

Steve Sisolak
Governor
Richard Whitley, MS
Director



DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Division of Public and Behavioral Health
Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.



Lisa Sherych
Administrator
Ihsan Azzam, Ph.D., M.D.
Chief Medical Officer

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 11, 2020
TO: Advisory Committee on the State Program for Oral Health
FROM: Dr. Antonina Capurro, State Dental Health Officer
RE: Nevada Oral Health Program Weekly Operations

Division of Public and Behavioral Health Staff continue working diligently to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency. This memo highlights activities surrounding the work of the Nevada Oral Health Program.

Nevada Oral Health Program Update:

Infrastructure —

- C23271 was fully executed on 8-11-2020 which provides funding for the Oral Health Program for SFY21.
- The contract provides funding for program staff. Positions have been offered and accepted for a public health dental hygienist and Medicaid contractor. Onboarding is currently underway. An administrative assistant is also being identified.
- Interim Finance Committee on August 20th reviewed plans for OHP positions and funding sources. Proposed transfer of Dental Health Officer to DHCFP discussed.

Advisory Committee on the State Program for Oral Health (AC4OH) —

- Working on a number of tasks assigned to OHP from the 7.29. AC4OH meeting.
 - AC4OH asked OHP to draft a LOS for an advisory opinion submitted to the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners(NSBDE) by Dr. Capurro on inclusion of dental professionals into NAC 652.397. AC4OH approved, signed, and submitted the LOS to NSBDE. The advisory opinion will be heard by NSBDE on 9.1.2020.
 - AC4OH asked OHP to draft resolutions for the Nevada State Medical Association House of Delegates. Two resolutions were submitted entitled, *Alternative for School-Based Health Services* and *Vaccination for Public Health and Safety*.
- Two AC4OH board positions have opened. One renewal letter received.

Projects —

1. C #22479 with the Nevada Department of Education for \$35,760 to provide preventive dental services and collect oral health surveillance data from children in licensed childcare centers throughout rural Nevada.
 - a. Project is moving forward. ASTDD Statistician has been hired to assist in designing the sample size and scope of the project.

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- b. Nevada Registry approval has been granted for the webinar portion of project. Webinars have been scheduled and will begin at the end of September.
 - c. IRB exempt documentation has been submitted and consent forms will be mailed to centers shortly.
 2. Nevada Action Network: A collaborative project between OHP, DHCFP, Liberty Dental Plan(LDP), the dental benefits administrator for Nevada Medicaid Dental Services, and Teledentistry.com is being designed to educate and delivery oral health care service to Medicaid enrolled school-age children throughout the state. Dr. Capurro and Dr. Tongsiri have drafted the project proposal, outline, and assessment questionnaire.
 - a. Several meetings have taken place between Dr. Capurro and Liberty Dental Plan
 - b. Dr. Capurro submitted an advisory opinion to NSBDE for approval to mail fluoride varnish to clients after allergy clearance and supervise a parent's application onto their child's teeth via a teledentistry platform.
 - c. Presentation on this project provided to state dental directors as part of ASTDD Dental Directors meeting.
 3. C189438 between Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division through Nevada Clinical Services and UNLV Special Care Dental Clinic for \$252,520 dollars to expand hospital and non-hospital services for adult patients with special healthcare needs while increasing dental educational through clinical rotations and launching a dental desensitization event with the Nevada Oral Health Program. This contract was facilitated by and scope of work/budget written by the Oral Health Program.
 - a. Implementation meeting between partners has been facilitated by OHP.
 - b. Associated meeting minutes written by OHP and submitted to group.
 4. School-Based Sealant Program National Survey to identify the factors that consistently led to successful school-based sealant programs as defined by sustainability which will be further subdivided by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) funding history and by impact on state metrics which will be measured by Medicaid preventive standards through CMS 416, PDENT and HEDIS reports. This survey will inform best practice policies for school-based sealant programs in Nevada.
 - a. A series of meetings has occurred since February. Final meeting with ASTDD Sealant Subcommittee took place this week to review and edit the survey design. Survey is now being sent to a content expert for final evaluation. Survey will be distributed in September/October.
 5. AB223- DHCFP has been authorized to apply for an 1115c Demonstration Waiver. OHP is working to hire the professional contractor as part of C23271 who will assist Dr. Capurro and the Medicaid dental team to create the waiver application and draft the associated legislative report due in January 2021.
 6. SB366-waiting on the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners to finalize appointment of Dr. Capurro to Dental Public Health Subcommittee to create regulations for the implementation of SB366.
 7. Weekly work with the DHCFP dental team to address provider concerns, provide clinical review of disputed claims, and internal consultation.
 - a. Preparation for dental RFP and waiver renewal process.
 - b. Denture delivery form and pregnancy referral form being created for approval.

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- c. 1115 demonstration waiver outline in progress and review of previous applications being evaluated.

Legislative Initiatives —

1. Dental Health Telemedicine/ Teledentistry
 - a. Partnered with the Nevada Dental Association to create a letter of support for inclusion of teledentistry into the BDR being drafted by the Patient Protection Commission
2. Expansion of Scope of Practice for Dentists to Prescribe and Administer Vaccinations.
 - a. Coordinated effort is underway. The Nevada State Board of Pharmacy and DPBH Immunization Program are providing support. The DPBH immunization survey results have been provided for analysis.
3. Legislative Health Care Committee
 - a. Oral health bill accepted for the 81st (2021) Session of the Nevada Legislature. BDR has been drafted for acceptance by the Legislative Health Care Committee. BDR focuses on teledentistry, dental emergency responders, and dental loss ratio.
 - b. Work session on BDR scheduled for Monday September 14th at 9am:
<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/InterimCommittee/REL/Interim2019/Committee/1570/Meetings>

Outreach —

- o Dr. Capurro delivered the following oral hygiene supplies to the Nye County Coalition for back-to-school events. Over 400 students attended their most recent back-to-school activity.

Oral Care Kits for children 6+ (toothbrush, toothpaste, and floss)	432
Placksmaker kits (dental cups, timers, toothbrush)	60
Oral B electric toothbrush bundle-gingivitis system	4
Oral B electric toothbrush bundle for children	4
Adult toothbrushes	100
Seal Out Tooth Decay Booklet	12
A Healthy Smile for Your Young Child Brochure	150
Una Sonrisa Saludable Para Tu Nino Pequeno Folleto	150
A Healthy Smile for Your Baby Brochure	150



- o OHP continues to provide messaging and guidance for the dental community at large.