

Division of Public and
Behavioral Health
Nevada Oral Health Program

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2018 Annual
Activities Report

Nevada Division of Public
and
Behavioral Health
Oral Health Program

State Dental Health Officer
and
State Public Health
Dental Hygienist



ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM

This is an annual report on the progress of Dr. Capurro, State Dental Health Officer, and Ms. White, State Public Health Dental Hygienist and their roles within the Nevada Oral Health Program. We are grateful for the array of collaborative partnerships and extensive DPBH support that has contributed to our success.

Mission

The mission of the Nevada Oral Health Program is to protect, promote, and improve the oral health of the people of Nevada. The Oral Health Program and its partners collaborate to promote optimal oral health for Nevadans across the lifespan.

Strategic Aims

1. Data Acquisition and Dissemination: Assess and track disease rates and improvements in oral health to determine the oral health needs of the residents of Nevada.
2. Dental Education and Clinical Expertise for the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy: Increase public and health care provider's knowledge and raise awareness of the importance of oral health and on matters relating to oral health.
3. Collaborative Partnerships and Community Outreach: Promote and improve access to high-quality dental care and oral disease prevention services.
4. Strengthen Organizational Infrastructure and Capacity: Explore sustainability.
5. Evaluation of Program Activities through Public Transparency and Reporting to the Advisory Committee on the State Program for Oral Health.

Data Acquisition and Dissemination

Objective 1.1–FY18 Dental Workforce Survey

Designed and distributed an electronic survey to all licensed Nevada dentists and dental hygienists (~3,000) to determine at-risk populations served and identify workforce gaps. Results will be compared to the 2007 dental workforce survey. The Oral Health Program 2017 Dental Workforce Survey closed in July 2018. Survey results are being analyzed and the report will be available on the Oral Health Program website. Partners include: Primary Care Office, Medical Education Council of Nevada, and UNLV SDM Special Care Dental Clinic.

Objective 1.2-Silver Diamine Fluoride

Oral Health Program is working to shape Nevada's policy on silver diamine fluoride. Silver diamine fluoride has the potential to not only halt the cariogenic process but to also prevent new cavities. Its use is particularly needed in pediatric populations living in rural and underserved areas. Silver diamine fluoride is a revolutionary new medicament that is called the "silver-fluoride bullet". The state policy will be submitted to the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners for an advisory opinion for statewide use of silver diamine fluoride by all licensed dental professionals.



TABLE OF PROGRESS

Strategy	Lead	Progress	Comments
Clinical Expertise for the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy			
Objective 3.6- Liberty Dental Plan	Capurro	Met-Continuous	
Objective 3.7-Periodicity Schedule	Capurro	Met	
Collaborative Partnerships and Community Outreach			
Objective 4.1- Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health (MCAH)	Team	Met	
Objective 4.2- Dental Access for Rural Communities, Medical Miles for Rural Smiles (MM4RS)	Capurro	Met	
Objective 4.3-Southern Nevada Dental Health Clinic	Capurro	Met	
Objective 4.4-UMC Hospital Emergency Room Redirect Pilot Program for Non-Traumatic Dental Conditions	Capurro	Evolving	
Objective 4.5-Clinical Community Outreach	Capurro	Met-Continuing	
Objective 4.6- Organizations/Committees	Capurro/White	Met-Continuing	
Strengthen Organizational Infrastructure and Capacity			
Objective 5.1-Support Nevada's Graduating Dental and Dental Hygiene Students	Capurro/White	Met	
Objective 5.2-Oral Health Program Staff	Capurro/White	Evolving	
Objective 5.3-Oral Health Program Relocation	Capurro	Met-Continuing	
Objective 5.4 –Strategic Planning Meeting	Capurro/White	Met	
Evaluation of Program Activities through Public Transparency and Reporting to the Advisory Committee on the State Program for Oral Health			
Objective 6.1- Advisory Committee on the State Program for Oral Health(AC4OH)	Capurro	Met-Continuous	



