

KPHA

Kansas Public Health Association



KPHA E-News, May 17th, 2010

In this issue:

Deadline for Call for Presentations Extended to Friday May 21st!

Health Day at the Capitol Photos

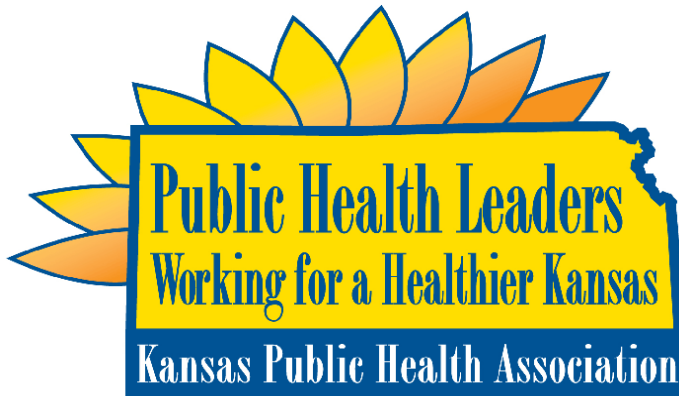
Legislative Update

Job Openings

University of Washington, NWCPHP News

KPHA Fall Conference Update

Deadline for Call for Presentations Extended to Friday May 21st!



KPHA FALL CONFERENCE

“CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS”

**67th Annual KPHA Annual Meeting
Fall Conference
September 29th and 30th, 2010**

KPHA President Elect and 2010 Conference Chair, Heather Henke, Barber County Health Department, has received 21 Proposals to date, but, to make sure the call has a chance for everyone who wants to present at this year's Conference to apply, she has decided to extend the deadline! Please send in your proposal to be a speaker at a breakout session at the Conference by the end of this week! Again, we will be focusing on topics that are considered in the Health Sections of KPHA:

1. Administrative Health
2. Community Health
3. Research and Evaluation
4. Elder Issues
5. Emergency Preparedness
6. Environmental Health
7. Infectious Disease
8. Oral Health
9. Health Policy
10. Students in Health
11. Tobacco, Substance Use & Mental Health

When you submit your proposal please indicate which track(s) you wish to present in. Also indicate date preference and am or pm session. (Please use the submission form attached with the e-mail). At this time breakouts will be one hour in length (60 minutes). The committee doesn't guarantee that all submissions will be accepted or that we can meet presentation preferences. Please submit your abstract by e-mail to me heatherhenkern@hotmail.com for the online form, go to <http://www.kpha.us/#fall10> and click on the Call for Presentations Form at the top of the page. Please remember to use the abstract submission form. If you have any questions or for some reason cannot submit your proposal electronically please feel free to call me at: 620-886-3294 or fax: 620-886-3747. I hope to have the conference brochure and registration available by June 1st.

Health Day at the Capitol Photos



Be sure to visit the Photo Gallery on the KPHA website to see all the pictures from our wonderful two days of being at the Capitol
<http://www.kpha.us/images/gallery/photogallery14.htm>

Legislative Update

With the 2010 Session ending, except for the Sine Die session, it is time to look at what happened. As a former Legislator, I found even when I served in the Legislature, that the best place to find this was in the clips from the news service across the state. Here are a few excerpts from those

Session was good for Kansans' health (Wichita Eagle)

During a session that seemed to be all about a budget crisis, the Legislature ended up serving public health and safety in a big way. Long after the shortfall has been erased, 2010 will stand as the year legislators made it easier to breathe and safer to drive in Kansas, and stepped up safeguards for children in home day-care settings. Led by Gov. Mark Parkinson, both chambers of the Legislature finally agreed that Kansas needed to join the nearly 30 states with statewide indoor smoking bans, effective July 1. Lawmakers need to get rid of the hypocritical exemption for state-owned casinos next year, and they would

have been smarter to plan for an ending balance by passing Parkinson's proposed 55-cent tobacco tax increase. But passing a bipartisan smoking ban was a major victory for public health and a blow against smoking-related illnesses, which are responsible for at least 3,900 deaths and a \$927 million cost to taxpayers each year in Kansas.

