During the month of August, the flurry of end of summer activities and preparation for another school year seem to collide for many. I hope you have had an enjoyable summer season and able to soak in the harvest of fresh fruits and vegetables, sunshine, and perhaps even a little time with loved ones.

This summer, I have attended some excellent conferences (Oral Health 2020 and American Dental Hygienists’ Association Annual Session) and would like to share a couple of my learnings that are reflective of the UOHC steering committee’s work to build our member engagement.

There are truths to leverage member engagement in any organization.*

1. **Today’s volunteers connect with causes not organizations.** If you would like to find a worthwhile cause and also contribute toward the mission of the UOHC, please read page 4 with the latest update of our workgroups. Is there a cause you are passionate about? You can also check out our calendar of events in this newsletter. Though it is a developing calendar, we hope to share events where you can connect and volunteer.

2. **Today’s volunteers prefer skill-based volunteering.** Every UOHC workgroup would love to have you and your expertise to help achieve their goals.

3. **Today’s volunteers are social and driven to share and contribute.** We now have a networking session following our UOHC meetings so that you can collaborate and network with fellow members. On page 7 of this newsletter, you will find additional volunteer activities.

4. **Today’s volunteers are lifelong learners – and pragmatic (they can do good and improve).** At every coalition meeting, we not only work on furthering the mission and goals of the UOHC, but we also have presentations to help you learn more about the state of oral health and advocacy efforts in Utah.

I would like to invite you to join the Utah Oral Health Coalition meeting on Friday, September 14, 2018. Details can be found in the left column under “Save the Date”. At the Oral Health 2020 conference, I learned that diversity of thought, skills, and passion create a robust coalition that can conquer barriers and achieve objectives. We need you and would love to learn from you in September and beyond.

Wishing you a wonderful end to your summer activities.

Warmly,
Brenda Armstrong RDH MDH

*As shared at ADHA 2018 annual session by Peggy Hoffman, CAE, Mariner Management & Marketing LLC.
This November Utah voters will be faced with a decision which will impact the lives of 150,000 Utahns. Proposition 3 is a citizen’s initiative which when passed will provide access to Medicaid coverage for individuals earning less than $17,000 per year, or parents earning less than $34,000 per year for a family of four. The FAQs below provide information about Proposition 3. You can sign up for additional information on the organization’s website: [www.utahdecides.org](http://www.utahdecides.org).

**Q. What does Proposition 3 do?**

**A:** Proposition 3 provides access to healthcare for 150,000 Utahns, including parents and people with chronic illnesses. It ensures hard-working Utahns who earn a promotion or work more hours won’t have their healthcare taken away. Proposition 3 helps Utahns onto the path of self-reliance as they pull themselves out of poverty and rewards hard work—instead of punishing it by cutting off a family’s healthcare.

**Q: Will Proposition 3 Cost Taxpayers Money?**

**A:** Proposition 3 has a sales tax increase on non-food items equivalent to about one cent on the cost of a movie ticket. This investment enables Utah to bring home nine times that amount in federal dollars every year which is money that is already set aside for Utah. It is money 33 other states already get, which Utah has been losing out on for five years.

**Q: Who will it help?**

**A:** Proposition 3 will provide access to healthcare for more than 150,000 Utahns who are earning less than $17,000 per year for individuals, or parents earning less than $34,000 per year for a family of four.

**Q: How will Proposition 3 Improve Oral Health Care for Utahns?**

**A:** Even though the Medicaid adult dental benefit has not yet been fully restored, it will still have an important impact on individuals’ access to dental care. First, the ballot initiative will result in more children receiving Medicaid care. Research shows that when parents are uninsured, they are more likely to have uninsured children—even if their kids are eligible. Conversely, when parents do receive health coverage, they are more likely to enroll their kids. In addition, there is growing momentum to fully restore the Medicaid dental benefit to adults (adults with disabilities on Medicaid now have dental benefits), so Medicaid Expansion will help adults and children receive dental care in the future.

