Immunize Kansas Coalition Attends Statewide Immunization Conference with Attention Drawn to Featured Resources

It's that time of year when exhibits and conferences ramp up for the Immunize Kansas Coalition IKC). Most recently, the coalition attended the annual Kansas Immunization Conference hosted by the Kansas Department of Health (KDHE) Immunization Program. The event was filled with impactful speakers and engaging breakout sessions. Two speakers, nationally well-known in the immunization community, Sharon Humiston, MD, MPH, FAAP, Director of Research at Immunize.org, and Heather Simpson with Back to the Vax, shared about collaborative efforts with IKC. Resources featured throughout the presentations included IKC's vaccine education modules and the popular Vaccine Fears Overturned By Facts (VFOF) booklet.

Dr. Sharon Humiston presented on the collaborative efforts to raise the rates of HPV immunizations, highlighting their HPV Toolkit and education module Shutting the Doors on HPV Cancers. The module is designed to teach providers and clinical staff how to recommend the HPV vaccine and answer patient questions. Following the session, conference attendees flooded IKC's exhibitor table, eager to receive information on how to access the HPV toolkit and module. IKC has developed additional modules with Dr. Humiston some of which include Protecting Kansans with Immunization, Youth Module Series, Increasing Vaccine Uptake in Pregnant Women, and more! Education modules are frequently reviewed to reflect the most upto-date information and can always be found on the module webpage.

National speaker and immunization champion, Heather Simpson of <u>Back to the Vax</u>, shared a compelling story of her journey to becoming a pro-vaccine advocate. A featured topic within her presentation was the collaborative booklet, <u>Vaccine Fears Overturned by Facts</u>. The booklet includes personal stories to address and rebuttal 24 common vaccine myths. All resources can be found on the VFOF webpage.

If you have an upcoming conference or exhibit, IKC has resources for you! Check out their <u>Key</u> <u>Resources webpage</u> which features prominent campaigns and other vaccine education materials.

