



COMMUNITY CARE NETWORK OF KANSAS

Health. Equity. Justice.

What We Know Now

September 17, 2020

A daily compilation of the latest news surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic from the Community Care Network of Kansas. Visit our [COVID-19 Resources](#) page for complete, updated information.

Community Care Member Update



Today's Spotlight is on the **Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas**, which hosted Sen. Barbara Bollier, Rep. Monica Murnan and other southeast Kansas healthcare leaders for a socially distanced roundtable discussion in Pittsburg.

The **Community Care Annual Conference** starts Monday. There is still time to register. To see the agenda, click [here](#). To register, click [here](#).

From KDHE/Governor's Office/Statehouse

Latest statistics (9-16): 50,870 positive cases, 586 deaths, 2,616 hospitalizations, and 413,356 negative results.

The State Finance Council gave final approval to distribute the remaining \$290 million in statewide COVID-19 relief funding. About \$54 million will be dedicated to testing, with \$30 million in reserve if more is needed. Read more at the Topeka Capital-Journal [here](#).

Highlights from today's COVID-19 Update for Local Partners webinar include:

- The state trend line for daily rate of new cases is going down slightly, hospitalizations are downward, and deaths slightly down.
- Testing rate is 1,531 per/100,000. Monthly positivity rate is 7.7%



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- 37% of ICU beds available; 86% of ventilators are available.
- KDHE issued new guidance school-based vision screening during COVID-19 ([here](#)) and school-based hearing screening during COVID-19 ([here](#)).
- 50,977 tests have been performed thus far in September (goal of 60,000).

From HRSA/Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC)

Several HRSA-funded National Training and Technical Assistance Partners (NTTAPs) present a learning collaborative to explore emerging issues affecting agricultural workers during the pandemic. To learn more or register, click [here](#).

Highlights from Today With Macrae BPHC REACH and Health Equity Panel Discussion include:

- A reminder that progress reports for all coronavirus-related funding awardees will be available October 1 and due by October 12 in EHBs.
- A panel discussion on Advancing Health Equity through BPHC Reaching for Excellence Advancing Community Health (REACH). REACH is an overall transformation effort to become a better partner in achieving outcomes for the community. The pandemic has had a disproportionate effect on racial/ethnic minority communities. BPHC is committed to finding equitable solutions, not one-size-fits-all initiatives.
- Angela Powell, who will be speaking at our annual conference next week, helped moderate the discussion. CEOs of health centers in Lake Charles, LA, and Roxbury Crossing, MA, and the CHC Association of Mississippi shared what their organizations are doing to address health equity.

Updates to HRSA's [FAQ page](#) include:

- Responding to whether FTCA coverage applies to health center staff engaged in COVID-19 clinic research trials, HRSA said: Under FTCA Health Center Program regulations, only acts and omissions related to the grant-supported activities of the entities covered by FTCA are eligible for FTCA coverage. Such clinical research qualifies only if it is within the approved scope of project of the covered entity.

From the National Association of Community Health Centers

The International Federation of Community Health Centres (IFCHC) recently published its latest e-newsletter that was focused on how CHCs around the world (including the U.S.) have responded to the pandemic. Access the newsletter [here](#).

From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The next CDC COVID-19 Partner Update, Vaccination Planning: What You Should Know, will be from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. (CST) Monday, September 21. To register, click [here](#). To submit a question in advance, click [here](#).

CDC has updated its guidance on COVID-19 Forecasts of New Cases ([here](#)), Deaths ([here](#)) and Hospitalizations ([here](#)); and a report on Adult Obesity Is Increasing, which worsens COVID-19 outcomes ([here](#)).

From Our Partners

The KanCare Meaningful Measures Collaborative (KMMC) is seeking partners to better understand patient experiences with behavioral health services provided via telehealth. KMMC has several small grants available to help offset the costs of participating as they search for data that can shed light on the impact of expanded telehealth regulations, such as the current flexibilities in place because of the pandemic. Grants for the Telehealth Patient Experience Project are limited, and patient feedback needs to be collected by the end of October. Interested clinics can either contact our Director of Healthcare Transformation, [Jonathan Smith](#), or [Sydney McClendon](#) with the KMMC.

The United Methodist Health Ministry Fund and the University of Kansas Medical Center are looking into how telehealth is changing across Kansas. They would appreciate taking a few moments to complete a telehealth survey found [here](#). Your responses will be anonymous unless you choose to identify yourself. The survey will close at midnight Sunday, September 20.

From Media Reports

When Will You Be Able to Get a Coronavirus Vaccine? Read more at The New York Times [here](#).