

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE STATE PROGRAM FOR  
ORAL HEALTH MEETING

**Meeting Minute Approved**

September 7, 2018

1:00 PM to Adjournment

Division of Public and  
Behavioral Health  
Bureau of Child, Family &  
Community Wellness  
4150 Technology Way, Ste. 204  
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Division of Health Care  
Financing and Policy  
1010 Ruby Vista Dr,  
Ste 103  
Elko, Nevada 89801  
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Division of Health Care  
Financing and Policy  
745 W Moana Lane  
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Reno, Nevada 89501  
(775) 687-1908

**Teleconference:**

First dial 1-415-655-0002. When the auto attendant answers, you will be prompted for the following information:

- Your conference number is 809 623 141 followed by the # symbol.

**Board Members Present:**

Cathie Davenport present  
Christine Wood present (Reno)  
Christine Garvey present via phone  
Keith Clark present via phone  
Judith Skelton present  
Julie Stage-Rosenberg present (Reno)  
Cathie Davenport present  
Kelly Taylor present  
Robert Talley present  
David Cappelli present via phone  
Brandi DuPont present via phone

**Board Members Not Present:**

Bryce Putnam  
Mary Liveratti

**Public Partners Present:**

Lea Cartwright, J.K. Belz & Associates  
Jeanette Belz, J.K. Belz & Associates  
Terri Chandler, Future Smiles  
Amy Tongsiri, Dental Director for Liberty Dental Plan  
Betty Angulo, Liberty Dental Plan  
Laurie Curfman, Liberty Dental Plan  
Katrina Santayana, Liberty Dental Plan  
Ariana Goertz, Future Smiles  
Emma Rodriguez, Children's Advocacy Alliance  
Heidi Iongi, Internship with the Oral Health Program  
Mark Couch, Liberty Dental Plan  
Jessica Woods, Southern Nevada Health District  
Joanna Jacobs, Nevada Dental Association

**DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH STAFF**

Dr. Julie Kotchevar, Administrator, DPBH via phone  
Dr. Antonina Capurro, State Dental Health Officer, DPBH  
Judy White, State Public Health Dental Hygienist, DPBH  
Shauna Tavcar, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy

### **1. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL**

The State Advisory Committee for Oral Health (AC4OH) meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by Dr. Antonina Capurro, and roll was taken. A quorum was reached.

### **2. APPROVAL OF JUNE 1 2018 MEETING MINUTES**

Chair Davenport asked for changes to the June 1 meeting minutes.

Kelly Taylor – 1<sup>st</sup> page “intentions” was misspelled 8 lines from the bottom.

2<sup>nd</sup> to 1st page –Cathie Davenport, not Chris Garvey, entered the motion about a draft version.

Dr. Skelton- Bottom of 2<sup>nd</sup> page; “Ms. White stated that she was informed ‘to by’ administration”; change to “...informed by the administration”.

**DR. JUDITH SKELTON MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE JUNE 1, 2018 MINUTES WITH THE APPROPRIATE CHANGES. KELLY TAYLOR SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **3. PRESENTATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

Dr. Azzam, Chief Medical Officer for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health, was unable to attend.

### **4. PRESENTATION ON THE DIRECTION OF THE STATE ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM**

Dr. Antonina Capurro summarized the following regarding Oral Health Program activities:

