

KAMU Update – May 2008

From the Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved

KAMU Events & News ♦ Member News ♦ Other Conferences & Events ♦ Funding ♦ Federal Updates ♦ Clinical News ♦ Advocacy ♦ Research & Resources ♦ Employment

KAMU Events & News ...

KAMU Calendar (*See below for details on each event.*)

May 13: “Chronic Pain Management” - Kansas Physicians Network call

May 30: “Motivating Parents to Prevent Caries in Their Young Children: New Strategies That Work” – Oral Health Workshop

June 2-4: Association of Institutional Dentistry Annual Meeting – KAMU scholarships available

July 15: Applications due for Community Health Center Executive Fellowship

July 17: “A Cryptic Scenario: What’s in Your Plan?” - Emergency Preparedness Tabletop Exercise

Aug. 8: UDS Clinical Measures Training

Aug. 10-16: National Health Center Week

Kansas Physicians Network

The monthly conference call is held the second Tuesday of the month.

May 13, Noon-1:00 pm.

Call-in Number: 1-866-257-1749 Passcode: 8571360

Topic: ***Chronic Pain Management***

Robert Twillman, PhD, Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Associate Professor of Psychology, KU Medical Center Department of Psychology & Behavior Science, presented on Chronic Pain Management during KAMU’s Annual Conference in November 2007. We asked Dr. Twillman to return to give more physicians the opportunity to hear this excellent presentation. CEU credits are available

He will review the assessment and basic treatment strategies for pain, discuss the distinctions between physical dependence, tolerance, addiction and pseudo-addiction and review the basic management of common side effects of pain medications.

For more information, contact Erin Scrapper, escraper@kspca.org.

Workshop Presents New Oral Health Strategy

Motivating Parents to Prevent Caries in Their Young Children:

New Strategies That Work

Friday, May 30

9:00 a.m-Noon

Heartspring, 8700 East 29th St North

Wichita, KS 67226

Presenter: Phillip Weinstein, PhD

Recent evidence indicates that a simple, brief Motivational Interviewing (MI) approach works to reduce caries in high-risk preschool children. This workshop will introduce you to this helpful approach and will present strategies for using it effectively to manage a variety of common dental problems for the dentist, hygienist and assistant.

The workshop is sponsored by KAMU, Oral Health Kansas and KDHE-Office of Oral Health, with generous support from the United Methodist Health Ministry Fund.

Got Teeth?

Four Kansas safety net dentists and one dental hygienist have received scholarships from KAMU to attend the 2008 Association of Institutional Dentistry Annual Meeting on **June 2-4, 2008** in Bloomington, Minn. If you are interested in attending the meeting and need financial support, please contact Erin Scrapper at escrapper@kspca.org or Denice Curtis, dcurtis@kspca.org.

The Safety Net Wants YOU: Leadership Program Taking Applications

Do you know someone who has the talent, skill and passion to be a leader in a safety net clinic? The Community Health Center Executive Fellowship program is now taking applications for the 2008-09 class, which begins **this** October. **Application deadline is July 15.**

The year-long, online course prepares individuals for **executive and senior** management positions in community health centers and safety net clinics. The regional fellowship is offered by the University of Kansas Medical Center, in collaboration with KAMU and the Greater Midwest Association of Primary Health Care.

Three KAMU members completed the course last year – Bev White of the Center for Health and Wellness; Sonja Bachus, Swope Health Center; and Jane Faubion, KAMU. This year’s participants are Tina Payne, Health Ministries Clinic, and Robert Poole, Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas.

For details, visit www.chcexecfellow and see the brochure posted on KAMU’s site, www.kspca.org.

Emergency Preparedness: Plan Now to Attend Tabletop Exercise

Thanks to clinics that submitted updated emergency preparedness plans to KAMU by April 30; each will receive \$500. Now, to encourage participation, another \$500 is being offered to each clinic that takes part in this tabletop exercise.

