

**ALABAMA ORAL HEALTH STRATEGIC TEAM
MEETING MINUTES
February 18, 2010
4th Floor Boardroom
9:00am-10:00am**

Members Present:

Sherry Goode, Christopher Sellers, Richard Simpson, Linda Hampton, Nakia Kyler, Mary McIntyre (Chair)

Medicaid Staff Present:

Colinder Chappelle, Ron Macksoud, Letrice Ware

Welcome:

Dr. McIntyre began the meeting at 9:05am by welcoming everyone. She then gave a brief overview of the agenda for today and a little history as to how and why this group was formed.

Minutes-Review/Acceptance:

Dr. McIntyre provided a quick overview of the minutes which were also available for viewing via the web and asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. None were noted. A motion was then made and seconded and the motion carried with the minutes accepted as written.

Dr. McIntyre indicated that they recently had someone comment that the Oral Health Fact Sheet was negative regarding the information that was provided. She then indicated that she would like to provide some background as to what the original purpose of the Fact Sheet was. There may no longer be a need for that purpose. If that is the case then AOHST and OHCA would need to determine this. When this group was formed as a result of a National Governor's Association grant, three tools were developed by the group then known as the NGA Policy Academy Team:

1. ***Oral Health Fact Sheet*** as an aid to drive home the importance of funding for oral health care services.
2. The ***Dental Statistics Sheet*** which was Medicaid specific although we now have the ALLKIDS version of it. They are pulling their utilization numbers based upon on the specifications Medicaid uses.
3. ***Oral Health Strategic Plan*** which lays out a plan for addressing three areas, the same areas as the three subcommittees that we have. Each of these areas look at what our plans are, what we have accomplished and the next steps as far as actions that need to be done for the State as a whole and are not Medicaid specific but a plan for the State of Alabama.

The Strategic Plan needs to be a living document; ongoing, updated promptly with the identification of new strategies and steps to take while capturing the progress made. The current version has become cumbersome and needs to be revamped. This has not happened with this tool and we really need to get back to doing that. From the Oral Health Strategic Plan the Strategic Progress Report evolved as a way to reduce the number of pages found in the plan.

The report showed only the active and ongoing issues of the group. This will be one of our areas of focus in the OHCA meeting today. Dr. Simpson asked for a copy of the Oral Health Fact Sheet. Dr. McIntyre indicated that the fact sheet would be emailed to the entire group. She then indicated that Dr. Hall had asked a question that resulting in the identification of an outdated version of the Fact Sheet being on the website and that Dr. Lockwood revised it last in 2006 which somehow did not make it to the website.

Member Discussion:

Linda Hampton gave a brief overview of the AAPD Head Start Dental Home initiative. Alabama received one of these grants in the amount of \$10,000 and AAPD is under contract with the office of Head Start. They will offer support to the states to set up a collaborative that will lead to dental homes for all Head Start children. She further indicated that they were able to draft up a grant on behalf of the Alabama Head Start Association in the amount of \$10,000 and they are very pleased about that. This second grant will help with the first one and will allow us to extend that opportunity beyond Head Start programs and reach more Head Start eligible children. Therefore, they have included their pre-k partners in this effort; one of the goals in the first and second grant is to revive a component of the *Smile Alabama Initiative* and to actually place the kits in every Head Start and pre-k classroom across the state. She further indicated that she and Dr. Hall will be making a presentation at their April conference which will be held here in Montgomery April 2-9th. They are seeing an increase in dental homes. Linda indicated that they see an increase in dental homes. Linda indicated that according to information received in 2009 which is program information that comes out of Washington for the year 2007-08 that under dental home it says that Alabama serves 16,916 and then gives the following results:

- Dental homes - 94.65%
- Dental services (pre-schools only, we are not looking at early Head Start) completed oral health exams - 94.37%
- Received preventive care - 88.4%
- Diagnosed with needing treatment - 22.7%
- Received or are receiving treatment - 95.9%
- Preventive dental services for children 0-3 years of age participating in a well baby exam - 77.34%
- Professional dental exams for that same age group - 45.5%

Linda indicated that we can see that more work needs to be happening earlier and that this confirms what they are trying to accomplish through early Head Start. Dr. McIntyre asked Linda if she could send her this information through email for distribution to the group. Dr. Simpson indicated that if things continue to improve and to progress in pediatric oral health care, children will have a dental home by the time they get to the Head Start program or by the time they reach one year of age. Linda then gave a brief overview of how they obtain their information from the parents to ascertain if the children have a permanent dental home. Linda indicated that they have a statewide summit planned to educate their families about dental homes and the way to be sure that their data is correct. Dr. Simpson gave Linda some questions to put to the parents in order to support this with data regarding their children having a dental home. Dr. McIntyre then indicated that she would be skipping over the Medicaid Dental Program information other than to mention that Medicaid had an alert to come out but is having separate meetings to deal

specifically with this. She further explained that the Commissioner's office would address the group at our OHCA meeting and briefly explain what the decisions are dealing with this issue. The alert indicated specific cuts within the Alabama Medicaid Dental program.

