

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE STATE PROGRAM FOR ORAL HEALTH (AC4OH)**  
**MINUTES**  
**February 2, 2018**  
**12:30 P.M.**

Division of Public and Behavioral Health  
4150 Technology Way, Room 204  
Carson City, NV 89706  
(775) 684-4285

Division of Public and Behavioral Health  
3811 W. Charleston Blvd. Suite 205  
Las Vegas, NV 89102  
(702) 486-0068

Division of Health Care Financing and Policy  
1010 Ruby Vista Dr. Suite 103  
Elko, NV 89801  
(775) 753-1191

Dial-In Toll Free Number  
1-415-655-0002  
Conference Number: 809-030-423

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Cathie Davenport, Chair  
Christine Garvey  
Julie Stage-Rosenberg  
Chris Wood

**BOARD MEMBERS ON PHONE**

Dr. Judith Skelton  
Mary Liveratti  
Dr. Christina Demopoulos

**BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Chris Elaine Mariano  
Dr. Robert Talley  
Keith Clark  
Kelly Taylor  
Dr. Bryce Putnam  
Dr. Brandi Dupont

**DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH STAFF**

Dr. Antonina Capurro, State Health Dental Officer, DPBH  
Judy White, State Public Health Dental Hygienist, DPBH  
Cailey Hardy, Administrative Assistant, DPBH

**PUBLIC PARTNERS PRESENT**

Dr. Jeffrey Ebersole  
Teri Chandler  
Wendy Madson

Chair Cathie Davenport called the Advisory Committee on the State Program for Oral Health (AC4OH) meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Chair Davenport indicated the meeting was properly posted at the locations listed on the agenda in accordance with Nevada Open Meeting Law (OML).

**1. ROLL CALL**

Roll was taken and it was determined a quorum of the Advisory Committee on the State Program for Oral Health (AC4OH) was present.

**2. DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE APPLICATION FOR THE CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC) GRANT #1307 AND THE HEALTH RESOURCES SERVICES ADMINISTRATION GRANT #18-014**

Chair Cathie Davenport thanked all the members in attendance to the special meeting called to review the upcoming grant opportunities.

Dr. Antonina Capurro stated the CDC grant was anticipated to be released by this meeting date and is anticipated to be a five (5) year grant. Unfortunately, the CDC grant has not yet been released. The HRSA grant has been released and is a four (4) year award. Christine Garvey stated when the CDC grant becomes available the Committee would like to see the Oral Health Program apply to the CDC grant as well. Dr. Capurro informed the members there will be likely be a 60 day application deadline for the CDC grant which will allow the Committee to review and provide feedback to the Oral Health Program.

Judy White informed members the HRSA grant is due March 12, 2018. The purpose of the HRSA grant is to increase availability of sustainable oral health services for populations living in Dental Professional Shortage Areas (DPSAs) through workforce development. The match required for the HRSA grant is up to \$400,000 per year for four (4) years and match required is 40% which is \$160,000. The Division of Public and Behavioral Health will provide support as needed to help get the application for the grant submitted on time. Dr. Capurro and Ms. White drafted a plan to address seven (7) of the 13 allowable activities. Ms. White stated essentially almost all of Nevada is a DPSA in varying degrees by County. The Counties preliminary picked are Rural Counties: Elko, Mineral, Churchill and Nye County. Ms. White stated the count of relevant providers according to 2017 data is: Elko County has three (3), Mineral County has zero (0), Churchill County has one (1) and Nye County has seven (7).

Dr. Capurro stated the goal is to have a reasonable scope of work and develop projects which can be successful, with achievable quality measures. Since there are multiple counties in need of dental services it was discussed to initially implement services in one (1) area then to slowly add and perfect projects based on trial and error within the first county to the remaining counties. Dr. Capurro went over each drafted goal supplied in the meeting packet. Dr. Capurro stated the activities provided were created based upon the allowable activities in the grant. The goals are brought forth to the Committee to be decided upon and voted for the Oral Health Program's direction moving forward. Dr. Capurro stated Goal one (1) is to start with building the infrastructure within the Counties as there is a need to create a County Board of Health to support the health of the communities. Goal two (2) focuses on increasing preventative oral health services and availability through the use of portable/mobile dental equipment. Julie Stage-Rosenberg asked how many public health-endorsed dental hygienists are in Northern and Southern Nevada. Ms. Stage-Rosenberg stated getting volunteers is very challenging with her experience in Remote Area Medical (RAM) events. Ms. Stage-Rosenberg stated the only volunteers seen at these events are dental hygiene faculty and students. In rural areas these resources are not available, as well as transportation of patients to see a dentist to complete treatment seems unreasonable when working in rural areas. Dr. Capurro stated the main goal is to focus on dental providers already there and motivate them to provide care. To try and engage more dental hygienists to register for public health endorsement is a unique opportunity. Dental hygienists would be paid to go out into the communities and provide the assessment, preventative services, gather information with Tele-Dentistry equipment, and coordinate with a dental provider within the area to complete the treatment. The mobile dental units could be taken to the patient or the patient could be transported to the dental provider, as Medicaid does pay for transportation services. The goal includes

