

**DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE STATE PROGRAM FOR ORAL  
HEALTH (AC4OH)**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE: Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**TIME: 9:00 a.m. PST**

**Meeting Locations**

- This is a virtual meeting and there is no physical location to attend
- Microsoft Teams meeting
- [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- **Call in**
  - 775-321-6111
  - Phone conference ID: 363 326 74#

*Note:* Agenda items may be taken out of order, combined for consideration, and or removed from the agenda at the chairperson’s discretion.

**1.) Call to Order and Roll call – Chair Dr. Lisa Collier order 9:03 AM**

<i>Members Present:</i>	<i>Members Excused:</i>
<b>Dr. Lisa Collier, Council Chair</b>	Dr. Tina Brandon Abbantangelo
<b>Dr. Whitney Bryant, Vice Council Chair</b>	Dr. Catherine McCarthy
<b>Ms. Terri Chandler</b>	Dr. Jose Cucalon Calderon
<b>Dr. Bryce Putnam</b>	
<b>Ms. Lynn Short</b>	
<b>Dr. Tara Van Orden</b>	
<b>Mr. Ben Prohaska</b>	
<b>Ms. Jennifer Bradley</b>	
<b>Dr. John Koopman</b>	
<b>Dr. Maryam Tabrizi</b>	

**2.) PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public testimony under this agenda item may be presented by computer, phone, or written comment. To provide public comment telephonically, dial 775-321-6111. When prompted to provide the Meeting ID, enter: 363 326 74#. Due to time considerations, each individual offering public comment will be limited to not more than **three (3)** minutes.

**No Public Comment.**

3.) Review and possible approval of meeting minutes from August 16, 2024. – **Action Item**

THERE WAS A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 16, 2024, BY DR. TARA VAN ORDEN. THERE WAS A SECOND TO THE MOTION BY DR. BRYCE PUTNAM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4.) Update of Oral Health Program. **Informational – Jannette Gomez, Nevada Public Health Dental Hygienist, Division of Public and Behavioral Health**

Nevada was awarded the CDC Grant; it is titled State Promotion of Strategies to Advance Oral Health. This is a three-year cooperative agreement providing recipients with \$380,800 per year. 35 states applied for this grant and only 15 were awarded. Nevada has not had this grant in about 20 years. The topics to be addressed in this grant includes increasing access to evidence based preventative dental services; school-based sealants and fluoride varnish programs, and to provide technical assistance to community water fluoridation activities. This grant focus population is communities with 10,000 people or less. The other topic is improving oral health and chronic disease surveillance using secondary data sources to describe oral health trends. This focuses on medical, dental integration of adult patients with type 2 diabetes. The Oral Health Program will be looking at these patients' medical visits and seeing if the patients were referred to a dentist and if the patients went to a dentist or a primary care office and provide data reports. The next topic is increasing awareness of infection prevention and control guidelines specifically for the underserved communities; making sure that the locations of the school-based programs are up to date with all the infection prevention and control procedures. The Oral Health Dashboard is now available to the public on the Office of Analytics website: [DHHS Office of Analytics](#). The Dental Public Health Collaborative that was originally ran by Ms. Jessica Woods is now being taken over by UNLV. The Collaborative program is to help involve public health hygienists to try to get those hygienists out into the areas of need and educating the hygienists on how to do that. This program is also open to dental assistants, dentists, and anybody interested in dental public health. The Tonopah Dental Clinic is still running but are still seeking volunteers. Currently the Dental Assisting Program has started in the Elko High Schools. There are 29 students participating: four students being from West Wendover and 25 students being from Elko and Spring Creek. TMCC is administering this program with help from Liberty. Jannette Gomez is hoping to expand this program to Churchill County in the beginning of fall of 2025.

