Florida Oral Health Alliance Result: All Florida children, youth and families have good oral health and well-being, especially those that are vulnerable.

Meeting Results:
By the end of the meeting participants will have:
- Discussed how new federal Medicaid policies coming to Florida can be leveraged to improve school-based health services and reduce disparities in both health and academic performance.
- Learned about follow-up efforts in the field of dentistry that are being put in place to combat the opioid epidemic via educating dental students on best prescription practices.
- Learned how faith-based organizations can be partnered with as a trustworthy source of oral health education for congregants.

Meeting Agenda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Agenda Item</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:00-10:10 a.m.</td>
<td>Welcome/Introductions</td>
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<td>10:10 – 11:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Emerging Issues in Oral Health</td>
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<td>11:15-11:35 a.m.</td>
<td>Health Programs in Faith Based Institutions</td>
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<td>11:35-11:40 a.m.</td>
<td>2019 Safety Net Committee Update</td>
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<td>11:40-11:55 a.m.</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<td>11:55 a.m.: 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Closing and Review of Upcoming Meetings/Learning Opportunities</td>
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**Florida Oral Health Alliance August 24 Meeting Notes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Participants</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deborah Foote</td>
<td>Managing Director</td>
<td>Oral Health Florida</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anne Swerlick</td>
<td>Policy Attorney and Analyst</td>
<td>Florida Policy Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linda Niessen</td>
<td>Dean and Professor</td>
<td>Nova Southeastern University College of Dental Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nina Thompkins</td>
<td>Community Health Director</td>
<td>Catalyst Miami</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amy Liem</td>
<td>Director of Policy and Advocacy</td>
<td>Florida Legal Services, Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicole Leacock</td>
<td>Grant Manager</td>
<td>Orlando Health Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amy Bogner</td>
<td>Grant Manager</td>
<td>Florida Healthy Kids Corporation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexandra Abboud</td>
<td>Government Affairs Liaison</td>
<td>Florida Dental Association (FDA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allison Rapp</td>
<td>Healthy Community Strategist</td>
<td>Special Olympics Florida</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aaron Messer</td>
<td>Government Operations Consultant</td>
<td>AHCA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caroline Stadler</td>
<td>Program Coordinator</td>
<td>Tampa Bay Healthcare Collaborative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tamara-Kay Tibby</td>
<td>Dental Director</td>
<td>C. L. Brumback Primary Care Clinics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claudia Avendano</td>
<td>Dental Center Manager</td>
<td>Caridad Center (Florida CHW Coalition)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Azam Masood</td>
<td>Project Coordinator</td>
<td>Florida Institute for Health Innovation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katelyn McGlynn</td>
<td>Project Coordinator</td>
<td>Florida Institute for Health Innovation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristin Garces</td>
<td>Chief Operating Officer</td>
<td>Florida Institute for Health Innovation</td>
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**Emerging Issues in Oral Health**

1. **Opportunities for School-Based Health Services funding through Medicaid - Anne Swerlick, Policy Attorney and Analyst, Florida Policy Institute**

Policy Institute: New non-profit established in 2015, has counterparts in most other states. Overall goal is widespread prosperity for all Floridians

**Value of Medicaid**

- Covers 1 in 5 people in the country and in FL, largest portion covers children
- Early & Periodic Screening, Diagnosis & Treatment Program (EPSDT)— comprehensive, child-focused package of preventive services, used to promptly identify problems and initiate treatment for children
Covers medical services, mental health services, services for children with disabilities, vaccines, glasses/hearing aids, dental services.

- Medicaid has the largest share of federal funds coming into FL, but it’s more than just a funding stream, it’s a public health program with the opportunity to improve health for children in FL.
- Medicaid/CHIP coverage: covers many districts, in some rural areas its as high as 70% coverage for children -- great opportunity to figure out how to use these benefits to make an impact on child health.