TABLE OF PROGRESS

Strategy	Lead	Progress	Comments
Data Acquisition and Dissemination			
Objective 1.1- FY18 Dental Workforce Survey	Capurro	Evolving	Completing final report
Objective 1.2-Silver Diamine Fluoride	Capurro	Evolving	
Objective 1.3-HCQC Project	White	Evolving	
Objective 1.4- CDC Water Fluoridation	Capurro	Met-Continuous	
Objective 1.5-2017 Head Start(HS) Basic Screening Survey(BSS)	White	Met	Report on OHP website
Objective 1.6-Reports and Proposals	Capurro	Met	
Objective 1.7- Grant Support	Capurro/ White	Met-Continuous	
Dental Education			
Objective 2.1-Conference Presentations	Capurro	Met	
Objective 2.2-Oral Health Program Preceptorships	Capurro	Met-Continuous	
Objective 2.3-Media-Oral Health Messaging	Capurro	Met-Continuous	
Clinical Expertise for the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy			
Objective 3.1-AB223 (BDR 38-544)	Capurro	Met-Continuous	
Objective 3.2-State Oral Health Leadership Institute	Capurro	Met	
Objective 3.3- Orthodontic Claims Research	Capurro	Met	
Objective 3.4-Ambulatory Surgical Centers	Capurro	Met-Continuous	Workgroups Continuing
Objective 3.5- Prior Authorization Requirements for the Nevada Medicaid and Nevada Check Up Dental Program	Capurro	Met-Continuous	



Data Acquisition and Dissemination (continued)

Objective 1.3-HCQC Project

Developed a survey for nursing home administrators and group homes on oral health practices. The questions were based on Nevada's needs as well as surveys successfully completed in other states. The Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance (HCQC) disseminated the survey to assess the oral healthcare needs in long-term care facilities.

Objective 1.4-CDC Water Fluoridation

On a monthly basis community water fluoridation data from daily water samples in Southern Nevada are entered into the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Water Fluoridation Reporting System. This entitles Nevada for eligibility of the annual CDC Water Fluoridation Award. Nevada received the CDC Water Fluoridation Award in 2017 which was presented to the Southern Nevada Water Authority and City of Henderson at the February 2019 AC4OH meeting.

Objective 1.5-2017 Head Start (HS) Basic Screening Survey(BSS)

Conducted an open mouth basic screening survey of 400 Head Start (HS) children in 16 rural Head Start sites throughout Nevada. HS children received fluoride varnish applications and oral hygiene instructions and supplies while parents received a Community Dental Resource Inventory. Parents of children with urgent dental issues received additional information and a follow-up phone call. **Partners include:** Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development, Community Health Alliance, and State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD). Available on the Oral Health Program website at: http://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/OH/Oral_Health_Program_Reports-Basic_Screening_Surveys/

Objective 1.6-Reports and Proposals

DHHS Fact Book	Statewide Policy: Urgent Dental Issues Identified During Community/School Screenings
Fluoride Varnish Application State Policy for Community Nurses	Medicaid Proposal to Extend Periodontal Benefits to Adult Patients with Diabetes
Maternal Child Health Annual and Quarterly Reports	Medicaid Proposal to Include Public Health Endorsed Hygienists as Recognized/ Reimbursable Provider Type
WIC Annual Report	Nassir Sealant Report
Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors Annual Synopsis	Medicaid-CHIP State Dental Association Annual Report



Data Acquisition and Dissemination (continued)

Objective 1.7-Grant Support

CDC-RFA-18-1880 (submitted/unfunded) —State Actions to Improve Oral Health Outcomes—5 year \$370,000 per year grant with the purpose of decreasing dental caries, oral health disparities, and other chronic diseases comorbid with poor oral health. The focus of the grant application was to build the administrative capacity of the Nevada Oral Health Program and in so doing establish a strong foundation for the delivery of oral health preventative programs throughout the state.

HRSA 18-014(submitted/unfunded) —Grants to States to Support Oral Health Workforce Activities—4 year \$400,000 per year grant designed to support the development and implementation of innovative programs to address the oral health workforce needs. The focus of the grant application was to increase the availability of oral health services in rural Nevada through utilization of public health endorsed dental hygienists (PHE RDHs) in association with local dentists and coordinate treatment planning and case management through teledentistry. The grant centered on Elko, Mineral, Nye, and Pershing Counties.

HRSA grant 19-025(submitted) —Rural Health Network Development Planning Program—1 year \$100,000 grant designed to increase availability of sustainable health services for populations living in Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs). The focus of the grant application was to increase the availability of health care services in medically underserved communities in rural Nevada through network development of critical access hospitals and community partners. The grant centered on Eureka, Lander, Lincoln, and White Pine Counties.

