



KHA's Current Report
August 1, 2025

President's Perspective –A Perspective from Your KHA Board Chair

This week's President's Perspective features a guest column from KHA Board Chair, George Stover, CEO, Rice Community Health, Lyons.

As I reflect on my first seven months serving as chair of the Kansas Hospital Association Board of Directors, I'm filled with gratitude and optimism. It has been a privilege to represent our state's hospitals and health systems during a time of both challenge and opportunity.

Throughout the past several months, I've witnessed firsthand the dedication and innovation happening across Kansas. From addressing workforce shortages to navigating reimbursement challenges, our members continue to rise to the occasion with resilience and collaboration. I'm proud to be part of a community that not only advocates for quality care, but also lives it every day.

One of the highlights of this past week was participating in the Kansas Hospital Association's CEO Orientation. It was energizing to meet and engage with our newest hospital leaders. These individuals bring a fresh perspective and deep commitment to their communities. Their passion reminded me of the strength of our profession and the vital role KHA plays in supporting leadership development, peer connection and strategic vision.

Throughout this year, I've had the opportunity to work closely with KHA staff and fellow board members to help guide our priorities and elevate our collective voice. Whether advocating in Topeka or Washington DC, advancing rural health efforts, or building out long-term strategies for hospital sustainability, we remain focused on helping all 124 Kansas community hospitals thrive.

As we look ahead, I want to personally encourage and invite you to attend the [KHA Annual Convention and Trade Show](#), Sept. 4-5 in Wichita. This event is a cornerstone of our association, an opportunity to connect, learn and celebrate the incredible work happening in every corner of our state. The work we all do is "Mission: Possible"!

I encourage each of you to stay connected, share your insights, and reach out to me or the KHA team if we can support you in any way. Thank you for your continued trust and partnership. It's an honor to serve with and for you.

George M. Stover
CEO, Rice Community Health
2025 Chair, KHA Board of Directors

Provider Assessment Update

On Tuesday, July 29, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment informed the Kansas Hospital Association that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services had contacted them with another question for the 2025 Preprint. Approval of the 2025 Preprint is necessary to enable the state to draw down the federal matching funds in 2025, thereby allowing the state to make the quarterly enhancement payments.

CMS has requested the base Medicaid payment data be updated to reflect projected 2025 payment data, versus 2023 payment data. Our contractors at Health Management Associates are currently working on this calculation with KDHE with a submission deadline of Aug. 7, 2025. Unfortunately, we believe this will delay payment of the 2025 Q1 Medicaid quarterly enhancement payment until the end of August at the earliest. We are waiting to distribute the 2025Q1 reports until the data has been updated for CMS.

In the interim, KDHE has already begun collecting the data for the 2025Q2 payment and the reconciliation of the calendar year 2024 Medicaid quarterly enhancement payments. KHA will continue to work with our contractors at HMA and with KDHE to have the calculations ready so the funds can be distributed as quickly as possible after CMS grants approval.

If you have any questions, please contact Audrey Dunkel at adunkel@kha-net.org.
--Audrey Dunkel

A Special Thank You to 2025 Convention Sponsors

While you are at the [2025 KHA Annual Convention, Mission: Possible](#), please take a minute to thank the sponsors of this annual event for their generous support. Their contributions allow us to offer the quality sessions you look forward to attending each year.

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The [2025 KHA Annual Convention, *Mission: Possible*](#), will be Sept. 4-5, at the Hyatt Regency Wichita/Century II Convention Center in Wichita. [Registration materials](#) may be downloaded from the [KHA website](#). [Online registration](#) is available. Because of ongoing supply chain issues, please register by Friday, Aug. 15, to ensure meal availability.

Questions regarding the KHA Annual Convention and Trade Show can be directed to Melissa Willey (mwilley@kha-net.org), Hayley Finch-Genschorck (hfinch@kha-net.org) or Jennifer Findley (jfindley@kha-net.org.)

--Hayley Finch-Genschorck

Important Ticket-Selection Clarification for KHA Convention

When purchasing meal/event tickets online, please be aware you **must click the checkbox** to the left of each event for it to be added to your registration.