Many years of advocacy by state Sen. Les Donovan, R-Wichita, paid off in passage of a primary seat-belt bill, which will empower law enforcement officers to pull over drivers for not wearing their seat belts. Donovan got a boost from the \$11 million in federal funds Kansas would receive for joining the 31 states with such laws. But it was never about the money, dating back to then-Gov. "Seat-Belt Bill" Graves' call for a primary seat-belt bill a decade ago. "It's going to save lives," Donovan said as the bill neared the finish line last weekend. He characterized the embarrassingly low fines — \$5 the first year, \$10 thereafter — as "baby steps." Lawmakers also passed a sorely needed ban on texting while driving, which will make offending drivers of all ages subject to traffic stops and \$60 fines. No law or penalty will keep every texting addict from practicing this dumb and dangerous habit behind the wheel, but Kansas is now on record as having declared it unlawful. In addition, legislators did something about the 2,500 home day-care facilities that were neither licensed nor routinely inspected under current law. That should improve Kansas' 47th-place ranking among states for its child care regulation and help working parents find safe settings for their kids. A number of budget decisions promise to be good for Kansans' health as well, including — as reported by Kansas Health Institute News Service — the restoration of Medicaid reimbursements (which Parkinson had cut by 10 percent), an extra \$22.8 million for services for those with physical and developmental disabilities, and \$111,000 more for senior meals (the last successfully pushed by Rep. Nile Dillmore, D-Wichita). Rough as the session was fiscally and politically, lawmakers can take pride in these and other efforts, which will have lasting positive effects of Kansans' health and safety. Read more: <http://www.kansas.com/2010/05/14/1313054/session-was-good-for-kansans-health.html#ixzz0oCgPnMgM>

Mostly good lawmaking (Hutchinson News)

Aside from one notable disappointment - a big one, to be sure - the Kansas Legislature did some good work this session. That big disappointment was a decision to raise the state sales tax by 1 cent - from 5.3 to 6.3 percent. It is a three-year revenue measure to get the state through some dire financial straits, though after three years it will drop just to 5.7 so it can continue to finance a new transportation improvement plan. The sales tax became the method to pay for a \$13.7 billion budget for next fiscal year that spares public schools from further budget cuts and restores cuts to social service programs. It seems to be a good budget. But it was a bad way to cover the shortfall. The sales tax is an expense that will be carried on the backs of everyone, including those out of work, and it will apply to food and basic necessities. It is the most regressive of taxes. Besides that, it will push sales taxes too high in some places. It will put Kansas at least 10th highest in the nation for state sales tax rate. Keep in mind, though, that the state rate typically is not the whole sales tax. Combined with the local sales tax, in Hutchinson, for example, the sales tax will be 8.05 percent.

Legislators in a sense took the easy way out of the budget problem. They should have rolled up their sleeves and starting combing through the long list of special-interest tax exemptions. Raising tobacco and alcohol taxes would have been preferable to the sales tax. Even the idea for a tax on sugary soft drinks had more appeal. All of those alternatives fell by the wayside. Passage of a sales tax increase, roundly criticized when Gov. Mark Parkinson proposed it at the start of the session, was a surprise ending to the session.

There were some other surprises:

* Passage of a 10-year, \$8.2 billion package of highway, bridge and other transportation improvements that

builds on similar 10-year programs in the 1990s and 2000s. Conventional wisdom was that an extraordinarily lean budget year wasn't the time for a new transportation program, but lawmakers smartly saw it as not just an investment in highways but a jobs-creation bill.

* Passage of a statewide public smoking ban. This seemed unnecessary and after the fact, as most communities already were handling this issue effectively with local ordinances.

There were some notable accomplishments. Among them:

* Passage of a shield law protecting journalists from having prosecutors subpoena their notes or reveal confidential sources without meeting certain judicial tests. Sen. Terry Bruce of Hutchinson helped author this bill.

* Passage of two key traffic laws, prohibiting texting while driving and strengthening the seatbelt law, so that not wearing a seatbelt is a primary ticketing offense.

* Giving businesses some relief from a wicked unemployment tax increase.