Delta Dental proposal entitled, *Rural Nevada Expectant Mother Medicaid Dental Access Program* submitted for funding in conjunction with Southern Nevada Health District. Project was highly rated but was not funded.

Dental Education

Objective 2.1-Presentations

***Nevada Public Health Association Annual Conference**—Presented *Medical Miles for Rural Smile, Making Waves in the Desert* on September 27, 2018 with Ms. Jessica Woods.

***Nevada Health Conference**—Presented *Medical Miles for Rural Smiles, HPV, and Oral Cancer Screening* on October 15, 2018 with Ms. Jessica Woods.

***Medical Miles for Rural Smiles-Nevada's Innovative Solution to Meet the Needs of Residents in Dental HPSAs** abstract submitted to the National Oral Health Conference Planning Committee for the national conference scheduled for May 2019.

*Partnered with Dr. Max J Coppes, MD, chair of Pediatrics at Nell J. Redfield Children's Hospital, Pediatrician-in-Chief for Renown Children's Hospital, to design presentation for **Nevada Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics** in September 2018.



Strengthen Organizational Infrastructure and Capacity (continued)

Objective 5.3-Oral Health Program Relocation

Physical transfer of all Oral Health Program related materials and dental equipment from Carson City to Las Vegas. The new Oral Health Program office will be located in space provided by the UNLV School of Dental Medicine.

Objective 5.4-Strategic Planning Meeting

The Oral Health Program team under the direction of DPBH Deputy Chief, Mr. Duane Young identified priorities within the Division, set goals to align with the Governor's vision, and developed a plan to meet priorities. The results of the May strategic planning meeting were developed into a strategic outline and activities plan.

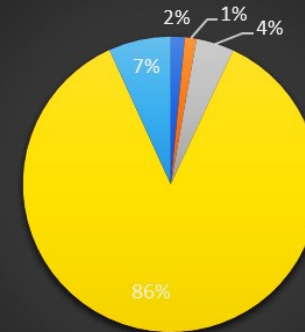
Evaluation of Program Activities through Public Transparency and Reporting to the Advisory Committee on the State Program for Oral Health

Objective 6.1-Advisory Committee on the State Program for Oral Health (AC4OH)

The Oral Health Program provides oversight of the quarterly meeting logistics for the Advisory Committee for Oral Health (AC4OH). This includes following open meeting law protocol to develop quarterly meeting announcements, agendas, meeting minutes, and meeting materials. The Oral Health Program provides the Advisory Committee on the State for Oral Health with advice regarding public dental health, makes recommendations and seeks information and advice from the Advisory Committee.

BUDGET

Oral Health Unit RGL 4668-Budget



Travel Equipment Operating Contracts OHP Projects



Collaborative Partnerships and Community Outreach (continued)

Objective 4.5-Clinical Community Outreach

MM4RS (all events)—Collaborated with the Southern Nevada Health District to provide \$33,000 worth of no-cost dental services to 121 individuals and oral hygiene supplies, nutritional information, and dental health education to 131 students at McGill Elementary School and 50 seniors at the Ely Senior Center.

Tonopah, Nye County Social Services Event—Partnered with Liberty Dental Plan to deliver dental sealants, fluoride varnish applications, dental screenings, periodontal assessments, dental cleanings, oral cancer screenings, Medicaid enrollment assistance and oral hygiene supplies.

Remote Area Medical (RAM)— Participated in October 5th event in Pahrump. Patients of all ages were provided dental screenings, cleanings, extractions, and education. Volunteers provided \$222,685 worth of dental services to 462 patients.

Objective 4.6—Organizations/Committees

Advisory Committee on the State Program for Oral Health (AC4OH)
Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors Member
ASTDD Dental Public Health Resource Committee
ASTDD Healthy Aging Committee Member
ASTDD State Dental Director Mentorship Program Member
Community Coalition on Oral Health (CCOH)
Northern Nevada Dental Coalition for Underserved Populations (CUSP)
Heart Disease and Stroke Task Force
Nevada Health Centers Board Member
Nevada Public Health Association Board Member-at-Large
Nevada Statewide Maternal and Child Health Coalition
Patient Centered Medical Home Subcommittee for Chronic Disease Council
Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) Steering Committee
Rural Health Network Member
Southern Nevada Mobile Health Services Collaborative
Strengthen State Systems to Improve Diabetes Management and Outcomes
Water Fluoridation Committee with American Fluoridation Society.