- The position of State Public Health Dental Hygienist has been re-established.
- Dr. Capurro proposed an AC4OH board retreat next year to include a review of the mission of the program, strategic plan, board member responsibilities, and direction of the program.
- Ms. White is working on a survey regarding older adults, interpreting and editing the report on the Head Start Oral Health Survey and meeting partners in Northern Nevada. By invitation in June, she attended the national Special Olympics Games in Seattle, trained the screeners for the national games, and completed training for Clinical Director. She will be overseeing Special Olympics, Special Smiles in Northern Nevada.
- Joint projects with Shauna Tavcar of the Medicaid office are listed in the packet and include periodicity schedules, completion of the SOHLI project (rural/dental medical integration), and ambulatory surgical center investigation. Dr. Capurro and Ms. Tavcar attended the Medicare/Medicaid/CHIP Service Dental Association meeting.
- The 2017 workforce survey results will be presented at the next AC4OH meeting. It was mentioned that a bill is being considered that would require professional licensing boards to include a workforce survey in their application.
- The orthodontic research completed and is in analysis. There will be a report at the next meeting.
- Dr. Capurro attending the Liberty social services fair in Tonopah with Dr. Tongsiri and Liberty Dental.
- Preceptorships completed within the Oral Health Program (Cathy Carreiro, Heidi Iongi, Jessica Woods) are listed in the packet. Marcin Chmiel MPH is working on a water fluoridation project.
- The grant application to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention was submitted on May 3; the abstract is included in the packet. A letter from the CDC stated that the application was recommended for approval, but was not funded. The Oral Health Program is looking into other grant opportunities.
- Dr. Capurro is working with Dr. Talley and Assemblywoman Neal to expand Medicaid services to adult patients in Nevada.
- The school based sealant report (Nassir) were reviewed. It was noted that the number of dental sealants provided has risen over the last 12 years.
- Upcoming speaking engagements including Nevada Public Health Association, Nevada Health Conference, and tentative BSS training.

Packets were sent out electronically prior to this meeting; other contents were discussed.

Ms. Garvey asked what needed to be completed to make Public-Health Endorsed Dental Hygienists billable providers for Medicaid. Dr. Capurro responded that it would require an amendment to the State Plan, and fiscal implications need to be explored before this is approved. Ms. Tavcar added that many units are involved in this review; additionally, there is a code freeze right now and everything is at a standstill until the MMIS system can be updated. The goal for adding this provider type is post modernization. The new system goes live in 2019, after which it must be certified by CMS, which could take months.

Ms. Garvey commented that a work session with AC4OH should be planned once the strategic plan is detailed out, and asked how priorities in the strategic plan are decided upon. An activities plan will be presented at the December AC4OH meeting.

**Public Comment:**

Terri Chandler, Future Smiles, commented that from her experience, the basic screening survey helps to calibrate the dental hygienists.

## **5. LIBERTY DENTAL PLAN**

Amy Tongsiri, DMD, Nevada Dental Officer for Liberty Dental Plan

The following summary was given:

- Clark County outreach: June-September with 51 workshops were conducted. Presence at health fairs, food pantries, children's events around school starting.
  - Washoe County outreach" conducted at monthly immunization meetings, food pantry, Boys & Girls Clubs, Medicaid conference, golf tournament benefit, and a RAM event.
- Dr. Skelton suggested coordination of messaging to ensure consistency.
- Average turn-around time is seven days on claims. Liberty is averaging about 1000 authorizations/week. Everything coming in on a given week to be closed that Friday.

No public comment.

## **6. PRESENTATION ON NEVADA MEDICAID DENTAL BENEFITS**

Shauna Tavcar, Dental Division of Health Care Financing and Policy.

Ms. Tavcar summarized the following:

- Presentation on dental rate realignment. Sept 27 public hearing. Proposed date of effect 1/1/2019.
- Changing rates to allow the oral maxillofacial surgeons to be paid at the same rate as physicians; referred to the slides in the packet.
- Methodology for CDT codes was described using the slides in the packet. Same methodology as before, but proposal is updating the publication (2016) as a base unit.
- Of the 239 codes used from 7/1-12/31/17, 95 increased in rate (40%), 56 decreased (23%), and 88 (37%) remained unchanged. Est. decrease in annual expenditures: \$1.3 million for 2019, \$2.7 million for 2020. Medicaid deficit of \$47 million reported to Medical Advisory Group.
- The D1206 code (fluoride varnish) was reimbursed at \$53.30 for a time because of an error in entering the relative value at 2.6 rather than .6 (reimbursing at \$12.30). A 13-state comparison on D1206 shows that Nevada is paying more than several states, and 136% of the commercial average. The last time that the relative value was changed was in 2013 (from \$20.35 to \$20.50).

