

Executive Director Report

March 17, 2020

Organizational Updates

- **2020 Member Dues**
 - Mailed out on January 6, 2020.
 - As of 3/10/2020 we have received membership dues from 91 local health departments (out of 100).
 - Three missing payments are from 2019 members.
 - Wyandotte County has informed me they will be paying.
 - Neosho County has informed me they will not renew.
 - Elk County has not indicated their intentions to me.
 - Six missing payments are from 2019 non-members (Chautauqua, Cherokee, Hamilton, Labette, Montgomery, and Republic).
 - No non-2019 members have rejoined KALHD for 2020 at this time however several have indicated they are considering it. Due to cost issues, some of stated that return could require them to wait until July when their new PHEP funds are available (as PHEP can be spent on KALHD dues).

Project Updates

- **PHEP**
 - On Monday, March 2nd, I mailed letters to the entire Kansas delegation. I provided a graph from CDC showing that Kansas's PHEP funding has fallen since 2004 (where over \$9 million was provided to today's value which tends to be \$6.2-\$6.3 million).
 - I've suggested an additional million dollars would be helpful. We'll see if it spurs any interest. COVID-19 was cited since it ties to preparedness.
 - A PHEP webinar through KAC (targeting commissioners and other county officials) is scheduled April 29th.
- **KHF Capacity Grant**
 - I have continued with template development and legislative updates throughout this legislative session.
 - The KALHD Administrator Listserv has been receiving my legislative updates (usually on Fridays).
 - Templates are stored on a public-facing page at the KALHD website:
<https://www.kalhd.org/legislative-templates/>
- **Sunflower Platform Project**
 - Not a lot of new progress has happened in March.
 - This is not surprising as KAC is very busy with the legislative session and their main lobbyist is who is coordinating with us. We are still on schedule with the deliverables.

- Sunflower Foundation will receive a status report by the end of March (as agreed upon).

Legislative Updates

- HB 2714 is the bill that increases the State Formula minimum in statute (KSA 65-242). It still sits in House Appropriations but a member of the committee has indicated asking the chairman about getting a hearing for it.
- House Appropriations did add our \$1.9 million State Formula enhancement ask to their version of KDHE's health budget.
- Senate Ways and Means added \$900,000 for State Formula enhancement.
 - They also approved a proviso to raise the minimum payment from \$7,000 to \$12,000 for SFY 2021.
- My assumption is the House and Senate will approve their respective versions, meaning the differences will be sorted out in a conference committee (the conference committee will consist of six individuals, the chair, vice-chair, and ranking minority member from the Appropriations and Ways and Means committees).
- The Wichita Eagle and Kansas City Star had an article about underfunding in public health. It mentioned our \$1.9 million State Formula enhancement on our bill (HB 2714) to raise the minimum payment. It can be read here: <https://www.kansas.com/news/politics-government/article240915266.html>

Important Dates to Remember

- March 31 – April 2, 2020: Kansas Governor's Public Health Conference (Marriott Wichita)
- April 21, 2020: KALHD Governing Board Meeting (virtual)
- June 15-17, 2020: KALHD Mid-Year Meeting (6/15 will be a pre-conference Data Day at no cost; 6/16-6/17 will be the actual MYM) (Hotel at Old Town, Wichita)

--Dennis Kriesel, KALHD Executive Director