Chris indicated that as part of the CHIP reauthorization in February of 2009 that regulations required the creation at a national level of a directory of oral health care providers. Therefore all of the CHIP programs as well as the Medicaid programs have been working with CMS and Insure Kids Now to provide dental provider directory information to be held at a single website. He gave a brief overview of the process they had taken and the reasons that it took them to get to the next level which included differences between states as to where CHIP and Medicaid are located. He further indicated that ours was not quite so bad because we have been able to submit our dental provider data both for Medicaid and ALLKIDS. This includes specialties, also includes whether or not they are accepting new patients. He further indicated that they would be updating information quarterly and hoping for a live link soon so eventually the data would not be older than what exists in our databases. He indicated that BCBS already administers a Google engine for them now and right now they have live data and will eventually be able to push this data. Dr. McIntyre inquired if we could get their latest data (results) for oral health so we could include this and that from Head Start in links on the OHCA page.

Subcommittee Interim Meetings:

Dr. McIntyre indicated that she needed to remind everyone of who the chairs/co-chairs were and proceeded to name them:

Availability and Access

- Dr. John Thornton, Chair & Dr. Charles Hall, Co-chair

Education and Awareness

- Linda Hampton, Chair & Dr. Richard Simpson, Co-chair

Surveillance and Monitoring

- Dr. Stuart Lockwood, Chair & Sherry Goode, Co-chair

Dr. McIntyre then indicated that she has been unable to reach Dr. Lockwood. Emails have been bouncing back. Sherry indicated she had also been unable to reach him. Dr. McIntyre asked Chris Sellers if he would be willing to serve as chair of the Surveillance subcommittee with Sherry Goode if it would not be too much of a problem. She further indicated that Chris would basically be responsible for getting the information that he is already doing now and just making sure the data is up to date. Dr. Simpson indicated that periodically they would be asking for what the caries rate is and the caries incidence and will need a Needs Assessment. He then inquired as to whether ADPH would still be collecting and providing the data or would they have to rely on the dental program. Dr. McIntyre indicated that Sherry could answer this because this type of information was part of the information provided under the Surveillance and Monitoring subcommittee. Sherry indicated that this information was last completed in 2006. She further indicated that they started in 2005 and completed this in 2006 which was a part of the National Health Oral Surveillance System. They screened 3rd graders and went into the specific schools at all stages so that it would be standardized and it could be entered into the surveillance systems as

a standard tool. CDC actually takes care of this and runs it for 5yrs but it should be repeated every 5yrs and the next one will be in 2011. Sherry then gave a brief overview of some of the other assessments that were done in the past such as pre-schoolers, kindergarteners, and some high school students. Some were done on a smaller scale when funding allowed but the large statewide data collection is the 3rd graders. The Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors or ASTDD has a tool or survey that they use. Dr. McIntyre asked if Sherry could give her the report and survey with the resources on it. Sherry indicated that she could. The tool will be posted under an OHCA statistical area.

Dr. McIntyre reminded the chair and co-chair of the subcommittees that it is their responsibility to get to her the information from their subcommittees including the dates of the planned meetings by close of business on **March 15th**. She again mentioned the possible need for revamping the Alabama Oral Health Strategic Plan and indicated that she would send it to everyone on the AOHST committee. Discussion followed as to whether we need a new work group to specifically revamp the plan and work on the Oral Health Progress Report or is this something that should be done by the existing committee. Does the plan need to be redone or do we focus on other priorities? Should we use the Education and Awareness group or create a smaller group to specifically deal with this? Discussion followed as to the direction the group should take in getting this information completed before discussing this with OHCA. Dr. Simpson indicated that they should work on the Fact Sheet first and then use those tools to develop the Strategic Plan. Dr. McIntyre asked if the group was in agreement with that and if so then she would place the focus on updating the Fact Sheet first and make sure the groups get their subcommittee meetings going and reestablish what their goals are. She further indicated that once this is done then we could look at trying to do something with the Oral Health Strategic Plan. AOHST members indicated their agreement with this. Sherry indicated that she would pull examples from other states.

Adjourn:

Dr. McIntyre asked if there were any further items for discussion. A motion was made and seconded and carried that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 9:55am.

Respectfully submitted by:



April 16, 2010



Mary G. McIntyre, MD, MPH
Chair

Date

Colinder D. Chappelle
Recording Secretary