

KPHA

Kansas Public Health Association



Public Health Day at the Capitol on April 1st!!

2010 Public Health Day Chair, Diana Rice, Edwards County Health Director, is putting together this year's Day at the Capitol, and is doing a terrific job. If you haven't planned to be in Topeka on Thursday April 1st, you will miss a great opportunity to be seen by your Legislators as the public health advocates for the state of Kansas!! Fill out the attached form and return it to the KPHA office. Here is the agenda for 2010 Public Health Day at the Capitol:

Public Health Day Agenda

6-9 pm: March 31st, Pizza and Legislator bag stuffing party and pack member vehicles to take items to the Capitol

7:30-9:00am on April 1st, Meet in Visitor's parking lot (west corner of Kansas Judicial Bldg. at 301 W. 10th)and Walk over to Docking Basement Auditorium at 901 Harrison Street. Prepare everyone to deliver bags and visit with Legislators regarding issues important to public health including thanking them for passing the Clean Air legislation! Marvin Stottlemire will lead the discussion. If we don't have members there for each Legislator, we will have to divide up those Legislator's bags to be delivered, and this will take lots of time. So it is very important for all members to try to be at the Capitol on April 1st!!

9:00am to Noon: Deliver bags to Legislators and make an effort to visit with those we find in their offices

9:00 to 11:00 "What's Your Mile" (WYM) fitness challenge Walk for Public Health Day -- corner of 10th and Jackson - SE corner of the Capitol Grounds, led by Jennifer Church. KDHE will provide pedometers and WYM t-shirts.

Noon to 1:30pm Lunch and Debriefing: Celtic Fox across the street

1:30-3:30 KPHA Board meeting—Public Health Day volunteers are welcome to attend.

If you have 165 public health promotional items to deliver to all Legislative offices please reply to this email and plan to come to the bag stuffing party!

Since Public Health Day is the kick off for National Public Health Week NPHW we have in the past acquired Resolutions and Proclamations in Topeka for NPHW. This year members have volunteered to get a House Resolution—(Eldonna Chesnut is working with Rep. Kiegerl), a Senate Resolution—(Liz Conrade is working with Senator Barnett) and a Governor's Proclamation—(Marvia Jones is working with Governor Parkinson's staff) recognizing public health!

KPHA Legislative Update

If you are interested in receiving the weekly schedule of Health Bills in both the House and Senate please reply to this email. The KPHA Board reviews these to determine what bills we will be testifying on. These past few weeks we have testified on anti-tobacco legislation, child care licensing legislation and nutritious food in schools legislation. Here are those testimonies:

SB 516: Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 516 that would increase taxation for cigarettes and tobacco products to reduce the toll that tobacco use causes in Kansas. My name is Marvin Stottlemire, and I am the Chairman of the Legislation and Issues Committee of the Kansas Public Health Association. The Kansas Public Health Association is the oldest and *largest organization of public health professionals* and health advocates in the state. Today we represent more than **600 members** from over 50 occupations and 145 organizations all across the state. Our members include: researchers, academics, medical and dental care providers, health educators and advocates, administrators, teachers, private or public organizations and foundations in a unique, multidisciplinary environment of professional exchange, study, and action, in public health practice and the public health policy process.

The health impacts of tobacco use are well known, and probably influenced many of you to support the Clean Indoor Air Act earlier this session. But today we are here to talk about economics.

- Annually, health care costs directly caused by smoking are \$927 million.
- Kansas Medicaid covers \$196 million of this portion.
- Kansas has smoking-caused productivity losses of \$906 million.¹

To combat these negative economic impacts of tobacco use, historically states have increased taxes on cigarettes and tobacco use for two reasons: to discourage smoking and to raise revenues. As a study on cigarette consumption found, "Excise tax increases are clearly one policy weapon that is effective in reducing the consumption of tobacco. This suggests that the large state increase of the 1990's as illustrated by Michigan's 1994 increase of \$0.50 per pack, may have a substantial effect on the demand of cigarettes."² In other words, when the price of cigarettes increases significantly, the number of smokers decreases and the number of youth who start to smoke or who continue smoking also decreases.