All told and relatively speaking, the Legislature got some work done this session, and despite the budget deficit clearly being the biggest challenge, that didn't get in the way of some other, mostly good lawmaking.
By John D. Montgomery/Hutchinson News editorial board

Legislature issues recapped (Topeka Capitol Journal)

Here's a look at how major issues fared during the Legislature's recently concluded 2010 session.

Budget and taxes Democrats and moderate Republicans drafted and passed a \$13.7 billion budget for the fiscal year starting July 1 that protects education funding, social services and other government programs. Democratic Gov. Mark Parkinson is pleased with it. The same coalition in both chambers passed an increase in the state's sales tax to help prevent a budget deficit. The tax will rise from 5.3 percent to 6.3 percent on July 1 but drop to 5.7 percent after three years. The tax increase is expected to raise \$314 million during the next fiscal year.

Transportation Legislators approved a bill starting a new, 10-year, \$8.2 billion transportation program. It taps revenues raised by the higher sales tax and increases registration fees for heavy trucks. It also authorizes \$1.7 billion in bonds.

Rainy day fund Last year, the Senate adopted a proposed amendment to the Kansas Constitution to create a rainy day fund in the state budget. The House rewrote it and approved it last month. Negotiators were unable to agree on a compromise version.

Gambling Earlier this month, the Senate voted 20-19 against a bill aimed at reviving the dog- and horse racing industry by making slot machines profitable enough for track owners to install them. The measure also would have made it easier for a potential developer to build a state-owned casino in southeast Kansas.

Death penalty In February, the Senate rejected a bill to repeal the state's 1994 capital punishment law and replace the death sentence for some murders with life in prison without parole. The 20-20 vote ended the debate over the death penalty for the year.

Smoking ban Both chambers approved a bill to ban smoking in bars, restaurants and other public places. Gov. Mark Parkinson signed it in March, and the restrictions take effect July 1.

Traffic safety Legislators approved a bill to strengthen the state's seat belt law so that all adults in a vehicle must wear seat belts, rather than just those in the front seat.

Also, law enforcement officers would be allowed to stop vehicles only for a seat-belt violation, rather than requiring them to first have another reason, such as speeding.

A bill to ban texting while driving also passed.

Anti-drug measure A new law took effect March 18 to ban the possession and sale of chemicals that are sprayed or sprinkled as powder on herbs to turn them into synthetic marijuana, which is sometimes sold as "K2" or "Spice."

States' rights Both chambers have adopted a resolution calling on the federal government to abide by the 10th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which says powers not specifically reserved to the federal

government are left for the states or the people. The resolution went to congressional leaders and President Barack Obama.

Health amendment A proposed "Health Care Freedom Amendment" to the state constitution failed in March in the House. A similar proposal failed to clear the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The measure would have prohibited the state from forcing any individual or business to buy health insurance. It was designed to block implementation in Kansas of a recently enacted federal law requiring most Americans to buy health insurance, starting in 2014.

Abortion Both chambers approved a bill to require doctors to report more detailed information to the state about the late-term abortions they perform. The measure also would have allowed patients and family members to sue doctors over legally questionable late-term procedures. Parkinson vetoed the measure April 15, and anti-abortion legislators failed to override his action in the Senate.

The House approved a proposal to prevent health insurance companies from including coverage for most abortions in their basic policies, requiring Kansans who want such coverage to buy separate riders. Senators didn't vote on the measure.

House members also have approved a bill to prohibit abortions of viable fetuses after the 21st week of pregnancy for mental health reasons. The Senate did not consider it.

Smut shops The House approved a bill to prohibit strip clubs, adult stores and other sexually oriented businesses from locating within 1,000 feet of schools, libraries, public parks, licensed day-care centers and houses of worship. Also, dancers at strip clubs would have been required to remain seminude and 6 feet away from patrons. But the measure failed last month in the Senate on a 20-20 vote.

Judicial elections A Senate committee has endorsed a proposal to regulate campaigns for and against the retention of Kansas Supreme Court justices and Court of Appeals judges, but the entire Senate didn't vote on it. The state ethics commission said in February that Kansas campaign finance laws don't apply to such campaigns.

