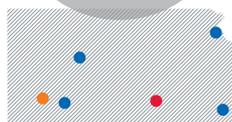


KU WORKS

for KANSAS / No. 8

WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR AREA



EL DORADO & STATEWIDE

KU partners with community colleges to help practicing nurses earn advanced degrees

PITTSBURG, HAYS, DODGE CITY & FORT LEAVENWORTH

KU Medical Center clinics deliver early intervention for Kansas children

STATEWIDE

Healthy Infants project helps home visitors coach new parents

GARDEN CITY

Project LAUNCH supports well-being in Finney County



Nurses across Kansas can now advance their careers from home, thanks to an agreement between the KU School of Nursing and 18 regional colleges, including Butler Community College.

EL DORADO & STATEWIDE

Educating Nurses Throughout Kansas

KU partners with community colleges to help practicing nurses earn advanced degrees

NURSES ACROSS KANSAS CAN NOW ADVANCE THEIR CAREERS FROM home, thanks to an innovative agreement between the University of Kansas School of Nursing and 18 regional community colleges.

The agreement provides nurses who have an associate's degree in nursing from a participating college the opportunity to earn their bachelor of science in nursing through KU's online RN-to-BSN program.

"This agreement makes it easier than ever for practicing nurses to further their education through KU," said Anita Mills, Butler Community College dean of nursing, allied health and early childhood education. "This will absolutely benefit Kansas nurses and the communities they serve."

KU has offered an online RN-to-BSN degree since 1996, but the new agreement makes a student's transition easier. The agreement streamlines the application process for students who graduate from a participating associate's degree in nursing program with a 2.5 GPA and pass the RN licensure exam. Students enrolling in KU's RN-to-BSN program will be required to earn 120 credit hours, including 60 hours in prerequisites and liberal arts curriculum at KU or a community college. The last 30 hours of the program are completed online through the KU School of Nursing. ■

MORE INFORMATION

NURSING.KUMC.EDU



RN-TO-BSN PROGRAM



The Registered Nurse-to-Bachelor of Science in Nursing

program at the KU School of Nursing enables registered nurses to complete their bachelor's degrees in a flexible, online format. No on-campus time is required, and classes are accessible 24 hours a day. The program can be completed in one calendar year of full-time study or up to five years of part-time study.

The participating colleges are:

Barton County C.C., Butler C.C., Cloud County C.C., Colby County C.C., Dodge City C.C., Fort Scott C.C., Garden City C.C., Hesston College, Hutchinson C.C., Johnson County C.C., Kansas City Kansas C.C., Labette C.C., Manhattan Area Technical College, Metropolitan C.C. in Kansas City, Mo., Neosho County C.C., North Central Kansas Technical College, Pratt C.C., and Seward County C.C. Area Technical School.



HELPING CHILDREN

The Center for Child Health & Development

offers statewide services to children and families who need evaluation, diagnosis, and follow-up for autism spectrum disorders, developmental disabilities, Fragile X, and behavioral.

CCHD has hosted clinics in various communities,

including Hays, Dodge City, and Holton. Recognizing the unique needs of military families, KU expanded the clinics to Fort Leavenworth in 2009 and Fort Riley in 2012.

PITTSBURG, HAYS, DODGE CITY & FORT LEAVENWORTH

Making the Diagnosis, Quickly and Effectively

KU clinics deliver early intervention for Kansas children



When Mary Carlton (center) suspected her son had a developmental disorder, she took him to the Fort Leavenworth pediatric diagnostic clinic, operated by the University of Kansas Medical Center. The clinic is one of many throughout Kansas designed to provide families the care they need without having to travel or wait for an appointment.

MORE INFORMATION

KUMC.EDU/CCHD

WHEN PARENTS SUSPECT THEIR CHILD has a developmental or behavioral disorder, they want answers — and they want them quickly.

That's why the University of Kansas Medical Center sponsors pediatric diagnostic clinics throughout the state, helping families get timely care without having to wait for an appointment or travel long distances to see a specialist.

For more than a decade, the Center for Child Health & Development at KU Medical Center has hosted pediatric diagnostic outreach clinics in cities like Pittsburg, Hays and Dodge City, providing crucial diagnosis and treatment for children who might otherwise go without. Each clinic has teams of providers that evaluate children for mental and physical issues. Teams often include a child psychologist, developmental pediatrician, social worker, speech therapist, and occupational therapist.