Despite the clear evidence of both health and economic benefits from increased tax on cigarettes, Kansas lags significantly behind other states in using this tool. Comparatively across the nation, as of early this month, the average state cigarette tax is \$1.34 per pack. The average cigarette tax in non-tobacco states is \$1.47 per pack. Currently, Kansas ranks 35th nationally with cigarette tax at \$.79 per pack.

The near term economic benefit is obvious. We have heard estimates that this increase will raise \$70 million in the next fiscal year. But when we look at the economic benefits in the long term, the savings are even more impressive. The increase in cigarette tax has found to prevent youth initiation of or experimentation with smoking. The Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids estimates that a \$0.55 per pack tobacco tax increase will result in 6,600 fewer adult smokers and 11,900 fewer future kid smokers.³ (These are the new figures projected by CTFK for a 55 cent cigarette tax increase) Supporting these findings, other research indicates: "Increased tax rates were associated with decreased odds of experimentation. The highest quartile of tax (60-100 cents) was significantly associated with lower odds of experimentation and appeared protective against established *smoking*."⁴

¹ Wellever, A. 2007. Cost-benefit of Tobacco Use Cessation. Testimony to the Senate President's Task Force on Health Care. Kansas Health Institute. January 31, 2007.

² Meier, K. J., Licari, M. J. The effect of cigarette taxes on cigarette consumption, 1955-1994. *American Journal of Public Health*. July 1997; 87: 1126-1130.

³ Kansas Public Health Association. Excerpts from Statewide Tobacco Control Initiatives. White paper. 2007.

⁴ Thompson, C.C., Fisher, L.B., Winnickoff, J.P., Coditz, G.A., Camargo, C.A.Jr., King, C., Frazier, A.L. State tobacco excise taxes and adolescent smoking behaviors in the United States. *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice*. 2004 Nov.-Dec. 10. (6): 490-496.

If young people don't start, there will be lifelong savings in treatment of tobacco related illnesses.

I have focused today on the economic benefits of an increase in cigarette taxes, but to the Kansas Public Health Association, that is a secondary benefit. We are interested in the health of Kansas citizens. Senate Bill 516 will not only benefit the state treasury; it will improve the health of our citizens for years to come. That is why I urge you to pass SB516.

Thank you and I will be happy to stand for questions!

SB499: Senator Shodorf, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear here today. My name is Marvin Stottlemire and I'm the chair of the Legislation and Issues Committee of the Kansas Public Health Association. (KPHA) KPHA's nearly 700 members represent virtually all of the professions working in public health in the state. I'm here today to testify in favor of SB-499.

I don't need to tell you that childhood obesity is an epidemic in this nation and this state. You can pick up any newspaper and read about it. This epidemic is not only tragic, it is costly as increasing incidence of diabetes and other diseases related to obesity will drive up the cost of health care, both nationally and in Kansas.

While SB 499 will not solve this problem, it is an important step in the right direction. Significantly, the fiscal note indicates it will do so at no additional costs to either the state or school districts. It is rare indeed when a legislative body is given an opportunity to pass legislation that will help improve the health of its state's citizens without incurring additional expenses.

I encourage you to report this bill out favorably.

Thank you.

HB 2642: I am Elaine Schwartz, Executive Director of the Kansas Public Health Association, presenting testimony on behalf of our Legislative and Policy Committee Chair, who could not be here today. Below is his testimony:

My name is Marvin Stottlemire, and I am the Chair of the Kansas Public Health Association's Legislative and Policy Committee. The Kansas Public Health Association is the oldest and *largest organization of public health professionals* and health advocates in the state. Today we represent more than 600 members from over 50 occupations and 145 organizations all across the state. Our members include: researchers, academics, medical and dental care providers, health educators and advocates, administrators, teachers, private or public organizations and foundations in a unique, multidisciplinary environment of professional exchange, study, and action, in public health practice and the public health policy process.

