



KPHA E-NEWS UPDATE

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Legislative Update for April 11



Last week Gov. Sebelius signed bills into law and vetoed [HB 2014](#), her first veto of the 2005 session.

Health related bills she signed included [HB 2141](#), which makes it easier for employers to get into evidence information about drug or alcohol use by employees injured on the job.

[HB 2040](#) expands a sales tax exemption enacted in 2004 to include repair services associated with hearing aids as defined by KSA 74-5807, as well as the hearing aids themselves and replacement parts.

[HB 2153](#) amends two of the statutes in the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Act to require complaints of suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation of residents of adult care homes that are brought to the attention of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman to be referred to the Secretary of Aging.

[SB 154](#) directs the State Board of Education to develop nutritional guidelines for all foods and beverages made available to public school students during the school day. In developing the guidelines, the Board would be directed to consult with other state agencies, private foundations, and other entities and to give attention to the provision of healthful foods and beverages, physical activities, and wellness education directed toward the prevention and reduction of childhood obesity. School districts would have to consider the state board guidelines.

[SB 183](#) amends one of the statutes that make up the Kansas Healing Arts Act and relate only to a type of license known as a federally active license. This license may be issued to a person who meets all the requirements for a license to practice the healing arts in Kansas, but who practices a branch of the healing arts solely as an employee of the U.S. government or on active duty with the U.S. government.

[HB 2155](#) amends existing law to allow pharmacists to refill certain prescriptions on an emergency basis without the prescriber's authorization. The new authorization applies only to prescriptions for drugs that are not listed on Schedule II of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, when all reasonable efforts to contact the prescriber have failed and when, in the pharmacist's professional judgment, continuation of the medication is necessary for the patient's health, safety, and welfare. Under those circumstances, the prescription could be refilled only in an amount sufficient to last until the prescriber can be contacted. [Back to top](#)

[2005 Spring Training Registration and Brochure is now available!](#)

KPHA SPRING TRAINING



June 2-3, 2005

**Rolling Hills
Conference Center
625 N Hedville Rd
Salina, KS 67401-9764**

**Focusing on Chronic
and Infectious Diseases**

**Bring the family and stay
the weekend!**

**For more Zoo information,
visit
www.rollinghillswildlife.com**

Click to download the [registration brochure](#). [Back to top](#)

2005 National Public Health Week in Kansas a Success!

Governor Signs National Public Health Week in Kansas Proclamation



Standing, left to right: Dr. Howard Rodenberg, KDHE; Shirley Orr, KDHE; Holly Whitlock, Johnson County Health Department; Tamara Smith, KDHE; Allison Alejos, Shawnee County Health Agency; Scott Voss, Johnson County Health Department; Phil Griffin, KDHE; Ida Nesmith, Johnson County Health Department; Heather Henke, Barber County Health Department; Elaine Schwartz, KPHA; and Connie Hubbell, KFMC.

Other events that happened around the state:

According to KPHA Board member, Janis Godeke, Crawford County Health Department took the **"Live to 100"** Surveys to senior sites!

Shawnee County Health Agency staff (many who are KPHA members) held a Community Health Fair with a Public Health Panel Presentation!

According to Sonja Armbruster, KPHA member, Sedgwick County Health Department distributed oral health kit with a toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, and apples for nutrition and oral health promotions. They also had a **"Live Stronger, Longer"** Fun walk, a county proclamation and newspaper insert.

Ginny Barnard, and Joanna Fishback, (KPHA Student members), organized and sponsored a Kansas State University keynote speech, a panel discussion of infectious and zoonotic diseases that impact public health globally and in Kansas, and also sponsored, a **"Live Stronger, Longer"** Fun Walk!

According to Board member, Heather Henke, Barber County Community Health Department worked on their Health Fair coming up, on April 16th.

In addition, APHA provided members with a lot of terrific information for Public Health Week. For Kansas specific information on aging statistics [click here](#). [Back to top](#)

Pictures from Rodenberg's Reception, Thanks to Cheryl Banez-Ocfemia and Candace Taylor!

