoting program effectiveness among nonprofits. To that end, the Foundation will dedicate the majority of these grants to help nonprofit organizations build their capacity by helping new or existing programs reach more people or reach them more effectively. The Foundation will be particularly receptive to proposals that fall within the category of health and human services which assist organizations dedicated to improving the level of health care and providing human services in the community. Local affiliates of national health organizations may apply for local programs only, but not for general operating support.

Walmart Community Grant Program Opportunities
Walmart believes in operating globally and giving back locally – creating impact in the neighborhoods where employees live and work. Through the Community Grant Program, Walmart associates are proud to support the needs of their communities by providing grants to local organizations. Before applying, please note the 2016 grant cycle began February 1 with the application deadline to apply December 31. Applications may be submitted at any time during this funding cycle. Please note that applications will only remain pending in the Walmart system for 90 days. Awarded grants range from $250 to $2,500. Applications must be completed in full and submitted online to be considered. Submitting an online application does not guarantee funding. Organizations applying include the following:
- An organization holding a current tax-exempt status under Section 501(c) (3), (4), (6) or (19) of the Internal Revenue Code;
- A recognized government entity: state, county, or city agency, including law enforcement or fire departments, that are requesting funds exclusively for public purposes;

All organizations must verify that they meet the eligibility requirements. This may require submitting a support ticket through Cybergrants. The facility manager and the grant administrator reserve the right to adjust the amount awarded to each organization without prior notice.

Please read the Community Grant Guidelines before beginning your application.

Community Giving Program Links:
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Community Grant Guidelines
2016 Kansas Conference on Poverty - July 20-22, Topeka

More than six years past the end of the Great Recession many Kansans have yet to find their economic footing. Median household income remains lower than before the recession. Most people in Kansas, including most families in poverty, have jobs, but in a weak economy where many jobs pay not much more than the minimum wage the path to greater opportunity is hard to find.

What is happening to the American promise of opportunity? How can we restore the promise? How do we work together – across organizations, racial, ethnic and gender differences and geographies – to create opportunities for all? These are some of the questions we want to explore during the 2016 conference.

A distinguished line up of speakers will help address these questions, at the 2016 Kansas on Poverty, July 20-22, Capitol Plaza Hotel and Convention Center, Topeka. Click here to access the complete agenda and registration information for the conference. Presenters include:

- Dr. Gloria Wilder, founder of CORE HEALTH and a nationally recognized speaker and expert on poverty and economic segregation in health care. She will speak about health equity, poverty as a key social determinants of health and the importance of expanding Medicaid.
- H. Luke Shaefer, co-author of $2.00 a Day: Living on Almost Nothing in America. The book has been widely praised for its descriptions of the lives of the very poor and for its analysis of how welfare reform aggravated the problem of deep poverty - the New York Times included it in its list of the most notable books of 2015.
- Tamara Draut, discussing why so many Americans are struggling financially and what we can do to create economic opportunity for all. Ms. Draut is the vice president, research and policy, for Demos, a leading think tank that does a lot of work on economic opportunity. She is widely published and is a frequent commentator on news programs.

In addition to these and other keynote speakers the conference will offer timely and informative workshops on state-of-art anti-poverty programs, agency capacity building, policy issues, advocacy and more.

Conference questions can be directed to Tiffany Jarvis at 785-234-0878.

Bridging the Gap™ Training for Bilingual Interpreters - August 8-12

Bridging the Gap is a 40-hour training course coming to Manhattan, August 8-12, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day at the Kansas State University Department of Modern Languages, 104 Eisenhower Hall, Room 001A. This course presented by Jewish Vocational Service (JVS) and taught by Raul O. Guerrero is for beginning and intermediate medical/social service bilingual interpreters. Participants will take a final exam on the last day of class. A certificate of completion is awarded based on attendance and a passing score on the final exam. The fee for the course is $500, discounted from the market rate of $750. JVS may ask you to pay $100 to reserve a space once you are accepted into to the program.

Course objectives are to be able to:
1. Apply the Interpreter’s Code of Ethics;
2. Demonstrate the appropriate roles of an interpreter;
3. Demonstrate the modes of interpreting;
4. Demonstrate cultural competency practices;
5. Identify medical terms.

Fill out the application completely, including email address and educational background and send to canderson@jvskc.org or fax to 816-471-2930. If you have questions, call Catherine Anderson, the manager of Language and Cultural Services at 816-471-2808, Ext. 1124, or canders@jvskc.org.