Our position on clean indoor air is clear and well known. We have presented testimony citing the hazards of second hand smoke on numerous occasions to this and other legislative committees over the past two years, and I won't repeat that testimony today. I will only ask that in the interest of the health of all Kansans you do not pass this bill out of committee.

In supporting legislation such as SB 25, we have often heard opponents say that clean indoor air regulation should be a local issue. Now this bill proposes to not only usurp local rights, but to undo ordinances passed in many local governments, including my home city of Topeka.

KPHA believes that the state should set minimum clean indoor air standards; that STRONGER local ordinances already in place should be allowed to stand; and that local governments be allowed to enact more stringent standards than the state minimums.

Thank you for your attention. Submitted by Marvin Stottlemire,

(Marvin Stottlemire has earned a BA in political science from the University of Oregon; a MA and PhD in political science from Rice University; and, a JD from the University Of Kansas School Of Law. He taught political science at Louisiana State University in Shreveport and was the Assistant Director of the University of Kansas Public Management Center. He is currently

Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health at the University of Kansas Medical Center, -Health Policy and Management. He is past president of the Kansas Public Health Association.)

All supporters of local and statewide clean air initiatives are invited to attend the signing ceremonies for the Kansas Clean Air Act and to celebrate Kansas becoming the 28th state to adopt a statewide smoke-free policy. Please spread the word to your networks to encourage many enthusiastic public health advocates to show their appreciation of Governor Parkinson's role in providing a clean air law for Kansas worksites and public places. Hopefully supporters from other communities will be able to travel to Topeka, Salina or the KU Medical Center to stand in witness to the law being adopted. The signing ceremonies are historical events—a tribute to the efforts partners and individuals across the state have made for more than ten years to finally achieve the Kansas Clean Air Act for Kansas communities.

Official Signing of the Kansas Clean Air Bill on Friday March 12

Clean Indoor Air Act Bill Signing

Governor Mark Parkinson

Friday, March 12, 2010

10:00 AM

State Capitol, South Wing, 2nd Floor

Governor Parkinson will be joined by state legislators and health advocacy organizations in signing HB 2221, the Kansas Clean Indoor Air Act.

Ceremonial bill signings of the legislation will also be held in Kansas City and Salina on Monday, March 15th.

Kansas City

1:30 p.m., Monday, March 15

School of Nursing Atrium

University of Kansas Medical Center

3901 Rainbow Blvd., Kansas City

Salina

3:30 p.m., Monday, March 15

Salina-Saline County Health Department

Conference Room A

125 West Elm Street, Salina

Captain Jose Belardo to serve as acting RHA for Region VII

President Eldonna Chesnut asked to include the news about Captain Belardo who gave us the \$1000 in sponsorship funds for the KPHA Fall Conference last year. See attached announcement!

KDHE, KPHA and WSU sponsors 5th annual Governor's Public Health Conference

2010 GOVERNOR'S PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE,

by Linda Frazier

KPHA Treasurer, KDHE Public Health Workforce Development Specialist

The 2010 Governor's Public Health Conference will be April 26 - 28, at the Wichita Airport Hilton. An Orientation session for new staff or those new to the Maternal Child Health Program, will be held on April 26. The general session, "*Promoting Quality of Life for a Healthy Kansas*," begins on April 27. This year's sessions include information on Healthy People 2020 objectives, Maternal and Child Health five-year needs assessment priorities, Accreditation Standards, community health assessment information, and the collaborative work of multiple public health practitioners and stakeholders.

Please join us as we consider the individual and organizational leadership skills essential to address some of the State's most pressing health issues and opportunities to promote quality of life for families and communities.

REGISTRATION:

- Register for the conference through KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>
- Login to your KS-TRAIN account and then select this course title link:
[5th Annual Governor's Public Health Conference](#) (1020726)

EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION:

- To download an exhibitor brochure, go to
<http://webs.wichita.edu/depttools/depttoolsmemberfiles/conted/Exhibitor%20Brochure-2010.pdf>
- To register as an exhibitor/sponsor, go to <https://conferences.wichita.edu/ei/getdemo.ei?id=67&s=OU80JBYGW>

For additional information about this program, please contact the WSU Conference Office at (316) 978-6493; fax (316) 978-3064; email- jana.woods@wichita.edu.