A Cryptic Scenario: What’s in Your Plan?

Thursday, July 17, 9 am-3 pm
Kansas History Museum, Topeka

This event will give participants an opportunity to evaluate their clinic’s current response plans and capabilities. The exercise will focus on various mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery elements, which should be included in your emergency operations plan (EOP).

A brochure will be sent to KAMU members soon. For more information, contact Nikki Harrison, nharrison@kspca.org.

KAMU to Host UDS Clinical Measures Training

HRSA’s Bureau of Primary Health Care is pleased to announce training sessions for health center grantees on the collection and reporting of clinical measures in the Uniform Data System (UDS) for 2008. KAMU will host the UDS Quality of Care Measures Training on **August 8.**

These half-day trainings have a different focus than the more comprehensive UDS trainings provided during the fall. Sessions target clinical and other staff who are responsible for data collection and reporting. KAMU will send members more details as soon as available. More information can be found on the UDS web site (bphc.hrsa.gov/uds).

National Health Center Week 2008 Is August 10-16

This year’s theme is “America’s Health Centers: Home of America’s Health Care Heroes.” National Health Center Week recognizes the vital role of health center providers in achieving the success of the health center mission. Two days will also be set aside to focus on special populations who are often left outside of the mainstream health care system. Health Care for the Homeless Day will be observed on

Wednesday, August 13 and the first ever Farmworker Health Day will be observed on Thursday, August 14. For resources, visit NACHC's website at www.healthcenterweek.org.

The Data Are In!

Reporting to Data Counts for 2007 is now complete. Thanks to all member clinics for providing this important information, and thanks to Connie Satzler and Rebekah Brown at EnVisage Consulting for their hard work in analyzing the data.

Please remember to visit Data Counts as needed to check the accuracy of your clinic's information. Also, note that a new feature has been added this year: Volunteer Value Per Hour.

KAMU's ED Takes Part in "Cover the Uninsured Week" Events

Cathy Harding, Executive Director of KAMU, participated in a Topeka event on April 27 that was sponsored by Kansas Faith Alliance for Health Reform. Sens. Jim Barnett and Laura Kelly were keynote speakers. In addition, Sandy Steinlage from Marian Clinic in Topeka presented on patient eligibility.

On April 30, Harding participated in an event at KU Medical Center to recognize the national awareness campaign. She discussed government activity as it relates to the uninsured population. Dr. Dennis Sale, founder of Heartland Medical Clinic in Lawrence, discussed clinical issues associated with uninsured populations.

Harding was also interviewed on Kansas Public Radio, speaking about the safety net with health reporter Bryan Thompson.

Member News ...

Welcome, New Leaders

Carol Ramirez, MSW, LCSW, is Shawnee County Health Agency's new Executive Director. She was formerly the Social Work Team Leader at the Topeka CHC. She succeeds Debby McArdle, who has remained on the staff.

Alan Henderson is the new clinic manager at Saint Vincent Clinic in Leavenworth. He succeeds Sister Jennifer Gordon, who will work at the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System this summer, then move to Providence Medical Center in September.

Kudos, Tina!

Tina Payne, ED of Health Ministries Clinic in Newton, is a 2008 Newton Woman of the Year award recipient. The award is sponsored by *The Newton Kansan* and the Woman of the Year committee. Nominations are taken from the newspaper's readers, and judges select the winners. For the story, see www.thekansan.com.

Health Care Access Turns 20

Congratulations to Health Care Access in Lawrence, which recently began its twentieth year of service to the Douglas County community.

On April 20, the TherapyWorks Half Marathon and 5K in Lawrence raised funds for Health Care Access. The second annual benefit raised more than \$42,000.

Caritas Clinics Plan Annual Fundraiser

The 9th Annual Caritas Celebrates at the Kansas Speedway will be held on June 7. "Revved to Ride" is a benefit for Duchesne Clinic in Kansas City and Saint Vincent Clinic in Leavenworth. It features rides with the Richard Petty Driving Experience and presentation of the Sister Rosalie Mahoney and Caritas Awards.