Immigration Neither chamber passed any major proposal to crack down on illegal immigration.

Unemployment issues Businesses had faced a \$209 million increase this year in the taxes they pay to finance benefits for jobless workers, with the biggest percentage increases facing employers with little or no claims history. But legislators passed a bill to reduce businesses' burden by \$43 million this year, giving the most relief to companies with little or no claims history. Gov. Mark Parkinson signed it in March.

http://cjonline.com/news/legislature/2010-05-16/legislature_issues_recapped



And, finally, from Rep. Marti Crow, who has kept KPHA informed from her Newsletters:

The Provider Assessment for Nursing Homes -- HB 2320 -- creates an annual provider assessment on all licensed nursing home beds in skilled nursing care facilities. Each facility would be assessed for the number of beds, paid quarterly. Revenue would be used to reimburse facilities for monies lost when the Governor had to make a 10% cut to provider rates which lost the facilities Medicaid funding. The bill is expected to generate about \$57.3 million which will be matched by \$129.1 million in federal Medicaid funding next year.

Prohibiting Texting While Driving -- SB 300 -- would prohibit covering or obscuring vehicle license plates with a \$60 fine. It would also ban texting while operating a motor vehicle. Warning tickets will be issued until January 1, 2011. It requires adults riding to ensure that minors riding motorcycles wear a helmet. It also extends from 20 to 25 years the time districts can continue to operate school buses that meet all the safety requirements.

Primary Seat Belts --HB 2130 -- requires every occupant of a passenger car to wear seat belts and allows law enforcement to stop a car for seat belts alone. The fine for violations starts very low, \$5 starting this June 30, \$10 starting July 1, 2011. No violation would be reported to the Department of Revenue. The fine for anyone aged 14 to 17 remains \$60.

Licensing for Child Care Providers -- HB 2356-- eliminates the category of registered "family day care homes" and creates a transitional process for the existing homes to become licensed. It would also create an on-line information website for the public to find the names of licensed day care providers, and see the history of inspection results. Inspections would be once every 15 months until July 1, 2011, then back to annually unless a complaint is made. The bill is named "Lexie's Law" for a toddler that died in an unlicensed day care home in Olathe last year.

Job Openings



Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner
Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health

The Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health is seeking a highly motivated and talented ARNP to build the capacity of our hospital to treat tobacco dependence among inpatients. The Department is the focal point for new initiatives to enhance public health treatment, education and research in the state and the region. We are actively seeking an ARNP to consult with hospital inpatients on how to quit smoking, work with patients' health care teams to develop a plan of care, and provide referral and follow-up care in outpatient clinics after discharge.

The successful candidate will work with an interdisciplinary team of counselors, researchers, and physicians in the departments of Preventive Medicine and Public Health & Family Medicine to develop this new approach to treating the #1 cause of death in the United States.

The position may be full or part time, clinical responsibilities are on weekdays only, and additional responsibilities can be tailored to suit the interests and experience of applicants. Opportunities also exist to work on research projects and teach. The Department is home to a nationally-recognized Masters of Public Health program and a new Masters of Science in Clinical Research. Faculty is intimately involved in teaching in our School of Medicine.

Review of applications and nominations will begin immediately and will continue until a suitable candidate is found. For additional information you may email Kimber Richter, Ph.D, MPH at krichter@kumc.edu or visit our website at <http://ph.kumc.edu/>.

To apply on-line only go to: <http://jobs.kumc.edu> and search for position number J0104589.

KUMC is EO/AA Employer

Preparedness Coordinator The Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department is currently seeking a Preparedness Coordinator to join its well-trained, motivated work force. The Preparedness Coordinator will provide management of the agency's public health emergency preparedness and response activities. This position works extensively with community partners to identify local needs and coordinate agency efforts. A bachelor's degree is required. Experience in public health preparedness as well as organizing and facilitating the work of community groups is highly desirable. We are looking for a professional with initiative and strong communication skills.

