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Annual Meeting Recap

July 26, 2024



Thanks to everyone who joined us in Topeka and virtually for IKC's Annual Gathering! We were excited to have over 70 members, individuals, and partners join us (over 60 in-person and a dozen virtually). The meeting agenda and full slide deck are available on the [July 26th meeting webpage](#).

Thank You, Exhibitors!

We would like to give a big thanks to our exhibitor table partners and meeting sponsors for being a part of our annual gathering.



Welcome 2023-24 IKC Board

During the meeting, Immediate Past Chair, Amanda Applegate, shared election results on behalf of the Nomination Committee - with recent bylaw changes, board positions began on July 1st. The [full roster](#) of IKC Board members for the 2024-2025 fiscal year includes:

- **Chair:** Brandan Kennedy, MD, FAAP, FABPM
- **Chair-elect:** Karen Braman, RPh, MS
- **Immediate Past Chair:** Amanda Applegate, PharmD, BCACP
- **Improved Systems Performance Team Chair:** Sarah Good, MHA
- **Health Equity Team Chair:** Jaclyn Miller, LMSW
- **Education and Awareness Team Chair:** Elizabeth Morris, BSN, RN, CPN
- **Policy Team Chair:** Heather Braum, MLS

- **Secretary and Treasurer:** Kimberly Whitaker, RN
- **KDHE Institutional Representative:** Jamie Gabel, MPH
- **At Large Representative:** Stephania Lopez, BS
- **Executive Director:** Geovannie Gone, LMAC, MPH



From left to right: Amanda Applegate, Jamie Gabel, Sarah Good, Kimberly Whitaker, Elizabeth Morris, Heather Braum, Stephania Lopez, Karen Braman, Jaclyn Miller, and Geovannie Gone
Not pictured: Brandan Kennedy

Thank you, Nominating Committee!





Amanda Applegate, was honored with a recognition gift for her work and dedication serving IKC as Chair this past year!



IKC Board members and IKC staff present at the Annual Meeting.

**Remarks from Incoming IKC Board Chair,
Brandan Kennedy, MD, FAAP, FABPM**



Chair, Brandan Kennedy, MD, applauded the previous Board for their dedication to the mission and recognized the newly appointed IKC Board for the upcoming year. He also shared about a positive shift in the vaccine movement as the COVID pandemic has settled slightly, but doesn't believe we're "out of the pandemic yet". He highlighted that there is still so much work to be done as he continues to see unvaccinated children. In one case, Dr. Kennedy shared the [VFOF one-page summary](#) with a parent, which was a success for the day!

Highlights & Review of IKC Accomplishments, Resources, and Initiatives



Executive Director, Geovannie Gone, shares highlights and accomplishments of IKC's work from the past year featured in the newly-released IKC Annual Report.

What a year it has been, with new educational resources in multiple languages, statewide events and campaigns, advocacy efforts, participation in local and national conferences, and grassroots outreach from our Community Health Specialists (CHSs), IKC continues to make strides across the state and nationwide.

Geovannie Gone shared IKC's highlights and accomplishments during the past year, showcasing [IKC's Annual Report](#).

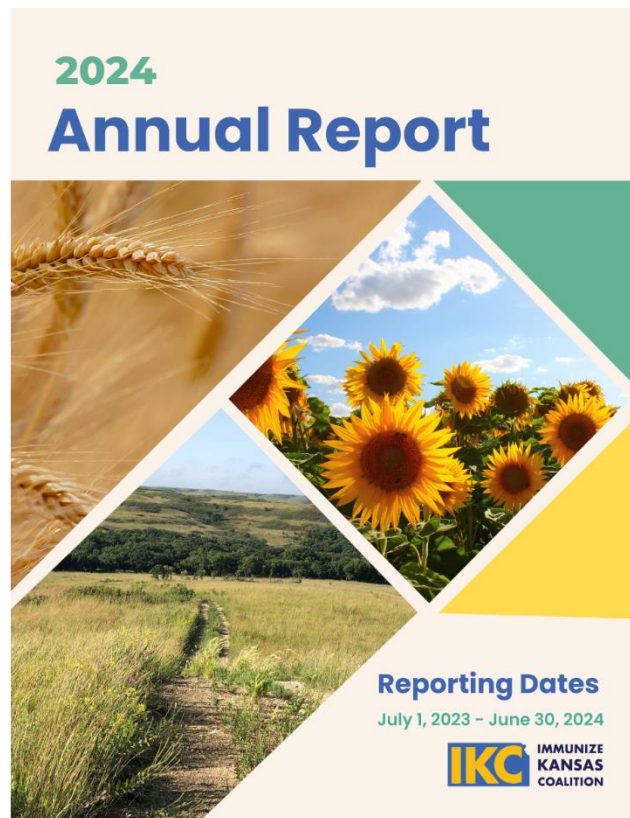
Below find links to several items mentioned and view the [slide deck](#).