Strengthen Organizational Infrastructure and Capacity

Objective 5.1-Support Nevada’s Graduating Dental and Dental Hygiene Students

Since 2017, the program annually provides a certificate of achievement and letter from the Nevada Oral Health Program to dental and dental hygiene graduates of UNLV School of Dental Medicine, Truckee Meadows Community College, and College of Southern Nevada. In 2018, the program presented the awards in a formal presentation at the UNLV SDM Class of 2018 Senior Gala. Additionally, the program presented the awards and gave a graduation speech to the College of Southern Nevada Dental Hygiene Class of 2018.

Objective 5.2-Oral Health Program Staff

Oral Health manager Danielle Cubit worked in the program from February to May 2018. State Public Health Dental Hygienist position posted on December 1st. Interviews will begin March 2019.



Dental Education (continued)

Objective 2.1-Presentations

Presented with Dr. Iser of the Southern Nevada Health District a presentation to the White Pine County Board of County Commissioners in August and the Nye County Board of County Commissioners in December on the results of the Medical Miles for Rural Smiles (MM4RS) project. Both the Nye and White Pine County Commissioners respectively wrote letters of support for the project continuation to Dr. Kotchevar. Additionally, the Oral Health Program was asked to provide dental services at the Nye County Social Services event in January in Pahrump.

Objective 2.2-Oral Health Program Preceptorships

- ◆ Cathie Carrierro—completed a Master in Education degree at UNLV. She worked with the Program to research oral health training modules being used by WIC clinics across the nation and proposed methods to enhance the oral health training for WIC staff in Nevada.
- ◆ Heidi Longi—completed a dual Doctorate of Dental Medicine and Master in Public Health degree at UNLV. Her capstone project focused on designing and implementing a national study and survey on health assessment before school entrance policies.
- ◆ Marcin Chmiel—completing a Master in Public Health degree at UNR. Project will focus on water fluoridation in Nevada.

Objective 2.3-Media-Oral Health Messaging

- i. Immunizations and Oral Health for the Halloween Season: <https://youtu.be/H1L6QwsnjqQ> with the Southern Nevada Health District
- ii. National Children’s Dental Health Month, February 2019: <https://youtu.be/Ae4nOGO8Uqo> ; <https://youtu.be/PcqCjzitUwc>; <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZH5hvYxLRTX5r5W2wDziiA>
- iii. Promotional video created with Dr. Cicon Gewelber for Special Olympics, Healthy Athletes Special Smiles.
- iv. UNLV School of Dental Medicine interviewed Dr. Capurro for two articles that will run in the University Medical Center Wellness Newsletter. The first article highlights BDR: 38-544 and the second article highlights the Medical Miles for Rural Smiles project.

Clinical Expertise for the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy

Objective 3.1-AB223 (BDR 38-544)

Assemblywoman Neal is sponsoring AB223(BDR 38-544), “revises provisions governing certain dental care.” The concept paper for this legislation was created by the Oral Health Program. Assemblywoman Neal is working with the Nevada Oral Health Program and the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy to develop legislation to expand Medicaid dental services for adults with diabetes.



Clinical Expertise for the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (continued)

Objective 3.2-State Oral Health Leadership Institute

Dr. Capurro, Mr. Zenteno, and Ms. Shauna Tavcar completed the 12-month professional development program in July. Nevada was selected along with Medicaid and oral health teams from Rhode Island, Minnesota, and Louisiana. The Institute provided support for the Medicaid and oral health teams to develop a stronger collaborative relationship and assisted the teams in producing a joint oral health transformational state project. The Institute began October 2017 and Dr. Capurro and Ms. Tavcar provided a formal presentation on the effects of the Institute on their state systems in July. The joint pilot project was a medical-dental integration which focuses on access to dental care for Nevadans living in dental health professional shortage areas (HPSA) and includes a state plan amendment for Medicaid recognition of public health endorsed dental hygienists. See Medical Miles for Rural Smiles for more information on project design.

