

Executive Director Report March 25, 2026

Organizational Updates

- Payments have been received from 91 LHDs for 2026 KALHD dues and 60 of those also paid dues for NACCHO membership. Some counties pay on the due date and reminder notices have been sent to all on March 24th and another will be sent on the due date. When I return from the Governors Public Health Conference, I will confirm any additional payments received and follow up with LHD Administrators for any that remain unpaid.
- Certificate of Deposit (CD) at Bank of America matured on March 6th. Renewed the CD at the best available renewal rate at this institution, which is a 7-month term at 3.30%, a decrease from the previous rate of 4.17%.
- Signed service agreement with Card Pointe to allow KALHD to accept Credit Card payments for MYM registration via the Kansas Association of Counties (KAC) website. This is the same company used previously by KAC and beginning to be used by other KAC Affiliates who utilize the KAC website for event registration. Base cost is \$24.95 per month, plus applicable percentage and transaction fees when registration is paid by members using this service.
- INSTRUST Bank sent a notification to KALHD requesting our approval of changes to our checking and savings accounts based on requirements imposed on INSTRUST by new legislation passed in 2025. That bill changes the process for how banks must secure public funds deposited in their institutions. As KALHD is not a public entity (e.g. city, county, township, etc.) this does not appear to apply, but in working with the bank apparently at some point in the past they classified us as a public entity. As of this report, I am still working out the solution. But it will apparently require KALHD to release INSTRUST bank from these requirements by signing documents for them to submit to FDIC and the Kansas State Treasurer. Once resolved, all related documents will be retained in the permanent KALHD records in the office.
- Secretary of State Lobbyist Report submitted for the month.
- The KALHD Executive Committee met virtually on February 23, 2026 to evaluate a request from KDHE received on February 28th. KDHE requested that KALHD apply for Rural

Health Transformation Funding, to then subgrant those funds to LHDs in support of KDHE's shared services initiative. After evaluating this KALHD declined the request.

Project Updates

- MYM updates.
 - Registration. Provided an update on Administrator listserv on March 13th that we are experiencing a delay in opening up registration for the MYM as we navigate technology changes. Hopefully will be resolved by early April allows us to open registration.
 - Session content and speakers were finalized at the MYM Planning Team meeting on March 20th.
 - Session descriptions, objectives, etc. are being finalized before that information can be used to support an application to the Board of Nursing for Continuing Nursing Education (CNE) units and for the event program.
 - Updating policies and procedures for administration of CNE and other documentation required to support application for CNE that will submit in the next few weeks.
- Attended NACCHO sponsored event for State Associations similar to KALHD on February 23-24th and then participated in Hill Day on February 25th. The agenda for states was good quality and the opportunity to meet with peers in person was valuable. During Hill Day visited the offices of Senators Moran and Marshall and met with their staff. Met with both Representative Schmidt and his staff. Shared with all our experience with WIC funding reductions at the local level and asked for their continued financial support of funding that flows through federal agencies to local health departments.
- Continued to participate in scheduled Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) meetings of the Kansas Rural Health Innovation Alliance (KRHIA). Based upon this work, and federal approval for the first year budget, KDHE announced the first two funding opportunities earlier this month. Rural Emergency Hospital Grant applications were due March 20th and Regional Partnership Grant Program applications are due April 3rd.
- PHEP Advisory Team met on March 25, 2026 to review and provide feedback to KDHE on their proposed workplan that the state must submit to the federal government by April 17, 2026 for budget period 3 funding. KDHE will present the final draft to the KALHD Board at our meeting on April 1st and the Board will consider action to provide a letter of concurrence as required on an annual basis.

Federal Updates

- KALHD signed on to NACCHO sponsored letters encouraging Congress to support funding and policies supportive of local health departments as they begin work towards an eventual (begin October 1, 2026 the optimal target) federal fiscal year 2027 budget. Those letters were

the Local Public Health: A Commonsense Investment and to Reauthorize the Public Health Workforce Loan Repayment Program.

- On March 16th a federal judge ordered temporary blocked changes to federal immunization recommendations by issuing a stay on three vaccine-related actions by the President's Administration. The January 5, 2026 memo from HHS that changed the pediatric immunization schedule, the new appointments to the ACIP, and all votes by the reconstituted ACIP were stayed. As of this report, no appeal has been filed but could still happen. You may read more details in this NACCHO [brief](#).

This does not change the current immunization process in Kansas based upon KDHE's decision not to follow these new CDC recommendations. But this merits monitoring given pending legislation in Kansas that could require KDHE to follow the CDC immunization schedule.

Kansas Legislative Updates

- At the time this report was compiled, the Kansas Legislature remains on target to reach First Adjournment on or before Friday, March 27th. They would then return for the Veto Session beginning on April 9th and depending on priorities of Leadership may meet between 1 and 3 days.
- Important matters directly affecting LHDs that could still advance include the budget proviso requiring KDHE to follow the CDC immunization schedule, authorization of expedited partner therapy (EPT) was added to a conference committee report that could be adopted, and concerning health freedom provisions could still be advanced. An updated will be included in remarks during the Board meeting on April 1st.

Important Dates to Remember

- April 21, 2026 KALHD Board meeting (virtual)
- May 19, 2026 KALHD Board meeting (virtual)
- June 15-16, 2026, the 2026 Mid-Year Meeting will be held at The Pavillion at Madison Avenue Central Park located in Derby, Ks. and Data Day on June 17, 2026