Sedgwick County Promotes Area Safety Net Clinics

GraceMed Health Clinic was featured in a *Wichita Eagle* story on Apr. 24 about the problems encountered by the uninsured. Sedgwick County has launched new outreach efforts to provide more information and assistance to the uninsured. See the Apr. 24 article and photos at www.kansas.com.

Flint Hills in Manhattan Works with Students

Kansas State University students are working with Flint Hills Community Clinic to review its current financial resources and research potential funding sources. The students are enrolled in Public Relations Techniques and Fundraising Courses taught by Prof. Linda Harvey.

Changes to Note

First Care Clinic in Hays has a new address: 105 W. 13th St., Hays, 67601.

Duchesne Clinic has unveiled a new web site: <http://www.duchesneclinic.org/>.

Other Conferences & Events ...

Understanding Hepatitis 2008

May is Hepatitis Awareness Month. The Kansas City Hepatitis Alliance presents this free event and chance to ask questions:

Tuesday, May 6, 6:00-8:45 pm
University of Kansas Medical Center
Kansas City, KS 66160

The event includes: Hepatitis Overview: Screening, immunization, treatment, Dr. Brad Freilich; Hepatitis C medication side effect strategies, Karen Luken, MS, ARNP; Advanced Liver Disease and Transplantation, Dr. Richard Gilroy. For more information call 913-754-6077.

2008 Kansas Conference on Poverty

Electing to End Poverty: Why It Impacts Us All
May 13-14, Capital Plaza Hotel and Convention Center, Topeka

Speakers are Dr. Mark Rank, author of *One Nation Underprivileged*; Dr. Lynn Davey, VP at the Frameworks Institute; Aaron Fowler, ED of the Hope Street Youth Development Program; Dr. Gary Bass, found of OMB Watch; and Jodie Levin-Epstein, Deputy Director of the Center for Law and Social Policy. For information, visit www.kacap.org.

Oral Health Conference

Fluoride Varnish Mini-Summit
May 16, Kansas State Historical Museum, Topeka

This Mini-Summit for medical and dental professionals focuses on policy and operational issues. Participation is free, but registration is required and limited to the first 100 persons.

The day will be devoted to exploring questions about fluoride varnish with dentists, hygienists, dental assistants, nurses, physicians, physicians' assistants, nurse practitioners, oral health advocates, early child care leaders, office practice managers, insurers, and community leaders.

Online registration is available on the United Methodist Health Ministry Fund website:
<http://www.healthfund.org/fvms08.php>.

The Kansas Academy of Family Physicians Annual Meeting

June 4-7, Overland Park

Family physicians, other primary care physicians, nurse practitioners and PAs are invited to attend, and can earn up to 28.5 credits of CME. Online registration is available at www.kafponline.org. Click the Annual Meeting logo or Annual Meeting “quick link.” For more information contact Executive Director Carolyn Gaughan at kafp@kafponline.org, 316-721-9005.

Kansas Non Profit Association Programs

The Kansas Mentors Training is designed for nonprofit agency executive directors, board members, management staff, development staff, mentor/volunteer coordinators and others interested in mentoring. Upcoming trainings are scheduled for Pittsburg (May 1), Hays (May 8) and Topeka (May 14).

The workshop **Money, Marketing and Management** will be held Thursday, May 15 in Salina. This workshop is designed for nonprofit agency executive directors, board members, business manager, financial officers and supervisory staff.

For information about either program, contact the Kansas Non Profit Association, Mainstream, Inc., 1-800-582-1428, www.mainstreaminc.net.

Health Ministries Conference

All interested persons are invited to participate in this free bi-state conference hosted by Kansas City Quality Improvement Consortium. More information is available at krhis.kdhe.state.ks.us/olrh.

