

**North Dakota Oral Health Coalition Meeting**  
**Friday, March 13, 2009**  
**ND Department of Health, Bismarck**

**Coalition Vision:**

**The North Dakota Oral Health Coalition promotes best practice standards to ensure oral health is an integral part of overall health.**

**Coalition Mission:**

**The North Dakota Oral Health Coalition develops and promotes innovative strategies to achieve optimal oral health for all North Dakotans.**

**Proposed Meeting Goals:**

- To review and discuss progress made by the three Oral Health Coalition sub-committees;
- To provide an opportunity for sub-committee meeting time and report back to the full Coalition;
- To identify and discuss next steps in planning and implementation.

**Proposed Meeting Products:**

- A shared knowledge base regarding the progress made by the Oral Health Coalition sub-committees;
- Agreement on the next steps in planning and implementation;
- Legislative activities.

**Members in Attendance:**

Joe Cichy, Colleen Ebach, Shelly Gunsch, Jodi Hulm, Carla Kelly, Kathy Keiser, Fred Larson, Karen Larson, Kathleen Mangskau, Sue Matteson, Kathy Moum, Dr. Richard Rathge, Robyn Stearns and Kimberlie Yineman.

**Joining by Phone:**

Janelle Johnson.

**Welcome:** Sue Matteson

The vision and mission statements were read.

**Review of Meeting Minutes from January:** Minutes were approved with corrections. The corrections will be made and posted on the website when completed. .

**Subcommittee Reports:**

**Integration:**

Kimberlie reported that Blue Cross/Blue Shield will be placing a flyer regarding oral health information in their prenatal packets. A sample flyer was passed around for coalition members to review. The ND Department of Health logo will be added to the flyer.

**Prevention:** Sue Matteson

The committee met and discusses many things that are happening in the prevention area in oral health. Katie Luther reported to the committee that there has been an individual sending many messages regarding anti-fluoridation to the Division of Water Quality. Nothing was done in way of response since the writer did not sign more then a first name.

Kimberlie reported that she and Joe Cichy attended a national meeting in Sacramento on water fluoridation. They both learned about the subject and how fluoride is monitored to be sure that fluoridation is done correctly. North Dakota at this time is not greatly affected by the anti fluoridation issues, but it is a problem in many other states.

Kimberlie, JoAnn and Katie have been working on the Leeds, ND fluoridation issue. They have created letters that can be used as templates for any future city concerns as well. Leeds is trying to determine the need to continue the program in their water system. Dr. Dwelle and local dentists have all written or sent letters to Leeds giving them many reasons for the continuation of the program. Fact sheets will be something the committee will work on in the future and anticipate posting them on the website

North Dakota monitors the state water fluoridation levels through the WFRS system and North Dakota continues to stay at a rate 97 percent for the whole state. North Dakota is third in the nation for its rate. The southwestern part of the state does have a high rate of fluoride in the private wells, which are being monitored as well.

Karen Larson indicated that she will ask the Community Health Centers to be alert and listen for anyone that may be talking about discontinuing the fluoride in their areas. This will assist the committee in helping get information out the communities that are considering the discontinuation of fluoride programs.

Robyn reported that there are 93 trained nurses who have seen 111 children in the Fluoride Varnish program. It has also been determined that the numbers are not correct as not all Public Health Units are correctly reporting the numbers of children that they are applying the varnish on. The Medicaid program recorded that 611 cases were reported in 2008. Eleven health units have had trainings across the state and the nurses are being asked they are comfortable with the application process. Discussion has been had about providing more training in the summer months and maybe providing a refresher course every two years as well as continuing to offer continuing education credits for the nurses.

Robyn also reported that she has made significant progress regarding the Dental Sealant program by locating a dentist and school that can serve as the rural pilot site. Taylor Elementary school has been approved as the school to participate, since Dr. Johnson, a dentist in Richardton, has agreed to provide time for the 16 elementary second graders. They will be bussed to Richardton on May 1 and Dr. Johnson will apply the sealants. The Coalition discussed ways to acknowledge his services since he will be providing all the supplies, his time as well as his staff time with no reimbursements. The coalition hopes to acknowledge Dr. Johnson at the State Dental meeting and provide some type of "friend of oral health" certificate. The school will also be asked write some thank you letters from the students that participate in the program.

The annual meeting will be held on May 8, 2009 and at this meeting the election of officers will need to be conducted. All officers and one director-at-large will need to be elected. It was indicated that a staff member from the Department of Health would actually record the minutes for the secretary, but the secretary would need to review, make corrections and finalize for the membership and then be sure they were posted to the oral health website.