Objective 3.3-Orthodontic Claims Research

Nevada has been selected as a participant in a research project being conducted by Dr. Greg Oppenhuizen of the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) in conjunction with the Angle Society-Midwest and the University of Detroit/Mercy. This research study may solidify or alter the AAO Committee on Medically Necessary Orthodontic Care's decision to standardize qualifying medically necessary criteria for orthodontic cases. The Oral Health Program continues to oversee Nevada's participation in this research.

Objective 3.4-Ambulatory Surgical Centers

Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASC) Investigation continues to determine the impact in access to care following alignment of ASC rates with Medicare fee schedule for code 41899 in Nevada. A survey was disseminated to dental professionals to aid in determining how ASC rate realignment has impacted the provider community and patient's access to care.

Objective 3.5-Prior Authorization Requirements for the Nevada Medicaid and Nevada Check Up Dental Program

Service limits and CDT alignment edits are being reviewed and revised.

Objective 3.6-Liberty Dental Plan

Provide clinical consultation for the management of the contract with the dental benefits administrator. Review and assess access to care, utilization of services, and reporting data using quality measures endorsed by national entities.

Objective 3.7-Periodicity Schedule

Examining Nevada Medicaid and CHIP dental fee schedule and payment policies against pediatric dental periodicity schedule. Provide recommendations to align dental payment policies in Nevada Medicaid and CHIP Program with established pediatric dental periodicity schedules.

Collaborative Partnerships and Community Outreach

Objective 4.1- Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health (MCAH)

MCAH supports the Oral Health Program Manager position. The OHP Manager assists the program in meeting its goals and provides administrative support for the program.



Collaborative Partnerships and Community Outreach (continued)

Objective 4.2-Dental Access for Rural Communities, Medical Miles for Rural Smiles(MM4RS)

From April 9th to June 30th, the Nevada Oral Health Program in partnership with the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) visited Esmeralda, Nye, and White Pine Counties in a combined effort to provide much needed dental services and immunizations to rural communities in Southern Nevada. The pilot project which spanned three months included 11 clinical sessions. The trip successfully delivered 221 preventive dental sealants, 117 fluoride varnishes, 120 dental screenings, 18 dental cleanings, oral cancer screenings, oral health and nutritional information, Medicaid enrollment paperwork, and oral hygiene supplies. In addition, 102 immunizations (42 Shingrix, 20 Tdap, and 40 other including HPV, Hep A, PCV13, MMR) were provided to 57 clients. Through this pilot project, over \$30,000

Objective 4.3-Southern Nevada Dental Health Clinic

In 2018, the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners approved the Oral Health Program's request to recognize the Southern Nevada Health District as a dental public health clinic. With this designation, the Southern Nevada Health District becomes the only health department in Nevada that is listed as a dental public health clinic. The Southern Nevada Health District used this distinction to hire a dental public health endorsed dental hygienist and build a dental clinic for health department patients. The SNHD Dental Clinic continues to treat dental patients and receives administrative support from the Nevada Oral Health Program.

Objective 4.4-UMC Hospital Emergency Room Redirect Pilot Program for Non-Traumatic Dental Conditions

A pilot program is being built with University Medical Center of Southern Nevada (UMC SN), one of the 50 largest public hospitals in the United States, Liberty Dental Plan, and the Oral Health Program to use Liberty Dental Plan's teledentistry software and consultants in an effort to improve patient outcomes and reduce medical expenditures associated with non-traumatic dental conditions within hospital emergency departments. The purpose of this pilot project is to provide dental consultation and case management for emergency room patients at UMC that present with a non-traumatic dental condition, to prevent unneeded opioid prescriptions, and to reduce repeat visits to the emergency department for the same condition.

Objective 4.5-Clinical Community Outreach

Special Olympics Special Smiles (4 events)—provided oral health screenings, fluoride varnish application, oral health education, and mouth guards to hundreds of Nevada Special Olympics Healthy Athletes in both Las Vegas and Reno.

Give Kids a Smile—A national American Dental Association event. Volunteer at February 2018 event with the Nevada Dental Association and UNLV School of Dental Medicine to provide dental care for children in Southern Nevada.

Project Homeless Connect Event—Collaborated with Nevada Homeless Alliance to provide dental screenings, oral cancer screenings, fluoride varnish, and a dental home referral to 105 participants. Services were provided in partnership with UNLV School of Dental Medicine, Southern Nevada Health District, and Future Smiles.

