

OrOHC K-12 Committee Minutes 9-10-2021

Present: Jessica Dusek, Flor Flores-Mendez, Melissa Garza-Schmidt, Laura Geelan, Brett Hamilton, Tom Holt, Laurie Johnson, Jodi Loper, Yadira Martinez, Laura McKeane, Robin Moody, Molly Perino, Karen Phillips, Alicia Reidman, and Carolyn Tziu

Excused: Kim Bartholomew, Carrie Peterson, Liz Wyles, Linda Mann, Trina McClure-Gwaltney, Melissa Freeman

Meeting was called to order, agenda acknowledged, and minutes reviewed.

Dashboard, website (healthyteeth.us), and Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/Healthy-Teeth-for-a-Lifetime-103720055147942>) were reviewed.

COVID Update

Laurie presented a snapshot of COVID now, since so much information is related to the increase in pediatric cases and pediatric hospitalizations, variants of concern and variants of interest, and school mask policies nationwide (see Power Point).

Updates of Various Local and National Organizations

The Oregon Community Foundation's Healthy Teeth, Bright Futures Coalition and the HTBF K-12 Workgroup: **Tom Holt** reported that the workgroup is communicating with a consultant, the Oregon Department of Education (ODE), and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to develop oral health education curriculum. The ODE has indicated that it will endorse and promote this curriculum and will also promote school dental sealant programs at the appropriate time. **Trina McClure-Gwaltney** and the Healthy Kids Outreach Program/Mercy Foundation has provided the basis for curriculum content. Regarding translations, the workgroup will determine the languages needed and will co-develop curriculum for these populations (rather than just translate from the English). The current budget is in the range of \$140,000-150,000, before translation. Thank you to the **Oregon Community Foundation** for taking responsibility for this project.

Laurie provided snapshots of activity from the following organizations: the Dental Quality Alliance, CareQuest, Medicare, and Medicaid.

State Update (on Power Point)

Karen Phillips presented an update of state activities. Temporary rules for school dental sealant programs were developed. Permanent rules will be developed to incorporate emergency situations, so the rules do not have to constantly be opened with other events similar to COVID. OHA trainings are available on the website (www.healthoregon.org/sealantcert) and some continuing education credits are offered. The 2017 Smile Survey online publication is nearing conclusion. The next Smile Survey will be conducted one year later than usual – in 2023, rather than 2022.

Senate Bill 111 (2017 Session) (on Power Point)

Laurie shared the report to the legislature regarding the pilot program for billing Medicaid for school health care services. The report can be found at <https://www.oregon.gov/ode/students-and->

[family/healthsafety/medicaid/2020%20Report%20to%20the%20Oregon%20State%20Legislature%20on%20SB%20111%20School%20Medicaid%20Pilot%20Project.pdf](https://www.oregon.gov/Health/HealthSafety/Medicaid/2020%20Report%20to%20the%20Oregon%20State%20Legislature%20on%20SB%20111%20School%20Medicaid%20Pilot%20Project.pdf)

Laurie said her hope is that health services provided in the schools will ultimately be able to be billed to Medicaid and to private insurance companies. **Alicia Reidman** commented that even if private insurances were billed, some families cannot afford the copay. **Laura McKeane** discussed the complexity of billing appropriately. CCOs have certain expectations of the Dental Care Organizations they contract with. Laura's CCO (AllCare Health) passes on the incentive payments they receive from OHA to their contracted DCOs, which in turn reinvest in outreach programs. She said there is much work being done on value-based payments through the Alternative Payment Methodology (APM). However, right now is the "perfect storm" with COVID, staff changes, and mandates.

Review of Survey

All surveys can be found at <https://healthyteeth.us/k-12-committee/>

The 9-10-2021 survey results were reviewed. Meeting participants added updates to their survey results. There was discussion regarding the following: School scheduling; assuring schools about sealant program safety protocols; the slowing of services due to enhanced infection control, spacing, and cohorts; staff turnover of school staff; staff (medical and school) leaving due to COVID vaccination mandates; difficulties even discussing mandates; exemptions – what happens when a program allows exemption to vaccination, but the school does not.

Assistance to Programs

Programs mentioned the increase in staffing needs and the increase in supply costs.

Robin Moody mentioned that the Oregon Medical Group Management Association has free PPE the hospitals have consolidated. Laurie forwarded the contact information to the Committee. Contact Laurie if you need that information again (laurie.johnson230@gmail.com).

The OCF spent considerable time and money supporting school dental sealant programs. OCF is now focused on policy development. They have many connections, though. **Laura McKeane** recommended that programs contact their CCO if they need help. It is important that programs include in any request the specific dollar amount needed, what it would be spent on, and a way to report on how assistance was used.

Respectfully submitted,

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