Introducing

Dr. Brent Larson, Coalition Chair 2019-2020

Brent A. Larson, DDS, is a Utah native and has been married to Mary Nebeker for 44 years and they have four children and six grandchildren (so far). Brent did his undergraduate work at the U of U receiving a BA in Medical Biology. He then attained a DDS from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Dentistry in 1979. Following dental school, he completed a General Practice Residency at the Salt Lake City, VA Hospital. Brent has been practicing dentistry for 39 years.

Brent has been active in organized dentistry since dental school and has served in many capacities over the decades. Some of them include:

- National Vice President of the American Student Dental Association
- President of the Great Basin Academy
- President of the Utah Academy of General Dentistry
- President of Salt Lake District Dental Society
- Chairman of the UDA Convention Council
- Chairman of the DOPL Dentist and Dental Hygienist Licensing Board
- Examiner Western Regional Examining Board
- President of the Utah Dental Association

Along with these, many accomplishment’s Brent has been active in the Utah Oral Health Coalition since 2014. Dr. Larson has a passion for dentistry and looks forward to his year as Chairman of the Oral Health Coalition.
Workgroups

Data and Technology for Oral Health – Co-chairs: 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: Lauren Neufeld & Michelle Martin lneufeld@utah.gov & mlmartin@utah.gov and we will notify workgroup chairs
Voices for Utah Children is a multi-issue advocacy and public policy nonprofit. For over 30 years, we have worked to help all kids in Utah reach their full potential and thrive. We focus on five key areas that benefit the healthy development of all children. We believe:

1. Health: all children deserve to receive affordable, comprehensive and high-quality health care;
2. School Readiness: all children and their parents deserve to receive the services and support they need to enable them to start school prepared for success;
3. Safety: all children deserve to be safe in their homes and communities from all forms of abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence.
4. Economic Stability: all children deserve to live in families that can provide for their needs and make investments in their future;
5. Diversity: all children deserve to achieve their full potential in a society that closes opportunity gaps and recognizes and values diversity.

In her role as Senior Health Policy Analyst, Jessie Mandle works on policies and advocacy related to children’s health. She works to help all kids in Utah get affordable, comprehensive health coverage and care, including behavioral health and dental care. In addition, she also work to help kids access that care and address the social determinants affecting children’s health outcomes.

Special Thanks

To Dr. Mark Valentine (Pediatrician), who provided a Baby Your Baby segment on February 15, 2019 for National Children’s Dental Health Month. He presented on the American Academy of Pediatrics new campaign called, ‘Brush, Book, Bed’. ☺️ The main points highlighted were:

- February is National Children’s Dental Health Month
- There is a new program put out by the AAP called Brush, Book, Bed and it is designed to help parents create bedtime structure for children
- Children thrive in structure
- First, is help your children brush their teeth 2 minutes before bed.
- Second, read a favorite book (or two)
- Last, get to bed at a regular time each night.

**With Brushing:** Brush: Use ½-pea size of fluoride toothpaste for children under 3 years of age. Use a pea size drop of fluoride toothpaste for children over 3 years of age and for all ages; brush 2x times a day for 2 minutes.

**With reading:** Children love to hear the voice of their parents/caregivers. The AAP suggests singing, talking, and reading aloud as much as possible. Read stories every day.

**Establish regular bedtime:** After brushing and reading together, it is time to go to bed. Babies should sleep on their backs without pillows, blankets or stuffed animals in the crib

Here is the link to watch the segment: [https://kutv.com/features/health/baby-your-baby/baby-your-baby-brush-book-bed-a-new-american-academy-pediatrics-aap-oral-health-pro](https://kutv.com/features/health/baby-your-baby/baby-your-baby-brush-book-bed-a-new-american-academy-pediatrics-aap-oral-health-pro)
Submitting to the Newsletter

To submit an article to the newsletter, please follow the submission deadline chart below.

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<th>EDITION</th>
<th>SUBMISSION DEADLINE</th>
<th>DISTRIBUTION DATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 2019</td>
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<td>MAY</td>
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Submission Guidelines and Email Requirements

- Title in the Subject Line
- Include all authors of the article in the body of the email
- Body of article should be submitted as an attached Word .doc
- Include any hyperlinks you would like in the document
- Any photos submitted should have proper consent forms
  - Individual submitting content to the newsletter assumes responsibility and risk management for submitted content.
- Attach photos in .jpeg format

Q. Who do I email newsletter submissions to?
   A. Please email all submissions to lneufeld@utah.gov & mmlmartin@utah.gov

Q. How can my organization be featured in the Member Spotlight section of the newsletter?
   A. Submit your requests to Lauren & Michelle with no more than 350 words. We would like to do a new spotlight for every issue so members of the coalition can get to know all of the groups involved with our team!