



**Benton, Lincoln, Linn Regional
Oral Health Coalition of Oregon (Regional
Oral Health Coalition-ROHC)
Joint Meeting with Benton County, Lincoln County
and Linn County Oral Health Coalitions
Meeting Summary
Microsoft Teams
November 16, 2021
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

Attendance: Britny Chandler, Shelagh Baird, Kassi Coleman, Jen Hanson, Dawn Johnson, Linda Mann, Sommer McLeish, JoAnn Miller, Molly Perino, Kaz Rafia, DDS, FAGD, Oregon Dental Director, Paul Smith, Kaylynn Todd, and Shelley Hazelton

Welcome:

Britny Chandler welcomed everyone to the meeting and led introductions.

Britny Chandler noted that she has been providing a Coalition update to the Coast to Cascades Community Wellness Network (CCCWN) and the CCCWN Steering Committee.

Dr. Kaz Rafia is the new Oregon Dental Director. Dr. Rafia noted that the state has convened a new dental workgroup to look at increasing oral health provisions in the region.

Meeting Minutes:

The August 16, 2021 meeting minutes of the Benton, Lincoln, Linn Regional Oral Health Coalition of Oregon Joint Meeting with Benton County, Lincoln County, and Linn County Oral Health Coalitions was reviewed. Highlights included:

- Communities Helping Addicts Negotiate Change Effectively (C.H.A.N.C.E.) has a dental chair and is interested in providing a clinic and providing access to dental services for low-income adults in Linn County.
- There was discussion around needs and trends and we will continue with this discussion at this meeting.
- We heard updates to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Oral Health Grant.
- There were edits made to quarterly template.
- Paul Smith was going to reach out to the Parenting Success Network. Paul Smith did follow up with Sommer McLeish. Sommer McLeish noted that she does provide oral health information to families through the Parenting Success Network.

- Shelagh Baird is working with Christian Moller-Andersen to get the word out on A Smile for Kids program and orthodontic care for underserved youth in Lincoln County. *Shelagh Baird noted that she has contacted the Lincoln County School District and will be providing information. Shelagh Baird also noted that she would be following up with Dennis Stoneman on the East Linn County Dental Voucher Program.*

The August 16, 2021 meeting minutes of the Benton, Lincoln, Linn Regional Oral Health Coalition of Oregon Joint Meeting with Benton County, Lincoln County, and Linn County Oral Health Coalitions were accepted by consensus.

C.H.A.N.C.E. Dental Clinic Discussion:

Britny Chandler reported on the C.H.A.N.C.E. Dental Clinic.

- Britny Chandler noted that she has reached out via email to Amelia Wyckhuyse and hasn't head back from her. She is no longer the practicing Interim Director. *Britny Chandler noted that she will be reaching out to someone on the C.H.A.N.C.E. Board.* There was an initial meeting held and follow up occurred. Britny Chandler also noted there have been discussions on relocating dental services from the Albany Inreach Clinic.
- JoAnn Miller also noted that she has also not heard any further information on the C.H.A.N.C.E dental clinic.

CCCWN Presentation:

Britny Chandler shared information that she reported on at the CCCWN meeting.

- The Vision and Mission was shared for the Benton, Lincoln, Linn Regional Oral Health Coalition of Oregon.
 - a. **Vision** – The oral health of people in Benton, Lincoln, and Linn Counties is improved through the delivery of evidence based and innovative community health promotion services.
 - b. **Mission** – The Benton, Lincoln, Linn County Regional Oral Health Coalition provides leadership through partnerships in obtaining the necessary community resources for sustaining and integrating oral health as an essential component of overall health of the residents of the region throughout the life cycle.
- Housekeeping Updates:
 - a. **Leadership Change** – Sherlyn Dahl retired and stepped down from Chair in Quarter 4 of 2019. The ROHC unanimously voted for Britny Chandler as Chair. Britny Chandler works closely and in coordination with JoAnn Miller.
 - b. **COVID Interruptions** – Due to the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the ROHC decreased the number of meetings and coalitions to free up time and resources with service providers. Local coalitions were rolled back into the ROHC and the meeting frequency was decreased to quarterly as opposed to every other month.

