



KHA's Current Report **September 26, 2025**

President's Perspective – KHA Wraps Up 340B Lunch and Learns

This week, the Kansas Hospital Association, along with our partners at the Community Care Network of Kansas and the Kansas Pharmacists Association, wrapped up the 340B Lunch and Learn series. These educational events convened policymakers, pharmacists, clinics and hospitals to provide education on the importance of the 340B Program to health care access in Kansas.

More than 91 Kansas hospitals are covered entities in the 340B Program. The program enables covered entities to purchase medications at a discount and use those savings to stretch scarce federal resources. Hospitals, in turn, can provide more patients with comprehensive benefits. 340B Lunch and Learn events took place on Aug. 21 in Salina, Sept. 18 in Olathe and Sept. 23 in Wichita.

The health care leaders who attended the 340B Lunch and Learns provided examples to the dozens of elected officials in attendance on how the program provides discounted medications to their patients and supports medically necessary services in their communities. I want to thank all our members who participated in these informative events.

As we educated policymakers this week about the benefits of the 340B program, we learned some Kansas legislators were receiving text messages claiming hospitals were misusing the program. This is on top of the recent *Wall Street Journal* editorial claiming "rich hospitals have been gaming a discount drug program for the poor." In response to this misleading editorial, the American Hospital Association has submitted a response on behalf of all hospitals. This is a good reminder for members to contact their elected officials and discuss the value of the 340B program in your community.

To assist the membership in communicating the importance of the 340B program, KHA has developed a [340B toolkit](#). If you or your team have not reviewed the toolkit recently, please explore the many customizable resources available. We encourage members to add hospital logos and utilize the template social media posts. KHA will continue our statewide 340B communication campaign, but it is more impactful if members supplement these efforts by sharing with your community and policymakers just how important the 340B program is to your community. You can also link to or share our public-facing website, www.340BKansas.org, which features member testimonies on the importance of the 340B program. If you need any additional resources or support, let our team at KHA know. Thank you for your work on this essential

program for Kansans!

--Chad Austin

Process Announced for the Rural Health Transformation Program

Yesterday, [Governor Laura Kelly announced](#) the state is taking steps to develop an application for the \$50 billion Rural Health Transformation Program. The RHTP is intended to infuse millions of dollars into states' health care systems and to bolster rural communities by improving access to and the quality of care available to Kansans. Of the \$50 billion RHTP, \$25 billion will be distributed evenly to states whose applications are approved. The other half will be dispersed based on factors outlined by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services in the application released on Sept. 15, 2025. Kansas must submit one application for this funding by Nov. 5, 2025. CMS will then announce the funding awards by Dec. 31, 2025. The funding will be distributed over the next five years. More about the Rural Health Transformation Program can be found on [CMS.gov](#).

Governor Kelly is establishing the Kansas Rural Health Innovation Alliance to convene a group of stakeholders who will oversee the development of the application and the implementation of the initiatives outlined in Kansas' plan. The state, in association with the University of Kansas Health System Care Collaborative, will present an educational webinar at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 29, 2025, to further outline the application and stakeholder engagement process.

We encourage our members to [register online](#) for this educational webinar, in which they will learn more about the proposal requirements outlined by CMS, as well as the next steps for the Kansas submission.

--Jennifer Findley

Critical Issues the Focus of Fall District Meetings – Register Today

The Kansas Hospital Association District Meetings provide members with timely information essential in helping KHA learn about top issues. We encourage CEOs, CFOs, HR executives, trustees and senior staff to join us. We aim to have interactive conversations, so please invite key staff working in or interested in the topic areas listed below.

- KHA Board Facilitated Strategic Discussion
- Health Care Workforce – Apprenticeships, Training and More
- Advocacy and Regulations – Rural Health Transformation Program, 340B and More
- Quality and Safety – Maternal Health, Model Medical Bylaws and More
- Finance and Reimbursement – Clinically Integrated Networks, All Payer Scorecard and More
- KHSC and APS Spotlight Services
- Member Updates and District Discussions – Collaboration, Board Leaders and More

Join us to network with your peers and KHA staff at 9:30 a.m. These meetings also feature an opportunity to participate in our advocacy efforts. Meeting times will be from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with lunch provided. You are free to attend any location, so choose the one that best fits your schedule. These meetings are provided at no charge.