mobilizing the dental community practice in DPSAs and creating a program called Oral Health Champions (OHC). Ms. White stated the vision is to loan the mobile dental units to dentists or hygienists to be used within an underserved area and provide services. Goal three (3) is to provide a system of incentives for dental providers providing services in DPSA. Part of this goal is to explore the possibility of creating language within the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) of Nevada to provide retirement credits in exchange for hours volunteered from dental providers in DPSA. Part two of this goal is to provide funds for recognition for the OHCs. This goal would increase funds to cover the cost for maintenance, repairs, and replacement of dental equipment as well as travel support for dental provides and any other funds association with the OHC's program. Goal four (4) is to increase access to oral health services through maintenance of oral health leadership within Nevada's Medicaid program. This goal will also staff the program with a .4 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) dentists to help strengthen the lines of communication between Medicaid Fee-for-Service system present in the rural Nevada and dental offices. This position would also provide clinical administration and potentially able to provide treatment for urgent dental cases if other dental providers were not available. Goal five (5) is to increase the number of post-doctoral and dental hygiene students who provide oral health care with an emphasis on access to care for vulnerable, underserved, and rural populations in Nevada. Collaboration with College of Southern Nevada, Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC), and UNLV School of Dental Medicine were presented.

Dr. Capurro asked the members for questions. Christine Wood expressed the grant application could have a great advantage if the goals were narrowed down and to focus more on goals to have a larger success rate. Ms. Wood liked the promotion of Tele-Dentistry in the majority of the goals. Ms. Stage-Rosenberg recommended for goal five (5) it would be difficult to add another credit course to dental students curriculum unless it was a master's degree, as well as the level of difficulty to get a course approved and change the course of study for the national accreditation standards. Ms. Stage-Rosenberg stated TMCC explored item four (4) in goal five (5) and instead offered an associate's degree as a community health worker in various tracks such as pre-nursing and public health. Dr. Capurro was appreciative of the feedback. Ms. Wood suggested to incorporate goal five (5) item one (1) and goal two (2) item one (1) to try provide incentives to dental hygienist with a public health endorsement and to then train in Tele-Dentistry and billing and providing Medicaid services. Wendy Madson suggested since the counties identified are under Medicaid's Fee for Service program, dentists in this area will have a barrier to bill for Medicaid. An item to consider is finding an independent biller to bill for these dentists.

### **3. ACTION PLAN FOR NEVADA'S GRANT APPLICATION**

Dr. Capurro asked if there were any goals the board identified which are not listed in the HRSA grant application plan. The members agreed the plan was outlined very well and was in great detail. It was decided to narrow down the amount of goals and to be more successful in those focused areas.

**CHRISTINE WOOD MADE A MOTION TO ELIMINATE GOALS ONE (1) AND THREE (3) FROM THE HRSA GRANT ACTIVITY PLAN. JULIE STAGE-ROSENBERG SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Dr. Capurro outlined the member's feedback from the meeting to focus in on goal two (2) to focus on incentives for dental hygienist to become endorsed, provide public health and Tele-Dentistry

continuing education credits and provide a way for them to provide services through Tele-Dentistry in DPSAs. Ms. Wood stated goal five (5) item one (1) would be targeted in goal two (2) and goal five (5) item four (4) could be eliminated as it is not feasible. The remaining items in goal five (5) were not feasible to carry out in the HRSA grant.

**CHRISTINE WOOD MADE A MOTION TO FOCUS ON GOALS TWO (2) AND FOUR (4) AND ELIMINATE GOAL FIVE (5) IN THE HRSA GRANT ACTIVITY PLAN. CHRISTINE GARVEY SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

No public comment.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 2:30PM.