**Access:** Ronald McDonald Care Mobile-Kathy Keiser reported that she and Kathleen Mangskau visited with Dr. Rice at Blue Cross/Blue Shield about any support for the caremobile from BC/BS. Dr. Rice indicated that he would talk with Tim Huckle and get back to Kathy about what they would be able to do. At the time it looked hopeful.

The HRSA grant was not funded but it appears that the application was well written. No weaknesses were indicated, though they did say a logic model was not submitted. Kathy checked online and the logic model was there so it placed a question that had it been found during the review, would the application have scored higher. The application score was 87/100, which was very good. There were 80 applications and only 10 sites were funded. Kathy indicated that she will call and check on any improvements that can be done for any future applications and she will also ask about the logic model.

**Data Advisory Committee:** Kathy Moum reported that there is a lot of work being done in the oral health area regarding data. The Workforce Data Surveys have been compiled back to 2000. UND will not be conducting this survey any longer. This survey was conducted every two years. The new epi, Alice will be assisting with the final report along with Robyn.

Kimberlie Y., JoAnn B., Linda Rorman and Brent Holman have been working the dental home initiative. A pilot program was approved for North Dakota as well as 10 other states. There will be a workshop held at the Ramkota in Bismarck on April 11, invitation only, that Brent Holman is assisting with. It is hoped that a portion of the attendees will be from the oral health coalition. During the discussion it was reported that patients in the Southwest area of the state go as far as Bowman or Minot for services as there are not enough dentists to see head start patients in that part of the state. Another surprising point was that not all the Head Start offices completed the survey, Linda Rorman will be asked to check on the sites that have not responded.

Kathy also indicated that the Burden Document will need to be updated. The Basic Screening survey of 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will need to be conducted and the Oral Health Consultants will be assisting with the completion of this screening.

**Sustainability:** Kathleen reported that a meeting hasn't been held, but that she needs some direction from the Coalition to move forward. The committee has established the bylaws and the articles of incorporation but has not done anything more regarding the paperwork on becoming a 501c3 non-profit coalition. Further discussion from the coalition indicated that the Department of Health should clarify the need for the 501c3 status in relation to the grant funding source. Kimberlie indicated that this is something that was highly recommended by CDC. She will check to see if other states have completed this to continuing receiving CDC funds and to see exactly what other states are doing in relation to collecting coalition membership dues or other funding. Janelle asked if there was any option to have another entity, already a member of coalition, that already has a 501c3 non-profit status to act as a fiscal agent for the coalition. These issues as well as the type of membership dues that the coalition would charge will be discussed at the May 8<sup>th</sup> annual meeting.

**Policy / Legislative Committee:** Karen Larson provided a handout of the bills that were being followed by the Coalition. She gave a report on the status of the bills that passed and were moved on at cross-over. Kathleen Mangskau has been keeping the action alerts updated and sent out when needed. The coalition thanked Kathleen for keeping them updated and apprised with what was

happening regarding all the legislative bills. Kathleen in return thanked coalition members for helping her keep updates on the bills as well.

HB 1012 – Passed the House  
HB 1091 – Passed the House  
HB 1176 – Passed the House  
HB 1231 – Passed the House  
SB 2004 – Passed the Senate  
SB 2227 – Passed the Senate  
SB 2358 – Passed the Senate

HB 1315 – Failed the House  
HB 1328 – Withdrawn in February  
SB 2207 – Failed the Senate  
SB 2356 – Failed the Senate

See handout for more information or watch Legislative Alert for further updates as well.

Discussion about the stimulus packages that President Obama is offering to agencies and groups were discussed. It was also said that these packages will be submitted through the Grants.gov program and it will be overloaded to the point that the system may crash. Some of the packages are giving very short application deadlines which are also helping to eliminate those that do not have basic information ready for these applications.

#### **Give Kids A Smile Day Presentations:**

Kimberlie reported that there were many events held across the state and that Kathleen would be putting together a report and a press release will be sent out as well.

The Wahpeton event saw 50 students with approximately \$12,000 worth of donated services and products. Five dentists were there to complete the work.

The Grand Forks event served 24 adults with about \$20,000 donated to conduct exams, cleaning, and varnish applications. Thirteen dentists were there to complete the work both preventative and restorative.

The Bismarck – Prairie Rose Dental office held an even that saw 250 individuals by six dentists. People were lined up outside in sub-zero temperatures waiting to be seen.

Program Evaluation: Dr Richard Rathge provided some logic models to show where the program is at as well as the coalition buy in to the grant workplan. These logic models were reviewed before the coalition meeting was adjourned. A strategic planning session was held after the meeting was adjourned for those that could stay. The information from the strategic meeting will be sent out at a later date by Dr Rathge and the Oral Health Program staff.

The next meetings will be May 8 and July 10, 2009.

A motion was made to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hollie Harrington, Secretary  
Colleen Ebach, Recorder