Introduction to Billing and Business Processes for Local Kansas Health Departments

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and the Wichita State University - Center for Public Health Initiatives have posted a two-part training for both new and experienced administrators, billers and office managers. This training is a reprise of the presentation presented at the KDHE regional meetings during the spring of 2015, and gives a high level overview of the billing workflow utilized in departments. Focusing on organizational competencies, as part of the Foundational Public Health Services and Capabilities Model, this training provides an introduction to performance and financial management as applied to the billing process.

For more information, or to access this training on KS-TRAIN at http://ks.train.org, search for Introduction to Local Health Department Billing and Business Practices, course ID # 1062321.
Save the Date! 73rd KPHA Conference Scheduled for September

from the Kansas Public Health Association

Get excited about the 73rd Annual Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA) Conference to be held in Wichita, September 20 - 21. This year’s conference, Advocating for the Health of All Kansans will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton next to the Wichita airport. The conference will be jam-packed with national keynote speakers, a wide array of informative, timely breakout sessions, a poster session of almost 50 high quality research and other public health projects, recognition of some very deserving advocates and champions in Kansas public health, and much more!

The keynotes speakers will feature Camara Jones, MD, MPH, PhD, President of the American Public Health Association (APHA), John Auerbach, MBA, Associate Director for Policy, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Don Hoppert, Director of Government Relations at APHA. The 25 breakout presentations will offer attendees the opportunity to learn about and discuss the numerous issues impacting Kansas public health. In keeping with the conference theme, there will be breakout sessions focused on advocating for and championing public health. If your area of interest is in oral health, tobacco and e-cigarettes, health literacy, workforce development, epidemiology, health insurance, community health, mental health, or food and nutrition, there are sessions for you. The poster session will give you an opportunity to learn more about the great research being conducted and the initiatives in place that impact public health in Kansas.

Plans are under way to hold a walk/run/bike event in association with the KPHA Conference. Details of this ground-breaking event will be shared soon. The 73rd Annual KPHA Conference will be a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and colleagues, network with fellow public health professionals, learn and grow in your field, and develop a greater understanding of how to advocate and serve as a champion for public health at the local, regional, and state level. All this without mentioning the great food, annual awards, shopping and entertainment options, and the other little things that make the conference great. We hope to see you in Wichita in September as KPHA continues Promoting and Improving Population Health in Kansas. We can’t do it without you. Registration will be open in July on the KPHA website at www.kpha.us/.

Packaging and Shipping Division 6.2 Materials Course Available From CDC

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention launched in March a new Packaging and Shipping Division 6.2 Materials: What the Laboratorian Should Know for 2016, Course ID #1062513. In order to be certified, or recertified, to ship laboratory materials you must complete training on the hazardous materials regulations as well as some facility specific training. This online course uses a problem solving approach to provide training on infectious Division 6.2 Materials as specified in the Department of Transportation regulations. The content includes some general security training as well as some guidance on facility specific training. Access to resource documents and a number of job aids will not only enhance your learning experience but also provide useful resources for your laboratory. This course is designed specifically for those who participate in any phase of shipping laboratory specimens within the United States.

The course, KHEL: Preparing Clinical Specimens Related to Chemical or Biological Exposure Using Evidence Control Measures (CESSL), Course ID #1050287, is an intermediate-level 45 minute training. It is an overview of regulations and procedures associated with evidentiary control measures taken when shipping clinical specimens to the Kansas Department of Health and Environmental Laboratories after a known or unknown chemical exposure event has occurred. This course is offered to ensure all laboratory staff across Kansas receive the full training needed to fully support their responsibilities as sentinel laboratory staff members.

If you have staff who have completed the Division 6.2 Infectious Materials course via another venue, other than the CDC online course on KS-TRAIN, they should contact Sara Hoffman at the Kansas Health and Environmental Laboratories. Sara will enroll your employee into the CESSL course, #1050287. You can reach her at shoffman@kdheks.gov or 785-291-3162.

