

OrOHC K-12 Committee Survey – Services Snapshot (9-2-2021)

Three Questions

1. What are your current plans for serving the schools in the fall (e.g., Are your schools scheduled/scheduling? Has the Delta variant changed your plans? Do you feel prepared?)
2. Have you been able to retain your staff through the summer? Do you plan to retain your staff through next year?
3. What are your needs for funding? We have funders who are interested in helping.

1. What are your current plans for serving the schools in the fall (e.g., Are your schools scheduled/scheduling? Has the Delta variant changed your plans? Do you feel prepared?)

Kyle Allen, School Based Health Center Manager, Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center: We have not scheduled schools yet, but have an MOU with the district and are starting the process at the school level. The Delta variant is a concern. I'm hearing from D3 direct that when they went to schedule schools only 50% so far have committed.

Molly Perino, Dental Program Manager, Community Health Centers of Benton and Linn Counties: I/we are hopelessly optimistic nervous Nellys around here. We have been in contact with all of our schools and forging ahead with plans for business as usual, with full anticipation of having to shift gears/approach in a day's notice. We have many dates on the books for screening and services, with lots of tentative spots held. We feel good about our on-hand supply of PPE, moderately okay about the supply chain, and a sense of anxiousness all around. We were able to provide services in a few schools in the 20/21 year who we did not get to serve in 19/20 and it was disheartening to see the increase in caries in the students we saw, and there was a HUGE increase in kids who could have benefitted from sealants, definitely a smaller # of return forms. I don't know that we can do much more than to be prepared for the variables.

Vanessa Rabine, Community Health Centers of Benton and Linn Counties: We are having schools start to reach out to schedule. Our plan is to continue like we did at the end of the 20/21 school year, using the modified technique and no compressors.

Linda Mann, Director Community Outreach, Capitol Dental Care: We plan to be back into all our schools this year pending their approval. We are still in the process of scheduling them. We do plan to offer schoolwide screenings first in the fall, followed by coming back for sealants.

Jessica Dusek, Dental Health Coordinator, Salem-Keizer School District: Currently we have 20 (low-income) elementary schools confirmed for their annual school-based dental screenings. The logistics will be different, as we cannot bring a whole classroom of students into a screening area that doesn't allow for three feet of space between each person in the room. This detail may slow our process, such that schools with enrollment about 500 students may take two days to complete. We have also relied heavily on the volunteer clerical assistants at screenings, and that will be different this year. As our volunteers are a rotation of approximately 30 Assistance League members who are all over the age of 65, we are allowing them out of this duty (except for any who are highly motivated and wish to continue).

To Salem-Keizer School District's benefit, due to Capitol Dental Care's Community Outreach Program need to re-strategize their efforts, our 2021-2022 school year's school-based dental screenings will be largely staffed by Capitol. This will be a true collaborative effort!

Carolyn Tziu, Community Dental Program Manager, Neighborhood Health Center: We have around 90% of our schools scheduled for this school year. Schools have been on board for us providing our usual screen/seal services on campus, provided they remain open. We feel prepared because this past year gave us ample time to develop our new infection control guidelines and clinical setup. The Delta variant may end up changing our plans, but we are prepared to remain flexible and adjust as we learn new recommendations or if schools need to close again. If schools do close at some point, we are prepared to continue offering services on weekends using our local clinic as a base or at the high school's health center (as we had done during the pandemic this past school year).

Trina McClure-Gwaltney, Healthy Kids Outreach Program Manager, Mercy Foundation: We are serving our schools starting the 3rd week of September. We will be mainly working out of our vans/mobile units. We were planning to add sealants back in this school year as we had only been providing screening, fluoride varnish, silver diamine fluoride and connection to care this last year. We are tentatively adding sealants back in utilizing the modified glass ionomer technique. We will see how the first couple of schools go and determine if we will continue to move forward with it. At this point, our schools are still planning on keeping what we have scheduled, but there is a lot of unknowns. We feel somewhat prepared because we planned to go with previous year's guidelines for the first 3 schools since we were not hearing definitely from OHA what we needed to do. We knew those guidelines would be safe and prudent.

Alicia Riedman, Dental Prevention Program, Community Health Centers of Lane County; President Oregon Board of Dentistry: We are scheduled for all of our Head Start sites starting the September 20th through October 22nd. We are on schedule to serve the elementary school kids in starting in October. We delivered our permission packets to almost all of our schools last week. At this time, we only have all-school screenings scheduled. Pre-COVID we combined our all-school screenings with our varnish and sealant days, but due to COVID-19 and staffing we will most likely not combine all of these services on the same day. We feel prepared for the upcoming school year. We will definitely be flexible and patient. I am sure things will look a bit different with cohorts - i.e....schools will not have 3 different grades in the gym at the same time for all school screenings! (School schedules it that way as they go to different stations for other health screenings.) It will be a much longer day as we wait for cohorts to clear out before others come in. Again, this is for the all-school screenings, not our sealant program. Our sealant/varnish program will also be at much slower pace as well due to cohorts. Of course, pre-screening our students for COVID-19 before sealants are placed will take time as well. Every new step added takes time, so that means more time in each school, less kids seen each day.

Kellie Green, Community Health Centers of Lane County: Thus far we are planning to return to the schools this fall. We have dropped off all our permissions and have scheduled some of the all-school screening dates. We are a bit short staffed right now as a couple members of our team retired, others were pulled to IOH, and another took a position with a different department. We are sure looking forward to getting back in to see our kiddos though!! It will

look different with smaller clinics being held and most likely we won't be able to run both varnish and sealants in the same day until more staff is hired.