KHA

District	Date	Location	Address	City
NC	Oct. 7	North Central Kansas Medical Center	155 W. College Dr.	Concordia
NW	Oct. 8	Lincoln Building	920 Lincoln St.	Quinter
SW	Oct. 9	Meade District Hospital/ Artesian Valley Health System	510 E. Carthage	Meade
SC	Oct. 10	McPherson Hospital	1000 Hospital Dr.	McPherson
SE	Oct. 14	Southeast Kansas Impact Center	1500 SW 7th St.	Chanute
NE	Oct. 15	The University of Kansas Health System - St. Francis Campus	1700 SW 7th St.	Topeka

[Click to
View Agenda](#)

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Register](#)

--Cindy Samuelson

Redrawing the Lines on CLABSI: Shifting the Focus to CABS I Webinar – Oct. 1

[Redrawing the Lines on CLABSI: Shifting the Focus to CABS I](#)

Webinar: Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2025 | Noon –1:00 p.m.

Offered by: AHA Sponsored by: Solventum

Hospitals are broadening their approach to infection prevention by moving beyond central line-associated bloodstream infections to include all vascular access devices. Catheter-Associated Bloodstream Infections, part of the larger Hospital-Onset Bacteremia and Fungemia framework, offer a pathway to strengthen patient safety, improve quality measures and reduce costs from preventable infections. This webinar will feature a hospital case study that expands surveillance to include peripheral IV catheters and central lines. The broader monitoring approach led to more targeted interventions, lower infection rates and stronger alignment with evolving quality reporting requirements.

[Click to
Register](#)

--Terry Siek

2025 Kansas HIMSS Cyber Month Educational Sessions

To celebrate National Cyber Security month, the Kansas Healthcare Information Management Systems Society Chapter will provide free Lunch and Learn educational sessions focused on health care cybersecurity. Kansas HIMSS has partnered with local cybersecurity professionals to bring cutting-edge insights and real-world strategies. Sessions are every Tuesday in October from noon to 1:00 p.m. Topics include:

- Oct. 7 – *Cybersecurity Resilience: Risks of Shadow AI*
- Oct. 14 – *The Growing Complexity of Cybersecurity in Healthcare*
- Oct. 21 – *AI: Not Just Hype – It's A Transformative Force*
- Oct. 28 – *From Spam to Sophistication: How Email Threats Evolved to Phishing-As-a-Service*

Whether you're looking to strengthen your organization's defenses or sharpen your personal expertise, these sessions are designed to equip you with the tools needed to navigate the ever-changing digital landscape.



-Sally Othmer

Universal Medication Solution: Health Literacy Leadership to Improve Patient Outcomes – Oct. 15

[Universal Medication Solution: Health Literacy Leadership to Improve Patient Outcomes](#)

Wednesday, at Noon on Oct. 15

Offered by: American Organization for Nursing Leadership – Free to members and non-members

Sponsored by: First Data Bank

Low health literacy is a widespread challenge. Nine out of ten U.S. adults are struggling to understand and use medical information. This communication gap leads to medication errors, non-adherence and poor health outcomes. Join AONE Leadership for a webinar featuring Greg O'Neill, chair of the Health Literacy Council of Delaware, who will discuss the impact of health literacy on patient care and explore practical strategies, including digital tools, to improve understanding and adherence.



--Terry Siek

Beliefs, Attitudes and Facts: Understanding Addiction – Interactive Training on Nov. 6

DCCCA is offering a one-day, interactive experience for participants to learn about the stigma of substance use disorder and how it relates to mental health. The training offers an opportunity to explore the impact substance use has on friends and family members of the person with SUD. The training will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Nov. 6 in the Sunflower Room at KU Medical Center, 1010 N. Kansas St., Wichita. Attendees are required to park in designated parking areas and enter through the patient entrance. Lunch will be provided.



--Karen Braman

ACOG Affirms Acetaminophen Safety During Pregnancy

This week, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists issued a [statement](#) affirming the safety of acetaminophen use during pregnancy. ACOG emphasized the more than two decades of research on the use of acetaminophen during pregnancy and cited two high-quality studies, including one published in [JAMA](#) last year, that found no significant associations between use of acetaminophen during pregnancy and children's risk of autism, ADHD or intellectual disability.

