



KPHA E-NEWS UPDATE

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February 23, 2006

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Legislative Update



Sonja Armbruster, of the Sedgwick County Health Department and Kansas University School of Medicine - Wichita, is taking the lead this year to put together a great "Health Day at the Capital" on March 31, 2006, as the kickoff event to National Public Health Week. April 3-9. The events are sure to top even last year's successful day in Topeka. We are arranging for a Governor's Proclamation, an Advocacy Workshop, Rally on the Capital Steps, and Rotunda Reception. Also, assisting this year is Dr. Kim Richter, KUMC, and

her students from the Health Policy and the Law class: Chelsea Fleming,, Paula Cupertino, Gretchen Speer, Paul Cowan, and Samantha Machen. You'll be hearing lots more from them on the event's activities!

In honor of National Public Health Week, the Kansas Public Health Association will be hosting a health fair on the second floor of the Capitol on March 31, 2006. We invite you to participate. Since the last day of the session has been scheduled for April 1st, we anticipate that there will be significant traffic in the Capitol building that day. Healthy snacks will be provided as an additional draw to the health fair and free health screenings will be a reason for legislators and visitors to come to the second floor. But we need members help in providing these-healthy snacks and health screenings. If you are interested in a display table, or

providing any kind of health screen, email director@kpha.us. Sonja has developed a form to recruit health organizations to display and for volunteers, [click here](#) for the form to fill out to let us know you will be participating! The theme for National Public Health Week is ***Designing Health Communities: Raising Healthy Kids***. To see what is available from APHA about National Public Health Week: <http://www.apha.org/nphw/2006/NPHW%20brochure%2006%20final.pdf>

Here is the activity from the legislature this week:

HB 2284 a bill that would bolster breast-feeding rights in Kansas won tentative approval Wednesday in the Senate. The measure would allow women to breast-feed their children wherever they are allowed to be legally. It is expected to pass. During a debate on the Senate floor on Wednesday, no one spoke in opposition to the measure. Currently, nothing in state statute prohibits women from nursing in public places. But some women have reported being run out of businesses because of concerns over nursing their children. Wednesday's bill would clear up any ambiguities in the law. It also would exempt breast-feeding mothers from jury duty. Advocates for the bill say breast-feeding has been proven more nutritional than formula feeding and helps babies bond with their mothers. Last year, the bill was slowed by debate over whether the word "discreetly" should be included in the measure. Some lawmakers were concerned about overexposure. Senators dismissed those concerns. "I think we can trust women to decide when and where to breast-feed," said Sen. Jim Barnett, R-Emporia. If the bill passes the Senate today, it would move to the House, which could either approve the Senate's version of the measure or send it to a House-Senate conference committee.

HB 2829 on abortion clinics received a House committee's endorsement Wednesday after members made sure it applied only to abortion and not all office-based surgeries. The measure clearing the Health and Human Services Committee is identical to a bill Gov. Kathleen Sebelius vetoed last year, requiring the Department of Health and Environment to impose minimum health and safety standards for abortion clinics. The committee rewrote legislation championed by Rep. Nancy Kirk, D-Topeka, under which the health department would have drafted regulations for all surgical procedures occurring outside hospitals. Examples include liposuction and some colonoscopies. Kirk's measure drew opposition from the Kansas Medical Society, and even Sebelius worried Wednesday about its potential cost. Also, the State Board of Healing Arts, which licenses doctors, approved its own regulations for office-based surgeries last week. However, for many legislators, the more crucial issue was opposition from Kansans for Life, the state's largest anti-abortion group, even though Kirk's proposal would have included abortion clinics. Anti-abortion activists want to single out the state's five abortion clinics, arguing they need more oversight. The committee's 10-8 vote sent the measure to the House for debate, which could occur next week. Abortion clinics would be required to: Obtain an annual license from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to operate. Have a medical director who is a licensed surgeon. Have at least one doctor with privileges at an accredited hospital. Keep on duty, while patients are present, a licensed health professional capable of reviving patients whose hearts have stopped. Keep records of each incident of a serious injury to a patient or viable fetus and report them to the KDHE within 10 days. Report patient deaths to KDHE within a day. Keep a nurse or physician's assistant on duty when abortions are performed to monitor care until a patient is charged. Properly train surgical assistants. Offer patients a post-abortion medical visit within four weeks. KDHE would be required to: Deny, suspend or revoke clinic licenses for "substantial failure to comply" with standards. Seek a court order to restrict a clinic's operation upon a violation or potential violation of state law or regulations. Set standards for the use of anesthesia and monitoring of patients' vital signs. Set standards for what equipment, supplies and medications must be on hand at the clinic in case of emergencies. Establish standards for adequate space for bathrooms; private procedure rooms; staff and patient dressing rooms; post-procedure recovery rooms, and rooms for interviewing, counseling and medical evaluations. Set standards for adequate lighting and ventilation, emergency exits, areas.

