
Executive Director Report May 16, 2023

Organizational Updates

- Mid-Year Meeting
 - Registration now open: <https://www.kalhd.org/midyear-meeting/>
 - Already have over 50 registrants for at least one day of the main conference
 - Registration will close June 9th
 - Still working on getting the CNEs assigned
- KALHD Dues
 - All LHD dues received, we have 100% membership for 2023
- Audit
 - Auditors are coming on Monday (5/22/2023) to do their field work for KALHD's 2022 audit

Project Updates

- Medicaid
 - On May 8th I gave the Z Code presentation to Medicaid Director Sarah Fertig, along with KDHE Secretary Stanek and KDADS Secretary Howard. All the partner organizations also had someone in attendance (representing mental health, hospitals, FQHCs, and Kansas Action for Children). The presentation took less than half the hour we had scheduled, and we spent the majority of the time discussing the value of z codes, what is feasible, what other barriers might exist, etc. We actually ran 15 minutes over time due to these discussions.
 - Next steps: One of the examples of z code reimbursement raised was a pilot project Aetna is doing here in Kansas. KDHE wanted to know the results of that pilot (when finished) to see if it made a difference on z code reporting. As such, I connected Medicaid leadership to my contact on social determinants of health with Aetna so that Aetna can prepare to share that information. The plan will be for the z code coalition to reconvene with KDHE after that to discuss options.

Legislative Updates

- HB 2285 was passed out of the legislature, it combined elements of SB 6 (anti-local health officer order authority bill) and SB 314 (a bill regarding prohibiting COVID-19 vaccine requirements for children) and some opioid death reporting. It barely passed out of both chambers.
- Kansas Action for Children has asked to meet with me over the summer to talk about the 2024 session and what we might need to do for public health.
- There may be an opportunity to discuss with the Governor's office some funding issues. We'll discuss that elsewhere on this board agenda.

Important Dates to Remember

- Mid-Year Meeting: June 27-28, 2023 (board/member meeting on June 28th) (in-person in Salina)
- Board Meeting: July 18, 2023 (virtual)
- Board Meeting: September 19, 2023 (virtual)
- Board Meeting: October 17, 2023 (virtual)
- KAC Annual Conference: December 5-7, 2023 (board/member meeting on December 7th) (in-person)

--Dennis Kriesel, KALHD Executive Director