



January 28, 2013

January is coming to a close and we are just around the corner from an exciting month for football, love and better health.

Before you wrap up your Super Bowl plans for this Sunday, don't forget to sport red on Friday in recognition of National Wear Red Day. The entire month of February observes American Heart Month and Feb. 1 is the day America goes red to recognize that heart disease is the #1 killer of women. [Join the movement](#) and find out how you can take action and commit to fighting this deadly disease.

Some other observances to be aware of this month: Black History, Children's Dental Health and Parent Leadership. Coincidentally, you'll find several items in this e-newsletter to help parents become better leaders in the lives of their children with disabilities including KanCare work groups, a hotline to address KanCare issues and a new website full of valuable information.

We hope you find this e-newsletter helpful and welcome any input you have. If you haven't already, "like" us on Facebook and join in on the conversations!

Jacque Clifton

### Join a KanCare Work Group

Interested in helping guide the KanCare program? Here's your chance. Two work groups are being formed now.

The **Consumer and Specialized Issues (CSI) work group** is in need of people who receive KanCare services to help by:

- Looking at information for people served by KanCare
- Sharing ideas for improving KanCare
- Helping resolve issues that may come up about KanCare

Family members of individuals receiving KanCare can also help.

A **Medical Care Advisory Committee (MCAC)** is also forming and needs people receiving KanCare or their family members. This group will help decide how to run programs and gauge their success.

Interested? [Download the application form](#) and submit it by February 15, 2013 (details are at the bottom of the form). Not everyone will be chosen due to space available and the need for a variety of individuals. Direct any questions to Cheryl Coughlin at 785-296-8355.

### **KanCare Complaint Hotline**

If you're having any issues since the switch over to KanCare, the State of Kansas wants to hear from you. James Bart, a parent of a child with developmental disabilities, has been appointed as an ombudsman to represent the interests of the public by investigating and addressing complaints related to KanCare. He is responsible for making sure that the 383,000 Kansans who have been switched over to KanCare get their problems addressed.

**To share a complaint or issue, contact James at 855-643-8180 or email him at [KanCare.Ombudsman@kdads.ks.gov](mailto:KanCare.Ombudsman@kdads.ks.gov).**

### **Advocates in Disability Award Now Accepting Applications**

The HSC Foundation's ADA Program is seeking the next generation of disability advocates. Young leaders with a disability are encouraged to apply for the 2013 Advocates in Disability Award (ADA).

The purpose of the ADA Program is to award and encourage a young individual with a disability between the ages of 14 and 26, who has dedicated themselves to positively affecting the lives of individuals with disabilities and their families in the United States. The program also supports an innovative project developed by that young person with a disability that serves and empowers individuals with disabilities.

The Advocates in Disability Award (ADA) is a program of The HSC Foundation, funded in part by the Sarah Beth Coyote Foundation. The selected recipient is awarded \$3,000 in recognition of their past disability advocacy and will receive up to an additional \$7,000 in funding support for their proposed project.

[Click here](#) to review the guidelines and download the application. Applications must be received by March 15, 2013 (by 5 p.m. EST).

### **MCO Changes? Let Us Know**

Please remember to keep us updated if you make any changes to your managed care organization during the 90-day initial enrollment period we are in. By now, you should know that you have the option to change MCO's each month for the first three months of KanCare. The last date to make a change is April 4, 2013. After this date, you will be "locked-in" with your chosen MCO for one year, except for certain and specific situations.

Reasons you might decide to change from your currently assigned MCO can include: your primary care physician is not contracting with your assigned MCO; your durable medical equipment provider is not contracted with your assigned MCO; your dentist or other medical

specialists are not contracted with your assigned MCO; and/or you like the value-added services on a different MCO.

Please remember, as we process your FMS claims, we need to know which MCO will receive your claims when we submit them for payment. Keeping this information up-to-date will help us track the claims for any problems that might occur under this new Medicaid billing system.

If you have talked with your new care coordinator from your MCO, please let us know his/her name so we can follow-up and ensure we receive any plan of care updates.

The state and MCOs are working diligently to address problems or concerns that they become aware of. If you have concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.

### **[SpecialKids.com](#) Coming Soon**

A new website promising to be the nation's largest single resource and community for children's special education and health care issues is under development and coming soon.

Specialkids.com will have an invite-only launch in the next few months. Want to be one of the first to check it out? [Go online and sign up to be a part of the confidential invitation list.](#)