Heathy Habit Modules Updated

The Kansas Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics with Sarah Hampl, MD, General Pediatrics and Weight Management, Center for Children's Healthy Lifestyles & Nutrition, Children's Mercy-Kansas City have recently reviewed and updated the content for the KS-TRAIN Healthy Habit module series. These modules provide information and resources when assisting children and their parents in preventing childhood obesity. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention childhood obesity has more than doubled in children and quadrupled in adolescents in the past 30 years. The Healthy Habit series include the following modules:

- Healthy Habits, Module 1: Obesity in Kansas Children, A Growing Epidemic, Course ID# 1015996
- Healthy Habits, Module 2: Negotiating Behavior – the Road to Long Term Change, Course ID# 1016561
- Healthy Habits, Module 3: Expert Committee Recommendations on the Assessment & Treatment of Child and Adolescent Overweight and Obesity, Course ID# 1016562
- Healthy Habits, Module 4: Preventing Childhood Obesity: Your Role as a Pediatric Provider, Course ID# 1016563
Continuing Education Available Through TRAIN Online Courses

Immunization: You Call the Shots Module Eleven - Hepatitis B (Web-based) - WB2144, Course ID # 163782. This module is the 11th in a series from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. All of the You Call the Shots modules are posted to TRAIn. Use the search field, top right hand corner of the homepage to locate the modules.
- Updated Interim Zika Clinical Guidance for Reproductive Age Women and Men, Sexual Transmission, and the U.S. Zika Pregnancy Registry - CDC COCA CALL, Course ID# 1063736. During this COCA Call, participants will learn about the epidemiology and clinical manifestation of Zika virus disease and how early recognition and reporting of suspected cases can mitigate the risk of local transmission.
- TB 101 for Health Care Workers, Course ID# 1063693, is designed to educate health care workers about basic TB concepts related to TB prevention and control in the United States.

News and Resources

Kansans Civic Engagement

The Kansas Civic Health Index, a recent report developed in partnership between Kansas Health Foundation and the National Conference on Citizenship (NCoC), has been released. This analysis examines civic health in Kansas with a specific focus on civic engagement of Kansans with different levels of income, education and racial/ethnic backgrounds. The report indicates that among Kansans, Latinos clearly have the greatest challenges with regard to access to health care. Nearly half, or 45.5 percent, of Kansas Latinos have no health care coverage of any kind. Nearly half, or 44.8 percent, do not have a person they consider their personal doctor or health care provider. One-in-five, or 21.9 percent, of Kansas African Americans have no health care coverage of any kind, and one-in-four, or 24.9 percent, do not have a person they consider their personal doctor or health care provider.

Ensuring that Milk is Safe to Drink

Terms like pasteurization may be unfamiliar to some, and even a few who question its purpose. From the cow to your cup, the U.S. dairy industry follows many strict government regulations, including pasteurization, to ensure that milk is safe to drink. But how did we get here, why is milk pasteurized and what does pasteurization mean? Find out here.

Health Benefits of Water-based Exercise

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention states that swimming is the fourth most popular sports activity in the United States and a good way to get regular aerobic physical activity. Just two and a half hours per week of aerobic physical activity, such as swimming, bicycling or running, can decrease the risk of chronic illnesses. This can also lead to improved health for people with diabetes and heart disease. Swimmers have about half the risk of death compared with inactive people. People report enjoying water-based exercise more than exercising on land. They can also exercise longer in water than on land without increased effort or joint or muscle pain.

Keeping Pets Healthy Keeps People Healthy Too!

Studies have shown that the bond between people and their pets can increase fitness, lower stress, and bring happiness to their owners. But there's something else you should know. Pets sometimes carry germs that can make people sick. The diseases people get from animals are known as zoonotic diseases. It is hard to know which animals could be carrying zoonotic diseases, especially since pets carrying these germs often look healthy and normal. Here are some tips that can help you and your pets stay healthy:
- Take your pet to its veterinarian regularly so it stays in good health.
- Practice good hygiene around your pets so they don't unintentionally pass germs to you.
- Learn about diseases different types of pets can spread - just in case.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have a variety of resources that can be shared with the public including, a poster on Handwashing at Animal Exhibits.

