

# SUNFLOWER CONNECTION



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## Patty's Farewell



After 11 years with KDADS, I am retiring and looking forward to spending a lot more time with my four young grandchildren. For 10 years I was responsible for the oversight of the assisted living, residential

health care, home plus, and adult day care facilities. During that time, I tried to build partnerships with providers to ensure that all providers felt comfortable contacting me with questions. This past year, in the role as commissioner I have been involved in the oversight of all adult care homes and had the opportunity to

interact with many more providers. It is truly humbling that I have been given the honor of being able to have a potential impact on the lives of so many vulnerable adults. Some of you I have worked with for a long time, others for only a short period of time.

The regulations provide the roadmap for safe care for residents and the surveyors help ensure that providers are staying in the lane, not drifting to the shoulder risking potential danger and especially not crossing the double yellow line risking serious injury. I hope that myself and other KDADS administrative staff have provided some street lights along the way – giving a better view of the road to keep you on the right path. Each of you have a difficult job each day serving the direct needs of your residents and families. I will miss the opportunities to be part of your journey but have no doubt that those that follow me will continue to light the way.



# Welcome New State Licensed Surveyors

*By Regina Patterson*



We are excited to announce the hiring of two new state licensed adult care home surveyors!

Carolyn Soukup comes to KDADS from Wilson, Kan. She is married with three children and 10 grandchildren. Carolyn worked at the Wilson Nursing Center in a variety of positions ranging from CNA to Director of Nursing. She is an RN and has worked as an operator of an assisted living facility for the past three years.

Sarah Kuhn, RN, BSN, is from Victoria, Kan., and graduated from Fort Hays State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing.

She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society for nursing. Sarah has worked at two rural hospitals in western Kansas over the past two years. She enjoys playing tennis, fishing and hunting in her spare time.

## NEW FORM: Code Consultation

*By Joel Beckner*

When it comes to finding and understanding questions regarding the fire code, it can be very difficult and hard to follow. There are many codes to reference in the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Codes, International Fire Codes (IFC), and International Building Codes (IBC) when looking at your facilities. The construction process can be very involved and, in an attempt to keep the questions organized for our office, we created the Code Consultation Form.

This form will be submitted to our Fire Protection Specialists (FPS) through our general [prevention@ks.gov](mailto:prevention@ks.gov) email. Our staff will respond to the form requests in the order received. Facilities will need to provide code footprints, plans, photos or any other documentation required for us to provide accurate answers to your questions.

Please keep this form in mind if you have any questions regarding new construction, renovations, etc. Our FPS experts will be able to give you the answers in a quick and timely fashion to help you in your efforts.

You can find this form located on our website under the **Form Zone** heading as the **Code Consultation Form**. If you have any questions or have trouble locating the form, please contact me at 785-296-0659 or [joel.c.beckner@ks.gov](mailto:joel.c.beckner@ks.gov).



# KanCheck Update: Criminal Record Check

*By Brenda Dreher*

As you may know, legislation passed and was effective July 1, 2018, making changes to the criminal record check laws for Adult Care Homes (K.S.A. 39-970), Home Health Agencies (K.S.A. 65-5117) and HCBS (K.S.A. 39-2009). Many of the changes, including an updated list of prohibited offenses, were implemented beginning July 1, 2018.



# KanCheck

National Background Check Program

The changes also required a move away from Kansas-only name based criminal record checks to fingerprint-based national criminal record checks. A new system, called KanCheck, has been developed and tested. The next step is to pilot the system before beginning implementation in phases. There will be training, instruction materials and FAQs available soon.

Please visit the Health Occupations Credentialing web page at [www.kdads.ks.gov/hoc](http://www.kdads.ks.gov/hoc) regularly for updates. As implementation goes forward, updates will be posted to this web page. KDADS looks forward to working with providers to assure a smooth transition.

If you have questions, please contact Brenda Dreher, Director, Health Occupations Credentialing at [Brenda.Dreher@ks.gov](mailto:Brenda.Dreher@ks.gov).





# Ask JOHN

As the weather changes, several people are reminded that homes need general maintenance. There are areas of the regulations that cover maintenance of facilities:

## ***Nursing Facility- KAR 26-40-305:***

(i) Preventive maintenance program. Each nursing facility shall have a preventive maintenance program to ensure that all of the following conditions are met:

- (1) All electrical and mechanical equipment is maintained in good operating condition.
- (2) The interior and exterior of the building are safe, clean, and orderly.
- (3) Resident care equipment is maintained in a safe, operating, and sanitary condition.

Furthermore, on those stormy nights the facility may also use another part of 305, Emergency Power (eight areas) and Reserve Heating:

(g) Emergency power. Each nursing facility shall have an emergency electrical power system that can supply

adequate power to operate all of the following:

- (1) Lighting of all emergency entrances and exits, exit signs, and exit directional lights;
- (2) equipment to maintain the fire detection, alarm, and extinguishing systems;
- (3) exterior electronic door monitors;
- (4) the call system;
- (5) a fire pump, if installed;
- (6) general illumination and selected receptacles in the vicinity of the generator set;
- (7) the paging or speaker system if the system is intended for communication during an emergency; and
- (8) if life-support systems are used, an emergency generator. The emergency generator shall be located on the premises and shall meet the requirements of the LSC, as adopted by reference in K.A.R. 26-39-105.

(h) Reserve heating. Each nursing facility's heating system shall remain operational under loss of normal electrical power. Each nursing facility shall have heat sources adequate in number and arrangement to accommodate the nursing facility's needs if one or more heat sources become inoperable due to breakdown or routine maintenance.



# 2019 Zero Deficiency Surveys

## These facilities received “zero” deficiencies from July 2019 to Present

SNF/NF: Skilled Nursing Facility ALF: Assisted Living Facility RHCF: Residential Health Care Facility  
 HP: Home Plus ADC: Adult Day Care BCH: Boarding Care Home

FACILITY	CITY	FACILITY TYPE	SURVEY DATE
Haviland Operators	Haviland	SNF/NF	7/16/19
The Pines of Hiawatha South	Hiawatha	HP	7/22/19
Care Haven Homes - Southmoor	Overland Park	HP	7/25/19
Winter Meadow Homes I	Topeka	HP	8/7/19
Seniorcare Homes Waveny Park House	Overland Park	HP	8/14/19
Reflection Living Maize Court 3	Wichita	ALF	8/21/19
Reflection Living of Hidden Lakes LLC	Wichita	HP	8/26/19
Keepsake Kottage	Wichita	HP	8/29/19
Homestead of Derby	Derby	ALF	9/10/19
The Homestead of Manhattan	Manhattan	ALF	9/10/19
Vintage Park at Wamego LLC	Wamego	ALF	9/11/19
Nottingham Health and Rehabilitation	Olathe	SNF/NF	9/25/19
Sabetha Manor	Sabetha	SNF/NF	9/25/19
Stoneybrook Assisted Living	Manhattan	ALF	9/26/19
Ross Hall	Leavenworth	NF	10/14/19
Cornerstone Assisted Living	Wichita	ALF	10/16/19
Tallgrass Creek, Inc.	Overland Park	SNF/NF	10/24/19
Twin Oaks Health and Rehabilitation	Lansing	SNF/NF	10/28/19