**Value of School-Based Health Services**

- Ability to reach children where they are; in 49 school districts, 4 out of 10 students are covered by Medicaid.
- Better utilization of care, as students are more likely to access care.
- Offers mental health and preventive services.
- Helpful for low-income families.
- FDOH report shows the need for school-based health services; tells top health conditions and other pertinent info.
  - Report does not show information on oral health conditions.
- Major staffing issues in terms of RN, etc. – new policy change may be able to address these shortages.
- Bringing Medicaid and school-based health services together has the potential to reduce health disparities, especially for children of color in FL who are disproportionately on Medicaid (27% of black children and 38% of Hispanic children are on Medicaid in FL).

**Federal Policy Change**

- Under old policy: schools could bill Medicaid for services, but it was only for children receiving special education services (children with disabilities with an IEP).
  - School district brought a challenge – said this restriction isn’t included in the Medicaid law, feds changed their policy.
- New federal policy: school districts can get Medicaid reimbursement for school-based health services provided to any Medicaid-eligible child.
- However, these new policies don’t automatically happen in states. In FL, there are specific steps that need to be taken.
- This report aims to expand this conversation, by including parents/caregivers and medically underserved local communities, to elevate the opportunities for the most vulnerable and medically underserved children.
- Even before this policy change was implemented, FL received far less federal funds than other states for school-based services.

**State Statutory & Regulatory Changes Needed to Implement Federal Policy Changes**

- Florida Statutes & Rule on the Medicaid Certified School Match Program (MCSMP) must be amended.
MCSMP authorizes schools to certify state/local funds to meet Medicaid match requirements
- This is a carve-out program from FL’s Medicaid managed care
- AHCA’s rule currently do not include anything for oral health care coverage
- The great thing- no new state funds are needed to increase federal funding

Current Landscape for School-Based Services
- AHCA administers 2 Medicaid funding streams – Certified School Match Program & County Health Department Certified Match Program
- DOH in conjunction with DOE administers the School Health Program
- Also have county health departments, and district school boards
- Other players put in big dollars for school-based health services, such as school nurses

Where Does Oral Health Fit In?
- As of 2016, FL is in bottom quartile ranking on key Child Core Set oral health measures
  - Percentage with at least 1 preventive dental service ages 1-20
  - Percentage at elevated risk for dental caries who received a sealant on a permanent first molar tooth, ages 6-9
- All school districts are required to have a ‘preventive dental program’ but DOH recommends minimal services, and is limited to age appropriate oral health education to all grades and referral system
- Medicaid school district certified match program has no covered dental services

Advocacy Opportunities
- Legislative: FL statutes need to be amended in 2019 session
- AHCA: Revision of Medicaid school-based services rules to include coverage for more oral health services
- DOH: needs to collect & report info on oral health conditions identified through school health program
- Local school districts: involvement in school health advisory committee activities and the development of the district school health plan
  - Potential way to lift parent/family voices into the process

Policy Institute Report Recommendations
- Amend statutes and rules
- Convene a statewide workgroup with representation of key stakeholders to investigate best practices, make recommendations, develop a strategic action plan for maximizing opportunities to access federal Medicaid funds for school-based health services
- Answer questions such as:
  - Where in the state are the biggest gaps? Including staffing gaps, and can these new funds help fill these gaps?
  - Are there health services already being provided by state or school districts, like screening and diagnostic services?
Is there technical support that is available for these school districts that have little to no experience accessing these funds?
Are there services, similar to oral health, which are not included?