- c. **Short Resources** – Due to COVID, there has been a turnover of staffing with associated organizations such as Business Analyst, Director, Coordinators, and service providers that have all proven to be difficult to replace during this timeframe. Due to this short in resources, the coalition doesn't have background resources for executing initiatives and with the shortage of providers it has caused a strain in the dental provider network within the Region.
- d. **Meeting Frequency** - As mentioned above, prior to the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic the ROHC met more frequently. To reserve time and resources during an anticipated hospital surge and emergent dental office closures, the coalition decreased the frequency.
- **Long Term Goals** – In 2015 a Needs Assessment was conducted (Oral Health Needs in Benton, Lincoln, and Linn Counties: An Assessment dated February 2015) and a Strategic Plan for Oral Health in Benton, Lincoln, and Linn Counties – 2015 – 2020 was developed. The Strategic Plan was reviewed in 2017 and a Progress Report and Update – 2017 was provided.
- Out of the Needs Assessment – Regional needs were identified around Infrastructure, Prevention, and Workforce.

Infrastructure:

a. **Priority Area 1: Infrastructure:**

- The Benton, Lincoln, Linn Regional Oral Health Coalition's oral health coordinator and a consultant completed a directory of regional oral health data.
 - Target completion date – 2016
 - Status – Completed
- All IHN-CCO Boards and advisory bodies include at least one dental professional.
 - Target completion date – 2016
 - Status – Completed
- Oral health is comprehensively integrated into IHN-CCO activities.
 - Target completion date – 2017
 - Status – Completed
- Oral health coordinators serve residents in each county through public health departments, non-profits, and other entities.
 - Target completion date – 2017
 - Status - completed
- All school-based health centers (SBHCs) integrate oral health promotion and education.
 - Target completion date – 2018
 - Status - Completed
- All federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) integrate oral health promotion and education.
 - Target completion date – 2018
 - Status – Completed

Prevention:

a. **Priority Area 2: Prevention and Systems of Care:**

- Maintain or expand community access to optimally fluoridated water. *It was noted that Gary Lahman let the effort to get Newport water fluoridated. Prior to the vote there was no to little support. Lincoln County didn't vote to pass fluoridated water, but after the vote there was a 30% approval rating in favor.*
 - Baseline – Benton – 2; Lincoln – 0; and Linn - 3
 - Current – Benton – 2; Lincoln – 0; and Linn - 3
 - 2020 target – Benton – Sustain or increase; Lincoln – Sustain or increase; and Linn – Sustain or increase
 - % change result – Benton – 0%; Lincoln – 0%; and Linn - 0%
 - Data source – Benton – Water quality report; Lincoln – Water quality report; and Linn – Water quality report
- Children 0 to 5 on Oregon Health Plan (OHP)/Medicaid with a dental visit in the last year.
 - Baseline – 35.8%
 - Current – 34.8%
 - 2020 target – 10% ↑
 - % change result – 2.8%↓
 - Data source – IHN-CCO
- Children 6 to 9 with decay experience.
 - Baseline – 52%
 - Current – 48.9%
 - 2020 target – 10%↓
 - % change result – 6%↓
 - Data source - OHA
- Children 6 to 9 on OHP/Medicaid with sealants on at least one permanent molar.
 - Baseline – 18.6%
 - Current – 21.7%
 - 2020 target –10pp↑
 - % change result – 3.1pp↑
 - Data source – IHN-CC)
- Eighth graders with decay experience.
 - Baseline – Benton – 63.6%; Lincoln – 73.2%; and Linn – 72.6%
 - Current – Benton – 56.3%; Lincoln – 73.6%; and Linn – 68.4%
 - 2020 target – Benton – 10%↓; Lincoln – 10%↓; and Linn – 10%↓
 - % change result –Benton – 11.5%↓; Lincoln - .5%↑; and Linn -5.8%↓
 - Data source – Benton – OHA; Lincoln - OHA; and Linn - OHA
- 11th graders with a dental visit in the previous year.
 - Baseline – Benton – 79.4%; Lincoln – 75.3%; and Linn – 72.1%
 - Current – Benton – 82.3%; Lincoln – 69%; and Linn – 71.4%

