

Kansas Action for Children

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One in five Kansas children is living in poverty - Is this the road we want to travel?

In this year's KIDS COUNT Data Book, Kansas' national ranking for overall child well-being sank to 19th in the nation, reflecting the negative impact the recession has had on our state's children. Last year, Kansas ranked 13th.



Kansas also dropped from 18th to 23rd place nationwide in percentage of children living in poverty. The Data Book reported that 18 percent of Kansas kids are living in poverty that's more than 121,000 children.

Reducing child poverty is one of five "measurable goals" that Gov. Sam Brownback has said that he will pursue as part of his "Roadmap for Kansas." If the governor and policymakers are serious about reducing child poverty, they must protect crucial supports for children like nutrition, early childhood education and college savings so they can grow up healthy and prosperous. Read the entire KIDS COUNT report [here](#).

Coach Bill Snyder speaks up for Kansas Kids

Legendary K-State football coach Bill Snyder has lent his voice to KAC's HealthWave marketing campaign. The public service announcement recorded by Snyder will air Friday nights during the Kansas Pregame Radio Show on radio stations in Dodge City, Garden City, Great Bend, Hays, Hutchinson and Independence. The PSA encourages parents to "get in the game" and sign up for HealthWave insurance. Listen to the PSA now. [Click Here](#).

Big thanks to Coach Snyder for helping KAC get the word out about this vital program.

September 2011
STAY INFORMED



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A missed opportunity for Kansas

In early August, Gov. Sam Brownback announced he would return a \$31 million grant Kansas received from the federal government to help establish its health insurance exchange. Unfortunately, the governor's decision doesn't just represent a loss of federal funds, it represents a missed opportunity for our state.

KAC President and CEO Shannon



Cotsoradis was asked to respond to the decision in a guest editorial for the Wichita Eagle. [Read the editorial here.](#)

PLAINTIFFS'
EX. 162

Kansas Dental Project shares message with hygienists



Representatives of the Kansas Dental Project, including KAC's Suzanne Wikle, are meeting with registered dental hygienists across the state to share information about the project and answer questions about the proposal to bring Registered Dental Practitioners to Kansas. So far, the meetings have been a great success. Nearly 90 people attended in Wichita and the hygienists are enthusiastic about helping to bring dental care to underserved Kansans.

Avid supporter of the RDP model Dr. Melinda Miner wrote a letter to the editor about the lack of access to dental care in the state. [Read the letter here.](#)

Established in 1979, Kansas Action for Children is a nonprofit, non-partisan organization dedicated to improving the lives of Kansas children and families.

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