If you attended the Rodenberg Reception in March, chances are you can find yourself in a picture taken by our savvy photographers. To view more pictures visit [KPHA's website](#) on Friday.



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Job Opening

Physicians Business Network (PBN) Director of Sales and Marketing

The Position and Responsibilities

This position reports directly to the President and is responsible for all sales and marketing activity including development of new clients and retention of current clients. It also includes budget responsibilities for both sales and marketing as well as new product development. He/she will respond to all RFPs. The Director of Sales and Marketing will have a key leadership position in PBN and will maintain a close working relationship with Operations and Client Services.

Requirements

A college degree is strongly preferred as is a successful background in marketing and in selling services, preferably in the Medical Service industry.

Other basic requirements include:

- Some overnight travel, approximately 30%
- Five plus years of experience
- Flexible work hours with a "get the job done" attitude
- Strong communication skills, verbal and written
- Impeccable ethics and integrity

- A strong leader and team player
- Organized, results oriented and self starter
- Polished and professional in demeanor as well as appearance

The Company

Physicians Business Network was formed as an anesthesia billing service nearly 20 years ago. Our specialties today include anesthesia, radiology, pathology and other specialties. PBN's 85+ employees take great pride in our long track record of performance and client satisfaction.

PBN's methods negate information overload by using information technology to untangle managed care complexities. We know which variables most affect the health of the practice. With performance metrics in place, we act quickly and effectively to remedy performance shortfalls. We are proactive in making sure shortfalls are few.

Our Practice Health Services include:

- Coding
- Billing and follow up
- Consulting
- Credentialing
- Business and financial services

The Company (cont.)

PBN's makes the process of providing health care healthy for the physician. We are "Practice Health" advocates. We focus primarily on payer contracts and billing services. The reason: if those are handled correctly, everything else becomes far less burdensome.

Contact

For more information, contact search consultants Stephen E. Snodgrass or William M. Wood of Wood-Snodgrass, Inc. at (913) 681-2200 or (800) 207-1958. To make an application, send resume and salary history in confidence to Wood-Snodgrass, Inc, 12980 Metcalf Avenue, Suite 130, Overland Park, KS 66213, or e-mail to steve@woodsnodgrass.com or bill@woodsnodgrass.com. [Back to top](#)

Tobacco Prevention Grant Available



The CDC Foundation, at the request of the attorneys general of New York and Maryland, has accepted tobacco settlement funds to implement a grant program, **A Program to Prevent Smoking Among Urban Youth**. The program will provide funds for youth

smoking reduction and prevention services with a focus on urban communities - particularly in those states and the District of Columbia where the 2004 KOOL MIXX DJ Competitions were held (California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Washington, D.C.)

Funds will be awarded through a competitive grant process. The amount of the awards will range from \$75,000 - \$200,000.00 and the duration of the grants will range from 12 months to 24 months.

For application information, please visit www.cdcfoundation.org/urbanyouth. Letters of Intent must be received by May 6, 2005. For all other questions please contact Dacia LaDonis at dladonis@cdc.gov.

The CDC Foundation is an independent, non-profit enterprise that forges effective partnerships between CDC and others to fight threats to health and safety. To learn more, visit www.cdcfoundation.org. [Back to top](#)

KPHA attends Kansas Health Foundation Conference

I had the opportunity to be in Wichita for 2 days last week and attend the "**Recognizing Efforts to Improve the Health of Kansans**" Conference. I came away with another renewed commitment to help change the political process for public health in Kansas! Dr. Bill Grace finished the day and a half gathering of KHF partners with a powerful message on "**Ethical Leadership in Everyday Life.**" When he finished, the lady sitting next to me leaned over and said, "We should organize all of us interested in 'health and the common good' in Kansas and march to the capital in Topeka!" Needless to say, I told her about KPHA's effort to organize a unified legislative voice for the public's health. She was very interested. I'll be writing other conference attendees and encouraging them to join KPHA in this endeavor! If you are interested, please let me know.

Below is my KPHLI capstone outline addressing this endeavor, along with Dr. Kim Richter's efforts as Legislative Committee Chair.