For more information visit:

<http://www.ldchealth.org/pdf/Preparedness%20Coordinator%20flyer%205.5.10.pdf>

Submit resume to Charlotte Marthaler, Director of Policy & Planning, at: jobs@ldchealth.org

University of Washington, NWCPHP News

As part of the scholarship I received to attend the NWCPHP to attend last year's Summer Institute I offered to help promote the Center and their information to Kansas KPHA members. I was delighted to see that I was in the picture on the cover of the Annual Report—see below! I am the one in orange on the back row. I highly recommend the Summer Institute to everyone in public health. It was an awesome experience. Here is the update from NWCPHP:

NWCPHP Annual Report & Summer Institute

The Northwest Center for Public Health Practice (NWCPHP) proudly celebrates its 20th year, and one of the major activities is the launch of an annual report and 20-year retrospective. This 24-page, full-color publication is produced as a Special Supplement to the School of Public Health journal, *Northwest Public Health*, and is now available.

There is a PDF of the entire publication, as well as links to the individual articles in the Annual Report <http://www.nwcpHP.org/20th/annual-report> section of our 20th Anniversary pages.

This annual report and 20-year retrospective includes stories about activities done in each of our partner states, reminiscences from NWCPHP's five former directors, and, of course, information on NWCPHP training, research, and evaluation activities available to public health throughout the region.

Thank you to all who have provided encouragement and support for the development of this publication and of the other 20th anniversary activities.



Summer is upon us...have you made your plans?
Save \$300 if you register for the Summer Institute by June 15th.

Early registration for the 19th annual Summer Institute for Public Health Practice is open until June 15th. The Summer Institute will run from August 9–13 and is sponsored by the Northwest Center for Public Health Practice in the University of Washington's School of Public Health.

All participants attend top-notch plenary sessions during the morning, and then divide into separate courses depending on their chosen area of focus for the week:

- Basic Epidemiology
- Intermediate Epidemiology
- Health & the Built Environment
- Health Communication
- Implementing Program Planning & Evaluation
- Public Health Leadership & Management
- Tools of the Trade: Practical Skills for Managers

The Summer Institute is pleased to announce that Monday's plenary speaker will be Judy Monroe, the Deputy Director of the Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Thursday morning's plenary will be discussion-oriented with a Public Health Accreditation Panel composed of Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) beta site representatives and site reviewers from around the region. Friday morning's plenary will also foster discussion with a Health Directors Panel to discuss public health issues from a local, state, national, and tribal perspective.

Participants will have an opportunity to engage colleagues and leaders about pressing public health topics throughout the week, and everyone is invited to a Monday evening reception.

Register by June 15th and save \$300. Contact Trudy San Jose White via email sanjose@u.washington.edu or phone 206.685.2931 or visit our registration page on the Web site at www.nwcpHP.org/summer-institute/register.

Register now and save \$300. We'll see you on August 9th!

KPHA Fall Conference Update

Heather is doing a great job putting together the Fall Conference! She and the Conference Committee are working quickly to get the registration process up and going on June 1st. If you are already ready to book your rooms, you can! To make your room reservations at the Capitol Plaza, call 800-579-7937 and tell them you are with the KPHA Conference! At the Welcoming Session we will have Dr. Georges Benjamin, Executive Director of the American Public Health Association speak and also Steve Shields, a national speaker from our own back yard in Kansas! This session will be sponsored by the Sunflower Foundation.



Steve Shields is the President and CEO of Meadowlark Hills Retirement Community in Manhattan, KS. Shields is a sought after leadership and transformation consultant. Shields is an international leader in the creation of the “Household Model” and provides consulting and education to providers on the model and its application. Participants from over 40 states and 10 foreign countries have utilized this experience to further deepen their culture change journeys. Shields, along with Laverne Norton, authored a book, “In Pursuit of the Sunbeam, a Guide to Transform Institution into Home”. Shields’ is on faculty at Kansas State University. He will speak on a Leader in Charge of Change for Public Health!

Other Conference Highlights include invited guests from the Kansas Leadership Center, the Adjutant General's Department, a President's Walk, and the Tobacco Free Plenary by TFKC. And, Heather's oldest daughter will be playing the National Anthem on her guitar! Watch for the KPHA Fall Conference information to be added to our website and in the next Newsletter!