

Oral Health Coalition of Alabama (OHCA)
Meeting Minutes
Alabama Department of Public Health Oral Health Office
201 Monroe Street
Montgomery, Alabama
February 14, 2019

Members Present:

Cathy Caldwell, Director, Children's Health Insurance Program, ADPH
Dr. Conan Davis, University of Alabama Birmingham School of Dentistry
Dr. Danny Rush, Dental Director, Alabama Medicaid Dental Program
Dr. Lillian Mitchell, University of Alabama Birmingham School of Dentistry
Dr. Nathan Smith, Dental Director, Jefferson County Department of Health
Dr. Stuart Lockwood, Retired Dental Director, ADPH
Dr. Tommy Johnson, Dental Director, Oral Health Office, ADPH
Jeff Andrews, Collaborations Coordinator, Alabama Primary Health Care Association
Jennifer Morris, Oral Health Coordinator, Oral Health Office, ADPH
Lee Chapman, MPH Student, Intern
Michele Warren, Alabama Dental Association
Robert Boyles, Primary Care Rural Health, ADPH
Samille Jackson, Family Health Services, ADPH
Schellie Francis, Executive Director, Cahaba Valley Health Care
Summer Macias, Fluoridation Coordinator, Oral Health Office, ADPH
Trellis Smith, Head Start Collaboration Office
Wayne Miley, CHCAMS

Minutes/Approvals:

Dr. Johnson called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone and asked that previous meeting minutes be approved as presented. The minutes were motioned for approval, seconded, all favored and approved. Members and guests introduced themselves and stated their organization affiliation.

Old Business:

Mrs. Morris reported the Oral Health Office held its second Annual Share Your Smile with Alabama contest. There were 58 third grade student entries from 27 counties. Winners were, one female winner, Aiyanna Velazquez from Arab Elementary School, Arab, Alabama; one male winner, Brian Escobar from Kitty Stone Elementary, Jacksonville, Alabama. Mrs. Morris stated the focus of the contest was to select two children to represent and promote good oral health practices, and emphasize the importance of children preventive treatment between the ages 1-17 in addition to encouraging optimal community water fluoridation.

Mrs. Macias reported the Oral Health Office was able to receive a \$100, 000.00 grant for community water fluoridation. The Oral Health Office will use grant funds to assist water systems in need of purchasing new equipment to start fluoridation, and/or update equipment to continue fluoridation. The five systems selected as grant recipients were:

- The City of Marion, receiving \$24, 650.00
- The City of Brewton, receiving \$24, 000.00
- Daphne Water Works, receiving \$17, 477.95
- Anniston, receiving \$14, 322.00
- and GUSC of Bessemer receiving \$19, 873.90

Dr. Johnson reported the Oral Health Office also obtained a \$25, 000.00 grant to assist the Pay It Forward Program. This program helps individuals receive dental care services by banking volunteer work hours at different

facilities/organizations throughout Montgomery and the River Region. All grant funds used will assist Pay It Forward with their marketing and staff expenses.

New Business:

Wayne Miley, Director of the Program Workforce Development at Primary Care Association of Mississippi, was the guest speaker. He reported the Primary Care Association has 21 FQHCs with 200 locations across Mississippi and only two without oral health programs. The Association uses a sliding scale for patients seeking oral health care services. He stated DentaQuest started the Strengthening the Oral Health Network and asked states for participation. The goal of the network was to evaluate state programs through data received from each community help center and examine the needs to improve oral health programs. In order to sustain this program, the National Oral Health Innovation and Integration was established. The networks proved to benefit more funding and the decision made to have an Oral Health Tri State Summit. The summit would provide information on a variety of topics, the needs of practitioners and educational activities. The summit would include the states of Mississippi, Tennessee and Georgia. This year the summit will be in Birmingham, Alabama, June 14 – 15, 2019.

Cathy Caldwell, Director, Children's Health Insurance Program, ADPH reported the All Kids insurance program covers the HPV Vaccination for both males and females. She stated the vaccination series is recommended to start as early as age 9; although the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends routine HPV vaccine for females and males start at the age of 11 or 12. The vaccination series has been highly recommended for females ages 13 thru 26 and males ages 13 thru 21 who have not been vaccinated.

She reported the coverage for this vaccine is part of the Affordable Care Act Preventive Services, which states any health insurance plan that is an ACA compliant plan has to provide coverage for this vaccine. Dr. Danny Rush, Dental Director, Alabama Medicaid Dental Program collaborated this statement by stating the HPV vaccine is covered through Medicaid. Cathy also relayed information from the 2017 documented data from the All Kids program stating 25.5% of the enrollees received the HPV vaccine. As of today, according to Blue Cross Blue Shield, the rate for All Kids participants receiving the vaccine is 28.7%, indicating the best rate seen in recent years.