- Reaching Kansas with Immunization Information Online
 - [National Immunization Awareness Month/ Back-to-School Campaign](#)
 - [Childhood Immunizations: The Moral Choice...Learning about Medical and Religious Exemption](#)
- Reaching Kansas Communities with In-Person Interaction

- [Connect with a Community Health Specialist](#)
 - [Vaccination Community Navigator Trainings](#)
- Building Equity Through Statewide Events
 - [Entre Mujeres: The Health of Women](#)
 - Save the Date: Entre Mujeres The Health of Women
 - October 26th from 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.
 - Garden City, KS
- Resource Development:
 - [Bridge Access Program Insert](#) - ending in August 2024
 - Respiratory Season Brochure in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)
 - [Protecting Kansans with Immunization Brochures](#) - now available in *Dari, Haitian Creole, and Pashto* languages.
 - [Newly updated Honest Conversations Campaign](#)
 - [#KansasFightsFlu Collegiate Campaign](#)
 - Vaccine Insert Highlight Cards
 - [Pediatric](#) - now also available in *Arabic, Dari, Haitian Creole, and Pashto*
 - [Adults](#) - now available in *Arabic, Dari, Haitian Creole, and Pashto*
 - [Pregnancy](#) - now available in *English and Spanish*
 - [Vaccine-Preventable Disease Poster](#)
- Updated Tried and True Resources:
 - [Education Modules](#)
 - [Model School Exclusion Policy](#)
 - [Data Dashboard](#)
- Strengthening the Immunization Community:
 - [IKC News Page](#), featuring monthly Network News submissions to national partners, Immunize.org
- Social Media
 - [Facebook](#)

- [Instagram](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)

IKC's Community Health Specialists (CHSs) each shared highlights of outreach efforts in the counties they serve. Many of the stories shared are featured in [IKC's 2024 Annual Report](#). Connect with a CHS and learn more about events near you on the [Community Outreach webpage](#).



[View IKC's 2024 Annual Report](#)

Additionally, IKC's Program Manager, Monique Garcia, shared about the new year-long planning grant IKC received under the “Healthy Futures” title of the AmeriCorps Grant. This grant will allow IKC to work with host sites to further IKC’s efforts in vaccination equity and team growth.

Announcement: IKC is [now hiring](#) for two AmeriCorps Community Health Specialist

positions!

Stay tuned for additional details and resources to enhance this effort!

Networking Lunch

Thanks to [Oleander Catering](#) and Patty's Postres (from our very own Patricia Fierro) for providing a delicious lunch and special treats for meeting participants as they networked and visited exhibit tables.



Special Presentation: Immunization Community Partner

Jared Holroyd, Executive Director, Kansas Pharmacists Association



During the Special Presentation session, Jared Holroyd from the [Kansas Pharmacists Association \(KPhA\)](#) shared about their mission and work with IKC.

Some of these included:

- [IKC x KSRE's Get Caught Up campaign](#) is displayed and available in many KPhA pharmacies.
- The University of Kansas' School of Pharmacy partnered with IKC, KFMC, and KDHE during the [collegiate flu campaign](#) to provide outreach to KU students.

He also reminded attendees that outreach can be assisted by pharmacists and pharmacies and encouraged partnership with KPhA or a local pharmacy to maximize efforts.