5.) Nevada Medicaid Dental Benefits and 1115 Waiver update. **Informational – Dr. Keith Benson, State Dental Health Officer, Division of Healthcare Financing and Policy**

For the 1115 Dental Waiver, DHCFP received approval and authority from CMS on July 1<sup>st</sup> of 2024. The 1115 Waiver is to provide new adult dental benefits for Medicaid members who have type 1 or type 2 diabetes and who have already participated at specific clinics; FQHC clinics and Tribal Health Centers that have dental capabilities. Dr. Keith Benson is working diligently working on reports that are due to CMS. DHCFP is working with their third-party vendor, Gainwell, to develop how providers are going to bill for these services. This is going to require tracking encounters for members as well as shadow billing for providers. Gainwell gave Dr. Benson a projection of July 2025 to have those tasks up and running. Dr. Benson would like to find an alternative to have members start receiving these important services before July 2025.

This will require some interest from participating clinics as well as CMS authority to allow finding an alternative. *Following questions came from Dr. Tabrizi to Dr. Keith Benson.*

1. What is the annual maximum for the ID Waiver Program? Dr. Benson responded with \$2,500 per calendar year. The Medicaid member will have to go through a Medicaid provider and must be through Medicaid's ID waiver benefits as well as the Medicaid Fee Schedule.
  2. Will a particular hospital offering a specific process for hospital privileges and will those hospitals open for referrals from the School of Dental Medicine for the new Geriatric Special Healthcare Needs Clinic? In Dr. Keith Benson experiences, every hospital or ambulatory surgery center has their own specific credentialing requirements. UNLV's general practice residency is associated with the UMC (University Medical Center) hospital, and that hospital provides that anesthesia operating room care for the residents there. Please reach out to Dr. Keith Benson if your interest in looking at other facilities.
  3. Was there anything significant addressed by the lobbyists on lobby day in DC, particularly about individuals with disabilities? Dr. Whitney Bryant is on the Committee for Governmental Affairs and there is not anything with individuals with special needs currently, but the committee is working on it.
- 6.) Update on American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for school based oral health programs. **Informational- Ms. Lynn Short, Sealant Coordinator, Division of Healthcare Financing and Policy**

ARPA currently has 7 grantees this school year implementing programs across the state and all programs needed to be operational by October 15<sup>th</sup>. There were no new programs, so all the grantees are moving forward with where they had left off last year. Even though the ARPA funding ends June of 2026, due to the guidelines, ARPA is required to follow all monies needed to be encumbered by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024. ARPA is in the process of amending the contracts that were not done this summer to include their school year 2025-2026 funding. One of the terms of this funding is semiannual reporting, which has been consistent through last year. As well as post funding, which specifically means all funded programs, no matter when those programs were funded within the three years of the ARPA funding, are going to have to submit data to the state through June 2028. ARPA is hoping that this reporting will document sustainability of the programs as well as the long-term impact of this ARPA funding and maybe provide some new funding to expand the program after June of 2026. To support the related expectation of the CDC Cooperative Agreement funding that was mentioned, ARPA has updated their data collection tool earlier this fall to include data points that are required by CDC's Seal evaluation tool. The CDC developed an application in which a program or individual program can input information into that application, and it can measure the efficiency related to costs of school-based sealant programs as well as the effectiveness or the impact of the school sealant program. To support the collaboration with school-based sub recipients, Lynn Short will be working on infection control training this school year, which is a required component of the CDC cooperative agreement.

- 7.) Organized dentistry update from the Nevada Dental Association. **Informational – Marianna Kacyra**

The Nevada Dental Association's CGA Committee is working closely with the NDA's lobbyists. There is not an exact language for the legislative, but the NDA is working on a few bills; external review process for dental insurance claims, temporary and immediate licensure for dental hygienists, same day denial provision, and Medicaid rate review. Marianna will have more information on the language for the next AC4OH meeting. The NDA would like to invite the AC4OH Committee to the Oral Health Day on April 15<sup>th</sup> to have as many representatives as possible. The NDA had their House of Delegates from Nevada. At the ADA Meeting, the NDA was able to address concerns regarding communication. The NDA has been busy with the renewal season. The NDA is continuing to support the Nevada health programs and mentioned that the Tonopah Dental Clinic is still looking for volunteers, if interested please reach out to the AC4OH Committee members.