Faith in Action

Saturday, May 31, 9:45 am – 2:30 pm, Kansas City, Missouri

Healthy Kansas Summits Set

Governor Kathleen Sebelius has announced four regional summits to promote opportunities encouraging physical activity, healthy eating, and avoiding tobacco in Kansas. The summits are organized by the Healthy Kansas program and Kansas Recreation and Parks Association working along with other organizations to improve the health of Kansans. A single day workshop for professionals will be on Friday; Saturday is the community health fair offering public resources.

- June 6-7, Johnson County Community College, Overland Park
- June 13-14, Ft. Hays State University, Hays
- June 20-21, Garden City Community College, Garden City
- June 27-28, Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg

For additional info, visit krhis.kdhe.state.ks.us.

State Health Research and Policy Interest Group Meeting

June 7, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Washington, D.C.

Registration is now open for this meeting sponsored by Academy Health and the Commonwealth Fund. This is an opportunity to hear presentations and research regarding the latest efforts to improve state health policy, including expanding access to care and improving quality of care delivered. Visit for info: www.academyhealth.org.

Funding ...

Scholarships to Establish Benefit Bank

Billions of dollars in public funds go untouched in the U.S. each year because applying for state and federal benefits such as Medicaid or Food Stamps is confusing, intimidating, time consuming, or embarrassing. The Benefit Bank (www.thebenefitbank.com) is a free service that removes these obstacles, bringing people closer to stability and closer to self-sufficiency. It's a web-based, counselor-assisted program that simplifies and centralizes the process of applying for many state and federal benefits for low- and moderate-income individuals and families.

The Kansas Benefit Bank (TKBB) is a project of Children's Mercy Family Health Partners in conjunction with InterFaith Ministries. Kansas clinics interested in being a host site for TKBB can apply for scholarships for software and training, as well as financial support for hardware. For an application, contact Cindy Mense at Children's Mercy Family Health Partners, 215 West Pershing Suite 600, Kansas City, Mo. 64108, (816) 559-9472, cmense@FHP.ORG.

Kansas Health Solutions Supports Teleconferencing Network

KHS wants to expand its televideo network capability, which may be used for telemedicine, clinical conferences, or KHS network communications.

To assist providers, KHS is offering to help fund an additional 22 sites across the state. KHS will pay for the monthly operating costs and provide an allowance of \$3,500 toward the purchase of equipment. These sites will be awarded on a "first come" basis due to limited funding and will be determined by need and use. Learn more at kansashealthsolutions.com or send an email to Steve Richards, CFO, SteveR@kansashealthsolutions.org.

Samuel Harris Fund for Children's Dental Health Dentistry Grant Program

The American Dental Association will fund proposals of up to \$5,000 by community-based, not-for-profit, oral health promotion programs in the United States and its territories. Deadline: July 17, 2008. For details, see www.ada.org.

The grant program's main objective is to help children whose socio-economic status impacts on their access to professional oral care and adversely affects their oral health habits at home. Contact the ADA Foundation at 312- 440-2547 or e-mail adaf@ada.org.

Federal Updates ...

Comment Period Extended for MUP, HPSA Rules

HRSA's Bureau of Health Professions has received many requests for an extension of the comment period on the new proposed methodology for designating Medically Underserved Populations/Areas and Health Professional Shortage Areas.

In consideration of these requests, HRSA is extending the comment period an additional 30 days, with a **new closing date of May 29, 2008**. For more info, visit bhpr.hrsa.gov/shortage.

FQHC Contracting Guide

With support from the Connecticut Health Foundation and endorsement from both the ADA and NACHC, the Children's Dental Health Project in 2003 published a step-by-step guide and model legal agreement for contracting dental services to FQHCs.

The manual was informed by HRSA and CMS and was vetted with them to ensure compliance with regulations. "Increasing Access to Dental Care Through Public/Private Partnerships: Contracting Between Private Dentists and Federally Qualified Health Centers" can be found at www.cdhp.org (bottom of the home page, in a box with a photograph).

