



**Benton, Lincoln, Linn Regional  
Oral Health Coalition of Oregon (Regional  
Oral Health Coalition)  
Joint Meeting with Benton County, Lincoln County  
and Linn County Oral Health Coalitions  
Meeting Summary  
Microsoft Teams  
November 17, 2020  
2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.**

**Attendance:** Christy Anderson, Britny Chandler, Kassi Coleman, Samantha Escalante, Rachel Gazeley, Elizabeth Gordon, Nancy Greenman, Linda Mann, Sommer McLeish, JoAnn Miller, Christian Moller-Andersen, Molly Perino, Karla Olsen Smith, Paul Smith, and Shelley Hazelton

**Welcome:**

Britny Chandler welcomed everyone to the meeting and led introductions.

**Review – Meeting Minutes:**

The August 19, 2020 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 presented.

Britny Chandler provided a summary from the August meeting.

- There was discussions around COVID-19 and how it is affecting access to oral health services.
- Emergency Department data for dental services was shared for the InterCommunity Health Network (IHN) population.
- There was a denture report provided and discussion around dentures. ***Britny Chandler noted she will review denture billing codes.***
- The recommendation for 2020 for meetings was to have the local Oral Health Coalitions discontinue meetings and meet quarterly with the Regional Oral Health Coalition.

**Sam Escalante made a motion and Molly Perino seconded the motion to approve the August 19, 2020 meeting minutes as presented. The motion was voted on and unanimously approved.**

## **Update on Schools:**

Linda Mann and Molly Perino provided an update on schools.

- **Linda Mann** – Capitol Dental Care – Schools sealant program in Benton, Lincoln, and Linn Counties - Haven't been able to get in the schools due to COVID. Will pause until January and hope to implement the program in 6 schools in the Spring.
- **Molly Perino** – Benton County – No program in the schools due to COVID-19 and no in person classes. Alsea had a rural exception. Not engaged to have anything in Alsea at this time. They are on a pause until Spring. Have had trainings to follow Oregon Health Authority guidelines for no-aerosol in schools when they are back to in-person. Working with vendor to put something out to parents.
- **Samantha Escalante** – Lincoln County – Working on best way to outreach to families. In contact with agencies. Reports of having issues with kids trying to navigate on-line. One of her biggest issues is trying to figure out what dental offices are open. Of the offices she called, couldn't get an answer or email back. Working off an enrollment sheet if parents check that they have a concern with dental, etc. Working to help families with the Oregon Health Plan and where to go for dental and who is open to meet needs. With the current status of COVID-19 on the Dental Care Organization (DCO) side, which local dental offices are open and closed? Should DCOs send out a letter to let organizations such as schools know their current availability?
- **Linda Mann** – Capital Dental Care - Other than the government mandated shut down briefly Capitol Dental Care offices are open in the area with a few exceptions such as an office in Stayton.
- **Elizabeth Gordon** – ODS/Moda Health – Yes they are open. They just have a backlog.
- **Rachel Gazeley** – Advantage Dental – Lincoln County – Was in Phase 1 for a long time and was only able to see emergency patients. Only within the last month or so since COVID-19 have they been able to see more patients. They have a huge backlog.

With the program in the schools, it seems best to continue as it has been going with the goal to implement the program back in the schools once they are in-person.

Sam Escalante will continue to reach out to clients and help connect to services. Linda Mann noted if there are issues with getting through to offices there is a DCO member service number to call.

***Britny Chandler agreed to put together a reference card and send out to Coalition members.***

## **A Smile for Kids Report:**

Christian Moller-Andersen gave a report on A Smile for Kids.

- A Smile for Kids – Oregon - Provides orthodontic care for underserved youth in Oregon. In 2004, they funded treatment for underserved youth for all 36 counties in Oregon. They are an independent non-profit organization.
- They currently have 181 kids active in braces all over Oregon.