Case Study Title: A Unified Legislative Voice for the Health of Kansans

Opening Statement

Outside the state health agency, currently there is an informal and disjointed approach to effecting policy change for public health in Kansas, with many players and minimal collaboration. This frequently results in mixed messages to legislators and confusion among public health partners. In past years, much of the burden for sorting out the issues and carrying the water for the public health community in the legislative process has been assumed by the Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA), by default. This has caused an undue burden on the infrastructure of KPHA.

In order to present a legislative unified voice for Public Health in Kansas in the state legislature, a process needs to be developed to:

1. Determine what entities and organizations should be involved in public health policy, regulations, and statutes.
2. Invite those identified to introduce the concept of a collective and unified voice.
3. Meet to establish a formal process for developing a proposal and to identify and name the new alliance on health matters in the state.
4. Develop a plan to monitor legislation in 2006 and determine the position of the alliance and how and to whom that position will be disclosed.

- Investigate the option of employing a lobbyist to represent the alliance.

Project Outline

Additional Background and History

With the formation of the Kansas Public Health Association in 1920 by Samuel Crumbine, M.D., KPHA was instrumental in public policy in the state as it developed. The founders of the Association felt that one collective voice could represent the many members represented by various professions and organizations who were interested in the health of the public. Over the years, as modern science and medicine evolved, other organizations were started and today there is an accumulation of many groups interested in health. In addition to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, some of those groups include: the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments, the Kansas Medical Society, the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians, the Kansas Hospital Association, the Kansas State Nurses Association, the Kansas Lung Association, the Kansas Heart Association, The Kansas Environmental Health Association, the Kansas Dental Association, Oral Health Kansas, the Kansas Chiropractic Association, the Kansas Osteopath Association, the Kansas Health Care Association, the Kansas Health Foundation, the Kansas Foundation for Medical Care, the Sunflower Foundation, the Reach Foundation, Tobacco-Free Kansas Coalition, the Big Tent Coalition, and many other organizations, foundations, groups, and associations which represent in one form or another the topic of health in Kansas.

All of these organizations and entities work to improve the health of Kansans. Their members represent the 10 essential services of public health in Kansas: they monitor health status to identify problems; they diagnose and investigate health problems; they inform, educate, and empower people about health issues; they mobilize community partnerships to identify and solve health problems; they develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts; they enforce laws; they link individuals to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care; they assure a competent public and personal health care work force, they evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services, and they research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems. In addition, they are all interested in the legislative process and in bills that are related to the health of Kansans.

If an alliance is formed from these organizations, to effectively speak as a unified voice for health advocacy at the legislative level, it will enhance all 10 of public health's essential services sooner or later. In addition, since HealthyPeople 2010 seeks to improve the health of the citizens of Kansas, this alliance will have an effective voice in the legislature, to also promote and meet those objectives. Many pieces of legislation in the Kansas legislature relate to health funding, health statistics, preventive health, health care services, etc. Forming an alliance to represent health advocates to influence the legislative process in working with the Legislative and Executive branches of Government in Kansas will result in an improved public health system in Kansas.

Name and title of Responsible professionals

Scholar: Elaine Schwartz, KPHA

KPHA Board President Phil Griffin and officers

KPHA Legislative Chair, Dr. Kim Richter, and committee

In addition, members from other organizations, previously mentioned, will be represented

Project Timeline

Preliminary efforts have already begun on this project. A Legislative Action Team meeting was held in January at KPHA and positive feed was received on forming such an alliance. The group will meet again, after the legislative session. It is hoped to have a formalized process in place by January 2006 for the next legislative session, which will end this project.

Data and Fiscal Resources

People involved with this project are employed by a health interest entity and will provide their time as part of their current position. Some funding may be available in the form of grant funding or other financial resources. The data collected will be in the form of surveys, emails, meeting minutes, and other input provided by the aforementioned groups.

Closing

This project is outcome oriented. If successful, it will impact public health in Kansas in a most productive way. Creating a "Unified Legislative Voice for the Health of Kansans", to bring about improvements in the public system will benefit everyone. Although these ideas are lofty and ideal, they are accomplishable. It will take hard work and an investment of time and resources. [Back to top](#)

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