Stuart Lockwood reported that according to researched data in Alabama, there is more oral pharyngeal cancer in males than cervical cancer in females. In October 2018, the Alabama Dental Association passed a policy for dental professionals to promote the HPV vaccine. He introduced Lee Chapman, intern, MPH Student in the school of Public Health at UAB to give a presentation on the Burden of Oral Disease. Her presentation included the following information:

- *By age, adults 18 years old and older in the state of Alabama tended to have less likely visited a dentist or dental clinic in the past year when compared with adults in the United States as a whole*
- *By gender, a much higher percentage of women in the United States reported visiting a dentist or dental clinic in the past year than women in Alabama and males in both the United States and Alabama.*
- *By income, as income decreased, visits to a dentist or dental clinic also decreased for each income category in both the United States and the state of Alabama. A higher percentage of those with an income of at least \$25,000 reported visiting a dentist or dental clinic in the past year compared with adults in the United States alone*
- *By race, adults aged 18 and older and who were of White race in both the United States and the state of Alabama had the highest percentage of people who visited a dentist or dental clinic when compared with adults of other races in the United States and the state of Alabama. In addition, a higher percentage of adults in each category of race in the United States reported visiting a dentist or dental clinic in the past year compared with adults in each category of race in the state of Alabama.*
- *The prevalence of decay and untreated tooth decay in primary and permanent teeth of Alabama's kindergarten and 3rd grade children was highest in those who were in 3rd grade, those who were African American/Black and those in which 50% or more were eligible for the free or reduced lunch program.*
- *Asian or Hispanic race and Black race, respectively, were reported to have the highest percentages for need of urgent oral treatment*

- People in Alabama's dental district 6, the Tuscaloosa area, reported the highest percentage with untreated dental decay in the state, followed by District 3, Dothan area, and District 5, Gadsden area. District 9, Auburn area, reported the lowest percentage of untreated decay compared with other districts in the state of Alabama.
- People in dental districts 5 (Gadsden area), 6 (Tuscaloosa area), and 9 (Auburn area) reported the highest needs of urgent treatment in the state of Alabama compared with those in other dental districts. Those in dental districts 4 (Monroeville area), 6 (Tuscaloosa Area), and 7 (Birmingham area) reported the lowest percentages of those in need of urgent treatment compared with those in other dental districts.
- The prevalence of periodontal disease in 30 year olds is greater than or equal to the same number of adults in the United states as in Alabama
- In 2018 there were more than 300, 000 people living with oral cancer with Alabama reporting 750 new cases per year
- In 2018, with 62 being the median age, there were 10,500 oral cancer deaths, with only 38% being diagnosed at Stage 1
- Tobacco and alcohol are responsible for 75% of head and neck cancers with HPV now the third major risk factor
- Oropharynx cancer is a subset of oral cavity and pharynx cancers in which 75% is HPV related. It is unlikely detected in early stages, due to the difficulty of visualization on the base of the tongue and lingual and palatine tonsils

Dr. Johnson stated in reference to Alabama's kindergarten and third grade children; the Oral Health Office is currently awaiting the final list from ASTDD with the name of schools selected for the Basic Screen Survey.

Dr. Johnson displayed a preview of the design for the cover page and body of the State Oral Health Plan and asked for comments and/or suggestions.

Members discussed state oral health goals and reviewed organization stewardship implementation in which stakeholders will be responsible. Suggestions, in red, were to add the following:

Objective 3.7 Promote cessation of over-prescribing opioids to patients by following newest ADA guidelines.

- 3.7.1 Require dentists to continue their education on prescribing opioids and other controlled substances. (Stakeholders added- Providers and Public Health Agencies).
- 3.7.2 Limit the prescribing of opioids to a 7-day period for acute pain. (Stakeholders added - Providers and Public Health Agencies).
- 3.7.3 Encourage all dentists to use the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP). (Stakeholders added - Providers and Public Health Agencies).

Objective 5.5 Promote preventive measures to dentists, medical providers, parents and children related to contracting HPV

- 5.5.1 Recommended HPV vaccine at age 11-12 years for boys and girls, although a range from 9-26 years of age is acceptable. (Stakeholders added - Providers and Public Health Agencies).
- 5.5.2 Design and disseminate pamphlets to educate schools, parents, children, dentists, and other medical providers in ways to prevent contracting HPV thus decreasing risk of oropharyngeal cancer. (Stakeholders added - Coalitions/Councils, Community-Based Organizations, Providers, Public Health Agencies and Educators).

Dr. Johnson ended the meeting-asking member to email him with their suggestions for revisions or additions to the State Oral Health Plan organizational categories. He reminded members the next coalition meeting is May 9, 2019 in Birmingham, room 600 at the School of Dentistry.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:

Dr. Richard Simpson, Chair

Linda Haigler, ASA-Oral Health Dept.