--Karen Braman

Kansas Fights Addiction Statewide Needs Assessment Available

Sunflower Foundation has released the comprehensive, statewide needs [assessment](#) of substance use disorder systems. The needs assessment was funded by the Kansas Fights Addiction Board and conducted by the University of Kansas Center for Public Partnerships and Research. The assessment aimed to gain a better understanding of SUD system needs in Kansas to further reduce substance abuse and addiction, save lives and improve systems of care. The full report is available on the project website at [United to Transform](#).

--Karen Braman

Mental Illness Awareness Week Social Media Campaign

The Kansas Hospital Association has created a small social media campaign you can share on your channels to promote Mental Illness Awareness Week, Oct. 5-11/National Depression Screening Day, October 10. The messages encourage individuals struggling with their mental health to schedule screenings with their providers. We encourage you to share these messages by either sharing them or downloading the resources to create your own messaging with your hospital's branding. The assets are located in the [KHA Box account](#). You can also find other monthly health observances on the [KHA Box account](#).

--Shelby Stacy

Just a Quick Reminder When Registering Online for KHA Events

Please remember to select your organization from the drop-down list when registering online. If you don't choose a member organization, our system will charge you the non-member rate. KHA will refund you for the difference; however, we are trying to alleviate any unnecessary processing.

If you have questions or are unable to register, please contact our [KHA Education Department](#) at (785) 233-7436. Thank you.

--Cheryl Carson

Health Observances and Recognition Days for October

Month-Long Observances

- ADHD Awareness Month (National)
- American Pharmacists Month
- Breast Cancer Awareness Month (National)
- Bullying Prevention Month (National)
- Chiropractic Health Month (National)
- Contact Lens Safety Month
- Dental Hygiene Month (National)
- Disability Employment Awareness Month (National)
- Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- Down Syndrome Awareness Month (National)
- Eye Injury Prevention Month
- Health Literacy Month
- Healthy Lung Month
- Home Eye Safety Month
- Liver Awareness Month
- Medical Librarians Month (National)
- Medical Ultrasound Awareness Month
- Patient-Centered Care Awareness Month
- Physical Therapy Month (National)
- Pre-natal-Onset GBS Disease Recognition Month
- Spina Bifida Awareness Month
- Substance Abuse Prevention Month (National)
- Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Month
- Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Awareness Month
- SIDS Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month
- Talk About Your Medicines Month

Week-Long Observances

- Oct. 5-11 – Healthcare Foodservice Workers Week, Health Care Supply Chain Week (National), Mental Illness Awareness Week, Midwifery Week (National), Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging Week and Primary Care Week (National)
- Oct. 6-11 – Dialysis Technician Recognition Week (National)
- Oct. 6-12 – PA Week (National)
- Oct. 12-18 – Case Management Week (National), Healthcare Security and Safety Week and Sterile Processing Week
- Oct. 13-17 – Senior Care Pharmacist Week
- Oct. 12-20 – Bone and Joint Health Action Week
- Oct. 19-25 – Health Care Quality Week (National), Health Education Week (National), Infection Prevention Week (International), Respiratory Care Week and Spiritual Care Week
- Oct. 20-24 – Medical Assistants Recognition Week

- Oct. 21-27 – Pharmacy Week (National)
- Oct. 23-31 – Red Ribbon Week
- Oct. 26-Nov. 1 – Health Care Facilities and Engineering Week (National)

Recognition Days | Events

- Oct. 5 – Meningitis Day (World)
- Oct. 6 – Cerebral Palsy Day (World)
- Oct. 7 – Depression Screening Day (National)
- Oct. 8 – Health Cares About Domestic Violence
- Oct. 10 – Depression Screening Day (National), Mental Health Day (World) and Sight Day (World)
- Oct. 11 – Day of the Girl (International)
- Oct. 12 – Arthritis Day (World)
- Oct. 13 – Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day
- Oct. 15 – Handwashing Day (Global), Healthcare Security and Safety Officer Appreciation Day, Latino AIDS Awareness Day (National) and Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day (World)
- Oct. 16 – Food Day (World)
- Oct. 17 – Mammography Day (National)
- Oct. 19 – Pediatric Bone and Joint Day (World)
- Oct. 20 – Osteoporosis Day (World)
- Oct. 21 – Check Your Meds Day (National)
- Oct. 22 – Stuttering Awareness Day (International)
- Oct. 23 – Lock Your Meds Day
- Oct. 26 – Prescription Drug Take Back Day
- Oct. 29 – Psoriasis Day (World)
- Oct. 30 – Hypophosphatasia Day (World), Orthopaedic Nurses Day (International)

