

November 2018

Volume III

In this Issue

A Change Agent – pg. 1
Workgroup Updates – pg. 2
Member Spotlight – pg. 3
Events – pg. 4 - 5

Save the Date

November 30, 2018
UOHC Meeting
Select Health
5381 S Green Street
Murray, UT 84123

Utah Oral Health Coalition



Something to Smile About

DENTAL DIGEST

Utah Oral Health Coalition – A Change Agent

Change at many levels is necessary to accomplish our mission of assuring the oral health of Utah residents through:

- (1) Increasing community awareness of oral health needs in the state;
- (2) Promoting oral health education and prevention;
- (3) Improving access to oral health services.

'Change' has been the creative force behind our formation as well. The Surgeon General's report on the State of Oral Health in America 2000 created a sea change in how oral health is perceived across the nation. Elevated government interest in oral health, the fluoridation initiative resulting in municipal water fluoridation for Salt Lake and Davis Counties – all major changes. Empowered by these events and wanting to do more, the Department of Health brought together interested parties to form the nucleus of the Utah Oral Health Coalition.

Since its inception, the Coalition has been successful in making incremental changes when working on unified goals. We navigated multiple policy changes, provided care to underserved populations and created a framework for shared understanding of oral health in our community. Every step of the way, our Coalition plays the role of a 'change agent' in our community – a role typically assigned to an individual who has responsibility for planning and successful execution of a change initiative.

Our efforts in raising public awareness, creating a data infrastructure, in serving our underserved children and elderly, and supporting all these with necessary finances and policy changes are major change initiatives that unify us. I am calling out to all our members - to own our expertise as a collective change agent and move us forward as a united front.

With the recent Medicaid Expansion ballot initiative win, Utahns have taken a solid stance for providing accessible health care to the underserved. Let us bolster our current efforts to take advantage of the current climate and bring oral health to the table along with our medical and mental health peers. Let us truly leverage our role as a change agent in making oral health an integral part of overall health.

Sri Koduri, M.S., M.P.A.
Past Chair, Utah Oral Health Coalition
Chief Strategist, University of Utah School of Dentistry
Director, Strategy and Workforce Planning
University of Utah Health - Office of Associate Vice President for Education
University of Utah Hospital – Office of the Chief Medical Education Officer (GME)

Workgroup Updates

Data and Technology for Oral Health – Co-chairs: Alex Gero, TP Singh, & Brittney Okada

Goals

1. Develop an oral health status data system for the State (health status access and needs assessment)
2. Identify and incorporate new technologies for oral health access and education (online oral health education in schools; teledentistry, etc.)

Policy and Finance for Oral Health - Chair: Jessie Mandle

Goals

1. Support the following Broad Goals with policy and finance expertise including grant writing and fundraising
 - a. Oral health status data system
 - b. Statewide School Based Oral Health Education and Prevention
 - c. Public Awareness Campaign
 - d. Explore opportunities to improve our Medicaid reimbursement systems for access to populations in need first, provider types next

Public Awareness and Education for Oral Health – Co-chairs: Jerald Boseman & Eric Tolkin

Goals

1. Raise public awareness that oral health is:
 - a. An integral part of overall health
 - b. A key social determinant for Utahns.
2. Develop a strategy for Statewide School Based Oral Health Education and Prevention programs using technology and services in a balanced approach



Community Access for Oral Health – Chair: Gary Monk

Goals

1. Develop a strategy for Statewide School Based Oral Health Education and Prevention programs using technology and services in a balanced approach.
2. Develop a strategy to connect the dots on work currently being done for Older Adults and move it forward.

If you are interested in joining any of the workgroups, please email anniemckenzie@utah.gov

Member Spotlight

Utah Health Policy Project

By Stacy Stanford, Health Policy Analyst

Mission

Utah Health Policy Project (UHPP) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization committed to advancing sustainable health care solutions for underserved Utahns through better access, education, and public policy. Since 2006 UHPP has worked hard to develop solutions to create a health system that provides better access to higher quality health care at a lower cost. We pride ourselves on being an open resource for the public, community leaders, the media, businesses, health care providers and policymakers. Our nonbiased approach strives to find solutions that best fit Utah. We bring individuals and organizations to the same table, recognizing that effective and long-term solutions are fostered by authentic collaboration among disparate stakeholders. Our role is to ensure the consumer voice is present.

Vision

Utah Health Policy Project envisions a future in which all Utahns have access to high quality and affordable physical, oral and behavioral health care and are equipped to make informed decisions within a system that meets their health care needs in a timely manner.



Direct Enrollment

UHPP, together with the Association for Utah Community Health and United Way of Salt Lake/211, oversees the statewide network of enrollment assistors called Take Care Utah (TCU). Take Care Utah is a network of nonprofit organizations focused on helping Utahns access health care. When enrolling people in ACA/Obamacare individual market plans, they also assist Utahns with enrolling in dental plans.

Oral Health Work

UHPP is newer to the oral health world, and we are learning a lot from all of you! We attended the Phoenix convening in May, and have been attending Oral Health Coalition meetings, as part of the policy and finance committee. Our main upcoming goal will be adding oral health coverage to Medicaid benefits! We will be working with Representative Eliason this session on his Medicaid Dental Coverage Amendments bill. We are ready to jump on board other upcoming pieces of legislation as well. After expanding Medicaid to 150,000 Utahns through Proposition 3, we would now love to see oral health coverage become available to that population as well. As health policy workers we recognize the need to acknowledge the “nose-to-chin” health needs that often go unaddressed and ignored by policymakers.



<https://www.facebook.com/uthpp/>



Upcoming Events

30
NOV

Utah Oral Health Coalition

Select Health, 5381 S Green Street, Murray, UT 84123
From 9:00 - 11:00, we will be discussing the upcoming legislative session and collaborating in workgroups.
From 11:00 – 11:30, there will be networking.

1
FEB

Roseman Give Kids a Smile

Roseman University College of Dental Medicine
10894 S River Front Parkway, South Jordan, UT 84095
From 9:00 - 4:00 PM
Interested in volunteering?
Contact Aaron Ferguson, aferguson@roseman.edu

2
FEB

Dixie Dental Hygiene Give Kids a Smile

Dixie State University Dental Hygiene Clinic
1526 Medical Center Drive, St George, UT 84770
From 8:00 - 1:00 PM
Interested in volunteering?
Contact Brenda Armstrong, barmstrong@dixie.edu
Susan Tipton, susan.tipton@henryschein.com

Have an event you would like to put in the newsletter?
Email anniemckenzie@utah.gov

Upcoming Events

23
FEB

CHC Provo Give Kids a Smile

Utah College of Dental Hygiene in Orem
1176 S 1480 W, Orem, UT 84058

From 8:00 - 1:00 PM

Interested in volunteering?

Contact Sheila Hubert, sheila@utahchc.org

23
FEB

University of Utah Give Kids a Smile

University of Utah School of Dentistry
530 Wakara Way, Salt Lake City, UT 84108

From 8:00 - 1:00 PM

Interested in volunteering?

Contact Lisa Cannon, lisa.cannon@hsc.utah.edu
Dentist, assistant, or hygienist?

Contact LaRisse Skene, larisse100@yahoo.com

29
MAR

Utah Oral Health Coalition

University of Utah School of Dentistry
530 Wakara Way, Salt Lake City, UT 84108

From 9:00 - 11:00, we will be holding our main meeting.
From 11:00 - 11:30, there will be networking.

Have an event you would like to put in the newsletter?

Email anniemckenzie@utah.gov