8.) Organized dentistry update and report from the Nevada Dental Hygienists' Association.  
**Informational – Christy Davis; Hanna Lee**

Hanna Lee is the new president for the National Hygienist Association. The NDHA's community service chair, Julie Stage, has provided connections with two schools, one in Tonopah and one in Carson City with the help of the Colgate virtual van visits. The NDHA is trying to do some outreach through those schools and two other schools in the Las Vegas area. The Colgate virtual van visits provide virtual education, goody bags for the students, and provide information to the parents. Governmental affairs are continuing to support the NDHA's dental hygiene compact as there is a hygiene shortage. The NDHA is supporting hygienists to be able to receive their license quicker after having practicing dental hygiene in the last two years in the passing of the new Nevada jurisprudence examination. The NDHA's membership is diminishing and the NDHA is trying to push against that with phone calls and texts to get more people involved. The NDHA's newly elected president-elect is working on local perks for Nevada local hygienists to add more value to the NDHA's membership. The NDHA's local components are having their installation and voting for their officers next week. The NDHA had their installation of officers in September with their House of Delegates all the NDHA's PRs and PBYs were passed. The NDHA hosted a CE last month for the National Dental Hygiene Association month. The NDHA is having a leadership meeting coming up to train the new incoming board of trustees. The ADHA annual conference is going to be in Long Beach, California.

9.) LIBERTY dental update. **Informational – Bre Stark; Dr. Afshin Arian**

The Platinum Practice status is Liberty's proprietary award program for GPNC offices in recognition of their outstanding quality, performance in providing comprehensive patient care, service and accessibility. When determining for this platinum practices, Liberty looks at many factors such as quality profile of the office, which includes several grievances or any potential quality issues that the office may have. Liberty also looks at the accessibility and appointment times through our secret shopper calls as well as any prod-based abuse through our utilization and claim review team. The benefits of being a platinum office is that any documentation requirement for pre-order office is built to have increased exposure on provider directory searches and prioritization is given in receiving new member assignments to these offices. Our goal is to

increase the number of our platinum offices to try to educate the offices and this reward is given yearly based on the rolling data Liberty collects from the offices in their network. There is always a chance for any office that may have not qualified in the past to show an improvement and become a platinum practice. Liberty has rolled out their list of platinum offices in September for year 2024. This year we have 140 offices that were rewarded through this program, which is more than 50% of all the eligible child Medicaid offices and 32% of Liberty's entire network. Liberty is looking forward to having more offices on this list as it reduces a lot of administrative burden as well as the offices that are part of this program.

Ms. Terri Chandler asked when will the review for practices to be considered for a platinum status happen? Dr. Arian stated that September of 2025 is the cutoff date, but Liberty usually waits like two to three months for all the claims to come in before Liberty decides. By December 2025 Liberty will roll out the new list of platinum offices. Laurie Curfman will reach out to Trish to have her connect with Terri Chandler on providing data on dental plans enrollment as Liberty is a member with the NADP.

- 10.) Discussion and possible action regarding the status of the two AC4OH Workgroups (the Workgroup addressing the Silver Diamine Fluoride Advisory Opinion and the Workgroup regarding Intellectual and Developmental Disability dental providers, hospital privileges and training. Action Item**

THERE WAS A MOTION TO AMEND THE DATE ON THE LETTER AND RESEND IT TO THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS AND THEN ALSO SEND THE LETTER TO DR. BENSON TO PASS ALONG TO ANYONE AS HE SEES FIT BY MS. TERRI CHANDLER. THERE WAS A SECOND TO THE MOTION BY DR. BRYCE PUTNAM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

THERE WAS A MOTION TO DISSOLVE THE STF WORK GROUP WITH THE CAVEAT THAT WE WOULD REINTRODUCE THAT AS A FUTURE AGENDA ITEM BY DR. BRYCE PUTNAM. THERE WAS A SECOND TO THIS MOTION BY DR. TARA VAN ORDEN. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Lisa Collier, Dr. Keith Benson, Dr. Bryce Putnam, and Jannette Gomez will meet to discuss their intellectual development and disabilities work group.

