



KHA's Current Report
May 26, 2023

President's Perspective – Honoring Those Who Have Died while Serving Our Country

As we prepare to celebrate Memorial Day weekend, which for many is the unofficial start to summer, it is important to remember what this day is all about.

The purpose of Memorial Day is to remember and honor those who have died in our nation's service. In fact, the holiday, which was originally called Decoration Day, was first observed on May 30, 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. According to the VA, May 30 was selected as the official day because flowers would be in full bloom across the nation at that time.

Memorial Day and Veterans Day honor the innumerable individuals who sacrificed themselves to preserve the freedoms all Americans enjoy. Memorial Day remembers those who gave their lives, and Veterans Day honors all who served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Here are some additional interesting facts about Memorial Day. As I mentioned above, Memorial Day began as Decoration Day. Decoration Day only recognized fallen soldiers of the Civil War until World War I when it transitioned to remembering all soldiers who died during the country's wars at home and abroad. In 1971, Congress standardized the holiday as Memorial Day and changed its observance to the last Monday in May.

At sunrise on Memorial Day, anyone flying a flag should raise the flag briskly to full staff and then slowly lower the flag to half-staff. This is to honor the men and women who have fallen in the line of duty. At noon, the flag should be briskly raised to full staff. This is to salute all of those who have served.

Another tradition is the national moment of silence. At 3 p.m. local time on Memorial Day, Americans are asked to pause for one minute to pay tribute to America's fallen soldiers. This became official after the passage of The National Moment of Remembrance Act in 2000.

Being with loved ones is a meaningful way to spend the day, but I also encourage you, in some way, to remember fallen soldiers on Memorial Day. Wishing you a safe and thoughtful Memorial Day weekend.

--Chad Austin

KHA Award Nominations Due JUNE 1

Annually, the Kansas Hospital Association recognizes our members and advocates with a variety of awards. Whether these individuals work in a hospital or outside our ranks, KHA wants to recognize their efforts. We are looking forward to your nominations for all our awards.

Nominations are due June 1. Each hospital is encouraged to nominate individuals and teams for the following awards:

- The [Charles S. Billings Award](#) is the top honor given by KHA. The award recognizes a hospital leader for his or her lifetime of service and continuing contribution to the health care of Kansas. This award was established in 1971 to honor Billings' dedication and years of service to Kansans.



- [The Distinguished Health Care Advocate Award](#) honors individuals, organizations or groups that have provided an exemplary contribution to the health and well-being of the people of Kansas through their leadership in the political or policy arena. This awards members of KHA the opportunity to recognize those who work on our behalf from outside our ranks.



- [The Donald A. Wilson Visionary Award](#) recognizes hospital-related individuals who have made an outstanding, innovative contribution to health care delivery, health care financing or initiatives that improve the health and clinical outcomes of their community. This award was established in 2007 to honor Wilson's dedication and years of service to Kansans.



- [The Trustee of the Year Award](#) honors a hospital board member from each hospital who is a leader, gives back to the community and routinely goes beyond the call of duty. KHA members are encouraged to recognize a trustee who has served with distinction and made significant contributions to the betterment of their hospital and community.



- [The Health Care Worker\(s\) of the Year Award](#) recognizes and honors the excellence of health care workers statewide. All nominated employees (one employee from every hospital) will be recognized by KHA for making a significant contribution to the betterment of their hospital.



- [Workforce Strategies Award](#) recognizes a team of employees, providers or volunteers who worked collaboratively to make a significant contribution to the wellbeing, retention or recruitment of health care workers at their facility(s) or in Kansas. Previously titled the Excellence in Teamwork Award.



Thank you in advance for your assistance in helping us recognize and highlight those individuals making a difference. Please make your online nominations by June 1. Visit the [KHA website](#) to learn more about KHA awards.

--Cindy Samuelson

Kansas State Board of Healing Arts Webinar on Complaints – May 26

The Kansas State Board of Healing Arts is hosting a webinar on complaints from noon to 1 p.m. on May 26. The one-hour presentation will provide an in-depth look at complaints submitted to the board and information on who can submit a complaint, who is required to submit a complaint, the complaint process and how Kansas law impacts complaints. Registration is not required.