- 2020 target – Benton - 10%↑; Lincoln – 10%↑; and Linn – 10%↑
- % change result – Benton – 3.7%↑; Lincoln – 8.4%↓; and Linn – 1%↓
- Data source – Benton – OHA; Lincoln – OHA; and Linn - OHA
- Emergency Department/Urgent Care utilizations for nontraumatic dental pain.
 - Baseline – 3,635
 - Current – 3,000
 - 2020 target – 10%↓
 - % change result – 17%↓
 - Data source – Samaritan

Workforce:

- a. Partners implemented tele-dentistry.
 - b. Encouraged and supported funding and projects related to expanding the use of Expanded Practice Dental Hygienists (EPDHs).
 - c. Increased volunteer Dentists to participate in voucher accepting programs and dental van outreach.
 - d. IHN-CCO Pilot - Oral Health Equity for Vulnerable Populations.
 - e. The adoption and expansion of the Lincoln County Dental Van Process.
 - f. Coalition partner submitted funding request for recruiting Bi-lingual Dental Assistants through training and onboarding.
 - g. Oral Health Training was integrated at the State Level for Traditional Health Workers (THW's).
 - h. First Tooth and Smiles for Life Training for medical providers, including the nurse stationed at the juvenile corrections facility.
- **Expressed Needs Moving Forward:**
 - a. Adult Dental Clinic based in Albany – C.H.A.N.C.E.
 - b. Albany Adult Voucher Program.
 - c. Expansion of the Lincoln County Voucher Program.
 - d. Increase in regional workforce.
 - e. Expand coverage and outreach for orthodontia services.
 - f. Expand use of community based EPDH's in rural communities (Hospitals, clinics, and community-based locations).
 - g. Continue efforts to reach the child population with education, prevention, and readily accessible treatment options.
 - h. Community-wide denture need.
 - i. Updated needs assessment.

HRSA Rural Health Care Services Outreach Program Oral Health Grant - Co-location Project Update:

Shelagh Baird provided an update on the Oral Health Grant – Co-location Project in Lincoln County.

- Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital on behalf of the CCCWN applied for the HRSA grant for an Oral Health Co-Location project that will place an Expanded Practice Dental Hygienist in Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital (SPCH) and Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital (SNLH). This was in partnership with Capitol Dental Care and Advantage Dental.
- The project will start at SNLH. Karen Hall is the EPDH at SNLH. And Kaylynne Todd will work as the EPDH at SPCH.
- No data has been collected yet for the grant. Shelagh Baird noted she is working with Paulina Kaiser, Evaluator, and will be reaching out to Linda Mann, Karen Hall, and Kaylynne Todd to collect data. We are working at defining workflows and data collection methodologies.
- Karen Hall is currently fully credentialed and has privileges to begin working at SNLH.
- Kaylynne Todd is currently going through the credentialing process and will start working in the middle of March 2022 or earlier if needed.
- Materials, supplies, and equipment for SNLH should be available within the next week.
- Karen Hall has been meeting with staff and providers.

Trends and Needs:

Discussion followed around trends and needs.

- Attendees referenced the “Expressed Needs Moving Forward” as previously shared.
- At the August meeting, there was discussion around the Strategic Plan and Needs Assessment.
- At the state level, Dr. Kaz Rafia is networking across the state and bringing dental partners to the table.
- **Dr. Kaz Rafia** - They are looking at and discussing workforce shortages, targeting EPDH expansion, and implementing tele-dentistry.
- Albany Adult Dental Emergency Voucher Program – We have a clinic through the Albany Boys and Girls Club that functions once a month. There are rules around adults at the Club. We continue to explore C.H.A.N.C.E. and having a dental chair and room for a dental clinic.
 - a. **Kassi Coleman** – Reported on the Albany Boys and Girls Club adult dental clinic.
 - The clinic fluctuates month to month.
 - Sometimes they may have 3-4 adults on a wait list. They do have some individuals that reschedule.
 - The clinic has been slow currently.
 - Miao Zhao is the Clinic Operations Manager that runs this volunteer outreach program.
 - They have a new dentist that started last month, Dr. Gregory Soriano. Dr. Patrick Hagerty is still the Dental Director at the Club. Dr. Gregory Soriano took over as the Albany InReach dentist.
- **Molly Perino** – They have two dentists, Dr. Jay Randell, and Dr. Nina Lavarne. Care is offered on a sliding scale. They are getting people into the clinic. They have rarely used vouchers since COVID hit.