HB 2732 The Kansas House passed a proposal this week to require booster seats for children ages 4 to 7 who weigh less than 80 pounds or who are shorter than 4 feet 9 inches. The fine for a violation would be \$60. It's not perfect. In some instances, it allows children riding in cars to ride without adequate protection. The Senate should tighten the proposed rules, and lawmakers should send the bill to the governor.

HB 2739 a hearing has been scheduled for the tobacco-free hospital campus bill. The hearing will be at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, February 20 in the House Health and Human Services Committee, Room 526 South.

A few other bills of interest KPHA is tracking:

HB 2675 would establish a pilot program to allow certain small businesses to provide health insurance through the state employee's health benefits program. Participation in the pilot program shall be limited to 1,000 employees who are not already covered under another health insurance plan. The program would expire on January 1, 2011.

HB 2792 would amend K.S.A. 65-6704 and 65-6705 with regard to minors who receive abortions. Under the bill, neither the counselor nor abortion clinic staff shall accompany or assist the minor in a court proceeding regarding a request for waiver of parental notification. Under Section 2, the courts would send reports to the Department of Health and Environment disclosing in a nonidentifying manner:

- The number of minors seeking a bypass of parental notification through court proceedings under this section;
- the number granted;
- the reasons for granting the petition; and
- any subsequent actions taken in response to protecting the minor from domestic or predator abuse.

HB 2800 would require the Secretary of Health and Environment to adopt certain specified rules and regulations concerning abortion clinics, procedures, and incident reporting. The secretary would be prohibited from disclosing identifiable patient information. In addition, whenever the secretary thinks that any person has or is about to violate these rules and regulations, the secretary shall petition the court for an order enjoining such acts or practices. Upon a showing that any person has or is about to violate these rules and regulations, the court shall grant, without bond, an injunction, restraining order, or any such order as may be appropriate. [Back to top](#)

Amy Chesser Works on Developing Strategies

Amy Chesser works on developing strategies to work with the public health workforce on the common language of public health. KPHA's Common Language grant is being spearheaded by Amy Chesser with the KU School of Medicine, Preventive Medicine and Public Health in Wichita. Amy led the two meetings with a result of wonderful discussion and collaboration on developing strategies to bring together the public health workforce on a common language. [Click here](#) to see the slide show Amy developed. Below are pictures from the second meeting.



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Public Health Institute Meeting in New Orleans



NATIONAL NETWORK OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTES

Fostering Innovations that Improve Health

Colleagues

We are pleased to announce that the National Network of Public Health Institute's 2006 annual conference will again be held in New Orleans this year. Please join us on May 10-12, 2006 at the Omni Royal Orleans Hotel in the French Quarter. The theme for this year's conference is: Shaping the Future: The Roles of Public Health Institutes in Public Policy.

The sessions at the conference will explore channels through which public health institutes can engage with key partners on policy development and advocacy. Participants will have the opportunity to network with NNPHI members, Emerging Institutes, and numerous representatives from national partner

organizations. Contact Sarah Gillen at sgillen@nnphi.org for more information. Also, look for more conference details in the March/April newsletter issue.

Best regards,

Chad J. Brown, MPH, MBA
Program Manager
National Network of Public Health Institutes
504-301-9823 direct
504-301-9820 fax

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APHA's Call for Abstracts Extended



The deadlines for the American Public Health Association's CALL FOR ABSTRACTS for the 134th Annual Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts, November 4-8, 2006 have been extended for 1 week only.

We invite you to submit your abstract and assist APHA in continuing to provide the highest quality public health educational programming.

Abstracts can be submitted through the APHA web site, <http://www.apha.org/meetings>.

You do not have to be a member of the Association to submit an abstract, however, if your abstract is accepted you must become an Individual member and register for the meeting.

Deadlines have been extended to February 20-24, 2006 depending on which Section, Special Interest Group (SPIG) or Caucus you submit to. A complete list of deadlines are available on the APHA web site at <http://apha.org/meetings/>. The submission deadline is at MIDNIGHT (PST) on the due date as listed on the Call for Abstracts <http://apha.confex.com/apha/134am/oasys.epl>.