Stay ahead of the curve and plan ahead! The 2026 Calendar of Health Observances and Recognition Days is here! This complimentary calendar is your essential tool for planning community health events, campaigns and communications. With more than 240 observances and share-ready hashtags, you'll save time and maximize your impact. Navigate month by month with ease. Access more than 240 key health observances. Use direct links to the sponsoring organization's websites and emails to share instantly with built-in hashtags and handles.

**Access the Free 2026
Calendar Now »**

--Jan Fenwick

Position Available**Chief Financial Officer**

100 W. 16th Street

Eureka, KS 67045

Phone: 620-583-7451

Website: www.gwch.org

Equal Opportunity Employer | Drug Free Workplace

Greenwood County Hospital is seeking a Chief Financial Officer. The [CFO](#) is responsible for providing overall financial leadership to Greenwood County Hospital, encompassing fiscal planning, revenue cycle management, budgeting, financial reporting and ensuring regulatory compliance. Reporting directly to the Chief Executive Officer and working closely with the Board of Trustees, the CFO will serve as a strategic advisor and steward of our hospital's resources. The position is open until it is filled.

Key responsibilities:

- Leading and managing all financial operations, including accounting, budgeting, forecasting and audits
- Ensure compliance with all federal and state health care financial regulations, including Critical Access Hospital cost reporting and Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement
- Overseeing key departments, including Revenue Cycle, Patient Billing, Accounts Payable, Materials Management and Health Information Management
- Analyzing and presenting financial reports to the CEO and Board of Trustees to assist in strategic planning and decision-making
- Collaborating with department heads to develop operating and capital budgets aligned with organizational goals, monitoring cash flow, managing investments and supporting cost-saving initiatives while maintaining quality care

Qualifications:

- A bachelor's degree in accounting, finance, or business administration is required; CPA and/or master's degree (MBA or MHA) is strongly preferred
- A minimum of five years of progressive financial leadership experience in a health care setting
- Experience in a CAH or rural health care environment is highly desired
- Strong working knowledge of health care reimbursement, cost reporting, budgeting and regulatory compliance is required, as is proficiency with health care financial systems, accounting software and EHR integration
- Excellent leadership, communication, and analytical skills are also essential

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If you have a management position available in your organization and would like it posted in *Current Report*, email the information to [Jan Fenwick](mailto:Jan.Fenwick@kshealthjobs.net). Also, don't forget to check out www.kshealthjobs.net for other health care openings in Kansas.

--Jan Fenwick

Federal and National News

CMS Issues Contract Year 2026 Medicare Advantage Disclosure Final Rule

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services released the [final rule](#) for contract year 2026 Medicare Advantage disclosure. The rule requires Medicare Advantage plans to increase beneficiary access to provider data while comparing plans in the CMS Medicare Plan Finder tool. [MLN Connects Weekly Newsletter Articles:](#)

Outpatient Therapy Services: Clarifying Qualifications for Speech-Language Pathologists

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services clarified qualification requirements for speech-language pathologists when furnishing outpatient therapy services paid under Medicare Part B. Visit the [Therapy Services webpage](#) for more information.

Cognitive Assessment: Recommend Medicare-Covered Services for Your Patients

Your patients may tell you they're having trouble remembering things, concentrating or making everyday decisions. Their Medicare Summary Notice highlights that Medicare Part B covers a visit with their doctor or a specialist to discuss the issue and conduct an examination.

Recommend appropriate Medicare services, including:

- [Cognitive Assessment and Care Plan Services](#)
- [Preventive Services](#)

Information for patients:

- [Cognitive assessment and care plan services](#)
- [Preventive and screening services](#)