The clinics are free, thanks to a grant from the Kansas Department of Health & Environment and private donations.

"Early intervention is crucial for treating children with developmental challenges," said Catherine Smith, a pediatric psychologist at KU Medical Center and a member of the pediatric outreach team. "We're proud that our outreach clinics reach so many underserved areas and provide expert care, close to home." ■



TRAINING WITH TECHNOLOGY

The Healthy Infants project trained 16 home visitors covering 13 counties:

Bourbon, Cherokee, Crawford, Douglas, Ellis, Finney, Franklin, Leavenworth, Lyon, Montgomery, Reno, Saline, and Wyandotte.

STATEWIDE

Bringing Effective Parenting Programs Into the Home

Healthy Infants project helps home visitors coach new parents

EFFECTIVE PARENTING IS CRUCIAL TO THE HEALTH, development, and safety of Kansas children.

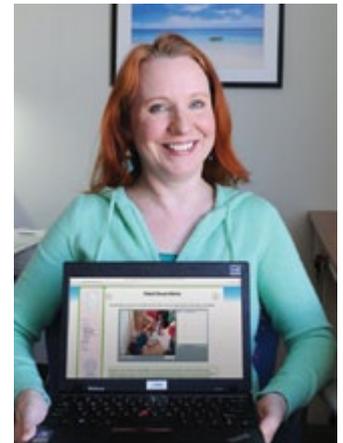
With that in mind, University of Kansas researcher Kathleen Baggett is leading Healthy Infants, an innovative research project that has trained 16 home visitors across the state to coach inexperienced parents in sensitive, responsive parenting that nurtures their babies' social and emotional health.

While proven parent training has existed for years, researchers have struggled with providing it to parents where they live and determining whether it works as designed.

Baggett's solution combined technology and a partnership with the Kansas Children's Service League, whose staff of home visitors used netbooks with Web-based access to a parent-training curriculum and a camera for streaming videos of training sessions. Parents could see their own and their children's progress over time, and KU experts could remotely assist home visitors by analyzing the videos with them and their supervisors.

KU is determining the effectiveness of the intervention, which could become a national model.

"Healthy Infants is answering the question of whether parent training can be delivered as intended," Baggett said. "The project has also provided home visitors with expertise and technology that will continue to benefit Kansas parents and vulnerable children." ■



KU researcher Kathleen Baggett is leading Healthy Infants, an innovative research project that has trained 16 home visitors across Kansas to coach inexperienced parents in responsive parenting techniques.

MORE INFORMATION

LSI.KU.EDU/HEALTHY_INFANTS.SHTML

Helping Children, Strengthening Families

Project LAUNCH supports well-being in Finney County



Project LAUNCH is a five-year project designed to help Finney County children reach their physical and emotional potential.

THE HEALTH OF KANSAS FAMILIES AND communities requires investments in our children. That's the idea behind Project LAUNCH, a program managed by the University of Kansas that's helping Finney County children reach their potential.

Established in 2009, Project LAUNCH is a five-year project to improve the coordination of services for Finney County children and families. So far, the project has produced improvements in services related to home visitation, parent education, professional development and mental health consultation. It has covered topics such as childhood obesity, literacy and substance abuse — all crucial to children's health and development.

In addition to direct services, Project LAUNCH sponsors public education campaigns to increase awareness of child development issues. Examples include distributing free calendars that remind new

parents of key milestones in their child's life and promoting text4baby, a service that sends free text message reminders to expectant mothers on topics like nutrition and immunizations.

"Project LAUNCH focuses on the systems that serve children and help them reach their physical, social, emotional, behavioral and cognitive milestones," said Cristi Cain, project coordinator. "This program is fostering real improvements in the lives of Finney County families and children." ■

MORE INFORMATION

SOE.KU.EDU/PROJECTLAUNCH



PARTNERING TO HELP KANSAS KIDS



Project LAUNCH (Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children's Health) is funded by a \$4.25 million grant from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. The project is designed to create practices and partnerships that will live on beyond the life of the grant.

The project is a partnership of dozens of state and local child-focused organizations, including Area Mental Health Center, Center for Children and Families, Finney County Community Health Coalition, Kansas Children's Service League, Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, KU, Parents as Teachers, Russell Child Development Center, Smart Start, St. Catherine Hospital, USD 457, and USD 363.

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CREATING **JOBS** AND **PROSPERITY**

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