The Cost of Being Poor, as Told by Toilet Paper

An article by Orhun and Palazzolo, in the Social Science Research Network, found that those in the highest income quintile bought toilet paper on sale 39 percent of the time, compared to only 28 percent among those in the lowest income quintile. The highest income quintile also bought more rolls on average compared to those in the lowest 20 percent or 14.6 rolls vs 9.8 rolls. As a result, those of lower income pay about 6 percent extra per sheet. Seemingly insignificant, this type of buying pattern will manifest for all household needs, from clothing to food, and can add up over time. What's interesting is that the authors factored in timing, finding that at the beginning of the month – when households receive their pay checks – low-income households have similar buying habits as high-income households, cutting the difference per sheet by 30 percent. This study further highlights that being poor is expensive, and saving money through deals is a luxury not all can afford.
Guide to Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect in Kansas

The Kansas Children’s Service League has a Guide to Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect in Kansas. The first step in helping abused children is learning to recognize the symptoms of child abuse. This booklet is intended to help both concerned citizens and individuals who are required by law to know how and when to report child abuse and neglect. Mandated reporters and the general public need to be aware of signs that may indicate child abuse. This booklet can be used to educate communities about child abuse and help prevent it from happening. When it does occur, the proper measures can be taken to protect the child. Child abuse prevention efforts are one way to combat other social problems concerning all citizens. Prevention helps create a more compassionate society, one which places a high value on the welfare of children. It is important to provide families the tools and resources they need to raise their children in healthy and nurturing homes free from abuse and neglect.

Social Determinants and Public Health 3.0

Despite spending more on health care than any country in the world and being home to some of the best, most cutting-edge medicine, the U.S. ranks 34th in life expectancy. In fact, for Americans living in poverty, lifespan is on the decline. The challenge of turning such indicators around have led federal health officials to call for a new era of public health, Public Health 3.0. Officials from HHS and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention refer to Public Health 1.0 as the period during the 20th century that brought about monumental advances in science and medicine, such as antibiotics and vaccines, and accelerated the fields of epidemiology and laboratory science. Public Health 2.0 began with a 1988 report from the then-Institute of Medicine report on the Future of Public Health, which concluded that the nation’s public health system had fallen into disarray and jump-started a national effort to clearly define essential public health services.

These public health experts state that it is time to upgrade from Public Health 2.0 to Public Health 3.0, which is described as a modern version that emphasizes cross-sector collaboration and environmental, policy and systems-level actions that directly affect the social determinants of health. The key components of Public Health 3.0 are enhanced public health leadership in the community, broad engagement with partners across multiple sectors, an accreditation process that includes Public Health 3.0 elements, more timely and locally relevant data, new metrics of community health and more flexible public health funding.

The HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health is leading the Public Health 3.0 initiative, which will build off ongoing Healthy People 2020 efforts that encourage collaboration across sectors and communities. Transitioning to Public Health 3.0 will require new resources - a challenge for a field that already struggles with underfunding - the Affordable Care Act has given public health the opportunity to move away from caring for the uninsured and into a world where they can think more about policy and systems-level change. For more information on Public Health 3.0 click here.

Uncle Sam Wants You to Clean Up Your Yard to Fight Zika

Home owners are in a perfect position to control the species that primarily spreads Zika, the Aedes aegypti, which prefers to live inside homes, said Michael Doyle, executive director of the Florida Keys Mosquito Control District. The Aedes aegypti prefers to rest under beds, inside closets or beneath patio furniture. It may fly only a few feet in its lifetime, emerging from its hiding place only to nip its victim on the legs, then quickly fluttering back to safety.

ASPR Shares Zika Virus Resources

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), through ASPR TRACIE, has released the following Zika virus resources for public health and healthcare system preparedness planners:

- **Zika Virus Planning Resource Guide Introduction** - This document provides an overview of the planning resource documents designed to enhance healthcare coalition and healthcare system preparedness and response to a domestic Zika virus disease outbreak.
- **Supporting Children with Special Healthcare Needs Planning Resource** - This matrix highlights some of the existing federal and national services and programs for supporting children with special healthcare needs. It includes guidance and links to helpful resources.
- **High Risk Pregnancy and Microcephaly Planning Resource** - This matrix illustrates some of the anticipated hospital and healthcare system resources needs essential to caring for high-risk pregnancies and children born with microcephaly or other birth defects that may be associated with Zika virus infection.