They are providing education and targeting groups such as diabetes management, cancer/remission groups, pregnant/nursing groups, early childhood care facilities, other care facilities, substance use disorder groups, etc. They also distribute oral health kits. They have a list of providers that will help as needed.

- **Dawn Johnson** – Sweet Home Family Medicine – Seen a voucher patient last week. This is the first one in about 3 months. They have been booked way out.
- **Molly Perino** – Linn County – The River Center – They have hired someone to see patients twice a week and provide a hygienist and follow up dentist. They provide x-rays, exams, extractions, and fillings. They can also see Oregon Health Plan patients or patients on a sliding fee scale.
- The Federally Qualified Health Clinic in Lincoln County does dental vouchers. The dental vouchers are coordinated through the Housing Authority of Lincoln County. They provide dental hygiene days and dental vans.
- Albany has the most need for an Adult Dental Emergency Voucher Program.
- **JoAnn Miller** - She oversees the funding that goes toward the voucher programs. She asked about the Benton County Dental Clinic rarely using dental vouchers.
 - a. **Molly Perino** – They have put in a request for funding for 2022 for the Benton County Dental Clinic for 3 dental vouchers, and funding for materials, printing and/or purchase costs for target groups, oral health kits, with most of the funding being used for the oral health kits. Love, INC of Benton County have been giving out dental vouchers and is requesting funding for 15 dental vouchers in 2022 and Strengthening Rural Families has been providing dental vans and requesting additional funding for dental vans in 2022. As far as clients coming in and sending the client out with a voucher, this is not happening regularly. They reserved 10 a year and do still have some left. Love, INC can also refer to the Benton County Dental Clinic.
 - b. **JoAnn Miller** – If there is reduced usage in Benton/Linn Counties – Community Health Centers of Benton and Linn Counties – How viable is the program and at the level it has prior to COVID?
 - c. **Molly Perino** – The demand for dental vouchers is not as great as what it used to be. With walk ins, they get the patient scheduled or referred to the dental van. You would need to talk with Dennis Stoneman regarding the East Linn County Adult Dental Emergency Voucher Program for what he’s seeing with their program. ***JoAnn Miller will follow up with Dennis Stoneman.***
- **JoAnn Miller** – In looking at data for patients going to the Emergency Department, Samaritan Albany General Hospital’s numbers are high for those presenting for dental issues. Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center is reporting the lowest number of patients presenting for dental pain/issues with Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital following as the second lowest.
- **Molly Perino** – Would be happy to see patients in Corvallis. If someone from Albany could put patients on a sliding scale (Not set up as a flat rate), they could see those patients in Corvallis.
- ***A focus for this Coalition going forward would be to look at an Adult Dental Emergency Voucher Program for Albany.***

- Another need is orthodontic services and outreach and coverage for the Oregon Health Plan.
- **Dr. Kaz Rafia** – There has been high level discussions with the State of Oregon around orthodontic services and access to orthodontic services to the community. This applies to handicap and severe malocclusions. There is a meeting on November 18, 2021 related to this. They are collecting information on the impact on and utilization and numbers impacted – Looking at who would utilize, how much, age, severity and looking at possibly implementing as a Medicaid benefit.
 - a. The network of dental plans and dental providers for orthodontics is limited.
 - b. The State of Oregon Health Evidence Review Commission will decide if they will implement based on malocclusion diagnosis.
 - c. **Paul Smith** – There is a work being done to drive down the costs of orthodontics.
 - d. Christian Moller-Andersen will be testifying at the November 18, 2021 meeting in support of recommending that Oregon include handicapping malocclusions.
 - e. **Britny Chandler** – The main effort is trying to implement in the Medicaid benefit.
- **Paul Smith** – We have systems in place that are not very efficient and there’s not a lot for those individuals with disposable income. Are there things that drive down the cost level for orthodontics? We know with overall health and other issues that orthodontics does matter.
 - a. **Dr. Kaz Rafia** – The challenge is with supply and demand. The quality of life is impacted and with those on the different spectrums such as pre-surgical, work, etc. There are lots of quite complex cases. We have approximately 60 orthodontic providers for the State of Oregon up and down I-5. The supply demand is hard to meet and reimbursement plays into it. We need to look at things through an equity lens and realize that the “quality of life” needs to be considered. We see a lower priority due to overall, physical, and whole body of health. What does it mean clinically and ethically?
 - b. Orthodontics is a big investment.
 - c. **Britny Chandler** – Likes the argument “quality of life.”
 - d. **Paul Smith** – Sees patient’s employability and confidence can be diminished when there is not good oral care/orthodontic care and those with lived experience.
 - e. **Dr. Kaz Rafia** – Orthodontics isn’t just one contact visit. It can range from 11-12 visits. All these things are to be considered, and they will bring back in 2022 to discuss and strategize.
- **Britny Chandler** – Expanding EPDH in rural communities in hospital settings – Have an active grant for Lincoln County bringing the EPDH to SNLH and SPCH. There is also the program at Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital. We have received feedback to replicate and bring and bring to other hospitals and clinics. We have the co-location project with Dawn Johnson at Sweet Home Family Medicine. Is there anywhere else where we have placed an EPDH at?