Dr. Talley asked where the relative value for dentists comes from; Ms. Tavcar explained that it comes from time taken for the procedure, training and skill required, cost, problem severity, complication potential all from practitioners themselves.

Dr. Talley commented that this explanation would have lessened consternation among providers if this had been provided at the workshop. Dr. Capurro stated that the workshop was not the avenue the Division chose to present this information, but that communication between providers and Medicaid is recognized as the key to policy implementation and in that spirit Ms. Tavcar was providing her explanation. Dr. Skelton asked if any impact analysis was completed to see if reducing one service causes an increase in use of another. Ms. Tavcar stated that only rate analysis and not impact studies are completed; Public Workshops would be the venue to bring this up.

**Public Comment:**

Jeannette Belz asked what year was used for the current methodology; unconfirmed other than it's an older version.

## **7. PRESENTATION ON THE COLLABORATION WITH THE SOUTHERN NEVADA HEALTH DISTRICT AND THE MEDICAL MILES FOR RURAL SMILES PROJECT**

Jessica Woods RDH, MPH, Public Health-Endorsed Dental Hygienist, Southern Nevada Health District

- From April to June, 11 clinics were conducted in Nye, Esmerelda, White Pine, and Clark Counties (five in Nye, two in Esmerelda, three in White Pine, and one in Clark) utilizing the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) mobile medical van. SNHD partnered with the Oral Health Program to place a community health nurse and a dental hygienist (Ms. Woods) on the immunization mobile clinic. Dr. Capurro also accompanied the van. A total of 129 clients were provided with dental services, with an additional 131 elementary students and 50 seniors receiving oral health education. Medical services included vision screening, glucose testing, and vaccinations. Identified barriers were lack of access to dental providers (more than half of the clients seen had travelled more than 100 miles to receive this dental care) and lack of dental insurance and/or finances to pay for dental care. Total cost of this project was \$48,138, used to pay for travel, supplies, some equipment, and some costs for opening a dental clinic at SNHD, now a board-recognized dental public health clinic. Data on the rural Nevada trips are still being analyzed.

Dr. Capurro stated that previous DPBH Administrator Amy Roukie helped with the initiation of this project. Future considerations include sustainable funding and collaboration for provision of additional services.

A discussion followed on eventual ability of nurses to apply silver diamine fluoride, application of silver diamine fluoride in long-term care facilities, use of IRT by dental professionals in the field, and incorporation of tele-dentistry and referral. Dr. Capurro will check with Dr. Azzam, start standing orders for pediatricians and community nurses, and ask the State Board of Dental Examiners for an advisory opinion on silver diamine fluoride, and bring it back to the committee for review.

## **8. PRESENTATION ON THE 2017 NEVADA HEAD START BASIC SCREENING SURVEY**

Judy A. White RDH, MPH, Nevada State Public Health Dental Hygienist

- A dental screening was conducted by Dr. Capurro and Ms. White in the Spring of 2017 at 16 Head Start locations in 11 counties throughout rural Northern Nevada. Over 300 children were screened; fluoride varnish was also offered. Consent return was vastly improved through use of \$100 gift cards to an online educational supply house for schools who achieved at least a 70% consent return.
- Preliminary survey results demonstrated notable decline in untreated decay, caries experience, and need for restorative care since the 2003 and 2007 surveys, and solid progress toward Healthy People 2020 Objectives. The full report will be cleared and electronically available on the Oral Health Program website.

Ms. Julie Stage Rosenberg posed a question regarding whether or not a dentist was brought into any of the rural clinics to complete an exam within 90 days of enrollment. Ms. White commented that children had a dentist specifically named on their forms. Ms. Rosenberg asked if children had received a previous fluoride varnish application. Ms. White explained that parents were asked if their child

## **9. INTERNSHIP UPDATE: HEALTH ASSESSMENT BEFORE SCHOOL ENTRANCE POLICY**

Heidi Iongi, DMD, MPH, Oral Health Intern

- Dr. Iongi reported that 25 states do some type of oral health assessment. Surveys with follow-up questions were sent to 15 states and the District of Columbia. Responses reported resistance from school districts due to cost and existing school nurse workloads, and information on electronic

databases, one of which (used by Rhode Island) is free. Workflow diagrams for implementation were provided by one state (Iowa) that would be helpful. One of the 15 states surveyed reported a much higher compliance in kindergarten compared to ninth grade.

