

## **Executive Director Report** **July 8, 2025**

### **Organizational Updates**

- 2025 Audit of budget year 2024 continued. The Auditor advised on July 2<sup>nd</sup> that they are awaiting responses to verification letters sent to funding sources and financial institutions but otherwise done with their work. Once those are received their work will go to internal review at SSCCPA's. Still targeting the September Board meeting for them to present their report. SSCCPA's invoiced KALHD in July for the first ½ of the base costs of the audit.
- Unemployment Insurance to State of Kansas. As follow up to KALHD outreach, our payroll software provider, Paychex, sent an email acknowledging that KALHD is exempt from these requirements. They indicated no additional fees will be assessed and that they are working on a solution in their software product for organizations like KALHD.
- PHEP Quarterly Report and Reimbursement Request completed and submitted to KDHE. Reimbursement in the amount of \$14,516.64 was submitted on July 2<sup>nd</sup> and payment is currently pending.
- Engaged with Geary County officials in attempt to resolve pending payment for 2025 KALHD dues. Payment has not been processed however the Administrator continues to state the desire to continue membership, so continuing to work through the payment process.

### **Project Updates**

- Follow-up items from MYM completed including:
  - All handouts and presentations saved to KALHD Google Drive for member access.
  - Attendance and financial information finalized with WSU Conferencing. One registration payment is unpaid by KDHE. WSU will invoice KALHD for expenses after that payment is received.
  - 2025 MYM Final Report and Evaluation compiled and included with Board materials for the July meeting.
- Laboratory Courier Service. Submitted a data request to KDHE for available records on number of packages received, split of packages from LHDs and other sources, number of packages requiring special shipping (e.g. overnight or other that increase cost), and cost paid to contractor in past year. Requested the data to inform advocacy efforts for the upcoming Budget Cycle, the 2026 Legislative Session, and KALHD committee work. Next steps are pending a KDHE response to this request.

- Initiated preliminary planning for the 2026 MYM. Exploring possible options for location, food/beverage services, registration and onsite support that could reduce KALHD costs for this event. If costs can be reduced, while maintaining substance and quality, this could replace some revenue that is being lost from grant sources.

## Federal Updates

- Signed onto a letter to Maine Senator Susan Collins with local public health advocates in Maine and 16 of our peer state associations asking her to support healthy communities and local economies and vote against House Resolution 1. She was identified as one of the few Republicans who might be persuaded to vote against this bill. Ultimately, she did vote for its passage.
- The Senate passed their amended version of House Resolution 1 on July 1<sup>st</sup> on a vote of 50 to 50 with the Vice President voting to break the tie. Then the House of Representatives passed the amended Senate version on July 3<sup>rd</sup> on a vote of 218 to 214 and the resolution was signed by the President on July 4<sup>th</sup>. This resolution became Public Law No:119-21. Beyond the media coverage highlighting changes to Medicaid, SNAP programs and other headlines, no helpful analysis of the full effects of this bill has been identified at this time.

## Kansas Legislative Update

- Interim committees are slowly beginning to schedule meetings, meetings that will typically increase in number as we go into fall. These committees are opportunities for the legislature to explore topics in greater detail in advance of the next legislative session. Priorities for the next legislative session are often defined by these interim committees.

As the interim committee for KDHE and KDADS, the Robert G. (Bob) Bethell Joint Committee on Home and Community Based Services and KanCare Oversight scheduled its initial meetings for July 14-15, 2025. The publicly posted agenda is available [here](#) and will focus heavily on Medicaid, while also including updates from KDHE and KDADS. The KDHE update will include the Measles outbreak. I will attend portion of these meetings and monitor others for any relevant information.

## Important Dates to Remember

- September 16, 2025, KALHD Board Meeting (virtual)
- [Kansas Public Health Association Conference](#), September 23-24, 2025, at the Eugene M. Hughes Metropolitan Complex, located in Wichita, Ks.
- Kansas Association of Counties 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference at the Hyatt Regency in Wichita, Ks on December 9-11, 2025. Registration is now open at [this link](#).