**Q: What will Proposition 3 Do for Utah’s Economy?**

**A:** Proposition 3 unlocks nearly $800 million in federal funding each year to come back to Utah. State-commissioned studies and independent economists have shown expanding Medicaid will create thousands of jobs and generate billions in new economic activity for Utah each year. Most recently expansion is estimated to create nearly 14,000 new jobs, and generate $1.7 billion in economic activity.

**Q: Does Utah’s Healthcare Community Support Proposition 3?**

**A:** The list of supporters is growing every day. We have over 50 doctors and healthcare professionals across the state as well as support of several healthcare organizations including: American Academy of Pediatrics (Utah Chapter), American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, American Diabetes Association, National Association of Social Workers (Utah Chapter), Utah Academy of Family Physicians, Utah Nurses Association, Utah Occupational Therapy Association, Utah Section of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and more. If you want to add your name to this list of supporters, please contact rylee@utahdecides.org!
School Based Oral Health Programs

By Staci Stout

Dental hygienists practicing within a school setting as oral health specialists are helping many children to receive preventive dental care and oral health education. Collaborative practice between the dental hygienist and a dentist utilizing teledentistry allows dental concerns to be identified and addressed early. This ground-breaking practice is new to the state of Utah and is designed to address access to care while demonstrating to stakeholders the viability of place-based care.

Oral health pilot programs have been created in two schools that have a large number of students below the poverty level. Most of these children face barriers to receiving regular oral healthcare and a significant number are from refugee families who have never experienced a dental visit of any kind. The onsite dental hygiene clinic offers preventive dental hygiene care and oral health education to students enrolled in the program and all students receive oral health education within the classroom. Comprehensive dental hygiene care is enhanced by utilizing a teledentistry exam by a collaborating dentist. Data is collected on demographics, screening outcomes, preventive services provided, and referral for dental needs.

The programs have a dental hygienist onsite up to two times per week to provide students with oral health education, examination/assessment, x-rays, prophylaxis, sealants, fluoride varnish and silver diamine fluoride application. This provides an oral health resource to the school that can immediately address dental needs. Dental hygiene students are utilized to assist the program in the data collection, teledentistry exams, and oral health education. A daily tooth-brushing program for first grade students is used in one of the school programs to further improve oral health outcomes.

The pilot programs use the Child-Level Data Collection form adapted from Sealant Efficacy Assessment for Locals and States (SEALS) from the Center for Disease Control. Data is collected to evaluate demographics, screening outcomes, and services provided. Preliminary results show that only half of students see a dentist regularly. Thirty percent of the students have either never seen a dentist, or only see a dentist for emergencies, even though more than seventy percent of families report some form of dental coverage. Follow-up data will be compared as the program continues. ADHA Institute of Oral Health has provided funding for these pilot programs and Dr. Marielle Pariseau and Teeth First have provided Oh’Pal toothbrushes for the daily toothbrush program.
Workgroup Updates

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

Representatives from the Utah Department of Health, the Roseman Dental School, and the University of Utah School of Dentistry met in July to continue discussions about a statewide collaborative oral health screening tool and database. The conversation focused on which data elements would be most useful to collect for public health surveillance, how these data could best be captured electronically, and what sort of database would be most effective for storing data. A draft version of the tool will be created in REDCap once a finalized list of data elements is approved by all parties.

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

We have met and are exploring ways to strengthen teledentistry policies and finance mechanisms. Danyelle Evans is in the process of setting up a webinar for all coalition members with a national expert to further explore how Utah can make advances in this area.

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

Our PAC interns, Alexus and Areiann have been busy working on our oral health awareness campaign, Healthy Mouth, Healthy Life. We have a logo which was developed by one of our committee members to use in the campaign. Watch for an insert to go out in the Sunday newspaper August 19th to kick things off. We now have a website presence for our campaign on the UOHC section of the Department of Health website. As we conclude our grant year for our Delta Dental Education grant, we are submitting our final report and plan to apply for another year of funding in order to continue our efforts. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this monumental project.

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

Discussing reaching out to County Health Departments and School Districts in Utah to inform them we are creating a website for resources on Dental Care. Website development pending.

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**

By Rachel Lovejoy

**OUR MISSION** is to improve access to specialty health and dental care for low-income, uninsured residents in Utah County. We accomplish this goal through the coordination of a Volunteer Provider Network, providing health education, and maximizing existing community resources.