Medicare Reduces the Number of Yearly Drug Plan Reassignments

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has issued a final regulation that could allow nearly one million Medicare beneficiaries with limited income and resources to remain in the Medicare prescription drug plan in which they are enrolled without having to pay a premium. The final rule, effective May 31, 2008, changes the way that Medicare will calculate the regional low-income subsidy benchmarks, based on comments received on the proposed rule issued in January. The rule can be read online at www.cms.hhs.gov/PrescriptionDrugCovContra. The press release is at www.cms.hhs.gov.

Medicare Website Adds Information about Hospital Care

Consumers can now read how Medicare patients feel about their hospital stay through showing the results of patient satisfaction surveys. This new Hospital Compare website will now make it easier for consumers and their families to get accurate, practical information when they need it to evaluate their local hospitals. Visit www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov.

Clinical News ...

Thank a Nurse

National Nurses Day, also known as National RN Recognition Day, is always celebrated on May 6 and opens National Nurses Week. National Nurses Week runs May 6 through May 12, the birth date of Florence Nightingale.

Remember to Slip, Slop, Slap!

May is Skin Cancer Awareness Month. A simple way to prevent skin cancer is to “slip on a shirt, slop on some sunscreen, and slap on a hat” when going out into the sun. See the article and news release at KDHE’s web site: www.cancerkansas.org.

National Women’s Health Week: May 11-18

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will celebrate National Women’s Health Week May 11-18, 2008. In conjunction with this event, National Women’s Health Check-Up Day will be held May 12 to encourage women to use the many high-quality preventive care services available to them through the nation’s health centers.

There are many ways to participate. You may host an event during the week of May 11-18 or partner with local providers to offer women in your community blood pressure checks, Pap tests and mammograms, diabetes and HIV/AIDS tests, and other important preventive services. Promotional and educational materials are available at www.womenshealth.gov/whw/.

MWCN Network Newsletter

MidWest Clinicians’ Network is now distributing its newsletter electronically rather than in hard copy to save costs. You can find the newsletter at www.midwestclinicians.org. The April issue has articles including:

- Potential Funding for Weight Reduction Programs - COACH
- Behavioral Health and Primary Care Integration
- Using the Results from Patient and Employee Satisfaction Surveys

We Can! Childhood Overweight and Obesity Prevention Initiative

HRSA is encouraging grantees to help prevent, identify and treat childhood overweight and obesity by participating in an initiative sponsored by the National Institutes of Health. The Childhood Overweight

Prevention Program We Can! (Ways to Enhance Children's Activity and Nutrition) offers material to help reduce the prevalence of childhood obesity. The program is evidence-based and researched to be culturally sensitive as well as at an appropriate health literacy level for both parents and children. When you sign-up at www.nhlbi.nih.gov, NIH will send you a free starter kit with sample materials.

For additional information, visit wecan.nhlbi.nih.gov or call toll-free 866-35-WE CAN (866-359-3226) or contact (202) 884-8119, wecan@aed.org.

Advocacy ...

Raise the Wage Campaign

This campaign is looking for workers who are covered by the Kansas minimum wage who can share their stories and also possibly serve as spokespersons or speak at a public forum. At \$2.65 an hour, Kansas has the lowest minimum wage in the nation.

The Kansas Action Network, a nonprofit economic justice coalition, adopted a grassroots strategy to raise the wage by city ordinances. While they have amassed significant support through petition signatures and organizational endorsements, they would like to include people who are directly affected by the Kansas minimum wage. Their research shows that there are at least 17,000 workers in the state who fall into this category.

If you are interested in helping in this effort, contact organizer Heidi Zeller at 785-760-2764 or raisethewagekansas@gmail.com. For information, visit www.raisethewagekansas.org/kansascity.

Research & Resources ...

Cost of Insurance Far Outpaces Income

Americans who get health insurance for their families through their jobs have seen their premiums increase 10 times faster than their income in recent years, according to a new analysis of government data. The study was released during Cover the Uninsured Week and supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Go to www.rwjf.org for more information.