- The typical cost for braces is between \$6,000-\$7,000.
- They work with 64 orthodontists in Oregon.
- In Linn and Benton County they pay \$3,000 for braces and orthodontic services. They take care of in-kind credit.
- The Oregon Health Plan won't cover braces unless it is a cleft palate.
- Those kids that are part of the program are asked to maintain a C grade level and provide 4 hours of community service per month to be in the program.
- Lincoln County – Need more dentists and orthodontists and those that can help with extractions.
- There is plenty of need out there. For the State of Oregon, there are lots of kids that do need orthodontic services.
- Christian Moller-Andersen noted he would share more specifics for our three-county region at the next meeting.

### **Program Updates:**

Program updates were provided.

- **Rachel Gazeley** – Pilot program - Wellness to Smiles Program – Lincoln County – Limited access currently – 3 out of 5 sites operating. Have added perks – OSU Extension Services has provided educational videos that participants can watch and then they can receive a grocery gift card and they also have a lettuce grow kits and a recipe book in English and Spanish that they give to clients. They are seeing clients mostly without insurance. This pilot ends at the end of December 2020. With COVID-19, there were several months that they haven't been able to do anything.
- **Karla Olsen Smith** – Their program has gone well with the Expanded Practice Dental Hygienist (EPDH) at Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital. COVID-19 has affected things and caused barriers. After consulting with the physician and RN, she sees patients in their room, but she also works around the different schedules and has limited time with the patient. She also provides services in the Emergency Department. The pilot program has ended, but Capitol Dental Care is continuing to support the project. ***It was suggested that Karla Olsen Smith and Linda Mann give a presentation at the next meeting on program details.***
- **Molly Perino** – Community Health Centers of Benton and Linn Counties – Received Social Accountability funding through Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center for the current dental voucher program through Benton County with funding also provided to Love INC. and Strengthening Rural Families. The lobbies are not open to the public unless a person is a patient. They are working with Love INC. and they are using some voucher funds differently. Love INC. screens patients and they take care of the dental voucher. She is getting home care kits out. They are doing a good job at getting people back into the clinics.
- **Paul Smith** – Strengthening Rural Families – Dental vans – The dental van was up and operating in May and a couple of dental vans have been provided since then with appropriate COVID-19 measures in place. They have offered some dental kits through preschool to kindergarten programs.

***Paul Smith will provide a list of dental kits that were distributed to Britny Chandler. Capitol Dental Care and Advantage Dental will also provide information to Britny Chandler.***

- **Kassie Coleman** – Boys and Girls Club Albany Dental kid’s program – They are running at half capacity. They have one chair operating. They are working with partners and the Tooth Taxi to reach out to other clubs. They are practicing distance learning and have 75 kids in the building. They are also operating the adult clinic once a month with one chair as well.
- **Molly Perino** – Were providing services in Lebanon and Sweet Home as well before COVID-19 hit. The summer event was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- **Britny Chandler** – Reported that Jeff Blackford at C.H.A.N.C.E. (Community Helping Addicts Negotiate Change Effectively) has a peer support network and they have purchased a new building in Albany. They would like to have a clinic and set up dental. They will be having an open house the first week of December. ***Britny Chandler will follow up with Jeff Blackford to do a walk through the new building. Others interested in the walk-through included Molly Perino, Kassie Coleman, Linda Mann, and Molly Johnson.***
- Molly Perino noted she has toothbrush kits for ages 5-7 and different ranges of sizes and can share if anyone is in need. ***Sam Escalante noted she would take some (high school/adult sizes) and Christy Anderson expressed interest in approximately 25 kits for OB patients. Sommer McLeish volunteered to pick up the kits to deliver to Lincoln County. Elizabeth Gordon noted that she can help provide kits. Samantha Escalante will reach out to the schools in Lincoln County to see if anyone needs kits.***
- The question was asked if Love INC can see patients in Lincoln County. It was noted that funding through the Social Accountability grant is for Benton County only.
- Debra Jones in Lincoln County provided an update to Britny Chandler. The dental grant they have is going well. Her dental office in Lincoln County is COVID-19 compliant with air filter system and PPE. Innovative Concepts has the dental hotline available. They have a list of about 30 people without dental insurance needing dental services and people that are COVID-19 insecure. They had a dental van on January 25, 2020, January 31, 2020, August 25, 2020 and August 26, 2020. They are waiting to see if a dental van will be available on December 11, 2020 and December 12, 2020. The dental vans are for adults. ***Britny Chandler noted she will connect Sam Escalante with Debra Jones to discuss if they would make an exception and see some kids on the dental vans.***

**Denture Population:**

***Britny Chandler will have a report available at the next meeting.***

**Parking Lot Item:**

***Final Strategic Plan – Britny Chandler – Will discuss at the next meeting and what to do as a Coalition.*** Issues of focus include gaps in orthodontic care and dentures and gaps with COVID-19.