Simply leaving the "1" in the quantity box does **not** add the ticket to your purchase. In the example below, only the **Political Advocacy Breakfast, Trustee Breakfast/Education** and **KHA Awards Luncheon** tickets are being purchased because their checkboxes have been selected. The HVK/KHA Luncheon ticket indicated with a "1" will not be purchased because the box to the left of the event has not been checked.

Select the functions you plan to attend by checking the box to the left of the event and indicating one or two tickets. You can only register yourself and a guest (up to two tickets per event).

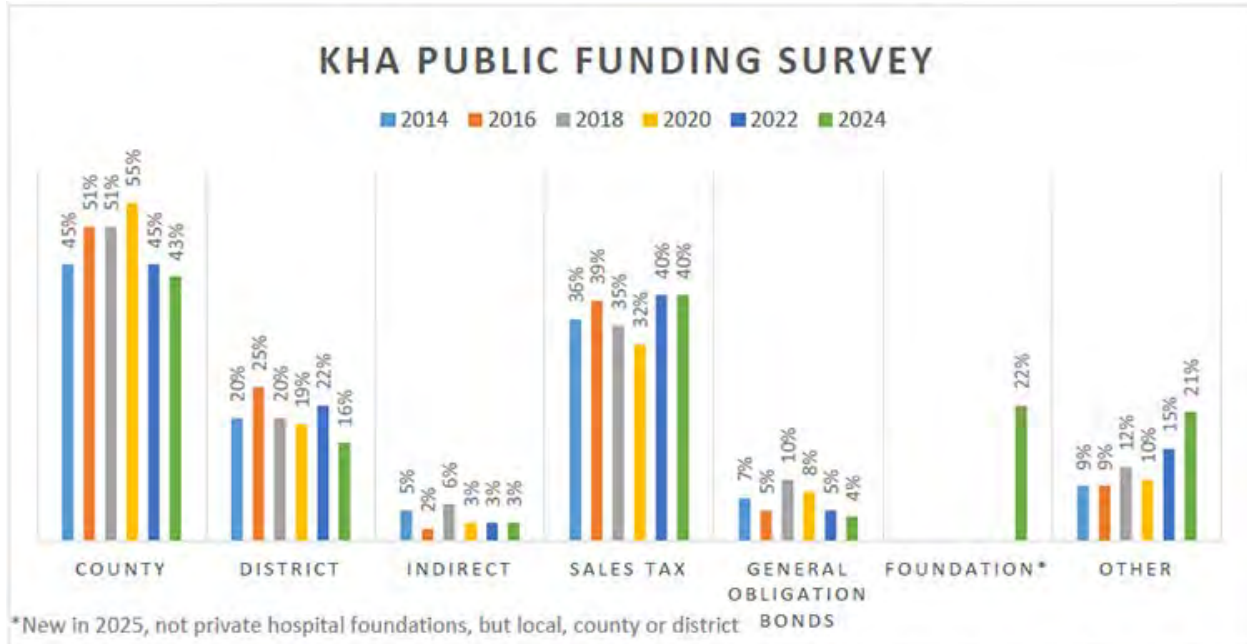
	Description	Fee \$	# Tickets
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Political Advocacy Breakfast Sept. 4	35	<input type="text" value="1"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	HVK/KHA Luncheon Sept. 4	52	<input type="text" value="1"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	HFMA Luncheon/Education Sept. 4	55	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	KAHCC Luncheon/Education/Meeting Sept. 4	50	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	KHHRA/KONL Luncheon/Education Sept. 4	55	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	KSHIMSS Luncheon/Education Sept. 4	55	<input type="text"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Trustee Breakfast/Education Sept. 5	40	<input type="text" value="1"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KHA Awards Luncheon Sept. 5	52	<input type="text" value="1"/>

--Cheryl Carson

KHA Hospital Public Funding Survey 2024

Ninety Kansas Hospital Association member hospitals participated in the KHA Hospital Public Funding Survey for calendar year 2024. Thirty-six were county, 13 district, four city, 29 private non-profit, three private for-profit and three had other arrangements. Seventy-four percent of the hospitals indicated they received some public support, 60 percent from mill levies (county or district) and 40 percent from sales tax. Twenty-two percent received funding from foundations. Twenty-three facilities indicated they received more than one type of public funding.

The reported number of annual county mills received varied from two to 59, translating to between \$98,000 and just under \$2 million. District mills received varied from two to 63, translating to between \$351,000 to \$1.5 million. The reported funding from sales tax ranged from \$140,000 to \$2.9 million per year.