Join with Zoom

Meeting ID: 853 8833 5810

Passcode: 706147

One tap mobile

+17193594580,,85388335810#,,,,*706147# US

+12532050468,,85388335810#,,,,*706147# US

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/kcK88hNRb>

--Karen Braman

The 2023 KHA Membership Directory Is Now Available

The 2023 *Kansas Hospital Association Membership Directories* are being distributed to the CEOs of all members. If you would like additional directories, please contact [Jan Fenwick](#) at (785) 233-7436.

In addition, we also have a [digital version](#) of the 2023 KHA Membership Directory for your use. Both the hard copy version and the digital version are current as of May 1. As a reminder, the [online membership directory](#) is updated in real-time, so you always have the latest member organization executive staff information at your fingertips.

The KHA Membership Directory is a benefit only members may access, so you will have to enter your [KHA username and password](#) to access both the online membership directory, as well as the digital directory. If you haven't registered for a username and password, just [complete the requested information](#). Your information will have to be verified by KHA staff (a confirmation email will be sent to you) before you will be able to access members' only portions of the website. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact KHA at (785) 233-7436.

--Jan Fenwick

Rural Maternity and Obstetrics Management Strategies Program Funding Opportunity

The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy has announced the [Rural Maternity and Obstetrics Management Strategies Program](#) is open on grants.gov (announcement number: HRSA-23-049) and accepting applications through July 7, 2023. A total of \$2 million is anticipated to fund up to two health networks in this cooperative agreement program. The purpose of the [RMOMS program](#) is to preserve access to and continuity of maternal and obstetrics care in rural communities that address the following RMOMS Focus Areas: 1) Rural Hospital Obstetric Service Aggregation; 2) Approaches to Risk Appropriate Care; and 3) Financial Sustainability.

This year, the RMOMS program is providing funding priority for areas with the highest maternity care health professional target area score. The eligible applicant organization must be part of a group of entities that are an established or a formal network and must have a network composition that includes: 1) at least three rural hospitals or Critical Access Hospitals; 2) at least one academic or tertiary institution that can provide regional expertise and help identify barriers to providing maternal health care, including strategies for addressing such barriers; and 3) the state Medicaid agency. Eligible applicants may request up to \$1M each year in the program's four-year period of performance Sept. 30, 2023, through Sept. 29, 2027. A live technical assistance webinar is scheduled from 1 to 2 p.m. on May 31, to assist applicants in preparing their applications. The webinar will be recorded and playback information can be accessed on the [RMOMS webpage](#).



Join with Zoom

Call-In Number: (833) 568-8864

Meeting ID: 160 363 0214

Passcode: 42409094

All application materials will be available on [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) and must be submitted electronically under the funding announcement on the grants.gov website. For questions about this funding opportunity, please contact: RMOMS@hrsa.gov

--Karen Braman

FDA Recommends Approval of Vaccine to Prevent RSV in Infants through Maternal Immunization

On May 18, the Food and Drug Administration's Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee voted to recommend the FDA approve Pfizer's respiratory syncytial virus prefusion F vaccine candidate for maternal immunization in the third trimester to prevent RSV in infants from birth up to six months of age. The committee voted 14 to zero on effectiveness and ten to four on safety. The vaccine candidate is currently under FDA review for the prevention of medically attended lower respiratory tract disease and severe MA-LRTD caused by RSV in infants from birth up to six months of age by active immunization of pregnant individuals. The FDA's decision on the potential approval of RSVpreF for the prevention of MA-LRTD and severe MA-LRTD caused by RSV in infants by active immunization of pregnant individuals is expected in August 2023.

--Karen Braman

Deterra® Drug Deactivation and Disposal System Webinar

APS hosted a [webinar](#) for new vendor Deterra® Drug Deactivation and Disposal System, with speaker Megan Schiavone, Business Development Manager, for Verde Environmental Technologies, Inc., on Wednesday, May 24.

