

A Resource for Candidates Running for the Kansas Legislature

Kansas Hospitals: Keeping Kansans and Our Communities Healthy

Kansas hospitals and health systems have stepped up in unprecedented ways to meet the challenges of COVID-19, yet now face catastrophic financial challenges in light of this pandemic. Today's environment requires ongoing advocacy, whether state or federal, legislative or regulatory, as well as trustworthy data and information to help hospitals survive and thrive. The following sheds light on important issues that elected leaders and candidates for the Kansas Legislature need to know.



**Kansas Hospital
ASSOCIATION**

The Role of KHA

The hospitals of Kansas founded the Kansas Hospital Association in 1910 to improve hospital care through the exchange of knowledge and ideas. Over the years, the Association has provided its membership with opportunities to share information, receive continuing education, and develop approaches to legislative and regulatory reforms.

OUR VISION: Optimal Health for Kansans.

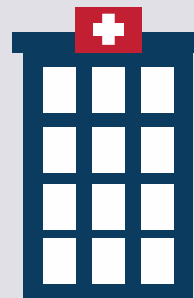
OUR MISSION: To be the leading advocate and resource for members.

THE IMPACT OF KANSAS HOSPITALS

123 Community Hospitals



Economic Impact



- 100,000 employees
- \$31.9 billion in total sales
- \$7.8 billion in labor income
- \$18.1 billion in total income
- Employment multiplier of 1.95
- Labor income multiplier of 1.6
- Sales tax: \$262 million

Annual Health Services



- More than 9,500 hospital beds
- Approximately 265,000 admissions
- More than 8.1 million outpatient visits
- More than 29,000 births
- More than 1 million emergency department visits



Focus Areas in Today's Environment



Access: Many factors affect access to care: availability of government programs such as Medicare, Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program, private insurance coverage, and a strong and resilient workforce.



Innovation: Top priorities include IT/data analytics, patient/consumer engagement, and use of artificial intelligence. Virtual care, patient-friendly online portals, and alternative places of care are more important than ever.



New Models: Affordable, accessible health care is essential. Hospitals are leading the charge toward value-based care with new models that provide coordinated care using the best technology and data to improve patient outcomes.



Population Health: Hospitals seek to manage and prevent chronic disease and improve community well-being. This includes addressing social determinants such as housing and food insecurity, and providing access to behavioral health resources.



Health Equity: Addressing disparities and ensuring full access to care, with a focus on patient and family engagement, is a priority that will further our shared vision of optimal health for all Kansans.

Current State Advocacy Issues

Telemedicine: As technology becomes more widely available and situations like COVID-19 require new ways to provide care, telemedicine use grows. Hospitals and patients have benefited from the **greater flexibility in telemedicine** and wish to see it become even more widely available.

KanCare Expansion: Kansas has forfeited more than \$4 Billion in federal funds by not expanding KanCare. Each year, Kansas hospitals provide more than \$1.1 billion in uncompensated care. Additionally, Medicare and Medicaid make up 57 percent of the Kansans served. **Those programs pay less than the cost of care**, further exacerbating the impact. KanCare expansion could generate **up to \$366.7 million in additional revenue** for Kansas hospitals.

Workforce: We must maintain a reliable and dependable workforce that Kansans have come to depend on for their health care. This will require that we find innovative solutions to attracting those new to the industry, and retaining the existing workforce by protecting them from things like workplace violence.

**For more information, go to www.kha-net.org, call (785) 233-7436
or contact tmays@kha-net.org**