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SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS
COMMUNICATIONS

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October is Health Literacy Month

(Sedgwick County, Kansas) – Have you ever gone to the doctor and left feeling overwhelmed with all the medical terms? Have you tried looking for health-related information on the Web and been completely confused at what you are reading? You are not alone. Over the past few years, more attention has been given on improving “health literacy” for patients. Health literacy is an individual's ability to understand and use health information to make decisions and follow treatment instructions.

The month of October is Health Literacy Month. The theme for the 11th annual recognition is "Why Health Literacy Matters: Sharing Our Stories in Words, Pictures, and Sound." The intent of this year's project is to create a lasting record of personal experiences told in words and photos.

The Sedgwick County Health Department is seeking stories or photos that stress the importance of health literacy. Individuals should email stories or photos to Roderick Harris, Director of the Sedgwick County Health Department's Center for Health Equity (rlharris@sedgwick.gov). The Health Department hopes to share some local stories and photos on www.sedgwickcounty.org in the coming weeks. Also, visit www.healthliteracymonth.org where a health literacy story will be posted daily during October.

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