[Deterra® Drug Deactivation and Disposal System](#), developed by Minneapolis-based Verde Environmental Technologies, Inc., is a patented process that permanently and irreversibly deactivates and destroys prescription medications, including opioids and fentanyl, as well as over-the-counter medications, most illicit drugs, and vape fluid. The [webinar was recorded](#) and is available on the [APS website](#).

For more information, contact [Dennis George](#) at (913) 327-8730.

--Dennis George

Health Care Response to Sexual Violence – June 7

[Health Care Response to Sexual Violence](#)

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 7

Conference Room, Norton County Hospital, Norton, KS

Audience: Hospital, emergency department, health department and clinic personnel, physicians, licensed physician assistants, registered professional nurses, EMS personnel and KCSDV member program advocates and staff only

Kansas law (K.S.A. 65-448) requires that upon the request of a victim of sexual assault: 1) any physician; 2) a licensed physician assistant who has been specially trained in performing sexual assault evidence collection; or 3) a registered professional nurse who has been specially trained in performing sexual assault evidence collection, on call or on duty at a hospital or other medical care facility as defined by K.S.A. 65-425(h), shall examine persons who may be victims of sexual offenses using the Kansas Bureau of Investigation's sexual assault evidence collection kit for the purposes of gathering evidence of any such crime. While sexual assault nurse examiners are ideal to provide these exams, many hospitals do not have trained SANEs or SANE programs available 24/7. The passing of House Bill 2228 has increased accessibility to sexual assault exams for victims at health clinics, health departments, and Child Advocacy Centers. This free training will provide medical professionals with information about the KBI sexual assault evidence collection kit, sexual assault medical forensic exams, and working with sexual assault patients.

[CLICK HERE
TO REGISTER](#)

--Karen Braman

Health Observances and Recognition Days for June Month-Long Observances

- Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month
- Aphasia Awareness Month (National)
- Cataract Awareness Month
- Congenital Cytomegalovirus Awareness Month (National)
- Cytomegalovirus Awareness Month (National)
- Great Outdoors Month
- Hernia Awareness Month (National)
- Men's Health Month
- Migraine and Headache Awareness Month (National)
- Myasthenia Gravis Awareness Month
- Professional Awareness Month
- PTSD Awareness Month
- Safety Month (National)
- Scleroderma Awareness Month (National)
- Scoliosis Awareness Month (National)

Week-Long Observances

- June 1-7 – CPR and AED Awareness Week (National)
- June 12-18 – Men's Health Week
- June 20-26 – Continence Week (World)
- June 25-July 1 – Helen Keller Deaf-Blind Awareness Week

Recognition Days | Events

- June 4 – Cancer Survivors Day (National)
- June 5 – Environment Day (World)
- June 8 – Brain Tumor Day (World)
- June 10 – Family Health and Fitness Day
- June 14 – Blood Donor Day (World)
- June 15 – Elder Abuse Awareness Day (World)
- June 16 – Rare Chromosome Disorder Awareness Day
- June 18 – Autistic Pride Day
- June 19 – Sickle Cell Day (World)
- June 21 – Day of Yoga (International) and MND Awareness Day (Global)
- June 25 – Vitiligo Day (World)
- June 26 – Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (International)
- June 27 – HIV Testing Day (National), PTSD Awareness Day (National) and Sunglasses Day (National)

The Kansas Hospital Association and Society for Healthcare Strategy and Market Development are pleased to bring you the [2023 Calendar of Health Observances & Recognition Days](#). An example of providing practical, timely resources supporting KHA's vision, "Optimal Health for Kansans," this calendar is designed to help you plan your 2023 community health events, internal and external communications, social media campaigns and more. This year's calendar is SHSMD's first ever easy-to-navigate and interactive calendar featuring more than 230 health observances and recognition days! And don't miss out on the chance to receive calendar updates from SHSMD sponsor Baldwin Publishing. Not only do they provide you with a Health Observance Guide with ALL the content you need to post every day for the following month, they also give access to healthy recipes, cooking videos, branded cookbooks, recipe calendars, wellness content and solutions.