KPHA Organizational member, KHI on RWJ county health rankings

The Kansas Health Institute (a KPHA Organizational member) held a media briefing on Wednesday, Feb. 17, to discuss the release of County Health Rankings, a collection of 50 reports — one per state — that ranks the counties in each state according to overall health. The County Health Rankings report was produced through a collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, and serves as the first ever nationwide analysis of health at the county level. KHI's Kansas County Health Rankings 2009, released last June, was a similar study, but it utilized slightly different measures and methodologies and was conducted only at the state level. KHI Senior Fellow, Dr. Gianfranco Pezzino, briefed the media on the report and discussed how public health officials, community leaders and the public can use the information to identify strategies to improve overall health.

A detailed explanation of the ranking differences requires a side-by-side comparison of the values that the two reports calculated for each indicator. That information is available at www.countyhealthrankings.org.

For more information you can contact Anne Berry or Gianfranco Pezzino at the Kansas Health Institute: 785-233-5443.

KPHA Organizational member, KUMC, ranked one of the top 3 Hospitals in Kansas!

STUDY RATES KANSAS HOSPITALS HIGHLY

Three Kansas hospitals rank in the top 5 percent of 5,000 U.S. hospitals, according to a new study.

- [St. Francis Health Center](#), Topeka.
- [Kansas University Hospital](#), Kansas City, Kan.
- [Via Christi Regional Medical Center](#), Wichita.

Among the top 269 "distinguished" hospitals, they have:

- Between 15 percent and 41 percent lower mortality rates. Overall: 27%.
- Between 4 percent and 14 percent lower complication rates. Overall: 9%.

In Kansas, three of the 14 hospitals eligible made the list — or 21%. No Leavenworth hospital was studied. No Kansas City, Missouri hospitals were chosen. No Oklahoma hospitals qualified.

The Healthgrades study was an independent study of mortality and complication that identifies an elite group of hospitals that are setting the benchmark for outstanding patient outcomes, said Dr. Rick May, HealthGrades vice president of clinical excellence research and consulting, an author of the study. And what's extraordinary is that these hospitals are not standing still. In fact, the data show that they are continuing to improve their patient outcomes at a faster rate, reflecting a commitment to quality that stands as a model for all other hospitals.

Study details:

- HealthGrades analyzed about 40 million patient records from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services from 2006 to 2008.
- It examined 26 procedures and diagnoses at every one of the nation's nonfederal hospitals.
- These hospitals met minimum thresholds in terms of patient volumes, quality ranking and range of services provided. No hospital can opt out.
- HealthGrades risk-adjusted the data to compare on equal footing hospitals that treated sicker patients.

The study also found that in 36 states, at least one hospital made the distinguished list. Kansas looks very good in comparison! An important part of the finding are that if all hospitals performed at the level of the top 5%, 150,132 deaths among Medicare patients may have been prevented, 13,104 in-hospital complications among Medicare patients may have been avoided.

National Public Health Week April 5th to 11th, 2010!

APHA now has the NPHW toolkit on their website at <http://www.nphw.org/nphw10/home1.htm> . If you are planning an activity, be sure to let KPHA staff know so it can be featured in an upcoming Newsletter!!

Since 1995, when the first full week of April was declared as National Public Health Week (NPHW), communities across the country have celebrated NPHW to recognize the contributions of public health and highlight issues that are important to improving the public's health.

The American Public Health Association (APHA) serves as the organizer of NPHW and develops a national campaign to educate the public, policy-makers and practitioners about issues related to that year's theme. APHA creates comprehensive planning, organizing and outreach materials that can be used during and after the week to raise awareness.

Attachments:

[Healthday flier3.pdf](#)

[03 12 10 Acting RHA Region VII3.pdf](#)