2. **Health Programs in Faith Based Institutions**: Deborah Foote, Managing Director, Oral Health Florida

*Why faith-based institutions?* How do we work with faith institutions to really help shape the conversations around oral health?
- 40% of Americans attend church regularly
- Faith-institutions, such as churches, are trusted places where people attend regularly so there is consistent engagement of individuals over time. Historically, they have served as safety net providers of health and social services and can reach minority groups & women more effectively
- Studies have found that faith-based programs can improve health outcomes

*Abuelas en Accion*
- Specific, culturally sensitive lifestyle intervention working with Latinas, 50+, to connect a specific health behavior change with the life of a Catholic saint or prominent religious figure who exemplified that concept
- Promotes physical activity, nutrition and stress management using the principles of several evidence-based behavioral change programs

*Faith Fights Diabetes Initiative*
- Strong correlation between diabetes and oral health outcomes
- Looking at organizations that deal with diabetes is a great avenue to bring oral health conversation into diabetes initiatives

*Why Not Oral Health?*
- Faith institutions typically focus on obesity, CVD, diabetes, etc. and there is a natural alignment in that oral health is connected to these diseases
- Additionally, they already have systems and infrastructure in place to weave in oral health

*Next Steps:*
- Taken Colorado-based Study Guide that is specifically geared for black people of faith and modified it so it is applicable nationally
- Develop training for faith educators
- Pilot training in three unique communities in FL
- Develop a similar guide for Latinex-partner with Catholic Church
3. **2019 Safety Net Committee Update**: Deborah Foote, Managing Director, Oral Health Florida

- 1 of 2 committees that make up Oral Health Florida
- AHCA rollout is happening Dec-Feb
- AHCA, DOH, dental providers, and organizations will be brought together to bring up issues of concern about things that are working/not working
- Oral Health Florida will facilitate this meeting as the Safety Net Committee, which will be in the second quarter of 2019.
- OHF aims to hold individuals accountable and keep everyone on task.
- Getting a hold of anyone is difficult at the moment.
- Any interested parties are welcome to join the committee. Reach out to Deb.
  - Consumers from Medicaid-Enrollee side are especially welcome to join.

4. **Dentistry and the Opioid Epidemic: Educating Dentists on Prescribing Controlled Substances**: Dr. Linda Niessen, D.M.D., M.P.H., M.P.P., Dean and Professor, Nova Southeastern University (NSU) College of Dental Medicine

- NIH has developed a research plan on helping to end addiction in the long-term
  - Dreamland by Sam Quinones.
  - Story of the opioid epidemic and crack epidemic coming together simultaneously.
- American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery: Published a whitepaper on opioid prescribing in 2017
- American Dental Association: Announces new policy that supports continuing education in prescribing opioids/other controlled substances and statutory limits on prescription limits
- Florida Boards of Dentistry, Medicine, Pharmacy, and Nurse Practitioners came together to develop this course on opioid prescribing.
- Nova Southeastern University: developing a curriculum around opioid and controlled substance prescribing in the dental community
- Led by Dr. Jason Portnof. Presented this course to FDA.
- NSU: Attempting to partner with HRSA’s region in the South, though hasn’t moved forward yet
- In general, tougher regulations now exist on prescribing opioids
  - Check prescription database for patient to see if they had other prescriptions in the past.
  - 2 hour CV course required to renew license
- Course has potential to be expanded to a wider healthcare audience. Dr. Portnof’s course aligns with the history outlined by Sam Quinones

**Discussion**

Allison Rapp, Healthy Community Strategist - Florida Special Olympics
• Piloting a new program, an 8-week oral health education program for people with intellectual disabilities
• Their long-term clinical director is getting her MPH and as her project she has designed this course to break down the different components of how to take care of oral health

**Learning Opportunities**

**DentaQuest Institute’s 2018 DCM Practicum Series: Caries Risk Conversations**
- Monday, August 27, 2018 at 12:00 EST
- [Register](#)

**Silver Diamine Fluoride: Science, Practice, and Potential**
- Thursday, August 30, 2018 at 2:00 CST. Webinar hosted by Oral Health America
- Registration [https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/18653429661681410](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/18653429661681410)

**Network Public Policy Convening**
- Wed-Fri, September 12-14, 2018 at Key Bridge Marriott, Arlington,
- [Click here for a copy of the draft agenda](#)

* Archived meeting notes and resources can be found on the Florida Oral Health Alliance webpage.*