KDHE Kansas Immunization Program Report

Becky Prall, RN, and Rachel Sample, RN



- The CDC is sunsetting the [Bridge Access Program](#) in August, no specific date has been shared.
- The Hepatitis B Birth Dose Program in Kansas will be sunsetted in the fall due to an end in funding.
- Kansas VFC hospitals that are enrolled will now be able to provide both the RSV immunization and the Hepatitis B vaccination to VFC-eligible newborns.
- Kansas WebIZ will offer a patient portal so that patients can enter the system to attain their immunization record.

[Read the full report and slides for additional details.](#)

Strategic Team Summaries



Policy:

- Please promote back-to-school and pro-vaccine messaging, as there are outreach campaigns contrary to IKC's mission targeting school nurses and administrators. Find resources on our [NIAM webpage](#).
- The landscape of Kansas vaccine policy for the upcoming session is unknown due to many changes in the legislature. We will know more by early December.
- Save the Date: IKC Advocacy Day on January 30th
- [Reach out to Policy Team Chair, Heather Braum](#), to learn more, and how you can help!

Health Equity:

- The Health Equity team discussed the importance of continuing to create diverse resources in multiple languages that are culturally competent to community needs.
- The team also talked about focusing on underserved adult populations.

Improved Systems Performance:

- The Improved Systems Performance (ISP) team's role has changed post-COVID. The focus has shifted from antigen-specific targets to broader data system improvement, monitoring, and usage opportunities.
- The team also discussed creating an Annual Data Report to help improve engagement rates and encourage conversations around current vaccines and preventable diseases.
- The [Kansas Fights Flu Collegiate Challenge](#) is kicking off again this fall with numerous colleges participating.
- KFMC and an IKC Community Health Specialist successfully moved a long-term care facility from 0% of residents up-to-date on COVID-19 vaccines to 68% through conversations to answer questions and increase vaccine confidence!

Education & Awareness:

- The new E&A Team Chair, Elizabeth Morris, BSN, RN, CPN, and Co-Chair, Stephania Lopez, BS, shared about themselves and how they look forward to leading the committee.
 - [IKC's education modules](#) continue to be reviewed and updated. Check them out!
 - IKC is seeking personal stories/experiences related to our future project of creating vaccine-preventable disease videos. [Contact E&A Chair, Elizabeth Morris](#), or [IKC Staff](#), to share your story.
 - [Share resources](#) during National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) and back-to-school season!
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Immunization Partner Updates



Partners shared updates during the meeting, read the highlights below.

Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas

- Kimberly Whitaker shared about an event for Stroke Awareness in Southeast Kansas that will offer attendees pneumococcal and Tdap vaccines.

Kansas Action for Children

- Heather Braum shared that [Kansas Action for Children](#) does a weekly newsletter covering education, early childhood, economics and business, and other issues the legislature covers. [Learn more and sign up!](#)
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IKC Resource Table



Printed resources were available for attendees to take, including

- [2024 IKC Annual Report](#)
- [Vaccine Fears Overturned by Facts](#) - booklet for display, one-page summary, and individual handouts
- [Child, Adult, and Pregnancy Vaccine Highlight Cards](#)
- [Protecting Kansans Brochure](#)
- [Respiratory Season Brochure](#) ([View the Spanish Version](#))

Thank you again to the exhibitors who tabled and shared educational resources at our coalition meeting!

Thank You, Sunflower Nonprofit Center!



A Zoom recording of the meeting is available upon request. [Please reach out to IKC Staff.](#)

Final Coalition Meeting in 2024

Upcoming Coalition Meeting: Our final coalition meeting in 2024 will be held virtually on November 22 from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. [Register for the meeting](#).

Save the Date: 2025 IKC Meetings

Please save the following dates in your calendar for **IKC's 2025 Coalition Meetings!** Additional details can be found on our [meetings webpage](#). Stay tuned for registration details for each meeting.

January 30, 2025 - Coalition Meeting + IKC Advocacy Day

- Topeka, KS with Virtual Option Available

April 25th, 2025

- Western, KS with Virtual Option Available

August 1, 2025

- In-Person with Virtual Option Available

November 7, 2025

- Virtual
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