- a. **Linda Mann** – Have some co-location projects in behavioral health settings such as southern Oregon and Lane County – Willamette Valley Treatment Services one day every other week. Also, have a chance to provide an EPDH at Laurel Hill Center. In Lane County, almost have ready to launch – Tiny house dental clinic staffed by a Community Health Worker and Dental Assistant. Individuals are provided an intake and then will see the EPDH. Tele-dentistry off site services are provided and there will be a dentist on site to provide restorative services. Tiny House project is from Oakridge to Florence. There was an EPDH that ran a dental clinic in central Oregon. There was a clinic also in Bend until this year. There is a clinic in Redmond and Madres. The one in Madres is staffed 3-4 days a week with an EPDH and a dentist one day a week with tele-dentistry off site services. Getting ready to duplicate in Brookings.
- **Britny Chandler** – *Will follow up with Molly Johnson from Advantage for an update at the next meeting.*
- *Will continue with review of the Expressed Needs Moving Forward” at the next meeting.*
- There are provider shortages. What about denturists – have we lost some since the pandemic?
 - a. It was noted that we haven’t heard of any.
- **JoAnn Miller** – Trying to identify the denture need. This was discussed at the Oregon Funder’s Collaborative. It has been difficult to identify denture needs. Sent out an email to agencies that we fund and no information was provided on who needs dentures. Would like to find out what the need is in the region and state and what percentage is uninsured or underinsured.
 - a. Is the Oregon Funder’s Collaborative considering funding to do a Needs Assessment?
 - b. **JoAnn Miller** – The intent could be around the denture need – How would we do, where do we start? Try to find where the high need is and if underinsured or uninsured. There’s no quantitative data and would be hard to do a Needs Assessment.
 - c. **Paul Smith** – What about the Veterans Administration (VA) and underserved people in the VA?
 - d. **JoAnn Miller** – *Will talk with Kyle Hatch, Veterans Representative at Samaritan Health Services who works with and provides outreach to veterans in our communities.*
 - e. **Paul Smith** – There are a lot of vets not getting their oral health needs met. This is one population level with unmet needs.
 - f. **JoAnn Miller** – We can look at the Veterans Home in Lebanon and follow up further with Kyle Hatch and discuss with the Oregon Funder’s Collaborative.
 - g. **Paul Smith** – We should also look at the unhoused population and how many.
 - h. **Molly Perino** – Will look at bringing back hygienist once a month with a dentist in January to the Lebanon Veterans Home.
 - i. *We can further discuss at the next meeting.*

2022 Meetings:

Discussed sending out a Survey Monkey for 2022 meetings and whether we will continue having the Regional Oral Health Coalition meet quarterly with the Local Oral Health Coalitions or have the Local Oral Health Coalitions start to meet again. *Britny Chandler will put together a Survey Monkey and send out for feedback.*

Additional Business:

Additional business was discussed.

- ***Provider recognition – Will discuss further at the next meeting.***
- **Oral health trifold** – Britny Chandler noted that we have trifold for Benton, Lincoln, and Linn Counties listing oral health resources. These are outdated and we need someone that could help review and call through the numbers listed to see if they are still active and can be listed as a resource. *Molly Perino agreed to do.*

Adjourn:

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Shelley Hazelton
Community Health Promotion
Department Assistant