- 11.) Medicaid rates discussion. Informational- Dr. Keith Benson**

Nevada Medicaid has determined that there is an access problem in fee for service for comprehensive dental cases requiring anesthesia and for adults with disabilities in the ID waiver program. To try to address this access, DHCFFP is completing a rates SPA (State Plan Amendment) and if approved by CMS, Medicaid will increase the dental codes D9922 and D9923, which dental anesthesiologists get reimbursed for general anesthesia in dental offices. This will be a substantial rate increase from \$57 per 15-minute unit to \$120 per 15-minute unit. This will be on par with private health insurance. There is also going to be a 15% pediatric enhancement for

children under the age of 6. Medicaid is hoping that it is going to allow some providers who work in that dental anesthesiology space to provide more care, and it is really directed at fee for service, but Medicaid is hoping that their Liberty partners will help in the Las Vegas and Reno market. Another fee increase is for the adoption of the G0330 facility fee, and this will replace the 41899 code for those full mouth rehab cases that occur in hospitals and ASC's. Currently Medicaid has that 5% increase, so currently the 41899 pays \$969 and a little bit more than that in the 5%. With this G0330 it will be at \$1,700 per case. Medicaid is hoping those substantial changes on how Medicaid reimburses anesthesia and those partners that provide the anesthesia, will give more access in the fee for service markets. There is going to be a public hearing for those rate increases on Christmas Eve December 24<sup>th</sup>. With approval from CMS, Medicaid's projected effective date would be January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. This will require a rate system update which should happen within the quarter so Medicaid can recycle claims back to January 1<sup>st</sup>.

THERE WAS A MOTION FOR THE AC4OH COMMITTEE TO HAVE A SPECIAL MEETING TO APPROVE A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE RATE INCREASE TO PRESENT AT THE PUBLIC HEARING ON DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> BY DR. TARA VAN ORDEN. THERE WAS A SECOND TO THIS MOTION BY DR. BRYCE PUTNAM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**12.) Discussion of recommendations for future agendas. – Action Item**

Jannette will send out calendar invites per email to everyone on the AC4OH Committee to make sure February 21<sup>st</sup>, May 9<sup>th</sup>, August 15<sup>th</sup>, and November 14<sup>th</sup> works for the AC4OH Committee. No need to make a motion.

**13.) PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public testimony under this agenda item may be presented by computer, phone, or written comment. To provide public comment telephonically, dial 775-321-6111. When prompted to provide the Meeting ID, enter: 363 326 74#. Due to time considerations, each individual offering public comment will be limited to not more than **three (3)** minutes.

**No Public Comment.**

**14.) Adjournment. Dr. Lisa Collier – Chair**

THERE WAS A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:00 AM BY MS. TERRI CHANDLER. THERE WAS A SECOND TO THE MOTION BY DR. BRYCE PUTNAM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

AGENDA POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

On the Internet at the Division of Public and Behavioral Health website

<https://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/OH/dta/Boards/AC4OH-Home/>

and at <https://notice.nv.gov/>

AGENDA EMAILED FOR POSTING AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

Division of Public and Behavioral Health, 4220 S. Maryland Parkway, Bldg. A, Suite 100, Las Vegas, NV

Division of Public and Behavioral Health, 4150 Technology Way, Carson City, NV

Division of Public and Behavioral Health, 727 Fairview Drive, Suite E, Carson City, NV

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to call into the meeting. In the event of Microsoft Teams application has technical difficulties, the meeting may be conducted by teleconference from the same location. If special arrangements are necessary, please notify Jannette Gomez, Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness, Division of Public and Behavioral Health, in writing please sent to, 4150 Technology Way, Carson City, NV 89706 or by calling (775) 901-1035 as soon as possible and at least five days in advance of the meeting. Written comments in excess of one typed page on any agenda items which requires a vote are respectfully requested to be submitted to the Oral Health Program at the above address five (5) calendar days prior to the meeting to ensure that adequate consideration is given to the material.

Supporting materials for the agenda can be found on the State Oral Health Website:

<https://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/OH/dta/Boards/AC4OH-Home>

or you may contact Jannette Gomez, Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness at 775-901-1035 or by email at [jannettegomez@health.nv.gov](mailto:jannettegomez@health.nv.gov)

Meeting: [Click here to join the meeting](#)