Source: KHA 2024 Public Funding Survey conducted in 2025; percentage reflects number of hospitals receiving the specific type of funding per number of all hospitals receiving funding.

Participating hospitals with more specific questions about the survey results can contact [Sally Othmer](#).

--Sally Othmer

Free Stepping On Leader Training through KDHE

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment is offering a free [Stepping On Leader Training](#) from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Aug. 26 through Aug. 28, at the Salina Public Library.

Stepping On is a fun and interactive fall prevention program for adults aged 60 and older who have fallen or who have a fear of falling. The program has seven, two-hour long sessions that focus on helping participants recognize and change behaviors and take control of their fall risk. Stepping On is a high-level, evidence-based program proven to reduce falls and build confidence in older people. A community-based, small-group workshop, Stepping On was developed in Australia and tested in a randomized trial where it demonstrated a 31 percent reduction in falls. Wisconsin developed an American version of Stepping On with support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that has been tested in the United States and shown to achieve a 50 percent reduction in falls.

Click to
Register

--Karen Braman

AHA and Epic Announce New Collaboration to Improve Maternal Safety

Last week, the American Hospital Association and Epic [announced a new collaboration](#) between their organizations to improve maternal health outcomes. The announcement noted that AHA and Epic are working to expand access to a suite of evidence-based, point-of-care tools designed to prevent and treat postpartum hemorrhage. PPH is a leading and often unpredictable cause of in-hospital maternal mortality. Integrated into Epic's Stork Obstetrics Information System, this toolkit includes dynamic risk assessments, real-time clinical guidance and streamlined treatment pathways embedded within the obstetric workflow. With the proper permissions from applicable content providers, users of any EHR should be able to implement a similar set of tools.

You can access the toolkit [here](#).

--Karen Braman

Drive to Zero Post-Crash Care Data

The Kansas Hospital Association is a member of the [Drive To Zero Coalition](#), an initiative to eliminate fatal and serious injury crashes on all public roads in Kansas. A critical area of hospital participation is with the Post-Crash Care Team. Do you or your ER teams ever discuss the length of time from a 911 call about a crash to when EMS pulls in with the victims of the accident? New data in the [Timeliness of Post-Crash Care Tool](#), derived from record reviews of 2019–2023 crashes, breaks down the timelines from crash to EMS notification, EMS arrival on scene and EMS arrival at the hospital. The data is broken down by county. A lot of factors can go into the timeliness of post-crash care, so feel free to share with and discuss with your EMS partners.

--Larry Van Der Wege

Medicare Learning Network Information

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services provided updates on several items that may pertain to your organization in its [Medicare Learning Network Connects Newsletter](#) from July 24, 2025.

The first *MLN Connects* item included highlights from the CMS Quality Conference, held July 1-2. The [2025 Quality Conference Highlights | CMS press release](#) includes information on the 13th Scope of Work for the Quality Improvement Organization and also a video of the keynote address and fireside chat with CMS Administrator Dr. Mehmet Oz.

The newsletter also reports that CMS posted July 2025 provider-specific data files for inpatient and outpatient providers. Go to [Provider Specific Data for Public Use in Text Format | CMS](#) for more information.

CMS also communicated a [Report on Remote Patient Monitoring](#) from the Office of Inspector General. Further information in the newsletter is provided on how to correctly use and bill for remote patient monitoring.

The last article included a [Hospice Fast Facts fact sheet](#) to inform the public and providers about the Hospice program and enhancements to address fraud.

--Larry Van Der Wege

Federal and National News

CMS Releases CY 2026 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Proposed Payment and Policy Updates

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services released the proposed Medicare physician fee schedule [payment and policy updates](#) for calendar year 2026. The proposed rule contains [updates](#) to the payment rates, policies to improve care for chronic illness and behavioral health needs and Rural Health Clinic and Federally Qualified Health Center updates. Comments are due by 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12.

MLN Connects Provider eNews Available

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

- [White House, Tech Leaders Commit to Creating Patient-Centric Healthcare Ecosystem](#)
- [Medicare & Medicaid at 60: Strengthening Health Care for the Future](#)
- [Skilled Nursing Facilities: Revalidation Deadline Extended to Jan. 1](#)