Measles - the Canary in the Coal Mine

Thanks to climate change, mass urbanization, and human and animal migration, changes in the behavior of previously well-understood diseases are now likely, meaning outbreaks could become ever more difficult to anticipate. It will be critically important to have strong defenses in place, which is why we need to pay particular attention to highly infectious diseases such as measles. Measles outbreaks are also the closest thing we have to an early warning system against threats to global health security.
TRAIN to Launch Learner Newsletter

The Public Health Foundation (PHF) announced that the TRAIN Team will be launching a learner newsletter to better bring information about public health learning opportunities and the educational efforts of the learning management system affiliates and partners. This newsletter will help public health professionals stay aware of extracurricular training opportunities as well as building awareness of the network’s collective efforts. PHF is tentatively planning to launch the newsletter this summer and will soon be adding signup information on the PHF website and on the main TRAIN portal. In the meantime, if you are interested, please sign up here. If there are initiatives or trainings that you feel should be highlighted, please email Ilya Plotkin at iplotkin@phf.org.

What Do You Think Made You Sick

You signed up for an adventure race. You spent months training, getting ready for the tough event. The big day arrives – you go over high walls, wade through mud pits, and maybe even jump over fire. You finally cross the finish line! But a couple of days later, you start to feel sick. You have a fever, diarrhea, nausea, and abdominal cramps. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shares tips on how to dodge germs during your adventure race.

How Researchers Are Using Google to Find Chickenpox Seasons

Researchers have found that the chickenpox virus may actually be a seasonal disease, with more cases reported in the spring, according to a recent story in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. To identify chickenpox rates, the researchers turned to an unconventional source, Google Trends. The search engine has actually successfully been used by researchers before to estimate and examine influenza rates. For this study, researchers wanted to see if chickenpox was a seasonal disease in the same way the common cold or the flu is.

Clinician Outreach Communication Activity

COCA prepares clinicians to respond to emerging health threats and public health emergencies by communicating relevant, timely information related to disease outbreaks, disasters, terrorism events and other health alerts.

More Than Terrorism or Global Pandemic, We Fear Natural Disasters

A new survey shows that U.S. residents fear natural disasters such as hurricanes, tornadoes, floods and wildfires more than any other catastrophic event. The survey, conducted by the polling firm YouGov for the Washington nonprofit Healthcare Ready, suggests that concern over natural disasters exceeds that of terrorist attacks, cyber attacks and environmental disasters combined.

Using Data to Prepare for the Next Heat Wave

Evaluating the effectiveness of different preparedness actions and interventions is an important step in protecting people from extreme heat. States can use data on heat-related illnesses from the National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network to help make decisions about the best ways to prepare for extreme heat.

Raise a Cup of Coffee - WHO No Longer Says It Can Cause Cancer

Since 1991, coffee has been saddled with the label, possibly causes cancer. As of June 15, coffee got a clean bill of health. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) is the WHO agency that evaluates evidence and scientific research on cancer. Coffee is now considered in Group 3, or not classifiable as to its carcinogenicity to humans. For coffee lovers, this is reassuring news.

Kansas Oral Health Connections: A Look at the First Year

Last year Oral Health Kansas partnered with the Kansas Association of the Medically Underserved, Kansas Head Start Association and Kansas Bureau of Oral Health on a DentaQuest Foundation project called Kansas Oral Health Connections (KOHC). The partners developed a video that looks back at the first year of their collective impact efforts. KOHC has a shared vision of oral health for all through six shared goals. As a network, they are united in their vision of reaching a more equitable landscape for all Kansans by 2020.

Fireworks are synonymous with the celebration of Independence Day.

Put Safety First this 4th of July!
Applications are being accepted for the positions listed below.

**Geary County Health Department**
- Nurse Practitioner (ARNP)
- WIC Registered Dietitian
- Health Nurse II - BSN

**Reno County Health Department**
- Administrative Associate II Environmental Health
- Public Health Nurse Stand by (PRN)

**Riley County Health Department**
- Family Connections Supervisor
- Nursing Supervisor - Clinic Services
- Public Health Nurse - Clinic

**Sedgwick County Health Department**
- Director - Children & Families
- Enrollment Specialist
- Healthy Babies Program Manager
- Medical Assistant
- Postdoctoral Research Assistant
- WIC Clerk

**Wichita State University - Public Health Initiatives**
- WSU VISTA Fellow - Public Health Specialist

Career opportunities at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment can be found [here](http://www.kdheks.gov/).

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**Kansas Department of Health and Environment Program Newsletters**

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**Public Health Connections Information**

To receive the monthly E-Newsletter, email [phc@kdheks.gov](mailto:phc@kdheks.gov).


Send your public health news to Debbie Nickels at [dnickels@kdheks.gov](mailto:dnickels@kdheks.gov).