--Jan Fenwick

Position Available

[Chief Executive Officer](#)

[Norton County Hospital](#)

Contact: [Shannan Hempler](#), Director of Human Resources

Phone: (785) 877-3351, Ext. 1237

Fax: (785) 875-4899

Email: shempler@ntcohosp.com

Website: www.ntcohosp.com

Equal Opportunity Employer

Apply Online Today!
CLICK HERE

Norton County Hospital is a Critical Access Hospital with a rural health clinic serving patients in Northwest Kansas and Southwest Nebraska.

Qualification and Job Responsibilities

- Provide transparency and possess a high level of personal and professional integrity
- Excellent leadership, organizational, verbal and written communication skills, along with the ability to form and maintain positive relationships with the board of trustees, medical and administrative staff, as well as patients and the public
- Exercise initiative, judgement, problem-solving and decision-making, working both independently and collaboratively
- Understands hospital information systems, electronic health records and business-related data
- Use resources to meet service area needs while developing efforts to increase revenue growth and productivity
- A bachelor's degree (required) or master's degree (preferred) in health care, hospital or business administration with a minimum of five years of executive-level leadership experience as a CEO, COO, CCO, CFO or equivalent position in a health care organization

Apply online or send your resume and application to [Shannan Hempler](#).

Human Resources Director

Mitchell County Hospital Health Systems

400 W. Eighth, P.O. Box 399

Beloit, KS 67420-0399

Contact: [Janelle Kircher](#), CEO

Phone: (785) 738-9501

Fax: (785) 738-9503

Email: jkircher@mchks.com

Website: www.mchks.com

Apply Online Today!
CLICK HERE

The successful candidate will lead the human resource processes, payroll (timekeeping and payroll processing), benefits programs, budgeting and compensation plans. The director will promote employee relations, advise managers related to personnel, guide disciplinary processes and ensure compliance with regulations and labor laws. Other responsibilities include assessing staffing needs and productivity, recruiting, interviewing and onboarding, along with designing training and development programs. Must have a bachelor's degree in a relevant field of study, such as human resources, organizational psychology or business management. Human resource experience is strongly preferred. If a degree is in something other than human resources or organizational psychology, human resources experience is required. Society for Human Resource Management or certification by the HR Certification Institute is encouraged. A competitive pay scale, excellent benefits, and a unique and innovative retirement program are offered.

[Drug Endangered Children Grant Program Manager \(Job 208845\)](#)

Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Work from Anywhere in Kansas

For more information, contact: [Hope Stover](#)

1000 SW Jackson St. Suite 580

Topeka, KS 66612

Equal Opportunity Employer

Apply Online Today!
CLICK HERE

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the Kansas Alliance for Drug Endangered Children are looking for a program manager to develop and implement efforts to address children in Kansas who are living in environments where their parents/caregivers are using, selling, manufacturing or cultivating substances putting them at risk for significant abuse and neglect. The position will be remote but will include travel to attend meetings and training. Requirements include but are not limited to possessing excellent oral and written communication skills, as well as the ability to build successful partnerships and effectively collaborate with diverse stakeholders. Understanding systems that serve children and families, as well as having lived experience is helpful.

If you have a management position available in your organization you would like posted in Current Report, email the information to Jan Fenwick. Also, don't forget to check out www.kshealthjobs.net for other health care openings in Kansas.

--Jan Fenwick

Federal and National News

MLN Connects Provider eNews Available

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services issued the following [updates](#) to *MLN Connects Provider eNews*:

- [DMEPOS Competitive Bidding Program: Temporary Gap Period Starts Jan. 1](#)
- [CMS Roundup \(May 19, 2023\)](#)
- [Medicare Providers: Deadlines for Joining an Accountable Care Organization](#)
- [ESRD-Related Services: Comparative Billing Report in May](#)