Courtney Long, Dental Care Coordinator, South Lane Children's Dental Clinic: We are planning on doing school wide screenings this fall. From there we are going to schedule schools, but have not been doing that at this time until we see how the first month of school plays out with COVID. We are prepared but cautious about how our program will be affected. I am especially worried about low acceptance rate from parents.

Carrie Peterson, Tooth Taxi Program Manager: The Tooth Taxi plans to move forward, scheduling how we normally would and making adjustments if needed along the way. We are scheduled through the fall and are working on the winter/early spring. The Delta variant has not changed how we plan to move forward.

2. Have you been able to retain your staff through the summer? Do you plan to retain your staff through next year?

Kyle Allen: Yes, we retained our staff throughout the summer. Yadira Martinez will be pursuing dental therapy education so we will likely need to hire a new hygienist to fill her role in the sealant program.

Molly Perino: Thank goodness, yes! I used some of the OCF funding for existing programs that was granted last year to cover costs for the outreach coordinator and to purchase extra PPE and different sealant material to be able to offer GIs with the modified technique. In order to maintain staffing, some dental staff was reassigned to support the pharmacy and medical side in our organization, until we are in a place where outreach can resume at prior years' capacity. As a program, we are being extended a lot of grace in light of the circumstances with the promise of us being able to return to a robust outreach program in the coming year/s.

Vanessa Rabine: Yes, we have retained our staff through the summer, and we do hope to retain our staff through this next year.

Linda Mann: Yes, most of them. Yes!

Jessica Dusek: Prior to summer break, I coordinate for Capitol Dental Care's dental sealant teams to visit multiple summer program sites. The importance of this is not only for the students to benefit, but also for the necessity of providing Capitol's staff with adequate work schedules. During the summer, Capitol staff and the school program staff coordinate logistics from the distribution/collection of sealant consent forms to the setting up of portable equipment in a variety of settings. Through the school year, Capitol staff will be able to maintain necessary work hours by conducting school dental screenings--which are much needed especially at this time as there were no school-based dental screenings during the 2020-2021.

Carolyn Tziu: Yes, we have retained all staff through the summer and will retain them through next year.

Alicia Riedman: We have lost 2 EPDHs due to retirement, both had already planned this right before COVID-19 hit, so the timing was a coincidence. We lost one EPDH and one Office Assistant 2 Bilingual to our Integrated Oral Health Program, and one Office Assistant 2 Bilingual

to EOC due to a promotion. So, we have a few spots to fill, but jobs are posted and interviews begin soon. The rest of our team is back in office and ready to go. Our staff generally stays (most of us have been here 15 years) as we are a stable FQHC.

Kellie Green: I answered part of this already. In addition, all of us who are still here plan to remain for years to come!

Courtney Long: We do not retain our staff as we are a 10-month program. However, our staff from previous years is returning.

Carrie Peterson: We were able to retain our staff and keep working throughout the summer. Our current staff dentist will be leaving later in the fall. I'm optimistic that we will be able to retain our remaining staff through the next year.

3. What are your needs for funding? We have funders who are interested in helping.

Kyle Allen: We collect most of our consent forms in the September and October school months. With the Delta variant beginning to surge at the start of the school year, my concern is that parents won't participate thereby lowering our overall financial viability for the year. Financial support for dental coordinators to do additional communications to parents and schools on the importance of these dental services and the safety of our program would be helpful.

Molly Perino: Staffing cost!! Hands down. We are spending nearly twice the amount of time on site in schools due to social distancing rules, enhanced cleaning/disinfection processes, and no volunteers able to enter the school to assist with escorting kids to and from class. Made even more complex if the school is on a staggered schedule and multiple days are needed to complete care. Followed quickly by PPE and supplies which are astronomical in cost in comparison to years past. Gloves have gone from \$13.00 per box up to \$65.00 per box at times. If we are going to resume using portable compressors, we will need to invest in some retrofitting of existing units to aid in the reduction of aerosols, or look into new units.

Vanessa Rabine: This question would have to be answered by Molly and she already submitted a response.

Linda Mann: Incentives for permission slip returns! The better the incentives, the more participation we receive.

Would also love to purchase scrub tops with our logo on them for sealant staff.

Jessica Dusek: Capitol Dental Care does a great job providing services in the summer. It would be helpful to have funds for our school district's dental program staff to be readily available to help families navigate follow-up care. It is not until mid-August that I return to work to begin sorting through "treatment needs. More of our students would benefit if we could provide screenings at more schools. With additional funding we could expand our outreach. We expect to provide screenings at 23 (of our 42) elementary schools. With additional funds we could increase our infrastructure to serve more elementary schools and include the dental screening intervention to lower-income

middle and high schools. Our school and dental program staff have an established process for promoting and tracking subsequent follow-up care.

Carolyn Tziu: Revenue has been low this past year. Any help with funding our part-time positions for this school year would be helpful, especially considering that we don't know how many services we will be able to provide with Delta. Funding for clinical supplies or oral hygiene supplies is also always helpful.

Trina Gwaltney: We are in need of additional funding to support our program. Our program has taken a hit because of the inability to have the normal fund raisers like we do for our programs and suspect that our largest event that occurs first week of December will be cancelled or scaled down again this year.

Alicia Riedman: FQHC, so not sure this is applicable.

Courtney Long: Our funding needs include sealant material, paper supplies, fluoride varnish and of course staffing.

Carrie Peterson: After 13 years on the road our current Tooth Taxi is nearing retirement. We are in the process of having a new one built. There have been significant delays due to COVID, but we are hoping it will be ready late summer 2022. We certainly have funding needs for equipment on the new van and are always looking for funds to allow us to continue to travel the state providing care.