## **2021 Meetings:**

Discussion followed on 2021 meetings. *It was agreed to not have local Oral Health Coalition meetings in 2021 and instead have local Coalitions meet quarterly with the Regional Oral Health Coalition.*

## **Available Grants Update:**

JoAnn Miller provided a grants update.

- Both she and Kim Waldrep will be writing a grant proposal to apply for funding for the HRSA Rural Health Care Services Outreach Program Grant. The program would be to have an Expanded Practice Dental Hygienist (EPDH) in the hospitals at Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital (SNLH) and Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital (SPCH).
  - a. The grant is a 4-year grant for \$200,000 a year. HRSA is giving out 45 grants.
  - b. The grant application is due by December 1, 2020.
  - c. The grant would be modeled after the program at Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital.
  - d. Advantage Dental and Capitol Dental Care would be partners on the grant.
  - e. It has been challenging to get dental services for the uninsured and underinsured at the coast. The dental voucher program through Lincoln County Health and Human Services – Federally Qualified Health Clinic, offers dental vouchers, but you do have to be patient of the clinic or sign up.
  - f. If we are successful at receiving the grant, we would roll out the program in year one at Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital with Capitol Dental Care providing an EPDH.
  - g. In year two the program would be implemented at Samaritan Pacific communities Hospital with Advantage Dental providing the EPDH.
  - h. For years 3-4 the program would continue at both SNLH and SPCH.
  - i. Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital sees approximately 240 patients a year for dental needs while Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital sees approximately 360 patients a year.
  - j. It is the hope that representatives from this Coalition would be the Advisory Group for the grant with additional Lincoln County representatives.
  - k. It was noted that Debra Jones is providing dental vouchers in Lincoln County through a partnership with Innovative Concepts and Advantage Dental and Capitol Dental Care. Waldport has been a target area. We have no specific data currently. The Oregon Oral Health Coalition did deposit funds they were holding for the Lincoln County Oral Health Coalition into Innovative Concepts who in turn has allocated some funds for dental vouchers.
- The Oregon Community Foundation Dental Issue Brief that was sent out earlier in the year noted that there is a low percentage of kids being seen by a dentist. We will need to continue to work at providing dental services for kids to make sure all kids are covered.

- It is the hope that the State of Oregon Dental Director position will be filled. Bruce Austin left, and the position was vacant.

Britny Chandler reported that the state is looking at buy in options for the Oregon Health Plan for those that are currently not eligible, but they can't afford high end coverage. This may shift some aims and strategic goals.

### **Next Meeting and Agenda Items of Focus:**

Discussed areas of focus for the next meeting.

- Review final report on Strategic Plan and areas of focus for the next 3-5 years.
- Updated denture report – ***Molly Perino to provide report.***
  - a. There is still a huge need for dentures.
  - b. The Oregon Funders Collaborative did set some funds asides for dentures.
- Smile for Kids Report – Data for our counties – ***Christian Moller-Andersen to provide a report.***
- Discuss Community Health Needs Assessments – Oral Health - Looking at framework, gaps, population, needs, how services cross into our other counties, and effects of COVID.
  - a. How do we start conversations on barriers?
  - b. Molly Perino – Community Health Centers of Benton and Linn Counties – Providing dental services in Linn/Benton Counties through the dental voucher program and different services and how services cross into our different counties.
- Data review can include information that was provided by Peter Bansworth – Oral Health Data Report.
- Emergency Department Data – ***JoAnn Miller will provide a report.***
- Presentation about the pilot EPDH project at Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital – ***Linda Mann and Karla Olsen Smith will provide the presentation.***

### **Adjourn:**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

### **Respectfully Submitted**

Shelley Hazelton  
Community Health Promotion  
Department Assistant