Through our **VOLUNTEER PROVIDER NETWORK (VPN)**, our patients are connected with dentists in the community who donate care in their own offices. Our care coordinators review patient eligibility and enroll them in state coverage programs whenever possible. Patients who don’t qualify for insurance will be connected with donor doctors in our network. Care coordinators work as advocates for the patients, helping them understand the complex healthcare delivery system. Dentists, hygienists, dental labs, surgical centers, hospitals, many other partners participate in the care of our patients. Through CHC, improving the health of an individual becomes the effort of the community.

Working in partnership with Mountainland Technical College dental assisting students, Community Health Centers, Inc., and the school nurses of Utah County, the **TITLE I ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FLUORIDE VARNISH PROGRAM** connects us to children at Title I schools with the most urgent oral health needs (level 3). We are able to schedule those children with local pediatric dentists and, through a voucher program, pay those dentists Medicaid rates for the necessary treatment.

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<th>Spring 2018</th>
<th>Fall 2017</th>
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<td>Received Fluoride Varnish</td>
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<td>Level 3’s:</td>
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<td>Received/Receiving Treatment:</td>
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In addition to these two programs, we fulfill our mission by coordinating **GIVE KIDS A SMILE** for Utah County and teach monthly **ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION CLASSES**.
UPCOMING EVENTS

TEDxSaltLakeCity 2018
Saturday, September 8, 2018 at 9:00 AM
Kingsbury Hall

Marielle Pariseau will be speaking at the upcoming TEDxSaltLakeCity event at Kingsbury Hall. She will be talking about teeth and how they can be pivotal for the future of health.

Tickets on sale now

Utah Oral Health Coalition
Friday, September 14, 2018 from 9:00 – 11:30 AM
LDS Hospital Huntsman Education Center

Our September meeting will be held at the LDS Hospital Huntsman Education Center in conference rooms A, B, and C. We will be discussing poverty and the effects it has on daily life. From 11:00 – 11:30 AM, we will be having a networking session for you to meet with members of the Coalition and collaborate with other workgroups.

Utah Dental Hygienists’ Association Annual Session
October 11-12, 2018
Utah Cultural Celebration Center

Earn 8 continuing education credits!
Breakout sessions available and include: local anesthesia review and access to care
Presenters include:
Lancette Van Guilder, RDH, BS: Dental Hygienists: Essential Primary Care Providers
Carol A. Jahn, RDH, MS: Practicing Smarter not Harder: Getting Yes with Periodontal Patients
Anne Guignon, RDH, MPH, CSP: Spotlight on the digital epidemic - Unexpected consequences of modern-day devices
Learn more and register at udhaonline.org

ADA 2018
October 18 – 22, 2018
Honolulu

The Annual ADA Dental Meeting is the largest meeting related to clinical dentistry in the United States. This year the meeting is in Honolulu, HI from October 18th through the 22nd. It includes a wide variety of continuing education, Exhibit Halls, a new dentist conference from October 18th through the 20th, and other events.

Preliminary Program
Utah Office of Health Disparities’ Free Dental Day is in need of dentists and hygienists! The clinics are held at Family Dental Plan, 168 N 1950 W Salt Lake City, UT 84116 from 7:30 – 5:30 pm. All day, AM and PM shifts available! 1 CE Credit will be awarded for four hours of volunteer time. Contact Matt Huntington, mshuntington@utah.gov if you are interested in volunteering!
Submitting to the Newsletter

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

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<th>SUBMISSION DEADLINE</th>
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<td>FEBRUARY</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 anniemckenzie@utah.gov

Q. How can my organization be featured in the Member Spotlight section of the newsletter?
   A. Submit your requests to Annie McKenzie 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!

Q. If I have an event that we need more volunteers for, how can the coalition help?
   A. You can send in your event to be listed on Volunteers Needed page for the upcoming Newsletter that will be distributed on November 16, 2018 or you can email your event details to anniemckenzie@utah.gov and after the steering committee has reviewed your event, we will email coalition members asking for volunteers.