Submitters will be notified via email on or about June 1, 2006 whether their abstract was selected. [Back to top](#)

Community Champion Award Application



On April 14, 2006, the **"Healthy Cultures, Healthy Kansas"** Conference on Health Disparities will recognize an outstanding community champion. Please click the application form link below for more information about the award and how to submit a nomination. Please feel free to share this [application form](#) with others in your community. You may submit as many applications as you feel are worthy of consideration. All applications must be received by 5pm on Friday, March 31st.

Thank you for your participation - see you in April!

Sharon Goolsby
785-296-5577
sgoolsby@kdhe.state.ks.us

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Trainings

Public Health Grand Rounds will broadcast "Learning from Katrina: Tough Lessons in Preparedness and Emergency Response" on March 31, 2006, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time. It is the 25th broadcast in a series dedicated to increasing awareness of today's public health challenges.

Registration for this series is available only on-line at our web site:

<http://www.PublicHealthGrandRounds.unc.edu/>. This includes site registration and participant registration. We open site registration first to ensure that participants will have the option of choosing the site that is most convenient for them. Participant registration is scheduled to begin on February 13, depending upon site registration numbers.

Registering your site benefits you as well as your participants. As site facilitator, you will be able to view the list of participants who have registered at your site. And participants will have the opportunity to submit questions for our panelists as well as receive continuing education credit.

If you have questions about the program or registration or if you would like to give us feedback, please contact us at 919-843-9261 or GrandRounds@unc.edu.

Thank you for supporting Public Health Grand Rounds. We look forward to working with you as this series continues.

Sincerely,

Donna E. Davis, MPH
Project Director
Public Health Grand Rounds

Medicare Workshop for Ambulance Providers

**March 24, 2006
10:00 am-12:00 pm
Highland Hotel
Great Bend, Kansas**

Workshop Agenda

Local Coverage Determination (LCD)

Documentation

2006 Fee Schedule

Mileage

Advanced Life Support (ALS) and Basic Life Support (BLS) Consolidated Billing Appeal Process Fraud and Abuse Comprehensive error rate testing (CERT) Medicare secondary payer (MSP)

Pre-Conference

Public Information Education and Relations (PIER) in Emergency Medical Services March 23rd 8:00 am - 5 pm Highland Hotel Great Bend, Kansas

Emergency medical services (EMS) by nature are constantly in the public eye. This visibility brings with it certain responsibilities to the public: to explain what is happening at the emergency scene as accurately as possible, to respond to public inquiries regarding an emergency response procedure, to help citizens understand how and why their EMS providers respond the way they do, and to help educate the public regarding injury and illness prevention.

This high visibility also offers other benefits to EMS organizations: getting financial and in-kind support from individuals in the organization (which helps recruitment and retention) and securing community involvement in prevention programs undertaken by the organization. A strong public information, public education, and public relations (PIER) program can help an EMS operation cope with the challenges presented by modern emergencies. A good PIER program can save money as well as lives.

This course is a educational and a hands-on opportunity to develop or enhance your agency's PIER program and in return gain long-term rewards for your organization in terms of better public relations and increased awareness of injury and illness prevention.

KEMTA web site: <http://www.kemta.com/>

**Crank It Up!
Community Methamphetamine Prevention Training
March 1-2, 2006**

All Participants will receive a Crank It Up! Community Prevention Manual, as well as the accompanying CD-Rom at no extra charge!

Special Feature Video

CSI: Covering All Angles of a Meth Lab

View of video footage of an actual meth lab seized in Kansas.

Please encourage other representatives from your community to attend because the workshop will include an opportunity to plan localized, community prevention strategies.

Cost for this workshop is \$25.00. Pre-registration is required.

To Register: Visit our website at www.parstopeka.com. [Back to top](#)

PBS Features "Almost Home" Groundbreaking Nursing Home

On February 21 and again on April 4, PBS will air, /Almost Home/, a film documentary of a visionary nursing home director dedicated to transforming his institutional facility into an individualized home environment. The film by Brad Lichtenstein and Lisa Gildhaus, tells the stories of couples facing dementia and disability who must juggle care for their children and parents. Senator Herbert Kohl (Wisconsin), Ranking Member of the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging and the Independent Television Service hosted a preview screening and luncheon featuring the documentary on February 15 in Washington, D.C. Ken Salazar (Colorado), member of the Senate Special Committee on Aging and Senator Kohl both noted that this film shows that transforming the system of nursing home care can be done. The film will be shown as a part of the Independent Lens series and viewers should check local listings for times. For more information about the film visit: www.almosthomedoc.org. [Back to top](#)



Visit our site at <http://ks.train.org>.

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