KIDS COUNT: 2008 Data on the Well-being of Children in Kansas

Kansas Action for Children (KAC) has released its new Kansas KIDS COUNT information for 2008. Based upon 24 indicators, the data provides a comprehensive analysis of the education, health and economic status of Kansas children and their families. See www.kac.org.

Key findings in the new data include:

- Health: Kansas is seeing trends of decreased tobacco use and binge drinking among youth.
- Education: The data shows gains in the percentage of elementary schools offering all-day kindergarten.

National, state and local data and information about these data may be found at: www.kidscount.org/datacenter. The KDHE Office of Local and Rural Health website provides links to additional public health data resources at www.kdheks.gov.

Making Health Care Decisions

April 16 was National Healthcare Decisions Day, but it's never too late to name someone to speak for you when you can no longer speak for yourself. The Center for Practical Bioethics offers this resource for your patients, staff and others.

The booklet *Caring Conversations*, available in English and Spanish, guides readers through the conversation needed to make these decision and includes a document to name a durable power of attorney for health care decisions. Visit www.practicalbioethics.org.

New Campaign: “Real Men Wear Gowns”

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) joined with The Advertising Council to launch a national public service campaign designed to raise awareness among middle-aged men about the importance of preventive medical testing. The new campaign encourages men over 40 to learn which preventive screening tests they need to get and when they need to get them.

Men are 25 percent less likely than women to have visited the doctor within the past year and are 38 percent more likely than women to have neglected their cholesterol tests. Furthermore, men are 1.5 times more likely than women to die from heart disease, cancer and chronic lower respiratory diseases. For more information visit www.ahrq.gov.

Innovations That Work – and Don’t

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality has a new Web resource called Health Care Innovations Exchange that allows users to learn, share, and adopt innovations in the delivery of health services. This exchange is the federal government’s repository for successful health care innovations. It also includes useful descriptions of attempts at innovation that failed.

The Web site is a tool for health care leaders, physicians, nurses, and other health professionals who seek to reduce health care disparities and improve health care overall. Visit www.innovations.ahrq.gov.

Smoking Early in Pregnancy and Heart Defects

A study funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has found that women who smoke early in their pregnancy are more likely to have infants with certain congenital heart defects. This study was published in the April issue of *Pediatrics*. Findings from “Maternal Smoking and Congenital Heart Defects” were based on the largest population-based study ever done on the causes of birth defects in the United States. For more information about this study visit www.cdc.gov.

Employment ...

UMMAM Seeks CEO

United Methodist Mexican-American Ministries in Garden City is looking for a person with above average leadership and people skills to serve as CEO. Established in 1974, UMMAM is a Christian mission providing medical services as a federally qualified community health center, as well as social services. They have more than 60 employees in four locations.

The successful CEO candidate will have a bachelor’s degree or higher from an accredited college or university. The applicant will be mission-driven, have a good work ethic and a sincere desire to make our world a better place to live. The candidate will need above average writing skills, successful grant writing, administrative experience, and a strong desire to learn. Ability to work with diverse populations is crucial. The position will have a competitive salary and benefit package. Applications must be received by June 30, 2008. Please mail your resume with a letter of application to: Search Committee, PO Box 766, Garden City, KS 67846. If you have questions, please call 620-275-1766.

Midwest Cancer Alliance Positions

Positions are open for a Cancer Center Director at Mt. Carmel Regional Medical Center in Pittsburg and for an MCA Clinical Trials Quality Monitor in Kansas City. For details, visit <http://kujobs.kumc.edu> or contact Amy Gaier, Program Director, Midwest Cancer Alliance, University of Kansas Medical Center, 3901 Rainbow Boulevard, MS 1016, Kansas City, KS 66160, (913) 588-5440.

*We have forgotten our former states, except in early spring
when we slightly recall being green again. - Rumi*