Ms. Garvey brought up the difficulty of introducing unfunded mandates because of budget issues in school districts, and the importance of reaching out to different school districts in each state for survey information because of the differences among school districts. Further discussion acknowledged that this survey is background information only. Ms. Chris Wood stated that she would like to collaborate on this project in an effort to update national white papers on this topic through the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD).

#### **10. NEVADA ORAL HEALTH COALITION REPORTS**

Cathie Davenport, CCOH Chair, Syd McKenzie RDH, CUSP Chair, Chris Garvey RDH, OHN Chair

- In the interest of time, Chair Davenport referred attendees to the meeting packets for details.

#### **11. INTRODUCTION OF NEW APPOINTEE(S) TO SERVE ON THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE STATE PROGRAM FOR ORAL HEALTH.**

Official welcome letters were presented to Dr. Cappelli, Dr. Skelton, and Dr. Talley.

#### **12. DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION FOR NEW APPOINTEE(S) TO SERVE ON THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR ORAL HEALTH TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR CONSIDERATION AND FINAL APPROVAL.**

Chair Davenport asked for a vote to bring Chris Mariano back on the board.

#### **MS. CHRIS WOODS MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT CHRIS MARIANO TO THE BOARD. KELLY TAYLOR SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **13. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Further discussion ensued regarding the Oral Health Program:

- The Division found funding to support both positions. MCAH block grant funding will help support the program. The previous Oral Health Program Manager was transferred out of the Oral Health Program, in May. Dr. Capurro and Ms. White are the sole members of the Oral Health Program. An agreement with UNLV SDM is in motion but not concluded. The University would help support day-to-day expenses, costs for an administrative assistant, and offices. More information will be available at the December meeting. The program obligations and focus would remain consistent and would not change. The University will provide benefits for both the dental officer and dental hygienist which would result in stability and support for the positions. Such an arrangement could stabilize the program from continuous change and expand what the program can accomplish.
- Dr. Capurro will not take on any faculty duties with this arrangement. Program duties will be provided by the Division, with regular reports provided. The Division would maintain a “very close watch” over what is done. There would be a loss of physical presence of the Oral Health Program in Northern Nevada; funding for travel, however, has been doubled.
- Concern was expressed over UNLV SDM mission of graduating students vs. doing public health throughout the State; do not want to see the program lost. It was explained that the state will still oversee funding and program priorities. The University is simply providing the program with infrastructure and support.
- Suggestion was made to explore “health care authorities” as one model.

#### **14. ORAL HEALTH SUMMIT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH DENTAQUEST**

Chris Garvey, OH NV Chair, Chris Wood, RDH, BS, ASTDD Executive Director, Chair Davenport

- Ms. Wood stated that based on the lateness to pursue a funded presentation, and the fact that DentaQuest is no longer providing funding for 2018, an oral health summit will not be possible this year. Ms. Wood requested that she be placed earlier in the agenda for the next meeting.

- Chair Davenport asked Ms. Wood to proceed with her presentation. A discussion ensued about speakers and topics, and a reconsideration of continuing education as the best course of action, given that the Nevada Dental Association discontinued continuing education classes due to poor response. Ms. Wood expressed the need for someone to handle registration and the importance of charging to avoid last minute cancellations. Dr. Skelton suggested that UNLV could handle the registrations and email blasts. Ms. Wood would like to explore this venue with Dr. Capurro to determine a clear approach to the DentaQuest opportunity. This will be further discussed at the next AC4OH meeting.

#### **15. ADJOURNMENT**

**DR. ROBERT TALLEY MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. DR. JUDITH SKELTON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:30PM.**

**The next Advisory Committee on the State Program for Oral Health will be held at 1pm on December 7<sup>th</sup>.**